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THE WHOLE FORMING

A DOCUMENTARY HISTORY

OF

THE ORIGIN AND PROGRESS OF THE NORTH AMERICAN COLONIES;

OF THE

CAUSES AND ACCOMPLISHMENT OF THE AMERICAN REVOLUTION;

AND OF

THE CONSTITUTION OF GOVERNMENT FOR THE UNITED STATES,

TO

THE FINAL RATIFICATION THEREOF.

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BY PETER FORCE.

PREPARED AND PUBLISHED UNDER AUTHORITY OF AN ACT OF CONGRESS.

AMERICAN ARCHIVES:

Fifth Series.

CONTAINING

A DOCUMENTARY HISTORY

OF

THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA,

FROM THE

DECLARATION OF INDEPENDENCE, JULY 4, 1776,

TO THE

DEFINITIVE TREATY OF PEACE WITH GREAT BRITAIN, SEPTEMBER 3, 1783.

BY PETER FORCE.

VOLUME II.

PUBLISHED BY M. ST. CLAIR CLARKE AND PETER FORCE.

UNDER AUTHORITY OF ACTS OF CONGRESS, PASSED ON THE SECOND DAY OF MARCH, 1833,
AND ON THE THIRD DAY OF MARCH, 1843.

WASHINGTON, MAY, 1851.

ENTERED ACCORDING TO ACT OF CONGRESS, IN THE YEAR 1851,
BY PETER FORCE,
IN THE CLERK'S OFFICE OF THE DISTRICT COURT OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA.

CONTENTS

OF THE SECOND VOLUME OF THE FIFTH SERIES.

PENNSYLVANIA CONVENTION.

1776.

1776.	
July 15, Meeting of the Convention of Pennsylvania in Philadelphia, - - - - -	1
16, List of Members, - - - - -	1
16, Officers chosen, - - - - -	2
16, Qualification and profession of faith signed by Members present, - - - - -	2
16, Resolution to procure Lead, - - - - -	3
16, Guard in Philadelphia to be kept up, - - - - -	3
16, Proposition to agree upon a temporary line between Pennsylvania and Virginia, - - - - -	3
17, Rev. Wm. White requested to perform divine service to-morrow, before the Convention, - - - - -	3
17, Colonel Miles appointed Brigadier-General and Commander-in-Chief of the Forces of Pennsylvania, - - - - -	3
17, Committee appointed to bring in Ordinance for disarming all Non-Associators, - - - - -	3
18, Affirmation taken by the Secretary of the Convention, - - - - -	4
18, Thanks of Convention to Mr. White for having performed divine service, - - - - -	4
18, Committee appointed to draw up Rules for the Convention, - - - - -	4
18, Clerk of the Assembly required to deliver such Records and Papers as the Convention shall think necessary, - - - - -	4
18, Report from Committee to bring in an Ordinance respecting the arms of Non-Associators, - - - - -	4
18, Rules and Regulations for the government of the Convention, - - - - -	4
18, Committee appointed to make an essay for a Declaration of Rights for the State, - - - - -	5
19, Ordinance respecting arms of Non-Associators read a second time, - - - - -	5
19, Circular letters to be written, urging Troops to be marched with the utmost expedition to New-Jersey, - - - - -	5
19, Ordinance for disarming Non-Associators, - - - - -	6
20, Election of Delegates to Continental Congress, - - - - -	6
20, Committee appointed to draw up Instructions to Delegates in Continental Congress, - - - - -	7
20, Committee appointed to confer with Virginia Delegates on the subject of a temporary line between Virginia and Pennsylvania, - - - - -	7
20, New Jail in Philadelphia delivered up to Congress for the use of the State Prisoners, - - - - -	7
20, Recommendation of Field-Officers for the Battalion intended for the defence of the western frontier, - - - - -	7
22, Committee to go immediately and examine the old Jail, - - - - -	7
23, Four additional Battalions to be raised for the Flying-Camp, - - - - -	8
23, Resolved to take the most effectual measures to render the burthen and expense of the inhabitants equal, - - - - -	8
23, Committee to bring in bills for punishment of Treason and Counterfeiting, - - - - -	8
23, Resolution fixing pay of Members of Council of Safety, - - - - -	8
23, Election of Members of Council of Safety, - - - - -	8
24, Oath of Members of Council of Safety, - - - - -	9
Council of Safety recommended to procure sufficient number of Pikes for use of the Militia, - - - - -	9

July 24, Committee on Declaration of Rights appointed also to draw up an essay for a frame of Government, - - - - -	9
24, Committee on Counterfeiting and Treason reported, - - - - -	9
24, Resolution respecting two Companies raising by the Committee of Westmoreland, - - - - -	9
24, Draft of Instructions to Delegates in Congress reported, - - - - -	9
24, Committee to bring in Ordinance for delivering persons confined in Jail, - - - - -	9
24, Report of Committee on Colonel Easton's petition, - - - - -	10
25, Declaration of Independence unanimously approved, - - - - -	10
25, Draft of a Declaration of Rights reported, - - - - -	10
25, Ordinance on Treason, &c., recommitted for amendment, - - - - -	10
25, Committee to fix quotas for the four additional Battalions, report, - - - - -	10
25, Report of Committee for Instructions to Delegates in Congress read the first time, - - - - -	10
26, Letter from General Roberdeau, - - - - -	10
26, Committee appointed to examine the funds of the State, - - - - -	11
26, Minutes of the Convention to be published weekly in English and German, - - - - -	11
26, Report of the Declaration of Rights recommitted, - - - - -	11
26, An essay for an Ordinance for delivering the Jails, reported, - - - - -	11
26, Instructions for Delegates in Congress, - - - - -	11
27, An Ordinance for the release of Colonel James Easton, - - - - -	12
27, New draft of Declaration of Rights reported, - - - - -	12
29, Draft of the Declaration of Rights ordered to be printed for the use of the Members, - - - - -	12
30, Memorial from County of Northumberland, praying assistance against Indians, - - - - -	12
31, Draft of Ordinance for relief of Prisoners in the Jails, ordered to be transcribed for a third reading, - - - - -	13
31, Draft of Ordinance for punishing Counterfeiting paper currency to be transcribed for a third reading, - - - - -	13
31, Committee appointed on Petition from Northumberland, - - - - -	13
Aug. 1, An Ordinance for the relief of the Prisoners in the several Jails in the State of Pennsylvania, - - - - -	13
1, An Ordinance to prevent the Counterfeiting the paper money issued by the honourable the Continental Congress, or by any other of the United American States, - - - - -	15
1, Resolutions on Petition and Memorial from Cumberland County, - - - - -	16
1, Draft of Ordinance for punishing High Treason ordered to be transcribed for a third reading, - - - - -	16
2, Resolved that the future Legislature of this State shall consist of one branch only, under proper restrictions, - - - - -	16
5, Fines imposed upon absent Members, - - - - -	17
5, Report from the Committee to inquire into the Publick Funds, - - - - -	17
5, Consideration of the matter respecting the command of the Fleet resumed, - - - - -	17
5, Committee appointed to bring in an Ordinance for regulating the Militia of the State, - - - - -	17

1776.		1776.	
Aug. 5, Committee appointed to bring in an Ordinance to regulate the sale of Tea and Salt, - - -	17	Aug. 23, Petition of John Smyth and Benjamin Lewis, praying relief from confinement, referred to a Committee, - - - - -	26
5, Committee appointed to bring in an Ordinance respecting the Salt imported by Joshua Fisher & Sons, - - - - -	17	24, Resolution enforcing the Regulations respecting the price and distribution of Salt, - - -	27
6, Committee appointed to consider the granting of Commissions for the Officers of the Flying-Camp, - - - - -	17	24, John Smyth and Benjamin Lewis to be released from confinement, - - - - -	27
7, Resolution respecting dispute between Colonel Bird and other officers of Berks County Militia, - - - - -	18	26, General Mercer requested to grant leave of absence to Members of the Convention under his command, - - - - -	27
7, Committee to consider of the most effectual measures for raising the quota for the Flying-Camp, - - - - -	18	26, Colonel Slough to march to camp as soon as Colonel Roses's Battalion shall return, - -	27
9, Committee on raising quota for Flying-Camp reported, - - - - -	18	26, Ordered that Colonel Bull have leave to stay some time longer in camp, - - - - -	28
9, Letter from Colonel Dickinson, read, - - -	18	26, Letter from Colonel Matlack, at Amboy, respecting the Flying-Camp, read, - - -	28
9, Report from Committee appointed to consider of the granting Commissions to the Officers of the Flying-Camp, - - - - -	18	26, Resolves of Congress desiring the Convention to recommend certain Officers, read, - -	28
9, Committee to bring in a draft of an Ordinance appointing Conservators of the Peace, - -	19	26, Loan of one hundred thousand Dollars obtained from Congress, - - - - -	28
9, Committees of Philadelphia and of the Counties to continue in office until a new election, -	19	26, Order for thirty thousand Dollars drawn for two of the Commissioners appointed to form the Flying-Camp, - - - - -	28
9, No tavern keepers or others to take out any licenses from the officers of the late Government of the State, - - - - -	19	27, Petition from Inhabitants of Tulpehocken, in Berks County, praying that some of the Associators may remain to protect them against the Indians, read, - - - - -	28
10, Resolutions respecting the Flying-Camp, - -	19	27, Letter from General Mercer to the President of Congress, read, - - - - -	28
12, Letters from Colonel Dickinson and General Mercer, read, - - - - -	20	27, Artillery Companies request to be put on the same footing with the other Militia, - - -	28
12, Commissioners chosen to go to Head-Quarters in Jersey to form the Flying-Camp, - - -	20	28, Committee directed to dispose of the Salt belonging to Joshua Fisher & Sons, - - -	29
12, Petition from Major Loxley, - - - - -	20	29, Eight hundred and thirty-four Pounds to be transmitted to Northampton County, to pay for the second quota for the Flying-Camp for that County, - - - - -	29
12, Quotas of the four additional Battalions for the Flying-Camp, - - - - -	20	31, Petition from Peter Withington, praying to be appointed Captain, read, - - - - -	30
12, An Order for £10,000 to be drawn in favour of the Commissioners appointed to go to Head-Quarters, - - - - -	20	31, A Memorial of Stephen and Joseph Shewell, justifying their conduct with respect to their Salt, read, - - - - -	30
12, Regulation for Inlistment, - - - - -	20	Sept. 2, A Memorial from the Committee of Inspection of Cumberland County, praying that some of their Militia might be permitted to remain at home for their protection, read, - - -	30
12, Committee appointed on Petitions of the Captains of the Galleys of the State, - - -	20	2, Petition of John Timmons, praying to be admitted on bail, read, - - - - -	30
12, Report of the gentlemen appointed to consider the granting of Commissions for the Officers of the Flying-Camp, - - - - -	20	2, Committee appointed to bring in an Ordinance empowering the Justices of the Peace in this State, in certain cases, to compel Debtors to give security to their Creditors, - - -	30
13, Petition from Berks County to Congress, praying an exemption of Weavers and Blacksmiths from personal service, - - - - -	21	3, An Ordinance for the appointment of Justices of the Peace for the State of Pennsylvania, -	31
15, Draft of an Ordinance for rendering the burthens of Associators and Non-Associators as equal as possible, reported, - - - - -	21	4, Memorial from two Colonels of Militia of Westmoreland County, on want of arms, and mode of calling out Militia, read, - - -	33
15, Committee to hear the Petitions of the Captains of the Galleys, reported, - - - - -	21	4, Petition from Andrew Ledlie, complaining of great ill-usage, on account, as he apprehends, of his attachment to the cause of liberty, read, - - - - -	33
15, Petition from Inhabitants of the Township of Albany, County of Berks, to be excused from marching into Jersey, - - - - -	21	4, Petition from William Hardy, praying to be appointed the officer for this State to register those who shall be disabled in the service of the United States, - - - - -	34
15, Petition from Inhabitants of Chester County, praying that Colonel Lloyd's Battalion may remain at home, - - - - -	22	4, The President of the Council of Safety to be qualified before the President of the Convention, - - - - -	34
16, Letter from Colonel Dickinson complaining of the desertion of some of the Associators, - -	22	5, Letter from Congress requesting that this State would immediately send forward to New York all the aid they can, read, - - -	34
16, Resolutions relative to Deserters, - - -	22	5, An Ordinance of the State of Pennsylvania declaring what shall be Treason, and for punishing the same and other crimes and practices against the State, - - - - -	34
16, A Declaration of the Rights of the Inhabitants of the State of Pennsylvania, - - - - -	22	6, Resolution respecting the Companies to be raised in the Counties of Northampton and Northumberland, - - - - -	35
17, Petition of the Inhabitants of Albany Township, in the County of Berks, rejected, - - -	24	6, An Ordinance respecting advisedly writing and speaking against the American cause, read the first time, - - - - -	35
17, Absent Members ordered to return immediately, - - - - -	24	7, Owner of a cargo of salt, just arrived, at liberty to dispose of it at such rates and to such persons as he may think proper, - - -	36
17, Resolution for the collection of Fines, and for compelling the attendance of absent Members, - - - - -	24	9, Wages of Doorkeeper directed to be paid, - -	36
19, Letter from General Roberdeau, read, - - -	24	10, Letter, dated the 5th instant, at King's Bridge, from Lieutenant-Colonel Broadhead, of the Pennsylvania forces, read, - - - - -	36
19, Address by General Roberdeau to the Associators under his command, ordered to be printed in the English and German newspapers, -	24		
19, Draft for frame of Government brought in, -	24		
19, Committee appointed to draw up an Ordinance for creating Conservators of the Peace, - -	25		
19, Petition of the Captains of the Galleys, referred to the Council of Safety for final decision, -	25		
19, Resolution regulating promotion in the Naval and Land service, - - - - -	25		
20, Delegates in Continental Congress directed to apply for the Loan of one hundred thousand Dollars for the State, - - - - -	25		
21, Guards appointed over the stores of Joseph and Stephen Newell, to prevent the removal of the salt stored therein, - - - - -	25		
22, Draft of an Ordinance for appointing Conservators of the Peace reported, - - - - -	26		

CONTENTS.

VI

1776.	1776.
Sept. 10, Letter from Colonel Slagle, desiring that another Commissioner may be appointed in his stead, read, - - - - -	Sept. 24, Allowance of Mileage to the members of the late Conference of Committees, - - - - -
36	48
10, Committee appointed to confer with the Committee of Congress for Indian Affairs on the defence of the frontiers, - - - - -	24, Council of Safety to pay expenses incurred by sending expresses to call the people together for choosing Brigadier-Generals, - - - - -
36	48
10, Committee appointed to take into consideration all the military affairs of this State respecting the Flying-Camp and the operations of war to the eastward, - - - - -	24, Wardens of the city of Philadelphia to continue in office until new Wardens shall be chosen, - - - - -
36	48
10, Conduct of Commissioners for forming the Flying-Camp, with respect to the two Companies of Artillery at Amboy, approved, - - - - -	24, Memorial read from Paul Fooks, desiring to be appointed sworn Interpreter for foreign languages and Notary Publick, - - - - -
36	48
11, Draft of an Ordinance respecting Debtors giving security in certain cases, reported, - - - - -	25, Letter from Rev. Messrs. Duffield and Marshall, praying that the Clergy may be exempted from the burthen of civil officers, read, - - - - -
37	48
11, Election of four Members of the Council of Safety, - - - - -	25, A petition praying for an addition to the article confirming the incorporations for promoting religious and charitable purposes, read, - - - - -
37	48
11, A Memorial of William Wild referred to the Council of Safety, - - - - -	25, Letter read from President of Congress respecting raising additional Battalions, - - - - -
37	48
11, Petition of Lawrence Feagan, relating to the damage he sustained by reason of a riot among the soldiers at the Barracks, read, - - - - -	25, Committee appointed to prepare the draft of a preamble to the Declaration of Rights and Frame of Government, and of the oaths and allegiance of office, - - - - -
37	48
12, An Ordinance for punishing persons guilty of certain offences therein mentioned against the United States of America, - - - - -	25, Committee appointed to consider the letter received from Congress, - - - - -
37	48
12, Inquiry directed to be made relative to Colonel Grubb's Battalion returning home without being discharged, - - - - -	25, An essay for a preamble to the Declaration of Rights and Frame of Government, reported, - - - - -
38	48
12, Petition from six Captains of Companies of Colonel Montgomery's Battalion, complaining that they had not received their pay, read, - - - - -	25, An essay for the Oaths and Affirmations of allegiance and of office, reported, - - - - -
38	48
13, The Committee appointed to consider of the military affairs of the State reported, - - - - -	26, Resolve respecting Elections for the present year, - - - - -
38	49
13, An Ordinance to compel Debtors, in certain cases, to give security to their Creditors, - - - - -	26, Report of Committee, and action of the House, on the matters contained in the letter from the President of Congress, - - - - -
39	50
13, Two Petitions from Northampton County, praying a supply of ammunition, &c., read, - - - - -	26, Commissioners for raising the Flying-Camp to account with the Council of Safety, or future Assembly, for money put into their hands for that purpose, - - - - -
39	50
13, Election of a Member of the Council of Safety, - - - - -	27, Three Commissioners elected, to inquire, &c., into the condition of the troops raised by this State, - - - - -
39	50
13, Members of the Council who have not taken the oath prescribed, permitted to take the same before any Justice of the Peace for the County wherein they reside, - - - - -	27, Committee appointed to inquire into mutiny in Colonel Miles's Battalion, - - - - -
39	50
14, A Return made of the men of Colonel Montgomery's Battalion who left the camp without discharges, - - - - -	27, Directions respecting the soldiers who have returned from the camp, - - - - -
39	51
14, Resolution providing for the more effectual protection of the western frontier against the Indians, - - - - -	27, Recommended to the first General Assembly of this State to make a law similar to the habeas corpus act of England, - - - - -
40	51
14, Report of the Committee appointed to confer with the Delegates in Congress from Virginia, on the settlement of a temporary boundary between Virginia and this State, - - - - -	27, Committee appointed to inquire into the affair of the returned soldiers, reported, - - - - -
40	51
14, An Ordinance for rendering the burthen of Associators and Non-Associators in the defence of this State as nearly equal as may be, - - - - -	28, The Constitution of Pennsylvania, - - - - -
42	51
17, Committee appointed to prepare a speech and wampum for a conference with two Shawanese Indians now in town, - - - - -	28, The Constitution signed by the President and Members of the Assembly, - - - - -
45	59
18, Draft of the speech to the Shawanese Indians, reported and approved, - - - - -	28, The Constitution committed to the Council of Safety, to be delivered to the General Assembly at their first meeting, immediately after they shall have chosen their Speaker, - - - - -
46	59
18, Forty dollars to be given to the two Shawanese Indians as a present, - - - - -	28, A Committee appointed to settle the incidental expenses of the Convention, - - - - -
46	59
19, Message of the State of Pennsylvania, by their Representatives in Convention at Philadelphia, to their brethren the Shawanese Indians, - - - - -	28, President of the Convention allowed the same wages as the Speaker of the late House of Assembly, - - - - -
46	59
19, Twenty dollars presented to each of the two Shawanese Indians, - - - - -	28, Committee appointed to prepare the seals for the future Legislature and Executive Council, - - - - -
46	59
19, Inhabitants and Committees recommended to respect and assist Wenthissica and Pellawa, two Shawanese Indians, - - - - -	28, Immediate notice to be given that the freemen of the State are empowered to choose, at their next election, Counsellors of State, - - - - -
46	59
19, Letters read from the Commissioners for Indian affairs at Fort Pitt, - - - - -	28, Council of Safety directed to prepare materials for printing Paper Currency, - - - - -
46	59
19, Letter read from Colonel Kachlean, informing of deserters, - - - - -	28, Committee appointed to revise and print the Minutes of this Convention, - - - - -
47	59
20, Memorial from the Committee of Northumberland, setting forth their apprehensions of an Indian war, read, - - - - -	28, General Roberdeau appointed first Brigadier-General, and General Ewing second Brigadier-General, of this State, - - - - -
47	59
20, Resolution for the payment of two Companies raised by the Committee of Westmoreland, - - - - -	28, Committee appointed to draw up an Address to the publick, setting forth the reasons for the Ordinances and Resolves which have been passed, - - - - -
47	60
23, Letter read from General Roberdeau, containing his sentiments on the regulations of the Militia, - - - - -	28, Report of the Committee appointed to inquire into the complaints of the mutinous soldiers, again read, and referred to the Council of Safety, - - - - -
47	60
23, Committee appointed to bring in the draft of a resolve for settling and regulating the general election for this present year, - - - - -	28, New election of two gentlemen to visit the troops raised in this State, at New-York Island and Ticonderoga, - - - - -
47	60
24, Delegates in Congress directed to apply to the Congress for the loan of one hundred thousand Dollars, - - - - -	28, Petition of Peter Withington, for a captaincy, again read, and referred to the Council of Safety, - - - - -
47	60

CONTENTS.

VII

1776.		
Sept. 28,	Commission and Instructions to the gentlemen chosen to visit the troops of this State,	60
28,	Report of the Committee on Military Affairs again read,	60
28,	Election of Field Officers for the Battalion to be raised in the Counties of Northampton and Northumberland,	60
28,	Those Associators who have refused to march, &c., to be considered as Non-Associators,	60
28,	The memorial from Northumberland again read, and referred to the Council of Safety,	60
28,	Secretary of the Convention to have the same wages as the Clerk of the Assembly,	61
28,	Thanks of the Convention to the President,	62
28,	The Convention rose,	62

PENNSYLVANIA COUNCIL OF SAFETY.

1776.		
Sept. 2,	Robert Towers directed to deliver to Colonel Porter thirteen stand of arms,	61
2,	Abraham Hargis appointed a Lieutenant in a Rifle Regiment,	61
2,	Samuel Mifflin appointed Commodore and Commander-in-chief of all the naval armaments of the State,	61
2,	Owen Biddle authorized to import from St. Eustatia necessaries for clothing and equipping the troops,	61
2,	Mr. Towers directed to deliver Colonel Smith ninety stand of arms,	61
3,	The Militia under the command of Colonel James Wilson that have not marched to New Jersey to remain in Cumberland County until further orders,	62
5,	Mr. Towers directed to deliver Captain Jack twenty stand of arms,	63
6,	The Gunsmiths employed in making arms for the State to be allowed £4 10s. for every good musket with a bayonet,	63
6,	Commission filled up for Commodore Mifflin,	63
6,	Letter wrote to General Mercer requesting he will permit Commodore Mifflin to return home, to take the fleet under his care and direction,	63
6,	Midshipman William Whitpain discharged from the service of the State,	64
9,	Mr. Towers to deliver to Captain Goudy six muskets,	64
9,	Mr. Towers to deliver Captain Jack four stand of arms,	64
9,	James Forrest, Thomas Ryan, and Shanks, prisoners of war, delivered into the custody of Robert Jewell,	64
9,	Mr. Towers to deliver Lieutenant-Colonel Heydrick sixty stand of arms,	64
9,	Fifty pounds advanced to the Committee of Berks County for supplying the families of poor Associators, who are in actual service, with necessaries,	64
9,	The Committee of Reading empowered to appoint a small guard in that town, at the expense of the Board, so long as the prisoners of war shall reside there,	64
11,	William Sutton gave his parole not to go more than seven miles from Philadelphia,	65
11,	Commission granted for sloop Jupiter, privateer,	65
12,	The Secretary ordered to summon the Members to meet on Saturday next precisely at eight o'clock, A. M.,	65
13,	All the blankets, coarse linens, woollen cloths, mittens, and stockings, which can be had, to be purchased up for the use of the troops,	66
13,	Application to be made to Congress respecting the wages and mileage of the Associators,	66
14,	Four new Members added to the Board by Convention,	66
14,	Contract to be made to complete the piers sunk near Fort-Island, and fix the chain for stopping the navigation upon an emergency,	66
16,	Letter wrote to Commodore Mifflin, requesting his speedy return to Philadelphia to take the naval armaments under his care,	67
16,	The accounts of mileage for the Militia to be hereafter referred to the Continental Treasury Office,	67

VIII

1776		
Sept. 16,	Mr. Towers directed to deliver to Captain Daniel Joy five hundred pounds of powder for proving cannon,	67
16,	A house to be taken for a hospital, and a matron hired to nurse sick soldiers of the State,	67
16,	Doctor Gerardus Clarkson appointed to attend the sick in the said hospital,	67
16,	Mr. Towers to deliver Captain Lewis Williams thirty-two stand of arms,	67
16,	An order drawn on the Marine Committee for what arms are due from Congress to the State,	67
16,	Mr. Towers to deliver Major Thomas Proctor one hundred and thirteen stand of arms,	67
16,	Colonel Timothy Matlack directed to deliver Robert Morris, Chairman of the Secret Committee, thirty-five thousand flints, to be charged to Congress,	67
16,	Three fast-sailing sloops to be sent off as soon as possible, to bring in clothing and other necessaries for the troops,	67
16,	Application to be made to the Board of War to know whether the Council may proceed immediately to erect the fortification at Billingsport,	67
16,	Application to be made to the Board of War to employ the Marines as guards over the frigates, prison, and powder belonging to the Continent, &c.,	68
17,	Alexander Morris discharged on his parole,	68
17,	Certain prisoners taken on board the Lady Susan discharged, and permitted to go to their families in Maryland,	68
17,	Wages due to the men in the service of the State not to be stopped by their officers on any pretence, unless with the consent of the men or by special orders from the Board,	68
18,	Isaac Cox appointed Regimental Paymaster for the troops belonging to the State now in the Continental service,	69
18,	Major Thomas Proctor empowered to enlist any Associator of the State, provided he is not already engaged in the Flying-Camp, or a servant or apprentice,	69
19,	Complaint of Michael Conner against Jacob Petteerman and others,	69
19,	Committee appointed to inspect into the state of the stores, arms, &c., belonging to the State,	69
19,	James Maul appointed a pilot to carry vessels through the chevaux-de-frise,	70
19,	Resolution against inlisting servants and apprentices into the Flying-Camp without consent of their masters in writing,	70
20,	The Lock-makers to be allowed twenty-five shillings for every good gun-lock they deliver,	70
20,	Resolution providing Arms and Ammunition for Westmoreland County,	70
20,	Samuel Mifflin declined serving as Commodore and Commander-in-Chief of the Fleet of the State,	70
20,	Mr. Towers directed to deliver Colonel William Clark six stand of arms,	70
21,	Captain John Rice directed to raise men for the armed boat called the Convention with all expedition,	71
21,	Captain William Brown appointed Commander of the Floating Battery now building by Mr. Donaldson,	71
21,	Captain Brown to raise men for the Floating Battery,	71
23,	Committee appointed to form a regular muster roll for the Navy of the State,	71
23,	Officers recruiting for the Naval armament to be allowed twenty shillings per man, in lieu of all expenses, for inlisting,	72
23,	Mr. Towers to deliver to Gustavus Resberg, for the use of the Flying-Camp, one hundred pitching axes,	72
23,	Mr. Towers to deliver to Colonel John Lawrence sixty stand of arms,	72
24,	Three hundred pounds powder and six hundred pounds of lead furnished to Northampton County,	72
24,	The Naval Officer of the port to give notice to the Board of all military stores imported and entered in his port as soon as possible after their arrival,	73

1776.		
Sept. 24,	Paul Fooks, Notary Publick and sworn Interpreter for the French and Spanish languages, continued in those offices,	73
25,	Resolved, unanimously, that bail ought not to be taken in the case of William Ross,	73
25,	Colonel James Potter allowed to contract for making fifty rifle guns for the use of his Battalion,	73
26,	Officers appointed to carry on the Fortifications intended to be erected at Billingsport,	74
26,	Thomas Seymour appointed Commodore and Commander-in-Chief of all the Naval armaments in the service of the State,	74
26,	David McCutchen discharged from his confinement,	74
26,	As many of the members of the Board as conveniently can to go down to Fort-Island tomorrow morning to accompany Commodore Seymour to the Fleet,	74
26,	Instructions to the Commodore,	74
26,	Officers of the Fleet allowed the same pay as Officers in the Continental service,	75
27,	Officers who choose to continue in the Naval service desired to apply for new commissions on Tuesday next,	75
28,	Benjamin Feshburn recommended to Congress for Paymaster to Colonel Jos. Wood's Battalion, now at Ticonderoga,	75
28,	John Weitzel requested to purchase for the State a quantity of blankets, coarse cloths, coarse lincens, and five tons of hemp, as soon as possible,	75
28,	Resolution to ascertain what number of the city Militia will work on the Fortification at Billingsport,	76
28,	Doctor William Currie resigns his employment as Surgeon of Colonel Atlee's Battalion,	76
28,	Robert Etterington enlarged upon his parole,	76
30,	Colonel Joseph Donaldson appointed a Member of the Council,	76
30,	Half pay allowed to Nicholas Curry, a disabled seaman, until further provision is made for persons in like situation,	76
30,	Lewis Nicola continued in the office of Barrackmaster until further orders,	77
Oct. 1,	Parole granted to Joseph Cary and Jonathan Pearson,	77
1,	A return of the Arms belonging to the State, ordered to be laid before the Council, and that they be delivered out to the Associators in proportion,	77
1,	Colonel John Bull appointed general superintendent of the works to be carried on at Billingsport,	77
1,	Peter Withington appointed a Captain in Colonel Cook's Battalion, his rank to be settled hereafter,	77
1,	Samuel Royal commissioned Captain, and George Wallace First Lieutenant, in the Second Battalion of Militia belonging to Cumberland County,	78
1,	Publick notice to be given that twelve recruiting Sergeants will be appointed on Saturday next,	78
1,	Committee appointed to procure blankets, stockings, and woollen cloths for the use of the State,	78
2,	One hundred thousand dollars received from Congress,	78
2,	New commissions given out to the Captains of the Gallies,	79
3,	Privateer sloop Congress commissioned, William Greenway Commander,	79
3,	Privateer brig General Lee commissioned, John Chatham Commander,	79
4,	Commissions delivered to Colonel William Cook, Major James Crawford, and Captain Peter Withington, of the Twelfth Battalion of Regulars,	79
4,	William Evans desired to purchase all the coarse cloths, blankets, and stockings, in Chester County, for the use of the State,	79
4,	Ship Montgomery to exchange her 18-pounders for 12-pounders,	79
4,	Officers appointed in the Twelfth Battalion of Foot,	80

1776.		
Oct. 4,	Mr. Towers directed to deliver to the Secretary at War one hundred cannon shot for 22-pounders, and sheet lead sufficient for aprons for twenty cannon,	80
4,	An election having been held in Chester County in direct violation of the Declaration of the Convention, ordered, that the Sheriff deliver up the returns to the Board,	80
5,	Mr. Towers directed to deliver Major Proctor twenty-six blankets, for the use of the Artillery,	80
5,	Officers appointed for the two Companies of Artillery under the command of Major Proctor,	80
5,	Commission granted for William Connell, commander of schooner General Thompson,	80
5,	Arrangement of the three Pennsylvania Battalions, now in the Continental service at New-York,	90
5,	Letter to Colonel Brodhead, requesting a return of the officers who choose to enter into the Continental service on the new establishment,	80
5,	General McKinley requested to purchase all the coarse cloths, blankets, and stockings, he can procure,	81
5,	A detachment of fifty men from the Artillery to be sent to Fort Montgomery, subject to the direction of the Commander-in-Chief,	81
7,	Mr. Towers directed to deliver to Captain James Craig two hundred grape and one hundred swivel shot, he engaging to return the like quantity,	81
7,	All the powder now on board the ship, floating batteries, and armed boats, belonging to the State, to be delivered to Mr. Towers, Commissary, who is to replace it with a like quantity,	81
8,	Pay of Pilots for conducting vessels through the chevaux-de-frise,	82
8,	Thomas Wharton, jun., and Colonel Bayard appointed to fit out the ship Montgomery,	82
8,	List of Officers commissioned for the Fourth Battalion of Associators in Northumberland County,	82
8,	Resolutions for expediting the payment of the accounts of the Associators,	83
8,	Committee appointed to confer with a committee of Congress on the expediency of having a body of Troops stationed near the City of Philadelphia for the defence of this State,	83
9,	Resolution making void the purchase of a cargo of salt, and prohibiting any person to purchase any goods coming from sea until the vessels regularly enter at the custom-house, and until report of the cargo be made to the Board,	83
10,	Alexander Morrice permitted to depart the State in the schooner Mariamne to Cape Nicola Mole,	84
11,	Robert Towers directed to deliver Colonel Cadwalader one hundred muskets,	84
11,	Commission granted to James Smith, commander of the letter of marque brig Rutledge,	84
11,	Resolution directing the appraisement and distribution of the clothing of the soldiers killed or taken prisoners on Long-Island,	84
11,	Committee appointed to go down to the piers to-morrow and fix upon a method for fastening the chain,	84
12,	Resolution to prevent a monopoly of salt, and to encourage its importation,	85
12,	Increase of the pay of Officers,	85
14,	Commissions of all the Captains and Subalterns of the Twelfth Battalion of Foot to be dated the 1st of October, and their rank hereafter settled,	86
14,	John Brady and John Harris appointed Captains, and Christopher Gettig First Lieutenant, in the Twelfth Battalion,	86
14,	Francis Allison appointed Surgeon of the Twelfth Battalion,	86
14,	Publick arms to be delivered to the commanding officers of the several Battalions of the City and Liberties of Philadelphia,	86

1776.		
Oct. 14,	The Colonels of the several Battalions to make return of the number of arms and accoutrements in their respective Battalions,	86
14,	Major Proctor empowered to exchange two hundred arms, now in his possession, for the like number of light arms belonging to Congress,	86
14,	Measures taken in consequence of a letter from General Lee, informing that the Hessians had embarked from Staten-Island, and did not doubt but that they intended a visit to this State,	86
14,	John Brigs committed to the State Prison for insulting a Company of Militia returning into town from exercise,	86
14,	A bounty of ten dollars to be given to every able-bodied man who shall enter to serve during the war on board the fleet,	86
15,	Committee appointed to view the several avenues leading to the city, and to report the places most suitable to erect works of defence,	87
15,	Application to be made to the Board of War of New-Jersey for three pieces of brass cannon,	87
16,	Resignation of Isaac Cox, Paymaster to the Pennsylvania Troops,	87
16,	John Redman, Jun., appointed Paymaster to the Troops late commanded by Colonels Miles and Atlee,	88
16,	Major Proctor desired to hold in readiness the detachment intended to be sent to Fort Montgomery, to march at a moment's warning,	88
16,	Mr. Lyon, Member of the Council for Cumberland, appeared and took the qualification directed by Convention,	88
16,	Appointment of Officers in the Twelfth Battalion,	88
16,	Representation made to the Board of War,	88
17,	Captain Blewer appointed to employ proper persons to build ten flat-bottom boats, for transporting Troops,	89
17,	No persons to view the Fortifications or go on shore at Fort-Island, without permission,	89
17,	No person to be suffered to sound the channel through the chevaux-de-frise, or take any measures to gain information of the works of defence,	89
17,	Five hundred bushels of salt to be sent to Trenton, to be sold out in small quantities,	89
17,	Jonathan Coupland appointed Captain of a Guard-Boat,	89
18,	Increase of the pay of the men on board the Fleet,	89
18,	John Brigs discharged from his confinement upon giving security for his good behaviour,	89
19,	Resignation of Captain William Gamble as commander of the fire sloop Etna,	90
19,	John Brice appointed Captain of the fire sloop Etna,	90
19,	Resignation of Abner Davis, a Third Lieutenant in the Second Battalion of Riflemen,	90
21,	Mr. Gray and Captain Blewer appointed to sound the eastern channel of the river Delaware, near Fort-Island, and to give directions for stopping that passage, if they should find it necessary,	90
21,	Captain Gurney appointed to receive of Robert Eastburn all the money received for salt sold by him,	90
23,	Peter Rhoads, Member for Northampton County, appeared, and took the qualification directed by Convention,	91
23,	Committee appointed to view the country, and fix upon a spot for a Magazine for military stores,	91
24,	Fifty pounds paid to Monsieur Thaddeus Kosciusko as a reward for his services in laying out a plan of a fortification at Billingsport, to be charged to Congress,	92
24,	One thousand dollars advanced to Commodore Seymour for recruiting men for the Fleet,	92
24,	Captain Blewer and Captain Gurney desired to secure the person of Charles Roberts, Captain of the schooner Thetis, with all his papers, and lay them before the Board,	92
24,	Jacob Myle appointed Quartermaster to the German Battalion,	92

1776.		
Oct. 24,	The Officers now prisoners with the enemy to take rank according to their several commissions, and be entitled to pay and rations the same as if they were in actual service,	92
24,	Arrangement of Captains and Subaltern Officers for the Battalion to be kept in the pay of the State,	92
24,	Captain Blewer appointed to contract with proper persons for building twelve boats to guard the fire rafts,	92
24,	The Committee for Fort-Island desired to erect a fire at Fort-Island, and employ persons to manufacture nails at said Island,	92
25,	Arrangement of the Battalion belonging to the State,	93
25,	Rule for the appointment and promotion of Officers,	93
25,	Appointments and promotions,	94
26,	Major Proctor ordered immediately to send forward the detachment of Artillery to Fort Montgomery,	94
26,	Mr. Towers directed to deliver to the Board of War three hundred stand of arms,	94
26,	One quarter cask of powder to be distributed to the Associators of Bucks County,	95
26,	The Officers of the three late Provincial Battalions who have signified their desire to engage in the new establishment, directed to repair to Philadelphia,	95
26,	The Captains and Subalterns in the Eleventh Battalion to be appointed on the 4th of November,	95
29,	Ludowick Sprogel, Mustermaster of the Fleet and Army of the State, allowed the rank, pay and rations of Captain from the 21st October, 1776,	96
30,	Samuel Kerr discharged from his parole, and permitted to return to his family at Edentown, in North-Carolina,	96
30,	Mr. Towers directed to deliver Captain Rice twenty muskets for the use of the Convention galley,	96
30,	Monsieur Uttendorf appointed Adjutant of a Battalion to be raised for the Continental service, with the rank of Captain,	96
30,	Two hundred dollars advanced to Monsieur Uttendorf in consideration of his having lost his baggage in his voyage to America,	97
30,	Major Proctor directed to reinlist such men belonging to the Artillery who are willing to serve during the war,	97
31,	Doctor John Kearsley to be removed from the jail in Yorktown to the jail in Carlisle,	97
31,	Two blank commissions for privateers or letters of marque delivered to Messrs. James Mease and Robert Mease, for a ship and brig, to be fitted out by them in a foreign port,	97
31,	John Baldwin declared an enemy to his country, and committed to jail, for refusing to receive Continental Bills of Credit,	98

CORRESPONDENCE, PROCEEDINGS, ETC.

1776.		
Mar. 30,	Letter from Lord Dunmore to Lord George Germain: Is endeavouring to raise two Regiments in Virginia—one of white people, the other of black; the former goes on very slowly, but the latter very well,	159
April 2,	Letter from Lord Dunmore to Lord George Germain: Capture of two small vessels from the West-Indies,	161
May 11,	Information from a Spy, given to Lord Dunmore, of the bloody plan intended to be perpetrated by those sons of murder and devastation, the Shirtmen,	163
30,	Petition of General Frye to the Massachusetts Assembly,	725
June 26,	Letter from Lord Dunmore to Lord George Germain: A malignant fever has carried off many of his people, especially the blacks; but for this, is satisfied he would have had two thousand blacks, with whom he could have penetrated into the heart of the Colony,	162

1776.		
June 30,	Letter from the Committee for the County of Sunbury, in Nova-Scotia, to James Simmons, James White, and James Say: Requiring a declaration of their sentiments on the disputes between Great Britain and America, -	785
July 20,	Letter from the Council of Virginia to the President of Congress, acknowledging the receipt of the Declaration of Independence, -	209
31,	Letter from Lord Dunmore to Lord George Germain: Had been driven from Gwinn's Island to Potowmack river; His Majesty's ships much annoyed by the Rebels; is much puzzled to know where to go next, -	164
Aug. 3,	Letter from P. Penet to General Washington: Solicits the honour of the title of his first Aid-de-Camp, and to be permitted to wear the uniform and also the ribbon; he asks no pay, but only the honour of being in his service, -	928
4,	Letter from the Governour-General of the French part of St. Domingo to General Washington: Entreats for the relief of Sieur de Chambeau, -	928
14,	Letter from Colonel Hand to General Washington: Requests the appointment of certain officers in his Regiment, -	413
24,	Letter from Colonel Reed to Governour Trumbull: Submits to his consideration whether it would be possible to transport a thousand men to Long-Island, -	98
26,	Proceedings of Rockingham Town Meeting, Cumberland County, New-York: Voted that proper measures be taken to get the New-Hampshire Grants formed into a separate State, -	124
	Cumberland (New-York) County Committee: Persons consulted with for a new State, -	125
28,	Petition of Ichabod Jones, -	731
28,	Petition of Selectmen of Harpswell, -	732
28,	Petition of Thomas Edwards, -	732
28,	Memorial of Jonas Hale and others, -	733
28,	Petition of Jonathan Eddy and others, -	733
29,	Petition of Joseph Sprague for a commission for the schooner General Gates, -	737
30,	Letter from Henry Chase to the New-York Convention: Has been imprisoned a long time and nothing appears against him; begs them to consider his case, -	666
30,	Petition of John Fox for a commission for the private sloop-of-war Retrieve, -	737
30,	Representation of the Committee of Newburyport, -	768
30,	Letter from General Sullivan to Lord Howe, -	1329
31,	Letter from Governour Trumbull to General Washington: No exertions of this State will be wanting at this critical conjuncture to harass the enemy, -	97
Sept. 1,	Letters of Charles W. F. Dumas to Committee of Secret Correspondence, September and October, -	99-103
	Caroline County, Virginia, Committee: Test oath tendered to James Miller and others, and refused, -	104
1,	Letter from Colonel William Richardson to Maryland Council of Safety, -	104
1,	Letter from Captain Nicholson to Maryland Council of Safety: An example should be made of deserters, -	104
1,	Letter from Colonel Hollingsworth to Maryland Council of Safety: Necessary to have cash lodged in the County, in some person's hands, for the publick service, -	105
1,	Letter from Josiah Bartlett to John Langdon: Prays him to send the Raleigh to sea as soon as possible. General Sullivan has arrived in Philadelphia, on his parole, with a verbal message from Lord Howe to the Congress, -	105
1,	Letter from the Committee of Lancaster (Pennsylvania) to the Committee of Carlisle: Informing of the removal of Lieutenant William Barrington, prisoner, to Carlisle, -	106
1,	Letter from General Washington to the New-York Convention: Impossible to give any assistance to prevent the cattle on Long-Island from falling into the enemy's hands. Asks aid for the defence of the posts at King's Bridge, -	106

1776.

Sept. 1, Letter from Doctor Morgan to General Gates :
Sends him a large assortment of medicines,
all capital articles, - - - - - 106

1, Extract of a letter from New-York: Account
of the battle on Long-Island, - - - - - 107

1, Letter from General De Lancey to Colonel
Conkling : Stating the terms on which General
Howe is willing to accept the submission
of the inhabitants of Suffolk County, New-
York, - - - - - 505

1, Letter from Colonel Cary to General Heath:
The Commander-in-Chief has desired Col-
onel Moylan to place an Assistant Quarter-
master up at King's Bridge, - - - - - 108

1, Letter from Ebenezer Hazard to John McKes-
son : Suggests that there should be a post-
rider daily to and from New-York, - - - - - 108

Return of the Officers chosen by the different
Companies in King's County, who have
signed the Declaration and taken their com-
missions, - - - - - 109

Letter from Joseph Bull to General Woodhull:
Taken into custody by order of General
Scott; represents himself friendly to the
American cause, - - - - - 109

Letter from Lieutenant Edget to New-York
Convention : Requests to be dismissed from
the service on account of ill health, - - - - - 110

1, Letter from General Schuyler to General Gates :
Not a sheet of musket cartridge paper is to
be had here. Not a man is stopped on the
route to the Army except such as have lately
had the small-pox. Whether Mr. Avery is
subordinate to Mr. Livingston or not, it was
his business to obey, - - - - - 110

1, Certificate of Lieutenant-Colonel Wait of the
most advantageous post on Onion river, - - - - - 111

1, Order to Commanding Officer of the Company
raised by Captain Faucett to maintain his
post at Jerico, on Onion river, - - - - - 111

1, Letter from General St. Clair to Lieutenant-Col-
onel Allen : There were two points on which
they had perfectly agreed: first, that Inde-
pendence was not the interest of America if
the liberties of America could be otherwise
secured ; secondly, that if foreign troops
were employed to reduce America to absolute
submission, that Independence or any mode
was justifiable. There is no doubt now about
the employment of foreign troops. Ticon-
deroga has been made a very strong post, - - - - - 111

1, Letter from William Gilliland to General Arnold:
Complains of the troops and sailors having
wantonly committed great destruction on
several of his plantations, - - - - - 112

1, Letter from Colonel Hartley to General Gates :
Has despatched two boats to the fleet to see
what they are doing on board, - - - - - 113

-, Instructions to their Representatives, voted by
the freemen of a town in Connecticut, at
their annual meeting, - - - - - 113

1, Letter from Colonel H. B. Livingston to Gov-
ernour Trumbull: If a retreat from Long-
Island is determined upon, a number of
boats will be necessary, - - - - - 114

1, Letter from Governour Trumbull to Nathaniel
Shaw, Jun.: Desires him to provide necessary
transports for ending a number of troops from
New-London to the east end of Long-Island, - - - - - 114

1, Connecticut Council of Safety, - - - - - 114

1, Letter from Commodore Hopkins to the Marine
Committee: Captain Whipple sailed on a
cruise four days after he got home. Will set
himself about manning the Alfred as soon as
he gets a little over the fatigue of his journey.
Captain Hinman has gone on a cruise with
the Cabot without orders, - - - - - 115

1, Letter from Colonel Joseph Ward to General
Washington : Captain Burke, in the armed
schooner Warren, taken by a British frigate
on the 26th of August, - - - - - 116

1, Letter from Winthrop Sargent to Massachusetts
Council: Captain Daniel Waters retook an
old coasting sloop which had been taken by
the Milford frigate, - - - - - 116

2, Letter from the Maryland Council of Safety to
Captain Deans : Directing him to give Ser-
geant Barnes a discharge, - - - - - 117

1776. Sept. 2, Letter from Baltimore Committee to Maryland Convention: Recommend Robert Wilmott as a Lieutenant or Ensign, - - -	117
2, Letter from William Deakins, Jun., to Maryland Council of Safety: Dennis Griffith recommended for an Ensign, - - -	117
2, Letter from John Burrell to Maryland Council of Safety: Thinks he should be First Lieutenant of the ship Defence, - - -	117
2, Proceedings of Baltimore Committee, - - -	118
2, Letter from Josiah Bartlett to General Folsom: A well-disciplined army to serve during the war ought to be raised as soon as possible. A considerable quantity of powder made by one of the mills of Pennsylvania appears not to have half the force of good powder. The affairs at New-York almost wholly engross the attention of Congress, - - -	118
2, Letter from the Marine Committee to Daniel Tillinghast: Enclosing resolution of Congress ordering tents to be made up and forwarded with all possible expedition to General Washington, - - -	119
Petition of Michael Fitzgerald for a military appointment, - - -	119
2, Letter from the Committee of Reading to the Committee of Lancaster: Permission for servants of Captains Swan and Anstruther, prisoners, to come to Reading, - - -	120
2, Letter from General Washington to the President of Congress: His situation truly distressing; troops dispirited; militia dismayed, intractable, and great numbers gone off—in some instances almost by whole regiments; is confirmed in the opinion of the necessity of an army to exist during the war. Till of late had no doubt of defending New-York, nor should he have yet if the men would do their duty; but this he despairs of. If obliged to abandon New-York, ought it to stand as winter quarters for the enemy? - - -	120
General Orders, September 1, 2, - - -	121
2, Orders from General De Lancey to Colonel Fanning: Directing him to order all who have taken up arms in Suffolk County, New-York, to lay down their arms and take the oath of allegiance to the King, - - -	505
2, Letter from Colonel Lewis to Governour Trumbull: His regiment is discontented with the order, that no officers of Militia assume distinctions superiour to their commissions from their respective Governours, - - -	122
2, Extract of a letter from Colonel Joseph Reed to Mrs. Reed: Trusts his country may yet be free whatever may be the fate of the Army cooped up, or in danger of being so, on a tongue of land, where it ought never to have been, - - -	123
2, Letter from General Howe to Lord George Germain: As there may probably be another campaign before the rebellion is quelled, proposes an augmentation of eight hundred men to Colonel Donop's Chasseurs, to be sent from Germany in the spring, - - -	123
2, Extract of a letter from an English Field Officer on Long-Island: By the steps the General is taking he will effectually cut off the retreat of the Rebels at King's Bridge, - - -	123
2, Extract of a letter from an English Officer of the Guards on Long-Island: There has been a battle in New-York between the New-Englanders and the New-Yorkers, - - -	123
Petition of Captain Townsend's Company to the Convention of New-York, for an increase of the pay for their subsistence, - - -	123
2, Halifax, Cumberland County, (New-York,) Town meeting: Voted not to choose a Delegate to meet the Green-Mountain Boys, - - -	124
2, Letter from General Schuyler to the President of Congress: Recommends that provision be made for two Indian boys from Dartmouth College, - - -	125
2, Letter from General Schuyler to General Washington: Has it amply in his power to justify every part of his conduct, and hopes the inquiry which he has entreated will evince to the world how hardly he has been dealt by, - - -	125

1776. Sept. 2, Letter from General Schuyler to Governour Trumbull: If many gentlemen in high offices were influenced by candour and ingenuousness, they would not have given ear to the variety of calumny to which he has been exposed, - - -	126
2, Letter from General Gates to Governour Trumbull: The Congress have, in some instances, forgot us; but they are excusable. All things conspire to make him believe that America will be free, - - -	127
2, Letter from General Gates to General Waterbury: Every thing necessary for the equipment of the row-galleys arrived last night, - - -	127
2, Letter from John Trumbull to the Board of War: Transmitting returns of the Northern army, - - -	127
2, Letter from John Trumbull to Governour Trumbull: Pleased that the tents and clothing are coming. Finds there is so much ceremony in the Congress that he is not to be appointed without a particular recommendation, - - -	128
2, Letter from General St. Clair to the President of Congress: Acknowledging receipt of his commission as Brigadier-General, - - -	128
2, Letter from Colonel Hartley to General Gates: What is very strange, General Arnold was within ten miles of this yesterday afternoon, - - -	128
2, Letter from Governour Trumbull to General Washington: Has resolved to throw over upon Long-Island a thousand or fifteen hundred troops, - - -	128
2, Letter from Governour Trumbull to the Council of Massachusetts: Enclosing an application for the exchange of Mr. Stevens, - - -	129
2, Proceedings of Connecticut Council of Safety, - - -	129
2, Petition of Joseph Hutchinson and others to the Governour and Council of Connecticut: Remonstrating against the High Sheriff of the County of Windham continuing any longer in office, on account of his being inimical to the liberties of the American United States, - - -	130
2, Petition of William Durkee and others: Remonstrating against the High Sheriff of Windham County, Connecticut, continuing any longer in office, - - -	131
2, Letter from Commodore Hopkins to General Washington: Wishes him to endeavour to get Mr. Henry Hawkins exchanged, - - -	132
2, Letter from Commodore Hopkins to Captain Josiah: Congress have given directions to get him exchanged, - - -	132
2, Letter from Isaac Lathrop to Richard Devens: Should be glad to furnish shot or any thing else in that way, - - -	133
2, Letter from Elnathan Bates to Richard Devens: Should be glad to have the remainder of his account; the small-pox prevents his coming to Boston, - - -	133
2, Massachusetts Council: The resolve of 29th April, allowing the officers of vessels in the Colony service to enlist men out of the companies raised for the defence of the sea-coast, discontinued, - - -	133
2, Petition of Joseph North to the Massachusetts Assembly, - - -	737
2, Petition of Josiah Batchelder, Jun., for a commission for the brigantine Retaliation, - - -	740
2, Petition of John Winthrop, Jun., for a commission for the sloop Union, - - -	741
2, Petition of the Committee of Middleborough: They meet with difficulties in selling and leasing the estates of persons who have fled to Boston, - - -	747
Committee of the town of Pittsfield: Captain Charles Goodrich published as an enemy to his country, - - -	134
2, Extract of a letter from Captain Dennison, of the Expedition transport: Had captured the privateer Adventurer, Captain Bronson, - - -	134
2, Extract of a letter received in London: General Howe will not give the Provincials time to breathe, but push his successes like a winning gamester, - - -	135
3, Letter from James Lloyd Chamberlaine to Maryland Council of Safety: Has engaged a guard of eight men to take charge of the publick magazine in Talbot County, - - -	135

1776.		
Sept. 3,	Letter from the President of Congress to General Washington: Congress have resolved that no damage should be done to the city of New York, - - - - -	135
3,	Letter from the President of Congress to General Lewis, Virginia, General Moore, North-Carolina, and Commanding Officer of Continental Troops in Rhode-Island, directing them immediately to send reinforcements to the Army at New-York, - - - - -	135
3,	Circular of the President of Congress to the Assemblies of New-Hampshire, Massachusetts-Bay, Connecticut, and Rhode-Island, and Conventions of Pennsylvania, Delaware, and Maryland, urging immediately to send all the aid in their power to the Army at New-York, - - - - -	136
3,	Letter from Josiah Bartlett to William Whipple: Congress is very thin; there are difficulties either in accepting or refusing the conference proposed by Lord Howe, - - - - -	137
3,	Petition of Jeremiah Halsey to the Continental Congress, representing that he has been deprived of his wages, and injured in his public character as an officer, - - - - -	137
3,	Letter from Colonel Joseph Wood to General St. Clair: Is prevented by the state of his wound from joining the Army; will set off next week sick or well; is more easy that he has two such field officers as Craig and Butler; dined yesterday with four or five of the Congress; they think a few days will decide the matter at New-York, - - - - -	138
3,	Letter from General Washington to General Mercer: The most salutary consequences may result from having a strong encampment at Fort Lee, - - - - -	139
3,	Letter from General Washington to Colonel Moylan: Wishes to have a quantity of boards collected at King's Bridge, - - - - -	139
3,	Letter from William Palfrey to General Heath: Has sent books, papers, &c., to his quarters for security, - - - - -	139
3,	Letter from Colonel Moylan to General Heath: Tools and necessities belonging to the smiths' department ordered to his encampment for security, - - - - -	140
3,	Report of Colonel Rufus Putnam to General Washington: Has reconnoitred every part about the Island of New-York, and the main as far as Frog's Point, - - - - -	140
3,	Letter from General George Clinton to the New-York Convention, enclosing the examination of John Wooly, confined on suspicion of supplying the enemy with provisions, - - - - -	140
	Petition of Joshua Ferris, a prisoner, confined in the gaol of the White-Plains, Westchester County, New-York, - - - - -	141
3,	Letter from General Schuyler to General Gates: The New-York Provincial Congress has moved up to Fishkill, - - - - -	142
3,	Letter from H. Glen to General Schuyler: Should there be any occasion for hands he can get in one day as many as he wants in town, - - - - -	142
3,	Letter from General Waterbury to General Gates: Has received a considerable quantity of clothing sent by Governour Trumbull, - - - - -	142
3,	Colonel John Brown's complaint against General Arnold, - - - - -	143
3,	Connecticut Council of Safety, - - - - -	143
3,	Letter from James McCobb to Henry Gardner, enclosing subscriptions of inhabitants of Georgetown, Massachusetts, to aid Canada expedition, - - - - -	144
3,	Memorial and Petition of Charles Goodrich, of Pittsfield, Berkshire County, Massachusetts, - - - - -	741
3,	Plot formed by Colonel Asa Porter and others for sending into Canada for protection from the British troops, - - - - -	145-156
4,	Extract of a letter from a house in Lisbon to their correspondent in London: Several vessels have been taken by an American privateer, - - - - -	156
4,	Letters to the President of Congress, recommending Lieutenant Von Hederick for a commission in one of the German battalions to be raised by Congress, - - - - -	156
	Letter to Thomas Willing, to the same effect, - - - - -	157

1776.		
Sept. 4,	Letter from Thomas Stone to Maryland Council of Safety: Assistance is extremely wanted at New-York, - - - - -	156
4,	Petition of John Paul Schott for a Captain's commission in the Continental Army, - - - - -	157
4,	Arrival at Philadelphia of between thirty and forty of the inhabitants of Pennsylvania who had been taken by the English pirates on the coast, - - - - -	157
4,	Letter from General Mercer to the President of Congress: On a general view of our force compared with that of the enemy, the event of the campaign is greatly to be dreaded, - - - - -	157
4,	Letter from Lord Dunmore to Lord George Germain: Gives his reasons for being off New-York, - - - - -	158
4,	Letter from Thomas Quigley to Thomas Randall: Difficulties on board the schooner General Putnam; the men will sail under the command of Captain Cregier, - - - - -	215
4,	Letter from General Washington to Colonel Gay, requesting, in express and peremptory terms, that returns be made regularly, and that the men of his corps be not suffered to straggle from their quarters, - - - - -	166
4,	Letter from General Washington to Colonel Livingston: Wishes him to remain on Long-Island as long as he can do any thing to annoy the enemy, and prevent their foraging, - - - - -	167
4,	Letter from General Washington to General Schuyler: Is not without apprehension that, sooner or later, the short enlistment of the troops must prove of fatal consequences. Wishes to obtain a large quantity of boards for barracks with all expedition, - - - - -	167
4,	Extract of a letter from Long-Island to a gentleman in London: It may be hoped that the loyal city of New-York may not be sacrificed to the inexorable fury of fanatical and Congressional proscription, - - - - -	168
4,	Extract of a letter from Newtown, Long-Island, to a gentleman in London: The Rebels, being rushed on with bayonets, were thrown into the utmost disorder and confusion. A Light-Dragoon attacked three American Riflemen in a wood; killed one, and took the other two prisoners, - - - - -	168
4,	Letter from Captain Thomas to Maryland Council of Safety: Great numbers of the Maryland troops sick, and a Surgeon much wanted, - - - - -	168
4,	Letter from Colonel Nicoll to General Heath, for orders, - - - - -	169
4,	Letter from General Heath to Colonel Nicoll, directing him to remain at Mount Washington till Colonel Hutchinson's return, - - - - -	169
4,	Letter from New-York Committee of Safety to General Washington: They are unable to assist further in securing the important posts at King's Bridge, - - - - -	661
4,	Letter from Colonel Dayton to General Schuyler: Has received information that a numerous army, principally of Indians, was expected at Oswego, - - - - -	247
4,	Letter from Thomas Spencer to Colonel Dayton: An attack is expected from a party of seven hundred Indians and whites, commanded by Walter Butler, - - - - -	247
4,	Letter from the Onondaga Chiefs to Colonel Dayton: Expect an attack, and request assistance, - - - - -	248
4,	Letter from Captain Williams to General Gates: The blacksmiths are very uneasy, and want to know what they are to have per day besides their wages, - - - - -	169
4,	Pass for Nehemiah Carpenter, - - - - -	169
4,	Extract of a letter from Camp Mount Independence: Notice of the death and burial of Colonel William Bond, - - - - -	169
4,	News from the army at New-York, - - - - -	169
4,	Letter from Colonel Livingston to the Council of War of Connecticut: Has retreated from Long-Island, and asks advice for further movements, - - - - -	170
4,	Letter from Captain John Paul Jones to the Marine Committee: Escape from an English frigate, and capture of the brigantine Sea-Nymph, - - - - -	171

1776.		
Sept. 4,	Letter from Captain John Paul Jones to Commodore Hopkins: Is too late for West-Indiamen, and afraid the storeships come out under convoy, - - - - -	171
4,	Letter from Captain John Paul Jones to Robert Morris: As the regulations of the Navy are of the utmost consequence, he ventures to communicate such hints as, in his judgment, will promote its honour and good government, - - - - -	172
4,	Orders to John Clouston, commander of the sloop Freedom, in the service of the State of Massachusetts-Bay, - - - - -	174
4,	Officers and Stores of the armed sloop Freedom, Letter from Massachusetts Council to Colonel Aaron Willard: Directing him to repair to the heights of Dorchester and form a company out of the men enlisted for the Northern Department, - - - - -	174
4,	Massachusetts Council direct the Sheriff of Suffolk County to take Mr. Richey and Captain Alexander Lumsdale in close custody, - - - - -	116
4,	Massachusetts Council: Order for the exchange of Francis Curtis for Philip Stephens, - - - - -	116
4,	Petition of the Committee of the Town of Framingham to Massachusetts Assembly, - - - - -	743
4,	Petition of Nathaniel Brindley, who is suspected of being inimical to the rights of America, - - - - -	744
4,	Petition of Elias Hasket Derby and others, for a commission for the private sloop-of-war Revenge, - - - - -	745
4,	Petition of Samuel Dogget and others, for a commission for the sloop Wolfe, - - - - -	745
4,	Proceedings of a Court-Martial and the New-Hampshire Assembly in the case of Lieutenant Andrew Marshall, - - - - -	175-177
5,	Letter of Sir John Hart, Consul-General at Lisbon, to the Mayor of Bristol: Acquainting him that an American privateer was cruising on the coasts of Portugal, and had taken several prizes, - - - - -	177
5,	Letter from Maryland Council of Safety to Captain Fiddeman, - - - - -	177
5,	Letter from Maryland Council of Safety to Colonel Hollingsworth, - - - - -	177
5,	Letter from Maryland Council of Safety to Thomas Stone, - - - - -	177
5,	Letter from Colonel Thomas Ewing to Maryland Council of Safety, - - - - -	178
	Speech of Mr. Witherspoon in Congress, on the conference proposed by Lord Howe, - - - - -	178
5,	Order of Board of War to the officers of the German Battalion to repair immediately with their men to Philadelphia, - - - - -	180
5,	Uniform of Navy and Marine officers, - - - - -	181
5,	Letter from Captain Gordon (prisoner) to the Committee of Lancaster, Pennsylvania, requesting a pass for his servant, - - - - -	181
5,	Discharge of the first and third divisions of Artillery of the Philadelphia Associators, - - - - -	181
5,	Letter from General Washington to General Mercer: About a thousand additional troops will be competent for the defence of the post opposite Mount Washington, - - - - -	181
5,	Letter from General Greene to General Washington: Gives it as his opinion that a general and speedy retreat from the Island of New-York is absolutely necessary, and that the honour and interest of America require it; and advises to burn the city and suburbs, - - - - -	182
5,	General De Lancey's announcement of his authority to raise a brigade of Provincials, to apprehend or drive out all concealed Rebels in Suffolk County, - - - - -	505
5,	Letter from Jos. Trumbull to Walter Livingston: Complaints of the treatment Mr. Avery has received, - - - - -	213
5,	Letter from Jos. Trumbull to Elisha Avery: Will not risk his character in office while General Schuyler commands the Northern Army, and will let Congress know his refusal immediately, - - - - -	214
5,	Letter from Jos. Trumbull to General Schuyler: Has directed Mr. Avery to withdraw from Tyconderoga immediately. He never intended Mr. Avery should be subordinate to Mr. Livingston, with whom there is a continual clashing, and who is supported by General Schuyler, - - - - -	214

1776.		
Sept. 5,	Letter from Clement Biddle, Deputy Quarter-master-General of the Flying-Camp, to General Heath, - - - - -	183
5,	Letter from General Parsons to General Heath: The machine is ready to make the experiment of blowing up the enemy's ships, - - - - -	183
5,	Letter from the New-York Convention to the Committee of Kingston: Will soon pass a general resolution respecting the tea within the State, - - - - -	663
5,	Bond of John Woolley to behave himself as a faithful and good subject of the State of New-York, - - - - -	666
5,	Letter from Abraham Yates, Jun., to General Washington: Transmitting a resolution of the New-York Convention authorizing him to have all the bells removed from the city of New-York to Newark, for the purpose of being used in the manufacture of cannon, - - - - -	184
5,	Letter from H. Glen to General Schuyler: He has advanced no money to any of the bateau-men, - - - - -	184
5,	Letter from H. Glen to Captain Dickerson, - - - - -	184
5,	Letter from H. Glen to Walter Livingston, - - - - -	185
5,	Letter from General Waterbury to General Gates, - - - - -	185
5,	Letter from General Gates to General Schuyler: He has sent all the carpenters he could procure to assist the ship builders at Skenesborough. Is pleased to find so much attention is beginning to be paid to the Northern Army. Powder and lead is wanted for the fleet on the Lake, - - - - -	185
5,	Letter from General Gates to General Arnold: No time shall be lost in rigging the row-galleys and despatching them to the fleet. The fleet may be disposed of in three divisions, - - - - -	186
5,	Order of Captain Fassett to Lieutenant Lee to repair forthwith to Pittsford with all his men, and to bring with him all the families and their effects north of Monkton, - - - - -	187
5,	Letter from Governour Trumbull to General Washington: All ideas of opposition to the enemy on Long-Island are at an end; he has ordered such regiments as can be spared to march towards New-York with all expedition; has it in contemplation to procure a sufficient naval force to clear the Sound of the enemy's ships, - - - - -	187
5,	Proceedings of Connecticut Council of Safety, - - - - -	188
5,	Letter from David Gelston to New-York Convention: The distresses which he hourly sees and hears from Long-Island are beyond his power to describe, - - - - -	189
5,	Petition of Joseph Mayhew and Shubael Cattle, - - - - -	746
5,	Representation of Nathaniel Guild to the Massachusetts Assembly, - - - - -	746
5,	Advices at Boston from Halifax: The Governour would permit only the last clause of the Declaration of Independence to be published; fears of an attack; refugee Tories; prisoners, &c., - - - - -	189
6,	Letter from Claude Crespigny to Ralph Izard: Can scarcely meet with one man in twenty in England who does not wish to see the nation and himself bankrupt, rather than not bring America to the feet of Lord George Germain, - - - - -	190
6,	Letter from Colonel Bullitt, Deputy Adjutant-General, to Colonel Reed: Asking the adoption of certain regulations, to enable him the better to discharge the duties of his office, - - - - -	191
6,	Letter from Maryland Council of Safety to William Hindman: Requesting £10,000, in unsigned bills, to be sent to Annapolis, - - - - -	191
6,	Letter from General McDonald to the Board of War: Acknowledging the receipt of information that he was to be exchanged for Lord Stirling, and describing the treatment he had received while a prisoner, - - - - -	191
6,	Letter from John Adams to Mrs. Adams: After three or four days debate, Congress had determined to appoint a Committee to wait on Lord Howe; his Lordship seems to have been playing off a number of Machiavellian manœuvres, in order to throw upon Congress the odium of continuing the war, - - - - -	192

1776.

Sept. 6, Letter from Richard Dallam, Deputy Paymaster-General, to Maryland Council of Safety,	192
6, Letter from Richard Dallam to the President of Congress: Will to-morrow be entirely without money,	193
6, Letter from Richard Dallam to the President of Congress,	193
6, Letter from General Washington to the President of Congress: As the movements of the enemy are very different from what were expected, he means to call a council of General Officers to determine on the expediency of evacuating New-York Island; is in great distress for want of money,	193
3-6, General Orders,	194
6, Letter from General Washington to General Howe: Offers to exchange General Prescott for General Sullivan, and General McDonald for Lord Stirling,	196
6, Letter from General Washington to New-York Committee of Safety: Is entirely satisfied with the reasons alleged against ordering out any more of the Militia from the Counties of Orange, Dutchess, Westchester, or Ulster,	196
6, Letter from General Washington to Governour Trumbull: The exertions of Connecticut upon every occasion do them great honour. In respect to the conduct to be pursued by the troops that go over to Long-Island, it must be governed by circumstances. Account of the engagement on the 27th of August,	196
6, Letter from Colonel Moylan to the President of Congress: Requests to have a quantity of Russia duck, in the hands of Thomas Greene, made up in tents and forwarded to the Army,	197
6, Letter from Colonel Malcom to the President of the New-York Convention: Captain Stewart is a very good man, but he has made a horrid collection of soldiers. General Lee is hourly expected, as if from heaven, with a legion of flaming swordsmen,	197
6, Letter from Colonel Reed to Mrs. Reed: They are in a posture somewhat awkward in New-York; think they cannot stay, yet do not know how to go,	198
6, Letter from an officer in the Army to his friend in the country: Account of the battle on Long-Island, and the retreat to New-York,	198
6, Letter from General Mifflin to General Heath: He is to remain at Mount Washington, in order to forward the works, which are to be finished as soon as possible,	199
6, Letter received in London from a British officer: Account of the battle on Long-Island,	200
6, Letter from Ebenezer Hazard to Abraham Yates: Respecting the mail between New-York and Albany,	200
6, Letter from Ebenezer Hazard to John McKesson: It is the Postmaster-General's desire that the post-office should be kept at Headquarters,	201
6, Letter from Colonel Birdsall to the New-York Convention: An immediate call is now for every hearty American friend to proceed for the protection of Long-Island,	201
6, Letter from Colonel Birdsall to the New-York Convention: Prays for money to discharge the bounty due to his men,	201
6, Letter from Lieutenant Williams to New-York Convention: Information relative to the dispersion of Colonel Smith's regiment,	201
6, Letter from Richard Thorne to New-York Convention: Defending himself against intimations of being disaffected to the cause of his country,	202
6, Letter from General Gates to General Schuyler: Enclosing examination and capitulation of Anthony Hasselaband, a deserter from Colonel Riedesel's regiment of Dragoons,	203
6, Examination of Sergeant Stiles, sent from the fleet with Ensign McCoy to reconnoitre,	482
6, Letter from General Gates to Colonel Hartley: Desires that he will directly order the oarmakers to bring up all the oars now made to Tyonderoga,	204

1776.

Sept. 6, Letter from Colonel Hartley to General Gates: He thinks it of the greatest consequence to hold Crown-Point, if possible,	204
6, Letter from General Gates to Colonel Hartley: Instead of thinking the support of Crown-Point an object upon this emergency, it is his positive orders to him, in case of the defeat of the fleet, to immediately retire to Tyonderoga,	204
6, Letter from General Gates to General Schuyler: There has been a very heavy cannonading down the Lake all this morning; is exceedingly vexed that it is above a month since he wrote to him repeatedly for musket cartridge paper, and not one sheet yet arrived,	205
6, Letter from Colonel Hartley to General Gates: In the works at Crown-Point can fight one thousand to fifteen hundred men conveniently; has made every disposition either to fight the enemy or to retreat,	205
6, Letter from Governour Trumbull to Massachusetts Assembly: Proposes to them to send a part of their Militia to Westchester to aid in protecting the country from incursions, and, as opportunity may offer, to make a diversion in favour of the main Army,	205
6, Orders of Governour Trumbull to Colonel Abbot, to march with his regiment without delay to Westchester, in New-York,	206
6, Letter from John Sloss Hobart to New-York Convention: Shall sail upon an expedition to Long-Island to-night; as soon as it is over, shall use all possible despatch to join Convention,	206
6, Letter from David Gelston to the Committee for New London, Connecticut: Submits to their consideration whether it would not be of great service to send over a number of troops to Long-Island, if only one hundred men; all possible despatch appears necessary,	207
6, Letter from Governour Cooke to General Washington: The unexpected evacuation of Long-Island has filled the Assembly with apprehensions for the town of Newport; they have appointed a Committee to confer with him upon measures for its defence,	207
6, Petition of Thomas Nicholson, for a commission for the sloop America,	748
6, Petition of Thomas Cragg, for permission to return to England,	748
6, Petition of Thomas Melville, for a commission for the armed schooner Speedwell,	749
6, Petition of Walter Logan, Comptroller of the Customs of Perth-Amboy, in New-Jersey, for permission to return to Britain,	749
6, Petition of Nathaniel Barstow and Daniel Whitmore, for permission to make saltpetre for their powder mill, on the terms granted to others,	750
6, Letter from the Selectmen of Charlestown to the New-Hampshire Committee of Safety: Answer to the complaint of General Gates against the conduct of a person acting as a physician in that town inoculating soldiers for the small-pox when on their march to the Army,	208
7, Extract of a letter from Guilford, South-Carolina: State of Indian affairs,	208
7, News at Williamsburg, Virginia: The West-India Islands are in a starving condition for want of the American supplies,	209
7, Virginia Council authorize the purchase of cannon, forges, and ordnance stores, for the defence of Alexandria,	1127
7, Letter from Captain Nicholson to Maryland Council of Safety: Has taken upon him to put part of the Militia on duty,	209
7, Letter from Dr. Weisenthal to Matthew Tilghman, recommending Dr. Andrew Porter for a Surgeon,	209
7, Letter from William Ellery to Governour Cooke: Urges the appointment of an additional Delegate to Congress from Rhode-Island, for matters of great consequence will be on the carpet; the liberties of the country cannot be established but by a large standing army,	210

1776.	
Sept. 7,	Certificate of General McDonald in favour of John Ryon, seaman, prisoner in Philadelphia gaol, - - - - -
	211
7,	Address to the Publick on Appointments to Offices, - - - - -
	211
7,	Letter from General Mercer to General Washington: His ideas of the operations for this campaign are, to prevent the enemy from executing their plan of a junction between the armies of Howe and Burgoyne; should keep New-York if possible, - - - - -
	212
7,	Letter from General Washington to the President of Congress: Submits to Congress the application of Captain Martindale and others for pay, - - - - -
	212
7,	Letter from Joseph Trumbull, Commissary-General, to the President of Congress, enclosing letters showing the situation of affairs in his department, and his sentiments thereon—the case of Mr. Avery, - - - - -
	213
7,	Extract of a letter from Dobbs's Ferry: Account of the evacuation of Long-Island; this movement occasioned at first some murmuring among the rash and inconsiderate, but all men of sense saw the necessity of it, - - - - -
	214
7,	Letter from Thomas Randall to New-York Convention, enclosing a complaint against the Captain of the schooner General Putnam, - - - - -
	215
7,	Testimony against one Gilbert Tippet, confined under guard by General Heath, - - - - -
	216
7,	Case of John Grout, of Cumberland County, New-York, - - - - -
	216
7,	Letter from General Schuyler to General Gates: Directs him to order three regiments to keep themselves in readiness to march at a moment's warning, in consequence of news received of movements among the Indians, - - - - -
	220
7,	Letter from General Schuyler to General Gates: Two of the three Commissioners appointed by Congress to audit the publick accounts in the Northern Department have arrived at Albany; all accounts must be immediately prepared to be laid before them, - - - - -
	220
7,	Letter from Walter Livingston to the President of Congress: Requests that he may be enabled to make a final settlement of his accounts as Deputy Commissary-General; resigns his commission, - - - - -
	220
7,	Letter from H. Glen to General Schuyler: Wishes to know whether Captain Bradt or others have a right to enlist men from the bateau-men, - - - - -
	221
7,	Letter from General Waterbury to General Gates: Has got all the paper he could procure, both cartridge and writing paper, - - - - -
	221
7,	Orders and Instructions for Lieutenant-Colonel John Barrett, of the Militia of Cumberland County, in New-York, - - - - -
	222
7,	Orders for Captain Jonathan Fassett, commanding one of the Independent Companies raised for the defence of the inhabitants living on the New-Hampshire Grants, - - - - -
	222
7,	Letter from Colonel Porter to General Gates: His men are well prepared, well armed, and have sufficient quantity of ammunition, and will be ready to turn out on the shortest notice, - - - - -
	222
7,	Extract of a Letter from Mount Independence, near Ticonderoga: Upon a moderate calculation they have now twelve thousand men which are effective; their works go on briskly; have plenty of good bread, beef, and salt pork, - - - - -
	222
7,	Letter from Colonel Hartley to General Gates: When he wrote for a reinforcement, was not on any knight-errant scheme; did not mean to hold the ground against ten or twelve thousand men, but wished to be able to retreat with security, and to take any advantage of the casualties of war, - - - - -
	222
7,	Letter from General Arnold to General Gates: Cannot but think it extremely cruel, when he has sacrificed ease, health, and great part of his private property, in the cause of his country, to be calumniated as a robber and thief, - - - - -
	223
	List of the sick on board the fleet, - - - - -
	224

1776.	
Sept. 7,	Letter from Colonel Livingston to the Connecticut Council of Safety: Has not succeeded in his determination to prevent the inhabitants of East-Hampton supplying the Ministerial troops with live stock, - - - - -
	225
7,	Letter from Abraham Gardiner to Governour Trumbull, communicating request of the Trustees of East-Hampton that the people of Connecticut may not come and take away their live stock and effects, - - - - -
	225
7,	Letter from Governour Trumbull to Colonel Livingston: Advises him to join the Continental army at New-York, unless otherwise ordered, - - - - -
	225
7,	Proceedings of Connecticut Council of Safety, - - - - -
	226
7,	Letter from Henry Remsen to New-York Convention: Asks for orders what to do with the goods which Mr. Van Zandt and himself had imported for the State of New-York, - - - - -
	226
7,	Letter from Captain J. Paul Jones to the Marine Committee: Capture of the brigantine Favourite, - - - - -
	226
7,	Arrival of prizes at Providence, - - - - -
	227
7,	William Gordon to the Inhabitants of the Massachusetts-Bay: On a form of Government, - - - - -
	227
7,	Letter from Massachusetts Council to Thomas Fletcher: Directing him to return the £30 put into his hands to enable him to enlist a number of the Penobscot Indians, - - - - -
	230
7,	Letter from Massachusetts Council to Colonel Willard: Orders, - - - - -
	230
7,	Return of fire-arms, &c., belonging to the State of Massachusetts, - - - - -
	231
7,	Petition of Elisha Hedge: Complains of the treatment he has received from the Committee of Hardwick, - - - - -
	751
7,	Petition of John Codman for a commission for the schooner Langdon, - - - - -
	752
7,	Petition of Joseph Sprague and Samuel Ward, for a commission for the schooner Dolphin, - - - - -
	752
7,	Petition of John Collyer of Marblehead for powder for a privateer he is fitting out, - - - - -
	752
7,	Intelligence at Exeter, New-Hampshire, from Onion river, of houses being destroyed by British troops, - - - - -
	231
8,	Extract of a letter received in London from a merchant at Barbadoes: Capture of an American schooner; intercepted letters, - - - - -
	231
8,	Letter from James Campbell to the President of Congress: List of prizes taken by the privateer Enterprise, - - - - -
	232
8,	Letter from Samuel Chase to General Gates: Is now attending the Convention for the framing of a new Government for the State of Maryland, - - - - -
	232
8,	Letter from Matthew Tilghman to the President of Congress: All the power of the State of Maryland will be exerted in the common cause, - - - - -
	233
8,	Letter from the President of Congress to General Washington, - - - - -
	233
8,	Letter from Dr. Franklin to Lord Howe: Did not immediately answer his favour of the 16th past, because he found that his corresponding with his Lordship was disliked by some members of Congress; hopes now soon to have an opportunity of discussing with him, <i>viva voce</i> , the matters mentioned in it, - - - - -
	234
8,	Extract of a letter from Philadelphia, received in London by way of Nantz: The defeat of the Provincial forces at Long-Island attributed to Lord Stirling, - - - - -
	234
8,	Proceedings of Lancaster, Pennsylvania, Committee, - - - - -
	234
8,	Letter from William Trent to Jacob S. Howell: Informing where sulphur ore and flint-stones may be found, - - - - -
	235
8,	Letter from Colonel Clement Biddle, Deputy Quartermaster-General, to the Board of War: The troops begin to want many necessaries that they will suffer for unless speedily supplied, - - - - -
	235
8,	Letter from Colonel Griffin to the Board of War: The order to march the Militia to camp without arms is an exceedingly ill-advised plan, as there are not one hundred stand of arms in the stores, nor would they be given to the Militia if there was a much larger number, - - - - -
	235

1776.	
Sept. 8, Letter from General Washington to the President of Congress: On the line of conduct to be pursued at this important crisis, -	236
General Orders, Head-Quarters, New-York, September 7, 8, -	238
Letter from Captain Newell to Colonel Knox, September 8: The enemy has opened two three-gun batteries on the works on Horn's Hook, -	239
8, Letter from General Washington to General Heath: Desires him to throw obstructions in the roads which there is a probability of the enemy's making use of, -	239
8, Letter from General Washington to General Mercer: Matters wear so critical an aspect that he has determined to call over Colonel Ward's regiment from the post opposite Mount Washington, and will still stand in need of two or three thousand men, -	240
8, Letter from General Washington to General James Clinton: Entreats him in the strongest manner to exert himself to the utmost of his abilities to make the posts at the Highlands as defensible as possible, -	240
8, Letter from General Washington to the New-York Convention: Desires that a reinforcement of about six hundred Militia may be sent to aid in the defence of forts in the Highlands, -	240
8, Letter from General Washington to the New-York Convention: Will carry into execution their request to remove the bells from the city of New-York, -	675
8, Letter from General Washington to the New-York Convention: Requests them to send down four large Albany sloops for the purpose of removing the sick to Orange-Town, -	241
8, Letter from General Greene to the President of Congress: Application of Captain Martindale and others, for pay during their captivity, and allowances for losses, -	241
8, Letter from General George Clinton to the New-York Convention: Desertions have been so frequent that unless some method can be devised to prevent it, the army will be much injured, if not ruined; fears confusion may arise from want of an arrangement among the field officers; every Colonel claims seniority, -	242
8, Letter from General James Clinton to New-York Committee of Safety: Sends a return of the articles wanted at the fortifications in the Highlands, -	674
8, Letter from James Wm. Payne to Robert Benson: Wishes a recommendation from Members of the Convention to General Washington, -	243
8, Letter from Lieutenant Sayre to General Heath: Notice of a movement of the enemy, -	244
Standard of the Thirteenth Regiment, -	244
Letter from General Nixon to General Heath or General Mifflin: The movements of the enemy render it necessary that post should be taken on Morris's Hill this night, -	244
8, Letter from Colonel Nicoll to General Heath, or, in his absence, to General George Clinton: Intelligence from the enemy on Long-Island, -	244
8, Recommendation of Major Gray to the Commissary-General's berth in the Northern Department, -	245
8, Letter from General Schuyler to the President of Congress, -	245
Letter from Colonel Dayton to General Schuyler, September 4, enclosing a letter from Thomas Spencer, and a message from the Oneida Indians, -	247
Return of Provisions at Fort Schuyler, August 13, -	248
8, Letter from General Schuyler to the President of Congress: Is sorry for Mr. Livingston's resignation, and requests that another Deputy Commissary-General may be immediately appointed to fill his place, -	248
8, Letter from General Schuyler to General Washington: Are threatened with an enemy from the westward. His mills, that used to cut from forty to fifty thousand boards, have not cut one this year, as he was under a necessity of sending his oxen to the Army. That has been the case with several others, -	249

1776.	
Sept. 8, Letter from General Schuyler to General Gates: Is sorry Mr. Avery cannot see the propriety of complying with his request. If Courts-Martial would severely punish officers for illiberal abuse against their superiours, such virulent and ill-founded complaints as those of Lieutenant-Colonel Brown against General Arnold would soon cease, -	249
8, Letter from Richard Varick to General Gates: Shoes and stockings, shirts, cartridge paper, iron pots and kettles, musket balls, and swivels, will be sent as fast as possible, -	250
8, Letter from H. Glen, Assistant Deputy Commissary, to Captain Eisenford, -	250
8, Letter from Colonel Hartley to General Gates: Two boats have arrived from down the Lake; neither bring satisfactory accounts from the fleet, -	251
8, Letter from General Arnold to General Gates, Letter from Colonel Livingston to Governour Trumbull: The people of East and South Hampton have almost universally taken an oath of allegiance to the King, -	252
8, Letter from Colonel Livingston to Governour Trumbull, -	252
8, Extract of a letter from Boston: Captain Proctor is confined in the gaol in Halifax, and is treated barbarously. He has been in prison five weeks, with Colonel Allen, Mr. Lovell, and twenty-eight others, -	252
9, Letter from Captain Smith to Matthew Tilghman, resigning his commission, -	253
9, Proceedings of Baltimore Committee, -	253
9, Letter from Josiah Bartlett to John Langdon, -	253
9, Letter from Mrs. Susanna Connolly to the President of Congress: Begs to be permitted to return home, and is willing to come under any restriction the Congress may require, -	254
9, Petition of Lieutenant Andrew Pepin, of Canada, to the Continental Congress, for arrears of pay and rations, -	254
9, Letter from Pennsylvania Council of Safety to the Lancaster Committee, -	255
9, Letter from Colonel Burd to William Atlee, -	255
5, Letter from Northumberland Committee to the Paxton (Pennsylvania) Committee: Recommend the immediate removal of William Chatin and James Parker, prisoners, to Lancaster, -	255
9, Letter from John Harris to George Fry: Accompanying two prisoners sent by the Committee of Northumberland County to the Committee of Paxton Township, -	256
9, Discharge of Colonel Hart's Battalion of Pennsylvania Associators, -	256
9, William Goddard, Surveyor of the General Post Office, at New-York, to carry into execution the resolution of Congress of August 30, for the more frequent and speedy communication of intelligence, -	256
9, Intelligence from New-York: A large number of the enemy landed on Blackwell's Island, -	256
9, Letter from Tench Tilghman to Colonel Moylan: Communicating the desire of General Washington that every material necessary for the building of barracks at King's Bridge be immediately prepared, -	257
9, Letter from General Washington to Lord Howe: Transmitting a letter from Doctor Franklin, -	257
9, Letter from General Washington to Governour Trumbull, -	257
9, Letter from Colonel Reed to General Mifflin: Requesting boats to be sent down, -	258
Letter from Colonel Reed to General Mifflin: The enemy must be prevented gaining possession of the heights south of Harlem river, -	259
9, Letter from Robert H. Harrison to General Heath: The Maryland troops are ordered to join those at King's Bridge. His Excellency wishes particular attention to be paid to obstructing the roads leading from points where the enemy may land towards King's Bridge, -	259
9, Letter from Major Van Rensselaer to General Ten Broeck: Are very much in want of thread and twine for cartridges, and sheet lead for aprons for the guns, -	260

1776.		
Sept. 9,	Letter from John Schenck to Abraham Yates: He is willing to undertake to supply the garrison at the forts in the Highlands, - - -	260
9,	Letter from New-York Committee of Safety to General Washington: The whole of the reinforcement they have ordered for the Highlands will probably not be at the posts for fourteen days, - - -	676
8,	Letter from New-York Committee of Safety to General James Clinton: A reinforcement of six hundred men has been ordered for the garrisons in the Highlands, - - -	676
8,	Warrant from New-York Committee of Safety to General James Clinton, for impressing vessels to be sent to New-York for the sick, - - -	676
8,	Warrant from New-York Committee of Safety to John Moore, for impressing vessels for conveying the sick from New-York, - - -	676
9,	Letter from New-York Committee of Safety to Delegates in Congress: Enclosing proceedings of the Convention on the necessity of strengthening the posts in the Highlands, - - -	260
9,	Letter from General Schuyler to the President of Congress: Shall resign his commission as soon as he returns from Ticonderoga or Tryon County; not to prevent, but to insist on, the most critical examination of his conduct, - - -	263
9,	Letter from General Schuyler to General Washington: The Army is in the greatest distress for medicines. As every misfortune they labour under is imputed to him, so is this; is heartily tired of abuse, and was in hopes Congress would have ordered an inquiry into his conduct, - - -	263
9,	Letter from General Schuyler to the New-York Provincial Congress: Envy, detraction, and the most unbecoming jealousy, has followed him from the beginning; has entreated Congress to make the strictest inquiry into his conduct, but has not been honoured with any answer, - - -	685
9,	Letter from General Schuyler to General Gates: Shall immediately write to every quarter for the Militia to come up, and shall either conduct them himself to Ticonderoga, or march with part of them into Tryon County, - - -	264
9,	Letter from General Schuyler to General Gates: Placing Colonel Pelissiere, Engineer, under his command, - - -	264
9,	Letter from H. Glen to Walter Livingston, - - -	264
9,	Letter from General Gates to Colonel Hartley, - - -	264
9,	Letter from General Arnold to General Gates: Has no doubt the Almighty will crown our virtuous struggles with success, - - -	265
9,	Letter from Governour Trumbull to Colonel Livingston, ordering him, instead of proceeding to New-York, to join the troops on Long-Island, and pursue every measure to obstruct the designs of the enemy in that quarter, - - -	265
9,	Letter from Governour Trumbull to Colonel Livingston: The two persons he has in custody to be sent to the Committee of Saybrook, - - -	266
9,	Letter from Governour Trumbull to the Massachusetts Assembly: To dislodge the enemy from Long-Island, and destroy the two ships and tenders in the Sound, might at one blow, in a great measure, relieve their bleeding country from impending danger, - - -	266
9,	Proceedings of Connecticut Council of Safety, - - -	266
9,	Advices from Hartford: The standing Militia of Connecticut ordered to march with the utmost expedition to Westchester, where it is imagined the enemy will make an attempt to land from Long-Island, - - -	267
9,	Letter from Jabez Huntington to Colonel Livingston, advising him not to proceed to New-York for the present, - - -	267
9,	Letter from Commodore Hopkins to Samuel Chew, - - -	267
9,	Letter from Commodore Hopkins to Nathaniel Shaw, - - -	268
9,	Letter from Commodore Hopkins to Hoystead Hacker, - - -	268
9,	Letter from Colonel Dike to Massachusetts Council, with an Indian, supposed to be a spy from Canada, - - -	268

1776.		
	A Declaration of Constant Church, an Indian belonging to the Conet tribe, September 8, Commitment to gaol of Constant Church, an Indian, supposed to be a spy from Canada, September 9, - - -	268 269
Sept. 9,	Petition of Nathaniel Brinley, of Framingham, - - -	744
9,	Petition of William Spooner and others for a commission for the schooner Viper, fitted out for the purpose of cruising on the enemies of the United States of America, and their property, - - -	753
9,	Petition of Elizabeth Fenton for leave to take passage for England, - - -	754
9,	Petition of Thomas Melville for a supply of powder for the schooner Speedwell, - - -	754
9,	Representation of the Committee for the town of Rochester, on the conduct of Samuel Sprague, - - -	754
9,	Letter from M. de Berruyer to General Washington: Begs permission to go with his vessel to France, - - -	269
9,	Letter from Eleazer Russell to New-Hampshire Committee of Safety: On fees for the Maritime Office, - - -	269
10,	Letter from William Lee to C. F. W. Dumas: The Declaration of Independence has totally changed the nature of the contest with America; it is now, on the part of Great Britain, a scheme of conquest, which few imagine can succeed. Every effort is making to prevent France from taking any part with America, - - -	270
10,	Letter from General Lewis to the President of Congress: Will order the three Virginia Regiments to march to New-York with all possible speed, - - -	271
10,	Letter from Maryland Council of Safety to Colonel Hollingsworth, - - -	271
10,	Letter from Maryland Council of Safety to Baltimore Committee: Advise the removal of the powder stored in Baltimore to the Head-of-Elk, - - -	271
10,	Letter from Maryland Council of Safety to General Buchanan, - - -	271
10,	Letter from Maryland Council of Safety to Colonel Smallwood and General Beall, - - -	272
10,	Letter from Maryland Council of Safety to Jesse Hollingsworth, - - -	272
10,	Letter from Maryland Council of Safety to Gerard Hopkins, - - -	272
10,	Letter from Josiah Bartlett to William Whipple: Nothing has been done about the Confederation, as Congress is thin, and hurried with other business, - - -	272
10,	Representation of Colonel Seth Warner to the Continental Congress, relative to Major Painter, - - -	273
10,	Petition of Captains Hopkins and Brownson to the Continental Congress for remuneration for moneys advanced to raise troops, - - -	273
10,	Letter from Lord Howe to Dr. Franklin, appointing a meeting with the gentlemen from Congress, - - -	274
10,	Letter from R. H. Harrison to Joshua Wentworth: It is impossible for his Excellency to give directions about, or to pay attention to, the Continental armed vessels at the eastward, - - -	274
10,	Letter from General Mifflin to General Heath: The enemy are making dispositions to land at Harlem, - - -	274
10,	Letter from Colonel Reed to General Heath, - - -	275
10,	Letter from General Heath to General Mifflin: Major Henly and Major Scammel have been appointed Assistant Adjutant-Generals, - - -	275
10,	Letter from General Heath to General Mifflin: The enemy are making a very considerable movement from Long-Island to Montrossor's Island, - - -	275
10,	Letter from General McDougall to General Heath: Early this morning about one thousand of the enemy landed on Montrossor's Island, - - -	275
10,	Letter from Colonel Swartwout to New-York Convention: Relative to appointments in his Regiment, - - -	276
10,	Letter from General James Clinton to General Washington: Is busy in fortifying the posts in the Highlands as fast as possible, - - -	276

1776.	1776.
Sept. 10, Order from New-York Committee of Safety to John Schenck, to procure articles for the use of garrisons of Forts Montgomery and Constitution, - - - - -	Sept. 10, Petition of William Whiting, for remuneration for his services in the manufacture of salt-petre, - - - - -
678	759
10, Letter from the New-York Committee of Safety to General Ten Broeck: Officers now on duty not to be changed unless removed by the fate of war, - - - - -	11, Letter from Silas Deane to C. W. F. Dumas: On securing the assistance of European Powers, - - - - -
679	283
10, Deposition of Guisbert Schenck, as to the statements and declarations of William Warne, - - - - -	11, Articles of Agreement between Silas Deane, Agent for the United Colonies of North America in France, and the Sieur Philippus-Charles John Baptist Tronson du Coudray, Adjutant-General of Artillery in the service of France, - - - - -
679	283
10, Deposition of Abraham W. De Peyster: The information he had that Joseph Reade, late of the city of New-York, Attorney-at-Law, was reputed a great Tory, - - - - -	11, Intelligence from Charlestown, South-Carolina: Departure of General Lee for the northward; capture of the ship Clarissa, - - - - -
680	285
10, Letter from the New-York Committee of Safety to the Committee of Westchester, requesting inquiry into the conduct of Joseph Reade, - - - - -	11, Order for all the officers, cadets, and soldiers of the Sixth Virginia Regiment to join their regiment immediately, - - - - -
680	285
10, Letter from the New-York Committee of Safety to Ebenezer Hazard, - - - - -	11, A Declaration of Rights and Fundamental Rules of the Delaware State, formerly styled the Government of the Counties of New-Castle, Kent, and Sussex, upon Delaware, - - - - -
680	286
10, Deposition of Roeloff Schenck, of the inimical conduct of William Warne, - - - - -	11, Proceedings of Lancaster (Pennsylvania) Committee, - - - - -
681	287
10, Deposition of Theodorus Van Wyck, Jun.: Declarations of William Warne, - - - - -	11, Letter from Edward Rutledge to General Washington: The conference with Lord Howe has been attended with no immediate advantages, - - - - -
681	287
10, Deposition of Peter Horton, of what was told him by William Warne, - - - - -	11, Speech of Governour Livingston to the Council and General Assembly of New-Jersey, - - - - -
682	288
10, Letter from Rev. David Jones to General Gates, - - - - -	11, Letter from General Washington to the President of Congress: He did not approve the mode of negotiation pursued by Lord Howe. Is preparing to remove the Army from New-York, - - - - -
277	290
10, Letter from Dr. Jonathan Potts to General Gates, - - - - -	General Orders, Head-Quarters, New-York, September 9-11, - - - - -
277	290
10, Letter from General Gates to Captain Varick, - - - - -	11, Letter from General Washington to General Mercer: The enemy is taking post on the Islands about Hell-Gate, so as to make a landing with the greater ease, - - - - -
277	292
10, Letter from General Gates to Colonel Cortlandt: Directing him to order Lieutenant-Colonel Brown to Ticonderoga, and if he offers to make any delay to put him instantly under arrest and send him down under a guard, - - - - -	11, Order of General De Lancey to Colonel Fanning: Directing all the fat cattle and sheep that belong to people in Suffolk County who are in actual rebellion to be forced down for the refreshment of the King's troops, - - - - -
278	505
10, Letter from Colonel Hartley to General Gates, - - - - -	11, Letter from Robert H. Harrison to General Heath, - - - - -
278	292
10, Letter from Governour Trumbull to General Washington: On the temporary appointment of Militia officers, - - - - -	11, Letter from Robert H. Harrison to General Gates, - - - - -
278	292
10, Letter from Governour Trumbull to General Schuyler: The sufferings of the Army in the Northern Department last year make it necessary to offer a double bounty, - - - - -	11, Letter from New-York Committee of Safety to Colonel Remsen: The Convention will make provision for the inhabitants who have lately quitted Long-Island, - - - - -
279	683
10, Letter from Governour Trumbull to General Gates: The soldiery complained much for want of necessaries to the northward last year; it is evident a disinclination to the service that way will ensue, and the consequences are equally evident, - - - - -	11, Certificate of amount of powder made at Wisner's powder mill, - - - - -
280	293
10, Proceedings of Connecticut Council of Safety, - - - - -	11, Letter from Colonel Dayton to General Schuyler: Suspects the truth of the report of an intended attack of the Indians on Oswego, - - - - -
280	355
10, Letter from Richard Law to Governour Trumbull, - - - - -	11, Letter from General Schuyler to General Gates: He believes his countrymen will be astonished to find that he shall not only clearly exculpate himself of all the infamous charges laid to him, but point out that they ought to be bestowed elsewhere, - - - - -
281	293
10, Letter from Colonel Livingston to Governour Trumbull: He has taken Colonel Abram Gardiuer, who tendered the oath of allegiance to the inhabitants of South and East-hampton. The whole attention of the enemy seems bent on New-York, - - - - -	11, Letter from General Gates to General Schuyler, - - - - -
281	294
10, Letter from Colonel Davis to General Washington: Has arrived at Norwich after a long detention in getting up the Sound by reason of the enemy and contrary winds; thinks it not prudent to proceed any farther by water, and is making preparations to go by land with all possible expedition, - - - - -	11, Letter from Governour Trumbull to General Washington: Introducing Major Backus, - - - - -
282	295
10, Letter from Commodore Hopkins to the Marine Committee: The whole attention of merchants and seamen seems to be on privateering, through the whole New-England Colonies; any small carriage guns will now sell at the extraordinary price of four hundred dollars per ton; were the Congress to give the same prize money as the privateers do, it would be a great deal easier to man the Continental vessels, - - - - -	11, Letter from Governour Trumbull to General Washington: Introducing General Saltonstall, - - - - -
282	295
10, Petition of Thomas Harris, of Boston, for a supply of powder for the privateer schooner America, - - - - -	11, Proceedings of Connecticut Council of Safety, - - - - -
758	295
10, Petition of Nathaniel Leech and others, of Marblehead, for a commission for the sloop Polly; said sloop is designed to cruise against the enemies of these United States, - - - - -	11, Letter from Colonel Livingston to General Washington: Account of his proceedings on the east end of Long-Island, - - - - -
758	295
10, Petition of Jedediah Preble and Jeremiah Colburn, of Penobscot, in behalf of themselves and inhabitants adjacent, - - - - -	Return of Colonel Livingston's Regiment, September 12, - - - - -
758	296
10, Petition of Shubael Cottle, in behalf of the captors of the English schooner Volante, - - - - -	11, Letter from Colonel Livingston to Governour Trumbull: Relative to the arms taken from the Militia on Long-Island, - - - - -
758	296
	11, Letter from Colonel Livingston to Major Ely: Wishes him immediately to get in readiness his little detachment to proceed in conjunction with himself to Huntington, as nothing of consequence can be achieved short of that place, - - - - -
	297
	11, Orders by the Selectmen of Boston relating to the small-pox, - - - - -
	297

1776.	Resignation of B. T. B. Worthington, Charles Carroll, and Samuel Chase, in Maryland Convention, in consequence of having received instructions to vote for measures in their opinion incompatible with good government,	297
Sept. 12,	Letter from Maryland Council of Safety to Messrs. Vanbibber and Harrison: It has been unlucky that so many outward bound vessels have miscarried; have been tolerable lucky in importations,	297
12,	Letter from Maryland Council of Safety to Messrs. Vanbibber and Harrison: Enclosing invoice and bill of lading for twenty-five hogsheads tobacco, two hundred barrels superfine flour, and one hundred barrels bread, on account of the State,	298
12,	Letter from Philip Thomas to Matthew Tilghman: The authority of the Convention is necessary for preventing desertion,	298
12,	Letter from the Board of War to General Washington: Informing that Generals Prescott and McDonald have been sent to him to be exchanged for General Sullivan and Lord Stirling,	298
12,	Letter from Robert Gates to Colonel Stewart: Many remarkable things have happened in this part of the world; one thing in particular, that our troops should abandon Long-Island; in the language of the people, "We were out-generaled, they were out-fought,"	299
12,	Letter from Robert H. Harrison to the President of Congress: By their several movements the enemy more strongly indicate their intention to land somewhere about Harlem or Morrisiana—most likely at both at the same time,	299
12,	Letter from General Washington to the New-York Convention: The importance of the posts in the Highlands demands every exertion to maintain them; the situation of the sick gives him great anxiety; the vessels for their removal are not yet arrived,	299
12,	Letter from General Washington to General James Clinton,	300
12,	Letter from General Washington to General Schuyler: Requests his assistance in furnishing every supply of boards and plank in his power,	300
12,	Letter from Dr. Morgan to General Washington: In a circuit of fourteen miles in the County of Orange, he cannot find or hear of any suitable accommodations for more than about one hundred sick,	301
12,	Letter from Stephen Moylan to Colonel Harrison,	301
12,	Letter from General Chester to Captain Isham: Appointing him to take charge of the sick,	301
12,	Commission from the New-York Convention to Johannes Snyder, appointing him Colonel of a Battalion to reinforce the garrison in Forts Montgomery and Constitution,	686
12,	Letter from Ebenezer Hazard to Abraham Yates: Has no objections against the post riding on the east side of Hudson river, and crossing it at the Fishkill or New Windsor when it is his turn to ride on the west side,	301
12,	Letter from General Schuyler to General Washington,	302
12,	Letter from General Gates to General Arnold: Cautions him to guard against the possibility of the enemy's possessing any narrow pass in his rear,	302
12,	Letter from Major Shepardson to General Gates: Requesting a supply of ammunition for a detachment employed in repairing the road,	303
12,	Letter from Colonel Simonds to General Gates: Has caused the Militia under his command to be on their march to Ticonderoga,	303
12,	Letter from Governour Trumbull to the Committee of Inspection of New Haven: Mentioning charges that have been made against Ralph Isaacs, and advising that he be called before the Committee,	303
12,	Letter from Governour Trumbull to Colonel Livingston: Directing him to furnish Captains Wright and Brewster with arms,	304
1776.	Sept. 12, Letter from Governour Trumbull to Colonel Livingston: A diversion on Long Island is decided to be impracticable; the only object there is the securing and bringing off the persons and effects of our friends,	304
12,	Letter from Governour Trumbull to Admiral Hopkins: Is persuaded that a naval expedition against the enemy's ships will clear the Sound, disappoint the enemy, and give great advantage to the American Army: the main difficulty which occurs is the manning this fleet,	304
12,	Proceedings of Connecticut Council of Safety,	305
12,	Letter from Colonel Livingston to Robert R. Livingston, Jun.: If he succeeds in the attempt he is going to make, he shall yet save Suffolk County,	306
12,	Letter from General Saltonstall to Governour Trumbull: Acknowledging appointment of Brigadier-General of the Militia ordered to march from Connecticut to aid General Washington; and giving information of the state of preparation,	306
12,	Letter from Alexander Evans to Abraham Lott: Acquainting him of the loss of part of his cargo of salt, and his medicines,	307
12,	Memorial of John Jones in behalf of the Committee for the town of Hopkinton,	764
12,	Petition of William Jenkins, of the city of Bristol, in Great Britain, mariner, for permission to take passage for Great Britain or any other part of Europe,	783
12,	Day of prayer appointed at Boston on account of the critical state of the military operations,	307
13,	Two frigates have lately arrived at St. Domingo from France, to cruise off that Island and protect all American vessels within their limits,	308
13,	Letter from Maryland Council of Safety to George Cooke: Informing him of his appointment to the command of the ship Defence,	308
13,	Letter from Maryland Council of Safety to Benjamin Rumsey and James Tilghman: Requesting their attendance in the Council of Safety immediately,	308
13,	Proceedings of Baltimore Committee,	308
13,	Letter from Baltimore Committee to Maryland Council of Safety: Respecting the application of Job Green for permission for the departure of a schooner loaded with provisions,	309
13,	Letter from Secret Committee of Congress to Maryland Council of Safety: Requesting them to supply four tons and a half of gunpowder for the use of the Continental frigate built at Baltimore,	310
13,	Letter from General George Clinton to New-York Convention: Sends William Treadwell and Mr. Ludlum to them for examination,	310
13,	Letter from Westchester County Committee to the New-York Convention: Transmitting the examination of several prisoners,	310
13,	Petitions of Henry Chase and others, to the New-York Convention,	694
13,	Letter from Cornelius Glenn to Abraham Yates, Jun.: Asks his opinion whether the annual election of the Treasurer must proceed in the usual mode,	311
13,	Letter from H. Glen to Walter Livingston,	311
13,	Letter from Colonel Livingston to Colonel Samuel Coit: Requests him either to return the arms which he had delivered him, or give a proper receipt for them,	311
13,	Order from Governour Trumbull to Colonel Livingston to deliver a number of arms to Colonel Samuel Coit,	312
13,	Intelligence at New-London,	312
13,	Letter from William Bradford to Massachusetts Assembly: Desiring them to send forward as soon as possible the regiment of Militia which was to supply the place of the Continental battalion ordered from Newport to New-York,	312
13,	Letter from Jeremiah Powel to General Washington: The Assembly have ordered a fifth part of the Militia not already in the service to march with all possible despatch to his assistance,	312

1776.	Resolves of Massachusetts Assembly respecting draft of Militia to aid the Army at New-York,	313	1776.	Sept. 14, Extract of a letter from Colonel Joseph Reed to Mrs. Reed: It is now a trial of skill whether the enemy shall surround the Army at New-York or not, -	332
Sept. 13,	Letter from Massachusetts Assembly to the President of Congress: Requesting Continental ships may be furnished for the protection of their coast, -	315	14,	Certificate of Captain Hamilton in favour of William Douglass, a disabled soldier, -	332
13,	Letter from Massachusetts Assembly to Governor Trumbull, -	315	14,	Letter from Ezekiel Cheever to General Gates, -	332
13,	Letter from Massachusetts Council to Governor Cooke: They cannot consent to his request to permit Marines to be enlisted out of the troops in their pay, -	316	14,	Letter from General Heath to Hugh Hughes: Ordering him immediately to engage and impress all the wagons and teams that he possibly can, -	332
13,	Letter from Massachusetts Council to General Warren: Commanding him immediately to issue out his orders for one-fifth of the Militia to march to the aid of the Army at New-York, -	316	14,	Letter from Captain Bayly to General Washington: Offers his resignation, -	333
13,	Memorial of Thomas Crafts, -	766	14,	Letter from Gilbert Livingston to New-York Convention: They are preparing the chain, but more iron is wanted, -	333
13,	Letter from J. Lothrop to Richard Devens, -	317	14,	Letter from General Schuyler to the President of Congress: Resigns his commission, but does not by this step mean to elude an inquiry into his conduct. Has not the least doubt of the falsity of the reports that prevail to the prejudice of General Arnold, -	333
13,	Letter from Clarke & Nightingale to Richard Devens: Enclosing bill of lading for twenty-one hogheads of lime, -	317	14,	Letter from General Schuyler to General Gates: Calumny has drove him to the necessity of resigning, -	334
	Letter from Joseph Josselyn to Richard Devens: Desiring him to send all the old shot or gun iron he can, to make shot, -	317	14,	Letter from Richard Varick to General Washington: Resigns his commission of Captain, -	335
	Letter from Joseph Josselyn to Richard Devens: Bill of shot, September 16, -	318	14,	Letter from Richard Varick to General Gates, -	335
13,	Letter from Colonel Gilman to the New-Hampshire Assembly: Complains of having been superseded, -	318	14,	Letter from Colonel Cortlandt to General Gates: Very sickly at Skenesborough, almost all the men down, -	335
14,	Letter from the Virginia Council to their Delegates at Congress: Have issued commissions without date to the officers of the Ninth Battalion, -	319	14,	Pass for Antoine Gerouse, -	335
	Letter from the Board of War to General Washington, -	320	14,	Letter from Major Hoisington to General Gates: Reply to the reflection on the troops under his command, -	336
	List of Field-Officers in the service of Virginia, -	320	14,	Letter from Colonel Huntington to Governor Trumbull: Hopes to have strength to return to his place in the army in two or three weeks, -	336
	List of officers in the First and Second Battalions of Virginia forces, while on Provincial establishment, with the date of their commissions, -	320	14,	Letter from Christopher Leffingwell to Governor Trumbull: Has brought from Long-Island two hundred head cattle and about five hundred sheep, several families, furniture, provisions, &c., -	336
	List of Captains and subaltern officers in the Virginia service, dates of commissions, &c., &c., -	321	14,	Letter from Colonel Livingston to Governor Trumbull: Would be glad to have the command of the detachment that were on Long-Island to act in conjunction with his, -	337
14,	Letter from Josiah Bartlett to Colonel Whipple: Interview of the Committee with Lord Howe; protection of Captain Wickes by the French forts in the harbour of St. Pierre. The affair of the Confederation rests at present, -	323	14,	Letter from William Bradford, Deputy Governor of Rhode-Island, to the President of Congress. Every thing has been done to facilitate the march of the Continental battalion to New-York. Rhode-Island is much weakened by the number of privateers fitted out from it, -	337
14,	Order from the Board of War for the French officers who have received commissions in the service of the States to repair immediately to their place of destination, -	324	14,	Letter from William Bradford to General Washington, -	337
14,	Letter from John Adams to Mrs. Adams: The result of the interview with Lord Howe will do no disservice to us, -	324	14,	Regimental Orders: Colonel Lippitt's Regiment to join the Continental Army at New-York, -	338
14,	Arrival of the ship-of-war Reprisal, Captain Wickes, at Philadelphia, -	324	14,	Intelligence at Providence, Rhode-Island: Prizes, -	338
14,	Recantation of Nathan Hiland, Cumberland County, Pennsylvania, -	325	14,	Orders from Massachusetts Council to Captain Souther, commander of the brigantine Massachusetts, -	338
14,	Extract of a letter from New-York: The enemy, from their different manœuvres and great preparations, intend soon to strike a decisive blow. They have opened the courts of justice on Long-Island, -	325	14,	Advertisement by the Selectmen of Boston: According to present appearances the town will be free of infection from small-pox by Wednesday next, -	339
14,	Letter from General Washington to the President of Congress: An attempt to maintain New-York would be attended with the most fatal consequences; he is now taking every method to remove the stores, &c., in which he finds almost insuperable difficulties. Recommends the pay of the nurses to be increased, -	325	14,	"Speculator" on County Conventions and Committees, -	339
	Petition of General Greene and others, for a reconsideration of the proceedings of a Council of General Officers, respecting the evacuation of New-York, September 11, -	326	14,	Letter from Benjamin Giles to Colonel Bellows: Orders to raise and equip fifty men from his regiment, and march them to New-York with all the despatch possible, -	340
	Return of the Army in the service of the United States of America in and near the city of New-York, commanded by his Excellency George Washington, Esquire, General and Commander-in-Chief, -	327	14,	Petition of Juliana James, of Boston, widow, -	771
	Proceedings of a Council of General Officers, September 12, -	329	14,	Orders to Captain House, -	341
	General Orders, Head-Quarters, New-York, September 12-14, -	330	15,	Orders to Colonel Humphrey, for reinforcement in the Highlands, -	341
14,	Return of General Fellows's Brigade, present and fit for duty, -	898	15,	Letter from General Schuyler to Abraham Yates, Junior: By intelligence from General Gates and Colonel Dayton, the necessity of marching up the Militia is superseded; has not been honoured with a line in answer to any of his letters to Congress for near two months, -	707
			15,	Letter from General Schuyler to Governor Trumbull: Intends to publish a narrative in justification of his conduct, -	341

1776.		1776.	
Sept. 15, Letter from Colonel Cortlandt to General Gates,	342	Sept. 16, Letter from John White to Captain Platt:	
15, Letter from General Gates to General Schuyler,		Desertion has arrived to such a pitch among	
praying him to strain every nerve to furnish		the troops in Dutchess County, that he fears,	
a supply of naval stores, as it is of the great-		if not timely remedied, the Army will be re-	
est consequence to get the galleys down to		duced to a mere shadow, - - -	352
General Arnold, - - -	343	16, Letter from the Albany Committee to the Dep-	
15, Letter from General Gates to Colonel Symonds:		uties of Albany County, in the Convention	
There is no immediate necessity for the		of New-York: On the ill-treatment General	
Militia coming forward at this time, - -	343	Schuyler has received, and the inattention	
15, Extract of a letter from Ticonderoga: Account		paid to his remonstrances to Congress, -	708
of an attack by Indians upon a Sergeant and		16, Letter from General Schuyler to General Wash-	
eighteen men, - - -	343	ington, enclosing copies of sundry letters, -	352
15, Representation by the Officers of Colonel		16, Letter from General Schuyler to General Gates:	
Winds' Regiment, of the conduct of Lieute-		Advises him, as he will soon command in	
nant Lewis Johnston Costigan, and request		the Northern Department, to open a cor-	
that he may be superseded, - - -	344	respondence with Governour Trumbull, -	355
15, Letter from General Arnold to General Gates,	531	16, Letter from General Arnold to General Gates,	532
15, Letter from Governour Trumbull to Colonel		16, Examination of Sergeant Day, - - -	532
Henry B. Livingston: Informs him that the		16, Examination of Antoine Girard, a Canadian, -	533
command of the detachment on Long-Island		16, Letter from Colonel Van Schaick to the Presi-	
devolves on him, - - -	344	dent of Congress: Recommends Mr. Leon-	
15, Letter from Colonel Henry B. Livingston to		ard Gansevoort, Jun., to be paymaster to his	
Governour Trumbull: A most infamous abet-		regiment, - - -	355
tor of the Ministry is just now brought in—		16, Letter from Jacob Cuyler to the New-York	
one Zeb Howell, - - -	344	Convention: Has conferred with General	
15, Letter from Colonel Livingston to Governour		Schuyler on the matters committed to him	
Trumbull, enclosing an intercepted letter		by the Convention, - - -	356
from Obadiah Jones to Uriah Rogers, dated		16, Letter from General Gates to Governour Trum-	
Southampton, September 13, - - -	345	bull: The sickness at Skenesborough is not	
15, Intelligence at Watertown: Prizes, - -	346	owing to the want of provisions, but to the	
16, Affair at Wilmington Island, - - -	346	natural unwholesomeness of the place, -	356
16, Letter from Colonel Dorsey to the Maryland		16, Letter from Ensign Webster to General Gates:	
Council of Safety, - - -	347	His report of a scout down the Lake, -	356
16, Letter from Colonel Tyler to Maryland Coun-		16, Letter from Governour Trumbull to General	
cil of Safety: Is afraid a company cannot be		Washington: Asks that two hundred seamen	
made up to reinforce the American Army at		may be enlisted out of the Connecticut Mi-	
New-York; there is a great backwardness		litia in the Army to man the vessels on the	
in our young men, - - -	347	Lakes, - - -	357
16, Proceedings of the Baltimore Committee, -	347	16, Notice of the return of the Norwich Light In-	
16, Letter from the President of Congress to Gen-		fantry Company from Long-Island, where	
eral Washington, - - -	348	they had assisted a number of the inhabitants	
16, Letter from the President of Congress to Jo-		to remove from the Island, - - -	357
seph Trumbull: It is the expectation that a		16, Letter from Messrs. Clark & Nightingale to	
resolution which has been passed will re-		New-York Convention: Communicating the	
move his difficulties, - - -	348	case of the brigantine Temple, and asking	
16, Letter from the Board of War to General Wash-		whether it is advisable to libel her or no, -	357
ington, - - -	348	16, Intelligence from Europe. Escape of Ameri-	
Petition of the Second Lieutenants of the First		can prisoners from Halifax. Prizes, - -	358
Virginia Regiment to the Continental Con-		16, Letter from Aaron Hobart to Richard Devens,	359
gress, - - -	348	16, Robert Campbell's statement of his grievances,	770
Memorial of the First Lieutenants of the Third		16, Petition of the Committee of the town of Cam-	
Virginia Regiment to General Washington,	349	bridge, - - -	774
16, Letter from Richard Henry Lee to Samuel		16, List of prizes lately taken and carried into the	
Purviance, Jun.: As it is not probable		West-Indies, by some of the Ministerial	
that the frigates will sail in fleets for some		pirates, - - -	359
time, no higher appointment than that of		16, Orders for Colonel Bellows, countermanding	
Captain will soon take place; Captain Nich-		his orders of yesterday for raising men for	
olson should hasten on the frigate Virginia		the Army at New-York, - - -	360
as much as possible, - - -	350	16, Orders to Colonel John Langdon, - - -	360
16, Letter from Josiah Bartlett to John Langdon:		16, Letter from Stephen Evans to Mesheck Weare,	
The Secret Committee are in want of proper		Orders for Captain Parker, to guard the battery	
goods to export to an European market, -	350	on Seavey's Island, - - -	361
16, Letter from Richard Dallam to John Hancock,	350	17, Letter from Silas Deane to Robert Morris: Will	
16, Extract of a letter from Amboy, New-Jersey:		send in October clothing for twenty thousand	
Injuries done by the troops stationed there,	366	men, and a large quantity of cannon and	
16, Letter from Lieutenant Clark to General Wash-		stores. A general war in Europe is at hand,	
ington: Resigns his commission, - - -	892	17, Letter from the Hague to a gentleman in Lon-	
16, Letter from Colonel Hand to General Washing-		don: Sir Joseph Yorke has applied to the	
ton: Recommends William Patten for the		States of Holland to forbid the Americans	
appointment of Lieutenant, - - -	892	entering their ports in the West-Indies, -	361
16, Letter from Colonel Curtenius to New-York		17, Advertisement of deserters from Captain Cab-	
Convention: No military stores remain in his		ell's company, Sixth Virginia Regiment, -	362
hands, - - -	350	17, Letter from Colonel Stainston to Maryland	
16, Letter from General Washington to the Presi-		Council of Safety: Prays that a Court-Martial	
dent of Congress: The enemy have landed		may be appointed for the trial of Captain	
between Turtle Bay and New-York city;		Fauntleroy, - - -	362
the troops sent to oppose them fled with the		17, Letter from Alexander M'Fadon to Maryland	
utmost precipitation, - - -	351	Council of Safety: Stating what preparations	
16, Extract of a letter from Harlem, seven miles		he has made for the weaving business; man-	
from New-York: The enemy landed yes-		ufacturing linen he has brought to greater	
terday about ten o'clock at Turtle Bay: Gen-		perfection than has ever before been done	
erals Putnam and Scott made good their re-		in the Province, - - -	363
treat from the city, through the enemy's lines,	352	17, Letter from Colonel Buchanan to Maryland	
16, Letter from Joseph Trumbull to the New-York		Council of Safety: Officers have been nom-	
Convention: Our troops evacuated New-		inated for two companies of Militia to march	
York to the enemy yesterday; in the retreat		immediately for New-York, - - -	364
had been obliged to leave behind large quan-		17, Letter from Joseph Hewes to Samuel Pur-	
tities of flour, - - -	699	viance, - - -	364

1776.

Sept. 17, Report of Committee appointed by Congress to confer with Lord Howe, - - -	1342
17, Plan of a Treaty with France, - - -	1344
17, Philadelphia Committee dissolved, - - -	365
17, Proceedings of Lancaster (Pennsylvania) Committee, - - -	365
17, Affidavit of Elizabeth Franklin, declaring that she has no knowledge at all of the books or papers of the Council of New-Jersey, - -	367
17, Letter from General Mercer to General Washington: The Militia of Pennsylvania and New-Jersey, stationed on Bergen and at Paulus Hook, have behaved in a scandalous manner; at all the posts it is difficult to keep the Militia to their duty, - - -	367
17, Letter from General Washington to Governour Cooke, - - -	367
17, Letter from General Greene to Governour Cooke: The operations of the campaign will have no effect on Rhode-Island, as it will be impossible for the enemy to detach any part of the Army, while the American Army is able to make any stand, - - -	369
17, Extract of a letter from Head-Quarters to a gentleman in Annapolis: Shall give the enemy a genteel drubbing in case the Yankees will fight with as much spirit as the Southern troops, - - -	370
Extract of a letter from a General Officer who was present at the action on the 16th of September, - - -	371
17, Letter from the New-York Convention to Joseph Trumbull, Commissary-General: Enclose resolutions of the same date, relating to the purchase of flour, - - -	700
17, Letter from Hugh Hughes to New-York Convention: Two Albany skippers have deserted the service without discharging their loading, - - -	373
17, Letter from Thaddeus Crane to Major Joseph Benedict: In Westchester County, New-York, important measures are obstructed by the Tories, - - -	373
17, Quorum to represent Dutchess County (New-York) in Convention reduced from five to three, - - -	373
17, Letter from General Schuyler to General Gates: The cordage will be forwarded in wagons the moment it arrives, with orders to procure fresh horses on the roads that he may receive it the soonest possible, - - -	374
17, Petition from New-Haven to the Governour, &c., of Connecticut: Praying that certain persons, enemies to America, may be removed to some interior part of the country, - -	374
17, Letter from Colonel Livingston to Governour Trumbull: Mr. Howel, accused of a capital crime, has been released on parole; this matter should be rectified, if wrong, - -	375
17, Providence (Rhode-Island) Town Meeting: Bounty of six pounds voted to each volunteer in the battalion of Militia ordered for New-York, - - -	376
17, Letter from Massachusetts Assembly to William Bradford: The most vigorous exertions are making to detach as large a number of Militia as possible to New-York, with the utmost expedition, - - -	376
17, Letter from Massachusetts Council to General Warren: Ordering him to send men to convey sixty whale boats to New-York, - -	376
17, Letter from Massachusetts Council to Generals Farley and Prescott, to hold themselves in readiness to march with the Militia to New-York, - - -	377
18, Extract of a letter from Cape Nicola Mole: The French there, to a man, are in favour of America, - - -	377
18, Letter from Benjamin Rumsey to Maryland Council of Safety, - - -	363
18, Petition of Captain Fulford's Company of Maryland Artillery, for an increase of pay, - -	377
18, Prizes taken by the Continental brig Andrew Doria, - - -	378
18, Extract of a letter from Vice-Admiral Lord Viscount Howe to Mr. Stevens, dated Eagle, New-York River: Operations of the English ships at New-York, - - -	379

1776.

Sept. 18, Letter from General Washington to the President of Congress: Account of the action near the plains of Harlem, - - -	380
General Orders: Head-Quarters at Harlem Heights, September 15 to 18, - - -	381
18, Letter from the New York Convention to Joseph Hallett: Request him to take the most speedy measures for the condemnation and sale of the vessels and goods taken by Captain Rogers, of the sloop Montgomerie, and carried into the ports of New-England, -	702
18, Letter from General George Clinton to Committee of New-York Convention: On the 15th the enemy landed at Turtle Bay and immediately formed a line across the Island; most of our people were luckily north of it, - - -	383
18, Letter from Major Benedict to Colonel Drake: The present near approach of the enemy has emboldened the Tories to a most intolerable degree, - - -	384
18, Letter from William Johnston: An attack by the Indians apprehended in the State of New-York, on the Mohawk river, - - -	385
18, Letter from General Arnold to General Gates: Thinks the enemy will soon have a considerable naval force on the Lake, and makes no doubt of their soon paying him a visit, -	481
Letter from a Mate on a vessel on Lake Champlain to the New-York Convention, - - -	386
18, Proceedings of Connecticut Council of Safety, - - -	386
18, Letter from Major Carnes to General Gates, - - -	387
18, Letter from Oliver Ellsworth to Governour Trumbull: The Commissaries' accounts for the year past remain yet unprepared to lay before the Continental Congress for adjustment, -	388
18, Extracts from the Journals of the Massachusetts Assembly, to enable the publick to judge whether Charles Goodrich was advertised as an enemy to his country injuriously or not, -	388
18, Proceedings of Providence (Rhode-Island) Town Meeting, - - -	389
18, Letter from General Lincoln to Massachusetts Council: Wishes to know whether, in the appointment of Brigade-Majors, he is to be confined to Militia officers, - - -	389
18, Humble petition of William Pascall, taken by the privateer sloop Revenge, for liberty to return to London, his native place, - - -	786
18, Petition of Adam High and Thomas Lemmon for permission to return to their native home, London, - - -	786
18, Petition of John Beardwell Barnard, for leave to proceed in the first ship permitted to sail for England, - - -	788
19, Extract from Governour Pownall's celebrated speech in defence of the Americans in 1769, -	390
19, "Appius" to the Printer of the London Chronicle: Some of the late proceedings of the Americans have convinced him that their opposition is not dictated by true patriotism, but by a spirit of tyranny and despotism, -	391
19, Speech of His Excellency John Rutledge, Esq., President and Commander-in-Chief in and over the State of South-Carolina, to the General Assembly, - - -	392
Answer of the Legislative Council of South-Carolina to the Speech of President Rutledge, - - -	393
Reply of President Rutledge to the Answer of the Legislative Council, - - -	394
Address of the General Assembly of South-Carolina to His Excellency John Rutledge, Esq., President and Commander-in-Chief of the State, September 20, - - -	394
Answer of the President of South-Carolina to the Address of the General Assembly, - -	395
19, Letter from General Moore to the President of Congress: Will march with all possible despatch to the reinforcement of the Army at New-York, - - -	395
19, Address of the Officers of the Fourth Virginia Battalion to Adam Stephen, Esq., Brigadier-General in the service of the United States of America, and Answer of General Stevens, -	395
19, Letter from Colonel Travers to Maryland Council of Safety: Asks that a court-martial may be appointed on Lieutenant Willen and Ensign Todd, - - -	396

1776.		
Sept. 19,	Letter from Maryland Council of Safety to Colonel Sim, - - - - -	396
19,	Letter from Thomas Gantt to Maryland Council of Safety: Recommending Thomas N. Stockett to be appointed Assistant Surgeon, - - - - -	396
19,	Letter from Colonel Sim to the Maryland Council of Safety, - - - - -	396
19,	Letter from the Speaker of the Assembly of New-Jersey to Richard Stockton, Delegate in Congress, - - - - -	365
19,	Report of a Committee of the Council of New-Jersey, respecting a supply of ammunition and the pay of the Militia called into actual service, - - - - -	366
19,	An act for the security of the Government of New-Jersey, - - - - -	397
19,	Declaration of Lord Howe and Sir William Howe, - - - - -	398
	Explanation of the Declaration of Lord Howe and Sir William Howe, - - - - -	398
19,	Letter from General Washington to the President of Congress, - - - - -	398
19,	Letter from General Washington to General Howe: Requests him to fix the time and place for the exchange of General Sullivan and Lord Stirling, - - - - -	399
19,	Letter from General Washington to Commanding Officer of Massachusetts Militia: Requests that the Militia may be brought forward as expeditiously as they can, - - - - -	399
19,	Letter from General Washington to the Massachusetts Assembly: Giving an account of the most material events from the battle on Long-Island to the time of writing, - - - - -	399
19,	Letter from Joseph Trumbull to the President of Congress: Proposes that large quantities of salted beef and pork be put up, in the proper season, in different parts of the country, at the expense and for the benefit of the Continent, - - - - -	372
19,	Letter from Joseph Trumbull to the President of Congress: Has drawn for money for supplies of Continental troops in New-Jersey, - - - - -	372
19,	Letter from John Hunter to John McKesson, - - - - -	401
19,	Letter from John Thomas, Jun., to New-York Convention: Asking that provision may be made for the poor of Westchester County, - - - - -	401
19,	Letter from Robert and James Totten to New-York Convention, - - - - -	401
19,	Letter from General Gates to General Arnold: Is much pleased with the disposition he has made with the fleet; is confident it is the best, - - - - -	402
19,	Letter from Colonel Barrett to General Gates: The party he has on the road and bridge are as expeditious as possible, - - - - -	402
19,	Petition of the Officers of the schooner Diligent, - - - - -	780
19,	Petition of Thomas Buckmore, of Concord, Armourer, - - - - -	783
19,	Letter from Massachusetts Council to General Lincoln, - - - - -	402
20,	Letter from Captain Braithwaite, of the Hampden packet, dated Falmouth, England: Captures by the American privateer Rover, - - - - -	403
	Extract of a letter from Captain Moore, late Commander of the Mary-and-James, dated on board the Hampden packet-boat, arrived at Falmouth: Was taken by a privateer called the Rover, - - - - -	403
20,	Letter from A. J. Alexander to General Washington: Shall always look upon his acquaintance with General Washington as the greatest honour of his life, - - - - -	403
20,	Letter from Colonel Crawford to General Washington: Probability of an Indian war to the westward, - - - - -	404
20,	Arrival of vessels at Hampton, Virginia, with salt, &c., - - - - -	404
20,	Letter from Colonel Wright to Maryland Council of Safety: Difficulties and disputes with regard to the election of Field-Officers, - - - - -	405
20,	Letter from Cumberland Dugan to Maryland Council of Safety: Offers a vessel for sale, and recommends the shipment of a cargo of bread and flour to Boston, - - - - -	406
20,	Letter from Jesse Hollingworth to Maryland Council of Safety: Recommends the vessel offered for sale by Mr. Dugan, - - - - -	407

1776.		
Sept. 20,	Letter from the Board of War to General Washington: Introducing four French gentlemen who have been commissioned by Congress, - - - - -	407
20,	Letter from Thomas Johnson, Jun., to Maryland Council of Safety: Respecting seventy-four casks of powder, - - - - -	407
20,	Letter from Maryland Delegates in Congress to Council of Safety: Captain Watkins and his men are on very ill terms, - - - - -	407
20,	Letter from William Williams to Governour Trumbull: A thorough repentance and reformation among the people will secure liberty and happiness to this and all succeeding generations, - - - - -	408
20,	Instructions to Captain Young, Commander of the sloop Independence, - - - - -	410
20,	Rules and Articles of War, - - - - -	1363
30,	An act to render certain bills of credit a legal tender in New-Jersey, and to prevent the counterfeiting of the same and other bills of credit, passed the 20th of September, - - - - -	411
20,	Letter from General Washington to the President of Congress: Necessity of an immediate provision for a new army; distress for want of clothing, - - - - -	412
20,	Names of those recommended to fill up the vacancies in Colonel Ward's Regiment, - - - - -	413
	General Orders: Head-Quarters, at Harlem Heights, September 19, 20, - - - - -	413
20,	Letter from General Washington to the New-York Convention: Requests fire-ships may be sent down to near Fort Washington to be ready to act if the enemy comes up, - - - - -	713
20,	Letter from General Washington to Governour Trumbull: The enemy are recruiting a great number of men, and collecting large quantities of stock on Long-Island. General Clinton has been ordered to meet General Lincoln, to concert with him an expedition to the Island, - - - - -	416
20,	Letter from General Washington to General Schuyler: Believes Congress are convinced that there is no opposing a standing, well-disciplined army, but by one on the same plan, - - - - -	416
20,	Letter from Colonel Reed to the President of Congress: Introducing Mr. Bartholomew Van Heer, - - - - -	417
20,	Letter from Joseph Trumbull to General Gates: Congratulates him on the intended resignation of General Schuyler, - - - - -	417
20,	Letter from New-York Convention to the President of Congress: Requesting the advance of a sum of money to enable them to pursue their exertions in the present exigencies of the State, - - - - -	417
20,	Letter from New-York Convention to their Delegates in Congress: Are persuaded that General Schuyler's resignation will be highly prejudicial to the common cause of America, - - - - -	418
	Resolutions enclosed in the letter from the State of New-York, - - - - -	418
20,	Letter from General Schuyler to General Washington, - - - - -	420
20,	Letter from General Gates to Major Hoisington, - - - - -	421
20,	Letter from Colonel Hartley to General Gates: Intelligence communicated by L. Potier, who had been taken prisoner by the Indians, - - - - -	421
20,	Letter from Governour Trumbull to General Washington: The nine regiments of Foot and two of Horse have begun their march; requests a return may be made of all the Militia who have deserted, that proper measures may be taken with them, - - - - -	422
20,	Letter from Moses Seymour to Governour Trumbull: Acquitting himself of blame in the case of Mr. Matthews, - - - - -	558
20,	Proceedings of Connecticut Council of Safety, - - - - -	422
20,	Letter from Alexander Exuen to the New-York Congress: Loss of part of his cargo, - - - - -	422
20,	Petition of John Frazier, for permission to depart from America, - - - - -	781
20,	Petition of Lyonel Bradstreet, for liberty to go from Boston to Great Britain, - - - - -	782
20,	Petition of George Ashburn, for liberty to take passage for some port of England, - - - - -	782

1776.		
Sept. 20,	Instructions to Captain John Clouston, of the sloop Freedom,	782
20,	Letter from John Hurd to Colonel Chase: Two additional ranging companies to be raised for the defence of the frontiers of New-Hampshire,	423
21,	Letter received by a merchant in London from Paris: Lord Stormont exercised all his powers of intrigue and persuasion to prevent any negotiations between France and America,	423
21,	Letter from General Gadsden to John Lewis Gervais,	424
21,	Letter from Colonel Roberts to John Lewis Gervais,	424
21,	Letter from the Delaware Convention to the Board of War: There are no prisoners of war in the State,	424
21,	Letter from Delaware Convention to the President of Congress: One battalion has been ordered to be raised to be sent to the aid of the Army at New-York,	425
21,	Letter from the Committee of Secret Correspondence to William Bingham: General state of publick affairs,	425
21,	Letter from Marine Committee to Thomas Cushing: Continental frigate granted for the protection of the coast of Massachusetts,	427
21,	Letter from Marine Committee to John Bradford: A Continental frigate, under the command of Captain McNeill, will be fitted for sea immediately,	428
21,	Letter from Marine Committee to Captain Thompson: With the frigate under his command he is ordered to join company with Captain McNeill,	428
21,	Letter from Marine Committee to Captain McNeill: In company with Captain Thompson he is to endeavour to drive the enemy off the coast,	428
21,	Letter from Marine Committee to John Langdon,	429
21,	Letter from Marine Committee to Captain Wickes: Desire him to get the Reprisal ready for sea with the utmost expedition for immediate service,	429
21,	Letter from Samuel Chase to General Gates: Wishes he would inform him of his suspicions, and disclose the secret springs which he supposes have influenced men and measures in his department,	429
21,	Address to the People of Pennsylvania, on the Continental currency,	430
	Postscript to the paper addressed to the People of Pennsylvania,	432
	Remarks on the paper addressed to the People of Pennsylvania,	433
21,	Letter from George Peacocke, a prisoner, to Richard Peters: Wishes leave to go to Philadelphia on account of his health,	437
21,	Letter from General Sir William Howe to Lord George Germain: Has the satisfaction to inform his lordship of his Majesty's troops being in possession of New-York,	378
21,	Letter from General Howe to General Washington: Proposes an exchange of prisoners, Return of British Prisoners in the hands of the Americans, September 21,	437
	Return of Prisoners sent by General Guy Carleton from Canada to New-York,	438
21,	Extract of a letter from Harlem: Last night there was a dreadful fire at New-York,	439
21,	Letter from Colonel Grayson to General Heath,	439
21,	Orders to Major Backus,	439
21,	Letter from the New-York Convention to General Washington: Can send but two fire-ships, as they have no more charged in such a manner as to be depended on,	713
21,	Resolutions of the New-York Convention, relative to obstructing the navigation of Hudson's river, &c.,	439
21,	Lieutenant Whitcomb's journal on his scout from Ticonderoga to St. John's, August 20 to September 21,	482
21,	Letter from General Arnold to General Gates: The fleet have anchored in the Bay St. Amand; renews his request for more seamen and gunners,	440

1776.		
Sept. 21,	Letter from Governour Trumbull to the President of Congress: The Militia have been forwarded to New-York without delay. The mode of supporting the Army by Militia is a measure not to be depended on; there must be a durable Army or the consequences will be fatal,	441
21,	Letter from the Council of Massachusetts to General Gates: Colonel Reed's ill state of health is the reason of his absence from the Army,	441
21,	Letter from Elnathan Bates to Richard Devens,	442
21,	Letter from Colonel Babcock to Governour Cooke: Report of a conference with General Washington,	442
21,	Prizes taken by the sloop Providence,	443
21,	Petition of John Brown, of England, taken prisoner by a New-York privateer, for a permit to go to London,	789
22,	Extract of a letter from John Adams to Mrs. Adams: The Congress have at last agreed upon a plan for forming a regular army; and a new set of articles of war are agreed on,	443
22,	Letter from Colonel Reed to Mrs. Reed: Account of the engagement on the plains of Harlem,	443
22,	Letter from Robert H. Harrison to General Heath: His Excellency has no objection to the attempt against Montresor's Island,	445
22,	Letter from General Washington to John Augustine Washington: Retreat from Long-Island, and the subsequent movements of the Army,	445
22,	Letter from General Washington to the President of Congress: Begs immediate attention to the absolute necessity of forming an article against plundering, marauding, and burning of houses,	446
	General Orders: Head-Quarters, at Harlem Heights, September 21 and 22,	447
	General Return of the Army in the service of the United States of America, at King's Bridge and its dependencies, commanded by his Excellency George Washington, Esquire, General and Commander-in-Chief, September 21, 1776,	449
22,	Letter from Robert H. Harrison to General Heath: His Excellency wishes success to the expedition against Montresor's Island,	451
22,	Orders to Colonel Jackson, for the expedition against Montresor's Island,	452
22,	Representation of Abraham Lott to the New-York Convention,	723
22,	Letter from Joseph Trumbull to the President of Congress: Has taken the necessary steps to put Commissary matters on a proper footing in the Northern district, and doubts not he shall succeed,	453
22,	Letter from William Duer to General Washington: Enclosing resolutions of New-York Convention of September 21, recommending strengthening the obstructions in the North River,	453
22,	Letter from Walter Livingston to General Gates,	453
22,	Letter from Colonel Dayton to General Schuyler,	859
22,	Letter from General Schuyler to General Gates,	530
22,	Extract of a letter from Ticonderoga: The Army is in good spirits; the season almost too far advanced to expect an attack,	454
22,	Letter from "Incognito" to Governour Trumbull: Complaining of the orders for the removal of the stock and inhabitants from the east end of Long-Island,	454
22,	Letter from Commodore Hopkins to the Marine Committee: The frigates Hampden and Alfred will be ready for sea in a week or ten days, but it will be very difficult to man them, without the chance of prize money is made as good as they get in the privateers,	454
22,	Letter from Commodore Hopkins to Governour Trumbull,	455
22,	Petition of Robert Brown and John Moon, taken in the ship Rachel, bound to London, by the Tyrannicide, privateer,	784

CONTENTS.

XLIII

1776.		
Sept. 22,	Petition of Hugh Walker, Archibald Bog, and Robert Park, for permission to leave Massachusetts and go for Europe,	790
23,	Letter from Arthur Lee to C. W. F. Dumas: Characters of men prominent at the British Court,	455
23,	Letter from Maryland Council of Safety to Colonel Rumsey,	456
23,	Letter from Maryland Council of Safety to Colonel Hall,	456
23,	Letter from Maryland Council of Safety to Thomas Ringgold,	457
23,	Lieutenant Ezekiel Towsin recommended as a fit person to command a guard,	457
	Names and descriptions of Tories who broke gaol at Frederick-Town on the night of the 23d of September,	457
23,	Letter from Colonel Sim to Maryland Council of Safety: Resigns his commission,	457
23,	Letter from Doctor Weisenthall to Maryland Council of Safety: Relative to delivering all the medicines, shop-furniture, instruments, &c., under his care, to Dr. Tootell,	458
23,	Letter from Captain Cooke to Maryland Council of Safety: Is informed by Commodore Boucher that he was chased by the Fowey off the Capes,	458
23,	Proceedings of the Baltimore Committee,	458
23,	Letter from Robert Morris to John Jay: All Europe may very soon be involved in a war, by managing properly the apparent forwardness of France,	459
23,	Letter from Josiah Bartlett to John Langdon: We want a regular well-disciplined army, and more experienced Generals. A regular standing army we must have, at all events, next year,	459
23,	Letter from Joseph Cary and Jonathan Pierson to Richard Peters: Request that they may have either the liberty of a parole or liberty to depart from the Continent,	460
23,	Extract from a journal kept by the Chaplain of Colonel Durkee's Regiment,	460
23,	Letter from General Greene to General Washington: The enemy have taken possession of Paulus Hook,	494
	Account of the fire in New-York on the morning of the 21st September,	462
23,	Letter from Sir William Howe to Lord George Germain: Horrid attempt by a number of wretches to burn the town of New-York,	462
23,	Extract of a letter from New-York to a gentleman in London: Attempt by some villains to burn the city, to prevent the King's troops from having any benefit by it,	463
23,	Letter from General Washington to the President of Congress: Fire in New-York; has not been informed how the accident happened,	463
23,	Letter from General Washington to General Mercer: Directing him to have General Prescott in readiness to be exchanged for General Sullivan,	463
23,	Letter from General Washington to General Howe: On exchange and treatment of prisoners,	464
23,	Letter from General Washington to Governour Trumbull,	465
23,	Letter from General Washington to New-York Convention,	466
23,	Proceedings of a General Court-Martial of the Line, held on the Heights of Harlem, by order of General Washington, for the trial of all prisoners to be brought before them,	467
23,	Letter from the Committee of New-Windsor to General James Clinton,	832
23,	Letter from Colonel Pawling to New-York Convention: Desires that Mr. Joseph Crane may be appointed Surgeon to his regiment,	469
23,	Letter from Joseph Trumbull, Commissary-General, to the New-York Convention,	469
23,	Letter from General Schuyler to General Washington: For a supply of nails for General Gates,	469
23,	Letter from General Schuyler to General Gates,	469
23,	Letter from General Gates to the President of Congress: His plan for recruiting the new army in the Northern Department,	470

XLIV

1776.		
	General Orders: Head-Quarters, Ticonderoga, September 3 to 23,	471
	General Return of the Forces of the United States of America, serving in the Northern Department under the command of the Honourable Major-General Gates, Ticonderoga, September 22,	479
Sept. 23,	Letter from General Gates to General Schuyler: It is a lamentable case that the galleys must wait for cordage and for gun carriages to be completed,	481
	Abstract of Lieutenant Benjamin Whitcomb's report,	483
23,	Letter from General Gates to General Arnold: Is labouring day and night to get the galleys to his assistance,	484
23,	Letter from Christopher Pelissier, Engineer, to General Gates: His opinion on the best mode of strengthening the fortifications at Ticonderoga,	484
23,	Extract of a letter from Ticonderoga: Intelligence brought by a Sergeant who deserted from the enemy,	484
23,	List of persons held up to view as enemies to their country,	485
23,	Publication in the newspapers of an efficient mode of punishing Tories; the halter and the gibbet is the only remedy that can with safety be relied on at present,	485
23,	Letter from William Bradford to General Washington: Application for exchange of seamen, prisoners,	485
23,	Intelligence at Newport: Arrival of prizes,	486
23,	Arrival at Newport of two of the men who were made prisoners at the attack on Quebec,	486
23,	Letter from James Bowdoin: Transmitting resolve of the General Court of Massachusetts relative to the fitting for the sea the Continental frigate the Hancock,	486
23,	Letter from General Warren to Massachusetts Council: Confining the vessels belonging to the State to such narrow limits is very discouraging to all employed in service,	487
23,	Petition of Peter Gourley, a captive, for permission to return to England, his native home,	787
24,	Letter from Captain Cooke to Maryland Council of Safety: Loss of an anchor in Chesapeake Bay,	487
24,	Letter from Captain Cooke to Commodore Boucher,	488
24,	Letter from Captain Cooke to Maryland Council of Safety: Hopes to be at sea by ten o'clock at night, where he makes no doubt but to provide the ship with as good an anchor as the one lost,	488
24,	Letter from the President of Congress to General Washington: The Congress have come to the determination to augment the Army, and to engage the troops to serve during the continuance of the war,	488
24,	Letter from the President of Congress to the Assemblies of the several States: Requesting that they will at once, and without a moment's delay, bend all their attention to raising their quotas of the American Army,	489
24,	Letter from Benjamin Marshall and Brothers to the President of Congress: Requesting liberty to export pipe-staves, any quantity not exceeding twenty thousand,	490
24,	Letter from Benjamin Fishbourn to Richard Peters: Soliciting the appointment of Paymaster to Colonel Wood's Battalion,	490
24,	Proceedings of Lancaster (Pennsylvania) Committee,	490
24,	Address of New-Jersey Assembly to Governour Livingston, and the reply of the Governour,	491
24,	Letter from Sir William Howe to Lord George Germain: Has taken possession of the batteries on Paulus Hook,	492
	Return of Ordnance and Stores taken in the city of New-York, and in the adjacent batteries and redoubts, after the retreat of the Rebels, September 15, 1776,	493
24,	Letter from Governour Tryon to Lord George Germain: Vacancy in the Council by the death of Lieutenant-Governour Colden; present state of the remaining eleven,	493

1776.		
Sept. 24,	Letter from Governour Tryon to Lord George Germain: New-York set on fire by incendiaries; many circumstances lead to conjecture that Mr. Washington was privy to this villainous act,	493
24,	Letter from General Washington to the President of Congress,	494
24,	Letter from General Washington to the President of Congress: His thoughts on the formation of the new Army and other important matters,	495
	Proceedings of a General Court-Martial of the line, held at Harlem, September 19: Trial of Ensign Macumber and Ebenezer Leffingwell, General Orders: Head-Quarters, at Harlem Heights, September 23 and 24,	498
24,	Letter from Tench Tilghman to William Duer: Hears that our forces were obliged to abandon Powle's Hook yesterday evening,	501
24,	Letter from Benjamin Deputy to New-York Convention: Alarm at Cosechton and neighbourhood, from fear of an attack by disaffected persons and Indians,	721
25,	Letter from John Sloss Hobart to the New-York Convention: Conference with General Washington respecting sending a reinforcement to the Highlands and the exchange of General Woodhull. Fire in New-York,	502
24,	Letter from Colonel Hartley to General Gates: Attack on Crown-Point expected; a thousand men without artillery can do no injury,	503
24,	Letter from Colonel Henry B. Livingston to General Washington: Is told that a reward of five hundred pounds is offered for his head by General De Lancey; is in great hopes of being even with him soon,	504
24,	Account of the proceedings at Brook-Haven, on Long-Island,	504
24,	Letter from Massachusetts Council to General Washington: General Lincoln has been appointed to the command of the Militia drafted to reinforce the Army at New-York,	506
24,	Letter from John Torrey to Massachusetts Council: Apprehension of Benjamin Marston and Gideon White, refugees,	506
24,	Letter from Massachusetts Council to Governour Trumbull: Have ordered the battalion of Militia destined for Rhode-Island to proceed with all possible despatch,	507
24,	Letter from New-Hampshire Committee of Safety to President of Congress: The thousand men raised to aid the Army at New-York are beginning their march,	507
24,	Letter from New-Hampshire Committee of Safety to General Washington,	508
24,	Letter from New-Hampshire Committee of Safety to General Ward,	508
24,	Petition to New-Hampshire Committee of Safety for the appointment of Lieutenant Perkins to a Captaincy,	508
24,	Memorial of the Committee of Safety for the County of Sunbury in Nova Scotia: The inhabitants wish to be considered as a part of the free States of America,	508
24,	Petition of John Rowe for a commission for the sloop Phoenix,	785
24,	Petition of Samuel Webb and others, for a commission for the schooner Liberty,	787
24,	Petition of Daniel Donovan and others in captivity, for liberty to take passage for some part of Europe,	787
24,	Petition of John Emmes, taken and brought into Boston by the Yankee, privateer,	788
24,	Petition of John Rowe, of Boston, for a supply of powder for the sloop Phoenix,	788
24,	Petition of John Stalker, for liberty to return to England,	789
24,	Petition of Captain William Brown, for a commission for the privateer frigate-ship, the Boston,	789
24,	Form of bond given by agents for captures,	790
24,	Letter from Colonel Bayley to Colonel Hurd: Intelligence from Canada, brought by Sergeant Daniel Booth, a deserter,	790
25,	Letter from M. Champigny, at Nantz, to the Continental Congress: Can engage five hundred artificers at a thousand French crowns each, to establish manufactories of arms, &c., in America,	508

1776.		
Sept. 25,	Letter from Maryland Council of Safety to Captain Nicholson: Repeating their request for a speedy settlement of his accounts,	509
25,	Letter from Maryland Council of Safety to Messrs. Willing and Morris: reminding them of their engagement with the State for the supplying of arms and gunpowder,	510
25,	Letter from Maryland Council of Safety to the Secret Committee of Congress: Grant a ton of powder, and complain of having been refused fourteen pieces of canvas; they are equipping sixteen armed vessels,	510
25,	Letter from Cæsar Rodney to Thomas Rodney,	510
25,	Letter from Jonathan Smith to the President of Congress: Resigning his commission of Deputy Mustermaster-General for the Flying-Camp and Militia,	511
25,	Letter from Colonel Shee to the President of Congress: Resigning his commission,	511
25,	Letter from Commissioners for Indian Affairs to Committee of Congress,	511
26,	Report of William Wilson to the Commissioners for Indian Affairs,	514
25,	Letter from Sir William Howe to Lord George Germain: Has not the smallest prospect of finishing the contest this campaign, not until the Rebels see preparations in the spring that may preclude all thoughts of further resistance,	518
25,	Extract of a letter received in London from Mr. James Drewitt, on board the Mercury frigate at New-York,	519
25,	Letter from General Washington to the President of Congress,	519
	Increased pay of the Officers, proposed by General Washington, enclosed in his letter of the 25th September,	520
	Return of American prisoners taken on the Island of New-York, 15th and 16th of September,	522
	Return of prisoners sent by General Guy Carleton from Canada to New-York,	522
25,	Letter from Tench Tilghman to William Duer: Unsuccessful attempt on Montresor's Island,	523
25,	Extract of a letter from an officer at Harlem: Attack on Montresor's Island,	524
25,	Letter from Captain Dumond to John McKesson,	524
25,	Memorial of Cornelius Atherton to the New-York Convention,	524
25,	Letter from General Schuyler to the President of Congress: Requests to be permitted to defend his conduct, and to point out other causes of the miscarriages in Canada besides those taken notice of in the resolutions of the 30th July,	719
25,	Letter from General Schuyler to General Washington: Hopes the resolution of Congress of the 14th September was not meant to insult him,	525
25,	Proceedings of General Convention held at Dorset, on the New-Hampshire Grants,	525
25,	Letter from H. Glen to General Schuyler: Every thing to the westward is in good order; there is a good stock of provisions at Fort Stanwix, German Flats, and Johnstown,	526
25,	Letter from Colonel Hay to Captain Raymond: Directing to survey the road from Mount Independence to Otter Creek, and ascertain whether the party making it has been sufficiently diligent,	534
25,	Letter from Colonel Hartley to General St. Clair: Is informed every day that hundreds of savages watch the fleets, and take every opportunity, in company with the Regulars, to annoy them,	534
25,	Notice to all persons in Connecticut who have any demands for services in the Northern Department to present their accounts to the Commissioners, at Albany,	535
25,	Letter from Governour Trumbull to General Schuyler: Begs him to suspend awhile the publication of the narrative in vindication of his conduct,	535
25,	Letter from Governour Trumbull to General Gates,	536

1776.		
Sept. 25,	Letter from Governour Trumbull to his son, John Trumbull, - - - - -	536
25,	Letter from Thaddeus Burr to General Washington: Disposition of the prisoners of war sent by General Heath, - - - - -	537
25,	Deposition of Elisha Cole, Master of the schooner Triton, captured by the Millford man-of-war, - - - - -	538
25,	Letter from Captain Jackson to John Avery, - - - - -	538
25,	Letter from Massachusetts Council to Governour Cooke: The General Court have ordered sixty whale-boats to be procured for the use of the expedition to Long-Island, - - - - -	538
25,	Letter from Alexander Coffin to Massachusetts Council: Particulars of his voyage from Nantucket to London, and from thence to the West-Indies and Nantucket, and of his seizure by the Congress privateer, - - - - -	539
25,	Order of Massachusetts Council for procuring cannon for the ship Boston, - - - - -	791
25,	Petition of William Nickols, for a commission for the schooner Independence, - - - - -	791
25,	Petition of Charles Reid, for permission to go to England, - - - - -	791
25,	Petition of Alexander Tough and Thomas Mahony, for permission to go home to England, - - - - -	792
25,	Permission for the ship William, with her passengers, to sail for England, - - - - -	792
25,	Petition of James Kennedy, for liberty to go to England, - - - - -	797
26,	Ships loading at Nantz with military stores for America, - - - - -	540
26,	Advices from the southwest frontier: Colonel Christian on his march against the Cherokees, - - - - -	540
26,	Letter from Benjamin Harrison, Jun., Deputy Paymaster-General, to the President of Congress: The payments he has to make immediately will leave his office without money - - - - -	540
26,	Letter from Maryland Council of Safety to Baltimore Committee, - - - - -	541
26,	Letter from Maryland Council of Safety to Delegates in Congress, - - - - -	541
26,	Letter from Colonel Hollingsworth to Maryland Council of Safety, - - - - -	542
26,	Last proceedings of Pennsylvania Assembly, - - - - -	542
26,	Incidental expenses of Pennsylvania for the year 1776, as passed by the Assembly the day it was dissolved, - - - - -	544
26,	Proceedings of Lancaster (Pennsylvania) Committee, - - - - -	546
26,	Letter from General Mercer to the Board of War: Is doing all he can to forward supplies to the Army in New-York, - - - - -	547
26,	Letter from Henry Remsen to New-York Convention, - - - - -	547
26,	Extract of a letter from Harlem: Fire in New-York, - - - - -	548
26,	Letter from General Washington to General Mercer: If the troops can be prevailed upon to defend their post, it must cost General Howe a great many men to carry it, if he succeeds at all; if this should be his opinion, he will turn his thoughts another way, - - - - -	548
26,	Letter from General Washington to Governour Trumbull: Some severe examples ought to be made of the late deserters. Requests a return of the prisoners in Connecticut, with a view to an exchange, - - - - -	549
26,	Letter from Colonel Rufus Putnam to General Washington: Urging the establishment of a corps of Engineers, - - - - -	549
26,	Proceedings of Courts-Martial, at Harlem and King's Bridge, - - - - -	550
26,	Extract of a letter from Mount Washington: Notice of Major Henly, killed in the skirmish on Montresor's Island, - - - - -	552
26,	Letter from Aaron Burr to Mrs. Edwards: The advantages gained by the enemy have been of but trifling consequence. The Hessians are fonder of plunder than blood, and are more the engines than the authors of cruelty, - - - - -	552
26,	Letter from Captain Ballard to General Washington: Giving his reasons for selling his commission, - - - - -	604
26,	Letter from John Sloss Hobart to New-York Convention, - - - - -	553
26,	Letter from Captain Cregier to New-York Convention: Condition of the schooner General Putnam, - - - - -	553

1776.		
Sept. 26,	Letter from Major Hoisington to the New-York Convention, - - - - -	721
26,	Memorial of John Macamly and Nathaniel Finch, to New-York Convention: On sale of salt, - - - - -	554
26,	Letter from Johannes Sleght to John McKesson: The Committee of Kingston have thought good to hire a man to go twice a week to the Convention or King's Bridge, for intelligence, - - - - -	554
26,	Letter from General Schuyler to the President of Congress: Unless a speedy supply of clothing, especially shoes and stockings, is sent, the most fatal consequences must inevitably ensue, - - - - -	555
26,	Letter from General Schuyler to General Gates: Has sent his resignation—a step which Congress drove him to, - - - - -	555
26,	Letter from General Gates to General Arnold, - - - - -	555
26,	Letter from Colonel Hartley to General Gates: At Split-Rock firing was heard on the Lake; what it was is uncertain, - - - - -	556
26,	Letter from Captain Fassett to General Gates: Attack by a party of Indians. Cannot keep the men together; his command is gone; flattery is all he can do, - - - - -	556
26,	Letter from Colonel Barrett to General Gates: Completing the new road as fast as possible, - - - - -	557
26,	Letter from John Broom to Abraham Yates, - - - - -	557
26,	Proceedings of Connecticut Council of Safety, - - - - -	557
26,	Letter from David Matthews to Abraham Yates: If he is to appear before the Convention, would be glad that it might be soon, - - - - -	558
26,	Letter from Daniel Tillinghast to General Washington: Has forwarded seventy-two tents, - - - - -	559
26,	Letter from General Ward to New-Hampshire Committee of Safety: Has ordered a quantity of powder and ball to be forwarded with the utmost expedition for Hartford, - - - - -	559
26,	Letter from Aaron Hobart to Richard Devens, - - - - -	560
26,	Captures by American privateers, - - - - -	560
26,	Petition of James Hodges, praying for leave to return to England, - - - - -	793
26,	Petition of William Emle and James M'Gill, for permission to depart for England, - - - - -	794
26,	Order for furnishing supplies to Captain Samson of the brigantine Independence, - - - - -	794
26,	Petition of Watson Spooner, for a commission for the schooner Hope, - - - - -	794
26,	Order to Captain Bangs to march to Dorchester Heights, - - - - -	795
26,	Petition of Alexander Liddell and Thomas Cremarty, for permission to return to England, - - - - -	795
26,	Petition of Robert M'Kown, Commissary for the troops stationed at Bristol, - - - - -	795
27,	Letter from Major Driver and Colonel Stanton to Maryland Convention: Recommendation of persons for officers of the company to be raised in Caroline County, - - - - -	560
27,	Letter from the President of Congress to General Schuyler: On the organization of the new Army, - - - - -	560
27,	Letter from the President of Congress to General Gates: On the new Army, - - - - -	561
27,	Letter from Richard Peters to Jasper Yates: Requesting that the baggage of Captain Hesketh, a prisoner of war, may be sent to Lancaster, - - - - -	562
27,	Extract of a letter from a gentleman of observation and integrity in New-York, a great sufferer by the rebellion, and inflexibly attached to the honour and interest of Government, - - - - -	562
27,	Extract of a letter to England from the master of the Dorothy transport, at New-York, - - - - -	564
27,	Extract of a letter to England from New-York: Mr. Washington narrowly escaped being made prisoner, at Bloomingdale, - - - - -	564
	Copy of a paper sent through the County of Suffolk, New-York, by order of Governour Tryon: All who had removed from Long-Island are deemed Rebels, - - - - -	564
27,	Orders of John Morrison to seize the grain and forage of Rebels, - - - - -	565
27,	Letter from General Washington to the President of Congress: Has received General Howe's proclamation of September 19, - - - - -	565

1776.		1776.	
Sept. 27, Letter from J. Cable, in Major Robert Rogers's		Sept. 28, Letter from Maryland Council of Safety to	
Battalion: The whole say and desire of the		Colonel Rumsey and others, - - -	578
Army is to have the Rebels stand their		28, Letter from Judge Hall to Matthew Tilghman:	
ground, and the jig will soon be at an end, -	1029	Declines the appointment as Judge of the	
Force of the British in Canada and on the Lake, -	566	Admiralty, - - - - -	578
General Orders: Head-Quarters, at Harlem		28, Letter from Captain Nicholson to Maryland	
Heights, September 25 to September 27, -	566	Council of Safety: Will attend in a few days,	
27, Return of the six Independent Companies and		to settle his accounts, - - - - -	578
First Regiment of Maryland Regulars, in the		28, Letter from Samuel Calwell to Maryland Coun-	
service of the United Colonies, commanded		cil of Safety: Resigning his commission, -	579
by Colonel Smallwood, - - - - -	567	28, Letter from Colonel Hollingsworth to Maryland	
27, Letter from General Washington to General		Council of Safety: On the state of his ac-	
Schuyler: Cannot send a supply of nails;		counts, and his progress in manufacturing	
has no power to give directions in respect to		gun barrels, - - - - -	579
building barracks in Schenectady, - - -	567	28, Memorial of Gunning Bedford, Mustermaster-	
27, Letter from Colonel Reed to General Heath:		General, to the Continental Congress, -	580
Directing him to have Colonel Tyler put		28, Address of Pennsylvania Convention to the	
under arrest for cowardice, - - - - -	569	Freemen of the Commonwealth, - - -	581
27, Proceedings of a General Court-Martial held		28, Address of the Council of New-Jersey to Gov-	
on the Heights of Harlem, - - - - -	569	ernour Livingston, and the Governour's Reply, -	587
27, Letter from Tench Tilghman to Committee of		28, List of American officers taken prisoners in	
New-York Convention: General Howe was		Canada, arrived at Elizabethtown, New-	
much chagrined at the escape of the Army		Jersey, - - - - -	588
from New-York; he looked upon it as good		28, Memorial of Lieutenant-Colonel Shepard:	
as if in his hands, - - - - -	569	Complains of injustice done him, and begs	
27, Letter from Colonel Patterson to Caesar Rodney, -	570	General Washington will permit him to re-	
27, Letter from Colonel Moylan to the President of		sign, - - - - -	604
Congress: Is willing to resign his office of		28, Letter from General Washington to the Presi-	
Quartermaster-General, as it appears to be		dent of Congress: Recommends Captain	
for the publick good. The principal causes		Daniel Morgan to be appointed Colonel of	
which have given rise to the dissatisfaction		the new Rifle Regiment, - - - - -	589
in the Army with his department, - - -	570	28, Proceedings of a General Court-Martial of the	
27, Letter from Elbridge Gerry to General Gates:		Line, held on the Heights of Harlem, -	589
Requests a list of such of his officers as he		28, Proceedings of a General Court-Martial, held	
can recommend to appointments in the new		at King's Bridge, - - - - -	590
Army, - - - - -	572	28, Letter from General Heath to General Salton-	
27, Letter from Captain Cregier to Peter R. Liv-		stall: Orders for the march and encampment	
ingston, - - - - -	572	of the three regiments of Militia under his	
27, Letter from Robert Yates to General Washing-		command, - - - - -	591
ton: Report of the Committee appointed for		28, Letter from General Heath to General Parsons:	
devising ways and means to obstruct the		Directing him to order Colonel Tyler under	
navigation on Hudson's river, - - - - -	572	arrest, - - - - -	591
27, Letter from Colonel Cortlandt to General Gates, -	573	28, Letter from Stephen Fountain to Darias Olm-	
27, Letter from Doctor Wigglesworth to New-		sted: Unless the Rebels lay down their	
Hampshire Committee of Safety: Distressed		arms and accept of mercy, they will all be	
situation of the troops for want of medicines, -	574	destroyed and cut off, - - - - -	1030
27, Letter from Captain Raymond to Colonel Hay:		28, Letter from Isaac Pierce to Doctor Potts: Di-	
Report of his survey of the new road from		recting him to put an immediate stop to	
Mount Independence to Otter Creek, - - -	534	abuses at the Hospital, and to repair to	
27, Letter from Governour Trumbull to General		Head-Quarters as soon as possible, - - -	591
Washington: Has given orders for Govern-		28, Letter from General Arnold to General Gates, -	591
our Skene and Governour Browne to set out		The testimony of Thomas Day, examined on	
for Head-Quarters to be exchanged, - - -	574	oath before Robert Lewis, one of the Justices	
27, Letter from Governour Trumbull to General		of Charlotte County, in the Province of New-	
Washington: Desires to know whether the		York, - - - - -	592
row-galleys can be spared from further Con-		28, Proceedings of a Council of War holden at	
tinental service, - - - - -	574	Williston: Agreement entered into between	
27, Proceedings of Connecticut Council of Safety, -	575	the officers and soldiers, - - - - -	621
27, Letter from Thaddeus Burr, Sheriff of Fairfield		28, Letter from Governour Trumbull to General	
County, to New-York Convention, - - -	575	Washington: Transmitting petition of Chas.	
27, Letter from Daniel Tillinghast to General Wash-		Nicoll and others, - - - - -	593
ington: Sends a further supply of tents, -	576	Petition of Charles Nicoll and others to Gov-	
27, Letter from Council of Massachusetts to the		ernour Trumbull, for permission to return	
President of Congress: Recommending the		to Long-Island, as no mischief can possibly	
case of Captain Coffin to the consideration		arise from it, - - - - -	593
of Congress, - - - - -	576	28, Parole of James Babbige, of the Island of New-	
27, Arrival of prizes at Newburyport and Portsmouth, -	576	Providence, - - - - -	594
27, Vote of Petersham (Massachusetts) Town		28, Letter from Walter Spooner to General Wash-	
Meeting, on the question whether they will		ington: Informing him that two loads of iron	
consent that the present General Court shall		pots had been forwarded from Massachusetts	
form a Constitution of Government agreeable		for the use of the Continental Army, - - -	594
to their resolve of the 17th instant, - - -	576	28, Letter from Walter Spooner to Richard Devens, -	594
27, Petition of Peter Roberts, for a commission for		Letter from Nathaniel Guild to Richard Devens:	
the schooner Ranger, - - - - -	796	Informing him that the fire is in the furnace,	
27, Petition of James Fulton, for liberty to go with		and he will make the wheels as soon as pos-	
his servant by the first opportunity that may		sible, - - - - -	594
offer to Britain or Portugal, - - - - -	796	28, Petition of Pearson Jones, of Falmouth, Casco	
27, Petition of Richard Pyne, for liberty to depart		Bay, for a commission for the sloop Putnam, -	799
the country, - - - - -	797	28, Petition of Samuel Ward and Joseph Sprague,	
27, Petition of John Donneston, for permission to		of Salem, for a commission for the private	
return home by the first vessel that goes to any		sloop-of-war the Dolphin, - - - - -	799
part of Britain, Spain, or Portugal, - - -	798	28, Order of Massachusetts Council, for supplies	
27, Application of Richard Derby, Jun., for permis-		for General Washington, - - - - -	799
sion to Captain Dudfield to return to England, -	798	28, Arrival at Portsmouth of the prize ship Royal	
28, Letter from Maryland Council of Safety to		Exchange, taken by Captain Whipple, - - -	595
Colonel Read, - - - - -	578	29, Extract of a letter from Philadelphia to a gen-	
28, Letter from Maryland Council of Safety to		tleman in Annapolis: Giving list of Maryland	
Baltimore Committee, - - - - -	578	officers taken prisoners on Long-Island, -	595

CONTENTS.

LI

1776.		
Sept. 29,	Letter from Rev. James Caldwell to William Paterson: Introducing Mr. Hackett, -	595
29,	Letter from General Washington to the Deputy Governour of Rhode-Island: Requesting to be furnished as soon as possible with a list of all the Continental prisoners in the State, -	595
29,	Letter from General Washington to the Massachusetts Assembly: Requesting list of prisoners, -	596
29,	Letter from General Washington to Colonel Campbell: Desiring the necessary additions and alterations to be made in the returns of the Forty-Second and Seventy-First Regiments, -	596
28,	Letter from Francis Mentges to the President of Congress: Renewing his application for the place of Major in the Army of the United States of America, -	596
	Letter from Colonel Reed to General Heath: Requesting him to have his division ready to march, if necessary, -	597
29,	Letter from Colonel Nicoll to John M'Kesson: Has had a good deal of conversation with some of the Highland Regulars, one in particular, who wished heartily for a reconciliation, -	597
29,	Examination of prisoners relative to joining or giving intelligence to the enemy, -	597
29,	General Return of the Army at Ticonderoga, -	617
29,	Letter from John Taylor to General Gates: Sends a prisoner to give him information, -	599
29,	Letter from Mrs. Adams to John Adams, -	599
29,	Letter from General Ward to General Washington: Has sent to the Army with the utmost expedition a number of cooking utensils, -	600
29,	Extract of a letter to a member of the Massachusetts Assembly, dated Salem: It is matter of general complaint that the ships of war ordered more than seven months since to be built at Newbury and Portsmouth, are not in readiness to this day, -	600
29,	Petition of James Dargie for permission to leave the country, -	800
30,	Letter from Lord George Germain to General Howe: It is very unfortunate that so great a part of the Forty-Second and Seventy-First Regiments should have fallen into the Rebels' hands, -	600
30,	Letter from Silas Deane to Robert Morris: To solicit arms, clothing, and tents, for thirty thousand men, and to be destitute of one shilling of ready money, has left him in a critical situation, -	601
30,	Proceedings of Baltimore Committee, -	601
30,	Letter from Thomas Stone to Maryland Council of Safety, -	601
30,	Letter from Josiah Bartlett to John Langdon, -	602
30,	Letter from General Thompson to Richard Peters: Requesting some months' pay may be got for a number of officers and privates who have arrived from Canada in a distressed situation, -	602
30,	Extract of a letter from Philadelphia: The Hessians say they will plunder every thing before them, and have even insisted on transports to carry over their stolen cattle and other plunder to their families, -	602
30,	Proclamation of Sir William Howe, offering a full pardon to all deserters who shall surrender themselves on or before the 31st day of October, -	603
30,	Letter from General Washington to the Board of War: Is of opinion that the service will be most advanced, in general cases, by directing promotions in a regimental line, -	603
30,	Letter from General Washington to the President of Congress: Recommends that Lieutenant-Colonel Shepard be promoted to the command of the Fourth Regiment, -	603
	General Orders: Head-Quarters, at Harlem Heights, September 28 to September 30, -	605
	Return of the Brigades under the more immediate command of General Washington, September 30, -	607
	Return of ten Companies in the Regiment of Artillery, and one Colony Company, in the service of the United States of America, commanded by Henry Knox, Esq., Mount Washington, September 28, -	607

LII

1776.		
	Return of Troops in General Greene's Division, in English Neighbourhood, September 29, -	607
Sept. 30,	Letter from General Washington to General George Clinton: Directing him to concert with General Lincoln and others an expedition to Long-Island, for the purpose of aiding the inhabitants in removing or destroying the stock, grain, &c., -	607
30,	Letter from General Washington to General Schuyler: Does not think the resolution of Congress of the 14th was calculated or designed in the smallest degree to give him offence, -	609
30,	Letter from General Washington to General Lincoln: Requests him to halt his men till a conference with General Clinton relative to expedition to Long-Island, -	609
30,	Letter from General Washington to Governour Trumbull: Requesting him to afford every assistance he can for carrying into execution the expedition to Long-Island, -	609
30,	Letter from Colonel Harrison to General Heath, -	610
30,	Proceedings of a General Court-Martial of the Line held on the Heights of Haarlem, -	610
30,	Letter from Major Adams to Maryland Convention: Hopes they will consider him in the election of officers, -	613
30,	Letter from A. De Witt to Matthew Cantine: The inhabitants of Papakonk are in great fear of a rupture of the Indians, -	614
30,	Letter from General Schuyler to General Washington, -	614
30,	Notice of the Commissioners for the Northern District to publick creditors to present their accounts for settlement at Albany before the 31st of October, -	614
30,	Letter from General Gates to the President of Congress, -	614
	General Orders: Head-Quarters, Ticonderoga, September 24 to 30, -	616
	General Return of the Forces of the United States of America, serving in the Northern Department, under the command of Hon. Major-General Gates, Ticonderoga, September 29, -	617
30,	Letter from General Gates to General Schuyler, -	619
30,	Letter from General Gates to Governour Trumbull, -	620
30,	Letter from Colonel Hartley to General Gates: The day the firing was heard, the vessels were firing at a mark, and the enemy were rejoicing or cleaning their artillery, -	621
30,	Letter from Captain Fassett to General Gates: Refusal of men to obey their officers, -	621
30,	Letter from Colonel Livingston to Governour Trumbull: Complains of inlistments being made from his men for the privateers, -	622
30,	Letter from Christopher Leffingwell to Governour Trumbull: Account of his proceedings in removing cattle, &c., from Long-Island, -	623
30,	Letter from Commodore Hopkins to the Marine Committee: There are so many privateers fitting out, which give more encouragement as to shares, it makes it difficult to man the Continental vessels, -	623
30,	Letter from General Ward to Massachusetts Council: Entreats them to see that Dorchester Heights are supplied with proper cannon, and well furnished with ammunition, -	624
30,	Letter from Captain John Paul Jones to the Marine Committee: Account of his cruise since the 7th current, -	624
30,	Order of Massachusetts Council for the discharge of Constant Church, an Indian, -	800

MARYLAND COUNCIL OF SAFETY.

1776.		
Sept. 2,	Four gun-locks to be delivered to Captain Thomas Beall, -	625
2,	Captains Forrest and Bourke immediately to march their companies to Annapolis, on their way to the Flying-Camp, -	625
2,	Commissaries of Stores to deliver to Colonel Ewing, guns, tents, &c., -	625
2,	Captain Tootell to provide a sergeant and eight men to guard the magazine near his house, -	626

1776.		1776.	
Sept. 4, Warrant issued to Abraham Boyd to enroll fifty men for the Flying-Camp, - - -	627	Sept. 19, Captain Goldsborough requested to purchase muskets, - - -	633
5, Commission to be issued to Robert Polk, of the schooner Montgomery, - - -	627	19, Commissions issued to officers in the Seventeenth Battalion of Militia, - - -	634
5, One barrel musket gunpowder to be delivered to John Davidson, - - -	627	19, Samuel Messersmith requested to deliver to Captain Brooke all the guns in his possession, - - -	634
5, Commissions issued to officers of an Independent company, - - -	627	20, Commissions issued to Captain Michael Lowe's company, in Prince George's County, - - -	634
5, Eighty-six knapsacks, &c., to be delivered to Captain Fiddeman, - - -	627	20, Warrant granted to Nicholas Norwood to raise a company, - - -	634
6, Permit granted to Hugh Sherwood of the schooner Betsey, - - -	628	20, Such part of the captures lately made out of Dunmore's fleet as may be deemed perishable to be disposed of for the use of the State, - - -	634
7, Commissions issued to Surgeon and Surgeon Assistants to Colonel Griffith's battalion of Flying-Camp, - - -	628	21, Warrant granted to Andrew Hynes to raise a company, - - -	634
11, Captain Brooke's company commissioned, - - -	629	21, Captain George Beall and Hezekiah Magruder appointed Inspectors of the George-Town warehouse, Frederick County, - - -	634
11, All the guns belonging to the State to be stamped with the word Maryland, - - -	629	23, Warrant granted to Richard Wilson to raise a company, - - -	634
11, Warrants issued to officers of a company for Flying-Camp, - - -	629	23, Warrant granted to Robert Harriss to raise a company, - - -	635
11, Advertisements to be inserted for one thousand pikes, - - -	629	23, Warrant granted to Francis Holland to raise a company, - - -	635
11, Commissions issued to officers of company of Militia in Kent County, - - -	629	24, William Jones appointed Inspector of White's warehouse, in Dorchester County, - - -	635
12, Samuel Messersmith to deliver to Captain Forrest all the guns which were left in his custody to be repaired by Captain Hammond, - - -	629	24, Contract with Joseph Selby for making two thousand cartouch-boxes, bayonet-belts, and gun-slugs, - - -	635
12, Commissary of Stores immediately to send to Annapolis one hundred camp-kettles, - - -	629	24, Similar contract with George Gordon, - - -	635
12, Permit granted to Job Greene, of the schooner Two-Brothers, - - -	630	24, Muskets, powder, and lead to be delivered to Captain Richardson, - - -	635
12, Permit granted to Thomas Ridley, of the sloop Fanny, - - -	630	25, Order for delivering muskets to Lieutenant Skinner, - - -	635
12, Mr. Hollingsworth to deliver to Mr. Stephen Steward two thousand weight bread and ten barrels flour, - - -	630	26, Warrant granted to William Ridgaway to raise a company, - - -	636
12, Commissary of Stores at Baltimore to deliver to Henry Howard one half barrel powder to try cannon, - - -	630	26, Passport granted to Josh. Dowson and others in the boat Sally, to pass to and from Potowmack, &c., - - -	636
12, Commissions issued to a company of Militia in the Nineteenth Battalion, - - -	630	26, Commissions issued to a company of Militia in Washington County, - - -	636
12, Commission to Captain Conway, of the sloop Molly, as a letter of marque, - - -	630	26, Order for delivering gunpowder for the Continental frigate at Baltimore, - - -	636
13, Contract of James Boyd for making muskets, - - -	630	26, Thomas Noble Stockett appointed Second Surgeon's Assistant to Colonel Richardson's battalion, - - -	636
13, Henry Killum, Zerobabel Maddox, and William Corbin committed for having deserted to the enemy, - - -	631	26, Contract with Charles White for making one thousand pike staffs, - - -	636
13, William Tumblesome discharged on parole, - - -	631	27, Warrant issued to William Patterson to enlist twenty-five men for the marine service, - - -	636
13, John Evans, John Price and Robert Howarth discharged upon giving bond, - - -	631	28, Commissions issued to a company in Cecil County, - - -	636
14, Lambert Purnell, of Captain Watkins's company, discharged and permitted to return home, - - -	631	28, Contract with William Nevin and Anthony Pinkney for one thousand blades for pikes, - - -	637
16, Permit granted to William Thomas, of the sloop Hazard, - - -	631	28, When unwholesome provision is furnished by the contractor, the same to be condemned and charged to the contractor, - - -	637
16, Captain Smith directed to let Job Green, of the schooner Two-Brothers, proceed on his voyage, - - -	631	30, Commission granted to James Tibbit, of the sloop Independence, as a letter of marque, - - -	637
16, Barton Tabbs appointed Assistant Surgeon, - - -	631	Oct. 1, Mr. Smyth and Mr. Plater attended, - - -	637
16, Lambert Purnell discharged from the service, - - -	631	2, Permit granted to William McGarry, of sloop Nancy, to go to Virginia for tobacco, - - -	637
16, Commissions issued to the Friendship's company, in Dorchester County, - - -	631	2, Dennis Griffith appointed Ensign, - - -	637
16, William Matthews, of Captain Gunby's company, discharged, - - -	631	3, Commissions issued to Captain Maxwell's company, - - -	638
16, Permit granted to Thomas Waters, of sloop Baltimore Hero, - - -	631	3, Schooner Friendship purchased by the Council, - - -	638
17, Warrants issued to a company for Flying-Camp, - - -	632	3, Commissions issued to a company in Frederick County, - - -	638
17, Dr. Tootell requested to remove any soldiers of infectious disorders, to be nursed in private houses, - - -	632	3, Commission issued to Ensign Richardson, - - -	638
17, Mr. Stephen Steward to take possession of all the military stores, guns, and rigging of the schooner Resolution, - - -	632	3, William Bartlett Townsend discharged, having given bond for his appearance, - - -	638
18, Mr. Nicholas Thomas attended and took his seat, - - -	632	3, William Bartlett discharged on giving bond, - - -	638
18, Permit granted to Josh. Hayman, of sloop Betsey, - - -	632	4, Commission issued to Captain Holland, - - -	638
18, Court-Martial ordered for the trial of Captain John Fontleroy, - - -	633	4, Ezekiel Towson appointed Captain of a guard for a magazine in Baltimore County, - - -	639
18, Warrant issued to Frederick Teems, appointed Captain, - - -	633	5, Four shillings and three pence to be paid to Elizabeth Hunter for ferriage of General Lee, - - -	639
19, Mr. Tilghman attended, - - -	633	6, Apology of General Stephens, of Virginia, for impressing a pilot of Annapolis, - - -	639
19, Parole of James Cunningham and William Tomlinson, - - -	633	7, John Petry appointed Surgeon, - - -	640
19, Two belts of osnaburgs to be delivered to Captain Cooke, for ship Defence's use, - - -	633	7, Thomas Selby, William Orme, and Leonard Pearce, to be sent under guard to Annapolis, for refusing to join their corps, - - -	640
19, List of effects taken off the Island in Somerset County, - - -	633	8, Commission issued to Michael Wallace, as Surgeon, and Francis Neale, as Surgeon-Assistant, - - -	640
19, The above effects to be sold at publick sale, - - -	633	8, Benjamin Bradford commissioned Captain, and William Smith Second Lieutenant, - - -	640

1776.		
Sept. 8,	Captain Joseph Byus directed to attend the Council of Safety on the 24th instant, to answer the charge against him alleged, -	640
10,	Ensign's commission issued to William Ewing, -	641
11,	Five thousand pair of shoes advertised for, -	641
11,	Commission of reprisal issued to James Handy, of the Harlequin privateer, -	641
11,	William Barker appointed Inspector of the warehouse at Nanjemoy, -	641
11,	Benjamin King appointed Captain of the schooner Resolution, -	642
12,	Commissions issued to officers of a company in Frederick County, raised to compose part of the Flying-Camp, -	642
12,	Commissions issued to Field Officers of the Gunpowder Upper battalion, in Baltimore County, -	642
12,	Permit granted to John Patterson, master of the schooner Industry, -	642
14,	Mr. Nicholson attended, -	643
14,	Captain Keltie appointed to rig and get the schooner Ninety-Two fit for sea, -	643
15,	Commissions issued to officers of Captain Holland's company of Flying-Camp, -	643
15,	Privates who have inlisted in Captain Norwood's company and will not serve in Captain Deem's company, to be discharged, -	643
18,	Commissary of Provisions to supply Captain Patterson with what provision he may want, -	644
18,	Contract with Nicholas McCubbin for making twelve hundred and fifty pair of shoes, -	644
19,	Commissions issued to officers of a company in Harford County, to compose part of the Flying-Camp, -	644
19,	William Bartlett Townsend to be discharged on his giving bond of one thousand pounds for his future good behaviour, -	644
19,	Basil Clarkson discharged, and his property to be forthwith returned him, -	645
18,	Resolution of the Convention empowering the Council of Safety to determine on the case of William Bartlett Townsend, -	645
	Depositions against Townsend and Scarborough, -	645-654
21,	Complaint against John Francis Taney, for detaining three pieces of sprig-lawn, the property of the State, -	654
21,	Dr. Brehon to deliver up the books of physick in his possession, or appear before the Board and show cause for their detention, -	654
23,	Commissions issued to the Field Officers of the Nineteenth Battalion of Militia, -	654
23,	Court-Martial appointed for the trial of Lieutenant Willin and Ensign Todd, -	654
23,	William Gerwood appointed Surgeon Assistant to Dr. Tootell, -	655
24,	William Webb Haddaway appointed First Major of the Thirty-Eighth Battalion of Militia, -	655
25,	Commission and letter of marque issued to Francis Speake, commander of sloop Potowmack, -	655
25,	Depositions to be taken relative to a sloop sunk by Dunmore's fleet near St. George's Island, -	655
25,	Permit granted to William Thomas, master of schooner Edward, -	655
26,	Leonard Clements, of Captain Stone's company, discharged on account of sickness, -	655
26,	Contract with James Claypole for making six hundred pair of shoes, -	656
26,	Commissions issued to a company of Matrosses, raised for the defence of Annapolis, -	656
28,	Warrant issued to John David, appointed Lieutenant of one of the gondolas, to inlist fifty men, -	656
29,	Commission issued to William Patterson, appointed commander of the schooner Dolphin, -	656
29,	Warrant issued to John Skinner, appointed a recruiting Sergeant for Matrosses and Continental troops, -	656
29,	Commission issued to Edward Markland, Lieutenant, and Richard Coward, master, of the schooner Dolphin, -	656
31,	Permit granted to John Norton, master of the schooner Endeavour, -	657
31,	Permit granted to John Smith, master of the schooner Polly, -	657
31,	Warrants issued to Edward Geale, Michael Morgan, and Clement Smith, recruiting Sergeants for the Artillery, -	657

1776.		
Nov. 1,	Commissary of Provisions to supply Captain Martin with rations for brigantine Friendship's crew, -	657
5,	Alexander Furnival appointed Captain of a company of Matrosses, to be stationed at Baltimore Town, -	658
8,	Keepers of Patapsco and Susquehanna ferries desired to put the Postmaster General's rider over those ferries during the war, -	659
8,	Contract with Colonel Hooe for all the salt imported in the brigantine Friendship, -	659
9,	Commissions issued to Captain Mackall's company, Frederick County, -	659
9,	Contract with Colonel Hooe for all the jackets imported in the brigantine Friendship, -	659
9,	Colonel Scott requested to purchase all the lead that can be procured for the use of this State, -	659

NEW-YORK COMMITTEE OF SAFETY AND CONVENTION.

COMMITTEE OF SAFETY.

1776.		
Sept. 4,	Report of Committee against ordering out any more of the Militia of Westchester, Orange, Dutchess, and Ulster Counties, -	660
4,	Letter to General Washington, -	661
4,	Fire-arms cannot be supplied to the Militia, and four thousand lances to be procured with the utmost expedition, -	662
4,	Persons appointed to procure the lances, -	662

CONVENTION.

Sept. 5,	Met in the Episcopal Church at Fishkill, -	662
5,	The church being very foul with the dung of doves and fowls, and without any seats, adjourned to the Dutch church, -	662
5,	Report of Committee on the difficulties stated on behalf of the Committee of Kingston, -	662
5,	Letter to the Committee of Kingston, -	663
5,	Examination of John Wolley, -	663
5,	One hundred and seventy-six blank commissions to be prepared and signed, -	664
5,	Harmen Van Bueren appointed Major, -	664
5,	Petition of the Committee of Tryon County, -	664
5,	Militia of Tryon County to be formed into a brigade separate from the Militia of Albany, -	664
5,	Nicholas Herkhiemer appointed Brigadier-General, and John Frey, Brigade-Major, of the Militia of Tryon County, -	664
5,	Resolution for the removal of the bells in the churches and publick edifices from the city of New-York to Newark, in New-Jersey, -	665
5,	Letter to General Washington, -	665
5,	Sureties offered for John Wooley, and approved, -	665
5,	Petition of Henry Chase, a prisoner in the gaol of Westchester County, -	666
5,	Petition of Colonel Benjamin Birdsall, acting as Captain of a company in Colonel Smith's Regiment, -	666
5,	Bond of John Wooley, -	666
5,	Report of the Committee who visited the fortifications on Hudson's river, -	666
6,	Any member absenting himself without leave, to be fined and reprimanded, -	667
6,	Information relative to the state of Forts Montgomery and Constitution communicated by Mr. Duane, -	667
6,	Reinforcement of six hundred men to be sent with all possible despatch to Forts Montgomery and Constitution, -	667
6,	Further consideration of the state of the garrisons of Forts Montgomery and Constitution, and the works erecting on Red-Hook, -	668
6,	Resolutions for raising troops to reinforce the garrisons, -	668
7,	Order for the landing the stores brought from White-Plains, -	669
7,	Information given by Mr. Harrison relative to the enemy and disaffected on Nassau-Island, -	669
7,	Committee to succour the well-affected on Nassau-Island, -	669
7,	Committee of Safety and Correspondence formed for that part of the State which lies below the Highlands, -	669
7,	Colonel Hoffman excused from attending at New-York as a correspondent, -	669

1776.
Sept. 7, Committee of Safety at New-York directed to take from the houses in the city all the brass knockers, - - - - - 669

7, The consideration of the report of the Committee who were sent to visit the Forts Montgomery and Constitution, resumed, and the resolutions agreed to, - - - - - 670

9, Ordered that Henry Schenck have discretionary power to provide for certain poor, - - - - - 672

9, Payment stopped of all accounts passed for the payment of Colonel Smith's and Colonel Remsen's Regiments, - - - - - 673

9, Committee of Safety appointed until the next meeting of the Convention, - - - - - 673

9, Fifteen hundred weight of lead and one thousand flints to be sent to Charlotte County, and one ton and an half of lead and three thousand flints to Tryon County, - - - - - 673

COMMITTEE OF SAFETY.

Sept. 8, One ton of lead ordered for the County of Albany, - - - - - 673

9, Letter from General Scott, dated September 6, - - - - - 673

9, A certain Warns ordered to be apprehended for spreading false reports tending to injure the cause of America, - - - - - 673

9, Committee appointed to take the spears brought from New-York, and get a model for making other spears, - - - - - 674

9, Letter written to John Schenck to know whether he will undertake the agency for furnishing Fort Montgomery with stores, - - - - - 674

9, General James Clinton requested to forward barracks as soon as possible for the reinforcement to be sent to Fort Montgomery, - - - - - 674

9, Letter from General Washington, dated September 6, - - - - - 674

9, Letter from General James Clinton, September 8, - - - - - 674

9, Return of necessities wanted at the fortifications in the Highlands, - - - - - 674

9, Letter from General Washington, September 8, - - - - - 675

9, Letter from General Washington, September 8, - - - - - 675

9, Four large sloops to be impressed to go to New-York for the sick, - - - - - 675

9, Letter to General Washington, enclosing the resolutions of the 7th instant, - - - - - 676

9, Letter to General James Clinton, - - - - - 676

9, Warrant for impressing four sloops, - - - - - 676

9, Warrant for impressing two sloops, - - - - - 676

9, Examination of William Warne, apprehended by order of the Convention, - - - - - 677

9, William Warne committed to the custody of Captain Weeks till further orders, - - - - - 677

9, Letter to Delegates in Congress: Hope from the measures they have taken for the protection of the posts in the Highlands, the communication between the northern and southern States may be kept up, - - - - - 677

10, John Schenck accepts the agency for supplying stores, - - - - - 678

10, Stores at Fishkill landing ordered out to Mr. John Schenck for the forts, - - - - - 678

10, Order to Mr. Schenck for supplying the fortifications, instead of the order made on the 7th instant, - - - - - 678

10, Colonel Curtenius requested to acquaint the Convention with the quantities of lead he has shipped from New-York, - - - - - 679

10, Mr. Norwood, Commissary, directed to make a return of stores sent out of the City of New-York, &c., - - - - - 679

10, Letter from General Ten Broeck, August 23: Recommends several gentlemen for officers in Colonel Graham's Regiment, - - - - - 679

10, Letter to General Ten Broeck: Officers in service to be retained, and new ones to be appointed only when vacancies occur, - - - - - 679

10, Committee appointed to report a plan of establishing riders to the city of New-York, - - - - - 679

10, Deposition of Guisbert Schenck on the late conduct of William Warne, - - - - - 679

10, Affidavit of Abraham W. de Peyster respecting Joseph Reade, - - - - - 680

16, Letter to Committee of Westchester County, enclosing affidavit of Mr. de Peyster, - - - - - 680

1776.
Sept. 10, Two letters from Ebenezer Hazard, 1st and 6th September, - - - - - 680

10, Letter to Mr. Hazard, on the routes of the post-riders, - - - - - 680

10, Mr. Moore reported that he had impressed two sloops, - - - - - 681

10, Depositions of Roeloff Schenck, Theodorus Van Wyck, Jun., and Peter Horton, as to the conduct and declarations of Mr. Warne, - - - - - 681

10, William Warne to be safely kept till to-morrow morning, - - - - - 682

10, Letter from Colonel Remsen, dated at New-Haven, September 7, - - - - - 682

10, Captain Wiltse's sloop, impressed to go to New-York, delayed for want of a master, - - - - - 682

11, Report of Committee on employing post-riders to New-York referred to the Convention, - - - - - 683

11, Letter to Colonel Remsen, - - - - - 683

11, Determination on the case of William Warne, - - - - - 683

11, Two trusty sentinels, well armed and accoutred, to be sent with all possible despatch ready to execute such orders as they may receive from the Committee of Safety, - - - - - 683

11, Rev. Samuel Seabury confined to the farm of Colonel Brinckerhoff, being notoriously disaffected to the American cause, - - - - - 683

11, Sloop to be impressed for the purpose of removing the sick from the city of New-York, - - - - - 684

12, Letter from General Schuyler, - - - - - 684

12, The levies directed to be raised in Ulster County to reinforce the garrisons in the Highlands to be immediately completed, and the remainder subject to the requisitions of General Schuyler, - - - - - 684

12, Egbert Dumond ordered to render accounts of all the publick moneys which have been put into his hands, with all possible despatch, - - - - - 684

12, Letter from General Schuyler, September 9, read and referred, - - - - - 685

12, Commission of Colonel Snider, appointed to command the detachment to reinforce the garrisons in the Highlands, (note,) - - - - - 686

12, Messenger directed to summon absent members, - - - - - 686

12, Letter from Colonel Swartwout, September 10, read and referred, - - - - - 686

12, Letter from General George Clinton, September 8, read and referred, - - - - - 686

Report of Committee on General Clinton's and Colonel Swartwout's letters, (note,) - - - - - 687

12, Detachment of a Sergeant and twelve men to attend the Committee of Safety without delay, - - - - - 687

12, Major Schenck requested to apprehend a certain Riley, suspected of being a deserter from the Army of the United American States, - - - - - 687

13, Letter from Ebenezer Hazard, September 12, - - - - - 688

13, Letter from General George Clinton, September 12, - - - - - 688

13, Samuel Gale and Isaac Ludlum to be immediately apprehended, being concerned in a dangerous correspondence with the enemy, - - - - - 688

13, Sundry persons in Ulster County, inimical to the cause of American liberty, ordered to be apprehended, - - - - - 688

13, Report of Committee on General Schuyler's letter of September 9, and the letters of Comfort Sands and Thomas Grant, - - - - - 688

13, Letter to General George Clinton, respecting the obstructions to the navigation of Hudson's river, - - - - - 689

CONVENTION.

14, Appropriation of two hundred pounds to purchase saltpetre, - - - - - 690

14, Members required to be regular in their attendance, - - - - - 690

14, Letter from General George Clinton, September 13: Sends William Tredwell and Benjamin Ludlum to the Convention for examination, - - - - - 691

14, Sub-Committee of Philips's Precinct empowered to purchase five or six arms, - - - - - 691

14, Auditor General of the State requested to attend the Convention, - - - - - 691

14, Letter from General Washington, September 12, - - - - - 692

16, General Morris, now at the General Congress, directed to immediately return and resume the command of his brigade, - - - - - 693

1776.		
Sept. 24,	Captain Cregier submits whether it would be proper to keep the schooner General Putnam longer in service, being very much out of repair, - - - - -	718
24,	Letter from Colonel Levi Pawling, September 23: Complains of the want of a Surgeon to his Regiment, - - - - -	718
25,	Letter from General Washington, September 23: Containing a particular account of the manœuvres of the enemy, - - - - -	718
25,	Letter from General Scott, giving a particular account of the great fire in New-York, - - - - -	719
25,	Letter from Messrs. Clark & Nightingale, September 16, relative to two prizes, - - - - -	719
25,	Memorial of Cornelius Atherton, praying to be exempted from military duty that he may be enabled to fulfil his contract for making muskets, - - - - -	719

CONVENTION.

26,	Colonel Peter R. Livingston elected President, - - - - -	719
26,	Committee of Safety appointed, - - - - -	719

COMMITTEE OF SAFETY.

26,	Application of Stephen de Lancey, now confined at Hartford, for a horse, said to be taken from him and employed in the Continental Army; rejected, - - - - -	720
26,	Letter from Captain Thomas Cregier: Relating the condition of the General Putnam and her crew, - - - - -	720
26,	Committee on directing the mode of the sales of salt, - - - - -	720
26,	Letter from Tench Tilghman, Head-Quarters, September 24, - - - - -	721
26,	Commissions issued for officers in Mamacotting Precinct, Ulster County, - - - - -	721
26,	Letter from Major Joab Hoisington: Asks that bounty rations and wages for the Rangers may be forwarded, - - - - -	721
26,	Deputies from Cumberland fully acknowledge the jurisdiction of the State over that County, - - - - -	722
27,	Letter from Tench Tilghman, Head-Quarters, September 25, - - - - -	722
27,	All the powder at Wisner's and Livingston's mills to be sent to King's Bridge with all despatch, - - - - -	722
27,	Letter from Brigadier General Petrus Ten Broeck, - - - - -	722

CONVENTION.

27,	Reply of Abraham Lott to the resolutions of the Convention relative to the publick treasure, and his contempt in not having accounted, - - - - -	723
27,	Proceedings on the application of Major Hoisington for bounty and pay for the Rangers, - - - - -	723
27,	Questions asked of the Deputies from Cumberland County, and their answers, - - - - -	724
27,	Committee appointed on Major Hoisington's letter, - - - - -	724
27,	The Committee for detecting conspiracies authorized to place guards at such places as they may think proper, - - - - -	724
27,	Account of Walter Hyer for services done as cooper, - - - - -	725
27,	Committee of Safety appointed, - - - - -	725

COMMITTEE OF SAFETY.

27,	Michael O'Farrell and Richard Gazart, suspected of being deserters, to be confined in the guard-house till further order, - - - - -	726
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RESOLVES, &c., OF THE COUNCIL AND HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF MASSACHUSETTS.

1776.		
May 30,	Memorial of General Joseph Frye, - - - - -	725
Aug. 16,	Petition of Jeremiah Colburn and Joshua Eayre, of Penobscot river, - - - - -	729
19,	Petition of Stephen Bussell and others, settlers on the east side of Penobscot river, - - - - -	729
19,	Petition of Selectmen of Waldoborough, for gunpowder, - - - - -	730
	Petition of the Committee of Safety for the town of Cape-Elizabeth, - - - - -	730

1776.		
Aug. 23,	Petition of Jotham Bush, who was disarmed and confined to his homestead farm by the Committee of Shrewsbury, - - - - -	730
28,	Petition of Ichabod Jones, - - - - -	731
28,	Petition of Selectmen of Harpswell, - - - - -	732
30,	Petition of Thomas Edwards, - - - - -	732
28,	Memorial of Jonas Ball and others, in behalf of John Taylor of Northborough, - - - - -	733
28,	Petition of Jonathan Eddy, William How, and Zebulon Roe, late of Cumberland, in Nova-Scotia, - - - - -	733
30,	Resolve relative to the brig Rising Empire, - - - - -	734
31,	Resolve on the petition of John Fox, - - - - -	734
31,	Resolve on the petition of Ebenezer Beckford and others, - - - - -	734
31,	Resolve directing Captain Welden to deliver the brig Rising Empire to William Watson, Esq., - - - - -	734
31,	Resolve for paying Colonel Abijah Brown, - - - - -	734
31,	Resolve on the petition of George Williams, Jun., and others, - - - - -	734
31,	Resolve on the petition of Joseph Sprague and others, - - - - -	734
31,	Resolve appointing a Committee to view places suitable for erecting furnaces, - - - - -	735
31,	Resolve to revive actions that were pending in the Inferiour Courts, - - - - -	735
Sept. 2,	Resolve on the petition of Jonathan Eddy and others, - - - - -	735
2,	Resolve annulling a resolve of the 29th of April, allowing the officers of vessels in the sea service to enlist men out of the sea-coast companies, - - - - -	735
2,	Resolve appointing a Committee to repair to New-Hampshire to endeavour to get one of the Continental frigates fixed out, - - - - -	736
2,	Resolve to supply six soldiers in Colonel Dyke's Regiment with guns, - - - - -	736
2,	Resolve on the petition of Francis Butler, - - - - -	736
2,	Resolve recommending to the Government of New-Hampshire to pass an act for preventing the exportation of lumber, - - - - -	736
Aug. 29,	Petition of Joseph Sprague and others, for gunpowder for the schooner General Gates, William Carlton, Commander, - - - - -	737
30,	Petition of John Fox, - - - - -	737
Sept. 2,	Petition of Joseph North, of a plantation called Gardnerstown, in the County of Lincoln, - - - - -	737
2,	Order for the issue of a commission to Eleazer Niles, as commander of the brigantine Retaliation, - - - - -	740
2,	Commission issued to Isaac Somes, as commander of the sloop Union, - - - - -	741
3,	Orders in Council, - - - - -	741
3,	Petition of Charles Goodrich, - - - - -	741
3,	Resolve for paying Joseph Howland and Timothy Goodwin the balance due for post-riding, - - - - -	743
4,	Petition of Committee of Framingham, - - - - -	743
	Petition of Catharine Brinley, - - - - -	744
4,	Benjamin Warren commissioned as commander of the private sloop-of-war Revenge, - - - - -	745
4,	Nathaniel Freeman commissioned as commander of the sloop Wolfe, - - - - -	745
4,	Resolve directing the Commissary to deliver Jonathan Eddy and others bread instead of pork, - - - - -	746
4,	Resolve for the delivery of a 4-pound cannon to Isaac Collier, - - - - -	746
5,	Petition of Joseph Mayhew and Shubael Cattle, - - - - -	746
	Petition of Nathaniel Guild, - - - - -	746
2,	Petition of Committee of Middleborough, - - - - -	747
5,	Resolve for supplying Captain Plummer's Company with powder, &c., - - - - -	748
5,	Resolve for the delivery of six firelocks to Captain Leighton, - - - - -	748
5,	Resolve for the delivery of four firelocks to Captain Lyman, - - - - -	748
5,	Resolve for paying Eleazer Spaulding for the loss of a gun, - - - - -	748
	Commission ordered for Thomas Nicholson, as commander of the sloop America, - - - - -	748
4,	Petition of Thomas Cragg, - - - - -	748
	Commission issued to Jonathan Greely as commander of the schooner Speedwell, - - - - -	749
6,	Petition of Walter Logan, Comptroller of the Customs of Perth-Amboy, in New-Jersey, - - - - -	749
6,	Petition of Nathaniel Barstow and Daniel Whitmore, of Sunderland, in the County of Hampshire, - - - - -	750

1776.		1776.	
Sept. 6, Petition of Anne Tweedie and others, lately	750	Sept. 12, Resolve relative to the purchasing cannon of	765
from the Island of Antigua, - - -		the town of Newburyport, - - -	
6, Resolve relative to the adjournment of a Mari-	751	12, Resolve for placing a guard of thirty men on	765
time Court at Pownalborough, - - -		Penobscot river, - - -	
7, Petition of Elisha Hedge, of Marlborough, in	751	12, Resolve relative to vouchers of accounts against	765
the County of Essex, - - -		the Continent, - - -	
Petition of John Codman, for gunpowder for	752	12, Resolve for supplying Martha's Vineyard with	766
the schooner Langdon, - - -		three cannon, - - -	
Petition of Joseph Sprague and Samuel Ward,	752	12, Resolve permitting Captain Barber's schooner	766
for gunpowder for the schooner Dolphin, -		to come to the port of Boston, - - -	
Petition of Isaac Collyer, - - -	752	Commission for Isaac Snow, as commander of	766
7, Resolve for the payment of wages and rations	752	the schooner America, - - -	
to Jeremiah Colburn and Samuel Low, -		Memorial of Thomas Crafts, - - -	766
7, Resolve relative to building a barrack on the	752	13, Resolve directing the Commissary-General to	767
Gurnet, - - -		send ammunition to Fairfield, - - -	
7, Choice of an Adjutant for the Second Regiment	752	13, Resolve to alter the rigging, &c., of the Tyran-	767
of Militia in the County of Lincoln, -		nicide from a sloop to a brig, - - -	
7, Resolve on the petition of Thomas Nicholson,	753	13, Resolve for ordering the men drafted from Ply-	767
7, Resolve on Captain John Parker's muster-roll,	753	mouth and Barnstable brigades to march to	
7, Field Officers chosen for the Boston Regiment,	753	Rhode-Island instead of New-York, - -	767
7, Adjutant chosen for the Fourth Regiment of	753	13, Resolve on the petition of Richard Mayberry,	768
Militia in the County of Middlesex, - -		13, Resolve for paying Solomon Wood for the loss	
9, Benjamin Wormell commissioned as command-	753	of his gun, - - -	768
er of the schooner Viper, - - -		13, Resolve to furnish the Agent for building the	768
9, Petition of Nathaniel Dowse, in behalf of his	754	Continental ships with guns for one of them,	
sister Elizabeth Fenton, - - -		13, Resolve on the petition of James McCobb, -	768
Petition of Thomas Melville, for powder for the	754	13, Resolve on the petition of the Selectmen of	
schooner Speedwell, - - -		Harpswell, - - -	768
9, Petition of the Committee of Rochester, rep-	754	Aug. 30, Representation from the Committee of New-	768
resenting Samuel Sprague as unfriendly to		buryport, - - -	
the cause of the Colonies, - - -	754	Sept. 14, Resolve for supplying Thomas Crane with a	769
Petition of David Kemp, - - -	755	large copper, - - -	
9, Resolve for the payment of Captain Dodge's	756	14, Resolve forbidding the sale of two Negroes	769
roll, - - -		brought in as prisoners, - - -	
9, Resolve for furnishing Caleb Turner's Company	756	14, Resolve appointing Colonel Simons and others	770
with powder, &c., - - -		to execute in the County of Berkshire the	
9, Resolve for paying Moses Harrington for loss	756	resolve for raising one-fifth of the Militia, -	
of a gun, - - -		14, Additional resolves for procuring clothing for	770
9, Resolve for paying the heirs of Obadiah Adams	756	the Army, - - -	
for loss of a gun, - - -		14, Resolve for supplying the ship Boston with	770
9, Resolve for paying mileage to the Militia called	756	cannon, - - -	
in to the Heights of Dorchester, - -		16, Petition of Robert Campbell, - - -	770
9, Resolve for paying Samuel Stockbridge for	756	16, Memorial of Richard Adams, of Maduncook,	
billeting and mileage of fifty-seven men, -		in the County of Lincoln, - - -	771
9, Resolve for delivery of powder to Thomas	757	Petition of Juliana James, - - -	771
Melville, - - -		16, Benjamin Lincoln chosen to command the	
9, Resolve for sale of powder to Jonathan Hobby,	757	Militia, - - -	772
9, Resolve on the petition of John Codman, -	757	16, Resolve to continue military commissions in	
9, Resolve on the petition of Joseph Sprague and	757	force until the 19th of January, 1777, -	772
Samuel Ward, - - -		16, Resolve for supplying the town of Falmouth	
9, Resolve on the petition of Isaac Collyer, -	757	with powder and cannon balls, - - -	772
9, Resolve on the petition of John Winthrop, Jun.,	757	16, Resolve for procuring whale-boats, &c., -	772
9, Resolve on the petition of James Swan, -	757	16, Resolve appointing a Committee to sign and	
9, Petition of Thomas Harris, for powder for	757	number bills, - - -	773
schooner America, - - -		16, Resolve directing Committees to return money	
Commission ordered for Nathaniel Leech, as	758	to the Treasury, - - -	773
commander of the sloop Polly, - - -		16, Resolve for paying off Captain Wigglesworth's	
10, Petition of Jedediah Preble, Jun., and Jeremiah	758	portage bill, - - -	773
Colburn, of Penobscot, - - -		16, Resolve on the petition of Preserved Clap, -	773
Petition of Shubael Cottle, in the behalf of	758	16, Resolve for erecting or purchasing an air fur-	
Nathan Smith, Captain of sea-coast men, in		nace for casting cannon, - - -	773
Tisbury, - - -		17, Petition of Committee of Cambridge, - -	774
10, Petition of William Whiting, for remuneration	759	17, Resolve relative to Nathaniel Brinley, - -	774
for his improvements in making saltpetre, -		17, Resolve for a loan to the town of Goldsborough,	774
10, Resolve for the sale of powder to Thomas Har-	761	17, Resolve appointing Mr. Davis and Colonel	
ris, - - -		Goodwin to sign bills, - - -	774
10, Resolve for supplying Dr. Watts with medi-	761	17, Resolve on the petition of Jonathan Hale rela-	
cines, - - -		tive to receiving saltpetre, - - -	774
10, Resolve for paying Militia, raising men, &c., -	761	17, Resolve for the delivery of household goods to	
10, Resolve for the delivery of an iron cannon to	761	Juliana James, - - -	774
Joseph Homan, - - -		17, Resolve for paying Brigadier Preble eight pounds	
10, Resolve respecting deserters from the Northern	762	for the use of two Indians, - - -	775
Army, - - -		17, Resolve on the petition of Shubael Cottle re-	
10, Resolve for raising one-fifth part of the Militia	762	specting the capture of a vessel, - - -	775
of the State to reinforce the Army at New-		17, Resolve for recalling the Militia ordered to	
York, - - -		New-York within the space of two months,	
11, Petition of Ethan Compstock, Second Lieu-	764	&c., - - -	775
tenant in the Diligent, schooner-of-war, -		17, Resolve for the delivery of gunpowder, &c., to	
11, Resolve for paying Samuel Freeman, Clerk of	764	Mr. Jeremiah Colborn, - - -	776
the House, - - -		17, Resolve directing Richard Derby to make ap-	
11, Resolve for paying Wemyss Orrock, Colony	764	plication to the Superiour Court relative to	
agent at Dartmouth, one hundred pounds, -	764	the ship Queen-of-England, - - -	776
11, Resolve for procuring couriers, - - -	764	17, Resolve for granting three of the Judges the	
12, Memorial of John Jones in behalf of the Com-	764	sum of eighty pounds each, - - -	776
mittee of Hopkinton, - - -		17, Resolve on the petition of Richard Adams, of	
12, Memorial of Jeremiah Colburn, of Penobscot,	765	Maduncook, - - -	776
12, Resolve appointing Richard Derby, Junior, to	765	18, Resolve for paying Daniel Henshaw, Junior,	
lay claim to the ship Lord Dartmouth, -	765	for his services as Deputy Commissary, -	776

1776.	1776.
Sept. 18, Resolve for paying the Committee of North-	Sept. 25, Permission for the ship William, lately the
field twenty-seven pounds for the use of pris-	Creighton, to depart the State in ballast, -
oners, - - - - -	792
18, Resolve for confining John Graves, - - -	Petition of William Ross, of Jamaica, - -
777	792
18, Resolve excusing the town of Charlestown from	26, Petition of James Hodges, of Aberdeen, in
furnishing men, - - - - -	Scotland, - - - - -
777	793
18, Resolve for supplying Brigadier-Palmer, to buy	Petition of William Emle and James McGill,
cannon at Newburyport, - - - - -	taken in the prize ship Zachary Bayley, -
777	794
18, Resolve empowering the Committee of Deer-	23, Order for supplying Captain Samson, of the
field to make sale of Nathaniel Dickenson's	brigantine Independence, with stores for a
personal estate, - - - - -	cruise, - - - - -
777	794
18, Resolve for furnishing the frigate Hancock with	Commission ordered for the schooner Hope,
guns, &c., - - - - -	Walter Hatch, commander, - - - - -
777	794
18, Resolve to encourage the manufacture of fire-	26, Order to Captain Bangs, - - - - -
arms, - - - - -	795
778	Petition of Alexander Liddell and Thomas Cre-
18, Resolve on the petition of Nathaniel Guild, -	marty, - - - - -
778	795
18, Resolve respecting vouchers to the accounts	Order for the payment of the troops stationed
against the Continent, - - - - -	at Bristol, - - - - -
778	795
18, Resolve relative to the Hospital at Sewall's	Commission ordered for Peter Roberts, com-
Point, - - - - -	mander of the schooner Ranger, - - -
778	796
18, Resolve for staying executions on attachments	Petition of James Fulton, late master of the
of Tories' estates, - - - - -	Jean, - - - - -
779	796
18, Resolve vesting the Council with certain pow-	25, Petition of James Kennedy, late master of the
ers during the recess of the Court, - - -	ship Peggy, - - - - -
779	797
18, Resolve permitting Jolley Allen to sell part of	Petition of Richard Pyne, late captain of the
his effects, - - - - -	brigantine William, - - - - -
779	797
18, Resolve for discharging the two vessels of ob-	Petition of John Donneston, late master of the
servation, - - - - -	ship Ann, - - - - -
779	798
18, Orders in Council to provide supplies for armed	27, Application in favour of Captain Dudfield, -
vessels, - - - - -	798
780	Jacob Bayley commissioned as commander of
19, Commission to Andrew Giddings as commander	the sloop Putnam, - - - - -
of the brig Civil Usage, - - - - -	799
780	Commission ordered for John Leach, as Cap-
19, Orders to Alexander Shepard, - - - - -	tain of the schooner Dolphin, - - -
780	799
Petition of officers of the schooner Diligent, -	28, Order for supplies for General Washington, -
780	799
20, Petition of John Frazier, late commander of	29, Petition of James Dargie, - - - - -
the prize ship Susanna, - - - - -	800
781	30, Order for discharge of Constant Church, an
20, Orders to Colonel Mitchell to take command	Indian, - - - - -
of five companies of sea-coast men, - - -	800
781	Order for supplies for the sloop Machias Liberty,
20, Petition of Lyonel Bradstreet, late commander	under the command of Jeremiah O'Brien, -
of the ship Nolly Frigate, taken by the Han-	800
cock and Franklin privateers, - - - - -	Oct. 1, Order for supplies for Captain Williams, of the
782	sloop Republick, and Captain Clouston, of
Petition of George Ashburn, late Master of the	the sloop Freedom, - - - - -
prize ship Isaac, - - - - -	801
782	1, Commission ordered for William Le Craw, as
20, Instructions to Captain John Clouston, of the	commander of the schooner Necessity, -
sloop Freedom, - - - - -	801
782	-, Memorial of the town of Spencer: Tories in
19, Petition of Thomas Buckmore, of Concord,	the County of Worcester have frequent meet-
Armourer, - - - - -	ings in large bodies, - - - - -
783	801
12, Petition of William Jenkins, of the city of Bris-	-, Petition of Joseph Thompson, of Medford,
tol, in England, - - - - -	to be restored to the enjoyment of his estate, -
783	802
22, Petition of Robert Brown and John Moon, late	5, Petition of David Griffin, of Sheffield, in the
of the prize ship Rachel, taken by the Ty-	County of Berkshire, - - - - -
rannicide, - - - - -	802
784	-, Petition of Committee of Medford, respecting
24, Memorial of Committee of Safety for the	the property of Sir William Pepperell, an
County of Sunbury, in Nova-Scotia, - -	absentee, - - - - -
785	802
18, Petition of William Pascall, late of the prize	Petition of Susannah Leech, - - - - -
ship Anna Maria, taken by the sloop Revenge, -	803
786	Commission ordered for Edward Rowland, as
18, Petition of Adam High and Thomas Lemmon,	commander of the schooner Sturdy Beggar, -
of the prize ship Anna Maria, - - - - -	803
786	3, Order of Council respecting prisoners, - -
Commission issued to Joseph Cunningham, as	803
commander of the sloop Phoenix, - - - - -	3, Order for delivering guns to Captain McNeil,
787	804
Commission issued to Ebenezer Peirce, as com-	Elias Smith commissioned as commander of
mander of the sloop Liberty, - - - - -	the brigantine Washington, - - - - -
787	804
23, Petition of Peter Goulay, carpenter on the ship	Sept. 30, John Wheelwright commissioned as com-
Anna Maria, - - - - -	mander of the brigantine Reprisal, - -
787	804
Petition of Daniel Donnavan, George Bates,	Oct. 3, Payment of £14 to Captain John Clouston for
and Mark Sedden, - - - - -	one month's advance wages to the crew of
788	the sloop Freedom, - - - - -
18, Petition of John Beardwell Barnard, of the	805
prize ship Pecary, - - - - -	4, Memorial of Thomas Cushing, agent for build-
788	ing the Continental frigates, - - - - -
Petition of John Emmes, of the prize ship	805
Creighton, taken by the Yankee privateer, -	4, Order respecting the three regiments for defence
788	of Massachusetts, - - - - -
Petition of John Brown, of the prize ship Earl	805
of Erroll, taken by two privateers from New-	4, Petition of Ebenezer Porter for permission to
York, - - - - -	remove from Nova-Scotia to Salem, - -
789	806
Resolve for delivering gunpowder to John	Petition of Nathan Utley and others, - -
Rowe for the Phoenix, - - - - -	806
789	Petition of Richard Valpy, - - - - -
20, Petition of John Stalker, mariner on board the	807
prize ship Anna Maria, - - - - -	4, Ebenezer Porter, Nathan Utley, Richard Valpy,
789	and others, permitted to bring their families
Commission issued to William Browne, as	and effects from Nova-Scotia to Massachu-
commander of the Boston, - - - - -	setts, - - - - -
790	807
Form of bond given by agent for captures, -	5, Orders to Commanders of the State vessels of
790	war, - - - - -
Petition of Hugh Walker, Archibald Bog, and	808
Robert Park, taken in prize ships, - - -	4, Memorial of John Anderson, of the River St.
790	John's, in Nova-Scotia, - - - - -
25, Order for procuring cannon for the ship Boston,	808
William Nickols commissioned as commander	
of the schooner Independence, - - - - -	
791	
Petition of Charles Reid, taken in a prize ship,	
791	
Petition of Alexander Tough and Thomas Ma-	
hony, taken in a prize ship, - - - - -	
792	

CORRESPONDENCE, PROCEEDINGS, &c.

1776.	
Oct. 1, Address of the Earl of Abingdon to the Mayor	
and Corporation of the borough of Walling-	
ford, England, - - - - -	807

1776.	
Oct. 1, Letter from Silas Deane to the Secret Committee, - - - - -	809
1, Reward offered by the Insurers of London to seamen for recaptures, - - - - -	811
Speech of the Governour of Barbadoes to the Council and Assembly of the Island, at the opening of the new session in September, - - - - -	812
1, Reply of the Assembly, - - - - -	813
The sentiments of the several companies of Militia and Freeholders of Augusta, in Virginia, communicated by the Deputies from the said companies and freeholders to their Representatives in the General Assembly of the Commonwealth, - - - - -	815
Strictures on the above, by a Member of the Established Church, (note,) - - - - -	815
1, Letter from Thomas Hughes to Maryland Convention: A company of volunteers raised and officered, - - - - -	817
1, Letter from Dr. Weisenthall to Maryland Council of Safety: Report of his examination of the saltpetre earths on the south bank of the Potomack, - - - - -	817
1, Letter from Jesse Hollingsworth to Maryland Council of Safety, - - - - -	818
1, Letter from Lux and Bowley to Maryland Council of Safety, - - - - -	818
1, Intelligence communicated by Thomas Story to the Committee of Secret Correspondence, which they agree that it is their indispensable duty to keep secret even from Congress, - - - - -	818
1, Letter from Committee of Secret Correspondence to Silas Deane, - - - - -	819
1, Letter from the Committee of Secret Correspondence to William Bingham, - - - - -	822
1, Letter from Benjamin Franklin to C. W. F. Dumas: Acknowledging receipt of two packets, - - - - -	823
1, Letter from Marine Committee to Lieutenant Albertson: Sailing orders, - - - - -	823
1, Letter from Robert Morris to Maryland Council of Safety: Reasons for not complying with their request for canvas, - - - - -	823
1, Armed vessel fitting out in Philadelphia, to be called the Parry, - - - - -	824
1, Letter from Colonel Z. Butler to Roger Sherman: The Indians are disposed for peace, and think it necessary that Westmoreland be appointed to hold their Council at, - - - - -	824
A Conference held at Wyoming, or Westmoreland, between Captain John, in behalf of the Six Nations, and Colonel Butler, of the Colony of Connecticut, - - - - -	825
1, General Howe's orders for seizing grain, &c., on Long-Island, New-York, - - - - -	825
1, Letter from Mrs. De Lancey to General Washington: Requests permission for herself and daughter to return to her home in Westchester, - - - - -	894
1, Letter from General Washington to Governour Trumbull, - - - - -	826
1, Letter from Colonel Reed to the Committee of Congress at Head-Quarters to inquire into the state of the Army: Wishes to resign the office of Adjutant-General, - - - - -	826
1, Letter from Colonel Grayson to General Heath: Communicating General Washington's approval of sentences of Court-Martial on James McCormick and others, - - - - -	827
1, Letter from Colonel Reed to General Heath: Requests McCormick to be ordered down under guard, for execution, - - - - -	827
1, Letter from Colonel Reed to General Heath: Fears his letter of this morning has miscarried; repeats the direction respecting McCormick, - - - - -	827
1, Letter from Tench Tilghman to William Duer: Acquaints him that a frigate came through Hell-Gate last night, and anchored within the mouth of Harlem river: General Lee looked for every day, - - - - -	828
1, Letter from General Heath to General Saltonstall: Begs him to hurry his Militia forward, as they are wanted immediately, - - - - -	828
1, Letter from General Saltonstall to General Heath, - - - - -	828

1776.	
Oct. 1, Letter from General Scott to General Gates: Recommends to his particular attention Monsieur Sennalet, a young gentleman from the French Islands, - - - - -	829
1, Letter from Joseph Trumbull to the President of Congress: Has drawn for sixty thousand dollars in favour of Colonel Lowry, - - - - -	829
1, Letter from the Committee of Safety for Westchester County to the Commanding Officer at Mount Washington: Informing that several companies in Westchester and Dutchess are making ready to go off and join the King's Army, - - - - -	829
1, Letter from Colonel Webb to General Heath: Strictest guard to be kept, to prevent desertions, - - - - -	829
1, Letter from William Miller to Captain Osborne: Relative to conspiracies among some persons upon Cortlandt's Manor, - - - - -	829
An account of ball and flints delivered by P. T. Curtenius, before Mr. Norwood's appointment, - - - - -	830
Letter from John Simpson and others, prisoners on parole, to New-York Convention: Application for subsistence, - - - - -	830
1, Petition of prisoners confined in Morristown jail, - - - - -	830
1, Letter of Committee of Shawangunk to New-York Convention, - - - - -	831
Letter from Lieutenant Alger to New-York Convention: Requests the command of a company of Marines on board the ship Montgomery, - - - - -	831
1, Letter from General James Clinton to General Washington: Butter seized on suspicion of being meant for the enemy, - - - - -	832
1, Letter from General Schuyler to General Washington: Commending to his notice two Cayuga Sachems, - - - - -	832
1, Letter from General Schuyler to General Gates: It is probable that a blow is meditated on Fort George. Has had no answer to any letter to Congress since July, - - - - -	833
1, Letter from Colonel De Hart to Governour Livingston: Advises that measures be adopted to prevent the Province being deprived of six or seven hundred good Jersey arms, the very best guns on the Continent, - - - - -	833
1, Letter from Colonel Hartley to General Gates: General Arnold seems very uneasy that the galleys do not come down, as he every moment expects the enemy, - - - - -	834
1, Letter from General Arnold to General Gates: Hopes to be excused, after the requisitions so often made, if with five hundred men, half naked, he should not be able to beat the enemy with seven thousand men, well clothed, and a naval force near equal to his, - - - - -	834
Examination of Sergeant Stiles, sent on a scout to Isle-aux-Noix, October 1, - - - - -	835
Memorandum of articles which have been repeatedly wrote for by General Arnold, and which he is in the extremest want of, October 1, - - - - -	836
1, Letter from Colonel Barrett to General Gates, - - - - -	835
1, Letter from Joseph Hawley to General Gates: Suggesting the necessity of timely provision of snow-shoes for the Northern Army, - - - - -	836
1, Letter from Governour Trumbull to Massachusetts Council: Application for one ton of sulphur, - - - - -	836
1, Letter from Nathaniel Shaw to General Washington: Sends nine markees and ninety-seven common tents, in addition to seventy-two shipped the 29th ultimo, - - - - -	836
1, Letter from Stephen Hopkins to John Adams: Intercedes for the release of a strange group of about fourteen prisoners, confined in Somerset County, in the Jerseys, - - - - -	837
1, Petition of Jeremiah O'Brien, in behalf of himself and crew of the sloop Machias Liberty, - - - - -	800
1, Petition of Joshua Orne, of Marblehead, for a commission for the armed schooner Necessity, - - - - -	801
1, Letter from Commodore Hopkins to Rev. Samuel Hopkins: He did not enter into the Navy as a divine, and is not qualified to act nor give directions concerning the morals of the people belonging to the Navy; desires to have a chaplain but has not been able to get one, - - - - -	837

1776.	Letter from John Avery to President of Congress, - - - - -	837	1776.	Oct. 3, Letter from the President of Congress to Joseph Trumbull, - - - - -	851
Oct. 1,	Extract of a letter received in London, dated Halifax, Nova-Scotia: Captures made by the American privateers, - - - - -	837	3,	Letter from Committee of Secret Correspondence to William Hodge, Jun.: Directing him to buy and man a frigate in France, to cruise in the English Channel, - - - - -	851
2,	Letter from Maryland Council of Safety to Colonel Smallwood: Are desirous of having a particular account of the troops under his command, - - - - -	838	3,	Letter from Committee of Secret Correspondence to William Hodge, Jun., bearer of despatches to Mr. Deane, - - - - -	852
2,	Letter from Maryland Council of Safety to Colonel Hughes, - - - - -	838	3,	Report of Committee sent to the camp near New-York, - - - - -	1385
2,	Letter from Maryland Council of Safety to Messrs. Cravath and Dugan: They wish to purchase the schooner Ninety-Two, - - - - -	838	3,	Letter from Marine Committee to Messrs. Hewes and Smith: Desire them to ship one hundred barrels coal tar, two tons tallow in barrels, and twelve barrels rosin, for the use of the Navy, - - - - -	853
2,	Letter from the President of Congress to the Assemblies of the southern States: Urging the importance of a full representation in Congress, - - - - -	838	3,	Letter from Governor Livingston to the President of Congress: Representing state of prisoners in Somerset gaol, who are in a deplorable condition for want of clothes, - - - - -	853
2,	Letter from the President of Congress to the Assemblies of the northern States, - - - - -	839	3,	Letter from Colonel Grayson to General Heath: Desires him to make himself entirely acquainted with the grounds where there is any probability the enemy will make an impression, - - - - -	853
2,	Letter from the President of Congress to General Washington, - - - - -	839	3,	Letter from Colonel Grayson to General Heath: It is of the last importance for him and his officers to be well acquainted with the grounds leading from places where the enemy may land to his several posts, - - - - -	854
2,	Letter from Committee of Secret Correspondence to Silas Deane: Transmitting a treaty of commerce and alliance with France, and other important papers, - - - - -	839	3,	Letter from Colonel Putnam to General Washington: Enclosing a plan for establishing a corps of Engineers, Artificers, &c., - - - - -	892
2,	Letter from Cæsar Rodney to Thomas Rodney: Mr. Moylan has resigned his commission of Quartermaster-General, as unable to conduct the business of so many troops. General Mifflin has accepted the office, - - - - -	840	3,	Letter from Tench Tilghman to Egbert Benson: Is sorry that the Convention do not think themselves legally authorized to make examples of those villains they have apprehended; the General is determined if he can bring some of them in his hands under the denomination of spies, to execute them, - - - - -	854
2,	Advertisement for volunteers for the floating battery, in the Delaware river, - - - - -	841	3,	Extract of a letter from Harlem: The corn, hay, &c., which lay on Harlem Plains was brought off yesterday in sight of the enemy: five French officers came to the camp this week, - - - - -	855
2,	Letter from General Washington to the President of Congress, - - - - -	841	3,	Letter from General Heath to Colonel Chester: Disposition of troops to be observed in case the enemy make an attack, - - - - -	855
	General Orders: Head-Quarters, at Harlem Heights, October 1 to 4, - - - - -	842	3,	Letter from General James Clinton to New-York Convention: Stoppages for expenses of taking up thirteen men in Captain Johnson's company, - - - - -	856
2,	Letter from General Heath to General Saltonstall, Letter from Colonel Reed to General Heath: Desires him to make the witnesses attend in the affair of Scott and Weimer, who will probably escape, as by one means or other all such rascals do. The Captain who suffered McCormick to escape to be put under close arrest and tried immediately, - - - - -	844	3,	Letter from William McKerman to Richard Peters, - - - - -	857
2,	Letter from General Heath to Major Backus: Information having been received that several companies are forming to join General Howe, guards and sentinels must be very alert, - - - - -	845	3,	Letter from General Schuyler to the President of Congress: If Congress has not determined that he never should be honoured with a line from them, he shall hope one acknowledging the receipt of his of this day; he has ordered the express to wait one day for an answer, and then to return, - - - - -	857
2,	Letter from Ezra Thompson to New-York Convention: Report of his attendance at the mines, - - - - -	845		Return of officers of Colonel Nicholson's Regiment, April 15, - - - - -	857
2,	Letter from Evert Bancker to John M. Hobart: Desires him to supply Captain Rogers with as much money as may be necessary to fit out the privateer Montgomerie, - - - - -	845	3,	Letter from General Schuyler to the President of Congress, - - - - -	858
2,	Letter from Evert Bancker to the New-York Marine Committee: Captain Rogers's men are unwilling to proceed on their cruise till the wages due them are paid, - - - - -	846	3,	Letter from General Schuyler to General Gates, - - - - -	859
	Instructions to Captain William Rogers, - - - - -	846	3,	Letter from Colonel Cortlandt to General Gates: Asks leave of absence for six or seven days, - - - - -	860
2,	Letter from General Schuyler to Governor Trumbull: The line of conduct which Congress held with him will put it out of his power to continue in any publick office where the appointment must come immediately from them, - - - - -	846	3,	Letter from General Gates to General Arnold: Takes it for granted he will consult with General Waterbury and Colonel Wigglesworth, and with them determine when it is the proper season to retire up the Lake, - - - - -	861
2,	Letter from General Gates to General Arnold, - - - - -	847	3,	Letter from Governor Trumbull to Commodore Hopkins, - - - - -	861
2,	Letter from Governor Trumbull to General Washington: Hopes the State will in a proper manner discover their resentments against the deserters. Asks his advice in appointing officers for the new Army, - - - - -	847	3,	Letter from Philip Skene to Governor Trumbull, - - - - -	861
2,	Connecticut Council of Safety, - - - - -	848	3,	Letter from General Ward to General Washington: Requesting him to forward such receipts as are necessary for settlement of accounts for purchasing arms, - - - - -	861
2,	Letter from John L. C. Roome to Governor Trumbull: Asks the liberty of waiting on him, either on parole or with such person as may be thought proper, - - - - -	849		Memorandum of moneys paid to purchase arms, - - - - -	862
2,	Extract of a letter from Boston to a gentleman in London: Arrival of a French ship with sixty-two guns sent out by Silas Deane, - - - - -	849	3,	Letter from Richard Derby to Massachusetts Council: Arrival of Captain Souther with a prize, having on board a captain and twenty privates of the Sixteenth Regiment of Dragoons, with their horses and accoutrements, - - - - -	943
3,	Letter from Silas Deane to C. W. F. Dumas: Has obtained a method of sounding the sentiments of the King of Prussia, which, voluntarily offering, he has accepted, - - - - -	849			
3,	Letter from William Aylett, Deputy Commissary-General, to John Adams: On the business of his office, - - - - -	850			

1776.		1776.	
Oct. 3, Letter from Massachusetts Council to General Washington: Transmitting copy of a letter from Richard Derby, - - - - -	943	Oct. 4, Return of Field Officers in General Wadsworth's Brigade, - - - - -	878
3, Letter from Massachusetts Council to Richard Derby, - - - - -	943	4, Return of officers in Colonel Haller's Battalion, - - - - -	878
3, Prize sent into Boston by Captain Whipple, - - - - -	863	4, Return of officers in Colonel Brodhead's Rifle Regiment, - - - - -	878
4, Letter from Robert Gordon (dated Cork, Ireland) to Thomas White: Intelligence of American privateers, - - - - -	863	4, Return of officers in Colonel Selden's Regiment, that are now in camp, - - - - -	879
4, Letter from Captain Cooke to Maryland Council of Safety: Has taken two prizes; list of vessels stationed off St. Augustine, and Coxspur in Georgia, - - - - -	863	4, Return of officers in Colonel Magaw's Battalion, - - - - -	879
4, Letter from the President of Congress to General Washington, - - - - -	864	4, Return of officers of First Battalion Pennsylvania Rifle Regiment, - - - - -	879
4, Letter from the President of Congress to General Schuyler: The Congress have fully expressed their sense of his past conduct, and their determination to do his character that justice which he has a right to expect from them; at the same time they cannot give their consent to his retiring from the Army in its present situation, - - - - -	864	4, Return of officers of late Colonel Selden's Regiment, - - - - -	880
4, Letter from the Marine Committee to William Bingham, - - - - -	864	4, List of officers in camp of Colonel William Douglas's Regiment, - - - - -	880
4, Letter from John Adams to Mrs. Adams: The proceedings of the late Convention of Pennsylvania are not well liked by the best of the Whigs, - - - - -	864	4, Return of officers that are absent in Colonel Smith's Regiment, - - - - -	880
Brutus to the People of Pennsylvania: On the oath prescribed by the new Constitution, (note,) - - - - -	864	4, Return of Colonel Cadwallader's officers, - - - - -	880
A Friend to Truth and the People to Brutus, (note,) - - - - -	865	4, Return of officers in Colonel William Prescott's Regiment, - - - - -	881
4, Observations on Finance, by Pelatiah Webster, Act of New-Jersey to punish Traitors and disaffected persons, - - - - -	434	4, Return of officers in the Second Battalion of General Scott's Brigade, - - - - -	1060
4, Extract of a letter from Head-Quarters at Bergen: To-morrow they evacuate Bergen, a measure which will first be condemned, and afterwards approved of, - - - - -	867	4, Return of officers in the Regiment late Colonel M'Dougall's, - - - - -	1060
4, Letter from General Howe to General Washington: It rests with him to see the agreement between Captain Forster and General Arnold fulfilled, or to return the prisoners given up by Captain Forster, - - - - -	893	4, Return of officers in Colonel Ritzema's Battalion, - - - - -	1060
4, Letter from General Washington to the President of Congress: On the measures necessary to be pursued in the formation of the new Army, - - - - -	867	4, Return of officers in Colonel Smallwood's Battalion, - - - - -	1060
4, Letter from General Washington to General Schuyler, - - - - -	869	4, Letter from Colonel Haslet to Thomas Rodney: Account of the battle of Long-Island, August 27, - - - - -	881
4, Letter from Colonel Harrison to General Heath, - - - - -	869	4, Proceedings of a Court-Martial held at Mount Washington, for the trial of Mr. Champney, Wagonmaster-General, - - - - -	882
4, Letter from Colonel Reed to General Heath, - - - - -	869	4, Letter from General Heath to Captain Stewart: Directing him to arrest Justice Palmer, Mr. Read, and Mr. Underhill, and deliver them to the Convention of New-York, - - - - -	882
4, Letter from Tench Tilghman to William Duer: Greene is, beyond a doubt, a first rate military genius, and one in whose opinions the General places the utmost confidence, - - - - -	870	4, Proceedings of a General Court-Martial held in General Heath's division: Trial of Ensign Benjamin Snow, - - - - -	883
4, Returns of officers in Colonel Chester's Regiment, - - - - -	870	4, Notification to call a Town-Meeting at New-Marlborough, Cumberland County, New-York, - - - - -	883
4, List of commissioned officers in Colonel Newcomb's Regiment, - - - - -	871	4, Letter from William Miller to Captain Osborne: Has received an urgent order for the detection of conspirators, and is empowered to call out any part of the Militia to his assistance, - - - - -	883
4, List of the names of the officers in Colonel Nicoll's Regiment, - - - - -	871	4, Letter from New-York Convention to the President of Congress: Return thanks for one hundred thousand dollars advanced to the State, - - - - -	884
4, True state of the officers in Colonel Swartwout's Regiment, - - - - -	871	4, Letter from Colonel Seth Warner to the President of Congress: Entreats that there may be no longer delay in settling his accounts, - - - - -	884
4, Return of officers in Colonel Tyler's Regiment, - - - - -	872	4, Letter from General Gates to General Schuyler: No good reason can retard the immediate march of Colonel Dayton's Regiment to Fort George, - - - - -	885
4, Officers in Colonel Graham's Regiment fit for duty, - - - - -	872	4, Letter from General Gates to John Carter: Again requests the Commissioners of Publick Accounts to come to Ticonderoga; if that request is not complied with, he shall be under the necessity of acquainting Congress that their order is wanting to bring them there, - - - - -	885
4, List of officers in Colonel Thomas Thomas's Regiment, - - - - -	872	4, Reuben Plum published by the Middletown (Connecticut) Committee as an enemy to the United States, - - - - -	885
4, Return of officers in Colonel Cunningham's Regiment, - - - - -	873	4, Richard Miller, who had taken a commission under General Howe, shot on Long-Island; prize ship from Jamaica sent into port, - - - - -	886
4, List of officers in Colonel Andrew Ward's Regiment, - - - - -	873	4, Letter from Massachusetts Council to General Ward: Have given directions to replace the cannon on Dorchester Heights: the three regiments raised for the defence of the State put under his direction, - - - - -	886
4, Return of officers in Colonel Paul D. Sargent's Regiment, - - - - -	874	5, Letter from Maryland Council of Safety to Jesse Hollingsworth: Desire him to purchase as soon as possible, on account of the Province, nine hundred barrels of superfine flour, and twenty hogsheads of tobacco, - - - - -	886
4, Colonel Lasher's list of officers, - - - - -	875	5, Letter from Maryland Council of Safety to Messrs. Lux and Bowley: On contracting to make cordage for the armed vessels, - - - - -	887
4, Colonel Hardenberg's list of officers, - - - - -	875	5, Petition of a majority of Captain Richard Chew's company of Militia to the Convention of Maryland, - - - - -	887
4, Return of names of officers in Colonel Samuel Wylls's Regiment, - - - - -	876		
4, Return of officers in Colonel Jonathan Ward's Regiment, - - - - -	876		
4, Return of officers in Colonel Huntington's Regiment, - - - - -	877		
4, Return of the officers in Colonel Forman's Battalion, - - - - -	877		

1776.	
Oct. 5, Letter from General Thompson to General Washington: The wants of the prisoners being many he procured them credit with Mr. Truman, at Quebec, and for the payment of which he has made himself liable, -	888
5, General Lee daily expected at Philadelphia from the southward, -	888
5, Philadelphia Committee: Allotment of salt to the townships of Philadelphia County, -	888
5, Letter from General Washington to Governour Henry: Retreat from Long-Island and New-York; evils of short enlistments; recommends row-galleys for defence; urges care in the appointment of officers, -	888
5, Letter from General Washington to the President of Congress: Could wish them to reconsider their refusal to recognize the agreement between Captain Forster and General Arnold, and to carry it into execution: Recommends the establishment of a Board of Engineers: It has become absolutely necessary that Congress should determine the mode by which promotions are regulated, -	892
5, Letter from General Washington to General James Clinton: Advises that the butter taken from Mr. Conner be sent to the Commissary-General, who will pay the current price, -	894
5, Letter from General Washington to Governour Livingston: Wishes an exact return of the British prisoners in New-Jersey, -	894
5, Letter from Colonel Reed to General Beall: Requests a reconsideration by the Court-Martial of the decision in the case of Captain Weisner, -	895
6, Letter from General Beall to Colonel Reed: The Court with surprise and concern considered the remarks of his Excellency on the opinion in the trial of Captain Weisner; they conceive the judgment they have given in the case consistent with their duty as officers and the rules for the government of the Army, -	895
5, Letter from Tench Tilghman to William Duer: The enemy this morning sent a small party over and took possession of Harlem, -	896
5, Extract of a letter from Colonel John Haslet to General Cæsar Rodney: Suggests that he cannot lay out a part of his ample fortune to more noble purposes than in serving his country, -	896
5, Letter from General Heath to Captain Pain, directing him to apprehend Samuel Smith, and convey him to King's Bridge for examination, -	896
5, Return of the officers present and absent of the First Regiment of Foot, commanded by Colonel Edward Hand, -	897
5, Return of the Field Officers of the Maryland Flying-Camp, -	897
5, Return of the Field Officers absent and present of the regiment stationed at De Lancey's Mills, under the command of Colonel Hand, -	897
5, Return of the officers of the Delaware Regiment, -	898
5, Return of the Field Officers in the Pennsylvania Battlions encamped near Head-Quarters, -	898
5, Return of officers fit for duty in Colonel Martin's Regiment, -	899
5, Return of officers of Colonel Richardson's Regiment, -	900
5, List of the officers belonging to Colonel Phillips's Battalion of Jersey Levies, -	900
5, Duty return of General Wadsworth's Brigade, -	901
5, Return of Field Officers of First Virginia Regiment, -	901
5, List of the Field Officers in General Heard's Brigade, -	901
5, Return of the names of the officers in the Twenty-Seventh Regiment, commanded by Colonel Israel Hutchinson, -	901
5, List of the names of the Field Officers in General Fellows's Brigade, -	902
5, Return of the names of the officers in the late Colonel Gay's Regiment, -	902
5, Return of officers in Colonel Ewing's Battalion of Maryland Forces, raised for the Flying-Camp, -	903

1776.	
Oct. 5, Return of the absent officers in the Tenth Regiment, under the command of Samuel Prentice, -	903
5, List of the names of the officers in Colonel Sage's Regiment, in camp, -	904
5, Return of officers in Colonel Silliman's Regiment, -	904
5, Return of officers that are absent in Colonel Jonathan Smith's Regiment, -	904
5, Return of the commissioned officers in the Twenty-First Regiment who are absent, -	905
5, List of the officers' names absent belonging to Colonel William Douglass's Regiment, -	905
5, Companies in the regiment of Artillery commanded by Henry Knox, -	905
5, Return of officers of the First Virginia Regiment, commanded by James Read, -	906
5, Return of officers in Colonel Samuel Drake's Regiment, fit and unfit for duty, -	906
5, Return of officers in Colonel Varnum's Regiment, -	1061
5, Weekly return of the regiments of Horse and Foot in the service of the United States of America, under the immediate command of General Washington, -	907
5, Return of a regiment of Artillery, commanded by Colonel Knox, -	909
5, Return of two brigades of Militia from Connecticut and Rhode-Island, -	909
5, Letter from General Schuyler to General Gates: It seems hard that Congress should have gone into an inquiry in the affairs of Canada without giving him notice. The exculpatory resolve in favour of General Wooster, and total silence with respect to himself, must indicate to the publick that he is culpable, -	909
5, Letter from Samuel Mabbett to the New-York Convention: Begs to be permitted to keep two hundred and fifty bushel of salt for salting beef and pork, -	911
5, Letter from Colonel Easton to the President of Congress: Earnestly prays that the Commissioners from Congress may be fully authorized to settle the accounts laid before them: a general complaint among officers of all ranks as well as soldiers is heard against General Arnold, and it is hoped he will ere long meet the just demerit of his deeds, -	911
5, Letter from Tryon County Committee to Messrs. Parris, Moore, and others: Are under absolute necessity for money, -	911
5, Letter from Governour Trumbull to General Gates: Asks to be furnished with the names of such officers in the Northern Army as are willing to serve in the new Army, and are fit for the service, -	912
5, Letter from Benjamin Paine to Governour Trumbull, -	912
5, Letter from Governour Cooke to General Washington: It has been concluded to stop the march of Colonel Richardson's battalion, and to permit such of the men as should incline to enlist in the Continental navy, -	913
5, Letter from Commodore Hopkins to Governour Trumbull: The Alfred and Hamden are ready; the two new frigates will be ready in about a week, if they can be manned, -	913
5, Letter from Commodore Hopkins to John Bradford: Empowers him to act as agent till further orders, -	914
5, Letter from Massachusetts Council to General Washington: Seven of the Penobscot tribe of Indians have enlisted for one year; have not as yet any certain intelligence whether any can be depended upon from the St. John's or the Mickmacks tribe, -	914
5, Letter from a gentleman in Boston to his friend in the country: A few thoughts on the late conference between Lord Howe and a Committee of the Continental Congress, -	914
5, Arrival of a vessel at Portsmouth from Bordeaux: Informs that the French custom-house officers permitted the American vessels to pass without examination, while the English vessels were all searched, -	916
6, Letter from Silas Deane to C. W. F. Dumas, -	916

1776.

- Oct. 6, Extract of a letter from Bilboa: An order has been obtained by which all American vessels are allowed to enter the Spanish ports without distinction, whether privateers or merchantmen, - - - - - 917
- 6, Letter from General Lewis to the President of Congress, - - - - - 918
- 6, Letter from Colonel Patterson to Cæsar Rodney, - - - - - 918
- 6, Letter from General Washington to General Howe: Congress, to whom he is amenable, have taken upon themselves the consideration of the agreement between General Arnold and Captain Forster, - - - - - 919
- 6, Letter from Colonel Webb to General Heath: Boats were moving up the Sound the most of the night, - - - - - 919
- 6, Letter from General Scott to General Heath: Has received the order of battle; thinks he ought to take the right, as he knows of but two Brigadiers in the Army, Stirling and Mifflin, that rank before him, - - - - - 919
- 6, Letter from Tench Tilghman to William Duer: The enemy did not give the trouble of removing them from Harlem last evening: they went off themselves. The American troops have evacuated Bergen, - - - - - 920
- 6, Letter from Joseph Trumbull to the President of Congress: As to salt and salted provisions he shall immediately take effectual care; the only danger he apprehends is for want of salt, - - - - - 920
- 6, Letter from Captain Cluggage to Colonel Hand: Resigns his commission of eldest Captain, on account of the promotion of a junior officer over his head to the rank of Major, - - - - - 921
- 6, Extract of a letter from John Jay to Gouverneur Morris: Plan of defence he would have pursued had he been vested with absolute power, - - - - - 921
- 6, Letter from General Schuyler to the President of Congress: Thinks it extremely extra-judicial to determine on his conduct as an officer, without giving him an opportunity of defending himself, - - - - - 921
- 6, Letter from General Schuyler to General Washington: He does not apprehend that the enemy will be able to do any thing of consequence to the northward, unless they should suspend their operations until inlistments of the troops expire, - - - - - 922
- 6, Letter from General Schuyler to General Gates: Is happy to find that he is so well supplied with provisions, - - - - - 923
- 6, Letter from Dr. Stringer to General Gates: Has met with the greatest success in procuring medicines, - - - - - 923
- 6, Letter from Christopher Yates to General Gates, Letter from Henry J. Van Rensselaer to General Gates: Resignation of Commissary of Forage, - - - - - 924
- 6, Letter of Joseph Hawley to General Gates: The country are made vastly uneasy at being informed that there is scarce any medicines for the sick, and that it is rare that any rations are dealt out to the privates but meat and bread, or any money paid in lieu of the other articles; he has between fifty and sixty pair of snow-shoes, - - - - - 924
- 6, Letter from General Ward to General Washington, enclosing an account of plaids and military stores in the possession of John Bradford, agent for Continental prizes, - - - - - 924
- 7, Letter from the Prime Minister of Spain to the Commissary of Marine: Directing him immediately to put Captain Lee at full liberty, returning him all his papers, and permitting him to purchase what provisions and goods he needs to return to America, but without assisting him in any prohibited articles, - - - - - 918
- 7, Letter from General Armstrong to the President of Congress: Is on his way to the northward; the English shipping which lay at Cape Fear are entirely gone off, having first burnt three vessels unfit for service, - - - - - 925
- 7, Letter from Colonel Hawkins to Maryland Council of Safety: Is under the necessity of informing of the misbehaviour of the Twelfth Battalion, - - - - - 925
- 7, Proceedings of Baltimore Committee, - - - - - 925

1776.

- Oct. 7, Letter from Committee of Congress to New-York Convention: Send ten thousand dollars for the purchase of soldiers' clothes, - - - - - 925
- 7, Letter from Committee of Congress to New-York Convention: Send them the hundred thousand dollars voted to the State by Congress, - - - - - 926
- 7, Account of the cruise of an American sloop-of-war, - - - - - 926
- 7, Letter from General Washington to the President of Congress: Is under no small difficulty on account of the French gentlemen, having no means to employ them, - - - - - 927
- Letter from General Washington to the Governor-General of the French part of St. Domingo, October 7: Has ordered the immediate release of Monsieur Dechambault, - - - - - 928
- 7, Proceedings of a Court-Martial of the Line held on the Heights of Haerlem by order of General Washington, - - - - - 929
- 7, Proceedings of a Court-Martial held by adjournment, by order of General Heath, - - - - - 930
- 7, Letter from Tench Tilghman to William Duer: Anchors and cable will be wanting to moor the boats in order to throw a bridge over Harlem river, - - - - - 931
- 7, Letter from John Field to New-York Convention: The raising a company of Rangers, or County guards, in the southern part of Dutchess County is very necessary, - - - - - 931
- 7, Letter from New-York Convention to Albany Committee: Request them to apply for the use of the stove in the Presbyterian church, with the pipes and fixtures: they will either return the same or order another to be cast with all despatch, - - - - - 931
- 7, Letter from General Schuyler to General Washington: All the nails he can procure are insufficient for the works at Tyconderoga, - - - - - 932
- 7, Letter from General Schuyler to Robert Yates, - - - - - 932
- 7, Letter from General Schuyler to New-York Convention, - - - - - 932
- 7, Letter from Samuel Mott to Governor Trumbull: In the Northern Army there are so many sick, and in so many places, it is impossible for the doctors to attend them properly, - - - - - 933
- 7, Letter from General Arnold to General Gates: If the enemy do not make their appearance by the middle of this month, he has thought of returning to Button-Mould Bay: if they attempt crossing the Lake, makes no doubt of giving a good account of them, - - - - - 933
- 7, Letter from Governor Trumbull to General Schuyler: His intention to do nothing prejudicial to the common cause reflects honour upon him, and will be the best defence when every thing is impartially considered, - - - - - 934
- 7, Letter from John Sloss Hobart to New-York Convention: Two hundred Infantry and one hundred Cavalry are at Huntington, in order to force the people to join the British troops; entreats that measures may be taken to induce the people to quit Long-Island, by offering a support to those who cannot maintain themselves, - - - - - 934
- 7, Edward Smith and Lieutenant Daniel Brunday advertised as enemies to America, - - - - - 935
- 7, Arrival of prizes taken by American privateers, - - - - - 935
- 7, The Mate of a London ship informs that the Ministry are so suspicious of plots and conspiracies being laid, that four persons dare not be seen conversing together in London, but they are immediately dispersed, - - - - - 936
- 7, Sutton (Massachusetts) Town Meeting: Can by no means consent that the present House of Representatives and Council should form and ratify a Constitution for the State, - - - - - 936
- 7, Oxford (Massachusetts) Town Meeting: Not willing for the present General Court to enact a Constitution for the State, - - - - - 936
- 8, Letter from Silas Deane to the Secret Committee: The French Court, as well as several others in Europe, expected the United States to announce their independency to them in form, and ask their friendship; but a three months' silence appears to them mysterious, and has more than once come near frustrating his whole endeavours, - - - - - 937

1776.

Oct. 8, Letter from Colonel Gadsden to John Lewis Gervais: Desires him to send down a month's salt provisions and a hogshead of rum as soon as possible, - - - - -	938
Letter from Samuel Boone to Maryland Council of Safety: Has sent seventy-nine gunlocks, and has a quantity more all ready to put together, - - - - -	938
8, Letter from John Adams to Mrs. Adams: The spirit of venality is the most dreadful and alarming enemy America has to oppose: it is as rapacious and insatiable as the grave; this predominant avarice will ruin America, if ever she is ruined. He is surprised with her account of prayers in publick for an abdicated King; it is treason against the State, - - - - -	939
8, Letter from Pennsylvania Council of Safety to Continental Congress: Have appointed a committee to confer with a committee of Congress on the defence of the State in view of the probable approach of a detachment of the British Army, - - - - -	939
8, Meeting of the inhabitants of Carlisle, Pennsylvania: Resolved unanimously, That they will not take the oath directed by the late Convention to be taken at the ensuing election, - - - - -	939
8, "Scipio" to the Freemen of Pennsylvania on the conduct of the late Convention, - - - - -	940
8, Dismission of Colonel Slough's Battalion of Pennsylvania Associators, - - - - -	940
8, Return of the Army in New-Jersey under the command of General Mercer, - - - - -	941
8, Letter from General Washington to the President of Congress, - - - - -	941
Unanimous opinion of the members in camp who sat on the Court-Martial for the trial of Ensign McCumber, that they ought not to assign any reasons for the verdict of that court, October 7, - - - - -	944
General Orders, Head-Quarters, at Harlem Heights, October 5 to 8, - - - - -	944
8, Letter from General Washington to Governour Trumbull: He thinks all the prisoners will have to be returned, but those who wish may afterwards escape, and bring others with them, to which they should be encouraged, - - - - -	947
8, Letter from Charles C. Griffith to Maryland Council of Safety: Recommending Major Adams to be placed among the first in the Continental officers to be appointed from Maryland, - - - - -	947
8, Letter from Tench Tilghman to William Duer: Lord Stirling came on shore yesterday; he confirms the account of the bad blood between the English and Hessian troops, - - - - -	948
8, Proceedings of a General Court-Martial held by adjournment, by order of General Heath, - - - - -	948
8, Petition of a number of Scotch prisoners of war, quartered at Goshen, Orange County, New-York, - - - - -	949
8, Letter from the New-York Convention to General Morris: They expect his immediate attendance on the duties of his department, - - - - -	949
8, Letter from Johannes Slegt to the New-York Convention: Urging them to pass a general resolve respecting the tea within the State, - - - - -	950
8, Letter from John Sloss Hobart to Messrs. Bancker and others: If the Convention mean that the Montgomery should cruise before the chance of prizes is over, a person should be sent immediately with cash sufficient to pay off the arrears, and furnish the needful for another voyage, - - - - -	950
8, Letter from William Coit to Richard Devens, - - - - -	950
8, Certificate relative to Benjamin Wood, slain at Bunker Hill, - - - - -	951
9, Letter from Silas Deane to C. W. F. Dumas: Mr. Carmichael will give him the best intelligence of affairs in America, - - - - -	951
9, Extract of a letter received in London from Lisbon: Advices of prizes taken by American privateers, - - - - -	951
9, Letter from Edward Pendleton to the President of Congress, - - - - -	951
9, Maryland Council of Safety to Jesse Hollingsworth: Have sent him eight hundred pounds to be laid out in the purchase of superfine flour, - - - - -	952

1776.

Oct. 9, Letter from John Scott to Matthew Tilghman: Asking permission to pass some time among his friends in Virginia, - - - - -	952
9, Letter from the President of Congress to General Washington: Congress have made ample provision for the support of both officers and soldiers who shall enter into the service during the war, - - - - -	952
9, Letter from the President of Congress to the Assemblies of the Northern States: Requesting them to appoint committees to repair immediately to the Army, to induce the troops to enlist during the war, and to appoint officers for the same, - - - - -	953
9, Memorial of John Melchior Neff to the Continental Congress, - - - - -	953
9, Letter from Marine Committee to Stephen Hopkins: On the conduct of the Committee at Providence in respect to the cannon cast in Rhode-Island for the use of the Continental frigates, - - - - -	954
9, Letter from Marine Committee to the Committee at Providence, - - - - -	954
9, Orders from Marine Committee to Committee at Providence to deliver cannon for the Raleigh to John Langdon, - - - - -	955
9, Orders from Marine Committee to Nathaniel Falconer to inspect the two frigates lately built at Providence, - - - - -	955
9, Letter from Marine Committee to John Langdon, - - - - -	956
9, Letter from Marine Committee to New-York Convention: Directing their attention to the necessity of securing the frigates building in their State, - - - - -	956
9, Letter from the Board of War to Lancaster (Pennsylvania) Committee, for baggage of Captain Hesketh, prisoner of war, - - - - -	956
9, Men-of-war have left the Savannah river, - - - - -	957
9, Notice of the arrival of General Lee at Philadelphia from the southward, on Monday, the 7th inst., - - - - -	957
"Demophilus" to the People of Pennsylvania, on the Proclamation of Lord and General Howe, - - - - -	957
9, Letter from General Washington to Governour Trumbull: As the present Army is upon the eve of dissolution, every nerve should be exerted to enlist immediately for the new one, - - - - -	957
List of officers now in the Army recommended for appointments in the troops to be raised by the State of Connecticut, - - - - -	959
9, Letter from Tench Tilghman to New-York Committee: Three of the enemy's ships passed through the chevaux-de-frise without the least difficulty, and without damage from the forts, - - - - -	961
9, Letter from Colonel Tilghman to General Heath: To take measures for the protection of the two new ships, - - - - -	962
9, Letter from Colonel Reed to General Heath, - - - - -	962
9, Orders of General Heath to Colonel Sargent, - - - - -	962
9, Note from General Putnam to General Heath, - - - - -	962
9, Letter from Joseph Trumbull to the President of Congress: The salt in the hands of the Continental agents will fall vastly short of what will be necessary, - - - - -	963
9, Letter from Lieutenants Putnam and Cleaves to General Washington: Proceedings on board the galley Independence, - - - - -	963
8, Letter from Samuel Ten Broeck to Colonel Peter R. Livingston: The disaffected begin to be rather more troublesome and daring than formerly, but through proper application don't doubt shall soon be rid of some or the major part of these villains, - - - - -	963
9, Letter from Albany Committee to the New-York Convention: Have procured the stove from the Presbyterian church, - - - - -	964
9, Letter from R. Hughes to Mr. Winslow, - - - - -	964
9, Letter from Colonel Winds to General Gates: Requests permission for his Regiment to march as soon as convenient for New-Jersey, - - - - -	964
9, Letter from Samuel Bird and others to Governour Trumbull: Asking for a number of cannon to fit out a privateer, - - - - -	965

1776.

Oct. 10, Letter from Maryland Council of Safety to Colonel Henry Hollingsworth: Unless he complies in a short time with his contract, or gives satisfactory reasons for the delay, his bond will be put in suit, - - -

965

10, Letter from Conrad Hogmire to Maryland Council of Safety: Resigns his commission on account of his age and bad health, - -

965

10, Letter from Van Bibber and Harrison to Maryland Council of Safety, - - -

965

10, Letter from Jesse Hollingsworth to Maryland Council of Safety, - - -

966

10, Petition of James Clarke and others to the Maryland Council of Safety, - - -

966

10, Letter from James Clarke and Melchior Keener to Maryland Council of Safety, - - -

966

10, "Philo-Alethias" on the present state of America, - - -

967

10, Rank of the Captains of the Navy, - - -

1394

10, Letter from Marine Committee to Commodore Hopkins: Directing to proceed on an expedition to the southward, - - -

970

10, Letter from Marine Committee to Henry Tucker and Thomas Godet: Requesting them to load five or six fast-sailing vessels with salt at Bermudas or Turk's Island, - -

970

10, Letter from William Atlee to John Cox: Asks to have his accounts settled as soon as possible, - - -

971

10, Letter from General Lee to the President of Congress: The ridiculous idea, that Lord Howe has some reasonable terms to offer, and that the Congress are desirous of their being communicated to the people, gains ground every day, and does infinite mischief, -

972

10, Letter from General Mercer to the President of Congress: Yesterday twenty-two sail of the enemy's fleet fell down to Sandy-Hook, and this morning stood out to sea an easterly course, - - -

972

10, Letter from Thomas Randall to the New-York Convention, - - -

972

10, Letter from General Washington to General Schuyler: Showed every civility in his power to the two Caughnuaga sachems who visited the camp, - - -

973

10, Letter from Colonel Reed to General Heath, -

973

10, Letter from General Greene to the President of Congress: The sick of the Army are in a most wretched condition, the Surgeons being without the least article of medicine, - -

973

10, Letter from Tench Tilghman to Robert R. Livingston: Two new ships are to be sunk immediately in the North River, to try to hinder the men-of-war already up from coming down, or more going up, - - -

974

10, Letter from John Sloss Hobart to Peter R. Livingston: Sends him Israel Ketchum, manacled, - - -

975

10, Letter from General Scott to the New-York Convention: Thomas Lawrence wishes to visit his family on Long-Island without having his character hereafter subject to doubtful construction, - - -

975

10, Letter from General Heath to Captain Benson: Must get the ships off, and send them down this tide if possible, - - -

975

10, Letter from General George Clinton to New-York Convention, - - -

975

10, Orders of General Heath to Colonel Sargent, -

976

10, Letter from Colonel Sargent to General Heath, -

976

10, Letter from Colonel Cary to General Heath: General Washington wishes him to be well informed on every occasion, and in the speediest manner, of the movements of the enemy up the North River, - - -

976

10, Letter from Colonel Ann Hawkes Hay to the New-York Convention: His regiment consists of only three hundred men, and very near one half of them are without arms, - -

976

10, Letter from Samuel Ten Broeck to New-York Convention: A company of sixty men necessary to suppress the disaffected, who increase daily, and no doubt will strike a blow on the first favourable opportunity, - -

977

10, Letter from Petrus Van Gaasbeck to Peter R. Livingston: Offers to raise and take command of a company to suppress the disaffected, -

977

1776.

Oct. 10, Letter from Peter Schuyler to New-York Committee of Safety: The enemy's ships have passed the chevaux-de-frises, - - -

978

Letter from New-York Committee of Safety to General Washington: Nothing can be more alarming than the present situation of the State; they are daily getting the most authentic intelligence of bodies of men enlisted and armed in order to assist the enemy, -

991

10, Letter from New-York Committee of Safety to Generals Schuyler and Clinton: A Committee specially appointed for the purpose by the Convention, are sitting daily to frustrate the machinations of the disaffected, - -

979

10, Letter from New-York Committee of Safety to Governour Trumbull: Apprehending a union of a body of the enemy with the disaffected, request the Militia of Connecticut may be in readiness to come to their aid on the shortest notice, - - -

979

10, Letter from Comfort Sands to New-York Convention, - - -

979

10, Letter from Hubert Ostrander to Charles de Witt, - - -

980

10, Letter from H. Glen to General Schuyler: Is waiting for information about the Barracks near Schenectady, - - -

980

10, Letter from H. Glen to General Schuyler: Expects Colonel Dayton's Regiment at Schenectady on the 14th, - - -

980

10, Letter from Colonel Hartley to General Gates: Is pleased to hear part of New-York is burnt; hopes to hear the rest of that nest of Tories has shared the same fate, - - -

981

10, Letter from General Arnold to General Gates: Shall do nothing of consequence without consulting General Waterbury and Colonel Wigglesworth. It is an object of the utmost importance to increase the Navy on the Lake, - - -

982

Address of "A Militia-Man" to the Assembly of Connecticut: On the late call for the Militia to march, the rich staid at home, while their poor neighbours were obliged to go, - - -

983

10, Letter from William Bartlett to General Washington, concerning the prizes taken by Commodore Manly, - - -

983

10, Letter from John Bradford to the President of Congress, - - -

984

10, Letter from Benjamin Davis, Junior, to James Bowdoin: Considers himself a prisoner of war, and knows no reason why he is more severely dealt by than others, - - -

984

10, Letter from the Council of Virginia to their Delegates in Congress: There are now ten tons of lead which are ready to be delivered for the use of the Continental Army, - -

986

11, Letter from Thomas Jefferson to the President of Congress: Declines the appointment of Commissioner to France, - - -

987

11, Letter from Edmund Randolph to General Washington: Congratulates him that Colonel Harrison is again restored to the Councils of America, - - -

987

11, Notice of meeting of the General Assembly of Virginia, - - -

988

11, First Company of the Second Georgia Battalion desired to rendezvous at Louisa Court-House by the 15th of November, - - -

988

11, Letter from Maryland Council of Safety to Colonel Bond, - - -

988

11, Letter from William Lux to Maryland Council of Safety: For commission for Captain Handy, appointed commander of the privateer Harlequin, - - -

988

11, Letter from Messrs. Lux & Bowley to Maryland Council of Safety, - - -

989

11, Letter from Richard Henry Lee to Samuel Purviance, Junior: In ranking the Captains of the Continental ships, the Congress have placed Captain Nicholson at the head, - -

989

11, Letter from William Ellery to Governour Cooke, -

989

11, Letter from General Washington to the President of Congress, - - -

990

General Orders, Head-Quarters, at Harlem Heights, October 9 to 12, - - -

991

Recruiting Instructions, October 11, - - -

993

1776.		
Oct. 11,	Letter from General Washington to General Schuyler: Is not able to supply him with a single nail, nor are they to be procured in Philadelphia; for want of them he is building huts of sods, logs, &c.,	994
11,	Letter from Colonel Reed to Mrs. Reed,	994
11,	Letter from General Wadsworth to Governour Trumbull: Great number of sick in his brigade, and has but one Surgeon's mate present. If any hospital stores are procured, begs that Doctor Morgan may not have the least concern with or about them,	995
11,	Letter from Joseph Trumbull to General Gates: The Tory interest is for General Schuyler; Walter Livingston is to be nominal contractor, and Philip Schuyler, Major-General, real contractor,	995
11,	Letter from Ebenezer Hazard to General Gates: The enemy appear rather shy since a drubbing they got some weeks ago; the Hessians and British troops disagree, and are kept entirely separate,	995
11,	Letter from General Greene to Governour Cooke: Without more attention is paid by the different States in the appointment of the officers, the troops never will answer their expectation; there has been some shameful conduct in the Army, owing in a great measure to the bad conduct of the officers,	996
11,	Letter from General James Clinton to New-York Convention: For commissions for the officers in the Second New-York Regiment,	997
11,	Letter from Peter R. Livingston to the New-York Delegates in Congress: Severely disappointed in not receiving the hundred thousand dollars applied for,	998
11,	Letter from Comfort Sands to the President of the New-York Convention,	998
11,	Letter from John Jay to Edward Rutledge: Is clear for indemnifying General Lee; hopes no consideration may excuse General Mifflin from the office of Quartermaster-General; Moylan acted wisely and honestly in resigning,	998
11,	Letter from General Schuyler to Governour Trumbull: Finds by private letters from gentlemen in Congress to their friends that they approve of the step he has taken in resigning,	999
11,	Letter from General Schuyler to General Gates: Dayton has been ordered from the Mohawk to Fort George. Promises that if he is in Congress the commander in the Northern Department shall have more attention than he has himself had,	999
11,	Letter from General Gates to General Schuyler: The fleet under Arnold were well on the 7th instant,	1000
11,	Letter from Colonel Hartley to General Gates: Hopes the works at Crown-Point will not be weakened by taking away the guns they have, or by replacing them with guns which perhaps they might as well do without,	1000
11,	Letter from Governour Trumbull to General Washington: Naval expedition against the ships of the enemy in the Sound is still in contemplation, and preparations making for it as fast as they can,	1001
11,	Connecticut Council of Safety: Consultation concerning the expedition of Colonels Richmond and Livingston to Long-Island,	1002
11,	Letter from Governour Trumbull to Commodore Hopkins,	1002
11,	Memorial of Stonington Committee to Connecticut Assembly,	1003
11,	Petition of the town of Groton to the Connecticut Assembly,	1004
11,	Letter from Commodore Hopkins to Daniel Tillinghast,	1004
11,	Letter from John Avery to E. Thompson: For a number of commissions for commanders of armed vessels,	1005
12,	Letter from South-Carolina Navy-Board to Captain Thomas Pickering,	1323
12,	Letter from John Hanson, Jun., to Maryland Council of Safety,	1005

1776.		
Oct. 12,	Baltimore Committee: Francis Sanderson committed to custody for having spoken words tending to disunite the people in their opposition to Great Britain,	1005
12,	Letter from Captain Hindman to Maryland Council of Safety: The men are much discontented for fear they should be kept the whole winter through,	1006
12,	Pennsylvania Council of Safety: Resolve for the purchase and sale of salt,	1007
12,	Lancaster (Pennsylvania) Committee,	1008
12,	Letter from General Lee to the President of Congress: Urging that ten thousand men be immediately assembled and stationed somewhere about Trenton, for the defence of Philadelphia,	1008
12,	Dismission of Colonel Allison's Battalion of Pennsylvania Associators,	1009
12,	Escape of Captains Coffin and Grennell from Staten-Island,	1009
12,	Letter from General Washington to Governour Cooke: On the necessity of a judicious appointment of officers in the new Army. The enemy have landed at Frog's Point,	1010
12,	Letter from Robert H. Harrison to Colonel Philips,	1010
12,	Letter from Colonel Harrison to General Heath: Orders have been given for all the regiments to be under arms, that they may be ready to act as occasion may require,	1010
12,	Letter from Joseph Trumbull to the President of Congress,	1011
12,	Letter from General Beall to Maryland Council of Safety,	1011
12,	A return of Field Officers fit for duty in General Beall's Brigade,	1011
12,	Letter from Colonel Smallwood to Maryland Convention: Detail of occurrences upon the march to Long-Island, and since that period,	1011
12,	Letter from Robert R. Livingston to General Washington: Recommends sending a regiment with a good Engineer to take possession of the passes in the Highlands,	1014
12,	Letter from General Greene to General Washington: Has three brigades in readiness to reinforce him, if they are needed,	1015
12,	Letter from the President of the New-York Committee of Safety to Samuel Ten Broeck,	1016
12,	Letter from General Schuyler to Robert Yates: Suggestions relative to forming the new Army,	1016
12,	Letter from General Gates to General Arnold,	1017
12,	Letter from Colonel Hartley to General Gates: There must have been an action down the Lake yesterday; will immediately despatch a boat towards the fleet,	1018
12,	Letter from General Arnold to General Gates: Engagement with the enemy's fleet yesterday,	1038
12,	List of the American armed vessels on Lake Champlain,	1039
12,	Letter from Major Hoisington to General Gates: Intelligence given by four deserters from Canada,	1018
12,	Letter from Colonel Cushing to Massachusetts Council: Difference between himself and Colonel Cook with regard to rank,	1018
12,	Naval intelligence; prizes,	1019
13,	Letter from Silas Deane to C. W. F. Dumas,	1020
13,	Letter from William Fitzhugh to General Washington: The delay of Congress to settle a confederation has created some uneasiness,	1020
13,	Letter from Aquilla Hall to Maryland Council of Safety: Names of officers of a company of volunteers selected out of the Twenty-Third Battalion, in Harford County,	1021
13,	Letter from Lieutenant Bond to Maryland Council of Safety,	1022
13,	Letter from Thomas Hughes to Maryland Council of Safety,	1022
13,	Letter from Marine Committee to Captain Falconer: Request him to purchase as many coals for smiths' use as will load two schooners,	1022
13,	Circular from Marine Committee to Continental agents: Recommending Mr. Falconer to their friendly attention,	1023

1776.			
Oct. 13,	Letter from Marine Committee to Committee at Rhode-Island: Countermanding the order to send a set of cannon to New-Hampshire,	1023	
13,	Letter from Marine Committee to John Langdon,	1023	
13,	Letter from Gouverneur Morris to the New-York Convention: Mr. Lott is employed in perfecting a state of his accounts for the House, and is the remotest degree possible from contravening, disbelieving, or doubting their authority,	1023	
13,	Letter from Richard Dallam to Michael Hillegas,	1024	
13,	Letter from Captain Smith to Samuel Glover: Directing him to impress wagons and horses for his Majesty's service,	1024	
13,	Letter from Colonel Ewing to Maryland Council of Safety: His battalion is very sickly, and great numbers are badly off for clothing; what of them are in health appear to be in good spirits, though ragged, and several without shoes to their feet,	1024	
13,	Extract of a letter from Harlem: Yesterday morning about four thousand men landed at Frog's Point,	1025	
13,	Letter from General Washington to General Ward: Is again deprived of the navigation of the North River, and the supplies which used to come through that channel,	1026	
13,	Letter from General Washington to Colonel Tash: Directing him, in consequence of the number of the disaffected, to march his regiment with all possible despatch to Fish-kills, where he will receive further directions from the New-York Committee of Safety,	1026	
13,	Letter from Colonel Reed to General Heath: Notice of meeting of General Officers to be held at twelve o'clock,	1026	
13,	Letter from Colonel Grayson to General Heath: Informs him the General thinks it would be advisable to send a stronger force towards the two passes near the enemy,	1027	
13,	Appointment of officers in Ulster County, New-York,	1027	
13,	Major Conkling's parole,	1027	
13,	Letter from John Carter to General Gates: The Committee for auditing accounts are not under the direction of any officer in the Army,	1027	
13,	Letter from Colonel Hartley to General Gates: The alarm of yesterday proves to be a true one; the enemy are approaching,	1028	
	Account of an engagement on Lake Champlain on the 11th between General Arnold and General Carleton,	1028	
18,	Letter from Governour Trumbull to General Washington: A plan is forming by the noted Major Robert Rogers to make a sudden descent, with a battalion of Tories, on Norwalk and other towns, to take the stores there, and to burn and destroy all before them,	1028	
13,	Letter from Governour Trumbull to Colonel Livingston: Acquainting him with the designs of the infamous Major Robert Rogers,	1030	
13,	Letter from Joseph Whipple to New-Hampshire Committee of Safety: Requesting immediate consideration of the repairs of roads and bridges, for the conveyance of warlike and other stores,	1031	
14,	Intelligence from the Indian country: Progress of the war with the Cherokees,	1031	
14,	Letter from Baltimore Committee to Maryland Council of Safety: Transmit Francis Saunderson to them for further examination,	1032	
14,	Letter from William Davis to the President of Congress: Resignation of commission as Deputy Mustermaster-General to the Flying-Camp,	1032	
	Memorial of the Chevalier d'Antignac to the Continental Congress, offering his services for raising a regiment of Light-Horse,	1032	
14,	Letter from the Lancaster (Pennsylvania) Committee to Richard Peters: Send Captain Hesketh's baggage,	1033	
14,	Resignation of Captain Andrew Long, of First Battalion Pennsylvania Riflemen, on account of ill-health,	1033	
1776.			
Oct. 14,	Thanks of General Williamson to the officers and soldiers of Colonel Slough's Battalion,	940	
14,	Thanks of General Williamson to volunteers that turned out yesterday in the excursion to Staten-Island,	941	
14,	Letter from Rowland Chambers to Governour Livingston, respecting prisoners in Somerset County,	1237	
14,	Account of prisoners taken in three vessels from Halifax, bound to Sandy-Hook,	1238	
14,	Letter from Robert H. Harrison to the President of Congress: Every day's intelligence from the Convention of New-York holds forth the discoveries of new plots. Disposition of the troops has been again changed, on account of the enemy declining an attack in front,	1034	
14,	Letter from General Lee to General Gates: The Congress seem to stumble every step; he does not mean one or two of the cattle, but the whole stable: Washington is much to blame for not menacing them with resignation unless they refrain from unhinging the Army by their absurd interference,	1034	
14,	Letter from Robert H. Harrison to Peter R. Livingston,	1035	
14,	Letter from Tench Tilghman to Robert R. Livingston: The enemy have made no move from Frog's Point since yesterday,	1035	
14,	Letter from General Heath to General Nixon: Disposition to be made in case of an attack,	1035	
14,	Letter from General Heath to Colonel Sargent: Not to march over to support the regiments near Frog's Point without further orders,	1036	
14,	Extract of a letter from Colonel Reed to Charles Pettit: The enemy keep constantly the same object in view, that of surrounding them; too many officers from all parts leave the Army when danger approaches,	1036	
14,	Letter from Peter Van Ness to Peter R. Livingston,	1036	
14,	George Howell's parole,	1027	
14,	Letter from Richard Varick to General Gates,	1036	
14,	Letter from Richard Varick to New-York Convention,	1037	
14,	Letter from Colonel Varick to General Washington,	1038	
14,	Letter from Richard Varick to the Committee of Stockbridge: Action on Lake Champlain on the 11th instant,	1039	
14,	Letter from General Schuyler to General Gates: Has ordered all the Militia of New York and the neighbouring States to be ready to march at a moment's warning,	1039	
14,	Letter from Colonel Brewer to General Gates: Information brought by a scout,	1040	
14,	Letter from Dr. Potts to Richard Varick: Is making up every rag into bandages,	1040	
14,	Letter from Sir Guy Carleton to Lord George Germain: The Rebel fleet has been entirely defeated in two actions, the first on the 11th, and the second on the 13th,	1040	
	List of the Rebels' vessels on Lake Champlain before their defeat,	1041	
14,	Letter from Governour Trumbull to General Washington,	1041	
14,	Letter from Colonel Livingston to General Washington: His plan for the expedition to Long-Island,	1041	
	Dissolution of Committees of Suffolk County, and disavowal of all former orders and resolutions,	1042	
14,	Letter from Commodore Hopkins to Captain Hacker: Orders for a cruise,	1042	
14,	Letter from Commodore Hopkins to Messrs. Dunscome and Frazer,	1043	
14,	Naval intelligence: Prizes,	1043	
14,	Letter from a gentleman in the country to his friend in Boston: Showing what may be expected from the British Ministry should they make a conquest of America,	1043	
14,	Testimony of John Rowe, to be used in the trial of the capture of the ship Charming Peggy,	1045	
14,	Letter from Richard Derby, Jun., to Richard Devens,	1045	
14,	Letter from Captain Abijah Bangs to Massachusetts Council,	1046	
14,	Arrivals of prizes,	1046	

1776.	1776.
Oct. 15, Extract of a letter from Kingston, Jamaica : Martial law has been suspended about a month; an American schooner, taken by the Squirrel, has been demanded by a French frigate, and refused by the Admiral, - - -	Oct. 16, Letter from Robert Peter and Thomas Richard- son to Maryland Council of Safety : Dispute with regard to the right of the ferry over the Potowmack at Georgetown, - - -
15, Judge Drayton's Charge to the Grand Jury of Charleston, South-Carolina, - - -	16, Naval and foreign news. Prizes, - - -
15, Presentments of the Grand Jury of Charleston, -	16, Letter from General Mercer to General Wash- ington : A party of British and Hessians surprised at Richmond town, Staten-Island, -
15, Letter from Samuel Duvall to Maryland Coun- cil of Safety, - - -	16, Examination of two regular soldiers and one Hessian, taken prisoners on Staten-Island this morning at the church, - - -
15, Letter from Captain Richard Smith to Maryland Council of Safety : List of men now enrolled under his command, - - -	6, Letter from Thomas Quigley to Thomas Ran- dall : Has chased several vessels off Cran- berry Inlet; is in want of provisions and clothing, - - -
15, Letter from Nicholas Maccubbin to Maryland Council of Safety, - - -	16, Address of the inhabitants of New-York to Lord Howe and General Howe, - - -
15, Letter from the Board of War to General Wash- ington: Request to be furnished monthly with exact returns of ordnance stores, -	16, Address of inhabitants of New-York to Gov- ernour Tryon, - - -
15, Letter from Josiah Bartlett to John Langdon, -	16, Letter from General Washington to Governour Trumbull : Cannot furnish any soldiers from the Army towards manning the ships. The enemy's frigates are not deterred from pass- ing through Hell-Gate, - - -
15, Letter from Mease and Caldwell to General Gates: Have sent another supply of nails, shoes, linen shirts, and milled yarn hose, -	16, Letter from General Greene to Governour Cooke: A battle is daily, nay hourly ex- pected, - - -
15, Letter from General Washington to Governour Trumbull: Requests him, if possible, to spare some aid in securing the passes in the High- lands, - - -	16, Letter from Tench Tilghman to William Duer: A deserter says a man-of-war lays at the Hook ready to sail with the news of the issue of their move to Frog's Point, - - -
15, Proceedings of a General Court-Martial of the Line held on the Heights of Harlem, by order of General Washington: Trial of Lieut- enant Pope and Corporal Wilson, - - -	16, Letter from Colonel Broome to Peter R. Liv- ingston, - - -
15, Letter from William Floyd to the New-York Convention, - - -	16, Letter from the New-York Convention to the President of Congress: Reasons why the State is not more fully represented in Con- gress, - - -
15, Letter from the Committee of Poundridge to New-York Convention: Are apprehensive that there is danger of their prisoners leaving them, and going to the Ministerial Army, -	16, Orders to Captain Osburn: For mending the post road from the south line of Dutchess County to King's Bridge, - - -
15, Letter from Colonel A. Hawkes Hay to the New-York Convention: If the enemy should land at Haverstraw, they would proceed through the mountains, and attack the forts in the Highlands with great ease; asks for an immediate support, - - -	16, Letter from Jonathan Landon to Ezra Thomp- son: A further trial is to be made of the lead mines in Dutchess County, New-York, -
15, Letter from Robert Yates to General Schuyler, -	16, Letter from General Schuyler to the President of Congress: In the alarming situation of affairs he shall continue to act some time longer, but Congress must prepare to put the care of the department into other hands, -
15, Letter from Colonel Bayley to General Wash- ington: An account of the expenses of the road from Newbury to St. John's, - - -	16, Letter from General Schuyler to General Wash- ington: The manner in which the Cayuga sachems were treated will be attended with very salutary consequences, - - -
15, Letter from Elisha Avery to General Gates, -	16, Letter from General Schuyler to General Wash- ington: Total destruction of the American fleet on Lake Champlain; shall write to every State nearest him to march up their Militia to support the Army, - - -
15, Letter from Colonel Wyncoop to General Gates, -	16, Letter from General Schuyler to the New-York Convention: It is of the highest importance that all the Militia that can be spared should march up without delay, either to support General Gates, or to cover his retreat, -
15, Recommendation of Frederick Aubrey for Second Lieutenant in Captain Green's Com- pany, - - -	16, Letter from General Schuyler to Abraham Yates: Suggests that the Convention's moving to Albany would be attended with good consequences, - - -
15, Letter from General Gates to General Schuy- ler: Defeat and almost total loss of the fleet; it has pleased Providence to preserve Gen- eral Arnold, - - -	16, Letter from General Schuyler to Berkshire (Massachusetts) Committee: The Militia of Massachusetts should immediately march to sustain the Army, - - -
General Orders: Head-Quarters, Ticonderoga, October 1 to 13, - - -	16, Letter from General Schuyler to the Selectmen of Boston, - - -
15, Letter from General Arnold to General Schuy- ler: Loss of his fleet on the 13th, - - -	16, Letter from Colonel Wynkoop to General Gates: Major Skeene's clerk is an enemy to his country, and is busy every day viewing and prying into every circumstance, - - -
15, List of the enemy's fleet on Lake Champlain, -	16, Letter from Colonel Wynkoop to General Gates, -
15, Letter from Captain Pringle to Mr. Stephens, Secretary of the Admiralty: Congratulates their Lordships upon the victory completed the 13th of this month by his Majesty's fleet under his command upon Lake Champlain, -	16, Letter from Lewis T. Costigan to General Gates: Is fully convinced that the appoint- ment of another in the place he lately held, was owing to a want of knowledge of the circumstances which occasioned his long absence, - - -
15, Letter from Commodore Hopkins to Governour Trumbull: The new ships and Alfred are ready, all but the men, - - -	16, Letter from Colonel Henry B. Livingston to the New-York Convention: Arrest of Col- onel Fanning, Major Conkling, and George Howell, thought to be disaffected, but who profess themselves friendly, - - -
15, Letter from Massachusetts Council to Gov- ernour Cooke: On difference respecting command between Colonel Cook and Col- onel Cushing, - - -	
15, Letter from Committee of Framingham to Mas- sachusetts Council: Have sold the estate of Nathaniel Brinley, who signed the address to General Gage, &c., - - -	
15, Extract of a letter from a gentleman at Fal- mouth, Casco Bay: It is surprising sugars continue so dear, when such immense quan- tities are brought in; but is informed that the rich merchants are buying it all up to ship to Spain, - - -	
16, Letter from Stephen Steward to Maryland Council of Safety, - - -	
16, Letter from Amos Garrett to Maryland Council of Safety, - - -	
16, Letter from George Wells to Maryland Council of Safety, - - -	

1776.		
Oct. 16,	Letter from Commodore Hopkins to Captain Hacker: Order to bring into Newport harbour the privateer sloop Captain Dennis,	1089
16,	Letter from Colonel Pierce Long to New-Hampshire Committee of Safety,	1089
17,	Letter from Alexandria (Virginia) Committee to the President of Congress: Praying for an order to Messrs. Hughes to furnish them with cannon out of those engaged for the Continental service,	1127
17,	Letter from Silas Deane to the Secret Committee: His distressed situation, totally destitute of intelligence or instructions since he left America,	1090
17,	Letter from Silas Deane to the Secret Committee: Protest at the Court of Madrid against Captain Lee of Newburyport as a pirate,	1091
17,	Letter from Silas Deane to the President of Congress: Introducing M. Motin de la Balme, an officer of reputation in the armies of France,	1092
17,	Letter from Silas Deane to William Bingham: Requests him to inquire into the state of the Island of St. Vincent by proper emissaries, and if the Caribbs are disposed to revolt, to encourage them, and promise them aid of arms and ammunition,	1092
17,	Letter from the South-Carolina Navy Board to Anthony Bonneau,	1324
17,	Letter from the South-Carolina Navy Board to Captain John Copithorn,	1325
17,	Letter from South-Carolina Navy Board to Alexander Horn,	1325
17,	Letter from South-Carolina Navy Board to Edward Darrell,	1325
17,	Letter from South-Carolina Navy Board to Captain Stephen Seymour,	1325
17,	Letter from South-Carolina Navy Board to Captain Edward Allen,	1325
17,	Letter from General Stephen to Francis Lightfoot Lee: It would be for the good of the service to supply muskets and bayonets instead of rifles,	1092
17,	Additional Instructions to the Commissioners from the United States to the King of France,	1404
17,	Letter from Marine Committee to Captain Isaiah Robinson: Directing him to receive instructions from the Secret Committee for a voyage under their direction,	1092
17,	Letter from General Mercer to the President of Congress: Attempt against the British on the east end of Staten-Island,	1093
17,	A list of prisoners taken at Richmond Town, on Staten-Island,	1094
17,	A return of the arms and accoutrements taken from the enemy on Staten-Island, October 16,	1094
17,	Letter from Mary Hay Burn to John Hay Burn,	1094
17,	Letter from General Washington to the New-York Convention: Has sent up Mons. Imbert to take their directions respecting the passes through the Highlands, and such works as they may esteem necessary to preserve them,	1094
17,	Letter from General Washington to Governour Cooke: The reasons assigned for countermanding Colonel Richmond's march appear strong and substantial,	1094
17,	Letter from General Washington to Colonel Bayley: Requiring vouchers before settling the account of the expense incurred in cutting a road from Coos to St. John,	1095
17,	Letter from Tench Tilghman to William Duer: Every step is taken to prevent the enemy out-flanking the Army, and at the same time to secure a retreat in case of need; the appearance of General Lee has contributed not a little to strengthen the spirits of the troops,	1095
17,	Letter from General M'Dougall to Committee of Arrangement of the Army,	1096
17,	Letter from General Greene to the New-York Convention,	1096
17,	Division Orders: Head-Quarters, King's Bridge,	1096
17,	Letter from Colonel Samuel H. Drake to John M'Kesson, requesting commissions for certain officers,	1097
	Letter from Colonel Smallwood to Maryland Council of Safety,	1097
1776.		
Oct. 17,	Petition of William M'Neall to the New-York Convention,	1101
17,	Letter from Henry Wisner to the New-York Convention,	1102
17,	Letter from Richard Varick to General Gates: Hopes Arnold will still humble the pride and arrogance of haughty Britons, and convince them that one defeat does not dispirit Americans,	1102
17,	Letter from General Schuyler to General Gates: If the communication should be cut off by the way of Lake George, it will be absolutely necessary to have a number of batteaus at Skenesborough,	1103
17,	Letter from Colonel Wynkoop to General Gates,	1103
17,	Letter from John B. Scott to General Gates: Asks that he may not be kept under arrest at this critical time,	1103
17,	Letter from Governour Trumbull to General Schuyler: Asks to be informed what is needful and expedient to ensure a supply of Surgeons and medicines for the new Army,	1104
17,	Letter from Governour Trumbull to General Gates: Reminds him again of the nomination of officers for the new Army,	1104
17,	Colonel Phineas Fanning's parole,	1104
17,	Providence (Rhode-Island) Town Meeting: Proceedings relative to Mr. Samuel Starbuck,	1104
17,	Letter from Captain John Paul Jones to Robert Morris: Has taken sixteen sail, sent in eight prizes, and destroyed the rest. It is to the last degree distressing to contemplate the state of the Navy. An expedition of importance may be effected this winter on the coast of Africa,	1105
	Account of provisions on board the ship Alfred,	1107
	Table of wages proposed by Captain Jones to be established in the American Navy,	1107
17,	Providence (Rhode-Island) Town Meeting,	1107
17,	Letter from Massachusetts Council to Meshech Weare: Notice of repeal of an act to prohibit the exportation of lumber for a limited time,	1107
17,	Letter from James Bowdoin to General Washington: Names and rank of a number of French officers, who offer their services to the United States,	1108
17,	Letter from James Bowdoin to the President of Congress,	1109
	Petition from Faneuil and others to the Assembly of Massachusetts-Bay, and a resolve passed by the said Assembly,	1109
18,	Letter from Lord George Germain to the Earl of Dunmore: His conduct in leaving Virginia is approved by his Majesty,	1110
18,	Letter from Lord George Germain to Sir William Howe: He will receive an augmentation of the corps of Hessian Chasseurs early in the next campaign,	1111
18,	Letter from Lord George Germain to Sir William Howe: The behaviour of both officers and soldiers, British and Hessians, in the operations against the Rebels upon Long-Island has obtained his Majesty's strongest approbation,	1111
18,	Letter from Lord George Germain to Sir William Howe: His Majesty has been graciously pleased to nominate him to be one of the Knights Companions of the most honourable Order of the Bath; Vice-Admiral Lord Viscount Howe will perform the ceremony of investing him with the ensigns of the order,	1111
18,	Six new battalions of Infantry to be raised in Virginia, and employed in the Continental service,	1112
18,	Letter from James Nourse to General Gates,	1112
18,	Letter from Maryland Council of Safety to the President of Congress,	1113
18,	Letter from Thomas Bond to Maryland Council of Safety,	1113
18,	Letter from Captain Bond to Maryland Council of Safety,	1113
18,	Letter from Marine Committee to Continental agents: Directing them to account to them for the Continental share of all prizes, and to pay the amount thereof to their order,	1113
18,	Letter from Marine Committee to Prize Agents: Instructions,	1114

1776.

- Oct. 18, Letter from Marine Committee to Captain James Robinson: Directing him to make a voyage under orders of the Secret Committee, - - - - - 1115
- 18, Letter from Marine Committee to Captain Halllock: Consign him to the management of the Secret Committee for the present voyage, - - - - - 1115
- 18, Considerations on the present revolted state of America, addressed to its inhabitants at large, 1115
- 18, Letter from General Washington to the President of Congress, - - - - - 1116
- Proceedings of a Council of General Officers, October 16, - - - - - 1117
- General Orders: Head-Quarters, at Harlem Heights, October 13 to 20, - - - - - 1118
- 18, Letter from Robert H. Harrison to General Schuyler: His Excellency apprehends the Stockbridge Indians might render material service to him as scouting parties, if they can be spared from the Northern Army, - 1120
- "A Soldier" on the employment of Indians in America, - - - - - 1120
- 18, Letter from Colonel Reed to Governour Trumbull: The Captains of the galleys from Connecticut (except Captain McCleave) have misbehaved invariably from the first moment they came to their departure; they have manifested such want of spirit and judgment as to be despised by the whole Army, - - - 1121
- 18, Letter from Colonel Richmond to Maryland Council of Safety, - - - - - 1122
- 18, Letter from General Heath to Captain Horton, Deposition of Lieutenant William B. Alger respecting refusal of Continental money by Jacob Deane, - - - - - 1123
- 18, Letter from Henry Wisner to the New-York Convention: Finds the entrance of the Highlands on the south side capable of being made quite defensible with very little expense, - - - - - 1123
- 18, Letter from Colonel Snyder to the New-York Convention: State of his regiment, - - 1124
- 18, Letter from Colonel Snyder to the New-York Convention: Asking commissions for certain officers, - - - - - 1125
- 18, Letter from General Schuyler to Governour Trumbull: General Waterbury, who is prisoner on parole, will acquaint him with the state of affairs at Ticonderoga, - - - - 1125
- 18, Letter from General Schuyler to General Gates: Suggests the necessity of throwing booms across from the redoubt to Fort Independence, and anchoring large rafts in the channel, - - - - - 1125
- 18, Halifax, Cumberland County, New-York, Town Meeting: Voted not to set up a new State, but continue still in the State of New-York, 124
- 18, Prize taken by the Montgomery privateer, - 1125
- 18, Letter from Commodore Hopkins to Captain John Paul Jones: Thinks it best to let Captain Dennis's sloop and her people go, - 1126
- 18, Arrival of a prize at Newburyport, - - 1126
- 19, Address of the Lord Mayor, Recorder, Aldermen, Sheriffs, and Commons of the city of York to the King, - - - - - 1126
- 19, Letter from South-Carolina Navy Board to Anthony Bonneau, - - - - - 1326
- 19, Letter from Charles Rumsey to Maryland Council of Safety: The company out of his battalion will be ready in two days at most, - 1128
- 19, Letter from Amos Garrett to Matthew Tilghman, - - - - - 1128
- 19, Letter from Pennsylvania Council of Safety to Colonel Cadwallader: Frequent complaints have been made that the officers who have received the pay of the privates do withhold their money from them, - - - - - 1128
- 19, Letter from Josiah Bartlett to John Langdon: A great number of foreigners, especially French officers, are almost daily arriving at Philadelphia, and requesting to be employed in the Army, many of whom are well recommended, - - - - - 1128
- 19, Letter from George Taylor to the President of Congress: Sends him six prisoners which he took out of a schooner which was drove on the Jersey shore, - - - - - 1129

1776.

- Oct. 19, Letter from General Mercer to the President of Congress: Hessian prisoners to be permitted to escape for the purpose of distributing the advertisements of Congress among their countrymen, - - - - - 1129
- 19, Return of Artillery, commanded by Colonel Knox, camp below King's Bridge, - - - 1130
- 19, Extract of a letter from Fort Lee: Skirmish near New-Rochelle, - - - - - 1130
- 19, Letter from Henry Wisner to the New-York Convention: The building any fortifications in the Highlands would be labour badly spent and worse than lost, - - - - - 1131
- 19, Letter from Robert Hodge to John McKesson, 1131
- 19, Letter from New-York Committee of Safety to the President of Congress, - - - - - 1131
- 19, Letter from Abraham Lott to the New-York Convention: Has got his accounts in such a train that he hopes to be able to set out in about ten days, - - - - - 1132
- 19, Charlotte County (New-York) Committee: Request a loan of two hundred pounds from the State, - - - - - 1132
- 19, Letter from H. Glen to Elisha Avery, - - 1132
- 19, Letter from J. Baldwin, Engineer, to General Gates: Recommendations for defence, - 1133
- 19, Letter from Governour Trumbull to the commanding officer at Boston: Application for his friendly assistance for the relief of Colonel Ethan Allen and eighteen other prisoners with him at Halifax, - - - - - 1133
- 19, Letter from Governour Cooke to General Washington, - - - - - 1133
- 19, Letter from Commodore Hopkins to John Bradford, - - - - - 1134
- 20, Letter from Nathan Rumsey, at Nantes, to Maryland Convention: Requests that preference in their business which he has already been honoured with from the Secret Committee of Congress, - - - - - 1134
- 20, Letter from Van Bibber & Harrison, St. Pierre, Martinique, to Maryland Council of Safety: The market is glutted with tobacco and all kinds of provisions; indigo the best article for shipment, - - - - - 1134
- 20, Letter from Peter T. Curtenius to the New-York Convention: Account of clothing purchased for the New-York troops, - - - - 1135
- 20, Letter from Colonel Griffin to Richard Peters: Requests to be furnished with the late resolve of Congress relative to pay; all the officers are making out their pay-rolls at an advance of fifty per cent., - - - - - 1136
- 20, Extract of a letter received in London from New-York: Every time the King's troops attack the Rebels they rout them with great loss; hopes by the next letter to give an account of an end being put to a Government that have dared to call themselves the Independent States of America, - - - - - 1136
- 20, Letter from General Greene to the President of Congress: Requests all the cartridges at Philadelphia to be sent forward in light wagons that can travel with great despatch; the article of salt is essentially necessary, and must be procured if possible, - - - - - 1136
- 20, Letter from General Mifflin to William Duer: Believes the enemy have some design against the White-Plains, - - - - - 1137
- 20, Letter from Robert H. Harrison to the President of Congress: It is generally conjectured the enemy mean to take their route by the way of the White-Plains, and from thence to draw a line to the North River, - - 1137
- 20, Letter from General Washington to Colonel Trumbull: His alarming situation on account of the state of the provisions, - - 1138
- 20, Letter from Tench Tilghman to William Duer: To be obliged to follow an enemy whose route is a secret is not a little distressing, especially as there are not wagons enough to transport the baggage and provision, - 1138
- Brigade Court-Martial ordered by Brigadier General McDougall, for the trial of deserters and offences not capital, - - - - - 1139
- Letter from Elisha Avery to the New-York Convention: Requests their interposition and aid in procuring a supply of flour, - - 1141

1776.		
Oct. 20,	Letter from Major Wilkinson to General St. Clair, - - - - -	1141
20,	Letter from Committee of Congress to General Gates: Will proceed immediately to Ticonderoga, if he thinks it advisable, - - -	1142
20,	Letter from General Schuyler to General Gates: Clothing and bounty granted by the Convention to encourage the soldiers to reinlist, -	1142
20,	Letter from Colonel Wynkoop to General Gates, - - - - -	1142
20,	Letter from General William Maxwell to Governor Livingston: General Arnold, their evil genius at the North, has got clear of all their fine fleet, and has managed his point so well with the old man, the General, that he has got his thanks for his good services; has no more opinion of his abilities by land than water, - - - - -	1143
20,	Letter from Joseph Trumbull to the Committee at Bennington: Requesting them to lend all the assistance in their power in forwarding provisions to Ticonderoga, - - -	1143
20,	Letter from James Yancey to the Committee at Bennington: For provisions for the Northern Army, - - - - -	1143
20,	Extract of a letter from Ticonderoga: Expect an attack every moment; whenever it comes it will be furious, and the defence obstinate, cruelly obstinate, - - - - -	1144
20,	Letter from Colonel Brewer to General Gates: The enemy appear to be fortifying on the east side of Crown-Point, - - - - -	1144
20,	An Oration delivered at the head of Colonels Mott's and Swift's Regiments, when under arms, expecting the approach of the enemy hourly, by the Rev. Mr. Tenent, Chaplain, -	1144
20,	Letter from Colonel Warner to General Gates: For further orders, - - - - -	1146
	Letter from Colonel Bellows to General Gates: For particular instructions and advice, -	1146
20,	Letter from Massachusetts Council to Governor Trumbull: Have passed a resolve to furnish his State on loan one ton of sulphur, -	1146
21,	Letter from Pliarne, Penet & Co. (Nantes) to the New-York Convention: Making offers of their service in Europe, - - - - -	1146
21,	Letter from Captain Deams to Maryland Council of Safety: Has used the greatest exertion in purchasing guns, and can get but thirty; as for blankets, has got but few, - - -	1148
21,	Letter from Nicholas Maccubbin to Maryland Council of Safety, - - - - -	1148
21,	Letter from Committee of Secret Correspondence to William Bingham, - - - - -	1148
21,	Letter from Marine Committee to Augustus Lawrence and Samuel Tudor: Refer them to the New-York Convention for directions relative to the launching and otherwise disposing of the ships Congress and Montgomery, - - - - -	1148
21,	Letter from Francis Lewis to Captain Hodge, -	1149
21,	Letter from Jacob Bamper to New-York Committee of Arrangement, - - - - -	1149
21,	Resolutions passed at a meeting in the State-House yard, Philadelphia, - - - - -	1149
	Remarks on the proceedings and resolutions of the meeting in the State-House yard, Philadelphia, October 21, 22, - - - - -	1152
21,	Lancaster (Pennsylvania) Committee, - - -	1155
21,	Arrival at New-York of troops and provisions from England, - - - - -	1158
21,	Notice of the meeting for preparing Address to Lord Howe and General Howe and Governor Tryon, - - - - -	1158
21,	Petition and representation of Queen's County in New-York to Lord Howe and General Howe, - - - - -	1159
21,	Address of Queen's County to Governor Tryon, - - - - -	1164
	Answer of Governor Tryon to the Address of Queen's County, November 12, - - - - -	1164
21,	Order of march to be observed by the division of the Army under the command of Major-General Heath, in their route from King's Bridge to White-Plains, - - - - -	1164
21,	Letter from Robert H. Harrison to William Duer: The enemy marched to-day from East-Chester towards New-Rochelle, - -	1165

1776.		
Oct. 21,	Letter from Robert H. Harrison to the President of Congress, - - - - -	1165
21,	Letter from General Washington to Major Zabdriel Rogers: Ordered to make the best stand he can against the enemy, who are advanced this morning to Maroneck, - - - - -	1165
21,	Letter from General Washington to Colonel Trumbull: Again entreats his every exertion to supply the posts with flour and beef for present use, - - - - -	1165
21,	Letter from General Washington to Colonel M'Intosh: To march immediately with the two regiments under his command towards Byram river, if matters are not ready for the intended expedition to Long-Island, - -	1166
21,	Letter from General M'Dougall to Robert Yates: The contrast between those troops who are well and those who are ill officered, now in service, is so great, that it is impossible to have an adequate idea of it but by experience, - - - - -	1166
21,	Letter from Colonel Hasbrouck to the New-York Convention: Asking commissions for certain officers, - - - - -	1167
21,	Major Andrew Wyncope appointed to the command of two companies, to be raised out of the County of Ulster for two weeks, - -	1167
21,	Information relating to the enemy communicated to the New-York Convention, - -	1167
21,	Letter from James Auchmuty to John Jay: Application to be paid what is allowed to prisoners of war, not having received one shilling either for himself, wife, or son, since he was taken - - - - -	1168
21,	Letter from Stephen Ward to Robert R. Livingston: Asking direction with regard to a resolve for purchasing hides, - - - - -	1168
21,	Letter from Colonel Bayley to General Washington: Would have sent vouchers with his accounts, but was informed that only an abstract was needful, - - - - -	1168
21,	Letter from Colonel Whiting to the Albany Committee: Informing of some matters respecting the disaffected within and around King's district, - - - - -	1169
21,	Letter from General Schuyler to Governor Trumbull, - - - - -	1169
21,	Letter from General Gates to Colonel Warner: Much approves of his zeal and activity in spiriting up the Militia to come and defend their country, - - - - -	1170
21,	Letter from Isaac Peirce to Colonel Gansevoort: The boats at his post must be all kept in good repair, - - - - -	1170
21,	Letter from General Gates to Captains Stilton and Parker: Must exert their utmost vigilance in finishing the road to Castletown; they have done nothing worth notice these four days past, - - - - -	1170
21,	Lieutenant-Colonel Pelissiere's observations on the Jersey redoubt, at Ticonderoga, - -	1170
21,	Proclamation by Governor Trumbull, calling out the Militia, - - - - -	1171
21,	Connecticut Council of Safety, - - - - -	1171
21,	Letter from Governor Trumbull to General Washington, - - - - -	1171
	Vote of the General Assembly of Connecticut for calling out certain of the Militia, - -	1172
21,	Letter from Colonel Livingston to Governor Trumbull: Shall do all in his power to hurry forward the expedition to Long-Island, as he is convinced a better opportunity can never offer, - - - - -	1173
21,	Extract of a letter from the North River: The Tories begin to rear their heads from Howe's late successes, - - - - -	1173
21,	Arrival of a number of prizes in safe ports, -	1174
21,	Intelligence from Hispaniola that no vessel is suffered to wear English colours in any French port; but Continental colours are displayed every Sunday, and much admired, "A Soldier" to the Independent Sons of America: So sure as the rising sun will reach its meridian, so sure will the rising States of America (unless they fail in their duty) reach the summit of human glory, -	1174
21,	Letter from Richard Derby, Junior, to the President of the Massachusetts Council, -	1175

1776.	
Oct. 21,	Letter from New-Hampshire Committee of Safety to General Washington: Appointment of a Committee to repair to camp, - 1175
21,	Letter from New-Hampshire Committee of Safety to General Gates: Committee appointed to repair to the camp, - 1176
21,	Instructions from the New-Hampshire Committee of Safety to the Committee sent to the Army, - 1176
	Mr. Blanchard's return of the Committee's doings at Ticonderoga, - 1176
	Petition of Jonathan Burt for the value of a horse, - 1177
21,	Letter from Captain Douglass, of the Isis, to Mr. Stephens: The Rebels on Lake Champlain ran into utter confusion the moment a three-masted ship made her appearance, being a phenomenon they never so much as dreamed of, - 1178
	List of his Majesty's naval force on Lake Champlain, - 1179
	List of the Rebel fleet on Lake Champlain, - 1179
	List of the seamen detached from his Majesty's ships and vessels in the river St. Lawrence, to serve on Lake Champlain, - 1179
22,	Letter from William Carmichael, Amsterdam, to C. W. F. Dumas, - 1179
22,	Address of "A Carolinian" to their Excellencies Richard Viscount Howe, Admiral, and William Howe, Esquire, General, of his Britannick Majesty's forces in America, - 1180
22,	Letter from the Board of War to General Washington: Have ordered two hundred thousand cartridges to be instantly forwarded to him, - 1185
22,	Resolution of Congress for suspending till further orders the return of the Canadian prisoners, published by order of the Board of War, - 1185
22,	Letter from Joseph Hallett to the New-York Convention, - 1185
22,	Letter from Major Greene, of De Lancey's Brigade, to Captain Smith: Directing him to drive in all the horses he can find, the property of notorious Rebels and disaffected persons in the County of Suffolk, - 1186
22,	Letter from General Washington to General Schuyler: His opinion of the best measures to be pursued for the defence of Ticonderoga, - 1186
22,	Letter from Robert H. Harrison to the Board of War: Their requisition for an immediate return of ordnance stores cannot possibly be complied with in the present unsettled state of the Army, - 1187
22,	Letter from Robert H. Harrison to Governour Trumbull: All the movements of the enemy indicate their intention of penetrating the country from the Sound by way of the White-Plains, - 1187
22,	Extract of a letter from Colonel Glover: An account of the skirmish with the enemy on the 18th, - 1188
22,	Committee for the detection of conspiracies in New-York: Application to Committee of Safety for five hundred pounds, - 1189
	Letter from New-York Convention to Francis Lewis: Requesting him to sell them a quantity of salt, - 1189
22,	Letter from Henry Glen to General Schuyler, - 1190
22,	Mr. Duane's minutes of the meeting of the Committee from Congress with General Schuyler and Lieutenant-Colonel Gansevoort, - 1190
22,	Instructions of General Schuyler to the officers appointed to recruit for the service of the United States of America, - 1297
22,	Letter from John Trumbull to the Committee at Bennington: Militia requested to march immediately to Tyconderoga, - 1191
22,	Letter from Captain Stewart to General Gates, - 1191
22,	Letter from General Gates to Governour Trumbull: Carleton, with his fleet and army, now at Crown Point, - 1192
22,	Letter from Colonel Brewer to General Gates: Begs the Indians may be dismissed; it is with the utmost difficulty he has kept them in any order until now, - 1192
22,	Ensign Daniel Pittee advertised as an infamous runaway, - 1193

1776.	
Oct. 22,	Speech of Indians of Onenhighkwage and Tuscarora to the officers at Otsego Lake, - 1193
22,	Connecticut Council of Safety, - 1194
22,	Letter from Committee of Danbury, Connecticut, to Ebenezer Lockwood, - 1194
22,	Letter from Tench Tilghman to President of New-York Convention, - 1194
22,	Extract of a letter from Providence, Rhode-Island: Thirty-two prizes have been brought into this port; two twenty-gun ships are fitting out, and there will soon be two new brigs built, - 1194
22,	Letter from Commodore Hopkins to Captain John Paul Jones: Orders for a cruise in the Alfred, - 1194
22,	Letter from Commodore Hopkins to Captain Jones: Desiring him to attend a Court-Martial, - 1195
22,	Letter from Commodore Hopkins to Captain Hacker: Orders for a cruise in the Hampden, - 1195
22,	Letter from Commodore Hopkins to John Bradford, Agent for the Continent in Massachusetts-Bay, - 1195
22,	Letter from Aaron Root to Massachusetts Council: Resignation of his commission of Lieutenant-Colonel on account of advanced age and infirm health, - 1196
22,	Arrival of prizes at Portsmouth and Falmouth, - 1196
23,	Advices from Colonel Christian to the Governour of Virginia: War with the Cherokees, - 1196
23,	Letter from Samuel Chase to General Sullivan: He is engaged in framing a government for the State of Maryland, - 1197
23,	Letter from Lux and Bowley to Maryland Council of Safety, - 1197
23,	Letter from the President of Congress to General Schuyler, - 1197
23,	Letter from Committee of Secret Correspondence to Silas Deane, - 1197
23,	Letter from Committee of Secret Correspondence to William Bingham, - 1198
23,	Letter from Committee of Secret Correspondence to Silas Deane, - 1198
23,	Letter from Robert Morris to Stephen Ceronio, - 1198
23,	Letter from Robert Morris to Messrs. Samuel and J. H. Delap, - 1198
23,	Letter from Committee of Secret Correspondence to Silas Deane, - 1198
23,	Letter from Committee of Secret Correspondence to William Bingham, - 1199
23,	Letter from Committee of Secret Correspondence to Arthur Lee: Informing him of his appointment as one of the Commissioners to France, - 1199
23,	Letter from Marine Committee to the Governour of North-Carolina: Requesting him to aid Commodore Hopkins in his attempt to take or destroy the British men-of-war on the southern coasts, - 1199
23,	Letter from Marine Committee to Commodore Hopkins: Instructions for an expedition to Cape Fear, - 1200
23,	Instructions of Marine Committee to Captains Manley, McNeil, and Thompson, - 1200
23,	Inhabitants of New-York compelled to swear obedience to Parliament in all cases whatsoever, - 1200
23,	Cumberland County (Pennsylvania) Committee: Satisfied with the Constitution and the oath directed to be taken by the late Convention, - 1201
	Statement of facts as they happened at the late meeting of the Cumberland County Committee, - 1201
23,	Letter from Commissioners for Pennsylvania to General Washington: Requesting that recruiting orders be issued to Colonels Magaw and Cadwalader for the new establishments, - 1202
23,	Extract from a General Officer at Mount Washington: America has little to fear from General Howe's Army, who have gained no ground but what they could reach by their shipping, - 1202
	List of prisoners who served in Major Robert Rogers's corps, taken by Colonel Haslet on the 21st of October, - 1203
23,	Extract of a letter from East-Chester, New-York: Engagement with Major Robert Rogers's corps, - 1203

1776.		
Oct. 23,	Instructions from Committee of New-York Convention to recruiting officers, - -	1204
23,	Letter from Tench Tilghman to William Duer: Engagement of General Lee's division with the enemy, - - - -	1204
23,	Letter from Robert R. Livingston to Peter R. Livingston: Recommends the immediate establishment of expresses to Albany, transmitting the earliest intelligence by handbill, since nothing else can effectually silence the falsehoods that are daily propagated by the disaffected, - - - -	1205
23,	Letter from Colonel Smallwood to Maryland Delegates in Congress, - - - -	1205
23,	Letter from General Schuyler to the President of Congress: Complains that the resolution exculpating General Wooster from any misconduct in Canada, implies a censure on himself, - - - -	1205
23,	Letter from General Schuyler to General Washington: Supposes that General Carleton will make an attempt on Tyonderoga in a few days, if he has not already; the Militia move up slowly and very reluctantly, - - - -	1206
23,	Letter from General St. Clair to Governour Livingston: Recommends Captain Howell; since the disaster to the fleet the enemy have made no motion, - - - -	1207
23,	Letter from Colonel Brownson to General Gates: Carleton allowing the northern settlers to continue on their farms in peace will favour much to lull the people to rest; another spur must be put to their sides, - - - -	1207
23,	Letter from Elkanah Day to the New-York Convention: Resigns his appointment of Captain in the Rangers, on account of the multiplicity of his business as a physician, - - - -	1207
23,	Letter from Governour Trumbull to Governour Cooke: Account of the action on Lake Champlain, - - - -	1208
23,	Proceedings of Connecticut Council of Safety, - - - -	1208
23,	Letter from Benjamin Huntington to Nathaniel Shaw: Requesting him to furnish the ships Defence and Oliver Cromwell with provisions and stores for a cruise of two or three months, - - - -	1209
23,	Two thousand bushels of salt, stored in one of the churches at New-Rochel, taken by the enemy, - - - -	1209
23,	Letter from William Sever to Richard Devens, - - - -	1209
24,	Letter from South-Carolina Navy Board to Messrs. Archibald Brown & Co., - - - -	1327
24,	Letter from P. Sim Smith to Maryland Council of Safety: Reasons why a Court-Martial has not been held for the trial of Captain John Mackall and Levin Miles, - - - -	1209
24,	Letter from the President of Congress to General Washington, - - - -	1210
24,	Letter from the Board of War to General Washington: Abuses in regiments or companies receiving more rations than they are entitled to, - - - -	1210
24,	Plan of the Board of War for preventing the abuses above referred to, - - - -	1211
24,	Letter from the Board of War to General Washington: The two Virginia Regiments now at Chester to be ordered immediately to Trenton, there to wait his Excellency's commands, - - - -	1211
24,	Letter from the Committee of Secret Correspondence to C. W. F. Dumas: Dr. Franklin appointed Commissioner to France, - - - -	1180
24,	Letter from the Committee of Secret Correspondence to the Commissioners in France: Desiring them to make immediate application to the Court of France to grant the protection of their ports to American men-of-war and their prizes, - - - -	1211
24,	Letter from Committee of Secret Correspondence to Stephen Ceronio, - - - -	1213
24,	Letter from Marine Committee to Lambert Wickes: The Reprisal, under his command, has been placed under the direction of the Committee of Secret Correspondence, - - - -	1213
24,	Letter from Committee of Secret Correspondence to C. W. F. Dumas: Dr. Franklin unanimously appointed one of the Commissioners to France; names of the members of the Secret Committee, - - - -	1213

1776.		
Oct. 24,	Letter from Committee of Secret Correspondence to Silas Deane, - - - -	1214
24,	Letter from Marine Committee to Captain Wickes: Instructions for conveying Dr. Franklin and his suite to France, and for cruising on the coast of England, - - - -	1215
24,	Letter from John Lucas to General Gates: Since his arrival in Philadelphia he has done every thing in his power in forwarding clothing for the Army, - - - -	1217
24,	Letter from George Ross to Lancaster (Pennsylvania) Committee, - - - -	1217
24,	Letter from Colonel Zedtwitz to General Washington: Plan for obtaining arms the most requisite for the present use of the Continental Army, - - - -	1217
24,	Letter from Colonel Curtenius to the New-York Convention: A letter from the Convention to him has miscarried, - - - -	1219
24,	Letter from Colonel Curtenius to the New-York Convention: His accounts and vouchers are in Tarrytown; is afraid of their loss by falling into the hands of the enemy, - - - -	1219
24,	Declarations of Committees of Suffolk County, New-York, - - - -	1219
24,	Letter from General Greene to General Washington, - - - -	1221
24,	Letter from General George Clinton to John M'Kesson: Movements of the enemy, - - - -	1221
24,	Certificate for Moses Yeoman, - - - -	1222
24,	Letter from Charles D. Witt to the President of the New-York Convention: The troops are in absolute necessity for want of clothing; scheme for exciting the desertion of the Hessians, - - - -	1222
24,	Letter from General Gates to General Schuyler: General Carleton keeps very close at Crown-Point, his Navy at anchor upon his flanks, - - - -	1257
24,	Letter from the Bennington Committee to James Yancey: Several teams loaded with flour will be on the road toward Skeensborough this week; the residue will with all convenient speed, - - - -	1223
24,	Extract of a letter from Mount Hope, near Ticonderoga: Are in daily expectation of an attack from the enemy; are not in the least in want of provisions or ammunition, - - - -	1223
24,	Letter from General Waterbury to the President of Congress: Account of the naval engagement on Lake Champlain, - - - -	1224
24,	Letter from Governour Trumbull to General Washington: Requesting his interposition to procure the release of Colonel Ethan Allen and others, - - - -	1224
	Resolve of the Connecticut Assembly in favour of Colonel Ethan Allen and others, - - - -	1225
24,	Proclamation of Governour Trumbull, offering pardon and indemnity to certain delinquent non-commissioned officers and soldiers, - - - -	1225
24,	Letter from Commodore Hopkins to John Langdon: Empowering him to act as agent for the officers and people belonging to the American fleet, for all vessels that may come within New-Hampshire, - - - -	1226
24,	Letter from Commodore Hopkins to the Marine Committee, - - - -	1226
24,	Letter from Lieutenant Knight (prisoner) to General Washington: Repeating his request to be released on parole, - - - -	1226
24,	Letter from Oliver Prescott to Richard Devens, - - - -	1227
24,	Letter from Selectmen of Boston to Benjamin Austin: Don't see how it is possible to procure the supply of nails, but by taking of those that were lately brought in as prize, - - - -	1227
24,	Arrivals of prizes at Salem and Boston, - - - -	1227
24,	Orders of New-Hampshire Committee of Safety to the Committee for giving orders and directions to the companies of Rangers on Connecticut river, - - - -	1228
25,	A Proclamation by the King, for encouraging seamen to enter themselves on board his Majesty's ships of war, - - - -	1228
	Impressment of seamen in England, - - - -	1229
25,	Order in Council: Embargo on vessels laden with provisions in Great Britain, - - - -	1233
25,	Order in Council: Embargo on vessels laden with provisions in Ireland, - - - -	1233

1776.		
Oct. 25,	Letter from Silas Deane to the Secret Committee: Must again urge them to hasten their remittances. Their silence since the 5th of June discourages him at times and well nigh distracts him,	1234
25,	Letter from Silas Deane to Robert Morris: Sends to the care of Monsieur Deant two hundred tons of powder,	1235
25,	Letter from South-Carolina Navy Board to Captain Edward Allen,	1327
25,	Letter from President Rutledge to the South-Carolina Navy Board,	1327
25,	Extract of a letter from North-Carolina: Intelligence by a gentleman who accompanied General Rutherford on the expedition against the Cherokees of the Middle and Valley settlements,	1235
25,	Order for Captain Smith's Company to attend at Gloucester, Virginia, to receive their pay,	1236
25,	Eleven settlers killed at the mouth of Weeling by the Indians,	1236
25,	Letter from Captain Watkins to Maryland Council of Safety,	1236
25,	Letter from William Johnson to Maryland Council of Safety,	1236
25,	Letter from John Ennalls to Maryland Council of Safety: For a Court-Martial to try Lieutenant Cook,	1236
25,	Extract of a letter from the Secret Committee to Thomas Morris, agent to superintend all their business in Europe,	1237
25,	Letter from the Marine Committee to Governor Trumbull: Requesting him to provide sixty-four cannon for the use of the frigate building in New-Hampshire and one of those in Massachusetts,	1237
25,	Letter from Governor Livingston to the President of Congress,	1237
25,	Answer of Governor Tryon to the Address of the Inhabitants of New-York,	1075
25,	Extract of a letter from Fort Lee: One of the enemy's vessels fired on and compelled to retreat,	1239
25,	Letter from Robert H. Harrison to the President of Congress,	1239
	General Orders: Head-Quarters, at Harlem Heights and White-Plains, October 21 to 24,	1240
25,	General Court-Martial, held at the Court-House, in the White-Plains: Trial of Lieutenant Ethan Sickles,	1242
25,	Letter from Robert R. Livingston to General Washington: Will do his utmost to remove the wants under which the Army labours,	1242
25,	Letter from Major Wilkinson to General Gates,	1243
25,	Letter from General Schuyler to General Gates,	1243
25,	Letter from General Gates to Colonel Bellows: Urges him, if he loves his country, to come forward,	1244
25,	Letter from John Noble Cumming to Dr. Scudder: The campaign (to the northward) has been full of fatigue, as well as unsuccessful, chiefly owing to the too precipitate advances to the northward, or rather going in so unprepared a manner,	1244
25,	Letter from Colonel Henry B. Livingston to Governor Trumbull,	1245
25,	Arrival of prize at Newburyport,	1245
25,	Extract of a letter from Dr. Franklin to D. C.: No time should be lost in fortifying three or four posts on our extended coast as strong as art and expense can make them,	1245
25,	Letter from General Ward to Massachusetts Council: Forwarding papers respecting Colonel Ethan Allen,	1245
26,	Letter from Colonel Hollingsworth to Maryland Council of Safety,	1246
	Memorial of Colonel Hollingsworth to Maryland Council of Safety,	1246
	Recommendation of Ebenezer Reyner to a lieutenancy,	1247
26,	Letter from Richard Peters to Maryland Council of Safety: Were it in the power of Congress to supply muskets they would speedily reduce the number of rifles,	1247
31,	Letter from John Gibson to James Bowdoin: Requesting him to forward to the Commissioners for the Northern Department an account of such advances as have been made by the State of Massachusetts,	1247

1776.		
Oct. 26,	Letter from Francis Lewis to the New-York Convention: State of New-York has not been represented in Congress for several weeks past,	1247
26,	Letter from William Whipple to John Langdon: There is no prospect for cannon from Philadelphia,	1248
26,	Letter from William Ellery to Governor Cooke,	1248
26,	Letter from Abram Clark to Colonel Dayton: The Congress, when they cleared General Wooster of misconduct, never thought of laying it on General Schuyler; but imputed the miscarriage there to short inlistments, the small-pox, and the want of hard money,	1248
26,	A return of the forces encamped on the Jersey shore, under the command of Major-General Greene,	1250
26,	Letter from Colonel Lasher to General Heath: The Artillerymen and ammunition at King's Bridge are not sufficient for its defence,	1250
26,	Extract of a letter from Colonel Reed to Mrs. Reed: The business of this campaign, and possibly the next, may probably be determined this week,	1250
26,	A report of the evidence taken at the Court of Inquiry, on the charge against Colonel Tyler, of cowardice and misbehaviour before the enemy on the 15th last,	1251
26,	Letter from General Mifflin to William Duer: Directions for the erection of barracks,	1254
26,	Letter from Colonel Stockton to Robert Benson: Recommending certain officers as proper to bear commissions,	1254
26,	Letter from Colonel Tash to the New-Hampshire Committee of Safety: Report of his proceedings in command of a detachment to New-York,	1255
26,	Letter from Peter R. Livingston to Pierre Van Cortlandt,	1256
26,	Richard Stockton and George Clymer to President of Congress: Report of the progress made in the execution of their commission to the Northern Army,	1256
26,	Letter from General Schuyler to General Washington: The change of Commissaries has very considerably interrupted the supplies for the Army,	1257
26,	Letter from General Schuyler to the Committee of the New-York Convention: He can hardly imagine the enemy will attempt an irruption on Mohawk river, until they have met with success at Ticonderoga, which he believes they will not have,	1258
26,	Letter from General Schuyler to Committee of Bennington: Wishes the Militia of the eastern Governments on their march to hasten as fast as possible to Skenesborough, and every man to carry as much flour or bread as he conveniently can,	1258
26,	Letter from General Gates to General Schuyler: Where is Dayton's Regiment? If they received orders in time, their behaviour is shameful,	1287
26,	Letter from Colonel de Hart to Theunis Dey and John C. Symes: It is the general wish of the officers that the State of New-Jersey postpone the regimental appointments until their return, or until the attack on Ticonderoga is over,	1258
26,	Connecticut Council of Safety,	1259
26,	Memorial of William Forbes to the New-York Congress, praying that his dismission or trial may be speedy,	1259
26,	Arrival of prizes in safe ports,	1260
27,	Letter from William Carmichael, Amsterdam, to C. W. F. Dumas: Sends him Common Sense,	1260
27,	Letter from Joshua Clarke, Supervisor of Salt-petre Works in Caroline County, to Maryland Convention,	1261
27,	Letter from Captain Deams to Maryland Council of Safety: The most of his company are willing to enlist for the war, provided he might give them twenty dollars as bounty,	1261
27,	Letter from Richard Henry Lee to General Washington: The policy of the Court of Great Britain,	1261

1776.		
Oct. 27,	Letter from Robert Morris to General Gates: The Congress have too many objects, and retain too much executive business in their own hands for their members to effect with that vigour and despatch that is necessary,	1262
27,	Letter from General Greene to General Mifflin,	1263
27,	Invoice of ammunition sent by Colonel Chee- vers, Commissary of Stores, to General Mif- flin,	1263
27,	Letter from Robert H. Harrison,	1264
27,	Letter from General Heath to Colonel Lasher: Directing him to remove the cannon and stores left with him to Mount Washington, and march his detachment without delay to White-Plains,	1264
27,	Letter from General Heath to General Putnam: Acquainting him that the works at No. Two are in a dangerous condition,	1264
27,	Letter from Tench Tilghman to William Duer: The Waldeckers, prisoners, are amazed at the kind treatment they receive; they say they were torn away from their country, and if their fellow soldiers knew how kindly they would be treated, they would lay down their arms and come over,	1264
	James Budd's examination, taken 25th Octo- ber,	1265
27,	Letter from H. Hughes to Captain Kierse,	1266
27,	Letter from James Abeel to Robert Harper: Recommending Christopher Codwise as a person properly qualified to bear the com- mission of Captain,	1266
27,	Extract of a letter from Fort Lee,	1266
27,	Letter from Volkert Veeder to Robert R. Liv- ingston,	1267
27,	Extract of a letter from Ticonderoga: Gover- nour Carleton had said that he should soon drive the Rebels from their lines, and should have done it before, but was waiting for them to lay down their arms, and deliver themselves to the mercy of his Majesty,	1267
27,	Letter from John B. Scott to General Gates: Begs leave to resign his commission as a Captain in the Second New-Jersey Regi- ment,	1267
27,	Letter from Jesse Root to Governour Trumbull: The Committee desires further powers, for the punishment and suppression of Tories,	1267
28,	Letter from James Clarke to Maryland Council of Safety,	1268
28,	Petition of Joseph Whayland, a languishing prisoner in the gaol at Annapolis, to the Maryland Convention,	1268
	Letter from Stephen Steward to Maryland Council of Safety: Recommending Gideon Adair for a commission as Captain of Ma- rines on board of the largest Province schooner,	1268
28,	Letter from President of Congress to General Washington: Informing him that his de- spatches had been stolen from the express,	1269
28,	Letter from President of Congress to Rev. Jacob Duché: Sends him one hundred and fifty dollars by order of Congress, as an ac- knowledgment for his services,	1269
28,	Letter from General Greene to the President of Congress,	1269
28,	Extract of a letter from Colonel Haslet to General Rodney: Attack on the party of Colonel Robert Rogers, the late worthless Major,	1270
28,	Return of the killed and wounded of the Sec- ond Brigade, commanded by Brigadier- General Leslie, British,	1270
28,	Extract of a letter from White-Plains,	1271
28,	Extract of a letter from White-Plains, at two o'clock, P. M.: Skirmishes with the enemy,	1271
28,	Letter from Doctor John Morgan to John Jay: Requesting to be allowed the remainder of the stock of medicines purchased for the use of the State of New-York,	1272
28,	Letter from the Committee of Bedford to the New-York Convention: Names of the poor of the parish of New-York that came to Bedford on the 28th of August last,	1272
28,	Letter from Samuel Tuder to Pierre Van Cort- landt: The General-Montgomery will be launched the 4th November next,	1273
1776.		
Oct. 28,	Letter from Seth Curtis to Captain E. Has- brouck,	1273
28,	Letter from General Schuyler to General Gates: Has given orders and done every thing in his power to hasten up the Militia,	1274
28,	Letter from Richard Stockton to Abraham Clark: Urging the necessity of sending cloth- ing to the Northern Army,	1274
28,	Letter from Colonel Wynkoop to General Gates: Desires to know where the powder is to be left,	1275
28,	Letter from Colonel Wynkoop to General Gates: Has sent batteaus to bring down two or three regiments from Fort Ann,	1275
28,	Letter from Colonel Livingston to General Washington: Under the restrictions laid on the commanding officer, he does not think any thing of consequence can be achieved by the expedition to Long-Island,	1275
28,	The Tories on Long-Island and in New-York begin to be sick of their new lords and masters,	1276
28,	Letter from Rev. William Gordon to General Gates,	1276
	Letter from Rev. William Gordon to General Gates,	1276
28,	Memorial of Adam Babcock to the Council of Safety of Connecticut: Asks leave to pur- chase fourteen cannon at their furnace in Salsbury,	1277
28,	Letter from Commodore Hopkins to J. Paul Jones: Has received his disagreeable letter, and directs him to go immediately to New- port,	1277
29,	Extract of a letter from Dublin: Three sloops of war and an armed cutter have been or- dered to cruise in the Channel, to keep a look out for the American privateers,	1278
29,	Letter from Amos Garrett to Maryland Council of Safety,	1278
	Petition of a majority of Castlehaven company to the Maryland Convention: Preferring charges against Captain Byers,	1278
29,	Letter from Rev. Jacob Duché to the President of Congress: Requests that the hundred and fifty dollars offered to him may be applied to the relief of the widows and children of Pennsylvania officers,	1280
29,	Letter from Dr. Shippen to General Washington: The sick will perish unless timely care is paid to provide for them proper winter apartments,	1280
29,	Letter from General Greene to General Wash- ington: Colonel Magaw petitions very hard that the Rangers may remain with him,	1280
29,	Letter from General Greene to General Wash- ington: The English ships have fallen down the North River,	1281
	An estimate of the Magazines to be laid in at the posts between Fort Lee and Philadelphia for the subsistence of the troops, and for the horses in wagons and artillery,	1281
29,	Letter from Robert H. Harrison to the Presi- dent of Congress: An engagement with the enemy, yesterday, at White-Plains,	1282
	General Orders: Head-Quarters, White-Plains, October 25 to 29,	1282
29,	Extract of a letter from White-Plains to a gen- tleman in Annapolis,	1284
29,	Letter from Tench Tilghman to William Duer: Except they can get a vast superiority of ground, their raw troops are not a match for the disciplined soldiers of the enemy, espe- cially when backed by constant fire of artillery,	1285
29,	Letter from General James Clinton to the New-York Convention,	1285
29,	Letter from Petrus Van Gaasbeck to William Duer: A large number of Tories keep con- cealed in the woods,	1285
29,	Letter from Peter R. Livingston to William Duer: The Committee will send down a list of all our bad people in a little time,	1286
29,	Letter from Peter R. Livingston to Pierre Van Cortlandt,	1286
29,	Letter from General Schuyler to General Wash- ington: If General Gates was not so very im- portunate to have the Militia at Tyonderoga, he should certainly dismiss many of them, as they move with much reluctance, and will neither assist in fortifying or mounting guard,	1286

1776.

Oct. 29, Letter from General Schuyler to General Gates: Has sent Mr. Evans to him, to be forwarded to Canada if he thinks it advisable, -	1287
29, Letter from Colonel Gansevoort to General Gates, -	1287
29, Letter from Benjamin Payne to the Committee for Wethersfield, Connecticut: Suspicious character of three travellers, two of them calling themselves French Colonels, -	1288
29, "P. W." on Monopolizers, -	1288
29, Petition of the town of Lyndsbrough to the General Court of New-Hampshire for a town stock of powder, -	1289
30, A Proclamation for a General Fast in England and Wales, -	1289
30, A Proclamation for a General Fast in Scotland, -	1290
30, Letter from Captain Cooke to Maryland Council of Safety: Has taken a small schooner laden with provisions, -	1291
30, Letter from Captain Cooke: Has no doubt of doing something clever before he returns, -	1291
30, Letter from Richard Bond to Maryland Council of Safety: Is setting up a gun factory, where work will be done in the best manner, -	1292
30, Letter from Marine Committee to Daniel Tillinghast, -	1292
30, Letter from Marine Committee to Commodore Hopkins: Directing him to proceed to the Capes of Virginia and destroy the enemy's ships Galatea and Nautilus, -	1292
30, Letter from John Witherspoon to General Gates: Explains why he had not received an immediate and fully satisfactory answer to his letter to Congress relating to the dissolving the Court-Martial, -	1293
30, Extract of a letter from a British officer to his friend in London: The Rebel Army are in so wretched a condition as to clothing and accoutrements, that no nation ever saw such a set of tatterdermalions, -	1293
30, General Court-Martial held by order of General Washington: Trial of Captain Poole, for abandoning his post, -	1294
30, General Court-Martial, held by order of General Lee: Trial of Peter Buise, for desertion, -	1295
30, Letter from General Schuyler to the President of Congress: The resolution inhibiting the payment of one and one-third dollar for the reinlistment of soldiers in the camp, will much retard the reinlistment of the troops. His anxiety lest the Army should suffer for provisions is happily vanished, -	1296
30, Letter from General Schuyler to the Board of War: The want of tents in this campaign has not only greatly distressed the troops, but occasioned an enormous expense in the article of boards, -	1298
30, Letter from General Schuyler to Secretary of the Board of War, -	1298
30, Letter from General Schuyler to General Gates: Begs he will delay publishing the resolution of Congress inhibiting the payment of one and one-third dollars for any soldiers reinlisted in camp, -	1299
30, Letter from General Schuyler to General Gates: The account that the enemy may probably attempt to penetrate through the country to the Mohawk river seems to be confirmed, -	1299
30, Letter from J. Trumbull to Committee of Bennington, -	1300
30, Letter from Colonel Brewer to General Gates, -	1300
30, Proceedings of Convention of the Representatives from the several Counties and Towns of the New-Hampshire Grants, holden at Westminster, -	1300
30, Connecticut Council of Safety, -	1302
30, Letter from Matthew Tallcott to Governour Trumbull: Suspicious character of two gentlemen calling themselves French officers, -	1303
30, Letter from Commodore Hopkins to Captain Hacker: To take command of the Providence, and leave the Hamden under the command of Captain Olney, -	1303
30, Letter from Captain J. Paul Jones to the Marine Committee, -	1303
Account of the cruise of the American sloop-of-war Providence, -	1303

1776.

Oct. 30, Parole given by American prisoners of war to General Carleton, -	1304
31, Order to the soldiers of the Virginia Regiments who have been indulged with furloughs for the recovery of their health, to repair to Williamsburg without loss of time, -	1304
31, Letter from Landon Carter to General Washington: Remarks on men and proceedings in Virginia, -	1304
31, Letter from Amos Garrett to Maryland Council of Safety, -	1307
31, Letter from James Clarke to Maryland Council of Safety: Offers a vessel for sale, -	1308
31, Letter from Board of War to General Washington: Introducing Mons. le Chevalier Lantagnac, -	1308
31, Letter from John Gibson, Jun., Auditor-General, to New-Hampshire Assembly: Requests an account of the advances made by the State may be sent to the Commissioners appointed by Congress, -	1308
31, Letter from Peter Adams to the Maryland Delegates in Congress, -	1308
31, Prize sent into Philadelphia by the privateer Hancock, -	1309
31, John Baldwin published as an enemy to his country by the Council of Safety of Pennsylvania, -	1309
31, Berks County (Pennsylvania) Committee: Vote approving the resolutions passed at Philadelphia respecting the conduct of the late Convention, -	1309
31, Letter from William Atlee to Richard Peters, Letter from Lieutenant Anstruther (prisoner) to Richard Peters, October 29, -	1310
31, Letter from General Greene to General Washington: On the expediency of holding all the ground from King's Bridge to the lower lines, -	1294
31, Letter from Robert H. Harrison to the President of Congress: The Army is decreasing fast; large numbers of Militia are returning home: nor are any measures taken as yet to raise the new Army, -	1310
General Orders: Head-Quarters, White-Plains, October 30, 31, -	1310
31, Letter from Tench Tilghman to William Duer: The German troops are kept so very ignorant of what would be their happy situation in this country, that he does not expect much from desertion, -	1311
31, Letter from General George Clinton to John McKesson: Is likely to lose more in his brigade by sickness, occasioned by extra fatigue and want of covering, than in an active campaign is ordinarily lost in the most severe actions, -	1312
31, Letter from Augustin Lawrence and Samuel Tuder to the New-York Convention: If there are no directions to the contrary, the ship Montgomery will be launched on Monday, November 4, -	1313
Letter from New-York Committee of Safety to Augustin Lawrence and Samuel Tuder, November 1: Direct the launch of the frigates as soon as possible, -	1313
31, Letter from Colonel Welch to New-Hampshire Committee of Safety: On sending disaffected persons from New-York to New-Hampshire, -	1313
31, Letter from John Jay to the General Court of New-Hampshire: Two hundred dollars to be paid them on account of the expenses they may be put to in receiving and disposing of the disaffected persons sent from New-York, -	1314
31, Letter from General Schuyler to General Gates, -	1314
31, Letter from General Gates to General Schuyler: Threatenings of an attack by the enemy, -	1314
31, Letter from Governour Trumbull to General Washington: Has sent him a reinforcement of Militia; requests all the sick in the Militia incapable of further service may be discharged, -	1315
31, Letter from Governour Trumbull to General Gates, -	1316
31, Donations for the Boston poor, received by the hands of Samuel Adams; prizes taken in the port of Liverpool, Nova-Scotia, -	1316

1776.
Oct. 31, Letter from Samuel Curwen, Exeter, to Judge Sewall, London: Wishes to be included in any measures of relief adopted for the exiles from America, - - - - - 1317
- 31, "A Soldier" to the Independent Sons of America, - - - - - 1317
- The Quartermaster-General's estimate of the probable expense of his department for one month, - - - - - 1318
- A list of British ships on the American station, 1318
- 31, Return of the Second Regiment of Foot, in the service of the United Colonies, commanded by Colonel William Prescott, - - - - - 1319
- 31, Return of the Regiment of Foot, in the service of the United States of America, commanded by Colonel Thomas Thomas, in Brigadier-General George Clinton's Brigade, - - - - - 1319
- 31, Weekly Return of the Eighth Regiment of Militia, from State of Connecticut, commanded by Oliver Smith, Esq., Lieutenant-Colonel, - - - - - 1321
- 31, Return of the Regiment of Foot, in the service of the United States, commanded by Colonel Jacobus Swartwout, - - - - - 1321
- 31, Return of the Regiment of Foot, in the service of the United States of America, under the command of Colonel Morris Graham, - - - - - 1321

NAVY BOARD OF SOUTH-CAROLINA.

1776.
Oct. 9, Oath taken by the Commissioners of the Navy Board, - - - - - 1323
- 9, Edward Blake chosen First Commissioner of the Navy, - - - - - 1323
- 9, Advertisement for a Clerk to the Board, - - - - - 1323
- 9, Nomination of Captain to command the brigantine-of-war Comet, - - - - - 1323
- 12, John Calvert elected Clerk, - - - - - 1323
- 12, Letter to Captain Thomas Pickering, requiring him to use the utmost diligence in manning the brigantine Defence, - - - - - 1323
- 12, Similar letter to Captain Edward Allen, of the Comet, - - - - - 1324
- 15, Advertisement for salted beef and pork, - - - - - 1324
- 15, Orders to Captain Allen to proceed to sea as soon as possible, - - - - - 1324
- 15, Orders to Captain Pickering to get ready for sea, - - - - - 1324
- 17, Letter to Anthony Bonneau, requesting him to act as agent at Georgetown to furnish provisions, &c., for the armed schooner Rattlesnake stationed there, - - - - - 1324
- 17, Letter to Captain John Copithorn, requesting him immediately to procure as many schooners as he can hire for the service of the publick, - - - - - 1325
- 17, Letter to Alexander Horn, requiring him to make the flood-gate convenient to receive the boats belonging to the publick, - - - - - 1325
- 17, Letter to Edward Darrell, requiring him, with all possible despatch to furnish the Comet and Defence with stores, - - - - - 1325
- 17, Letter to Captain Stephen Seymour: On the desertion of soldiers and sailors, - - - - - 1325
- 17, Letter to Captain Edward Allen: Nathaniel Havens appointed Purser of the brigantine Comet, - - - - - 1325
- 17, Advertisement of two schooners to be sold at auction, - - - - - 1326
- 19, Archibald Brown & Co. propose to contract for pork and bread, - - - - - 1326
- 19, William Hopkins proposes to contract for twenty barrels of flour, - - - - - 1326
- 19, Order to Edward Darrell to procure certain instruments for the Defence, - - - - - 1326
- 19, Letter to Anthony Bonneau: Order to purchase naval stores, - - - - - 1326
- 19, Fifty men allowed as the full complement for the schooner Rattlesnake, - - - - - 1326
- 24, Letter to Archibald Brown & Co.: Their proposals to contract for pork accepted, - - - - - 1327
- 24, Form of enlistment into the Navy, - - - - - 1327
- 24, Letter to Captain John Turner, - - - - - 1327
- 25, William Hopkins's proposal to furnish twenty barrels of flour accepted, - - - - - 1327
- 25, Letter to Captain Allen, desiring him to take four of the carriage guns out of the Comet, 1327

1776.
Oct. 25, List of spars to be provided for the use of the Navy, - - - - - 1327
- 25, Letter from President Rutledge: The Council is unanimously of opinion that the Commissioners of the Navy have not authority to order the armed vessels of the State to sea, or on a cruise, - - - - - 1327
- 25, Resolution expressing the unanimous opinion of the Commissioners respecting the extent of their powers, - - - - - 1328
- 28, Commissary directed to purchase a quantity of flour and iron, - - - - - 1328
- 28, Letter to the President, desiring him to give directions to contract for building galleys, and to provide necessaries for the same, - - - - - 1328
- 28, Recommend to the President that the Comet and Defence proceed directly to the West-Indies, to procure seamen, - - - - - 1328
- 31, Captain Pickering ordered to drop the brigantine Defence down to Rebellion Road tomorrow, - - - - - 1328
- 31, Mr. Hall appointed to draw up a letter of instructions for Captain Pickering, - - - - - 1328

CONTINENTAL CONGRESS.

1776.
Sept. 3, Message from Lord Howe to Congress by General Sullivan, - - - - - 1329
- 3, General Sullivan's letter to Lord Howe, August 30, - - - - - 1329
- 3, His Lordship's answer, August 30, - - - - - 1329
- 3, John Mifflin elected Regimental Paymaster to Colonel Magaw's Battalion, - - - - - 1329
- 3, Jeduthan Baldwin appointed Engineer in the Continental Army, - - - - - 1329
- 3, General Schuyler directed to inquire whether the baggage of the officers taken at St. John's and Chamble was plundered, and by whom, 1330
- 3, General Washington to suffer no damage to be done to the city of New-York, - - - - - 1330
- 3, Orders for the reinforcement of the Army at New-York, - - - - - 1330
- 4, Virginia Battalion, on their march to New-York, to have one month's pay and clothing, - - - - - 1330
- 4, Colonel Adam Stephen elected Brigadier-General, - - - - - 1330
- 4, German Battalion to be formed and forwarded to New-York with all possible expedition, - - - - - 1330
- 4, General Sullivan to be exchanged for General Prescott, and Lord Stirling for Brigadier-General McDonald, - - - - - 1330
- 4, Tents to be made and forwarded to General Washington as soon as possible, - - - - - 1331
- 5, Mr. Hewes to be supplied with four hundred three-pound shot for the use of the Continental Army in North-Carolina, - - - - - 1331
- 5, Samuel Brady appointed First Lieutenant, and William McMurray Second Lieutenant, of Captain Doyle's Company, - - - - - 1331
- 5, Message to be sent by General Sullivan to Lord Howe, - - - - - 1331
- 6, Committee appointed to confer with Lord Howe, - - - - - 1332
- 6, Leave granted to Captain William Jenkins to resign his commission, - - - - - 1332
- 6, John Paul Shott appointed a Captain, - - - - - 1332
- 7, Two hundred thousand dollars to be sent to Richard Dallam for the use of the Flying-Camp and Militia, - - - - - 1333
- 7, Commissions granted to officers of a Rifle company in Colonel Stevenson's Virginia Battalion, - - - - - 1333
- 7, Michael Hoofnagle elected Adjutant for the battalion to be raised in Westmoreland County, - - - - - 1333
- 7, Members appointed on the Committee on the cause of the miscarriages in Canada in the room of those who are absent, - - - - - 1333
- 7, Two members appointed on the Committee to consider the proposal made by the President of South-Carolina respecting General Lee, 1333
- 7, Election of Field Officers of the two battalions raised in Rhode-Island, - - - - - 1333
- 7, Colonel Lippit's Battalion ordered to New-York, 1333
- 7, Three pieces of coarse cloths to be delivered to the Delegates of Maryland, for the use of the Maryland troops, - - - - - 1333

1776.

- Sept. 7, Sick soldiers in Philadelphia to be provided with proper lodgings and attendance, - 1333
- 7, A copy of the part of General McDonald's letter respecting his treatment in North-Carolina to be sent to the Convention of that State, - - - - - 1333
- 7, Report of the Board of War on the petition of Jeremiah Halsey, - - - - - 1335
- 7, Election to fill vacancies in the Second Pennsylvania Battalion, - - - - - 1335
- 9, Committee appointed on the case of the schooner Thistle and her cargo, - - - 1335
- 9, In all instruments where the words "United Colonies" have been used, the style to be altered for the future to the "United States," 1335
- 9, Frederick Seeger elected Quartermaster for the German Battalion, - - - - - 1335
- 11, Committee appointed to inquire into the conduct of Mr. Livingston, Deputy Commissary-General in the Northern Department, - 1336
- 11, Clothing and other necessities to be provided for the First Virginia Battalion, now on their march to New-York, - - - - - 1336
- 11, Francis L. Lee added to the Board of War, in the room of Colonel Harrison, - - - 1336
- 12, Report of the Committee for Indian Affairs, - 1337
- 12, Report of the Committee appointed to inquire into the conduct of Mr. Livingston, - - 1337
- 12, David McClure elected Chaplain, and Ephraim Douglass Quartermaster, of Colonel McCoy's Battalion, - - - - - 1338
- 12, John Trumbull elected Deputy Adjutant-General, and Morgan Lewis Deputy Quartermaster-General, of the Northern Army, - - - 1338
- 12, The French officers who have received commissions ordered to repair immediately to the places of their destination, - - - 1338
- 12, Major Painter directed to repair to Philadelphia, 1338
- 13, Committee to confer with Lord Howe ordered to report in writing, - - - - - 1338
- 14, Winter quarters to be prepared for the Northern Army, - - - - - 1339
- 14, Ammunition to be immediately sent to General Gates, - - - - - 1339
- 14, Deputy-Commissary Livingston's resignation accepted, - - - - - 1339
- 14, All troops going home from service to restore all Continental arms and other property, - 1340
- 14, Twenty-five thousand dollars advanced to the State of Maryland, - - - - - 1340
- 14, Colonel Thompson's Regiment of Rangers of South-Carolina to keep the same station it had in the Provincial arrangement, - - 1340
- 16, Vacancies filled in Colonel Warner's Battalion, - - - - - 1341
- 16, Christopher Gadsden, William Moultrie, and Lachlan McIntosh, elected Brigadier-Generals, - - - - - 1341
- 17, Commissions granted to officers of Colonel Stevenson's Maryland Battalion, - - 1342
- 17, Report of the Committee appointed to confer with Lord Howe, - - - - - 1342
- 17, Plan of a treaty with France, - - - - 1344
- Plan of treaties, &c., reported by the Committee of the Whole, August 29, (note,) - - 1344
- Report of the Committee on the plan of treaties, &c., September 10, (note,) - - - 1350
- 17, The form of the sea letters and passports to be given to ships and vessels, according to the 28th article of the treaty, - - - - - 1357
- 17, The form of the act containing the oath, - - 1358
- 17, The form of the certificate to be required of, and to be given by, the magistrates or officers of the customs, according to the 28th article of the treaty, - - - - - 1358
- 17, Instructions to the Commissioners for negotiating the treaty, - - - - - 1358
- 17, Direction for arming the Maryland company on its march to New-York, - - - - - 1359
- 18, Rate to be paid in money instead of a ration, - 1360
- 18, Jacques Paul Govert appointed a Captain-Lieutenant of Artillery, - - - - - 1360
- 18, Medical Committee directed to send an assortment of proper medicines to the Northern Army, - - - - - 1360
- 18, Monsieur de Vermonet to have the rank and pay of a Major by brevet, - - - - - 1360
- 18, Extension of bounty and grants of lands, - 1360

FIFTH SERIES.—VOL. II.

1776.

- Sept. 18, No officer in the Continental Army to hold more than one commission, or to receive pay but in one capacity, at the same time, - 1360
- 18, Captain McKenzie liberated on parole, - - 1360
- 18, Report brought in on the ways and means of raising five millions of dollars, - - - 1360
- 19, One hundred dollars advanced to Captain William Davies, - - - - - 1361
- 19, Petition from Captain Woelper read and referred to Committee, - - - - - 1361
- 19, Report of Board of War; several French gentlemen commissioned, - - - - - 1361
- 19, Representation from Commissioners for settling accounts in the Northern Army, - - - 1361
- 19, Memorial from the Chevalier Dorre read, and referred to the Board of War, - - - 1362
- 19, Report from Committee for Indian Affairs, - 1362
- 19, Talk of the United States of America to their brethren, the chiefs and warriors of the Shawanese nation, - - - - - 1362
- 19, Adjutants of Regiments allowed the pay and rations of Captain, and to have the rank of First Lieutenants, - - - - - 1362
- 19, Secret Committee to supply New-Jersey with one ton of powder, - - - - - 1362
- 20, No grant of lands to be made to any person or persons claiming under the assignment of an officer or soldier, - - - - - 1363
- 20, Medical Committee to forward three hundred pounds of Peruvian bark to the Southern Department for the use of the troops there, - 1363
- 20, Articles of War, - - - - - 1363
- 20, Petition from Charles Roberts, commander of the schooner Thistle, read, and laid on the table, - - - - - 1373
- 20, Committee appointed to repair to Head-Quarters, - - - - - 1373
- 20, Dr. William Brown appointed Assistant Physician for the Flying-Camp and troops in New-Jersey, - - - - - 1373
- 23, Petitions from Colonel Stark and Mons. Devourou read, and referred to Board of War, - 1374
- 23, Captain Hamilton's petition granted, - - 1374
- 23, Mr. Hooper and Mr. Ellery added to the Committee on the Treasury, - - - - - 1374
- 23, Committee appointed to devise ways and means for providing clothing and other necessities for the Army, - - - - - 1374
- 23, Report of Committee to whom were referred the several papers from the Convention of the State of New-York, - - - - - 1374
- 24, Petition from Benjamin Marshall and Brothers, and one from John Hazard, read, and referred to the Marine Committee, - - - - - 1374
- 24, Petition from Charles Startin read, and laid on the table, - - - - - 1375
- 24, Report of Committee on petition of Colonel Hazen, - - - - - 1375
- 24, Committee appointed on providing provisions, &c., for Northern Army, - - - - - 1375
- 24, Medical Committee directed to apply to Council of Safety of Pennsylvania for a quantity of medicines, - - - - - 1375
- 24, Instructions to the Commissioners agreed to, - 1375
- 24, Committee of Secret Correspondence ordered to lay before Congress the intelligence lately received from abroad, - - - - - 1375
- 25, Report of Committee on the petition of Captain James Ross, - - - - - 1376
- 25, Two months' pay advanced to Mons. P. Govert, 1376
- 25, Resolution respecting pay of Pennsylvania Militia, - - - - - 1376
- 25, Report of Committee appointed to devise ways and means for providing clothing and other necessities for the Army, - - - - - 1377
- 25, Lieutenant Boger and Lieutenant Ball to be released from prison on parole, - - - 1377
- 25, Resolution respecting printing and selling the Journals of Congress, - - - - - 1377
- 25, Report of Committee on providing provisions, &c., for the Northern Army, - - - - 1377
- 25, Report of the Board of War, - - - - - 1378
- 25, Report of the Committee appointed to settle the rank of the Captains and Subalterns in the German Battalion, - - - - - 1379
- 26, Mr. Franklin, Mr. Deane, and Mr. Jefferson elected Commissioners to the Court of France, - - - - - 1379

H

1776.		
Sept. 26,	Committee appointed to prepare the draft of letters of credence to the Commissioners to France, and to report the ways and means of providing for their subsistence, - - -	1379
26,	Secrecy to be observed respecting negotiations with France, - - -	1379
26,	Mr. Stockton and Mr. Clymer elected a Committee to go to Ticonderoga, - - -	1379
26,	Instructions to be drawn up for the Commissioners relative to their entering into treaties or negotiations with other foreign States in Europe, - - -	1379
26,	Resolution respecting printing the Journals, -	1380
26,	General Washington directed to procure an exchange of the officers and soldiers taken on Long-Island, - - -	1380
27,	Resignation of Colonel J. Shee and Jonathan B. Smith accepted, - - -	1380
27,	Resolutions of the New-York Convention respecting General Schuyler referred to a Committee, - - -	1380
27,	Secret Committee to deliver to the Board of War all arms, &c., imported by them, -	1381
27,	Marine Committee to import as much salt as possible, - - -	1381
27,	Hamilton Young's petition granted, - -	1381
27,	Resolution respecting deserters from the Pennsylvania Battalions, - - -	1381
27,	Permission to Francis Guillot to fit out a privateer, - - -	1381
28,	Memorial from Gunning Bedford, Mustermaster-General, read, and laid on the table, -	1381
28,	Petition of William McCue referred to the Commonwealth of Virginia, - - -	1381
28,	Letters of credence to Commissioners to France, -	1381
28,	Commissioners to live in a style suitable to the dignity of their public character, - -	1381
28,	A handsome allowance to be made to the Commissioners besides their actual expenses, -	1382
28,	Secretary of the embassy allowed a salary of one thousand pounds sterling per annum, with the expenses of his passage out and home, -	1382
28,	A lodgment of ten thousand pounds sterling to be made in France, subject to the orders of the Commissioners, for their present support, -	1382
30,	Petition from J. Rowe and others, owners of goods on board the ship Elizabeth, referred to a Committee, - - -	1382
30,	Directions to the Board of War for furnishing stores, - - -	1382
30,	Mr. Hopkinson added to the Committee of Treasury, - - -	1383
30,	Petitions of Mons. de Boy and Mons. Ja. Vallier referred to the Board of War, - -	1383
30,	Petition of Colonel Hazen referred to the Canada Committee, - - -	1383
30,	General Washington directed to call upon such members of the Court-Martial as concurred in the acquittal of Ensign Macumber, to assign their reasons, - - -	1383
30,	Mr. McDonald not to be exchanged for any officer under the rank of Brigadier-General, -	1383
30,	Legislatures of the respective States recommended to appoint suitable gentlemen to examine those who offer to serve as Surgeons, -	1383
30,	Regimental Surgeons and Mates to be subject to the control of the Directors in the several Departments, - - -	1383
30,	Regulation respecting soldiers discharged for disability, - - -	1383
Oct. 1,	Letters to be written to the respective Assemblies, requesting a full representation of the States in Congress, - - -	1383
1,	General Mifflin appointed Quartermaster-General, in the place of Stephen Moylan, resigned, - - -	1383
1,	A Committee appointed to prepare a plan of a Military Academy at the Army, - - -	1383
2,	Lieutenant-Colonel Shephard promoted to the rank of Colonel, - - -	1384
2,	Board of War directed to sell sixteen hundred pounds of powder and eight hundred pounds of lead, for the use of the privateers General Lee and Colonel Parry, - - -	1384
2,	Report of Committee appointed to confer with General Mifflin, - - -	1384
2,	Committee appointed to consider of a plan for providing carriages for the publick service, -	1384

1776.		
Oct. 2,	Benjamin Fishbourne appointed Paymaster to the Second Pennsylvania Battalion, - - -	1384
2,	Memorial from the Council of Safety of Pennsylvania referred to the Committee on the Treasury, - - -	1384
2,	Resignation of General Schuyler not accepted, - - -	1384
2,	Limits prescribed in the parole of John Foxcroft and Francis Dashwood extended, - -	1385
3,	Michael Holt discharged from gaol on application from the Council of Safety of North-Carolina, - - -	1385
3,	One hundred hogsheads of rum to be purchased immediately for the use of the Army, - -	1385
3,	Letter of General Mercer referred to the Council of Safety of Pennsylvania, - - -	1385
3,	Captain Persifer Frazer commissioned as Major of Colonel Wayne's Battalion, - - -	1385
3,	Report of the Committee sent to the camp near New-York, (note,) - - -	1385
3,	Ways and means for raising a further sum of money, - - -	1386
3,	Secret Committee empowered to equip a frigate and two cutters in Europe, for a cruise in the British Channel, - - -	1387
4,	Resolution on a petition from the officers and men of the brig Andrew Doria, - - -	1388
5,	Petition of Jacob Sheafe referred to Commissioners, - - -	1389
5,	Pay advanced to officers and men who were taken prisoners in Canada, and sent back by General Carleton, - - -	1389
5,	Board of War directed to lay before Congress the papers relative to the dispute between the Court-Martial and General Arnold, -	1389
5,	The Continental Agents directed to deliver to the Commissary-General, for the use of the Army, all the salt in their hands belonging to the Continent, - - -	1389
7,	William Davies elected Deputy Mustermaster-General for the Flying-Camp, - - -	1389
7,	Recommendation to the respective States to annex same penalties for counterfeiting certificates of Loan Office, as for counterfeiting Continental currency, - - -	1389
7,	Resolution for borrowing five millions of dollars, and the above resolve, to be published, -	1389
7,	General Lee ordered to attend in Congress, -	1389
7,	A Commissary of prisoners of war to be appointed by each State, and to make monthly returns to the Board of War, - - -	1389
7,	General Lee attended, and gave an account of the state of affairs in the Southern Department, - - -	1389
7,	Governour and Council of Virginia requested to give all the assistance in their power in manning and despatching the ship Aurora, -	1389
7,	Lieutenant Hite to have a Continental commission in lieu of that which he received from the Committee of Safety of Virginia, - -	1390
7,	General Lee directed to repair to the Camp at Haerlem, with leave, if he thinks proper, to visit the posts in New-Jersey, - - -	1390
7,	Report of the Committee appointed to take into consideration the application from the President of South-Carolina in behalf of General Lee, - - -	1390
7,	Mons. Pierre François de Bois commissioned as a Major by brevet, - - -	1390
7,	Report of the Committee appointed to inquire into the causes of the miscarriages in Canada, (note,) - - -	1390
7,	Pay of officers in the battalions to be furnished by the several States increased, - - -	1391
8,	Petitions from sundry prisoners referred to the Committee on the state of the prisoners, -	1392
8,	Measures for raising the new Army, - - -	1392
8,	Further encouragement to the non-commissioned officers and soldiers to enlist during the war, - - -	1392
8,	States recommended to take the most effectual measures for completing, by the 10th of November, their proportions of the levies to be raised during the war, - - -	1393
8,	States recommended to appoint as officers men of honour and known abilities, without a particular regard to their having before been in service, - - -	1393

1776.

Oct. 8, Order for the disposition of sundry articles imported by the Secret Committee, -	1393
9, Application of Captain Dirks to be appointed Engineer referred to the Board of War, -	1393
9, The form of a bond to be given by General Lee for the thirty thousand dollars advanced to him, brought in and agreed to, -	1393
9, Resolutions on the report of the Committee who went to the camp, -	1393
10, Petitions from Captain Daniel Morgan and others, late returned from Canada, referred to the Board of Treasury, -	1394
10, Petitions of John Melchior Neff and Paul Fooks referred to the Board of War, -	1394
10, Captain Whipple, of the ship Columbus, promoted to the command of the Providence frigate, -	1394
10, Rank of the Captains of the Navy, -	1394
10, Marine Committee empowered to settle the rank of the Lieutenants of the Navy, -	1395
10, General Schuyler directed to take measures for effectually securing the command of the Lakes, -	1395
10, William Patten appointed Third Lieutenant in Colonel Hand's regiment, -	1395
10, Regimental Paymasters to have the rank of First Lieutenants, and receive rations as Captains, -	1395
10, General Washington directed to negotiate an exchange of the officers returned from Canada, -	1395
10, General Washington directed, if he shall judge it necessary, to sink the new ships sent down by the New-York Convention for obstructing the channel opposite Fort Washington, -	1395
10, Plan for providing carriages, &c., for the Army, -	1395
10, Board of War to confer with a Committee of the Council of Safety of Pennsylvania on the expediency of having troops stationed near Philadelphia, -	1395
10, Promotions and appointments in the Virginia Battalions, -	1395
10, Memorial of George Measam laid on the table, -	1396
10, Inhabitants of Canada captivated by the United States, and not taken in arms, released on parole, except St. Luke la Corn and Mons. Rouville, -	1396
11, The release of Mons. de Chambault, as proposed by General Washington, agreed to, -	1396
11, General Washington desired, by every art, and at whatever expense, to obstruct effectually the navigation of the North River, -	1396
11, Arrival of a vessel at Rhode-Island with sundry articles imported by the Secret Committee, -	1396
11, Continental cruisers placed under the orders of the Secret Committee, -	1397
11, Three members added to the Committee of Secret Correspondence, -	1397
11, Petition of William Jenkins referred to the Board of Treasury, -	1397
11, General Washington empowered to appoint a Deputy Commissary of Stores for the Army near New-York, -	1397
11, Form of an oath to be taken by the officers of the Army and Navy brought in and laid on the table, -	1397
11, Mr. Ellery added to the Marine Committee, -	1397
14, Petition from Francis Mentges referred to the Board of War, -	1398
14, A report of the Board of War, (note,) -	1398
14, General Washington authorized to appoint P. Penett his Aid-de-Camp by brevet, -	1398
14, The States desired to furnish an account of expenses incurred on account of prisoners, -	1398
14, Five hundred thousand dollars to be immediately sent to the Paymaster-General, to pay the bounty to such of the troops as shall reinlist to serve during the war, -	1398
14, Report of the Committee appointed to hear and determine in the case of the ship Elizabeth, -	1398
14, Report on the state of the prisoners brought in and laid on the table, -	1398
14, No allowance to be made to officers for any arms lost or taken from them by the enemy, -	1398
14, No officer holding two appointments in the Continental Army to be paid for more than one, -	1400

1776.

Oct. 14, A Committee appointed to devise ways and means for supplying the Treasury with a further sum of money, -	1400
14, A Committee appointed to consider what is to be done with negroes taken by vessels of war in the service of the United States, -	1400
15, William Davies granted leave to resign his commission of Deputy Mustermaster-General of the Flying-Camp, -	1401
15, Distribution of the cargo lately arrived at Providence, imported by the Secret Committee, -	1402
16, Mr. Wharton supplied with money for the purchase of salt and pork, -	1402
16, George Measam elected Commissary of Clothing for the Northern Army, and allowed the pay and rations of a Major, -	1403
16, The Commander-in-Chief of the Northern Department to appoint appraisers of clothing, -	1403
16, General Washington empowered to appoint a Commissary of Clothing for the Army under his immediate command, and a Deputy Mustermaster for the Flying-Camp, -	1403
16, One ton of powder to be sent to North-Carolina for the use of the Continental forces in that State, -	1403
16, Report of Committee on the state of the prisoners, -	1403
16, Recommended to the General Court of Massachusetts-Bay to give the full weight of their influence to make the frigate Hancock ready for sea immediately, -	1403
16, A petition of Captain C. Roberts referred to a Committee, -	1403
16, A memorial from the Chevalier d'Antignac referred to the Board of War, -	1403
16, Commanding Officer in the Northern Department to confirm or disapprove the sentence on Colonel Campbell, as he shall think proper, -	1404
16, Resolutions respecting distribution of prizes taken by the cruisers fitted out by General Washington at the Continental expense, -	1404
16, Additional instructions to the Commissioners to France, (note,) -	1404
17, Committee appointed to hear and determine upon the appeal of Henry Keppele against the sentence passed on the ship Charming Peggy, -	1404
17, Committee appointed to review such of the resolutions of Congress as relate to the capture and condemnation of prizes, -	1404
17, Petition from Carpenter Wharton referred to the Council of Safety of Pennsylvania, -	1405
17, Ephraim Blaine appointed Commissary to Colonel Mackay's Battalion, -	1405
17, Francis Lewis, Jun., permitted to go to New-York with Mr. Foxcroft, -	1405
17, Report of Committee on the state of the prisoners in the gaol of Philadelphia, -	1405
17, Committee appointed to publish, from time to time, authentick accounts of the state of the Armies and Navy, -	1405
17, Committee appointed to bring in a plan for the better regulating the Treasury Board, -	1405
17, One hundred and fifty dollars presented to Mr. Duché, Chaplain to Congress, -	1405
18, Thaddeus Kosciusko appointed an Engineer, with the pay of sixty dollars a month, and the rank of Colonel, -	1406
18, Report of Committee on the petition of Colonel Hazen brought in and read, -	1406
21, Arrival of a vessel in New-Hampshire with a cargo imported by the Secret Committee, -	1406
21, Board of War directed to apply to the Council of Safety for the loan of as many cartridges as they can spare, -	1406
21, The powder in the magazine to be kept for the publick service, -	1406
21, Board of War directed to have the lead at the lead mines in Virginia brought to Philadelphia, -	1407
21, A memorial from Monsieur Dorre referred to the Marine Committee, -	1407
21, The Deputy Commissary-General in Virginia to make contracts for the supply of the troops in that department, -	1407
21, The Commander-in-Chief in each department, at the instance of the Commissary-General, to employ as many persons as he may think proper, -	1407

CONTENTS.

CXII

CXI

1776.	Oct. 21, Rations of Staff Officers, - - -	1407	1776.	Oct. 28, The Committee to whom the memorial of Matthew Irwin was referred, ordered to request the Pennsylvania Council of Safety to sell to Mr. Irwin, for the use of the Army, as much salt as they can possibly spare, - - -	1414
21,	Form of the oath to be taken by the officers in the service of the Continent, - - -	1408	28,	The Marine Committee empowered to employ such persons as they shall think proper to execute the business entrusted to them, and report their names to Congress, - - -	1414
22,	A letter from General Mifflin to Captain Falkner read and referred to a Committee, - - -	1408	29,	Committee appointed to take every step they think proper for the recovery of despatches from General Washington, said to have been stolen from an express, - - -	1414
22,	General Schuyler's application to the Eastern States, and to the State of New-York, for their Militia, approved, - - -	1409	29,	Colonels Cadwalader and Bayard requested to accompany the said Committee to Bristol, - - -	1415
22,	The resolution for sending home the Canadians suspended till further orders, - - -	1409	29,	Recommended to the Convention of North-Carolina to fortify and secure immediately, at the expense of their State, the entrance of Cape Fear river, - - -	1415
22,	No prisoners to go beyond the bounds allowed them, nor to come to Philadelphia, without leave from the Board of War, - - -	1409	29,	No private ships of war, merchant ships, or other vessels belonging to the subjects of these States, to wear pendants when in company with Continental ships of war, without leave from the commanding officer thereof, - - -	1415
22,	The Commissioners to France directed to procure from that Court, at the expense of the United States, and with all possible diligence, eight line-of-battle ships, - - -	1409	30,	Thirty dollars paid to Captain Moore to enable him to proceed to Europe, - - -	1415
22,	Report of Secret Committee on the contents of the cargo lately arrived at Portsmouth in the brig Marquis of Kildare, - - -	1409	30,	Andrew Stalker, late commander of the brig Three Friends, granted leave to depart the States of America, and revisit his native country, - - -	1415
22,	Distribution of the cargo of the brig Marquis of Kildare, - - -	1409	30,	A petition from John Tillman read, - - -	1415
22,	Arthur Lee elected Commissioner to France in the room of Mr. Jefferson, who declined, - - -	1410	30,	Jacob Myle appointed Quartermaster, and Eberhart Michael Paymaster, to the German Battalion, - - -	1416
23,	Governour Cooke requested immediately to purchase for the Army under General Washington, all the blankets and cloths lately arrived at Rhode-Island in a prize vessel, - - -	1410	30,	The one hundred and fifty dollars voted to Mr. Duché applied, by his request, to the relief of the widows and children of such of the Pennsylvania officers as have fallen in battle, - - -	1416
23,	Colonel William Maxwell and Colonel William Smallwood elected Brigadier-Generals, - - -	1410	30,	Determination of Congress on the resolutions passed by the Convention of Maryland respecting the raising the eight battalions allotted to their State, - - -	1416
23,	Resolutions passed by the Convention of Maryland respecting the raising the eight battalions allotted to their State, read and referred to a Committee, - - -	1410	30,	The rank of officers of Marines to be the same as officers of similar commissions in the land service, - - -	1417
23,	Referred to the Board of War to consider in what way Monsieur De Roche Fermoy may be employed in the service of the Continent, - - -	1411	30,	The officers and men in the Continental Navy to be entitled to one-half the value of merchantmen, transports, and store-ships, and the whole value of vessels of war and privateers, by them taken, - - -	1417
23,	Colonel Hazen's Regiment to remain on its original establishment, and be recruited to its full complement in any of the thirteen United States, - - -	1412	31,	Two thousand dollars advanced to Colonel Zebulon Butler, and leave granted to him to purchase fifty bushels of the salt belonging to the Continent, for the use of the troops raised in Westmoreland, - - -	1417
24,	Petitions of William Moore and William Rigg referred to the Marine Committee, - - -	1412	31,	The Committee appointed to make inquiry for the lost despatches from Head-Quarters, report that they have not been able to find them, and recommend the arrest of the express, - - -	1417
24,	Five hundred dollars advanced to Committee appointed to send wharf-builders to General Washington, - - -	1412	31,	Committee appointed to prepare an effectual plan for suppressing the internal enemies of America, and preventing a communication of intelligence with other enemies, - - -	1418
24,	A representation from the Council of Safety of Pennsylvania to the Board of War read and laid on the table, - - -	1412	31,	The Board of War to remove the prisoners to some convenient places back in the country, and to have a sufficient guard kept at the publick prison and over the Continental stores in and near Philadelphia, - - -	1418
24,	Leave granted to David Franks and his clerk to go to New-York, upon giving their parole not to give any intelligence to the enemy, and that they will return to Philadelphia, - - -	1412	31,	Recommendation to the States to provide laws for effectually preventing monopolies of necessities for the Army, - - -	1418
24,	A petition of Benjamin Eyre read and referred to a Committee, - - -	1412	31,	The Committee on Mr. Bache's letter ordered to report, as soon as possible, ways and means of establishing expresses, and conveying intelligence to and from the Army with safety and despatch, - - -	1418
24,	A petition from Captain Anstruther, a prisoner, and one from Simon Carbolais, read and rejected, - - -	1412			
25,	A certificate in favour of Rev. John Nevelling, Chaplain, referred to the Board of Treasury, - - -	1413			
25,	A petition from Alice Brazier read and referred to the Board of Treasury, - - -	1413			
25,	Three thousand dollars advanced to Colonel Hazen towards inlisting his battalion, - - -	1413			
25,	A letter from P. Zabriskie and J. Morgan referred to the Board of Treasury, - - -	1413			
25,	Recommendation to the several States forthwith to import, or otherwise procure, full supplies of arms, ammunition, clothing, &c., for such of their Militia as are deficient therein, - - -	1413			
28,	Report of the Court of Inquiry appointed to discover what stores were on board the enemy's fleet taken in the river St. Lawrence, read and referred to the Board of Treasury, - - -	1414			
28,	Mons. du Bois, upon resigning his commission, to have leave to return to Martinico, - - -	1414			
28,	Committee appointed to inquire into the reports of persons monopolizing and engrossing the articles necessary for the Army, - - -	1414			

DOCUMENTARY HISTORY, &c.

MINUTES OF THE PROCEEDINGS OF THE CONVENTION OF THE STATE OF PENNSYLVANIA, HELD AT PHILADELPHIA, THE FIFTEENTH DAY OF JULY, 1776, AND CONTINUED BY ADJOURNMENT TO SEPTEMBER THE 28TH FOLLOWING, WITH THE CONSTITUTION OF THE SAID STATE.

At a meeting of the Convention for the State of *Pennsylvania*, held at the State House in the City of *Philadelphia*, on the fifteenth day of *July*, in the year one thousand seven hundred and seventy-six.

Monday, July 15, 1776, P. M.

The respective Judges for the election for the City of *Philadelphia* and the several Counties made their Returns, as follows, viz :

For the City of PHILADELPHIA.

Timothy Matlack,	James Cannon,
Benjamin Franklin,	George Clymer,
Frederick Kuhl,	George Schlosser,
Owen Biddle,	David Rittenhouse.

For the County of PHILADELPHIA.

Frederick Antis,	John Bull,
Henry Hill,	Thomas Potts,
Robert Loller,	Edward Bartholomew,
Joseph Blewer,	William Coates.

For the County of BUCKS.

Joseph Hart,	William Vanhorn,
John Wilkinson,	John Grier,
Samuel Smith,	Abra. Van Midleswarts,
John Keller,	Joseph Kirkbride.

For the County of CHESTER.

Benjamin Bartholomew,	Samuel Cunningham,
John Jacobs,	John Hart,
Thomas Strawbridge,	John Mackey,
Robert Smith,	John Flemming.

For the County of LANCASTER.

George Ross,	Joseph Sherrer,
Philip Marsteller,	John Hubley,
Thomas Porter,	Henry Slaymaker,
Bartram Galbreath,	Alexander Lowrey.

For the County of YORK.

John Hay,	Francis Crazart,
James Edgar,	James Smith,
William Rankin,	Robert M'Pherson,
Henry Slagle,	Joseph Donaldson.

For the County of CUMBERLAND.

John Harris,	William Duffield,
Jonathan Hoge,	James Brown,
William Clarke,	Hugh Alexander,
Robert Whitehill,	James M'Clean.

For the County of BERKS.

Jacob Morgan,	Daniel Hunter,
Gabriel Heister,	Valentine Eckart,
John Leshier,	Charles Shoemaker,
Benjamin Spyker,	Thomas Jones.

For the County of NORTHAMPTON.

Simon Dresbach,	Jacob Stroud,
Jacob Arndt,	Neigal Gray,
Peter Buckholder,	Abraham Miller,
Peter Rhoads,	John Ralston.

For the County of BEDFORD.

Thomas Smith,	Joseph Powell,
John Wilkins,	Henry Rhoads,
Benjamin Elliot,	John Burd,
Thomas Coulter,	John Cessna.

For the County of NORTHUMBERLAND.

William Cooke,	Walter Clark,
James Potter,	John Kelley,

Robert Martin,
Matthew Brown,

James Crawford,
John Weitzell.

For the County of WESTMORELAND.

James Barr,
Edward Cook,
James Smith,
John Moore,

John Carmichael,
James Perry,
John M'Clellan,
Christopher Lavingair.

The Convention adjourned to three o'clock to-morrow in the afternoon.

Tuesday, July 16, 1776, P. M.

The Convention met pursuant to adjournment.

Doctor *Benjamin Franklin* was unanimously chosen President.

Colonel *George Ross* was unanimously chosen Vice President.

John Morris, Esq., was chosen Secretary.

Mr. *Jacob Garrigues* was chosen Assistant Clerk to the Secretary.

Mr. *Morris* not being in this City at present, Colonel *Matlack* is requested to perform the duty of Secretary till Mr. *Morris* may return.

The qualification and profession of faith recommended by the Conference of Committees, held at *Philadelphia* on the 25th of *June* last, were read, taken, and subscribed by all the Members now present, viz :

Benjamin Franklin,
Timothy Matlack,
Frederick Kuhl,
Owen Biddle,
James Cannon,
George Clymer,
George Schlosser,
David Rittenhouse,
Frederick Antis,
Henry Hill,
Robert Loller,
Joseph Blewer,
John Bull,
Edward Bartholomew,
Joseph Hart,
John Wilkinson,
Samuel Smith,
John Keller,
William Vanhorn,
John Grier,
Joseph Kirkbride,
John Hart,
Thomas Strawbridge,
Robert Smith,
Samuel Cunningham,
John Mackey,
George Ross,
Bartram Galbreath,
Joseph Sherrer,
John Hubley,
Henry Slaymaker,
Alexander Lowrey,
John Hay,
James Edgar,
Francis Crazart,

James Smith,
Robert M'Pherson,
Joseph Donaldson,
John Harris,
Jonathan Hoge,
William Clarke,
William Duffield,
James Brown,
James M'Clean,
Jacob Morgan,
Gabriel Heister,
John Leshier,
Benjamin Spyker,
Daniel Hunter,
Charles Shoemaker,
Thomas Jones,
Simon Dresbach,
Jacob Arndt,
Peter Buckholder,
Peter Rhoads,
Jacob Stroud,
Neigal Gray,
Abraham Miller,
John Ralston,
Thomas Smith,
John Wilkins,
Benjamin Elliot,
Thomas Coulter,
Joseph Powell,
Henry Rhoads,
John Burd,
John Cessna,
Walter Clark,
John Kelly, and
James Crawford.

William Sheed is appointed Doorkeeper.

A Letter from the Honourable *John Hancock*, Esquire, President of the Congress of the *United States of America*, directed to this Convention, was read, recommending to them to take such measures as may be judged proper and necessary for procuring as much Lead within this State as can be obtained: Whereupon it was

Resolved, That the said recommendation of Congress be immediately complied with; and therefore that it be recommended to the Committee of Safety immediately to take the most vigorous and effectual measures to procure all the Lead which can be obtained, and which may at present be used in spouts, window-weights, clock-weights, ornaments of houses, or in any other form; and that they make reasonable compensation for the same to all persons from whom it may be had or received, having regard also to any particular inconveniences which individuals may sustain by affording the publick this necessary supply.

And it is likewise recommended to the inhabitants of this State to part willingly with such Lead as they have in their possession for the publick service.

A Letter was read from General *Roberdeau* respecting the Guard recommended by Congress to be kept in this City; and the same being considered, it was

Resolved, That it be recommended to the Committee of Safety to take the necessary steps thereupon, as being within their department.

A Letter was read from the Delegates of the State of *Virginia*, now in the Congress, proposing that a temporary line between *Pennsylvania* and *Virginia* may be agreed upon, until a final determination may be had, and declaring their readiness to confer on this subject with any gentlemen this House may be pleased to appoint for that purpose. The same being considered, it was

Ordered, That the further consideration thereof be deferred to *Thursday* morning next.

On motion, *Resolved*, That application be made to General *Roberdeau*, requesting him to issue an order for permitting *John Morris*, Esq., and *Jacob Garrigues* to return to this City, they being appointed to the offices of Secretary and Assistant Clerk to this Convention.

Adjourned till to-morrow morning, eight o'clock.

—
Wednesday, July 17, 1776.

The Convention met according to adjournment.

Upon motion, *Resolved*, That the Rev. Mr. *William White* be requested to perform divine service to-morrow morning, before this Convention, that we may jointly offer up our prayers to *Almighty God* to afford us his divine grace and assistance in the important and arduous task committed to us; and to offer up our praises and thanksgivings for the manifold mercies and the peculiar interposition of his special providence in behalf of these injured, oppressed, and insulted *United States*.

Colonel *Matlack* and Mr. *Clymer* are appointed to wait on the Rev. Mr. *White*, and furnish him with a copy of the foregoing Resolve.

Moved, That Colonel *Miles* be appointed Brigadier-General and Commander-in-Chief of the forces of *Pennsylvania*.

Referred for further consideration.

Mr. *Matthew Brown*, *John Flemming*, *Philip Marsteller*, and *Robert Whitehill*, appeared in the House for the first time, took the oaths, and made and signed the profession of faith required.

Moved, That effectual measures be taken to obtain the Arms from all Non-Associators, as they are absolutely necessary for the defence of the country. And as the Associators in this State are not all completely armed, and the Resolve of the honourable Congress for disarming disaffected persons and Non-Associators has not yet been effectually executed, therefore,

Resolved, That Mr. *Rittenhouse*, Mr. *Bull*, Mr. *Kirkbride*, Mr. *Flemming*, Mr. *Marsteller*, Mr. *Edgar*, Mr. *Harris*, Mr. *Coulter*, Mr. *Morgan*, Mr. *Gray*, and Mr. *Crawford*, be a Committee for bringing in an ordinance for the purpose of carrying fully into execution the said Resolve of Congress.

A Petition from divers debtors now confined in the Jail

of *Philadelphia*, praying releasement from their confinement, was read; and

Ordered to lie on the table.

Adjourned to to-morrow morning, eight o'clock.

—
Thursday, July 18, 1776, A. M.

The Convention met according to adjournment.

Mr. *Morris*, the Secretary, now attending, it was ordered, upon motion, that he should take the following Affirmation, viz:

"I, *John Morris*, do declare that I do not hold myself bound to bear allegiance to *George the Third*, King of *Great Britain*; and that I will steadily and firmly, at all times, promote the most effectual means, according to the best of my skill and knowledge, to oppose the tyrannical proceedings of the King and Parliament of *Great Britain* against the *American Colonies*, and support a government in this State on the authority of the people only; and that as Secretary of this Convention, I will be faithful, and make fair and just minutes of all their proceedings, according to the best of my abilities, and keep all such secrets as shall be directed to be kept by the Convention;" which he did accordingly.

Ordered, also, That the Clerk, when he shall come, shall make a declaration to the like import.

The Rev. Mr. *White* attending, agreeable to the request of yesterday; and having performed divine service, and being withdrawn, it was

Ordered, on motion, That Mr. *Matlack* and Mr. *Clymer* wait upon that gentleman with the thanks of the Convention for his services.

On motion, That a Committee be appointed to draw up Rules and Regulations for the government of this Convention in their proceedings,

Ordered, That Mr. *Ross*, Mr. *Matlack*, and Mr. *Jacobs*, be a Committee for that purpose.

On motion, *Resolved*, That the Secretary call upon the Clerk of the Assembly, from time to time, for such of the publick Records, Papers and Documents belonging to this Government, as the Convention shall think necessary; and the said Clerk is hereby directed to deliver the same.

Resolved, That the members of this Convention have, at all seasonable times, free access to the publick Library of this State.

A Report from the Committee appointed yesterday to bring in an ordinance respecting the Arms of Non-Associators, was read, and ordered to lie on the table for a second reading.

The gentlemen appointed to draw up Rules and Regulations for the government of this Convention in their proceedings, withdrew; and, after some time, brought in an essay for that purpose; which, being read, was agreed to, and is as followeth, viz:

First. That the Members, when speaking, address themselves to the Chair.

Second. That no Member interrupt a Member when speaking.

Third. That no Member use indecent or reflecting language, or wilfully pervert the sense of what another Member has said.

Fourth. That the Members are not to use each other's names, but in their answers, to take notice of their time of speaking, or their situation as to the right or left of the Chair, &c.

Fifth. That no Member cross between the Chair and a speaking Member.

Sixth. That the President have a right to call to order, where a Member may wander from the matter in debate.

Seventh. That no Member speak above twice on the same subject, without obtaining leave from the Convention.

Eighth. That where any debate proves very tedious, and any four Members rise and call for the question, the President shall put the same.

Ninth. That where the President shall enjoin secrecy, it is expected that every Member is bound by his honour to observe the same.

Tenth. That where the House is equally divided, the President shall have the casting vote.

Upon motion, *Resolved*, That two-thirds of the persons chosen as Members of this Convention be a quorum.

Upon motion, *Resolved*, That no Member of this Convention absent himself without leave.

Upon motion to resume the consideration of the Letter from the *Virginia* Delegates, it was agreed to postpone the same for some time, as the members for *Westmoreland* are not yet arrived.

Upon motion, and after debate, *Resolved*, That a Committee be appointed to make an essay for a Declaration of Rights for this State.

Resolved, also, That the said Committee consist of eleven persons, viz: Mr. *Biddle*, Colonel *Bull*, the Rev. Mr. *Van-horn*, Mr. *Jacobs*, Colonel *Ross*, Colonel *James Smith*, Mr. *Hoge*, Mr. *Morgan*, Colonel *Stroud*, Colonel *Thomas Smith* and Mr. *Martin*.

Mr. *Abraham Van Middleswart*, Mr. *Robert Martin*, Mr. *John Weitzel*, and Mr. *John Jacobs*, appeared in the House for the first time, took the oath or affirmation, and made and signed the profession of faith required.

Adjourned to four o'clock, P. M.

— Thursday, July 18, 1776, P. M.

The Convention met pursuant to adjournment, when a Letter to this House from the honourable the President of the Congress was read, desiring them to recommend Field-Officers for a Battalion to be raised in the Counties of *Bedford* and *Westmoreland*, in this State, for the defence of its western frontier.

After some deliberation thereon, the further consideration thereof was postponed till to-morrow morning.

It was proposed by the President that the Convention should now proceed to the choice of Delegates to serve in the Continental Congress; whereupon, a debate arising, it was previously moved, and

Resolved, unanimously, That the said Delegates, to serve this State in Congress, shall be chosen by ballot.

Also, *Resolved*, That the number of the said Delegates be nine.

It was then considered, whether this House will proceed to the election of the said Delegates, or postpone it till to-morrow afternoon?

And it was thereupon agreed to postpone the same till to-morrow afternoon.

It was moved and *Resolved*, That a majority of the Delegates for this State, who are at any time present in Congress at the determination of any question, shall be a quorum to give the vote of this State.

Moved and *Resolved*, That the Council of Safety for this State shall consist of fifteen members, residing in or near the City of *Philadelphia*, and of one for each of the Counties; and that seven be a quorum for the transaction of business.

Moved and *Resolved*, That the whole Council of Safety be voted for together by one general ballot.

Adjourned to to-morrow morning, ten o'clock.

— Friday, July 19, 1776, A. M.

The Convention met according to adjournment.

Colonel *James Potter*, one of the Members for *Northumbreland*, appeared in the House for the first time, took the oaths, and made and subscribed the profession of faith required.

The Ordinance brought in yesterday respecting the Arms of Non-Associators, was read a second time, and then read by paragraphs. During the debates on which, a letter was handed to the President from the honourable the President of the Congress, informing that a false report had been spread through the country, which, it was apprehended, had retarded the march of the *Pennsylvania* Associators, and that therefore it had been resolved by the Congress, that it should be recommended to this Convention to hasten their march with all expedition.

Whereupon, it was moved and unanimously *Resolved*, That Circular Letters be written to the several Committees of Inspection and Observation of this State, to send orders immediately to the several Colonels or Commanding Officers to march their Troops with the utmost expedition to *New-Jersey*, agreeable to a former request of Congress.

Also, moved and unanimously *Resolved*, That Letters be forthwith written to the several Colonels and Commanding Officers in the several Counties, and printed copies thereof also sent to the several Committees, to be by them forwarded to the Officers:

And that the Resolve of Congress of this day and the Letter of the honourable President to this Convention, be also printed, and the copies thereof sent with the other Letters.

And also, that Colonel *Mailack*, Colonel *Hill*, and Mr. *Cannon* be a Committee to write the said Letters, and to print and forward them.

Adjourned to three o'clock, P. M.

— Friday, July 19, P. M.

The House met pursuant to adjournment.

The Committee appointed to write the Letters to the Committees of Inspection and Commanding Officers, reported drafts of them, which being read, and some small amendments made at the table, were approved of, and ordered to be printed and expedited as quickly as possible.

Mr. *William Rankin*, one of the Members for *York* County, appeared in the House for the first time, took the oaths, and made and subscribed the profession of faith.

The House resumed the consideration of the Ordinance respecting the Arms of Non-Associators; and after a considerable time employed in debating thereon and amending the same, it was ordained in the following words, viz:

Whereas the Non-Associators in this State have either refused or neglected to deliver up their Arms according to the Resolves of the honourable Continental Congress and the Assembly of *Pennsylvania*, and effectual measures have not been taken to carry the said Resolves into execution:

Be it therefore *Ordained*, by the authority of this Convention, That the Colonel or next officer in command of every Battalion of Militia in this State, is hereby authorized, empowered and required to collect, receive, and take all the Arms in his district or township nearest to such officer, which are in the hands of Non-Associators, in the most expeditious and effectual manner in his power, and shall give to the owners receipts for such Arms, specifying the amount of the appraisement; and such as can be repaired shall with all possible despatch be rendered fit for service, and the value according to the appraisement of all such Arms, together with the repairs and transportation, shall be paid to the officers by the Treasurer, on the order of the Council of Safety, for the use of the owners, and defraying the charges.

And be it further *Ordained*, That the same Arms shall be appraised by any three reputable freeholders appointed by the Commanding Officer. But if the owner of any Arms shall neglect or refuse to apply for such money within six months, the same shall be applied towards the repairs of the Arms: and the Colonels are hereby authorized to draw for the necessary sums of money, for the purposes aforesaid, on the Council of Safety.

And it is further *Ordained*, That the Colonels aforesaid shall arm the Associators with the said Arms, and keep an account to whom they are delivered, and return the same to the Council of Safety; and every Associator shall be answerable for such Arms or the value, unless lost or destroyed by some unavoidable accident, or in actual service.

And be it further *Ordained*, That in case any Arms so collected shall not be worth repairing, the same shall be laid by until such time as may be thought proper by the Committee of the County to return them to the owners.

Moved and *Resolved*, That the salary of each of the Delegates to be chosen to serve this State in Congress shall be twenty shillings per diem.

The election of Delegates is adjourned to eight o'clock to-morrow morning.

Adjourned till to-morrow morning, eight o'clock.

— Saturday, July 20, 1776.

The House met according to adjournment.

When, according to the Order of the Day, they immediately proceeded, by ballot, to the election of Delegates to serve in the Continental Congress, and chose for that service Doctor *Benjamin Franklin*, Colonel *George Ross*, *George Clymer*, Esquire, *Robert Morris*, Esquire, Colonel *James Wilson*, *John Morton*, Esquire, Doctor *Benjamin Rush*, Colonel *James Smith*, and *George Taylor*, Esquire.

Moved and *Resolved*, That a Committee be appointed to draw up Instructions for the Delegates in Congress; and that Colonel *Matlack*, Colonel *Thomas Smith*, Mr. *Cannon*, Mr. *Rittenhouse*, and Colonel *Bull*, be that Committee.

Moved and *Resolved*, That Mr. *Rittenhouse*, Colonel *Thomas Smith*, Mr. *Lowrey*, Mr. *Biddle*, and Colonel *Potter*, be a Committee to confer with the *Virginia* Delegates on the subject of a temporary line between the two States of *Virginia* and *Pennsylvania*.

Colonel *Ross* informed the House, at the request of the Secret Committee of Congress, that the Congress, for certain pressing and important reasons, desired that this Convention would direct that the common Prisoners be removed from the new Jail to the old Jail in this City, and would give up the said new Jail to the Congress for the use of the State Prisoners; for which they would willingly pay any reasonable rent or compensation.

Whereupon it was moved, and unanimously *Resolved*, That the said request of Congress be complied with, and that the said common Prisoners be forthwith (that is, this day) removed from the said new Jail, and that the same be immediately delivered up to Congress for the use aforesaid: and the Sheriff of the City and County of *Philadelphia* is commanded to keep his civil Prisoners safely in the old Jail until they may be properly discharged: and of this Resolve, all persons whom it may concern are required to take notice, and give prompt obedience thereto.

The House then resumed the consideration of the Field-Officers for the Battalion intended for the defence of the western frontier, and agreed to recommend *Aneas M^c Coy*, Esquire, as Colonel, *George Wilson*, Esquire, as Lieutenant-Colonel, and *Richard Butler*, Esquire, as Major.

Adjourned to *Monday* morning, eight o'clock.

Monday, July 22, 1776, A. M.

The House met pursuant to adjournment.

The following Members for *Westmoreland*, viz: *James Barr*, *Edward Cook*, *John Moor*, *John Carmichael*, *John M^cClellan*, *Christopher Lavinger*, and *James Smith* now appeared in the House, took the oaths, and made and subscribed the profession of faith, as did also *Hugh Alexander*, of *Cumberland*, at the same time.

Moved and *Resolved*, That the Committee of Safety of this State lay their Accounts and Proceedings before this Convention; and that Mr. *Clymer* communicate this Resolution to the said Committee.

On motion, *Ordered*, That Mr. *John Moor* be added to the Declaration of Rights Committee, and that the said Committee have leave of absence.

A Letter from the President of the Congress, requesting this Convention to increase the quota of this State for the Flying-Camp with four Battalions of Militia, was presented and read; but so many of the Members had gone upon the Committee of the Declaration of Rights, that a quorum was not then in the House. The consideration of it was therefore postponed to the afternoon.

Adjourned to three o'clock in the afternoon.

Monday, July 22, 1776, P. M.

The House met pursuant to adjournment.

Mr. *Valentine Eckart* appeared in the House for the first time, and took the oaths, and made and subscribed the profession of faith.

A Petition from *William Dewees*, Esquire, as High Sheriff of the City and County of *Philadelphia*, was read, praying that before he obeyed the Resolve of this House of the 20th instant, respecting the removal of the Prisoners from the new to the old Jail, he and his sureties might be indemnified.

Upon consideration thereof, it was moved and *Resolved*, That the said *William Dewees* be ordered to pay immediate obedience to the said Resolve of the 20th instant; and that if he thinks necessary, he may apply to the Commanding Officer of the City Guard for a Guard to the old Jail, till it be put in a state of security: and the said officer is hereby required and ordered to grant the same.

Upon motion, *Ordered*, That Colonel *Matlack* and Mr. *Clymer* be a Committee to go immediately and examine the state of the old Jail.

They went, and returning, report that they had viewed the same, and find it sufficiently secure to receive and keep safe the Prisoners.

The said *William Dewees* attending, requested as a favour that he might be indulged till the morning before he removed the Prisoners. His request was granted, the evening being too far advanced to remove them conveniently.

The House then resumed the consideration of Mr. President *Hancock's* Letter respecting the increase of the quota for the Flying-Camp; and after some debate thereon, agreed to refer it for further consideration till to-morrow morning.

Adjourned till to-morrow morning, nine o'clock.

Tuesday, July 23, 1776, A. M.

The House met pursuant to adjournment.

The consideration of Mr. President *Hancock's* Letter was resumed; and after some debate thereon, it was, upon motion,

Resolved, That Mr. *Cannon*, Colonel *Kirkbride*, Major *Loller*, Mr. *Mackay*, Colonel *Lowrey*, Colonel *M^cPherson*, Mr. *Harris*, Mr. *Ralston*, and Mr. *Eckart* be a Committee to fix the proportions of the City and the several Counties of this State, towards composing the four additional Battalions required by Congress for the Flying-Camp.

Whereas the Associators in this State, on the requisition of the honourable the Continental Congress, have freely and bravely gone into the field for the defence of the common liberties of *America*, while the Non-Associators remain at home in peace and security, without affording, by personal service or otherwise, that just and necessary assistance they owe to the State for their protection: Therefore,

Resolved, That this Convention will take the most effectual measures to render the burthen and expense of the inhabitants of this State just and equal.

Ordered, That this Resolve be published in the Newspapers of this City.

On motion, that as the safety and security of the State should at all times call the attention of its members for its preservation: Therefore,

Resolved, That Colonel *Ross*, Colonel *James Smith*, Mr. *Biddle*, Mr. *Hoge*, Mr. *Clymer*, Mr. *Rittenhouse*, and Colonel *Thomas Smith*, be a Committee to bring in an ordinance declaring what shall be high treason and misprision of treason against this State, and what punishment shall be inflicted for those offences.

On motion, *Resolved*, That the same gentlemen mentioned in the preceding Resolve be a Committee to bring in an ordinance declaring what shall be the punishment for the counterfeiting the paper Bills of Credit issued by the honourable Continental Congress, or by the late Assembly of *Pennsylvania*, or by any other of the *United States of America*; and which of them, and how far, and in what cases, they shall be a legal tender.

A Petition from Colonel *James Easton*, a prisoner now confined in the Jail of *Philadelphia*, was read, setting forth the very great and peculiar hardships of his case: Whereupon it was,

On motion, *Resolved*, That Mr. *Jacobs*, Colonel *Matlack*, and Mr. *Hubley*, be a Committee to inquire into the truth of the facts set forth in his Petition.

Adjourned to three o'clock, P. M.

Tuesday, July 23, 1776, P. M.

The House met pursuant to adjournment.

Mr. *Benjamin Bartholomew* and Mr. *James Perry* appeared in the House for the first time, and took the oaths, and made and subscribed the profession of faith.

On motion, *Resolved*, That eight shillings shall be the salary of each Member of the Council of Safety for every day in which he shall be engaged in the publick service.

The House then proceeded to the election, by ballot, of the Council of Safety for this State. The following gentlemen were chosen, viz:

David Rittenhouse, *Jonathan B. Smith*, *Owen Biddle*, *James Cannon*, *Timothy Matlack*, *Nathaniel Falconer*, *Samuel Morris*, junior, *Samuel Howell*, *Frederick Kuhl*, *Samuel Morris*, senior, *Thomas Wharton*, junior, *Henry Keppeler*, junior, *Joseph Blewer*, *Samuel Mifflin*, *George Gray*, and *John Bull*, for *Philadelphia* County.

Henry Wynkoop for *Bucks* County; *Benjamin Bartholomew* for *Chester* County; *John Hubley* for *Lancaster* County; *Michael Swoope* for *York* County; *William Lyon* for *Cumberland* County; *Daniel Hunter* for *Berks* County; *Peter Rhoads* for *Northampton* County; *David Espey* for *Bedford* County; *John Weitzel* for *Northumberland* County; and *John Moor* for *Westmoreland* County.

Who being declared elected, the House adjourned to to-morrow morning, ten o'clock.

—
Wednesday, July 24, 1776, A. M.

The Convention met according to adjournment.

Colonel *Henry Slagle* appeared in the House for the first time, and took the oath, and made and subscribed the profession of faith.

On motion, *Resolved*, That the Members of the Council of Safety, before they enter upon the execution of their office, shall take and subscribe the following Oath or Affirmation, viz :

"I, do declare that I do not hold myself bound to bear allegiance to *George the Third*, King of *Great Britain*; and that I will steadily and firmly, at all times, promote the most effectual means, according to the best of my skill and knowledge, to oppose the tyrannical proceedings of the King and Parliament of *Great Britain* against the *American* States; and that I will, according to the best of my judgment, execute with fidelity the trust reposed in me, as a member of the Council of Safety."

And that the Vice President of this Convention administer the said Oath or Affirmation to such a number of the said Council of Safety as may be sufficient to make a quorum, and then that the President of the said Board, for the time being, qualify the rest.

Resolved, upon motion, That it be recommended to the Council of Safety to provide a sufficient number of Pikes for the use of the Militia of this State.

A Letter from the Chairman of the Committee for *Berks* County, was read; and, on motion, it was

Ordered, That the same be referred to the Council of Safety.

On motion, *Resolved*, That the same gentlemen who are on the Declaration of Rights Committee, be appointed to draw up an Essay for a frame or system of Government for this State.

The Committee for bringing in Ordinances respecting the counterfeiting the paper Bills of Credit, and respecting treason and misprision of treason, reported that they had made essays for those purposes; which were both read and ordered for a second reading.

On motion, *Resolved*, That the two Companies, of fifty men each, now raising by the Committee of *Westmoreland*, for the defence of the frontier, be considered as Militia in actual service, from the time of their inlistment to the fifth day of *August* next.

And also, that it be referred to the Council of Safety to consider whether they will keep the same in pay till the 15th day of *September* next, provided the officers, or any of them, should not be sooner appointed in, or any of the men before that time enter into the Continental Battalion now to be raised in *Bedford* and *Westmoreland* Counties.

The Committee for Instructions to the Delegates in Congress, reported a draft for that purpose, which was left on the table for consideration.

Adjourned to three o'clock in the afternoon.

—
Wednesday, July 24, 1776, P. M.

The House met pursuant to adjournment.

On motion, *Resolved*, That *Mr. John Leshar* be one of the Committee for essaying a frame of Government, in the room of *Mr. Jacob Morgan*, who is absent with leave.

On motion, *Resolved*, That *Mr. Cannon*, *Mr. Benjamin Bartholomew*, and *Mr. Hubley*, be a Committee to prepare and bring in an Ordinance for delivering from imprisonment all persons confined in the several Jails in this State, except those who are imprisoned for practices against the State, or for capital offences.

The House took into consideration Colonel *Easton's*

Petition, and the report of the Committee thereupon, which Report is as follows, viz :

That your Committee have heard Colonel *Easton* and his evidences, after notice being sent to the attorneys for the plaintiffs to attend, if they should think proper: it appears that Colonel *Easton* had given to his principal creditors such security for their debts as at the time was satisfactory to them; that he has since offered to surrender into the hands of his creditors all his effects, upon condition that the same should be sold to the best advantage, and the surplusage, after the payment of his just debts, should be returned to him; and that his creditors have not paid that attention to so reasonable an offer that was justly due to it. It therefore appears to your Committee that there is no equitable cause for continuing the said Colonel *Easton* in confinement.

TIMOTHY MATLACK,
JOHN JACOBS,
JOHN HUBLEY.

Philadelphia, July 24, 1776.

Whereupon, on motion, it was *Resolved*, That this House will give relief to Colonel *Easton*, and that Colonel *Matlack*, *Mr. Jacobs*, and *Mr. Hubley*, be a Committee to bring in an Ordinance for his release from the Jail of *Philadelphia*, upon the particular circumstances of his case.

Adjourned to to-morrow morning, ten o'clock.

—
Thursday, July 25, 1776.

The House met pursuant to adjournment.

Mr. Thomas Porter appeared in the House for the first time, and took the oath, and made and subscribed the profession of faith.

It was moved and *Resolved*, That this Convention do agree to the following Resolution and Declaration, viz :

We, the Representatives of the freemen of the State of *Pennsylvania*, in General Convention assembled, taking into our most serious consideration the clear, strong, and cogent reasons given by the honourable Continental Congress for the declaring this, as well as the other *United States of America*, free and independent, do thereupon resolve, and be it hereby resolved and declared, that we, in behalf of ourselves and our constituents, do unanimously approve of the said Resolution and Declaration of Congress of the 4th instant; and we do declare before *God* and the world, that we will support and maintain the freedom and independence of this and the other *United States of America* at the utmost risk of our lives and fortunes.

The Committee for essaying a Declaration of Rights, reported a draft for that purpose; which, being read, was ordered to lie on the table for further consideration.

A Letter was read from Captain *Falconer*, one of the new elected Council of Safety, informing the House that he cannot, consistent with his other publick engagements, possibly serve in that station, and praying that another member might be elected in his room.

On motion, *Ordered*, That the Ordinance reported yesterday by the Committee for declaring what is Treason, &c., be recommitted to the same gentlemen for amendment.

The Committee appointed to fix quotas for the four additional Battalions, made a Report; which was read, and ordered to lie on the table for further consideration.

The Report of the Committee for Instructions to the Delegates in Congress, was read the first time, and ordered to lie on the table for further consideration.

The Committee appointed to draw an Ordinance respecting the release of Colonel *Easton*, reported a draft for that purpose; which was read the first time, and ordered for a second reading to-morrow.

On motion, *Ordered*, That Colonel *Matlack*, *Mr. Cannon*, Colonel *Potter*, *Mr. Rittenhouse*, *Mr. Whitehill*, and Colonel *Galbreath*, be added to the Committee for bringing in an essay for a frame of Government.

Adjourned to to-morrow morning, nine o'clock.

—
Friday, July 26, 1776, A. M.

The House met pursuant to adjournment.

A Letter was read from General *Roberdeau*, dated *July 24, 1776*, at *Amboy*, complaining of the slowness with which the Militia of this State come in; and desiring that

some gun-screws be sent for the use of the troops. The Convention apprehends that they have done everything at present in their power to expedite the march of the forces of this State. With respect to the gun-screws, that matter is referred to the Council of Safety.

Upon motion, *Ordered*, That Colonel *Hill*, Colonel *Lowrey*, and Mr. *John Hart*, be a Committee to examine the situation of the funds of this State, and make report of what sums are in the hands of the Treasurer and late Committee of Safety, and also what debts are yet due and unpaid by the State.

The Report of the Committee for the Declaration of Rights, was again read, and a motion was made and seconded, that the same be recommitted; but the previous question being called for, it was thereupon

Resolved, That the question be not now put on the said motion.

Adjourned to three o'clock in the afternoon.

Friday, July 26, 1776, P. M.

The House met pursuant to adjournment.

The Ordinance for the release of Colonel *James Easton* was read, and ordered to be engrossed for a third reading.

Upon motion, *Resolved*, That the Minutes of this Convention be published weekly in *English* and *German*, and that this House will appoint a Committee to superintend the publication.

The House resumed the consideration of the Report of the Declaration of Rights; and after some considerable time spent therein, it was,

Upon motion, *Resolved*, That the said Report be recommitted to the same Committee who were originally appointed thereon.

The Committee appointed to bring in an Ordinance for delivering the Jails of this State, now presented an essay for that purpose; which, being read, was ordered to lie on the table for a second reading.

The draft of Instructions for the Delegates in Congress was read, and unanimously approved, and is as follows, viz:

"In Convention, Philadelphia, July , 1776.

"GENTLEMEN: This Convention, confiding in your wisdom and virtue, has, by the authority of the people, chosen and appointed you to represent the free State of *Pennsylvania* in the Congress of the *United States of America*, and authorized you, or a majority of such of you as shall at any time be present, to vote for and in the name of this State, in all and every question there to be decided; and this Convention apprehend it to be a duty which they owe the publick to give you the following general directions for your conduct, confident that you will at all times pay the utmost attention to the instructions of your constituents.

"The immense and irreparable injury which a free country may sustain by, and the very great inconveniences which always arise from a delay of its councils, induce us, in the first place, strictly to enjoin and require you to give not only a constant, but a punctual attendance in Congress.

"The present necessity of a vigorous exertion of the united force of the free States of *America*, against our *British* enemies, is the most important object of your immediate regard, and points out the necessity of cultivating and strengthening, by every means in your power, the present happy union of these States, until such a just, equal and perpetual Confederation can be agreed upon and finally effected as will be the most likely to secure to each other the perfect direction of its own internal police. In the forming of which Confederation, you are to give your utmost assistance.

"We recommend to you to use your utmost power and influence in Congress, to have a due attention paid to the establishing and maintaining a respectable naval force; as such a force is absolutely necessary to every trading nation, and is the least expensive or dangerous to the liberties of mankind.

"With respect to the forming of treaties with foreign Powers, it is necessary only to say, that we strictly charge and enjoin you, not to agree to, or enter into any treaty of commerce or alliance with *Great Britain*, or any other foreign Power, but (on the part of *America*) as free and independent States.

"And that whenever *Great Britain* shall acknowledge these States free and independent, you are hereby authorized, in conjunction with the Delegates of the other *United States*, to treat with her concerning peace, amity, and commerce, on just and equal terms."

Adjourned to ten o'clock to-morrow morning.

Saturday, July 27, 1776, A. M.

The Convention met pursuant to adjournment.

On motion, *Ordered*, That Mr. *Edward Cook* be added to the Committee appointed to confer with the *Virginia* Delegates.

Two several Petitions, the one from *John Williams*, the other from *James Forbes* and *William Patton*, prisoners in the Jail of *Lancaster* County, praying relief, were read; and the Convention, being of opinion that their cases will be provided for in the ordinance brought in for the relief of Prisoners in general, they were

Ordered to lie on the table.

A Letter from the Committee of *Lancaster* County being read, was ordered to be referred to the Council of Safety.

On motion, *Ordered*, That Colonel *Hill* and Mr. *Hubley* be a Committee to revise the Minutes of this House, and superintend the printing them in *English* and *German*.

The House resumed the consideration of the Report of the Committee for the quotas for the additional Battalions; and, after some debate thereon, agreed to postpone the same till another day.

The Ordinance for the release of Colonel *James Easton* being engrossed, was read a third time, and ordained in the following words, viz:

"An Ordinance for the release of Colonel *JAMES EASTON*.

"Whereas it appears to the Convention, upon the report of their Committee upon the case of Colonel *James Easton*, a prisoner confined in the Jail of the City and County of *Philadelphia*, on actions for debt, that there is no equitable cause for continuing the said Colonel *Easton* in confinement: Therefore,

"Be it ordained, and it is hereby ordained by the Convention of the State of *PENNSYLVANIA*, That *William Dewees*, heretofore appointed High Sheriff of the said City and County of *Philadelphia*, (under the late Constitution of *Pennsylvania*,) do forthwith discharge the said Colonel *James Easton* out of custody."

The Committee appointed to bring in an essay of the Declaration of Rights, and to whom the same was recommended, reported a new draft thereof, which, being in part read by paragraphs, and debated upon for some time, was postponed for further consideration.

Adjourned to nine o'clock Monday morning.

Monday, July 29, 1776, A. M.

The Convention met pursuant to adjournment.

The House resumed the consideration of the draft of the Declaration of Rights, and went through the same by paragraphs: Whereupon it was

Ordered, That Colonel *Hill* and Mr. *Hubley* procure to be printed ninety-six copies of the said draft, for the further consideration of the Members of this House.

Adjourned to three o'clock to-morrow afternoon.

Tuesday, July 30, 1776, P. M.

The Convention met pursuant to adjournment.

Application being made to this House, by the Council of Safety, that this Convention would determine the matter respecting the command of the Fleet of this State: It was, after debate,

Ordered, That the consideration of the said application be postponed.

On motion, *Resolved*, That on *Saturday* next the Members of this Convention will visit the Fortifications, the Ships, Floating Battery, Gallies, &c., at *Fort-Island*.

A Memorial from the Committee of Inspection, and a Petition from many of the inhabitants of the County of *Northumberland*, were read, praying the assistance of this

Convention to provide against the expected hostilities of the *Indians*.

Ordered to lie on the table.

Adjourned to nine o'clock to-morrow morning.

—
Wednesday, July 31, 1776, A. M.

The Convention met pursuant to adjournment.

The consideration of the draft of an Ordinance brought in for relief of the Prisoners confined in the several Jails of this State was resumed; and the same being read by paragraphs, debated upon, and amended, was ordered to be transcribed for a third reading.

On motion, *Resolved*, That the Council of Safety be empowered and directed to transact the business specially referred to the Committee of this House, appointed on the 18th day of *July* instant, to confer with a Committee of the honourable Congress.

The consideration of the draft of an Ordinance brought in for punishing the Counterfeiting the Paper Currency of *America* was resumed; and the same being read by paragraphs, debated upon, and amended, was ordered to be transcribed for a third reading.

Adjourned to three o'clock in the afternoon.

—
Wednesday, July 31, 1776, P. M.

The Convention met pursuant to adjournment.

The Petition of *William Nichols* was read, and ordered to be referred to the Overseers of the Poor, to take care of the Petitioner.

The Petitions of *Matthew Knorr* and *William Caldwell* were read; and the House apprehending that the cases of the petitioners will be provided for in the General Ordinance for the relief of Prisoners, they were

Ordered to lie on the table.

The House resumed the consideration of the Petition and Memorial from *Northumberland*, and it was

Moved and *Ordered*, That Colonel *Kirkbride*, Colonel *Lowrey*, Mr. *Arndt*, Colonel *Potter*, and Major *James Smith*, of *Westmoreland*, be a Committee to inquire into the facts set forth in the Memorial and Petition from *Northumberland*, and report thereon to this House.

The Ordinance respecting Treason was read by paragraphs, and after some time spent thereon, the further consideration of it was postponed.

Adjourned to to-morrow morning nine o'clock.

—
Thursday, August 1, 1776, A. M.

The Convention met pursuant to adjournment.

The engrossed copies of the drafts of the two proposed Ordinances, the one intituled "An Ordinance for the relief of the Prisoners in the several Jails in the State of *Pennsylvania*;" the other intituled "An Ordinance to prevent the Counterfeiting the Paper Money issued by the honourable the Continental Congress, or by this or any other of the *United American States*;" were read and compared at the table, and passed into Ordinances, and ordered to be signed by the Vice President.

These Ordinances are in the following words, viz:

"*An Ordinance for the relief of the Prisoners in the several Jails in the State of PENNSYLVANIA.*

"Whereas at this time the Courts of Justice within this State are surceased, and all process and proceedings, by which suits can be legally commenced, proceeded in, or determined, are by the authority of the people justly and totally suppressed: And whereas the detaining in custody debtors under execution, who are willing to deliver up their estates for the use of their creditors, or debtors confined under mesne process, who have no legal mode of entering bail in order to free their persons from imprisonment, is not only oppressive, but can be of no real benefit or advantage to the creditors: And whereas a total change of government by the assistance of Divine Providence has been effected within the *United States*, and acts of grace to criminals sometimes are granted on events of such importance:

"*Be it ordained and declared by the Representatives of the Freemen of the State of Pennsylvania, in General Convention met*, That all and every person and persons

imprisoned or detained in any Jail within this State by reason of any process, writ, or commitment for debt, or any criminal offence whatsoever, (except for capital offences, or practices against the present virtuous measures of the *American States*, or prisoners of war,) be forthwith released and discharged.

"*Provided always*, That all and every person and persons who shall take or claim the benefit of this ordinance shall, before his, her, or their discharge, exhibit a petition in the respective Counties where such person or persons are confined, to the persons hereinafter named, setting forth the reasons of such their imprisonment; and if he, she, or they so petitioning shall be charged in execution, such prisoner or prisoners shall, with his, her, or their petition, annex the name of his, her, or their creditors, and the debts due, as near as can be, and certify an account of his, her, or their whole real and personal estate, with the securities wherein any part of it consists, and the deeds, books of accounts, notes or bonds relating thereunto; and upon such petitions and certificates delivered, the persons hereinafter named in the respective Counties, or any two of them, may, and they are hereby required to order such prisoners to be brought before them, and administer or tender to such prisoners the oath or affirmation heretofore required and taken in cases of insolvent debtors, by act of Assembly of *Pennsylvania* made in the year of our Lord one thousand seven hundred and twenty-nine; and upon having taken such oath or affirmation, such prisoner or prisoners shall make an assignment of such his, her, or their estate, in the same manner as required by the said act of Assembly, and to and for the purposes therein mentioned, and subject to the pains and penalties declared in the said act; and thereupon he, she, or they shall be discharged out from custody: From and after which discharge he, she, or they shall not at any time hereafter be imprisoned for the same debt or debts for which he, she, or they have made such assignment. And in case it shall appear that the person or persons confined, is or are in custody upon mesne process only, the persons hereinafter named, or any two of them, in the respective Counties, shall and are hereby required, by order in writing under their hands, to discharge such prisoner or prisoners from his, her, or their confinement: *Provided nevertheless*, That such suit or action shall not cease until finally determined by due course of law.

"*And be it further ordained*, That *George Bryan*, *James Young*, *Jacob Schryner*, *John Bull*, *Henry Hill*, and *Peter Knight*, of the City and County of *Philadelphia*, or any two of them, be, and are hereby nominated, empowered, and required to hear and discharge the prisoners in the Jail of the City and County of *Philadelphia*; and *John Wilkinson*, *Henry Wynkoop*, and *James Wallace*, of the County of *Bucks*, or any two of them, be, and are hereby nominated, empowered, and required to hear and discharge the prisoners in the Jail of the County of *Bucks*; and *David Cowpland*, *John Crosby*, and *John Sellers*, of the County of *Chester*, or any two of them, be, and are hereby nominated, empowered, and required to hear and discharge the prisoners in the Jail of the County of *Chester*; and *William Henry*, *William Bowman*, and *John Hopson*, of the County of *Lancaster*, or any two of them, be, and are hereby nominated, empowered, and required to hear and discharge the prisoners in the Jail of the County of *Lancaster*; and *Samuel Johnston*, *Martin Eychelberger*, and *William Leas*, of the County of *York*, or any two of them, be, and are hereby nominated, empowered, and required to hear and discharge the prisoners in the Jail of the County of *York*; and *Robert Miller*, *John Homes*, and *Stephen Duncan*, or any two of them, be, and are hereby nominated, empowered, and required to hear and discharge the prisoners in the Jail of the County of *Cumberland*; and *James Read*, *William Raser*, and *Daniel Hiester*, of the County of *Berks*, or any two of them, be, and are hereby nominated, empowered, and required to hear and discharge the prisoners in the Jail of the County of *Berks*; and *Robert Trail*, *Abraham Birlain*, and *Henry Barnet*, of the County of *Northampton*, or any two of them, be, and are hereby nominated, empowered, and required to hear and discharge the prisoners in the Jail of the County of *Northampton*; and *William Todd*, *Charles Cissna*, and *Robert Elliot*, of the County of *Bedford*, or any two of them, be, and are hereby nominated, empowered, and required to hear and discharge the prisoners in the Jail of the County of

Bedford; and *Samuel Hunter, Laughlin M'Cartney, and John Boyd*, of the County of *Northumberland*, or any two of them, be, and are hereby nominated, empowered, and required to hear and discharge the prisoners in the Jail of the County of *Northumberland*; and *Edward Cook, Robert Hanna, and David Semple*, of the County of *Westmoreland*, or any two of them, be, and are hereby nominated, empowered, and required to hear and discharge the prisoners in the Jail of the County of *Westmoreland*: And that all Sheriffs and Jailers heretofore elected and appointed, and all other persons within this State, give due obedience to the said persons, or any two of them, within their several Counties, who have been hereby authorized and appointed to hear and discharge the prisoners aforesaid.

"And be it further ordained, That the several Sheriffs and Jailers, of the several and respective Counties, heretofore elected and appointed, shall, and they are hereby authorized, directed, and commanded, to keep in safe custody all such persons that now are, or shall hereafter be, committed to them for capital offences, practices against the present virtuous measures of the *American States*, and prisoners of war, until they shall be discharged by due course of law, or by the authority of the honourable the Congress of the *United States*.

"By order of the Convention:

"GEORGE ROSS, *Vice President*.

"Passed 1st day of *August*, 1776.

"Attest: JOHN MORRIS, JUN., *Secretary*."

"An Ordinance to prevent the Counterfeiting the Paper Money issued by the Honourable the Continental Congress, or by any other of the UNITED AMERICAN STATES.

"Whereas great mischiefs may arise to the *United States of America*, and the property of the good people, inhabitants thereof, rendered precarious and insecure, by wicked and designing persons counterfeiting the paper Bills of Credit, issued by the honourable the Continental Congress, or by any of the *United States of America*: For remedy whereof,

"Be it ordained and declared, and it is hereby ordained and declared by the Representatives of the Freemen of the State of PENNSYLVANIA, in General Convention met, That if any person or persons shall presume to counterfeit any of the Bills of Credit issued, or hereafter to be issued by the honourable the Continental Congress, or by and under any laws or resolves of the Assembly of *Pennsylvania*, or by the Legislatures, or Assemblies, or Conventions, of this or any other of the *United States*, by printing or procuring the same to be printed, in the likeness of the said genuine Bills of Credit; and also, if any person or persons shall forge the name or names of the signers of the true Bills of Credit to such counterfeit bills, whether the counterfeiting of the bills or names be done within this State or elsewhere, or shall utter such bills knowing them to be so counterfeited as aforesaid, and being thereof legally convicted by confession, standing mute, or by verdict of twelve men in any Court of Oyer and Terminer hereafter to be erected within this State, he, she, or they shall suffer death, and the discoverer or informer shall have, as an encouragement for his or her discovery, the sum of £50, to be levied out of the goods and chattels, lands and tenements of the person convicted; and if no such goods or chattels, lands or tenements can be found, a reward of £20 shall be paid out of the publick Treasury: And if any person or persons shall counterfeit any of the said Bills of Credit, by altering the denomination of the said Bills, with design to increase the value of such Bills, or shall utter such Bills knowing them to be so counterfeited or altered as aforesaid, and shall be thereof legally convicted in any court of record hereafter to be established in this State, such person or persons shall be sentenced to the pillory, and have both his or her ears cut off and nailed to the pillory, and be publicly whipped on his or her bare back with thirty-one lashes well laid on.

"And moreover, every such offender shall forfeit the sum of £100, to be levied on his lands and tenements, goods and chattels, the one-half to the use of the State and the other half to the discoverer; and the offender shall pay the party double the value of the damages thereby sustained, together with the costs and charges of the prosecution; and in case the offender hath not sufficient to satisfy the discoverer for his or her damages and charges, and pay the forfeiture aforesaid, in such case the offender shall, by order

of the Court where he or she shall be convicted, be sold, for any term not exceeding seven years, for satisfaction; and in such case, the Treasurer of this State shall reward the discoverer of such insolvent offender to the value of £5, out of the publick moneys in his hands; and every such counterfeit bill shall be delivered to the said Treasurer, to be burnt and destroyed.

"And be it further ordained and declared, That the paper Bills of Credit issued by the honourable the Continental Congress, or under the late laws, or by the resolves of the late Assembly of *Pennsylvania*, shall be legal tender in all cases whatsoever within this State.

"By order of Convention.

"GEORGE ROSS, *Vice President*.

"Passed the 1st day of *August*, 1776.

"Attest: JOHN MORRIS, JUN., *Secretary*."

On motion, *Resolved*, That this Convention will, to-morrow morning, resolve itself into a Committee of the Whole House, in order to take into consideration some important matters relative to the proposed new frame of Government.

Also, *Ordered*, That every Member of this Convention be punctual in his attendance at the House to-morrow morning.

The Committee appointed to consider the Petition and Memorial from *Northumberland County*, reported that the facts therein set forth are well supported by evidence, and therefore recommend the immediate consideration thereof to this Convention.

And the House having deliberated thereon, it was

Resolved, That it is the opinion of this Convention, that the inhabitants of the said County, and County of *Northampton*, are greatly exposed to *Indian* incursions, without being able to make a proper defence, on account of the scattered situation of the inhabitants, they being settled in such manner as to be unable to afford each other necessary assistance.

Resolved, That it is the opinion of this Convention that it will be proper to raise and keep up a body of Troops for the defence of the frontiers, not only of the County of *Northumberland*, but also of the County of *Northampton*, the latter County being equally exposed to *Indian* incursions.

Resolved, That it is the opinion of this Convention, that the defenceless situation of those parts of our frontiers be made known to the Congress, by the Delegates of this State, and that they further inform them that the Battalion ordered to be raised for the defence of the western frontiers, can afford no assistance to those two Counties, and that the quota of the Militia of *Northampton*, first required for the Flying-Camp, is already marched, and the residue of the Militia is about to march, agreeable to the late request of Congress, by which means they will be without the least defence, and request Congress to take these matters into their consideration.

The draft of an Ordinance for punishing High Treason was read a second time by paragraphs.

Ordered to be transcribed for a third reading.

Adjourned to three o'clock in the afternoon.

Thursday, August 1, 1776, P. M.

The House met pursuant to adjournment.

Adjourned to nine o'clock to-morrow morning.

Friday, August 2, 1776, A. M.

The Convention met pursuant to adjournment.

A Memorial from the inhabitants of *Turkey Foot Township*, in *Bedford County*, setting forth their opinion respecting the intended new frame of Government, was read, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

The Order of the Day was then read; and the Convention, in consequence thereof, resolved itself into a Committee of the Whole House.

Colonel *Joseph Kirkbride* was called to and assumed the Chair.

After a very considerable time spent in deliberation, the President resumed the chair, and then Colonel *Kirkbride*, the Chairman of the Committee, reported that it was the opinion of the said Committee that the future Legislature of this State shall consist of one branch only, under proper restrictions.

Whereupon, it was moved and *Resolved*, That the future

Legislature of this State shall consist of one branch only, under proper restrictions.

Adjourned to *Monday* morning, nine o'clock.

— Monday, August 5, 1776, A. M.

The Convention met pursuant to adjournment.

On motion, *Resolved*, That when any Member shall be absent above half an hour after the time of adjournment, or shall leave the House without permission first obtained, he shall be fined seven shillings and six pence, if there shall be a quorum then met; and if there shall not, within another half hour, appear a quorum, then each absent Member shall be fined ten shillings, as soon as a quorum appears. The said fines to be given to the Hospital.

And also, that Mr. *James M. Clain* collect the said fines.

The Report of the Committee for inquiring into the state of the publick funds, was read.

Ordered to lie on the table for the consideration of the Members.

The House resumed the consideration of the application made to this Convention by the Council of Safety, to determine the matter respecting the command of the Fleet of this State:

Whereupon, it was moved and seconded, that the said determination be referred wholly to the said Council of Safety; and that the officers and others in the naval and land service of this State, ought not, in all cases, to rise in command according to seniority, although proper regard should be had to that circumstance in promotions where there are equal merit and equal military abilities. And that the Council of Safety of this State shall have full authority to use their best discretion so as most effectually to promote the service. And all officers and others are hereby required and strictly enjoined to give and pay full and implicit obedience to their regulations and orders.

But the previous question being called for and seconded, it was thereupon

Resolved, That the question be not now put on the said motion.

Jacob Garrigues, the Assistant Clerk, now appearing, took the affirmation required by a former Minute.

On motion, *Resolved*, That Mr. *Rittenhouse*, Colonel *Antis*, Mr. *Samuel Smith*, Mr. *John Hart*, Major *Marsteller*, Mr. *Edgan*, Mr. *Duffield*, Mr. *Shoemaker*, Mr. *Gray*, Mr. *Wilkins*, Mr. *Kelley*, and Major *James Smith*, be a Committee to bring in an Ordinance for regulating the Militia of this State, so as to render the burthens and expenses of the Associators and Non-Associators as nearly equal as possible.

On motion, *Ordered*, That Colonel *Jacob Morgan* be reappointed one of the Committee for bringing in an essay for a frame of Government, in the room of Mr. *Leshner*, who is absent.

Moved and *Resolved*, That Mr. *Biddle*, Colonel *Hill*, and Mr. *Hubley* be a Committee to bring in an Ordinance to regulate the sale of Tea and Salt in this State.

Moved and *Resolved*, That Mr. *Biddle*, Colonel *Hill*, and Mr. *Hubley*, be a Committee to bring in an Ordinance respecting the Salt imported by *Joshua Fisher* and Sons.

Adjourned to three o'clock to-morrow afternoon.

— Tuesday, August 6, 1776, P. M.

The Convention met according to adjournment.

On motion, *Resolved*, That Colonel *Potter*, Colonel *Galbreath* and Mr. *Hubley* be a Committee to consider the granting of Commissions for the Officers of the Flying-Camp.

A Petition from *Thomas Wigton*, now a prisoner in the Jail of *Northampton* County, was read, complaining of his arbitrary imprisonment by Mr. *Gordon* and Mr. *Berlin*; and thereupon it was

Resolved, That Colonel *Lowrey*, Mr. *Arndt*, and Mr. *Rabson* be a Committee to inquire into the truths of the facts therein set forth.

Moved, That a Committee be appointed to bring in an Ordinance for regulating the Militia of this State; but the previous question being called for, it was thereupon

Resolved, That the question on that motion be not now put.

FIFTH SERIES.—VOL. II.

Application being made to this House by the Deputy Quartermaster General in this City, for directions with respect to quartering the Troops marching through the same, the consideration thereof is referred to the Council of Safety.

On motion, *Ordered*, That Mr. *Schlosser* be added to the Committee appointed for regulating the Militia, &c.

Adjourned to three o'clock to-morrow afternoon.

— Wednesday, August 7, 1776, P. M.

The Convention met pursuant to adjournment.

Mr. *William Cook* appearing in the House for the first time, took the oath, and made and subscribed the profession of faith.

Leave of absence for three days (on special occasions) was given to Major *Marsteller*.

A Letter from Colonel *Bird*, of the *Berks* County Militia, respecting a dispute between him and some of the other officers of that County, was read; and thereupon it was

Resolved, That the Colonels *Bird* and *Old* be ordered to march with the Companies under their respective command to *New Jersey*, and continue to command them until the return of the Militia, subject to such regulations as this Convention or the Council of Safety may hereafter establish in that particular affair, on hearing the parties.

A Letter from the Field-Officers of the Third Battalion of *Northampton* County, respecting the want of Arms and Ammunition for that corps, and the danger of *Indian* incursions on that frontier County, was read, and ordered that the same be referred to the Council of Safety.

The Committee appointed to examine the facts set forth in the Petition of *Thomas Wigton*, report, that the said *Wigton* was released before the appointment of the Committee, and that nothing further is necessary to be done thereon.

On motion, *Resolved*, That Colonel *Hill*, Mr. *Whitehill*, Mr. *Gray*, Colonel *Thomas Smith*, and Colonel *Potter*, be a Committee to consider of the most effectual and expeditious measures for raising the quota of this State for the Flying-Camp; and that it be an instruction to the said Committee to inquire of the Delegates to Congress from *Maryland* and the *Delaware* Counties, what measures have been taken by those States for the raising their proportions.

Adjourned to nine o'clock to-morrow morning.

— Thursday, August 8, 1776, A. M.

The Convention met pursuant to adjournment.

A Member observing that this was a day appropriated by a very respectable religious society for Humiliation and Prayer: It was thereupon

Resolved, That this Convention do adjourn to nine o'clock to-morrow morning.

— Friday, August 9, 1776, A. M.

The House met pursuant to adjournment.

The Committee appointed to consider of the most effectual means to raise the quota for the Flying-Camp, &c., reported a draft of an Ordinance for that purpose; which was read, and ordered to lie on the table for a second reading to-morrow.

A Letter from Colonel *John Dickinson*, dated *Elizabethtown*, August 6, 1776, to this Convention, relating to the uneasiness of the First Battalion of the *Pennsylvania* Militia, was read.

A Report from the Committee appointed to consider of the granting Commissions to the Officers of the Flying-Camp, was read, recommending that blank Commissions should be signed by the President of this Convention and sent to General *Roberdeau*. After some debating thereon, the consideration thereof was ordered to be postponed.

A second Petition of *Thomas Wigton*, complaining of his imprisonment in *Easton* Jail, was read, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

On motion, *Ordered*, That two thousand copies of the particulars of the Rations allowed for the Flying-Camp, be printed and dispersed among the men.

Upon a motion to resume the consideration of the draft

of the Declaration of Rights, it was agreed that the same be postponed to *Tuesday* next.

On motion, *Resolved*, That Colonel *Hill*, Colonel *Kirkbride*, Mr. *Cunningham*, Colonel *James Smith*, Mr. *Hoge*, and Colonel *Potter*, be a Committee to bring in a draft of an Ordinance, appointing certain persons therein to be named, in the City and several Counties of this State, to preserve the publick peace, under the name of Conservators of the Peace; and that it be an instruction to the said Committee to insert therein the names of the Council of Safety as conservators of the peace throughout the whole State; and also the names of such persons for the City and the several Counties respectively, as shall be respectively nominated by the Members of this House, for the City and several Counties; and that the said Committee shall frame a test to be taken by each of the said conservators, before he acts in the said office.

The Petition of *David Greedy* was read, and *Ordered* to lie on the table.

Whereas the time for which the Committee of Inspection and Observation for the City and Liberties of *Philadelphia*, as well as the times for which the Committees of several of the Counties of this State were elected into that office, are near expiring; and whereas the Associators of the said City and Counties, who compose a great majority of the electors, are, or may be at such expiration, absent in the service of their country, and it would be highly inexpedient that the said City or Counties should either be without such Committees, or that they should be partially elected:

Resolved, therefore, That the present Committees of the said City and Counties, respectively, shall continue to execute the duty of their said offices, until the Militia of such City and Counties respectively shall return, and other Committees be regularly chosen: excepting from this resolve the Committees of the Counties of *Cumberland*, *Bedford*, *Northumberland*, and *Westmoreland*.

On motion, *Resolved*, That no Tavern-keepers or others take out any licences from the officers of the late Government of this State.

Adjourned to nine o'clock to-morrow morning.

Saturday, August 10, 1776, A. M.

The Convention met pursuant to adjournment.

According to the Order of the Day, the draft of the Ordinance respecting the Flying-Camp was read by paragraphs, and after long debates thereon, the House came to the following Resolutions:

1st. *Resolved*, That the Commanding Officers of the several Battalions in the respective Counties of this State, immediately march into *Jersey*, with their whole Battalions.

2d. *Resolved*, That the Associators of the Counties of *Bedford*, *Northumberland*, *Northampton*, and *Westmoreland*, and the Guards of the City of *Philadelphia*, retained by the Council of Safety, and two Companies of Colonel *Ross's* Battalion, and two Companies of Colonel *Slough's* Battalion, of about fifty men each, left to guard the prisoners, and about sixty carpenters and workmen, retained by the Committee of *Lancaster*, be excepted out of the foregoing resolve.

3d. *Resolved*, That a Bounty of three pounds be paid to every Associator who has entered or will enter into the service in the Flying-Camp, to continue until the first day of *January* next, if not sooner discharged, excepting such as have already received a Bounty.

4th. *Resolved*, That such Battalions as have or shall furnish their quotas for the Flying-Camp, and have been in actual service six weeks, shall be permitted to return home, if the Generals and Field-Officers shall judge it consistent with the publick safety; and when the whole cannot be permitted to return, furloughs are to be granted in cases of particular necessity.

5th. *Resolved*, That three Commissioners be appointed to go to Head-Quarters in *Jersey*, to form the Flying-Camp.

6th. *Resolved*, That the Commissioners, with the Field-Officers of the Counties respectively, shall nominate the Officers for the Flying-Camp, where they are not already nominated.

7th. *Resolved*, That Money be put into the hands of the Commissioners for the purpose of paying the Bounty.

On motion, *Ordered*, That Colonel *Hill* be one of the

Committee for considering of the quotas for the additional Battalions for the Flying-Camp, in the room of Major *Loller*.

Ordered, That the Secretary transmit the Resolves to General *Roberdeau*.

Adjourned to ten o'clock on *Monday* morning.

Monday, August 12, 1776, A. M.

The Convention met pursuant to adjournment.

A Letter from Colonel *Dickinson*, informing of the desertion of two soldiers of his Battalion, was read, and ordered to be referred to the Council of Safety.

Letters from General *Mercer* and Colonel *Dickinson*, relative to the desertions of the Militia, were, by order of Congress, laid before this House.

Mr. Vice President, Colonel *Matlack*, and Colonel *Stagle*, were chosen, by ballot, Commissioners to go to Head-Quarters in *Jersey*, to form the Flying-Camp.

A Petition from Major *Loxley* was read, praying this House would be pleased to appoint a Committee for him to consult with on the business committed to his charge: upon consideration the same was referred to the Council of Safety.

The House resumed the consideration of the Report of the Committee appointed to fix the quotas of the four additional Battalions for the Flying-Camp; and, upon motion, it was

Resolved, That the House do approve of the same.

The said Report is as follows, viz:

The City of <i>Philadelphia</i> , . . .	628 men.
The County of <i>Philadelphia</i> , . . .	160 "
" " <i>Bucks</i> , . . .	100 "
" " <i>Chester</i> , . . .	160 "
" " <i>Lancaster</i> , . . .	323 "
" " <i>Berks</i> , . . .	240 "
" " <i>York</i> , . . .	515 "
" " <i>Northampton</i> , . . .	278 "
" " <i>Cumberland</i> , . . .	580 "—2,984.

Moved and *Resolved*, That the Secretary furnish the Members of this House for the several Counties in this State with copies of the Resolves of last *Saturday*, in order that they may be transmitted to the several Committees, and by them to the Commanding Officers of the several Battalions.

Adjourned to four o'clock, P. M.

Monday, August 12, 1776, P. M.

The House met pursuant to adjournment.

On motion, *Resolved*, That an Order be drawn on the Council of Safety of this State, for £10,000, in favour of the Commissioners appointed to go to Head-Quarters in *Jersey*, to form the Flying-Camp; which money is to be applied by them to that service.

On motion, *Resolved*, That no Associator of, or belonging to this State, enlist any men to serve in the Flying-Camp, for any other County or City than that to which he belongs, until the quotas of such County or City is completed.

The Petitions of the Captains of the Gallies of this State being read, it was thereupon

Resolved, That Mr. *Schlosser*, Colonel *Hill*, Mr. *Samuel Smith*, Mr. *John Mackey*, Colonel *Lowrey*, Mr. *Edgar*, Mr. *McClain*, Colonel *Morgan*, Colonel *Stroud*, Mr. *Thomas Coulter*, Colonel *William Cook*, and Mr. *Edward Cook*, be a Committee to hear the Petitioners on the subject-matter of their Petitions; and the said Committee are desired to take the earliest opportunity of attending to this business.

Two Ordinances respecting the sale of Salt and Tea, were read the first time, and ordered to lie on the table for a second reading.

Adjourned to nine o'clock to-morrow morning.

Tuesday, August 13, 1776, A. M.

The Convention met pursuant to adjournment.

The House resumed the consideration of the Report made by the gentlemen appointed to consider the granting of Commissions for the Officers of the Flying-Camp; and after some amendments made therein at the table, it was agreed to, in the following terms, viz:

"That Commissions for the Officers of this State for the

Flying-Camp should be granted by this Convention; and that a number of blank Commissions, signed by the President of the Convention, be immediately prepared and delivered to the Commissioners appointed to form the Flying-Camp, to be by them and the Field-Officers of the respective Battalions, filled up and delivered to the respective Officers, having due regard to the time of the appointment of such Officers."

The Order of the Day was then read; and, thereupon, the draft of the Declaration of Rights being read, the House resolved itself into a Committee of the Whole.

Colonel *Kirkbride* was called to, and assumed the chair. After some considerable time spent in debating thereon, the President resumed the chair; when Colonel *Kirkbride* reported from the Committee, that they had made some progress in the business referred to them, and desired leave of the House to sit again.

Adjourned to four o'clock, P. M.

— Tuesday, August 13, 1776, P. M.

The House met pursuant to adjournment.

The President presented to the Convention a Petition from some of the inhabitants of *Berks* County to Congress, praying an exemption of Weavers and Blacksmiths from personal service, which was referred to this House by Congress. The same being read, was

Ordered to lie on the table.

The Convention then resolved itself into a Committee of the Whole House. Colonel *Kirkbride* was called to and assumed the chair; and, after some considerable time spent in debating and considering the draft of the Declaration of Rights, the President resumed the chair; when Colonel *Kirkbride* reported from the Committee that they had made considerable progress in the business committed to them, and desired leave of the House to sit again on *Thursday* next.

Adjourned to *Thursday*, the 15th instant, at nine o'clock in the morning.

— Thursday, August 15, 1776, A. M.

The Convention met pursuant to adjournment.

The Committee appointed to bring in an Ordinance for rendering the burthens of Associators and Non-Associators as equal as possible, reported a draft for that purpose; which being read the first time, was ordered to lie on the table for a second reading.

The Committee appointed to hear the Petitions of the Captains of the Gallies, made a report in writing; which, being read, was

Ordered to lie on the table.

A Member presented to the House the draft of an Ordinance for regulating the Militia of the frontier Counties, in case of *Indian* incursions; which, being read, was

Ordered to lie on the table.

The House then, agreeable to the Order of the Day, resolved itself into a Committee of the Whole, in order to resume the consideration of the draft of the Declaration of Rights. After some time spent in considering and deliberating thereon, the President resumed the chair, and Colonel *Kirkbride* reported from the Committee that they had made some further progress in the business committed to them, but had not completed the same, and desired leave of the House to sit again in the afternoon.

Adjourned to three o'clock P. M.

— Thursday, August 15, 1776, P. M.

The Convention met pursuant to adjournment.

A Petition was read from *Andrew Hagenbuck* and *William Stumpff*, in behalf of themselves and others, inhabitants of the Township of *Albany*, in the County of *Berks*, praying that the said inhabitants, being in a frontier County, and apprehensive of an *Indian* war, may be excused from marching into *Jersey*.

Ordered to lie on the table.

According to the Order of the Day, the Convention resolved itself into a Committee of the Whole House. Colonel *Kirkbride* was called to and assumed the chair. After

some further deliberation on the Declaration of Rights, the President resumed the chair, and Colonel *Kirkbride*, from the Committee, reported that they had agreed to the Report, which he then delivered in to the House; and, being read, the further consideration thereof was postponed.

A Petition from a number of the inhabitants of *Chester* County, praying that Colonel *Lloyd's* Battalion may remain at home, which Petition had been presented to the Council of Safety, and is by them referred to this House, was read, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

Upon motion, *Resolved*, That Colonel *Potter* be Vice President *pro tempore* of this Convention.

Colonel *Kirkbride* moved that he might have leave to join his Battalion at *Amboy*; and the question being put, It was carried in the negative.

Adjourned to ten o'clock to-morrow morning.

— Friday, August 16, 1776.

The Convention met pursuant to adjournment.

Colonel *Kirkbride* again moved for leave of absence, in order to visit his Battalion at *Amboy*, till *Monday*, the 26th instant; and it was thereupon

Resolved, That he have the leave desired, but that this House expects his attendance at the time appointed.

A Letter was read from Colonel *Dickinson*, at the Camp, complaining of the desertion of some of the Associators, and praying that this Convention would provide some remedy in that case; whereupon, the House agreed to the following Resolutions, viz:

Whereas this Convention hath received information that several Associators of this State have deserted the Camp, in the face of the enemy, and returned home before the formation of the Flying-Camp, and without the leave of their Commanding Officers, to the great danger of the publick, and evil example to others: It is therefore

Resolved, 1st. That all such Associators as shall join their respective corps at the Camp from whence they came, in eight days from this date, with such arms and accoutrements as they may have brought away with them, shall be exempted from any punishment; and those who neglect so to do, shall be apprehended and sent under a guard to the Camp, there to be tried; and in case of absconding or concealing their arms, that they be advertised in the publick newspapers, and the reward of three pounds offered for apprehending every such person; and every Associator who shall hereafter desert his colours shall be treated as those who have already deserted and neglect to join their respective corps, agreeable to this resolve.

Resolved, 2d. That the Commanding Officers of the Companies or Battalions of the Militia of this State, who are now on their march to *New-Jersey*, do apprehend all deserters they may meet on the road, and convey them, under a guard, to the Camp.

Resolved, 3d. That, notwithstanding the foregoing Resolutions, it is not the intention of this Convention to detain the Militia unnecessarily from home: the Associators are therefore assured, that as soon as the Flying-Camp is formed, and the publick safety will admit, they shall be permitted to return home.

On motion, the Petition from *Chester* County was read again, and rejected.

The House then resumed the consideration of the Report of the Committee respecting the Declaration of Rights, which, being read by paragraphs, received the final assent of this Convention, and is as follows, viz:

A Declaration of the Rights of the Inhabitants of the State of PENNSYLVANIA.

1st. That all men are born equally free and independent, and have certain natural, inherent, and unalienable rights, amongst which are, the enjoying and defending life and liberty, acquiring, possessing, and protecting property, and pursuing and obtaining happiness and safety.

2d. That all men have a natural and unalienable right to worship Almighty God according to the dictates of their own consciences and understanding; and that no man ought, or of right can, be compelled to attend any religious worship, or erect or support any place of worship, or maintain any

ministry, contrary to or against his own free will and consent; nor can any man who acknowledges the being of a *God*, be justly deprived or abridged of any civil right as a citizen, on account of his religious sentiments, or peculiar mode of religious worship; and that no authority can or ought to be vested in, or assumed by, any power whatever, that shall in any case interfere with, or in any manner control the right of conscience, in the free exercise of religious worship.

3d. That the people of this State have the sole, exclusive, and inherent right of governing and regulating the internal police of the same.

4th. That all power being originally inherent in, and consequently derived from, the people, therefore all officers of Government, whether legislative or executive, are their trustees and servants, and at all times accountable to them.

5th. That Government is, or ought to be, instituted for the common benefit, protection, and security of the people, nation, or community, and not for the particular emolument or advantage of any single man, family, or set of men who are a part only of that community; and that the community hath an indubitable, unalienable, and indefeasible right to reform, alter, or abolish Government in such manner as shall be by that community judged most conducive to the publick weal.

6th. That those who are employed in the legislative and executive business of the State may be restrained from oppression, the people have a right, at such periods as they may think proper, to reduce their publick officers to a private station, and supply the vacancies by certain and regular elections.

7th. That all elections ought to be free; and that all free men, having a sufficient evident common interest with, and attachment to, the community, have a right to elect officers, or be elected into office.

8th. That every member of society hath a right to be protected in the enjoyment of life, liberty, and property, and therefore is bound to contribute his proportion towards the expense of that protection, and yield his personal service, when necessary, or an equivalent thereto; but no part of a man's property can be justly taken from him, or applied to publick uses, without his own consent, or that of his legal representatives: nor can any man who is conscientiously scrupulous of bearing arms, be justly compelled thereto, if he will pay such equivalent: nor are the people bound by any laws, but such as they have in like manner assented to, for their common good.

9th. That in all prosecutions for criminal offences, a man hath a right to be heard by himself and his counsel, to demand the cause and nature of his accusation, to be confronted with the witnesses, to call for evidence in his favour, and a speedy publick trial, by an impartial jury of the country, without the unanimous consent of which jury he cannot be found guilty: nor can he be compelled to give evidence against himself: nor can any man be justly deprived of liberty, except by the laws of the land, or the judgment of his peers.

10th. That the people have a right to hold themselves, their houses, papers, and possessions, free from search or seizure; and therefore warrants without oaths or affirmations first made, affording a sufficient foundation for them, and whereby any officer or messenger may be commanded or required to search suspected places, or to seize any person or persons, his or their property, not particularly described, are contrary to that right, and ought not to be granted.

11th. That in controversies respecting property, and in suits between man and man, the parties have a right to trial by jury, which ought to be held sacred.

12th. That the people have a right to freedom of speech, and of writing and publishing their sentiments; therefore the freedom of the press ought not to be restrained.

13th. That the people have a right to bear arms for the defence of themselves and the State; and as standing armies, in the time of peace, are dangerous to liberty, they ought not to be kept up: and that the military should be kept under strict subordination to, and governed by, the civil power.

14th. That a frequent recurrence to fundamental principles, and a firm adherence to justice, moderation, temperance, industry, and frugality, are absolutely necessary to preserve

the blessings of liberty, and keep a government free: The people ought, therefore, to pay particular attention to these points in the choice of officers and representatives, and have a right to exact a due and constant regard to them from their Legislatures and Magistrates in the making and executing such laws as are necessary for the good government of the State.

15th. That all men have a natural inherent right to emigrate from one State to another that will receive them, or to form a new State in vacant countries, or in such countries as they can purchase, whenever they think that thereby they may promote their own happiness.

16th. That the people have a right to assemble together, to consult for their common good, to instruct their Representatives, and to apply to the Legislature for redress of grievances, by address, petition, or remonstrance.

Adjourned to ten o'clock to-morrow morning.

— Saturday, August 17, 1776.

The Convention met pursuant to adjournment.

The Petition of *James M'Connoughy* was read, and referred to the Council of Safety.

On motion, *Ordered*, That the Petition of the inhabitants of *Albany Township*, in the County of *Berks*, be rejected.

On motion, *Ordered*, That all Officers of the Militia of this State, who are Members of this Convention, and all other Members who are now absent without leave of this House, or whose times of leave of absence are expired, or who have an indefinite leave of absence, do immediately, and without delay, attend their duty in this House: And that Colonel *Bull* be desired to signify this Resolution to such of them as he shall meet with in his intended journey to the Camp.

Ordered, on motion, That Colonel *Bull* have leave of absence, in order to visit his Battalion, at *Amboy*, till *Monday*, the 26th instant.

Ordered, on motion, That the attention of this House be wholly confined for the next ensuing week, to the consideration of the frame of Government, the Ordinance for making equal the burthens of Associators and Non-Associators, and the Ordinance for appointing Conservators of the Peace, unless such emergency should arise as, in the opinion of this House, should supersede these matters.

Moved and *Resolved*, That the Fines to be incurred by the Members of this House for non-attendance, or absenting from the House without leave, shall be punctually collected by the gentlemen appointed, unless they shall give an excuse satisfactory to this House; and that Messengers shall be, from time to time, sent by order of this House, to compel the attendance of such Members as shall or do absent themselves without leave; the expense of such Messengers to be paid by the delinquents.

Adjourned to eight o'clock on *Monday* morning.

— Monday, August 19, 1776.

The Convention met pursuant to adjournment.

On motion, *Ordered*, That this House will, on *Monday* next, the 26th instant, proceed to the election of Members of the Council of Safety, in the room of those who have neglected or refused to attend the Board.

A Letter from General *Roberdeau*, dated *Amboy*, *August* 14th and 16th, was read, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

At the same time was read, an Address, made by the General, to the Associators under his command, which being highly approved of by this House, was ordered to be printed in the *English* and *German* Newspapers of this city.

The Committee appointed to essay a frame or plan for the future Government of this State, brought in a draft for that purpose, which, being read, was ordered for consideration on *Wednesday* next, the 21st instant.

The Ordinance for making equal the burthens of Associators and Non-Associators, being read a second time, and about to be read and debated by paragraphs; it was,

On motion, *Resolved*, That the said Ordinance be re-

committed to Mr. Cannon, Mr. Rittenhouse, and Colonel M^rPherson.

On motion, *Ordered*, That Mr. Hubley and Mr. Jacobs be added to the Committee appointed to draw up an Ordinance for creating Conservators of the Peace.

The Report of the Committee for inquiring into the Petitions of the Captains of the Galleys, was read; and thereupon, it was

Resolved, That the said Petitions, Reports, and all things relative thereto, be referred to the determination of the Council of Safety; and that the most full and perfect submission be given by all concerned, to their decision.

Resolved, That the Officers in the naval and land service of this State, ought not in all cases to rise in command according to seniority; although a proper regard should be had to that circumstance in promotions where there are equal merit and equal military abilities, of which the Council of Safety is to judge; and that the said Council have full authority to use their best discretion herein, so as most effectually to promote the service: And all Officers and others concerned, are hereby strictly required and enjoined to yield and pay full and implicit obedience to all their appointments, regulations, and orders, at their peril.

Adjourned to eight o'clock to-morrow morning.

—
Tuesday, August 20, 1776, A. M.

The Convention met pursuant to adjournment.

The Committee to whom the Ordinance for making the burthens of Associators and Non-Associators equal was recommitted, brought in a new Ordinance for that purpose; which being read, the Convention resolved itself into a Committee of the Whole House, in order for the greater freedom of debate thereon. Mr. David Rittenhouse was called to and assumed the chair. After some considerable time the Vice President resumed the chair, and Mr. Rittenhouse reported from the Committee, that they had made some progress in the business committed to them, and prayed leave of the House to sit again in the afternoon:

Whereupon, it was *Ordered*, That the Committee have the leave desired.

Adjourned to three o'clock, P. M.

—
Tuesday, August 20, 1776, P. M.

The Convention met pursuant to adjournment.

On motion, *Resolved*, That the Delegates in Congress for this State do apply to the honourable the Continental Congress for the loan of One Hundred Thousand Dollars, to be put into the hands of the Council of Safety for the use of this State.

The Convention resolved itself into a Committee of the Whole House, in order to consider further of the Ordinance read in the morning. Mr. Rittenhouse was called to, and assumed the chair. After a considerable time spent in debate, the Vice President resumed the chair, and Mr. Rittenhouse reported from the Committee, that they had made some further progress in the business committed to them, and desired leave of the House to sit again on some future day; which was given accordingly.

Adjourned to eight o'clock to-morrow morning.

—
Wednesday, August 21, 1776.

The Convention met pursuant to adjournment.

On motion, *Resolved*, That the Secretary send Messengers express for Mr. Wilkinson and Mr. Slaymaker, agreeable to the Resolve of this House of the 17th instant, to require their immediate attendance in Convention.

On motion, *Resolved*, That Captain Richard Peters be directed forthwith to appoint proper Guards over the Stores of Joseph and Stephen Sewell, under the direction of the Committee of Inspection of the City and Liberties of Philadelphia, to prevent the removal of the Salt stored therein.

The Convention, according to the Order of the Day, resolved itself into a Committee of the Whole House, in order to take into consideration the frame of Government. Mr. Rittenhouse was called to, and assumed the chair. After a very considerable time employed in debating and deliberating, the President resumed the chair, and Mr. Rittenhouse

reported from the Committee, that they had made some progress in the business committed to them, and desired leave of the House to sit again to-morrow morning; which was given accordingly.

Mr. Crazart had leave of absence to visit his sick family.

Adjourned to eight o'clock to-morrow morning.

—
Thursday, August 22, 1776, A. M.

The Convention met pursuant to adjournment.

Agreeable to the Order of the Day, the Convention resolved itself into a Committee of the Whole House. Mr. Rittenhouse was called to, and assumed the chair. After some time spent in deliberating on the frame of Government, the President resumed the chair, and Mr. Rittenhouse reported from the Committee, that they had made some further progress in the business committed to them, but had not completed it; he therefore desired leave of the House to sit again in the afternoon; which was granted.

Adjourned to three o'clock in the afternoon.

—
Thursday, August 22, 1776, P. M.

The Convention met pursuant to adjournment.

The Committee for bringing in an Ordinance for appointing Conservators of the Peace, reported a draft for that purpose, which, being read the first time, was ordered to lie on the table for a second reading.

Agreeable to the Order of the Day, the Convention resolved itself into a Committee of the Whole House. Mr. Rittenhouse was called to, and assumed the chair. After some time spent in deliberating on the frame of Government, the President resumed the chair, and Mr. Rittenhouse reported from the Committee, that they had made some further progress in the business committed to them, but had not completed it; he therefore desired leave of the House to sit again to-morrow; which was granted.

Ordered, on motion, That Colonel Hill have leave of absence to visit his Battalion in Jersey.

Adjourned to nine o'clock to-morrow morning.

—
Friday, August 23, 1776, A. M.

The House met pursuant to adjournment.

A Petition from John Smyth and Benjamin Lewis, two languishing prisoners in the Jail of Philadelphia, praying relief from their confinement, was read; and thereupon, it was

Ordered, That Mr. Cannon and Colonel William Cook be appointed to inquire into the petitioners' case, and report thereon to this House.

Agreeable to order, the Convention resolved itself into a Committee of the Whole House. Mr. Rittenhouse was called to and assumed the chair. After some time spent in deliberating on the frame of Government, the President resumed the chair, and Mr. Rittenhouse reported from the Committee, that they had made some further progress in the business committed to them, but had not completed it; he therefore desired leave of the House to sit again in the afternoon; which was granted.

Adjourned to four o'clock, P. M.

—
Friday, August 23, 1776, P. M.

The House met pursuant to adjournment.

According to the Order of the Day, the Convention resolved itself into a Committee of the Whole House. Mr. Rittenhouse was called to, and assumed the chair. After some time spent in deliberating on the frame of Government, the President resumed the chair, and Mr. Rittenhouse reported from the Committee, that they had made some further progress in the business committed to them, but had not completed it; he therefore desired leave of the House to sit again; which was granted.

Mr. Thomas Jones had leave of absence for three days.

Adjourned to eight o'clock to-morrow morning.

—
Saturday, August 24, 1776.

The Convention met pursuant to adjournment.

Upon application made by the Committee of Inspection and Observation for the City and Liberties of Philadelphia, the House came to the following Resolution, viz:

Whereas it appears to this Convention, upon due inquiry

and information of the circumstances, that the Salt now in this city has been imported at low prices, and under moderate insurance: And whereas divers persons, in contempt of the just and wholesome regulations of the Committee, &c., of *Philadelphia*, under directions of Congress, have continued to dispose of their Salt at most exorbitant prices, to the great grievance and distress of their fellow-subjects of this State:

It is therefore *Resolved*, That the said regulations be hereby confirmed, and all persons whatever are hereby strictly enjoined to pay due obedience thereto; and the said Committee are authorized and directed to seize and take into their possession the Salt belonging to such persons as have refused or shall refuse conformity to the regulations so established, or shall altogether withhold or refuse to sell their Salt during the continuance of such regulations, allowing to the said persons, upon the sale thereof, the fixed and settled prices, first deducting the expenses incurred upon the sale.

And whereas it is but reasonable that every part of this extensive State should be accommodated, as nearly as may be, with their proportion of this article, so justly esteemed a necessary of life:

Be it Resolved, That the Committee of *Philadelphia*, are hereby further directed to distribute the Salt that may, as aforesaid, come into their possession, in equal quantities in the several Counties, having regard to the respective numbers of inhabitants contained in the said Counties.

The gentlemen appointed to examine into the cases of *John Smyth* and *Benjamin Lewis*, report that they are proper objects of the relief and commiseration of this House, and that they are Gunlock makers, and willing to engage to work in the Factory in this City: It is thereupon

Resolved, That the Sheriff or Jailer of the City and County of *Philadelphia* do release and discharge the said *John Smyth* and *Benjamin Lewis* out of their or either of their custody, upon their signing a written agreement, by which they and each of them engage to work at the Gunlock Factory in this City.

Adjourned to eight o'clock on *Monday* morning.

Monday, August 26, 1776, A. M.

The Convention met pursuant to adjournment.

Colonel *Clarke* representing to the House that his indisposition was so great that he could not continue to do his duty in this House without a recess of some time for his refreshment, obtained leave of absence for a few days.

Upon application of Colonels *Galbreath* and *Lowrey*, for leave of absence to visit their Battalions at *Amboy*, it was

Resolved, That both have not the leave required, but that one of them may be permitted to go.

On motion, *Ordered*, That a Letter be written to General *Mercer*, requesting him to grant leave of absence to such gentlemen who are members of this Convention, and now in *New-Jersey* under his command, in order that they may attend their duty in this House, provided such leave be compatible with the publick safety.

Upon motion, *Resolved*, That as soon as Colonel *Roses's* Battalion of the Militia of *Lancaster* County shall return into the said County, Colonel *Slough* be ordered to march his Battalion, immediately on their arrival, to the Camp in *New-Jersey*; and that the Secretary transmit a copy of this Resolve to Colonel *Slough*.

The Convention resolved itself into a Committee of the Whole House, in order to consider of the Ordinance respecting the Associators and Non-Associators. Mr. *Rittenhouse* was called to and assumed the chair. After some time, the President resumed the chair, and Mr. *Rittenhouse* reported from the Committee, that they had made some progress in the business referred to them, but not having completed the same, desired leave of the House to sit again in the afternoon; which was granted.

Adjourned to four o'clock P. M.

Monday, August 26, 1776, P. M.

The Convention met pursuant to adjournment.

Letters from General *Roberdeau* and Colonel *Bull*, from *Amboy*, requesting that Colonel *Bull* might have leave to stay in the Camp, his presence being particularly necessary there, were read: And it was thereupon

Ordered, That Colonel *Bull* have leave to stay some time longer.

A Letter from Colonel *Matlack*, at *Amboy*, respecting the Flying-Camp, was read, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

Some Resolves of Congress, of the 23d of *August* instant, desiring this Convention to recommend suitable persons for Lieutenant-Colonel and Major, and to appoint the Captains and Subalterns for the six Companies to be raised for the Counties of *Northampton* and *Cumberland*, were read, and

Ordered to lie on the table for further consideration.

The Convention then, agreeable to the Order of the Day, resolved itself into a Committee of the Whole House, in order to consider of the Ordinance respecting Associators and Non-Associators. Mr. *Rittenhouse* was called to and assumed the chair. After some time, the President resumed the chair, and Mr. *Rittenhouse* reported from the Committee that they had made some further progress in the business referred to them, but not having completed the same, desired leave of the House to sit again on some future day; which was granted.

The Vice President informed the Convention that the honourable Congress had agreed to lend to this State the 100,000 Dollars mentioned in the Minute of the 20th of *August* instant, and that he had obtained an order on *Michael Hillegas*, Esq., the Continental Treasurer, for that sum: Whereupon it was

Resolved, That the President draw an order for 30,000 Dollars, part thereof, in favour of Colonel *Kirkbride* and Colonel *M'Pherson*, who are to deliver the same to Colonel *Clarke*, now on his journey to the Camp in *New-Jersey*, who is to deliver over the same to Colonel *Matlack* and Colonel *Slagle*, two of the Commissioners appointed to form the Flying-Camp.

The said Order was accordingly drawn, and signed by the President, and delivered to Colonel *Kirkbride* and Colonel *M'Pherson*.

Adjourned to nine o'clock to-morrow morning.

Tuesday, August 27, 1776, A. M.

The Convention met pursuant to adjournment.

A Petition from several of the inhabitants of *Tulpehocken*, in *Berks* County, praying that some of the Associators in that part of the country may remain to protect them against the *Indians* and banditti, was read, and referred to the Council of Safety.

A Letter from General *Mercer*, to the President of the Congress, was read, and referred to the Council of Safety.

The House resumed the consideration of the bill for the appointment of Conservators of the Peace, &c.; and after some time, it was ordered to be recommitted to the same Committee, with the addition of Colonel *Ross* and Mr. *Clymer*.

Mr. *Clymer* informed the House that the Artillery Companies of this City, at *Amboy*, were desirous of being put on the same footing with the other Militia, with respect to their being relieved after having served the usual time.

Ordered, That the request be referred to the Council of Safety.

Adjourned to three o'clock, P. M.

Tuesday, August 27, 1776, P. M.

The Convention met pursuant to adjournment.

The House resumed the consideration of the bill for appointing Conservators of the Peace; and the same being read and debated by paragraphs, was ordered to be transcribed for a third reading.

Colonels *Kirkbride* and *M'Pherson* reported that they had received the 30,000 Dollars of Mr. *Hillegas*, and paid them to Colonel *Clarke*, agreeable to the directions of yesterday.

Adjourned to nine o'clock to-morrow morning.

Wednesday, August 28, 1776, A. M.

The Convention met pursuant to adjournment.

Major *William Coats*, one of the Members for *Philadelphia* County, appeared in the House for the first time, took

the oath, and made and subscribed the profession of faith required.

The House resumed the consideration of the Salt belonging to *Joshua Fisher & Sons*, and thereupon came to the following Resolve, viz:

Whereas a quantity of Salt belonging to *Joshua Fisher & Sons*, imported contrary to the Non-Importation Agreement, remains stored under the care of the Committee of Inspection of the City and Liberties of *Philadelphia*, and the same being an article of general use, and the present necessity thereof very urgent: Therefore

Resolved, That the said Committee dispose of the said Salt among the inhabitants of the City of *Philadelphia* and the several Counties of this State, in proportion to the reputed numbers in each, allowing to the owners a reasonable compensation for the same.

Adjourned to three o'clock in the afternoon.

Wednesday, August 28, 1776, P. M.

The Convention met pursuant to adjournment.

The Convention resolved itself into a Committee of the Whole House, in order to take into consideration the Ordinance respecting Associators and Non-Associators. Mr. *Rittenhouse* was called to and assumed the chair. After some time the Vice President resumed the chair, when the Chairman reported from the Committee, that they had made some further progress in the business committed to them, but not having quite finished the same, desired leave to sit again on some future day; which was granted.

The Ordinance respecting Treason and Misprision of Treason was read again, and ordered to be printed before it be finally passed.

Adjourned to nine o'clock to-morrow morning.

Thursday, August 29, 1776, A. M.

The Convention met pursuant to adjournment.

It was moved by a Member for *Northampton* County, that, as the Militia of that County was ordered not to march into *Jersey*, that therefore their second quota for the Flying-Camp must be made up at home; and that it was necessary that the Bounty Money should be sent up thither; whereupon it was

Resolved, That the President draw an Order on *Michael Hillegas, Esq.*, for the sum of £834, to be paid to Mr. *Neigle Gray* and Major *Jacob Arndt*, to be by them transmitted to *Northampton* County, in order to pay the Bounty for the second quota for the Flying-Camp for that County; which Order was drawn accordingly, and signed at the table.

The House then resolved itself into a Committee of the Whole, to consider of the draft of the frame of Government. Mr. *Rittenhouse* was called to and assumed the chair. After some time the President resumed the chair, and Mr. *Rittenhouse* reported from the Committee, that they had made some progress therein, but not having completed the same, desired leave to sit again in the afternoon; which was granted.

Adjourned to three o'clock this afternoon.

Thursday, August 29, 1776, P. M.

The Convention met pursuant to adjournment.

The House, agreeable to the Order of the Day, resolved itself into a Committee of the Whole, to consider of the draft of the frame of Government. Mr. *Rittenhouse* was called to and assumed the chair. After some time the President resumed the chair, and Mr. *Rittenhouse* reported from the Committee that they had made some further progress therein, but not having completed the same, desired leave to sit again to-morrow; which was granted.

Adjourned to nine o'clock to-morrow morning.

Friday, August 30, 1776, A. M.

The Convention met pursuant to adjournment.

The Convention, agreeable to the Order of the Day, resolved itself into a Committee of the Whole House, to consider of the draft of the frame of Government. Mr. *Rittenhouse* was called to and assumed the chair. After some time the President resumed the chair, and Mr. *Rittenhouse*

reported from the Committee that they had made further progress therein, but not having completed the same, desired leave to sit again in the afternoon; which was granted.

Adjourned to four o'clock, P. M.

Friday, August 30, 1776, P. M.

The Convention met pursuant to adjournment.

The Convention, agreeable to the Order of the Day, resolved itself into a Committee of the Whole House, to consider of the draft of the frame of Government. Mr. *Rittenhouse* was called to and assumed the chair. After some time the President resumed the chair, and Mr. *Rittenhouse* reported from the Committee, that they had made further progress in the business referred to them, but not having completed the same, desired leave of the House to sit again to-morrow; which was granted.

Adjourned to nine o'clock to-morrow morning.

Saturday, August 31, 1776.

The Convention met pursuant to adjournment.

A Petition from *Peter Withington*, praying to be appointed a Captain of one of the Companies to be raised in *Northampton* and *Northumberland*, was read, and *Ordered* to lie on the table.

A Memorial of *Stephen* and *Joseph Shewell*, justifying their conduct with respect to their Salt, was read, and *Ordered* to lie on the table.

The Convention then resolved itself into a Committee of the Whole House, in order to take into consideration the frame of Government. Mr. *Rittenhouse* was called to and assumed the chair. After some time the President resumed the chair, and Mr. *Rittenhouse* reported from the Committee, that they had made some progress therein, but not having completed it, desired leave to sit again; which was granted.

Colonel *Kirkbride* requested leave of absence to join his Battalion at *Amboy*: Whereupon it was *Ordered*, That he have not the leave of this House.

Adjourned to nine o'clock on Monday morning.

Monday, September 2, 1776, A. M.

A number of the Members met, but there not appearing a quorum,

Adjourned to three o'clock in the afternoon.

Monday, September 2, 1776, P. M.

The Convention met pursuant to adjournment.

A Memorial from the Committee of Inspection of *Cumberland* County, setting forth the advices they had received from the frontier inhabitants respecting their apprehensions of an *Indian* war, and praying that some of their Militia might be permitted to remain at home for their protection, was read, and

Ordered to be referred to the Council of Safety.

A Petition from *John Timmons*, a prisoner confined in *Carlisle* Jail, on suspicion of murder, asserting his innocence, and praying to be admitted to bail, was read, and *Ordered* to lie on the table.

On motion, *Ordered*, That Colonel *Ross* and Colonel *Thomas Smith* be a Committee to bring in an Ordinance, empowering the Justices of Peace in this State, in certain cases, to compel Debtors to give security to their Creditors.

Adjourned to nine o'clock to-morrow morning.

Tuesday, September 3, 1776, A. M.

The Convention met pursuant to adjournment.

Mr. *Hubley* moved for leave of absence, but, perceiving the House not inclined to grant his request, withdrew it; but, nevertheless, desired that it might be entered on the Minutes.

A Member informing the House that Colonel *M^rPherson* had received an account of the loss of a son in the late battle on *Long-Island*, and that he desired leave to visit his afflicted family on that melancholy occasion; it was thereupon

Ordered, That Colonel *M^rPherson* have leave of absence.

The House then proceeded to the third reading of the Ordinance for appointing Justices of the Peace in this State, which, being compared at the table, was passed into an

Ordinance, and ordered to be signed by the President; the said Ordinance follows in these words:

"An Ordinance for the Appointment of Justices of the Peace for the State of PENNSYLVANIA."

"Whereas it is necessary that proper officers of Justice be appointed under the authority of the people only, and deriving no power whatever from the late Constitution: *Be it therefore ordained and declared, and it is hereby ordained and declared, by the Representatives of the freemen of the State of PENNSYLVANIA in General Convention met, That David Rittenhouse, Jonathan B. Smith, Owen Biddle, James Cannon, Timothy Matlack, Samuel Morris the elder, Samuel Howell, Frederick Kuhl, Samuel Morris the younger, Thomas Wharton the younger, Henry Keppele the younger, Joseph Blewer, Samuel Mifflin, George Gray, John Bull, Henry Wynkoop, Benjamin Bartholomew, John Hubley, Michael Swoope, William Lyon, Daniel Hunter, Peter Rhoads, David Espy, John Weitzel, and John Moore, Esquires, Members of the Council of Safety, are hereby made, constituted, and appointed, Justices of the Peace for this State.*

"And that *Benjamin Franklin, John Dickinson, George Bryan, James Young, James Biddle, John Morris the younger, Joseph Parker, John Bayard, Sharp Delany, John Cadwallader, Joseph Copperthwaite, Christopher Marshall the elder, Francis Gurney, Robert Knox, Matthew Clarkson, William Coates, William Ball, Philip Boehm, Francis Casper Hasenclever, Thomas Cuthbert the elder, Moses Bartham, Jacob Schreiner, Joseph Moulder, Jonathan Paschal, Benjamin Paschal, Benjamin Harbeson, Jacob Bright, Henry Hill, Samuel Ashmead, Frederick Antis, Samuel Erwin, Alexander Edwards, Seth Quee, Samuel Potts, Rowland Evans, Charles Bense, and Peter Evans, of the City and County of Philadelphia, Esquires, are hereby made, constituted, and appointed, Justices of the Peace for the City and County of Philadelphia.*

"And that *Joseph Hart, Richard Walker, Joseph Kirkbride, John Wilkinson, John Kidd, Robert Patterson, John Clark, James Benezet, Samuel Smith, James M. Mullen, Theophilus Foulke, Joshua Anderson, George Wickart, and Thomas Long, of the County of Bucks, Esquires, are hereby made, constituted, and appointed, Justices of the Peace for the County of Bucks.*

"And that *Alexander Johnston, William Clingen, Evan Evans, Richard Baker, John Sellers, Nicholas Fairlamb, John Jones, John Wilson, William Heslet, Israel Whelin, William Deney, Samuel Bond, and Robert Mendenhall, of the County of Chester, Esquires, are hereby made, constituted, and appointed, Justices of the Peace for the County of Chester.*

"And that *Emanuel Carpenter, Edward Shippen, William Henry, Michael Hubley, William Bausman, Ludwig Lau-man, James Bird, James Work, Timothy Green, John Thome, Moses Irwin, John Ferrie, Zaccheus Davis, David Jenkins, John Whitehill, James Clemson, William Brown, James Murray, Robert Thomson, Robert Barber, Thomas Whiteside, Michael Bright, and Christopher Wegman, of the County of Lancaster, Esquires, are hereby made, constituted, and appointed, Justices of the Peace for the County of Lancaster.*

"And that *Robert M. Pherson, Martin Eichelberger, Samuel Edie, David M. Conaughy, Richard M. Calister, Henry Slagle, Matthew Dill, William Rankin, William Lees, William Bailey, William Scott, William Smith, William M. Caskey, Josias Scott, Thomas Latta, William M. Clean, and John Mickle the younger, of the County of York, Esquires, are hereby made, constituted, and appointed, Justices of the Peace for the County of York.*

"And that *John Armstrong, John Byers, John Reynolds, Jonathan Hoge, Robert Miller, George Robinson, John Holmes, James Olivar, John Agnew, John Alison, James Maxwell, Samuel Lyon, William Brown, James Dunlap, John McClay, William Elliot, Matthew Henderson, and Frederick Watt, of the County of Cumberland, Esquires, are hereby made, constituted, and appointed, Justices of the Peace for the County of Cumberland.*

"And that *James Read, Peter Spyker, Jacob Morgan, George Douglass, Mark Bird, Henry Christ, Balizar Gear, John Patton, Thomas Dundas, Christopher Witman, Richard Tea, and Bastian Levan, of the County of Berks,*

Esquires, are hereby made, constituted, and appointed, Justices of the Peace for the County of Berks.

"And that *Robert Trail, Jacob Moory, Christopher Wagner, Henry Kookken, John Weitzel, Peter Traxler, Senior, Nicholas Dupui, Evan Morgan, Robert Forgeman, and Henry Barnet, of the County of Northampton, Esquires, are hereby made, constituted, and appointed, Justices of the Peace for the County of Northampton.*

"And that *Bernard Dougherty, William Proctor, George Wood, Abraham Cable, Thomas Smith, Thomas Coulter, Henry Lloyd, John Piper, Samuel Davidson, William Latta, John Wilkins, William Todd, Benjamin Elliot, William Parker, Evan Shelby, David Jones, Henry Rhoads, William Johnston, William M. Leavy, Gideon Ritchey, John Mellot, Edward Coomb, Hugh Davis, Matthew Patton, Robert Ramsey, Benjamin Bird, John Shaver, Samuel Thompson, William Phillips, William Holliday the younger, Charles Cessna, John Mitchell, and Richard Brown, of the County of Bedford, Esquires, are hereby made, constituted, and appointed, Justices of the Peace for the County of Bedford.*

"And that *Samuel Hunter, James Potter, William M. Clay, Robert Moodie, John Lowden, Benjamin Weiser, John Fleming, Henry Antis, and John Simpson, of the County of Northumberland, Esquires, are hereby made, constituted, and appointed, Justices of the Peace for the County of Northumberland.*

"And that *Robert Hanna, William Lockray, Alexander M. Lean, Providence Mounts, Andrew M. Farlin, James Pollock, James Caval, Samuel Sloane, Thomas Scott, Michael Hufnagle, James Wilson, David Allen, Benjamin Davis, Philip Rogers, Joseph Caldwell, James Wilkins, William Elliot, George Latimore, and Samuel Burns, of the County of Westmoreland, Esquires, are hereby made, constituted, and appointed, Justices of the Peace for the County of Westmoreland.*

"And be it further ordained and declared, That the said Justices, and every of them, shall have full power and authority to take acknowledgments of deeds, and cognizance of criminal offences and breaches of the peace. And in cases of petty larceny, under five shillings, to proceed to punishment.

"And be it further ordained and declared, That the laws which were in use before the dissolution of the late Government, shall be the rule of their proceedings, so far as the same may not be inconsistent with the oath or affirmation hereinafter directed to be taken and subscribed, and that the style of their precepts shall be in the name of the State of Pennsylvania.

"And be it further ordained and declared, That the said Justices, and every of them, before they respectively enter upon their office, do take and subscribe the following oath or affirmation:

"I do swear or affirm, that I do not hold myself bound to bear allegiance to *George the Third, King of Great Britain*, and that I will steadily and firmly, at all times, promote the most effectual means, according to my skill and knowledge, to oppose the tyrannical proceedings of the King and Parliament of *Great Britain* against the *United American States*, and to support a Government in this State on the authority of the people only; and that as a Justice of the Peace I will do everything in that office to the best of my knowledge and abilities, consistent with the freedom and independence of this State.

"And be it further ordained and declared, That the Members of the Council of Safety above named, do make and subscribe the said oath or affirmation before their President for the time being; and that the Justices appointed for the City and County of *Philadelphia*, do take and subscribe the same oath or affirmation before *Benjamin Franklin, John Dickinson, Samuel Morris, Samuel Ashmead, and Alexander Edwards, Esquires, or one of them*; and that the Justices appointed for the County of *Bucks*, do take and subscribe the said oath or affirmation before *Joseph Hart, Joseph Kirkbride, and John Kidd, Esquires, or one of them*; and that the Justices appointed for the County of *Chester*, do take and subscribe the said oath or affirmation before *Richard Baker and John Sellers, Esquires, or one of them*; and that the Justices appointed for the County of *Lancaster*, do take and subscribe the said oath or affirmation before *William Henry, John Hubley, John Thome, and Moses Erwin,*

Esquires, or one of them; and that the Justices appointed for the County of *York*, do take and subscribe the said oath or affirmation before *Martin Eichelberger*, *Samuel Edie*, and *William Smith*, Esquires, or one of them; and that the Justices appointed for the County of *Cumberland* do take and subscribe the said oath or affirmation before *Jonathan Hoge*, *John Holmes*, *John Alison*, and *Samuel Lyon*, Esquires, or one of them; and that the Justices appointed for the County of *Berks* do take and subscribe the said oath or affirmation before *James Read*, *Peter Spyker*, and *Jacob Morgan*, Esquires, or one of them; and that the Justices appointed for the County of *Northampton* do take and subscribe the said oath or affirmation before *Robert Trail* and *Henry Kooker*, Esquires, or one of them; and that the Justices appointed for the County of *Bedford* do take and subscribe the said oath or affirmation before *George Wood* and *David Espy*, Esquires, or one of them; and that the Justices appointed for the County of *Northumberland* do take and subscribe the said oath or affirmation before *Samuel Hunter* and *James Potter*, Esquires, or one of them; and that the Justices appointed for the County of *Westmoreland* do take and subscribe the said oath or affirmation before *Robert Hanna* and *Alexander McLean*, Esquires, or one of them.

"And be it further ordained and declared, That the Justices of the respective Counties shall have full power and authority from time to time, when they shall think it necessary, to appoint Jailors to take care of the several Jails and prisons, and of the prisoners committed to them.

"And be it further ordained and declared, That all Coroners, Constables, Overseers of the Poor, and Supervisors of the Highways, who were lawfully in office at the time of or immediately before the dissolution of the late Government of this State, shall continue to exercise the powers and perform the duties of their respective offices until a new appointment or future provision be made in such case.

"And be it further ordained and declared, That this Ordinance shall continue and remain in force until altered or repealed by the future Legislature of this State, or by this Convention.

"Passed in Convention, *September 3, 1776*, and signed by their order. B. FRANKLIN, *President*.

"Attest: JOHN MORRIS, Jun., *Secretary*."

The House then resolved itself into a Committee of the Whole, in order to take into consideration the frame of Government. Mr. *Rittenhouse* was called to and assumed the chair. After some time the President resumed the chair, and Mr. *Rittenhouse* reported from the Committee, that they had made some further progress in the business committed to them, but not having completed the same, desired leave to sit again in the afternoon; which was granted.

Adjourned to three o'clock in the afternoon.

Tuesday, September 3, 1776, P. M.

The House met pursuant to adjournment.

The Convention then resolved itself into a Committee of the Whole House, in order to take into consideration the frame of Government. Mr. *Rittenhouse* was called to and assumed the chair. After some time, the President resumed the chair, and Mr. *Rittenhouse* reported from the Committee, that they had made some further progress in the business committed to them, but not having completed it, desired leave to sit again to-morrow; which was granted.

Adjourned to nine o'clock to-morrow morning.

Wednesday, September 4, 1776, A. M.

The Convention met pursuant to adjournment.

A Memorial from Messrs. *Carnahan* and *Proctor*, two Colonels of the Militia of *Westmoreland* County, informing that their two Battalions wanted about four hundred stand of Arms, and also praying that this House would settle some mode of calling out the Militia in case of invasion, was read, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

A Petition from *Andrew Ledlie*, of *Easton*, in *Northampton* County, complaining of great ill usage from some of the inhabitants of that town, on account, as he apprehends, of his attachment to the cause of liberty, was read, and ordered to be referred and recommended to the Justices of the Peace appointed for that County, to take immediate notice of the

FIFTH SERIES.—VOL. II.

complaints of the said petitioner, and afford him all the redress and security which the nature of his case requires.

A Petition from *William Hardy*, praying to be appointed the officer for this State to register those who shall be disabled in the service of the *United States*, agreeable to the Resolve of Congress of the 26th of *August* last, was read, and referred to the future Legislature of this State.

Ordered, That a Messenger be sent to *Benjamin Bartholomew*, Esq., an absent Member of this House, to compel his attendance on his duty in this House.

It being represented, that in the Ordinance for constituting Justices there is no direction before whom the President of the Council of Safety shall be qualified as a Justice of the Peace for this State: Thereupon it was

Ordered, That he take and subscribe the oath or affirmation required by said Ordinance, before the honourable the President of this Convention.

The House resumed the consideration of the Ordinance respecting Treason and Misprision of Treason, and ordered the same to be engrossed for a third reading.

Adjourned to three o'clock in the afternoon.

Wednesday, September 4, 1776, P. M.

The Convention met pursuant to adjournment.

The House resolved itself into a Committee of the Whole, to take into consideration the frame of Government. Mr. *Rittenhouse* was called to and assumed the chair. After some time, the President resumed the chair, and Mr. *Rittenhouse* reported from the Committee that they had made some further progress therein, but not having completed the same, desired leave of the House to sit again to-morrow; which was granted.

Adjourned to nine o'clock to-morrow morning.

Thursday, September 5, 1776, A. M.

The Convention met pursuant to adjournment.

Major *Arndt* informing the House that he had received an account that his son was wounded in the late battle on *Long-Island*, and was now lying ill at *Bergen*, desired leave to visit him; which was granted, on his promise to return as soon as he conveniently could.

The Convention then resolved itself into a Committee of the Whole House, in order to resume the consideration of the frame of Government. Mr. *Rittenhouse* was called to and assumed the chair. After some time, the President resumed the chair, and Mr. *Rittenhouse* reported from the Committee that they had finished the business referred to them, and were ready to report thereon.

A Letter from Mr. *Hancock*, with some Resolves of Congress of the 3d instant, requesting that this State would immediately send forward to *New-York* all the aid they can in the present dangerous and critical state of affairs, was read, and

Ordered to lie on the table for consideration.

Adjourned to half-past three o'clock in the afternoon.

Thursday, September 5, 1776, P. M.

The House met pursuant to adjournment.

The Report of the Committee of the Whole House, on the frame of Government, was now read: And thereupon it was

Ordered, That the President, Mr. *Rittenhouse*, and Mr. *Vanhorn* be desired to revise the same, and make such alterations therein in method and style, without affecting the sense, as they may think proper; and, when that is done, to get four hundred copies printed for publick consideration.

The House then proceeded to the third reading of the Ordinance for Treason and Misprision of Treason; which being compared at the table, was passed into an Ordinance, and ordered to be signed by the President.

The said Ordinance follows in these words:

"An Ordinance of the State of PENNSYLVANIA, declaring what shall be Treason, and for punishing the same and other Crimes and Practices against the State.

"Whereas Government ought at all times to take the most effectual measures for the safety and security of the State:

"Be it therefore ordained and declared, and it is hereby

ordained and declared by the Representatives of the free-men of the State of PENNSYLVANIA, in General Convention met, That all and every person and persons (except prisoners of war) now inhabiting or residing within the limits of the State of *Pennsylvania*, or that shall voluntarily come into the same hereafter, to inhabit or sojourn, do and shall owe and pay allegiance to the State of *Pennsylvania*.

"And be it further ordained by the authority aforesaid, That all and every such person and persons, so owing allegiance to the State of *Pennsylvania*, who, from and after the publication hereof, shall levy war against this State, or be adherent to the King of *Great Britain*, or others the enemies of this State, or to the enemies of the *United States of America*, by giving him or them aid or assistance within the limits of this State or elsewhere, and shall be thereof duly convicted in any Court of Oyer and Terminer hereafter to be erected according to law, shall be adjudged guilty of high treason, and forfeit his lands, tenements, goods and chattels, to the use of the State, and be imprisoned any term not exceeding the duration of the present war with *Great Britain*, at the discretion of the Judge or Judges.

"And be it further ordained and declared by the authority aforesaid, That any person or persons (except as before excepted) residing, inhabiting, or sojourning in this State, who shall hereafter know of such treason, and conceal the same, or that shall receive or assist such traitor, knowing him to be such, and shall be thereof duly convicted, as aforesaid, shall be adjudged guilty of misprision of treason, and suffer the forfeiture of one-third of his goods and chattels, lands and tenements, to the use of the State, and be imprisoned any term not exceeding the duration of the present war with *Great Britain*, at the discretion of the Judge or Judges.

"And be it further ordained and declared, That in all convictions for high treason, the Judge or Judges, before whom the trial is had, may, out of the estate forfeited by virtue of this act, make such provision for the wife or children, if any, of the criminal, as he or they, in his or their discretion, may deem necessary.

"And be it further ordained and declared, That this ordinance shall be in force till the end of the first session of the first Assembly that shall meet under the new Constitution of this State, and no longer.

"Passed in Convention, September 5, 1776, and signed by their order.

"B. FRANKLIN, President.

"Attest: JOHN MORRIS, Jun., Secretary."

Adjourned to nine o'clock to-morrow morning.

Friday, September 6, 1776, A. M.

The Convention met pursuant to adjournment.

The Convention resolved itself into a Committee of the Whole House, to consider of the Ordinance respecting Associators and Non-Associators. Mr. Rittenhouse was called to and assumed the chair. After some time the Vice President resumed the chair, and Mr. Rittenhouse reported from the Committee that they had essayed a draft of an Ordinance respecting the Associators and Non-Associators; which being read, was

Ordered to lie on the table for a second reading.

On motion, Ordered, That Major Coats and Mr. Jacobs be a Committee to inquire into the number of copies of the Laws of *Pennsylvania* that was printed by order of the late Government; how many of them have been disposed of, and in what manner; and what number of them remain in the hands of the printer; and make report to this House.

The House resumed the consideration of the Resolves of Congress of the 23d of August respecting the Companies to be raised in the Counties of *Northampton* and *Northumberland*:

And upon motion, it was Ordered, That the Delegates in Congress for *Pennsylvania* represent to that honourable Board the difficulties which this House apprehends will obstruct the raising the men in the manner proposed by those Resolves.

An Ordinance respecting advisedly writing and speaking against the *American* cause, was read the first time, and

Ordered to lie on the table for a second reading.

Adjourned to three o'clock in the afternoon.

Friday, September 6, 1776, P. M.

The Convention met pursuant to adjournment, and adjourned to nine o'clock to-morrow morning.

Saturday, September 7, 1776.

The House met pursuant to adjournment.

Application was made to this Convention, by the Captain of a vessel who arrived here this morning with a cargo of Salt, to know whether he was at liberty to dispose of it, without any regard to the regulations made respecting that commodity: Whereupon, after debate, it was

Resolved unanimously, That this House will not, in any manner, interfere with the said Salt; but that the owner has a right to sell or dispose of it, at such rates and to such persons, as he may think proper.

The House then proceeded to the second reading of the Ordinance respecting Associators and Non-Associators, and after a considerable time spent in debating thereon by paragraphs,

Adjourned to nine o'clock on Monday morning.

Monday, September 9, 1776.

A number of the Members met, but not being a quorum, adjourned to three o'clock in the afternoon.

Monday, September 9, 1776, P. M.

The Convention met pursuant to adjournment.

After the clause in the Ordinance respecting Associators and Non-Associators, wherein it is ordained, that Non-Associators shall pay at the rate of 20s. per month, was carried in the affirmative, it was moved, that the yeas and nays might be taken on that clause; and thereupon, it was

Resolved, That the yeas and nays be not taken.

On motion, Ordered, That the President *pro tem.* draw an Order on the Treasurer for the sum of twelve pounds, in favour of William Sheed, Doorkeeper to this Convention, for his wages till this time, being forty-eight days, at 5s. per diem.

The House proceeded in the further consideration of the bill respecting Associators and Non-Associators; and after some time spent therein,

Adjourned to nine o'clock to-morrow morning.

Tuesday, September 10, 1776.

The House met pursuant to adjournment.

A Letter, dated the 5th instant, at *King's Bridge*, from Lieutenant-Colonel Broadhead, of the *Pennsylvania* Forces, was read, giving a relation of the battle on *Long-Island*, and a particular account of the behaviour of the *Pennsylvanians* on that occasion; and of the wants of the soldiers, who had most of them lost their blankets, which they had thrown away in the engagement. This letter also contained the returns of the three Regiments under his command, and some inquiries respecting the rank, &c., of the officers.

A Letter dated the 5th instant, at *Amboy*, from Colonel Slagle, was read, complaining of his ill state of health, and desiring that another Commissioner may be appointed in his stead.

A Letter of the 31st of August, from the *Indian* Commissioners at *Fort Pitt*, was read, communicating the information they had received respecting the danger of an *Indian* war: Whereupon it was

Resolved, That Colonel Thomas Smith, Colonel Potter, and Major James Smith, be a Committee to confer with the Committee of Congress for *Indian* Affairs on that subject, and on the most proper mode of defending the frontiers.

Resolved, That Colonel Matlack, Mr. Cannon, Mr. Rittenhouse, Mr. Whitehill, and Mr. Edward Cook, be a Committee to take into consideration all the Military affairs of this State respecting the Flying-Camp and the operations of war to the eastward; and that they make an essay of such temporary regulations for the Militia as may render it more effectual for the immediate publick defence.

Colonel Matlack, one of the Commissioners for forming the Flying-Camp, being now returned, informed the Convention, among other things, of the difficulties that had occurred with respect to the two Companies of Artillery of the Militia of this State, now at *Amboy*; and that, in order to

relieve them as expeditiously as possible, (after they had cheerfully staid considerably beyond the usual time,) the Commissioners had agreed to advance a month's pay, in addition to the bounty, to such as would enlist in that service: Whereupon the House expressed their approbation of their conduct therein.

A Member informed the House of some inconveniences and discouragements which he had observed arising from the small number of General Officers belonging to this State, and desired that the Convention would take that matter into consideration.

Adjourned to nine o'clock to-morrow morning.

Wednesday, September 11, 1776, A. M.

The Convention met pursuant to adjournment.

Some gentlemen of the Committee of Inspection for the City and Liberties of *Philadelphia*, waited on the Convention with an application from that Board, setting forth, that they had continued acting, by the direction of this House, now above four weeks beyond the time for which they were originally chosen, and that they proposed to dissolve themselves on *Tuesday* evening next; but that, previous thereto, they submitted to this House, whether a new Committee should be chosen, and if so, that then a new line of conduct should be drawn for them.

The House resumed the consideration of the Ordinance respecting the burthens of Associators and Non-Associators, and, after considerable time spent therein, it was recommitted to Mr. Cannon, Mr. Rittenhouse, Colonel James Smith, and Colonel Matlack.

Adjourned to three o'clock in the afternoon.

Wednesday, September 11, 1776, P. M.

The Convention met pursuant to adjournment.

The House proceeded to the second reading of an Ordinance respecting the advisedly speaking and writing against the *American* cause, which, being read and debated by paragraphs, was ordered to be engrossed for a third reading.

The Committee appointed to bring in an Ordinance respecting Debtors giving security in certain cases, reported a draft for that purpose, which, being read, was ordered to lie on the table for a second reading.

The House then proceeded to the election of four Members of the Council of Safety, in the room of *Nathaniel Falconer*, *Jonathan B. Smith*, *Samuel Mifflin*, and *Samuel Morris*, Jun.; when *John Bayard*, *John Cox*, *Francis Gurney*, and *Samuel Cad. Morris*, were chosen by ballot Members of the said Council of Safety for this State.

A Memorial of *William Wild* to the Congress, and by them referred to this House, is by this Convention referred to the Council of Safety.

A Petition of *Lawrence Feagan*, relating to the damage he sustained by reason of a riot among the soldiers at the Barracks, was read, and ordered that the same be referred to the Council of Safety.

Adjourned to nine o'clock to-morrow morning.

Thursday, September 12, 1776, A. M.

The Convention met pursuant to adjournment.

The Ordinance for obliging Debtors to give security in certain cases, was read a second time; and, after being debated by paragraphs, was ordered to be transcribed for a third reading.

Adjourned to three o'clock in the afternoon.

Thursday, September 12, 1776, P. M.

The Convention met pursuant to adjournment.

The Ordinance respecting advisedly speaking and writing against the *American* cause, was read the third time, and passed into an Ordinance in the following words, viz:

"An Ordinance for punishing persons guilty of certain offences therein mentioned against the UNITED STATES OF AMERICA.

"Whereas evil disposed persons may, by speaking or writing, endeavour to influence the minds of weak or unwary persons, and thereby impede the present virtuous opposition made by the free, independent, and united States of *America* *

against the wicked and tyrannick measures pursued by the King and Parliament of *Great Britain*: For the prevention thereof,

"Be it ordained and declared by the Representatives of the freemen of the State of PENNSYLVANIA in General Convention met, That if any person or persons within this State shall, by advisedly speaking or writing, obstruct or oppose, or endeavour so to do, the measures carrying on by the *United States of America*, for the defence and support of the freedom and independence of the said States, such person or persons, on complaint and proof made on oath or affirmation before any Justice of the Peace of the City or County where the offence shall be committed, shall be held to give security for his or their good behaviour, in such sum or sums of money as the said Justice may think necessary; and, in default of giving such security, shall be committed to the common jail of the said City or County respectively, by the said Justice, there to remain until he or they shall give such security, or be otherwise legally discharged; and if the said Justice shall, on the evidence given, judge that such offender is too dangerous, unfriendly, or inimical to the *American* cause to be admitted to bail, then, and in such case, he may and shall associate to himself two other Justices of the Peace of the said City or County respectively; and if they, or any two of them, shall judge in like manner, they may, by warrant under their hands and seals, commit such persons to the common jail of the City or County respectively, for such time as they shall deem proper, not exceeding the duration of the present war with *Great Britain*.

"And be it further ordained and declared by the authority aforesaid, That if any person or persons shall think him or themselves aggrieved by the judgment of the said Justice or Justices, he or they may appeal to the Council of Safety for this State, who shall, without delay, determine the same; and may confirm, nullify, suspend, alter, or mitigate the judgment of the said Justice or Justices.

"And be it further ordained and declared by the authority aforesaid, That this Ordinance shall continue in force until the end of the first session of the future Legislature of this State, or until altered or repealed by the same, or by this Convention.

"Passed in Convention September 12, 1776, and signed by their order. GEORGE ROSS, Vice President.

"Attest: JOHN MORRIS, JUN., Secretary."

Information being given to this Convention that the Battalion, or a part of the same, under the command of Colonel Peter Grubb, of Lancaster County, after having received one month's pay advance, and having also been supplied with a number of arms in this City, have returned home without marching into *New-Jersey*, and without being discharged, and have taken the said arms with them,

Resolved, That the Council of Safety do forthwith make diligent and strict inquiry into this matter; and that they have power to call before them the Colonel and such other officers of the said Battalion as they shall judge necessary.

A Petition from six Captains of Companies of Colonel Montgomery's Battalion of Chester County, *Pennsylvania* Militia, complaining that they had not received their pay, and desiring the interference of this House, was read, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

The House resumed the consideration of the Bill respecting Associators and Non-Associators, and, after some time spent therein,

Adjourned to nine o'clock to-morrow morning.

Friday, September 13, 1776, A. M.

The Convention met pursuant to adjournment.

The House proceeded to the second reading of the Ordinance respecting Associators and Non-Associators; and the same being debated by paragraphs, was ordered to be transcribed for a third reading.

Adjourned to three o'clock in the afternoon.

Friday, September 13, 1776, P. M.

The Convention met pursuant to adjournment.

The Committee appointed to consider of the Military affairs of this State made their report in writing; which, being read, was

Ordered to lie on the table for consideration.

The Ordinance compelling Debtors to give security, being compared at the table, was read a third time, and ordered to pass into an Ordinance, in the following words:

"An Ordinance to compel Debtors, in certain cases, to give Security to their Creditors."

"Whereas at this time, when the Courts of Justice in this State are shut, it is absolutely necessary that honest creditors should be made secure, when it shall appear that otherwise they might, by dishonest debtors taking advantage of the times, run the risk of losing their just debts:

"Be it therefore ordained and declared by the Representatives of the freemen of the State of PENNSYLVANIA in General Convention met," That where complaint, by oath or affirmation by the complainant, or some person for him, shall be made to any one Justice of the Peace for this State, that any person or persons residing within the City or County where such Justice hath jurisdiction, is justly indebted to the complainant in any sum not exceeding five pounds, and that such debtor is about to depart this State, with design to defraud his creditors, as is believed; and that such debtor, being of sufficient ability, in the judgment of the said Justice, on full examination had, refuses to pay or give reasonable security in the nature of special bail for the same, to abide the judgment of such person or persons as shall hereafter be empowered to judge and determine the matter in controversy, it shall and may be lawful for such Justice to issue either a summons or *capias*, as the case may require, directed to the proper Constable, requiring him to cause the defendant to come before such Justice, and the said Justice shall order the said defendant to give such reasonable bail as the nature of the case may require; and if such defendant shall neglect or refuse to give such bail, then the said Justice is hereby empowered to commit such defendant to the Jail of the said City or County, and the keeper thereof is hereby required there to keep him safely until he shall give such bail, or be otherwise lawfully discharged: And if any such person or persons shall be indebted to any one or more person or persons in a sum exceeding five pounds, then on the like complaint, on oath or affirmation being made to two Justices of the City or proper County, they shall proceed in manner as before mentioned and directed in cases not exceeding five pounds.

"Passed in Convention, September 13, 1776, and signed by their order.

"JAMES POTTER, Vice President pro tem."

"Attest: JOHN MORRIS, Jun., Secretary."

Two Petitions from the Townships of *Upper and Lower Smithfield, Delaware and Hamilton*, in the County of *Northampton*, praying a supply of Ammunition, &c., were read, and referred to the Council of Safety.

The House being informed that Mr. *Swoope*, the gentleman chosen the Member of the Council of Safety for the County of *York*, had accepted the command of a Battalion in the Flying-Camp, now proceeded to the choice of another Member for that County, when Colonel *Joseph Donaldson* was chosen by ballot to that office.

On motion, *Resolved*, That the Members of the Council of Safety for this State, who have not hitherto made and subscribed the Oath or Affirmation directed in the Ordinance for appointing Justices of the Peace, or the Oath or Affirmation of office, may take and subscribe the same before any Justice of the Peace for the County wherein they respectively reside.

Resolved, That, on *Monday* next, this House will resume the consideration of the frame of Government.

Adjourned to nine o'clock to-morrow morning.

— Saturday, September 14, 1776.

The Convention met pursuant to adjournment.

A Return of such Men of Colonel *Montgomery's* Battalion of *Chester County* Militia, who left the Camp in *New-Jersey* without regular discharges, was made to the House, and referred to the Council of Safety.

Whereas from the Letters received from the Commissioners for *Indian Affairs* for the Middle Department, with the affidavit therein enclosed, there is too much reason to apprehend that the *Indians* have been encouraged, by the agents of his *Britannick* Majesty, to fall on the frontiers of

these States; therefore it behooves this Convention to take every prudent precaution for the safety of our western frontiers: And as, by the resolves of the late Assembly of this State, the Council of Safety have the sole power of calling out the Associators within the same; but, by reason of the great distance of the frontier Counties, and by reason that it may be absolutely necessary, at a very short warning, to order out the Associators of the said Counties, or such part of them, from time to time, as persons on the spot can only judge thereof:

Resolved, That the Member of the Council of Safety for the County of *Bedford*, and *Bernard Dougherty, William M'Coomb, James Anderson, and Robert Elliot*, of the said County; that the Member of the Council of Safety for the County of *Northampton*, and *Nicholas Dupui, David Deshler, Herman Schneyder, and Arthur Lattimore*, of the said County; and that the Member of the Council of Safety for the County of *Northumberland*, and *William M'Clay, Michael Troy, Walter Clark, and Laughlin M'Cartney*, of the said County; and that the Member of the Council of Safety for the County of *Westmoreland*, and *Samuel Sloane, William Lockray, John Giffen, and Christopher Trubey*, of the said County, respectively, or a majority of them in each County respectively, be, and they are hereby empowered to order or approve of the going out of such part of the Associators as they may think necessary, in case of an actual invasion, to march to the protection of such part of the said Counties as may be exposed to the depredations of the *Indians*, or to repel any attack which may be made by them, in the most effectual manner: And in case of any sudden invasions made by the *Indians*, and not otherwise, the Captain or Commanding Officer of any Company in the said County, is hereby empowered to order out such part of his Company as he may judge necessary for the purpose aforesaid: And in case any of the said Counties should be invaded, the said Members of the Council of Safety, and Commissioners of the said other Counties respectively, are hereby empowered, as often as they shall judge necessary, to order out the Associators, or a part of them, for the assistance of such County which may be so invaded: And the Member of the Council of Safety and his associates for the respective Counties aforesaid, are hereby directed to make out the accounts of the pay, subsistence, and necessary expenses of such Associators as shall be called out as aforesaid, and lay the same before the Council of Safety or future Assembly of this State, in order that the same, appearing to them just and reasonable, may be paid.

The Committee who were appointed to confer with the honourable Delegates in Congress from the State of *Virginia*, on the settlement of a temporary Boundary between the State of *Virginia* and this State, reported to the Convention that they met the said Delegates, who delivered to them the following resolve of the Convention of *Virginia* and the following letter from the Committee of Safety of that State to their Delegates, as their proposal on this subject. In answer to which the Committee delivered the letter and proposal (which answer and proposal the Committee approve of) in reply; to which they received the letter hereinafter last mentioned, by which it appears that the power of the honourable Delegates on this subject is at an end; but, as they therein inform the Committee, that they will, without delay, transmit their proposal to the Governor and Council of *Virginia*, in order to be laid before the General Assembly of that State; this Convention having the utmost confidence that that honourable body will readily agree to any proposal that will settle the disputes in question on the principles of justice and equity, do therefore warmly recommend the settlement of the said line, on these principles, to the future Assembly of this State. And, in the mean time, it is earnestly recommended to the inhabitants of that part of the country to forget their former heats and animosities, which were fomented by those who were equal enemies to both States, and to promote peace and harmony, and to cultivate a good understanding with one another, as they tender the liberty and happiness of both States, as well as of *America* in general, which can only be preserved by the union of all her sons.

"Virginia, in Convention, June 15, 1776."

"Whereas disputes have for some time subsisted between the people settled under the Government of this Colony and

others settled under the Proprietors of *Pennsylvania*, which cannot be determined for want of having the boundary between the two countries settled and ascertained; and as the people are uncertain which Government they ought to submit to, consequences of the most alarming nature are justly to be apprehended from a contention and clashing of jurisdictions between the Magistrates and officers of the respective countries: For prevention whereof, and in order to restore peace and harmony to all those people:

"*Resolved*, That it be proposed to the General Assembly or Representatives of the people of the Province of *Pennsylvania* to agree to the following temporary boundary between the two countries, that is to say: From that part of the meridian of the head fountain of *Potomack*, where it is intersected by *Braddock's Road*, along the said road to the great crossing of *Youghagany*; thence down the meadows of that river to the *Chestnut ridge*; thence along that ridge to the easterly branch of *Jacob's Creek*, otherwise called *Greenlick run*; thence down the said run to *Braddock's* old road; thence along the same and the new road leading to *Pittsburgh*, to a place called the *Bullock Pens*, now in the tenure of *William Elliot*; and from thence a direct course to the mouth of *Plumb run*, on the *Alleghancy River*, above *Colonel Croghan's*: Which lines, this Convention are of opinion, will give most general satisfaction to the inhabitants, as it will nearly leave them in the respective country under which they settled; that the present inhabitants on either side the line ought quietly to enjoy their possessions, and be subject to the regulations of the Government they will remain in, without considering under which they derive their title, until a final and ultimate boundary can be settled, when nothing which may be done in consequence of this agreement shall tend to prejudice the titles of individuals, or the claim of either country to a fair and equal boundary.

"EDMUND PENDLETON, *President*.

"JOHN TAZEWELL, *C. C.*"

"*Ordered*, That the Committee of Safety be desired immediately to transmit the foregoing Resolution to the Delegates appointed to represent this Colony in General Congress, requesting them to negotiate the same on the part of this Colony.

"EDMUND PENDLETON, *President*.

"JOHN TAZEWELL, *C. C.*"

"Williamsburgh, June 17, 1776.

"GENTLEMEN: The confusion which hath for some time happened amongst the people in the disputed lands between *Pennsylvania* and this Colony, and a representation to the Convention that a civil war was like to be the consequence if something was not done to prevent it, induced that body to take the subject into consideration, who were sorry to discover that a jealousy seemed to prevail in the governing powers of *Pennsylvania*, of our intending the garrisons on the *Ohio* to influence that dispute and to overawe their people. Whereas we only mean by them to protect our people and those in the contested settlement from the danger they are exposed to of *Indian* ravages, without the most distant view to offer any injury to our friends and neighbours, with whom it is our inclination as well as interest to unite, a temporary boundary appeared to the Convention the only means of quieting the people until we have leisure to refer the final decision to some arbitrating power between us; and in fixing that, they judged that to point a line which would most nearly leave the inhabitants in the country they respectively settled under would be most likely to give general satisfaction; and having examined several gentlemen well acquainted with that country, who were of opinion that end would be answered by the line described in the enclosed resolution, they have resolved to propose that line to the *Pennsylvania* Assembly, and have commanded us to transmit it to you, requesting that you would negotiate the matter in such manner as you shall think most effectual.

"We are, with great regard, gentlemen, your obedient humble servants,

"EDMUND PENDLETON, THOMAS LUD. LEE,

"DUDLEY DIGGES, WILLIAM CABELL,

"P. CARRINGTON, JOS. JONES.

"To the Hon. the *Virginia* Delegates in Congress."

"The Committee of the honourable Convention of the State of *Pennsylvania*, appointed to confer with the honourable Delegates in Congress from the State of *Virginia*, on the settlement of a temporary boundary between the said

States, are of opinion, that the line proposed by the honourable Delegates will be very wide from the true limits of *Pennsylvania*, according to the Charter; and as the State of *Virginia*, in one of their most solemn acts, published as the future form of Government for that State, and intending thereby to lay the most solid basis for union and confederation with the neighbouring States, has 'ceded, released, and forever confirmed to the people of this State all the territories contained within the Charter erecting this Colony, with all the rights of property, jurisdiction, and government, and all other rights whatever,' the proposing a temporary boundary, which would cut off so large a part from this State, seems inconsistent with the said full, free, and absolute release, and instead of being the basis of union, would certainly be the occasion of much confusion; and as the minds of the inhabitants of that part of the country are greatly agitated by the disputes between the two Governments, we have reason to apprehend fatal consequences, should a temporary boundary so apparently partial be agreed to, even upon the principle mentioned by the honourable Convention of *Virginia* in their resolve, empowering their Delegates to confer on this subject, (supposing it equitable, which may be liable to dispute,) the line proposed, we apprehend, cannot be admitted; and we are convinced that honourable body must have been misinformed as to the settlement of that part of the country which lies between the temporary boundary proposed and the true line. We can assure the honourable Delegates that it is far from the wish of the people of this State to extend the same beyond its due bounds; it is equally far from their wish to establish a temporary jurisdiction confessed far within those bounds, as such a temporary boundary would, on many accounts, be productive of more confusion and greater inconveniences than if it was permanent and final:

"Therefore, as the only means of restoring peace and unity amongst the inhabitants of the frontiers of each State, it is our earnest desire that a temporary boundary as nearly correspondent to the true one as possible, and such as will 'do no injury to either party,' should be run, which may be done in a very short time, and at a trifling expense, with no considerable error, by one or more Commissioners appointed on the part of each State.

"It will give us great pleasure should this proposal meet with the approbation of the honourable Delegates, as such a settlement will enable the inhabitants to join heart and hand in the great cause wherein we are all equally interested.

"DAVID RITTENHOUSE, OWEN BIDDLE,
"THOMAS SMITH, JAMES POTTER,
"ALEXANDER LOWREY, EDWARD COOK."

"The *Virginia* Delegates have received the proposal for establishing a temporary boundary between the State of *Virginia* and *Pennsylvania*, from the Committee of the honourable Convention of the State of *Pennsylvania*, and for answer say: That their power is ended, having been expressly limited to the line already proposed to the honourable Convention of the State of *Pennsylvania*, as a temporary boundary; that they will, without delay, transmit the proposal of the honourable Committee to the Governor and Council of the Commonwealth of *Virginia*, in order to its being laid before the General Assembly which meets early in *October* next; and in the mean time they wish the influence of both Governments may be exerted to preserve friendship and peace between the people of both States on the controverted boundary.

"THOMAS NELSON, Jun.,
"RICHARD HENRY LEE,
"FRANCIS LIGHTFOOT LEE.

"Philadelphia, September 12, 1776."

The House proceeded to the third reading of the Bill respecting the burthen of Associators; and the same being compared at the table, was passed into an Ordinance, in the following words, viz:

"*An Ordinance for rendering the burthen of Associators and Non-Associators in the defence of this State as nearly equal as may be.*

"Whereas the Associators of this State have bestowed much of their time, and been at a considerable expense in qualifying themselves for the defence of their country, and are now gone forth into actual service, to the great prejudice

of their private concerns, while others, by not associating, have exempted themselves from those difficulties, and pursued their business to advantage; and whereas no effectual measures have hitherto been taken to render the burthen of the defence, which is a common benefit, as nearly equal as possible: Therefore,

"Be it ordained and declared, and it is hereby ordained and declared, by the Representatives of the freemen of the State of PENNSYLVANIA in General Convention met, That every Non-Associator, between the ages of sixteen and fifty years, shall pay for and during the time of his continuing a Non-Associator, at the rate of twenty shillings for each and every month, to commence from the publication of this Ordinance, and to continue until the end of the first session of the future Assembly of this State, unless the said Assembly shall, before that time, alter or repeal the same.

"And be it further ordained and declared by the authority aforesaid, That every Non-Associator, above the age of twenty-one years, shall pay, in addition to the aforesaid fine, at the rate of four shillings in the pound on the annual value of his estate, as rated under the late laws of this State for raising provincial taxes.

"And be it further ordained by the authority aforesaid, That all the moneys which shall be raised by the aforesaid assessments and fines, after discharging the necessary expenses attending collecting the same, shall be paid into the hands of John Bayard, Esquire, for the relief and support of the families of poor Associators of this State, while out in the service, and to afford assistance to those poor Associators who are by the service rendered incapable of supporting themselves and their families, and also to afford such assistance to the widows and children of such poor Associators as lose their lives in the service of their country.

"And be it further ordained and declared by the authority aforesaid, That when any of the said Associators, or their widows and children, shall be so entitled to a share of the moneys arising from the aforesaid assessments and fines, the Field-Officers of the Battalion, or any three of them, and a private of the company to which such Associator, at the time when he or his widow and children became so entitled, did belong, shall certify the particular circumstances of the said Associator or his wife, (or of his widow and children, if he should be killed,) to the future Assembly of this State, in order to enable them to fulfil the intent of this Ordinance.

And to the end that the said four shillings in the pound, and the said monthly fines of twenty shillings, may be duly assessed, levied, collected, and paid, for the purposes hereinbefore mentioned:

"Be it further ordained and declared by the authority aforesaid, That Jacob Morgan, Joseph Moulder, and Jacob Bright, be, and are hereby appointed Commissioners; and Isaac Snowden, James Milligan, Michael Shubart, Benjamin Harbeson, William Will, and William Hollingshead, Assessors for the City of Philadelphia; who, or a majority of them, shall be a Board of Commissioners and Assessors for the City of Philadelphia.

"That Thomas Potts, Samuel Erwin, and John Williams, be, and are hereby appointed Commissioners; and John Brown, William Robinson, Samuel Ingle, Andrew Knox, Henry Derringer, and Isaac Hughes, Assessors for the County of Philadelphia; who, or a majority of them, shall be a Board of Commissioners and Assessors for the County of Philadelphia.

"And that James Benezet, Captain William Roberts, and Abraham Middleswarts, be, and are hereby appointed Commissioners; and Gilliam Cornet, Abraham Britton, James Wallace, Thomas Armstrong, Benjamin Segal, and George M'Iroy, Assessors for the County of Bucks; who, or a majority of them, shall be a Board of Commissioners and Assessors for the County of Bucks.

"And that Thomas Levis, William Evans, and Thomas Taylor, be, and are hereby appointed Commissioners; and Caleb Davis, Richard Thomas, David Cloyd, Benjamin Brannon, Thomas Evans, and Joseph Gardner, Assessors for the County of Chester; who, or a majority of them, shall be a Board of Commissioners and Assessors for the County of Chester.

"And that Alexander Martin, Christian Wirtz, and Caspar Snevely, be, and are hereby appointed Commissioners; and John Bokenstose, John Rowland, Philip Greenwalt,

Thomas Clark of Dromore, Caspar Shaffner, and John Jemminson the younger, Assessors for the County of Lancaster; who, or a majority of them, shall be a Board of Commissioners and Assessors for the County of Lancaster.

"And that Peter Wolfe, John Nesbit, and Archibald M'Lean, be, and are hereby appointed Commissioners; and Patrick Scott, Benjamin Pidon, Frederick Wolfe, John Agnew, Christopher Lowman, and James Dill, Assessors for the County of York; who, or a majority of them, shall be a Board of Commissioners and Assessors for the County of York.

"And that Patrick Maxwell, Samuel Leard, and James Pollock, be, and are hereby appointed Commissioners; and Henry Polling, John Davis, James Lyon, Alexander Morrow, John Carson, and William Rippey, Assessors for the County of Cumberland; who, or a majority of them, shall be a Board of Commissioners and Assessors for the County of Cumberland.

"And that Henry Reitmeyer, Christian Lower, and Mordecai Lincoln, be, and are hereby appointed Commissioners; and Conrad Hershner the elder, Nicholas Jones, Frederick Mayerle, George Kelchner, Warner Stam, and John Robinson, Assessors for the County of Berks; who, or a majority of them, shall be a Board of Commissioners and Assessors for the County of Berks.

"And that Peter Burkhalter, Jacob Opp, and Henry Lewald, be, and are hereby appointed Commissioners; and Peter Koler, Abraham Arndt, Benjamin Dupui, Peter Haas, Peter Beisel, and John Van Camp, Assessors for the County of Northampton; who, or a majority of them, shall be a Board of Commissioners and Assessors for the County of Northampton.

"And that Charles Cissna, Edward Coomb, and John Cissna, be, and are hereby appointed Commissioners; and Matthew Patton, Harman Husbands, William Todd, William Parker, William Phillips, and Benjamin Elliot, Assessors for the County of Bedford; who, or a majority of them, shall be a Board of Commissioners and Assessors for the County of Bedford.

"And that Thomas Hewit, William Gray, and John Weizel, be, and are hereby appointed Commissioners; and Jonathan Loudge, Walter Clark, Peter Holsterman, James Harrison, Nicholas Miller, and Jacob Heverlan, Assessors for the County of Northumberland; who, or a majority of them, shall be a Board of Commissioners and Assessors for the County of Northumberland.

"And that Robert Hanna, James Cavat, and James Pollock, be, and are hereby appointed Commissioners; and William Elliot, John Shields, Samuel Moorhead, James M'Lean, James Beard, and Christopher Truby, Assessors of the County of Westmoreland; who, or a majority of them, shall be a Board of Commissioners and Assessors for the County of Westmoreland: Who shall meet at the Court Houses of their several and respective Counties, on Monday, the fourteenth day of October next ensuing, or as soon after as they can conveniently meet, and appoint proper persons to make returns to them of all the Non-Associators in their respective districts, on or before the second Monday of November next ensuing.

"And be it further ordained and declared by the authority aforesaid, That the said Commissioners and Assessors shall have all the powers, authorities, and jurisdictions which any Commissioners and Assessors heretofore enjoyed under the late laws of the Province of Pennsylvania, and shall proceed in raising, levying, and collecting the said sum of four shillings in the pound and twenty shillings per month in the same manner and under the same appeals, rates, directions, penalties, and forfeitures, in all respects, as in and by the several late laws of the late Government of Pennsylvania, which were in force on the first day of July last, for raising, levying, collecting, and paying the assessments and taxes of said Government, saving and excepting only such parts of the same laws as are hereby altered or supplied.

"And be it further ordained and declared by the authority aforesaid, That the direction in the said laws shall be effectual to all intents and purposes for raising, levying, collecting, securing, and accounting for the said rates and sums of money, and for levying and recovering the penalties and forfeitures, and all other matters and things thereunto belonging, as fully and effectually as if the same were particularly and at large repeated and inserted in this ordinance,

except in such cases as are herein ascertained, provided for, or altered.

"*And be it further ordained and declared by the authority aforesaid*, That the Commissioners, on any appeal from the rate or assessment of twenty shillings per month, may remit the whole or any part thereof, in case of the poverty, sickness, or bodily inability to labour, of the Non-Associator, or other such case as would exempt an Associator from mustering or marching when duly called thereto, but in no other case whatever.

"And whereas persons above fifty years of age are exempted from personal service, by reason of their inability to bear the fatigue of military duty, yet it is but just and reasonable that they should contribute towards the security of their property:

"*Be it therefore ordained and declared by the authority aforesaid*, That all and every such person above the age of fifty years shall pay the like sum of four shillings in the pound on the annual value of their estates.

"*Provided always*, That this tax shall not be levied on, or paid by, any such person above fifty years of age who shall have one or more sons, who are Associators, unmarried, and residing with his or their father.

"*And provided also*, That if any person above fifty years of age, who shall be judged by the commanding officer of the Battalion fit for military duty, shall voluntarily enter into the Association, then and in such case such person shall be exempted from paying the said tax.

"*And provided also*, That nothing herein contained shall prevent or obstruct the levying, collecting, and paying the fines heretofore set on Non-Associators by the late Assembly, but the same shall be collected under the same penalties, in the same manner and by the same persons as are mentioned and appointed to levy and collect the moneys to be raised by virtue of this Ordinance.

"Passed in Convention, September 14, 1776, and signed by their order. B. FRANKLIN, *President*.

"Attest: JOHN MORRIS, Jun., *Secretary*."

Adjourned to two o'clock on Monday afternoon.

Monday, September 16, 1776, P. M.

The Convention met pursuant to adjournment.

The House, agreeable to the Order of the Day, resumed the consideration of the frame of Government.

It was moved by Colonel Ross, and seconded by Mr. Clymer, that the first and second sections of the proposed frame of Government be debated upon and amended. Whereupon it was

Resolved, That the further debate on the second section is precluded; because it was fully debated and determined before, as appears by the Minutes of the 1st and 2d of August last.

Moved and seconded, that the yeas and nays on any question in the frame of Government shall be entered on the Minutes, when it shall be requested by any four Members; but the previous question being put, it was determined that the question be not now put.

Adjourned to nine o'clock to-morrow morning.

Tuesday, September 17, 1776, A. M.

The Convention met pursuant to adjournment.

The House resumed the consideration of the frame of Government.

Adjourned to three o'clock in the afternoon.

Tuesday, September 17, 1776, P. M.

The Convention met pursuant to adjournment.

The House resumed the consideration of the frame of Government.

A Member informed the House that there were now in town two Shawanese Indians, who were soon about to return home, and proposed that the Convention should take some friendly notice of them, and embrace this opportunity of sending a message to the Shawanese Nation: Whereupon it was

Ordered, That Mr. Jacobs, Colonel Lowrey, and Major James Smith, be a Committee to prepare a speech and wampum for a conference with the said Indians.

Adjourned to nine o'clock to-morrow morning.

Wednesday, September 18, 1776, A. M.

The Convention met pursuant to adjournment.

The Committee appointed to prepare a speech, &c., to the Shawanese Indians, reported a draft thereof, and that they had procured some wampum according to order. The said draft, being read, was approved.

On motion, *Resolved*, That the sum of 40 Dollars be given to the said two Indians as a present; but, the money not being now here, the gift and interview were deferred till to-morrow morning.

The House then resumed the consideration of the frame of Government; and, after some deliberation thereon, it was,

On motion, *Ordered*, That Colonel Matlack, Mr. Jacobs, and Mr. Hubley be a Committee to revise and bring in a substitute for the fifteenth section.

Adjourned to three o'clock in the afternoon.

Wednesday, September 18, 1776, P. M.

The Convention met pursuant to adjournment.

The House resumed the consideration of the frame of Government; and after some considerable time employed therein,

Adjourned to nine o'clock to-morrow morning.

Thursday, September 19, 1776, A. M.

The Convention met pursuant to adjournment.

The gentlemen appointed to revise and bring in a substitute for the fifteenth section of the bill, reported a draft thereof; which was read.

The two Indians now attending, the President read to them the Message to their Nation; which, being translated by Colonel Lowrey, was delivered to them in writing, and is as follows:

"*The State of PENNSYLVANIA, by their Representatives in Convention at PHILADELPHIA, to their Brethren the SHAWANESE INDIANS:*

"BRETHREN: Listen to us! We have been much pleased to see our brothers the Shawanese among us, and we hope they are well satisfied with their visit to our towns. They can tell you that we keep our roads open and clear from all bad weeds, briars, and thorns. *A String*.

"Brothers, we hope you will also be careful of your roads, and not suffer the evil spirit to interrupt our ancient friendship. *A String*.

"Brothers, listen to us! The great Council of the Thirteen United States have appointed Commissioners to speak to you, at Pittsburgh, about our ancient friendship. We desire you will listen to them, and you may depend that your white brethren, who have grown out of this same big island with you, will hold fast the ancient covenant-chain of friendship entered into by our ancestors. And we desire, brethren, that you will not let our friendship go; but that you will be strong in the good work of peace, which you are invited to meet about at Pittsburgh, and not listen to the evil spirit which you know has been striving to make mischief between us; for we, on our parts, are resolved to preserve our ancient friendship with you. And we desire you will assist your white brethren of the United American States to live in peace with all nations. To confirm our words, we send, by our brothers Wenthissica and Pellawa, this belt, which we desire you will show in Council to all our Indian brethren of every nation." *A Belt*.

After which the present of twenty Dollars to each was made, and thankfully received by them.

It was also, on motion, *Ordered*, That it be recommended to the inhabitants of this State in general, and particularly to the Committees of the several Counties, to treat with respect the bearers Wenthissica and Pellawa, two Shawanese Indians; and, if occasion should require, to afford them protection as they travel on their journey home, they being the bearers of a message from this Convention to their nation.

Some Letters from the Commissioners for Indian affairs, at Fort Pitt, to the Committee of Westmoreland County, and from the said Committee to their Members in this Convention, dated the 31st of August, and the 1st and 8th of September instant, relative to the danger of an Indian war, and requesting a supply of arms and ammunition, were read, and ordered to be referred to the Council of Safety.

A Letter from Colonel *Kachlean*, dated at *Amboy*, September 11, 1776, informing of some deserters from his Battalion of the *Bucks* County Militia, was read, and referred to the Council of Safety.

The House then resumed the consideration of the frame of Government; and, after some time employed therein, Adjourned to three o'clock in the afternoon.

Thursday, September 19, 1776, P. M.

The Convention met pursuant to adjournment.

The House then resumed the consideration of the frame of Government; and, after some time employed therein, Adjourned to nine o'clock to-morrow morning.

Friday, September 20, 1776, A. M.

The Convention met pursuant to adjournment.

A Memorial from the Committee of *Northumberland*, setting forth their apprehensions of an *Indian* war, and the defenceless state of that frontier County, and praying the assistance of this House for their defence, was read, and

Ordered to lie on the table for consideration.

Leave of absence was given to Colonel *Clark* to go and visit his Battalion at *Amboy*.

Mr. *Hay* had leave to go home to see his sick family.

The House resumed the consideration of the frame of Government; and, after some time spent therein, Adjourned to three o'clock in the afternoon.

Friday, September 20, 1776, P. M.

The Convention met pursuant to adjournment.

The House resumed the consideration of the frame of Government.

On motion, *Resolved*, That the expenses of the two Companies raised by the Committee of *Westmoreland*, in consequence of Colonel *McCoy's* instructions preventing him from stationing his Battalion in proper places, shall be liquidated and paid in the same manner as is directed by the resolves of this House of the 14th instant: And, that the Council of Safety be desired to send up, for their use, such a sum of Money as they may think necessary.

Adjourned to nine o'clock to-morrow morning.

Saturday, September 21, 1776.

The Convention met pursuant to adjournment.

The House resumed the consideration of the frame of Government; and, after some time,

Adjourned to nine o'clock on *Monday* morning.

Monday, September 23, 1776, A. M.

The House met pursuant to adjournment.

The Convention proceeded to the further consideration of the frame of Government.

A Letter from *Amboy*, from General *Roberdeau*, containing his sentiments on the regulations of the Militia of this State, was read, and

Ordered to lie on the table for consideration.

Adjourned to half-past three o'clock in the afternoon.

Monday, September 23, 1776, P. M.

The House met pursuant to adjournment.

On motion, *Ordered*, That Colonel *Matlack*, Mr. *Jacobs*, and Colonel *Thomas Smith*, be a Committee to bring in the draft of a resolve for settling and regulating the General Election for this present year.

The Convention resumed the consideration of the frame of Government; and, after considerable time spent therein, Adjourned to nine o'clock to-morrow morning.

Tuesday, September 24, 1776, A. M.

The Convention met pursuant to adjournment.

A Member of the Council of Safety acquainted the House that he was instructed by that Board to inform them that it would be necessary to apply to Congress for a further loan of 100,000 Dollars: Whereupon it was

Resolved, That the Delegates of this State in Congress

be directed to apply to the Congress for the loan of 100,000 Dollars, on the credit and faith of this State.

Resolved, That the Members of the late conference of Committees be allowed the same mileage and wages as have been usually paid to the Members of the Assembly, and that the Treasurer of this State pay the same on the certificates of either of the Secretaries of the said conference.

Resolved, That it be referred to the Council of Safety to pay such expenses as they think were justly incurred by the sending expresses to call together the people for choosing Brigadier-Generals.

Resolved, That the Wardens of the City of *Philadelphia* do continue to exercise the duties of their said office as Wardens, until the first *Tuesday* in *November* next, and until new Wardens shall be chosen.

A Memorial from Mr. *Paul Fooks*, respecting the appointment of a sworn Interpreter for foreign languages and Notary Publick, and desiring to be nominated to those offices, was read, and

Ordered to be referred to the Council of Safety.

The House resumed the consideration of the frame of Government; and, after some time spent therein, Adjourned to three o'clock in the afternoon.

Tuesday, September 24, 1776, P. M.

The Convention met pursuant to adjournment.

The House resumed the consideration of the frame of Government; and, after some time, Adjourned to nine o'clock to-morrow morning.

Wednesday, September 25, 1776, A. M.

The Convention met pursuant to adjournment.

A Letter from the Reverend Messrs. *Duffield* and *Marshall*, praying that the Clergy of this State may be exempted from the burthen of civil officers, and setting forth their reasons for such exemption, was read, and

Ordered to lie on the table for consideration.

A Petition from the Reverend Messrs. *Muhlenberg* and *Weynberg*, praying for an addition to the 47th article of the proposed frame of Government, confirming the incorporations for promoting religious and charitable purposes, was read, and

Ordered to lie on the table.

A Letter from Colonel *Hancock*, President of Congress, to this Convention, informing of the late resolution of Congress for raising a number of additional Battalions, and for inlisting the soldiers until the end of the war, and warmly requesting this House to take the most speedy and effectual measures for that purpose, was read, and

Ordered to be taken into consideration in the afternoon.

The House resumed the consideration of the frame of Government.

Ordered, That Mr. *Cannon*, Mr. *Jacobs*, and Mr. *Rittenhouse*, be appointed to prepare the draft of a preamble to the Declaration of Rights and frame of Government, and of the oaths of Allegiance and Office, to be inserted in the said frame.

Adjourned to three o'clock in the afternoon.

Wednesday, September 25, 1776, P. M.

The Convention met pursuant to adjournment.

The House, agreeable to order, took into consideration the Letter from Colonel *Hancock*; and, after some consideration, it was

Ordered, That Colonel *Bull*, Colonel *Matlack*, Colonel *Potter*, Mr. *Hubley*, and Colonel *Clark*, be a Committee to consider the said Letter, and report thereon to this House.

The gentlemen appointed to draw up a preamble to the Declaration of Rights and frame of Government, reported an essay for that purpose, which was read, and referred for further consideration.

They also reported an essay for the oaths and affirmations of Allegiance, and of Office; which, being read and amended at the table, were approved of, and

Ordered to be inserted in the frame of Government.

Adjourned to nine o'clock to-morrow morning.

Thursday, September 26, 1776, A. M.

The Convention met pursuant to adjournment.

The Committee appointed to draw up the resolve respecting the Elections for the present year, reported a draft for that purpose; which, being read and amended, was agreed to in the following words:

In Convention for the State of PENNSYLVANIA.

Whereas it is not convenient to hold the next election throughout this State for choosing the elective officers thereof, on the day on which it will be most convenient to the people to hold their elections for the future; and this Convention being desirous that the freemen of this State may, as soon as possible, enjoy the advantages of a free and established Government: It is therefore

Resolved, That the next election of Representatives in General Assembly, and of all other elective officers heretofore usually chosen on the first day of *October*, shall be held for the City of *Philadelphia*, and for the County of *Philadelphia*, and for every other County of this State, on *Tuesday*, the fifth day of *November* next; and, except in the Counties of *Bedford*, *Northumberland*, and *Westmoreland*, at the places where the elections for Representatives in this Convention were held. The election for Inspectors is to be held in the City of *Philadelphia*, and in each of the Counties of this State, on *Saturday*, the second day of *November* next. The Judges of the said elections shall be chosen and appointed by the Inspectors on the day of election; and shall be subject to the like forfeitures and penalties for fraud or wilful neglect as the Sheriff would have been in the like case by the late laws of this State. The Constables of the wards in the City of *Philadelphia*, and of the Townships of the several Counties of this State, shall give six days' notice of the election for Inspectors. The Judges, or one or more of them, shall, within two days following the election, meet at the Court-House of the respective Counties in which elections shall be held in Districts, and returns shall be made to them from the Districts, of the names of the candidates, and number of votes for each: And the Judges shall cast up the votes, and shall certify those who are highest in votes, to be duly elected to the respective offices: And the elections shall, in all other matters, be held and carried on, as nearly as may be, according to the directions of an act of Assembly of the late Government of *Pennsylvania*, made in the year one thousand seven hundred and sixty-six, intituled, "An Act directing the choice of Inspectors, and for holding the general elections in this Province:" And in case any Township or Townships neglect to choose an Inspector or Inspectors, the other Inspectors and the Judges present at the election, shall appoint an Inspector or Inspectors for such Township or Townships.

The freemen of the County of *Bedford* shall vote in four Districts for this present year, as follows, viz:

The freemen of the First District, containing the Townships of *Bedford*, *Colerain*, and *Cumberland Valley*, at the Court-House in the Town of *Bedford*; of the Second, containing the Townships of *Bethel*, *Air*, and *Dublin*, at the house of *John Burd*, at *Fort Lyttleton*; of the Third, containing the Townships of *Barré*, *Hopewell*, and *Frankstown*, at *Standing-Stone*; and of the Fourth, containing the Townships of *Brothers Valley*, *Turkeyfoot*, and *Quemachoning*, at the house of *John Kemberlin*, near the junction of the said three Townships.

The County of *Northumberland* shall be divided into four Districts, to wit: the freemen of *Augusta*, *Penns*, and *Mahoney* Townships, shall meet at the Town of *Sunbury*; of *Turbutt*, *Mahoning*, and *Wiomung*, shall meet at the Town of *Northumberland*; of *Buffaloe*, *White Deer*, and *Potter*, shall meet at *Foutz's Mill*, in *Buffaloe* Township; and of *Munsey* and *Bald-Eagle*, shall meet at the house of *Amariah Sutton*, in *Munsey* Township.

The electors of the County of *Westmoreland* shall hold their election in manner following, that is to say: the electors on the north side of *Kiskemenetas* and *Cannemach*, shall hold their election at Captain *Samuel Morehead's* Mill; the Second District shall be bounded by the *Laurel Hill*, *Cannemach*, the *Chestnut Ridge*, and *Youghagany*, and shall hold their election at *Ligonier*; the other electors in the said County, not comprehended in the foregoing Districts, shall hold their elections at the two places directed by the

FIFTH SERIES.—VOL. II.

conference of Committees for electing Members of this Convention.

Every elector, before his vote is received, shall take the following Oath or Affirmation, instead of that heretofore required, viz: "I, do swear, (or affirm,) that I will be faithful and true to the Commonwealth of *Pennsylvania*; and that I will not, directly or indirectly, do any act or thing prejudicial or injurious to the Constitution or Government thereof, as established by the Convention."

And the Judges and Inspectors of the said elections shall, besides the oaths prescribed in the law directing the choice of Inspectors above-mentioned, take the oath of allegiance above recited. And

Resolved, That the said General Assembly, chosen in consequence of the foregoing resolves, shall meet at *Philadelphia*, on *Tuesday*, the nineteenth day of *November* next.

Adjourned to three o'clock in the afternoon.

Thursday, September 26, 1776, P. M.

The Convention met pursuant to adjournment.

The Committee appointed to consider of the matter contained in Colonel *Hancock's* Letter, made their report in writing; which, being read, was agreed to by the House, and is as follows:

That three persons be commissioned immediately to repair to the several stations where any of the forces of this State now are, and obtain a full account of the strength and condition of the Battalions raised in this State, except in the County of *Westmoreland*.

That the officers of these Battalions, who shall appear to be qualified for their stations, be continued, if they shall enter to serve during the war.

That the vacancies occasioned by officers declining to serve, or which have happened, or may happen by other means, be filled by the Council of Safety, where it is necessary to be done before the sitting of the General Assembly.

That as many as possible of the soldiers, who are now in the service, be induced to enlist to serve during the war; and that persons be appointed to recruit the several Battalions as soon as may be, and that the Commanding Officers of each Battalion be directed forthwith to order out recruiting parties to complete their Battalions.

That the Commissioners be authorized to apply to Congress for money, from time to time, to pay the bounty as fast as the men may enlist in the service, to be accountable to the State.

That the Commissioners be authorized to inquire into the conduct of the Commissaries and Quartermasters, if they shall think it necessary.

That persons be immediately appointed to purchase woollens for clothing, blankets, and other necessities, and particularly arms.

On motion, *Ordered*, That this House will to-morrow morning proceed to the election, by ballot, of the three Commissioners recommended, by the above report, to inquire, &c., into the condition of the Troops raised in this State.

On motion, *Resolved*, That the Commissioners for raising the Flying-Camp account with the Council of Safety, or future Assembly, for such Moneys as have been or shall be put into their hands for that purpose.

The House resumed the consideration of the draft of the preamble offered to them yesterday, and the same was agreed to.

Adjourned to nine o'clock to-morrow morning.

Friday, September 27, 1776, A. M.

The Convention met pursuant to adjournment.

The House, according to the Order of the Day, proceeded to the election, by ballot, of the Commissioners recommended to be chosen by the report of yesterday; when Major *Lollar*, Major *Coates*, and *John Morris*, Jun., Esquire, were elected.

On information, that a number of soldiers, belonging to Colonel *Miles's* Battalion, had mutinied and returned to this city, it was

Resolved, That Colonel *Kirkbride*, Mr. *Cannon*, Mr. *Whitehill*, and Colonel *James Smith*, be a Committee to inquire into the affair, and make report to this House.

Adjourned to three o'clock in the afternoon.

Friday, September 27, 1776, P. M.

The Convention met pursuant to adjournment.

On motion, *Resolved*, That Captain *Farmer* and the other Officers of the three Battalions belonging to this State, be directed to march the soldiers, who have returned from the Camp, to the Barracks; that the Commissary be directed to supply them with provisions, and that they be kept there until the Convention, or Council of Safety, shall have considered their case, and shall give further directions.

On motion, *Resolved*, That it be recommended to the first General Assembly of this State, to make a law similar to the habeas corpus act of *England*, for the security of the personal liberty of the inhabitants.

The Committee appointed to inquire into the affair of the returned soldiers, made their report in writing; which, being read, was referred for further consideration.

Adjourned to nine o'clock to-morrow morning.

Saturday, September 28, 1776.

The House met pursuant to adjournment.

The frame or plan of Government, and preamble agreed to yesterday, being now fairly engrossed, were deliberately read and compared at the table; and, being bound up with the Declaration of Rights, were passed and confirmed unanimously, in the words following, viz:

The Constitution of PENNSYLVANIA.

Whereas all government ought to be instituted and supported for the security and protection of the community as such, and to enable the individuals who compose it to enjoy their natural rights and the other blessings which the Author of existence has bestowed upon man; and, whenever these great ends of government are not obtained, the people have a right, by common consent, to change it, and take such measures as to them may appear necessary to promote their safety and happiness: And whereas the inhabitants of this Commonwealth have, in consideration of protection only, heretofore acknowledged allegiance to the King of *Great Britain*; and the said King has not only withdrawn that protection, but commenced and still continues to carry on with unabated vengeance a most cruel and unjust war against them, employing therein not only the troops of *Great Britain*, but foreign mercenaries, savages and slaves, for the avowed purpose of reducing them to a total and abject submission to the despotick domination of the *British* Parliament, with many other acts of tyranny, (more fully set forth in the declaration of Congress,) whereby all allegiance and fealty to the said King and his successors are dissolved and at an end, and all power and authority derived from him ceased in these Colonies: And whereas it is absolutely necessary for the welfare and safety of the inhabitants of said Colonies that they be henceforth free and independent States, and that just, permanent, and proper forms of government exist in every part of them, derived from, and founded on the authority of, the people only, agreeable to the directions of the honourable *American* Congress:

We, the Representatives of the freemen of *Pennsylvania*, in General Convention met, for the express purpose of framing such a government, confessing the goodness of the Great Governour of the Universe, (who alone knows to what degree of earthly happiness mankind may attain, by perfecting the arts of government,) in permitting the people of this State, by common consent, and without violence, deliberately to form for themselves such just rules as they shall think best for governing their future society; and being fully convinced that it is our indispensable duty to establish such original principles of government as will best promote the general happiness of the people of this State and their posterity, and provide for future improvements, without partiality for or prejudice against any particular class, sect, or denomination of men whatsoever, Do, by virtue of the authority vested in us by our constituents, ordain, declare, and establish the following Declaration of Rights and frame of Government, to be the Constitution of this Commonwealth, and to remain in force therein forever, unaltered, except in such articles as shall hereafter, on experience, be found to require improvement, and which shall, by the same authority of the people fairly delegated, as this frame of Government directs, be amended or improved for the more effectual

obtaining and securing the great end and design of all government hereinbefore mentioned:

CHAPTER I.

A Declaration of the Rights of the Inhabitants of the Commonwealth or State of PENNSYLVANIA.

1st. That all men are born equally free and independent, and have certain natural, inherent, and unalienable rights, amongst which are the enjoying and defending life and liberty, acquiring, possessing, and protecting property, and pursuing and obtaining happiness and safety.

2d. That all men have a natural and unalienable right to worship *Almighty God* according to the dictates of their own consciences and understanding; and that no man ought, or of right can, be compelled to attend any religious worship, or erect or support any place of worship, or maintain any ministry, contrary to, or against his own free will and consent; nor can any man who acknowledges the being of a *God*, be justly deprived or abridged of any civil right as a citizen, on account of his religious sentiments, or peculiar mode of religious worship; and that no authority can or ought to be vested in, or assumed by any power whatever that shall in any case interfere with, or in any manner control the right of conscience, in the free exercise of religious worship.

3d. That the people of this State have the sole, exclusive, and inherent right of governing and regulating the internal police of the same.

4th. That all power being originally inherent in, and consequently derived from the people, therefore all officers of government, whether legislative or executive, are their trustees and servants, and at all times accountable to them.

5th. That government is, or ought to be, instituted for the common benefit, protection, and security of the people, nation, or community; and not for the particular emolument or advantage of any single man, family, or set of men, who are a part only of that community; and that the community hath an indubitable, unalienable and indefeasible right to reform, alter, or abolish government, in such manner as shall be by that community judged most conducive to the publick weal.

6th. That those who are employed in the legislative and executive business of the State may be restrained from oppression, the people have a right, at such periods as they may think proper, to reduce their publick officers to a private station, and supply the vacancies by certain and regular elections.

7th. That all elections ought to be free; and that all free men having a sufficient evident common interest with, and attachment to the community, have a right to elect officers or be elected into office.

8th. That every member of society hath a right to be protected in the enjoyment of life, liberty, and property, and therefore is bound to contribute his proportion towards the expense of that protection, and yield his personal service when necessary, or an equivalent thereto; but no part of a man's property can be justly taken from him, or applied to publick uses, without his own consent, or that of his legal representatives; nor can any man who is conscientiously scrupulous of bearing arms, be justly compelled thereto, if he will pay such equivalent; nor are the people bound by any laws but such as they have in like manner assented to for their common good.

9th. That in all prosecutions for criminal offences a man hath a right to be heard by himself and his counsel, to demand the cause and nature of his accusation, to be confronted with the witnesses, to call for evidence in his favour, and a speedy publick trial, by an impartial jury of the country, without the unanimous consent of which jury he cannot be found guilty; nor can he be compelled to give evidence against himself; nor can any man be justly deprived of his liberty, except by the laws of the land or the judgment of his peers.

10th. That the people have a right to hold themselves, their houses, papers and possessions free from search or seizure; and therefore, warrants without oaths or affirmations first made, affording a sufficient foundation for them, and whereby any officer or messenger may be commanded or required to search suspected places, or to seize any person or persons, his or their property, not particularly described, are contrary to that right, and ought not to be granted.

11th. That in controversies respecting property, and in suits between man and man, the parties have a right to trial by jury, which ought to be held sacred.

12th. That the people have a right to freedom of speech, and of writing and publishing their sentiments; therefore, the freedom of the press ought not to be restrained.

13th. That the people have a right to bear arms for the defence of themselves and the State; and, as standing armies in the time of peace are dangerous to liberty, they ought not to be kept up; and that the military should be kept under strict subordination to and governed by the civil power.

14th. That a frequent recurrence to fundamental principles, and a firm adherence to justice, moderation, temperance, industry, and frugality, are absolutely necessary to preserve the blessings of liberty and keep a government free: The people ought therefore to pay particular attention to these points in the choice of officers and representatives, and have a right to exact a due and constant regard to them from their legislatures and magistrates in the making and executing such laws as are necessary for the good government of the State.

15th. That all men have a natural inherent right to emigrate from one State to another that will receive them, or to form a new State in vacant countries, or in such countries as they can purchase, whenever they think that thereby they may promote their own happiness.

16th. That the people have a right to assemble together, to consult for their common good, to instruct their representatives, and to apply to the Legislature for redress of grievances, by address, petition, or remonstrance.

CHAPTER II.

Plan or Frame of Government for the Commonwealth or State of PENNSYLVANIA.

SECTION 1st. The Commonwealth or State of *Pennsylvania* shall be governed hereafter by an Assembly of the Representatives of the freemen of the same, and a President and Council, in manner and form following:

SECT. 2d. The supreme legislative power shall be vested in a House of Representatives of the freemen of the Commonwealth or State of *Pennsylvania*.

SECT. 3d. The supreme executive power shall be vested in a President and Council.

SECT. 4th. Courts of Justice shall be established in the City of *Philadelphia*, and in every County of this State.

SECT. 5th. The freemen of this Commonwealth and their sons shall be trained and armed for its defence, under such regulations, restrictions, and exceptions, as the General Assembly shall by law direct; preserving always to the people the right of choosing their Colonels, and all commissioned officers under that rank, in such manner, and as often as by the said laws shall be directed.

SECT. 6th. Every freeman of the full age of twenty-one years, having resided in this State for the space of one whole year next before the day of election for Representatives, and paid publick taxes during that time, shall enjoy the right of an elector: *Provided always*, That sons of freeholders of the age of twenty-one years be entitled to vote, although they have not paid taxes.

SECT. 7th. The House of Representatives of the freemen of this Commonwealth shall consist of persons most noted for wisdom and virtue, to be chosen by the freemen of every City and County of this Commonwealth respectively: And no person shall be elected, unless he has resided in the City or County for which he shall be chosen, two years immediately before the said election; nor shall any member, while he continues such, hold any other office, except in the Militia.

SECT. 8th. No person shall be capable of being elected a member to serve in the House of Representatives of the freemen of this Commonwealth more than four years in seven.

SECT. 9th. The members of the House of Representatives shall be chosen annually by ballot, by the freemen of the Commonwealth, on the second *Tuesday* in *October* for ever, (except this present year,) and shall meet on the fourth *Monday* of the same month; and shall be styled *The General Assembly of the Representatives of the freemen of PENNSYLVANIA*, and shall have power to choose their Speaker, the Treasurer of the State, and their other officers—sit on their own adjournments, prepare bills and enact them into laws,

judge of the elections and qualifications of their own members; they may expel a member, but not a second time for the same cause; they may administer oaths or affirmations on examinations of witnesses, redress grievances, impeach State criminals, grant charters of incorporation, constitute towns, boroughs, cities, and counties, and shall have all other powers necessary for the Legislature of a free State or Commonwealth; but they shall have no power to add to, alter, abolish, or infringe any part of this Constitution.

SECT. 10th. A quorum of the House of Representatives shall consist of two-thirds of the whole number of members elected; and, having met and chosen their Speaker, shall each of them, before they proceed to business, take and subscribe, as well the oath or affirmation of fidelity and allegiance hereinafter directed, as the following oath or affirmation, viz:

“I , do swear (or affirm) that, as a member of this Assembly, I will not propose or assent to any bill, vote, or resolution, which shall appear to me injurious to the people, nor do or consent to any act or thing whatever that shall have a tendency to lessen or abridge their rights and privileges, as declared in the Constitution of this State; but will, in all things, conduct myself as a faithful, honest representative and guardian of the people, according to the best of my judgment and abilities.”

And each Member, before he takes his seat, shall make and subscribe the following Declaration, viz:

“I do believe in one *God*, the Creator and Governour of the universe, the rewarder of the good and punisher of the wicked; and I do acknowledge the Scriptures of the Old and New Testament to be given by Divine Inspiration.”

And no further or other religious test shall ever hereafter be required of any civil officer or magistrate in this State.

SECT. 11th. Delegates to represent this State in Congress shall be chosen by ballot, by the future General Assembly, at their first meeting, and annually forever afterwards, as long as such representation shall be necessary. Any Delegate may be superseded at any time by the General Assembly appointing another in his stead. No man shall sit in Congress longer than two years successively; nor be capable of reelection for three years afterwards. And no person who holds any office in the gift of the Congress shall hereafter be elected to represent this Commonwealth in Congress.

SECT. 12th. If any City or Cities, County or Counties, shall neglect or refuse to elect and send Representatives to the General Assembly, two-thirds of the members from the Cities or Counties that do elect and send Representatives, provided they be a majority of the Cities and Counties of the whole State when met, shall have all the powers of the General Assembly as fully and amply as if the whole were present.

SECT. 13th. The doors of the House in which the Representatives of the freemen of this State shall sit in General Assembly, shall be and remain open for the admission of all persons who behave decently, except only when the welfare of this State may require the doors to be shut.

SECT. 14th. The votes and proceedings of the General Assembly shall be printed weekly during their sitting, with the yeas and nays on any question, vote or resolution, where any two members require it, except when the vote is taken by ballot; and when the yeas and nays are so taken, every member shall have a right to insert the reasons of his vote upon the Minutes, if he desires it.

SECT. 15th. To the end that laws, before they are enacted, may be more maturely considered, and the inconvenience of hasty determinations as much as possible prevented, all bills of a publick nature shall be printed, for the consideration of the people, before they are read in General Assembly the last time for debate and amendment; and, except on occasions of sudden necessity, shall not be passed into laws until the next session of Assembly; and for the more perfect satisfaction of the publick, the reasons and motives for making such laws shall be fully and clearly expressed in the preambles.

SECT. 16th. The style of the laws of this Commonwealth shall be, “Be it enacted, and it is hereby enacted by the Representatives of the freemen of the Commonwealth of *Pennsylvania*, in General Assembly met, and by the authority of the same.” And the General Assembly shall affix their seal to every bill as soon as it is enacted into a law;

which seal shall be kept by the Assembly, and shall be called "The Seal of the Laws of *Pennsylvania*," and shall not be used for any other purpose.

SECT. 17th. The City of *Philadelphia*, and each County in this Commonwealth respectively, shall, on the first *Tuesday* of *November*, in this present year, and on the second *Tuesday* in *October* annually for the two next succeeding years, to wit, the year one thousand seven hundred and seventy-seven and the year one thousand seven hundred and seventy-eight, choose six persons to represent them in General Assembly; but as representation, in proportion to the number of taxable inhabitants, is the only principle which can at all times secure liberty and make the voice of a majority of the people the law of the land, therefore the General Assembly shall cause complete lists of the taxable inhabitants in the City and each County in the Commonwealth respectively to be taken and returned to them on or before the last meeting of the Assembly elected in the year one thousand seven hundred and seventy-eight, who shall appoint a representation to each in proportion to the number of taxables in such returns; which representation shall continue for the next seven years afterwards; at the end of which a new return of the taxable inhabitants shall be made and a representation agreeable thereto appointed by the said Assembly, and so on septennially forever. The wages of the Representatives in General Assembly, and all other State charges, shall be paid out of the State treasury.

SECT. 18th. In order that the freemen of this Commonwealth may enjoy the benefit of election as equally, as may be until the representation shall commence as directed in the foregoing section, each County at its own choice may be divided into districts, hold elections therein, and elect their Representatives in the County and their other elective officers, as shall be hereafter regulated by the General Assembly of this State. And no inhabitant of this State shall have more than one annual vote at the general election for Representatives in Assembly.

SECT. 19th. For the present the supreme Executive Council of this State shall consist of twelve persons, chosen in the following manner: The freemen of the City of *Philadelphia*, and of the Counties of *Philadelphia*, *Chester*, and *Bucks*, respectively, shall choose by ballot one person for the City and one for each County aforesaid, to serve for three years and no longer, at the time and place for electing representatives in General Assembly. The freemen of the Counties of *Lancaster*, *York*, *Cumberland*, and *Berks*, shall in like manner elect one person for each County respectively, to serve as Counsellors for two years and no longer; and the Counties of *Northampton*, *Bedford*, *Northumberland*, and *Westmoreland* respectively, shall in like manner elect one person for each County, to serve as Counsellors for one year and no longer. And at the expiration of the time for which each Counsellor was chosen to serve, the freemen of the City of *Philadelphia*, and of the several Counties in this State respectively, shall elect one person to serve as Counsellor for three years and no longer; and so on every third year forever. By this mode of election and continual rotation, more men will be trained to publick business; there will in every subsequent year be found in the Council a number of persons acquainted with the proceedings of the foregoing years, whereby the business will be more consistently conducted, and moreover the danger of establishing an inconvenient aristocracy will be effectually prevented. All vacancies in the Council that may happen by death, resignation, or otherwise, shall be filled at the next general election for Representatives in General Assembly, unless a particular election for that purpose shall be sooner appointed by the President and Council. No Member of the General Assembly or Delegate in Congress shall be chosen a member of the Council. The President and Vice President shall be chosen annually by the joint ballot of the General Assembly and Council, of the members of the Council. Any person having served as a Counsellor for three successive years, shall be incapable of holding that office for four years afterwards. Every member of the Council shall be a Justice of the Peace for the whole Commonwealth by virtue of his office.

In case new additional Counties shall hereafter be erected in this State, such County or Counties shall elect a Counsellor, and such County or Counties shall be annexed to the next neighbouring Counties, and shall take rotation with such Counties.

The Council shall meet annually, at the same time and place with the General Assembly.

The Treasurer of the State, Trustees of the Loan Office, Naval Officers, Collectors of Customs or Excise, Judge of the Admiralty, Attorneys General, Sheriffs, and Prothonotaries, shall not be capable of a seat in the General Assembly, Executive Council, or Continental Congress.

SECT. 20th. The President, and in his absence the Vice President, with the Council, five of whom shall be a quorum, shall have power to appoint and commissionate Judges, Naval Officers, Judge of the Admiralty, Attorney General, and all other officers, civil and military, except such as are chosen by the General Assembly or the people, agreeable to this frame of Government and the laws that may be made hereafter; and shall supply every vacancy in any office occasioned by death, resignation, removal, or disqualification, until the office can be filled in the time and manner directed by law or this Constitution. They are to correspond with other States, and transact business with the officers of Government, civil and military, and to prepare such business as may appear to them necessary to lay before the General Assembly. They shall sit as judges to hear and determine on impeachments, taking to their assistance, for advice only, the Justices of the Supreme Court, and shall have power to grant pardons and remit fines in all cases whatsoever, except in cases of impeachment; and in cases of treason and murder shall have power to grant reprieves, but not to pardon, until the end of the next sessions of Assembly; but there shall be no remission or mitigation of punishment on impeachments, except by act of the Legislature. They are also to take care that the laws be faithfully executed; they are to expedite the execution of such measures as may be resolved upon by the General Assembly; and they may draw upon the Treasury for such sums as shall be appropriated by the House. They may also lay embargoes, or prohibit the exportation of any commodity, for any time not exceeding thirty days, in the recess of the House only. They may grant such licenses as shall be directed by law, and shall have power to call together the General Assembly when necessary before the day to which they shall stand adjourned. The President shall be Commander-in-Chief of the forces of the State, but shall not command in person, except advised thereto by the Council, and then only so long as they shall approve thereof. The President and Council shall have a Secretary, and keep fair books of their proceedings, wherein any Counsellor may enter his dissent with his reasons in support of it.

SECT. 21st. All commissions shall be in the name and by the authority of the freemen of the Commonwealth of *Pennsylvania*, sealed with the State seal, signed by the President or Vice President, and attested by the Secretary; which seal shall be kept by the Council.

SECT. 22d. Every officer of State, whether judicial or executive, shall be liable to be impeached by the General Assembly, either when in office or after his resignation or removal for mal-administration: all impeachments shall be before the President or Vice President and Council, who shall hear and determine the same.

SECT. 23d. The Judges of the Supreme Court of Judicature shall have fixed salaries, be commissioned for seven years only, though capable of reappointment at the end of that term, but removable for misbehaviour at any time by the General Assembly: they shall not be allowed to sit as members in the Continental Congress, Executive Council, or General Assembly, nor to hold any other office, civil or military, nor to take or receive fees or perquisites of any kind.

SECT. 24th. The Supreme Court and the several Courts of Common Pleas of this Commonwealth shall, besides the powers usually exercised by such Courts, have the powers of a Court of Chancery, so far as relates to the perpetuating testimony, obtaining evidence from places not within this State, and the care of the persons and estates of those who are *non compotes mentis*, and such other powers as may be found necessary by future General Assemblies, not inconsistent with this Constitution.

SECT. 25th. Trials shall be by Jury as heretofore: and it is recommended to the Legislature of this State to provide by law against every corruption or partiality in the choice, return, or appointment of Juries.

SECT. 26th. Courts of Sessions, Common Pleas, and Or-

phans' Courts shall be held quarterly in each City and County; and the Legislature shall have power to establish all such other Courts as they may judge for the good of the inhabitants of the State. All Courts shall be open, and justice shall be impartially administered, without corruption or unnecessary delay: all their officers shall be paid an adequate but moderate compensation for their services: and if any officer shall take greater or other fees than the laws allow him, either directly or indirectly, it shall ever after disqualify him from holding any office in this State.

SECT. 27th. All prosecutions shall commence in the name and by the authority of the freemen of the Commonwealth of *Pennsylvania*; and all indictments shall conclude with these words: "against the peace and dignity of the same." The style of all process hereafter in this State shall be, The Commonwealth of *Pennsylvania*.

SECT. 28th. The person of a debtor, where there is not a strong presumption of fraud, shall not be continued in prison after delivering up, *bona fide*, all his estate, real and personal, for the use of his creditors, in such manner as shall be hereafter regulated by law: all prisoners shall be bailable by sufficient sureties, unless for capital offences, when the proof is evident or presumption great.

SECT. 29th. Excessive bail shall not be exacted for bailable offences; and all fines shall be moderate.

SECT. 30th. Justices of the Peace shall be elected by the freeholders of each City and County respectively, that is to say, two or more persons may be chosen for each Ward, Township, or District, as the law shall hereafter direct; and their names shall be returned to the President in Council, who shall commission one or more of them for each Ward, Township, or District so returning, for seven years, removable for misconduct by the General Assembly. But if any City or County, Ward, Township, or District in this Commonwealth, shall hereafter incline to change the manner of appointing their Justices of the Peace as settled in this article, the General Assembly may make laws to regulate the same, agreeable to the desire of a majority of the freeholders of the City or County, Ward, Township, or District so applying. No Justice of the Peace shall sit in the General Assembly unless he first resign his commission; nor shall he be allowed to take any fees; nor any salary or allowance except such as the future Legislature may grant.

SECT. 31st. Sheriffs and Coroners shall be elected annually in each City and County by the freemen; that is to say, two persons for each office, one of whom for each is to be commissioned by the President in Council. No person shall continue in the office of Sheriff more than three successive years, or be capable of being again elected during four years afterwards. The election shall be held at the same time and place appointed for the election of Representatives; and the Commissioners and Assessors, and other officers chosen by the people, shall also be then and there elected, as has been usual heretofore, until altered or otherwise regulated by the future Legislature of this State.

SECT. 32d. All elections, whether by the people or in General Assembly, shall be by ballot, free and voluntary; and any elector who shall receive any gift or reward for his vote, in meat, drink, moneys, or otherwise, shall forfeit his right to elect for that time; and suffer such other penalty as future laws shall direct. And any person who shall directly or indirectly give, promise, or bestow any such rewards to be elected, shall be thereby rendered incapable to serve for the ensuing year.

SECT. 33d. All fees, license money, fines and forfeitures heretofore granted, or paid to the Governour or his Deputies, for the support of Government, shall hereafter be paid into the publick treasury, unless altered or abolished by the future Legislature.

SECT. 34th. A Register's Office for the probate of wills and granting letters of administration, and an office for the recording of deeds, shall be kept in each City and County: the officers to be appointed by the General Assembly, removable at their pleasure, and to be commissioned by the President in Council.

SECT. 35th. The printing presses shall be free to every person who undertakes to examine the proceedings of the Legislature, or any part of Government.

SECT. 36th. As every freeman, to preserve his independence, (if without a sufficient estate,) ought to have some profession, calling, trade, or farm, whereby he may honestly

subsist, there can be no necessity for nor use in establishing offices of profit, the usual effects of which are dependence and servility, unbecoming freemen, in the possessors and expectants; faction, contention, corruption, and disorder, among the people. But if any man is called into publick service to the prejudice of his private affairs, he has a right to a reasonable compensation; and whenever an office, through increase of fees, or otherwise, becomes so profitable as to occasion many to apply for it, the profits ought to be lessened by the Legislature.

SECT. 37th. The future Legislature of this State shall regulate entails, in such a manner as to prevent perpetuities.

SECT. 38th. The penal laws as heretofore used, shall be reformed by the future Legislature of this State, as soon as may be, and punishments made in some cases less sanguinary and in general more proportionate to the crimes.

SECT. 39th. To deter more effectually from the commission of crimes, by continued visible punishment of long duration, and to make sanguinary punishments less necessary, houses ought to be provided for punishing by hard labour those who shall be convicted of crimes not capital; wherein the criminals shall be employed for the benefit of the publick, or for reparation of injuries done to private persons; and all persons at proper times shall be admitted to see the prisoners at their labour.

SECT. 40th. Every officer, whether judicial, executive or military, in authority under this Commonwealth, shall take the following oath or affirmation of allegiance, and general oath of office, before he enter on the execution of his office:

The Oath or Affirmation of Allegiance.

"I, do swear (or affirm) that I will be true and faithful to the Commonwealth of *Pennsylvania*; and that I will not, directly or indirectly, do any act or thing prejudicial or injurious to the Constitution or Government thereof, as established by the Convention."

The Oath or Affirmation of office.

"I, do swear (or affirm) that I will faithfully execute the office of — for the — of —, and I will do equal right and justice to all men, to the best of my judgment and abilities, according to law."

SECT. 41st. No publick tax, custom, or contribution, shall be imposed upon or paid by the people of this State, except by a law for that purpose; and before any law be made for raising it, the purpose for which any tax is to be raised ought to appear clearly to the Legislature to be of more service to the community than the money would be, if not collected, which, being well observed, taxes can never be burthens.

SECT. 42d. Every foreigner of good character, who comes to settle in this State, having first taken an oath or affirmation of allegiance to the same, may purchase, or by other just means acquire, hold, and transfer land or other real estate; and after one year's residence, shall be deemed a free denizen thereof, and entitled to all the rights of a natural born subject of this State, except that he shall not be capable of being elected a Representative until after two years' residence.

SECT. 43d. The inhabitants of this State shall have liberty to fowl and hunt in seasonable times on the lands they hold, and on all other lands therein not enclosed; and in like manner to fish in all boatable waters and others not private property.

SECT. 44th. A school or schools shall be established in each County by the Legislature, for the convenient instruction of youth, with such salaries to the masters paid by the publick as may enable them to instruct youth at low prices: And all useful learning shall be duly encouraged and promoted in one or more Universities.

SECT. 45th. Laws for the encouragement of virtue, and prevention of vice and immorality, shall be made and constantly kept in force, and provision shall be made for their due execution: And all religious societies or bodies of men heretofore united or incorporated for the advancement of religion and learning, or for other pious and charitable purposes, shall be encouraged and protected in the enjoyment of the privileges, immunities, and estates, which they were accustomed to enjoy, or could of right have enjoyed under the laws and former Constitution of this State.

SECT. 46th. The Declaration of Rights is hereby declared to be a part of the Constitution of this Commonwealth, and ought never to be violated on any pretence whatever.

SECT. 47th. In order that the freedom of this Commonwealth may be preserved inviolate for ever, there shall be chosen by ballot by the freemen in each City and County respectively, on the second *Tuesday* in *October*, in the year one thousand seven hundred and eighty-three, and on the second *Tuesday* in *October* in every seventh year thereafter, two persons in each City and County of this State, to be called the Council of Censors; who shall meet together on the second *Monday* of *November* next ensuing their election; the majority of whom shall be a quorum in every case, except as to calling a Convention, in which two-thirds of the whole number elected shall agree; and whose duty it shall be to inquire whether the Constitution has been preserved inviolate in every part; and whether the legislative and executive branches of Government have performed their duty as guardians of the people, or assumed to themselves, or exercised other or greater powers than they are entitled to by the Constitution; they are also to inquire whether the publick taxes have been justly laid and collected in all parts of this Commonwealth, in what manner the publick moneys have been disposed of, and whether the laws have been duly executed: For these purposes they shall have power to send for persons, papers, and records; they shall have authority to pass publick censures, to order impeachments, and to recommend to the Legislature the repealing such laws as appear to them to have been enacted contrary to the principles of the Constitution: These powers they shall continue to have for and during the space of one year from the day of their election, and no longer: The said Council of Censors shall also have power to call a Convention, to meet within two years after their sitting, if there appear to them an absolute necessity of amending any article of the Constitution which may be defective, explaining such as may be thought not clearly expressed, and of adding such as are necessary for the preservation of the rights and happiness of the people: But the articles to be amended, and the amendments proposed, and such articles as are proposed to be added or abolished, shall be promulgated at least six months before the day appointed for the election of such Convention, for the previous consideration of the people, that they may have an opportunity of instructing their Delegates on the subject.

On motion, *Ordered*, That the President and every Member of this Convention present do sign the same;

Which being accordingly done, it was thereupon

Ordered, That the Constitution of this Commonwealth, as now agreed to and signed by the Members of this Convention, be committed to the charge of the Council of Safety, with directions to deliver the same to the General Assembly of this State, at their first meeting, immediately after they shall have chosen their Speaker.

On motion, *Resolved*, That Mr. *Rittenhouse*, Mr. *Cannon*, and Mr. *Matlack*, be a Committee to settle the incidental expenses of this Convention.

On motion, *Resolved*, That the President of this Convention be allowed the same wages as the Speaker of the late House of Assembly, and that the Vice President draw an order on the State Treasurer for the amount thereof.

On motion, *Resolved*, That Mr. *Rittenhouse*, Mr. *Jacobs*, and Mr. *Clymer*, be a Committee to prepare the Seals for the future Legislature and Executive Council of this State.

Resolved, That immediate publick notice be given by the Secretary, that the freemen of this State are empowered, by the frame of Government this day passed, to choose at their next election for Representatives, in the City of *Philadelphia* and each County, one person as a Counsellor of State.

Resolved, That the Council of Safety be directed to prepare materials necessary for printing Paper Currency for this State, to be ready at the time of the first meeting of the General Assembly.

Resolved, That Mr. *Cannon*, Mr. *Rittenhouse*, Colonel *Matlack*, and Colonel *Bull*, be a Committee to revise the Minutes of this Convention, and print two hundred and fifty copies of the same, together with the Constitution, Ordinances, &c., (one hundred of which to be bound,) for the use of the Members of this House.

On motion, *Resolved*, That the President of this Convention fill up and sign a commission for General *Roberdeau*, as first Brigadier-General of this State; and that he also

fill up and sign a commission for General *Ewing*, as second Brigadier-General of this State.

On motion, *Resolved*, That Mr. *Cannon*, Mr. *Rittenhouse*, and Colonel *Matlack*, be a Committee to draw up an address to the publick, setting forth the reasons which induced this Convention to make the several Ordinances and Resolves which they have passed in the course of the sitting of this Convention.

The Report of the Committee appointed to inquire into the complaints of the mutinous soldiers was again read, and *Ordered* to be referred to the Council of Safety.

Major *Coates* and Major *Loller*, two of the gentlemen elected yesterday to visit the Troops raised in this State, at *New-York Island* and *Ticonderoga*, informed the Convention that the state of their domestick affairs was such that they could not possibly serve on that duty: Whereupon the House proceeded to the election of two other gentlemen in their stead, when Colonel *Potter* and Colonel *Clark* were chosen by ballot for that service.

The Petition of *Peter Withington* for a Captaincy, was again read, and referred to the Council of Safety.

The draft of a Commission and Instructions to the gentlemen chosen to visit the Troops of this State was read and approved of, and is as follows:

“PENNSYLVANIA, ss.

“*The Honourable the Convention of the Commonwealth of PENNSYLVANIA*, to *E. T., Esquire*.

“*SIR*: You are hereby commissioned and instructed (in conjunction with *A B* and *C D*) immediately to repair to the army near *New-York* and at *Ticonderoga*, and make a particular inquiry into the condition and state of the troops raised in or by this State; whether they are properly supplied with necessaries, and whether the quartermasters, commissaries, paymasters, and other officers for the supplying of clothing, provisions, &c., have done their duty, and therein particularly to attend to the information which you shall receive from intelligent privates as well as officers. You are to engage all officers and privates, who are willing to serve during the war, on the terms offered by the honourable Congress. You are to inquire into the merits of such officers, that proper promotions may take place when necessary. You are to inquire into the condition and state of the arms and accoutrements of the troops, and to make true returns of all such and other matters as you may find necessary, with all convenient dispatch, to the Council of Safety or future House of Assembly. This commission and instruction to continue until altered or annulled by this Convention, the Council of Safety, or the future House of Assembly.

“By order of the Convention.”

The Report made on the 13th instant, by the Committee on Military Affairs, was again read, and ordered to be referred to the Council of Safety, except as to that part which relates to the Brigadier-Generals.

Colonel *Potter* informed the House that he had been desired, by the Delegates in Congress for this State, to acquaint the House that they were desired to appoint and nominate the officers for the Battalion to be raised in the Counties of *Northampton* and *Northumberland*. Whereupon the House proceeded to the election by ballot of Field-Officers for the said Battalion, when *William Cook*, Esquire, was chosen to be recommended as Colonel; *Neigle Gray*, Esquire, as Lieutenant-Colonel; and *James Crawford*, Esq., as Major.

The appointment of the other officers is referred to the Council of Safety.

On motion, *Resolved*, That those Associators who have neglected or refused to march into *Jersey* and serve agreeable to the resolution of the honourable Congress and this Convention, or who have returned without having served six weeks, or having a regular discharge, be considered as Non-Associators, and fined and assessed as such by the Commissioners and Assessors appointed by an Ordinance of this Convention respecting Non-Associators.

The Memorial from *Northumberland* was read again, and *Ordered* to be referred to the Council of Safety.

The House resumed the consideration of Colonel *Slagle's*

Letter, desiring to be excused from his office of Commissioner for the Flying-Camp; and it was

Resolved, That his request be granted, and that Major Coates be appointed in his stead.

On motion, *Ordered*, That the President sign orders on the State Treasurer for the wages and mileage of each member of this Convention.

On motion, *Ordered*, That the Secretary of this Convention have the same wages as have been usually paid to the Clerk of the Assembly. But, as the Secretary has not

kept any account of particulars, the President is to ascertain the same, according to the rate and in proportion to the account settled for *Charles Moore, Esq.*, in *September* last, and to draw an order on the State Treasurer for that sum.

Resolved, unanimously, That the thanks of this Convention be given to the President for the honour he has done it by filling the chair during the debates on the most important parts of the Bill of Rights and frame of Government, and for his able and disinterested advice thereon.

Then the Convention rose.

PENNSYLVANIA COUNCIL OF SAFETY.

In Council of Safety, September 2, 1776.

Present: *David Rittenhouse*, Vice President, *John Hubley*, *Joseph Blewer*, *Frederick Kuhl*, *Henry Keppeler*, *Samuel Morris*, Sen., Chairman, *Owen Biddle*, *James Cannon*.

Mr. *Robert Towers* was directed to deliver Colonel *Porter* thirteen stand of Arms, taking his receipt.

John M. Nesbitt, Esq., was directed to pay *John Young*, Jun., £243 15s., for sixty-five Muskets and Bayonets; to pay *Richard Dennis* £31 5s., for fifty barrels of Tar, delivered Captain *Hazlewood*, for the use of Fire Rafts; to pay Captain *Joseph Blewer* £2, for eight hundred Flints, delivered Mr. *Towers*; to pay *Valentine Vanhalt* £9 2s. 3d., for victualing Militia on their march to this city; to be charged to Congress.

Resolved, That *Abraham Hargis* be appointed a Lieutenant in the Rifle Regiment commanded by Colonel *Samuel Miles*; and that Mr. *John Morton, Esq.*, do commission him accordingly, to bear date the 6th July last.

Mr. *Nesbitt* was directed to pay Colonel *Hugh Lloyd* £185 9s. 8d., of which £177 6s. to be charged to Colonel *Lloyd*, being for Arms, Blankets, &c., and £8 13s. 8d., being for Mileage, &c., for one hundred and forty-two men of his Battalion; to pay *Robert McCulloch* £5 10s. for a Rifle, bought for the use of Captain *Morrison's* Company, Colonel *Porter's* Battalion, to be charged to the Colonel; to pay for mileage of five men of Captain *Boyd's* Company, Colonel *Porter's* Battalion, seventy-six miles, at one penny each, £1 11s. 8d.; to be charged to Congress.

Resolved, That *Samuel Mifflin, Esq.*, be appointed Commodore and Commander-in-Chief of all the Naval Armaments of this State, and that the President be requested to send him his commission, with orders to repair to his command.

Resolved, That Mr. *Owen Biddle* be authorized to import from *St. Eustatia* such necessaries for clothing and equipping the Troops employed in the service of the State as may be wanted for that purpose, on account of this State.

An Order was drawn on Mr. *Nesbitt*, in favour of *Matthew Hand*, for £50, towards Bounty Money for a Company now raising by him for the Flying-Camp; to be charged to his Account.

Mr. *Towers* was directed to deliver Colonel *Smith* ninety stand of Arms, for the use of his Battalion, taking his receipt.

Mr. *Towers* was directed to pay Captain *Joseph Blewer* £2 10s., for a Fusee delivered to Mr. *Towers*.

The Council adjourned to two o'clock in the afternoon, when the following Members met:

Thomas Wharton, Jun., President, *David Rittenhouse*, Vice President, *Owen Biddle*, *Frederick Kuhl*, *John Moore*, *Henry Keppeler*, *Samuel Morris*, Sen., *Joseph Blewer*, *George Gray*.

Discharge *Gilmore, &c.*

In Council of Safety, September 3, 1776.

Present: *Thomas Wharton, Jun.*, President, *David Rittenhouse*, *Samuel Morris*, *Frederick Kuhl*, *John Moore*, *Owen Biddle*, *Joseph Blewer*, *Henry Keppeler*, *George Gray*.

Mr. *Nesbitt* was directed to pay Colonel *Peter Grub* £95 for Cartouch Boxes, bought by him for the use of his Battalion, to be charged to the Colonel, and £19 for forty Cartouch Boxes; to pay *Philip Wert* £135 for ninety days' Shallop hire, and *Martin Wert* £55 10s. for thirty-seven days' ditto, they being employed in the service of this State; to

pay *Andrew Work* £4 15s. 6d., for Blankets purchased by Captain *John Eackman*, of Colonel *Porter's* Battalion, to be charged to the Colonel; to pay *Jacob Frits* £3 6s., for two Guns, to be charged to Colonel *Hill*; to pay *Peter Knight* and *George Graham* for providing the families of Associators of Fourth Battalion £7 17s. 6d.; to pay Captain *James Falconer* for expenses mounting Guard at Magazine, State House, &c., £16 16s. 3d.; to pay Captain *Knox* £18 3s. for the same purpose—charge Congress; to pay Colonel *Peter Grub* for Arms taken from Non-Associators, and distributed to his Battalion £402 0s. 1d., to be charged to Colonel *Grub*; to pay Captain *Lauer* one hundred and four meals, at nine pence, £3 18s., Colonel *Potts's* Battalion, to be charged to Congress; to pay Captain *Walery Ming* £3 for a Drum and Drumhead for his Company, of Colonel *Matlack's* Battalion; to pay Colonel *Peter Grub* £6 3s. 6d. for thirteen Cartouch Boxes, for the use of his Battalion.

Messrs. *Mease & Caldwell* were requested to pay Captain *McMullen's* Company for their attendance as City Guards, agreeable to the Mustermaster's Return.

In Council of Safety, September 4, 1776.

Present: *David Rittenhouse*, Vice President, *Samuel Morris*, *John Hubley*, *Joseph Blewer*, *George Gray*, *Frederick Kuhl*, *James Cannon*, *Owen Biddle*.

John M. Nesbitt, Esq., Treasurer, was directed to pay Colonel *Robert M'Pherson* £6 14s. for diet of part of his Battalion on their march towards *New-Jersey*:

To pay £16 15s. 6d. to *Jehoshaphat Polk* for Cartouch Boxes, &c., to be charged to Colonel *Porter*, being for Captain *Patton's* Company of his Battalion:

To pay *Esther Burke* for two weeks' nursing of one of Colonel *Miles's* Battalion, £1 2s.

Resolved, That the remainder of the Militia under the command of Colonel *James Wilson*, of *Cumberland County*, that have not marched to *New-Jersey*, be ordered to remain in said County for the defence of the frontiers thereof, until further orders from this Board.

In Council of Safety, September 5, 1776.

Present: *Thomas Wharton, Jun.*, President, *David Rittenhouse*, *Samuel Morris*, Sen., *Owen Biddle*, *Henry Keppeler*, *James Cannon*, *Joseph Blewer*, *John Weitzel*, *John Hubley*.

Mr. *Nesbitt* was directed to pay *Samuel Robbins* £25 11s. 10d., for repairing armed boat *Warren*.

Mr. *Towers* to deliver Messrs. *Dehaven & Co.* 200 wt. Brass.

Mr. *Nesbitt* to pay Messrs. *Dehaven & Co.* £500; charged to them.

An Order was drawn on Mr. *Nesbitt* in favour of *John Mitchel, Esq.*, for £1,500, to be charged to his Account.

Mr. *Nesbitt* to pay Captain *Shibley* £12 15s. 3d., for diet; Captain *Lowers* £1 16s. 9d., for diet of Colonel *Potts's* Battalion; to be charged to Congress.

To pay *Tobias Rudolph* 18s. for Horse Hire going after *Thomas*; to be charged to Congress.

To pay *James & Drinker* £132 12s. 3d., for Sash Weights delivered *Thomas Nevell*.

To pay Captain *John Eackman* for Dinner for sixteen men 12s., to be charged to Congress, and 27s. for repairing Arms.

To pay *Jacob Garrigues* £4 17s. 8½d., for nursing a Sergeant of Captain *Grub's* Company, Colonel *Miles's* Battalion.

To pay *Andrew Work* 13s. for expenses for providing necessaries for Captain *Eckman's* Company.

Mr. *Towers* was directed to deliver Captain *Jack* twenty stand of Arms, for the use of his Company, of Colonel *Allison's* Battalion.

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In Council of Safety, September 6, 1776.

Present: *Thomas Wharton*, Jun., President, *David Rittenhouse*, *Joseph Blewer*, *John Weitzel*, *Henry Keppele*, *John Hubley*, *James Cannon*, *John Moore*, *Benjamin Bartholomew*, *Samuel Morris*, Sen., *George Gray*.

John M. Nesbitt was directed to pay *John Moore*, Esq., £250, to be by him delivered to the Committee of Inspection and Observation for *Westmoreland* County, for the purpose of paying off the Troops in that County raised for the defence of the frontiers of said County.

Mr. *Nesbitt* was directed to pay an Order drawn on this Board by *Joseph Kirkbride*, in favour of *Ebenezer Lundy*, for £200, for the purpose of purchasing Tents for the use of his Battalion of *Bucks* County.

To pay *Andrew Park* 11s. for expenses in providing Provisions for Captain *John Tweed's* Company, of Colonel *Porter's* Battalion; to be charged to Congress.

To pay *James Gresswold* for portage of Powder and Lead, imported per Captain *Bell*, £13 5s. 6d.

Resolved, That the Gunsmiths employed in making Arms for this State be allowed £4 10s. for every good Musket with a Bayonet.

Mr. *Towers* was directed to deliver Messrs. *Peter Dehaven & Co.* 150 wt. of Copper, for the use of the Lock Factory.

Mr. *Nesbitt* was directed to pay diet for five Companies of Colonel *Potts's* Battalion, viz:

Captain *Protzman* £7 17s. 6d.; Captain *Derringer* £5 16s. 3d.; Captain *Bishop* £7 19s.; Captain *Potts* £9 4s. 6d.; and Captain *Richards* £7 13s.; to be charged to Congress.

To pay *Martin Holman* for 84 Meals for Captain *Joshua Evans's* Company of Eighth Battalion, *Lancaster* County, £3 3s.; for 410 Meals for Captain *William Parry's* Company £15 7s. 6d.; for 321 Meals for Captain *John Jones*, £12 0s. 9d.; to be charged to Congress.

To pay Captain *Henry Weaver* £11 2s. 9d., for diet for his Company, Colonel *Grub's* Battalion; to be charged to Congress.

To pay *Samuel Rain* for boarding a sick man belonging to Captain *Farmer's* Company, Colonel *Miles's* Battalion, £1 7s. 9d.

To pay *John Britton* £26 14s. 11½d., for Boards and Scantling for Sentry-Boxes of Guard-Houses, for Continental service, to be charged to Congress; and £19 4s. 10d. for Boards and Scantling for the use of the Magazine at State House.

Mr. *Nesbitt* was directed to pay *John Shively* for dieting three Companies of Colonel *Peter Grub's* Battalion, viz:

Captain *Isaac Adams* £13 10s.; Captain *Henry Weaver* £7 4s.; and Captain *D. Morgan* £17 6s. 6d.; to be charged to Congress.

To pay *Robert Towers* £37 16s. 3d., for making Cartridges, Saltpetre, &c.

Two Orders were drawn on Mr. *Nesbitt* in favour of *Walters & Bedwell*, one for £30, the other £40; making £70 towards their Account for refining Sulphur.

To pay *Lewis Guion* £5 for a Rifle delivered Colonel *Matlack*; to be charged to Colonel *Matlack*.

To pay *John Davison* £13 6s. for 28 Cartouch-Boxes for Captain *Culberson's* Company, to be charged to Colonel *James Armstrong*; and £2 17s. for 6 Cartouch-Boxes for Captain *McCune*, to be charged to Colonel *Clark*.

Mr. *Nesbitt* was directed to pay *Ludwig Kercher* £636 9s., being the balance of his Account for victualing the Troops in the pay of this State per account certified by Mr. *Rittenhouse*, Mr. *Hillegas*, and Mr. *Gray*, a Committee appointed to settle said *Kercher's* Account.

A Commission was filled up for *Samuel Mifflin*, Esquire, Commodore in the Fleet in the service of this State, dated the 2d instant, and a Letter wrote to him to return from *Amboy*, (where he now is,) and take the Fleet immediately under his care and direction.

A Letter was also wrote to General *Mercer*, requesting he will permit Commodore *Mifflin* to return home for that purpose.

A Petition was read from *William Whitepain*, a Midshipman on board the ship *Montgomery*, praying that he may be discharged, as he expects to go into the Continental service: After consideration of said Petition, it was

Resolved, That said *William Whitepain* be discharged from the service of this State.

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In Council of Safety, September 9, 1776.

Present: *Thomas Wharton*, President, *David Rittenhouse*, Vice President, *Samuel Morris*, Sen., *Timothy Matlack*, *John Weitzel*, *Joseph Blewer*, *Henry Keppele*, Jun., *James Cannon*, *Fred. Kuhl*, *George Gray*.

Robert Towers was directed to deliver to Captain *Goudy*, of Colonel *James Wilson's* Battalion, 6 Muskets, taking his receipt.

Mr. *Nesbitt* was directed to pay *John Tyler & Co.*, for repairing Arms, £8 3s.

To pay *James Webb*, for stocking Guns, &c., £6 19s. 6d.

To pay Dr. *James Dunlap* £16 13s. 6d., for Medicine, &c., for the use of the Fleet.

Mr. *Towers* to deliver Captain *Jack* four stand of Arms for Colonel *Allison's* Battalion, *Cumberland* County.

Mr. *Nesbitt* was directed to pay *John Mears* £6 2s. 6d. for Arms, &c., delivered to Colonel *Henry Haller*, to be charged to the Colonel.

Mr. *Nesbitt* was directed to pay Captain *John Tweed* £14, for two Rifles, to be charged to the Colonel.

James Ferree, Esquire, of *Germantown*, was directed to deliver Dr. *Harris* one ton of Saltpetre and 500 weight of Sulphur, out of the stores under his direction.

Mr. *Nesbitt* was directed to pay *Jonathan Butcher* £3, for Blankets bought for Colonel *Kirkbride's* Battalion, of *Bucks* County; to be charged to the Colonel.

Mr. *Nesbitt* was directed to pay *Wm. Stadleman* £135 13s. 3d., for dieting sundry Troops on their march to Camp; to be charged to Congress.

An Order was given *Robert Jewell*, Esquire, who was authorized and requested to receive the bodies of Messrs. *James Forrest*, *Thomas Ryan*, and *Shanks*, into his custody, they being Prisoners of War, taken by Captain *Isaiah Robinson*, of the armed sloop *Sachem*.

Mr. *Towers* was directed to deliver Lieutenant-Colonel *Peter Heydrick*, of Colonel *Green's* Battalion, of *Lancaster* County, sixty stand of Arms.

Mr. *Nesbitt* was directed to pay *Abraham Hasselberg*, £7 5s. 10d.; to pay *Schlosser & Frank*, £2 18s.; to pay ditto, £4 2s.; to pay *Benjamin Town*, £1 11s. 4d.; being for Sundries for the use of the Artillery Companies.

Mr. *Nesbitt* was directed to pay *James McBride* £2 10s., for a smooth Rifle; to be charged to Colonel *Green*.

To pay *Alexander Kidd* £6 2s. 6d., for Rifle; to be charged to Colonel *Green*.

To pay *Alexander Kidd* £1 5s., for Blankets; to be charged to Colonel *Green*.

To pay *Valentine Weaver* £6 14s. 3d., for dieting Captains *Dehuff's* and *Marshall's* Companies.

To pay *John Davis* 30s.

To pay *Michael Zigler* £33 16s. 6d., for forty-two Blankets and Coverlids; to be charged to Colonel *Thomas Potts*.

To pay *Thomas Curge*, for repairing Arms belonging to Captain *Gurney's* Company, 16s. 9d.

Mr. *Nesbitt* was directed to pay *Samuel Davison*, late Commodore of the Fleet, his wages to this day.

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In Council of Safety, September 10, 1776.

Present: *Thomas Wharton*, Jun., President, *David Rittenhouse*, *Fred. Kuhl*, *Timothy Matlack*.

An Order was drawn on *John M. Nesbitt*, Esq., Treasurer, who was directed to pay Mr. *Isaac Levan* £50, on account of the Committee of *Berks* County, for supplying the Families of poor Associators, who are now in actual service, with necessaries; to be charged to said Committee.

The Committee of Inspection and Observation of *Reading*, in *Berks* County, having represented to the Board the necessity of keeping a Guard in that Town,

Resolved, That the Committee of *Reading* be empowered to appoint a small Guard in that Town, so long as the Prisoners of War shall reside there, and this Board will take proper measures to defray the expense attending it.

In Council of Safety, September 11, 1776.

Present: *Thomas Wharton*, Jun., President, *Joseph Blewer*, *Fred. Kuhl*, *James Cannon*, *Henry Keppele*, Jun., *John Weitzel*, *George Gray*.

Mr. *Nesbitt* was directed to pay the following Accounts: *Benjamin Wallace*, for seventy-four Rations, Captain *James McConnel's* Company, £2 15s. 6d.; charge to Congress.

Ditto, forty-four Meals, Captain *William Ashton*, Colonel *Dill's* Battalion, *York County*, £1 13s. 6d.; charge to Congress.

Ditto, sixty-six Meals, Captain *William Huston*, Second Battalion, *Cumberland County*, £2 9s. 6d.; charge to Congress.

Ditto, forty-four Meals, Captain *James Chamberlin*, Fifth Battalion, *York County*, £1 13s. 6d.; charge to Congress.

Mr. *Nesbitt* was directed to pay the following Accounts:

Richard Jacob, for dieting Militia on their march towards this City, in order to join the Troops at Camp, *New-Jersey*, £66 0s. 10d.; to be charged to Congress.

Captain *Patrick Jack*, for diet to this City, for Colonel *Allison's* Battalion, *Cumberland County*, £32 2s.; to be charged to Congress.

An Order was drawn on Mr. *Nesbitt*, in favour of Mr. *John Cor*, for £1000; to be charged to his Account.

Mr. *Nesbitt* to pay Captain *John Tweed*, for twenty-four stand of Arms, taken from Non-Associators, £89; to be charged to Colonel *Porter*, of *Lancaster County*.

To pay Captain *James Miller*, for a Rifle, £5; to be charged to Colonel *Porter*.

To pay *Ebenezer Lundy* £180, for balance of his Account, for forty Tents for Colonel *Kirkbride's* Battalion.

Ebenezer Lundy £137 10s., for Cartouch Boxes and Bayonet Belts, delivered Mr. *Towers*.

An Order was drawn on Mr. *Nesbitt*, in favour of Mr. *John Weitzel*, for £300, towards Arms making in *Northumberland County*; to be charged to the Commissioners.

To pay *Mary Miller*, for diet of Militia, £56 12s.; to be charged to Congress.

Michael Stadleman £35 4s. 3d., for diet Militia; to be charged to Congress.

Valentine Vanhall, for diet Militia, £8 5s.; to be charged to Congress.

John Kling, for a Rifle delivered to Captain *John Douglass*, £3 10s.; to be charged to Colonel *Matlack*.

Jeremiah Baker, for Wood delivered at Barracks, £50 19s. 2d.; to be charged to Congress.

Colonel *Timothy Green*, of *Lancaster County*, £403 1s. 6d., for Arms, Blankets, &c.; to be charged to his account.

Order of Colonel *William Montgomery*, for £6 7s., for two Guns, two Bayonets, and one Cartouch Box; to be charged to Colonel *Montgomery*.

William Sutton gave his parole not to go more than seven miles from this City.

Commission granted for Sloop *Jupiter*, privateer, *Francis Illingsworth* Commander, eighty tons, ninety-five men, fourteen carriage guns, owned by *Nicholas Low & Co*.

In Council of Safety, September 12, 1776.

Present: *David Rittenhouse*, Vice President, *Timothy Matlack*, *Samuel Morris*, Sen., *Joseph Blewer*, *Frederick Kuhl*, *Henry Keppele*, Jun., *James Cannon*.

John M. Nesbitt, Esquire, Treasurer, was directed to pay *Thomas Moss* £4 10s., for nursing a sick man of Major *Proctor's* Company of Artillery.

The Minutes of a part of the Council, September 10, was read to the Board; whereupon, it was

Resolved, That the said Proceedings be confirmed.

Resolved, That on Saturday next the Council will take the Naval Armaments of this State, and the Guard for this City, into their consideration; and the Secretary is ordered to summon the Members to meet on that day precisely at eight o'clock, A. M.

In Council of Safety, September 13, 1776.

Present: *Thomas Wharton*, Jun., *David Rittenhouse*, Vice President, *Samuel Morris*, Sen., *Frederick Kuhl*, *James Cannon*, *Joseph Blewer*, *Timothy Matlack*, *George Gray*.

Mr. *Nesbitt* was directed to pay *David Dominick* for

painting Ammunition Carts, &c., £5 6s.; Captain *Robert Hardie* £4 10s., for bounty to three men.

Resolved, That proper persons be immediately employed in each County of this State to purchase up all the Blankets, coarse Linens, Woollen Cloths, Mittens and Stockings, which can be had, for the use of our Troops.

As the Associators of the State of *Pennsylvania* who have been called into service are now returning, therefore

Resolved, That this Board do apply to Congress, praying that directions may be given for paying in this City their wages and mileage; and request that Congress will explain whether it is intended by their resolve respecting Mileage, that the Officers should have as many pence per mile as they are allowed rations by resolve of Congress.

Mr. *Nesbitt* was directed to pay *John Reed* £11 12s. 6d., for dieting four Companies of Militia; to be charged to Congress.

Captain *John McDowell*, for Bayonet Belt, &c., 17s. 6d.; to be charged to Colonel *William Montgomery*.

Captain *John McDowell*, for Cartouch Boxes, Bayonet Belts, repairing Drum and Arms, &c., £3 2s.; to be charged to Colonel *William Montgomery*.

Archibald Thompson £4 7s. 9d., for dieting Captain *Adams* and Captain *Morgan's* Companies, of Colonel *Peter Grub's* Battalion; to be charged to Congress.

Permission was given for *Christopher McClure*, *Thomas Gaskil*, *Isaac Tublin*, and *Benjamin Clifton*, Blacksmiths, on board our Fleet, to come to this City, to work on Anchors making by *De Offley* for the Continental Frigates, if they are not already employed in the service of this State.

Mr. *Nesbitt* was directed to pay *Thomas Miles* 14s. for rifling one Gun, for Captain *Patrick Jack*; to be charged to Colonel *John Allison*, *Cumberland County*; and £2 2s. for rifling three Guns, for Captain *John Tweed's* Company, of Colonel *Porter's* Battalion.

James Gillingham, for ninety-eight Splinters delivered Doctor *Duffield*, £2 9s.

Mr. *Nesbitt* was directed to pay *Robert Towers* £59 2s. 6d., for wages of Workmen at State House, making Cartridges, &c.

James Porter £1 9s. 3d., for dieting thirty-nine men, of Captain *John Boyd's* Company, Colonel *Thomas Porter's* Battalion.

James Porter £2 8s., diet sixty-four men, Captain *Reed's* Company, Colonel *Smith*, *York County*.

James Porter £2 8s. 9d., diet for sixty-five men, Captain *William Ross's* Company, Colonel *Thomas Porter's* Battalion.

Joseph Ogden, for Ferriage of Militia, £36 17s. 3d.; to be charged to Congress.

In Council of Safety, September 14, 1776.

Present: *David Rittenhouse*, Vice President, *Samuel Morris*, Sen., *Timothy Matlack*, *Joseph Blewer*, *Henry Keppele*, Jun., *Frederick Kuhl*, *John Moore*, *John Weitzel*, *George Gray*, *James Cannon*.

Four new Members added to the Board by Convention, viz: *John Bayard*, *John Cox*, *Francis Gurney*, and *Samuel C. Morris*, the 11th.

Mr. *Nesbitt* was directed to pay to *Arthur Thomas* five weeks' Boarding in the State Prison £5; to be charged to Congress.

An Order was drawn on Mr. *Nesbitt* to pay Mr. *Peter Dehaven & Co.*, for £500; to be charged to their account, being on account of Lock Factory.

Mr. *Nesbitt* was directed to pay *James Parkison* £8 5s., for two hundred and twenty Meals, Captain *Lewis Williams's* Company, Colonel *Matthew Dill's* Battalion.

Mr. *Francis Gurney* appeared, took and subscribed the qualification directed by Convention.

Mr. *Nesbitt* was directed to pay *Charles Barnet* £20 6s., for Drums, Arms, &c.; to be charged to Colonel *Dill* and Colonel *Donaldson*.

Resolved, That Captain *Blewer* and Mr. *Gurney* be empowered to contract with some person or persons to fill up and complete the Piers sunk in the channel of the river *Delaware*, near *Fort Island*, and fix the Chain for stopping the navigation upon an emergency.

Mr. *Nesbitt* was directed to pay Major *John Rogers* for Drums purchased for the use of Colonel *Timothy Green's* Battalion, of *Lancaster County*, £45 17s.; to be charged to the Colonel.

Captain *Steel* £82 12s. 6d., for Mileage of his Company to and from this City—to be charged to Congress—Colonel *Robert Callender's* Battalion, of *Cumberland County*.

Adjourned to half past three o'clock, when the following Members met: *David Rittenhouse*, Vice President, *Timothy Matlack*, *Joseph Blewer*, *George Gray*, *Francis Gurney*.

In Council of Safety, September 16, 1776.

Present: *Thomas Wharton*, Jun., President, *David Rittenhouse*, Vice President, *George Gray*, *Frederick Kuhl*, *John Moore*, *Timothy Matlack*, *Joseph Blewer*, *Francis Gurney*, *John Bull*, *James Cannon*, *Samuel Morris*, Sen.

Mr. *Nesbitt* was directed to pay to *Benjamin Hall* £33 15s. 9½d., for Bolts and Spikes for the Piers.

A Letter was wrote to Commodore *Samuel Mifflin*, requesting his speedy return to this City to take the Naval Armaments under his care.

John Bayard and *Samuel Cad. Morris* appeared and took and subscribed the qualification directed by Convention.

Mr. *Nesbitt* was directed to pay Colonel *Galbreath* £1 0s. 9d., for repairing Arms belonging to his Battalion.

To pay *Conrad Snyder* for Mileage for sixteen men two hundred and forty miles, £17 12s. 6d., on their return from Camp; to be charged to Congress.

The Accounts of Mileage for the Militia of this State having so constantly employed the time of the Board, that the military affairs of this State have suffered exceedingly thereby.

Therefore, *Resolved*, That the said Accounts be hereafter referred to the Continental Treasury Office.

Mr. *Towers* was directed to deliver to Captain *Daniel Joy* five hundred pounds of Powder for proving Cannon.

Mr. *Nesbitt* was directed to pay widow *McEnry* £4 15s., for a Rifle delivered Captain *John Douglass*; to be charged to Colonel *Matlack*.

Resolved, That a House be taken for a Hospital, and that a Matron be hired to nurse sick Soldiers of this State.

Resolved, That Doctor *Gerardus Clarkson* be appointed to attend the sick in the said Hospital.

Mr. *Nesbitt* was directed to pay to *Valentine Vanholt* £1 19s. 8d., for diet fifty-two men, Captain *John Bags's* First Battalion *Cumberland County*.

Mr. *Towers*, to deliver Captain *Lewis Williams*, of Col. *Dill's* Battalion, thirty-two stand of Arms.

An Order was drawn on the Marine Committee for what Arms are due from Congress to this State, to be delivered to Mr. *Towers*.

Mr. *Towers* was directed to deliver Major *Thomas Proctor* one hundred and thirteen stand of Arms.

Colonel *Timothy Matlack* was directed, per order, to deliver *Robert Morris*, Esquire, Chairman of the Secret Committee, thirty-five thousand Flints, to be charged to Congress.

Mr. *Peter Brown* was ordered to procure what Iron he may want for the service of his State.

Resolved, That Mr. *Wharton* and Mr. *Bayard* be directed to engage and send off, as soon as possible, three fast-sailing Sloops or Schooners, to bring in such articles of Clothing, Blankets, and other necessities as are wanted for the use of the Troops belonging to this State.

Resolved, That Mr. *Nesbitt* be directed to appoint some proper person to pay the Battalions belonging to this State in the Continental service in quality of Regimental Paymaster, and dispatch him immediately to the Camp.

Resolved, That application be made to the Board of War to know whether the Council may proceed immediately to erect the Fortification at *Billingsport*, agreeable to such plan as the Council may think best, the inhabitants of this State being very uneasy on account of the delays in this matter; and that Mr. *Rittenhouse* and Colonel *Bayard* do wait on the Board of War with said resolve.

Resolved, That application be made to the Members of

Convention for the several Counties, and request them to recommend proper persons in their respective Counties to be employed by this Council to purchase Blankets, coarse Woollen, Linens, and Stockings, for the use of the Troops belonging to this State.

Resolved, That application be made to the Board of War to employ the Marines now in this City as guards over the Frigates, Prison, and Powder, belonging to the Continent, &c.

In Council of Safety, September 17, 1776.

Present: *Thomas Wharton*, Jr., President, *John Bayard*, *Francis Gurney*, *Frederick Kuhl*, *John Hubley*, *George Gray*, *Samuel Morris*, *Timothy Matlack*, *John Bull*, *David Rittenhouse*, *Henry Keppeler*, *Owen Biddle*.

Mr. *Kuhl* was requested to deliver to Mr. *Jacob Shoemaker* the Money found in *George Crow's* chest.

Alexander Morris discharged on his parole.

Richard Wallace, *Samuel Walston*, and *Levi Horner*, prisoners, taken on board the Sloop *Lady Susan*, commanded by *William Goodrich*, were discharged, and permitted to go to their families in *Maryland*.

Mr. *Nesbitt* was directed to pay *Rachael White* £28, for four week's Board of *Terence Doran*, a wounded man of Colonel *McPherson's* Battalion.

Mr. *Nesbitt* was directed to pay *Jonathan Meredith* £101 9s., for Cartouch Boxes, &c.

Resolved, That the wages due to the Men in the service of this State be not stopped by their Officers on any pretence, unless with the consent of the Men, or by special orders from this Board.

An Order was drawn on *John M. Nesbitt*, Esq., Treasurer, in favour of *Jacob S. Howell*, for £100 on account of Intrenching Tools, to be charged to his Account.

Mr. *Nesbitt* was directed to pay *Hermanus Oner* 17s. 6d., for Medicines for a sick Soldier.

Mr. *Nesbitt* was directed to pay Captain *Nathan Boyce* £19 10s. 5d., for expenses bringing Deserters from *Egg-Harbour*.

An Order was drawn on Mr. *Joseph Ferree*, of *German-town*, one ton of Saltpetre, in favour of *Thomas Humberger*.

In Council of Safety, September 18, 1776.

Present: *Thomas Wharton*, Jun., President, *David Rittenhouse*, *Samuel Morris*, Sen., *Timothy Matlack*, *Francis Gurney*, *Samuel Cad. Morris*, *John Hubley*, *Owen Biddle*, *George Gray*, *James Cannon*, *John Moore*, *John Bayard*, *Frederick Kuhl*, *Joseph Blewer*, *Henry Keppeler*, Jun., *John Bull*.

An Order was drawn on Mr. *Nesbitt*, in favour of Colonel *Timothy Matlack*, for £300; to be charged to his Account.

Mr. *Nesbitt* was directed to pay *John Dennis* £37 1s., for Bayonet Scabbards and Belts, to be charged to Colonel *Henry Hill*.

Joseph Ferree, Esq., was directed to deliver Doct. *Harris* one ton of Saltpetre, out of the stores at *Germantown*, under his care.

Mr. *Nesbitt* was directed to pay Mr. *Robert Towers* £59 15s., for Saltpetre bought, making Cartridges, &c.

Resolved, That Colonel *Bayard* and Colonel *Matlack* be appointed to employ proper persons to make a number of Gun Carriages for the service of this State.

Mr. *Nesbitt* was directed to pay *Jacob Reed* £25 1s., for Blankets and Coverlids; to be charged to Colonel *Thomas Potts*.

An Order was drawn on Mr. *Nesbitt*, in favour of *Arthur Donaldson*, for £300, on account of the Floating-Battery building by him; to be charged to his Account.

An Order was drawn on Mr. *Robert Towers*, directing him to deliver Mr. *Gustavus Resberg* 150,000 Musket Cartridges, to be forwarded to Camp in *New-Jersey*; to be charged to Congress.

Mr. *Nesbitt* was directed to pay *William Roberts* £81 10s. ½d., for building Guard Houses, &c.; to be charged to Congress.

Mr. *Nesbitt* was directed to pay *Wm. Perkins* £3 18s. 1d., for Blacksmith work done on board the Gallies.

An Order was drawn on *John M. Nesbitt*, Esq., Treasurer, in favour of Mr. *Owen Biddle* for £1,000, on account of Goods to be imported for the use of the Troops of this State; to be charged to his Account.

Mr. *Nesbitt* was directed to pay *John Burke* for nursing sick Soldiers, &c., £7 2s.

An Order was drawn on *John M. Nesbitt*, Esq., in favour of Mr. *William Rush*, for £250, on account of Blacksmith work done by him; to be charged to his Account.

An Order was drawn on Mr. *Nesbitt*, in favour of *John Stacey*, for £12 10s., for ten cords of Wood, delivered at *Fort-Island*, for the service of the Garrison there.

Resolved, That Mr. *Isaac Cox* be appointed Regimental Paymaster for the Troops belonging to this State now in the Continental service, and that application be made to the Board of War for a Commission for Mr. *Cox*.

Mr. *Nesbitt* was directed to pay *Michael Ramp* £3 12s., for a Rifle bought by Lieutenant-Colonel *Brodhead*.

Resolved, That Major *Thomas Proctor* be empowered to inlist any Associator of this State, provided he is not already engaged in the Flying-Camp, or a servant or apprentice.

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In Council of Safety, September 19, 1776.

Present: *David Rittenhouse*, Vice President, *Samuel Morris*, Sen., *John Moore*, *Joseph Blewer*, *James Cannon*, *Samuel Cad. Morris*, *Owen Biddle*, *John Bayard*, *Fred. Kuhl*, *John Bull*, *Timothy Matlack*, *John Hubley*, *Henry Keppele*, Jun., *George Gray*.

The Vice President being under a necessity to attend the Convention, Colonel *Bayard* was requested to take the chair.

An Order was drawn on Mr. *Nesbitt* for £400, in favour of *Ross & Ega*, on account of Cannon-Shot cast by them for this State; to be charged to their Account.

Mr. *Nesbitt* was directed to pay *John Stetler & Co.* £10, on account of work done; to be charged to *Thos. Nevill's* Account.

Resolved, That Captain *Daniel Joy* be desired to examine and prove a number of Cannon at Mr. *Philips's* Rope Walk, and report to this Board whether they are fit for service.

Mr. *Owen Biddle* reports that he has sent the following articles to Colonel *Brodhead*, for the use of the *Pennsylvania* Troops, viz: 169 pair of Breeches, 288 pair yarn Stockings, 158 pair drilling Spatterdashes, 59 Jackets, 107 pair Shoes, 93 Blankets.

Mr. *Nesbitt* was directed to pay *John Knox* £19 4s. 1½d., for Rum supplied workmen on board the galleys *Congress* and *Franklin*.

Mr. *Nesbitt* was directed to pay Messrs. *Moulder & Coats* £161 19s. 5d., being the balance of their Account for building a Magazine; to be charged to Congress.

Mr. *Nesbitt* was directed to pay *John Clawges* and *William Ritter* £13 18s. 5d., for repairing Arms at Camp; to be charged to Congress.

Resolved, That Mr. *John Coburn* be directed to appear before the Board to-morrow morning at one o'clock, to render an account of all the necessaries he has had in his care for sinking the *Chevaux-de-Frise* and the Piers at *Fort-Island*, and also to settle his Account.

Mr. *Nesbitt* was directed to pay Captain *Marshall's* Account, £5 10s., for a Musket.

James Welsh a month's wages, he being sick and in Town, £2 10s.

Peter Kline, for a Gun, &c., £4, delivered to Mr. *W. Scull*, A. D. Q. M. G. at the Flying-Camp.

Mr. *Michael Conner* exhibited a complaint against *Jacob Petterman*, *John Slice*, and *C. Roreman*, of *New-Province Township*, who, with several others, had assaulted and threatened him so as to put him in fear of his life and property: Whereupon the Secretary was ordered to issue summonses to be served on the said *Petterman*, *Slice*, and *Roreman*, to be and appear before the Board on *Tuesday*, morning next at ten o'clock, to answer the complaint of said *Michael Conner*, and to give directions to the Constable to serve them.

Resolved, That Colonel *Bayard*, Captain *Gurney*, Mr.

Sam. Cad. Morris, and Mr. *Owen Biddle*, be a Committee to inspect into the state of the Artillery Stores, Arms, Accoutrements, and Ammunition, belonging to this State, and report to this Board the situation of the same, and what further supplies of each are necessary to be made; and Mr. *Robert Towers* is required to give them assistance in performing this business.

Resolved, That *James Maul* be appointed a Pilot to carry Vessels through the *Chevaux-de-Frise*, in the room of *Daniel Gordon*, deceased, No. 6.

The Council adjourned to seven o'clock P. M., when the following Members met:

John Bayard, *Samuel Morris*, Sen., *Timothy Matlack*, *Fred. Kuhl*, *John Moore*, *James Cannon*, *John Bull*, *Francis Gurney*, *Samuel Cad. Morris*.

A Commission was filled up for Mr. *Isaac Cox*.

Resolved, That Indented Servants and Apprentices ought not to be inlisted for the Flying-Camp of this State without consent of their Masters and Mistresses, in writing; and that all such who have been inlisted heretofore shall be discharged on the application of their Masters and Mistresses for that purpose.

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In Council of Safety, September 20, 1776.

Present: *David Rittenhouse*, Vice President, *John Bayard*, Chairman, *Samuel Morris*, Sen., *John Bull*, *John Moore*, *Timothy Matlack*, *Frederick Kuhl*, *Joseph Blewer*, *Francis Gurney*, *Samuel Cad. Morris*, *George Gray*, *John Hubley*.

Resolved, That the Lockmakers in this State shall be allowed 25s. for every good Gun-Lock they deliver at our Lock Factory.

An Order was drawn on Mr. *Nesbitt*, in favour of Doctor *Robert Harris*, for £100, towards manufacturing Powder; to be charged to his Account.

Resolved, That Major *Nicola* be directed to apply to Mr. *Nicholas Hicks* to provide Bricks and lay Gutters and Gravel between the wall and the gutters in the Barracks near this City.

Resolved, That *John Moore*, *Edward Cook*, *James Barr*, *James Smith*, *John McClelen*, *John Carmichael*, *James Perry*, and *Christopher Lavingair*, Members of Convention for *Westmoreland* County, be empowered to purchase four hundred stand of Arms for the defence of said County; and that half a ton of Rifle Powder and one ton of Lead be immediately sent to said County for the use of the Militia; and that they draw on this Board for the cost of the Arms and carriage of the Ammunition.

Samuel Mifflin, Esq., declined serving as Commodore and Commander-in-Chief of the Fleet of this State.

Mr. *Nesbitt* was directed to pay *Conrad Cuts & Co.* for four Arms delivered to Mr. *Robert Towers*.

An Order was drawn on Mr. *Nesbitt*, in favour of *Thomas Humberger*, for £60, towards Powder manufactured by him; to be charged to his Account.

An Order was drawn on *Joseph Ferree*, Esq., at *Germantown*, in favour of *Thomas Humberger*, for one ton of Saltpetre, out of the store at *Germantown*.

An Order was drawn on Mr. *Nesbitt*, in favour of Mr. *John Philip*, for £140, for four Cannon, 12-pounders.

Mr. *Nesbitt* was directed to pay Captain *Joseph Blewer* 50s., for scraping the galley *Convention*, and 20s. for Flints delivered to Mr. *Towers*.

Mr. *Nesbitt* was directed to pay *Thomas Corgee* £3, for Handspikes for Artillery.

The Board adjourned to two o'clock, when the following Members met, viz: *David Rittenhouse*, Vice President, *John Bull*, *Joseph Blewer*, *Francis Gurney*, *Timothy Matlack*, *John Bayard*, *Frederick Kuhl*, *Samuel C. Morris*, *John Weitzel*, *George Gray*.

Mr. *Nesbitt* was directed to pay Mr. *Edward Bartholomew* £1646 9s. 8d., being the balance due him for Cartouch-Boxes, Haversack, Knapsacks, &c., bought by him for the use of the Militia of *Philadelphiu* County.

Mr. *Towers* was directed to deliver Colonel *William Clark*, of *Cumberland* County, six stand of Arms, for the use of his Battalion, taking his receipt.

Mr. *Nesbitt* was directed to pay Mr. *John Hay* £26 18s.

2d., for fifty-eight days' wages, at 8s. per diem, and 10d. per mile for fifty-nine miles, being for service in Convention.

In Council of Safety, September 21, 1776.

Present: *Thomas Wharton, Jun.*, President, *Samuel Morris, Sen.*, *Henry Keppeler, Jun.*, *James Cannon*, *Francis Gurney*, *Fred. Kuhl*, *George Gray*, *John Bull*, *Timothy Matlack*, *John Weitzel*, *Joseph Blewer*, *John Hubley*.

An Order was drawn on Mr. Nesbitt, in favour of Captain *William Richards*, for £500; to be charged to his Account.

Ordered, That Captain *John Rice* be directed to raise men for the armed boat called the *Convention*, with all expedition.

Resolved, That Captain *William Brown* be appointed commander of the Floating Battery now building by Mr. *Arthur Donaldson*.

Ordered, That Captain *William Brown* do raise men for the Floating Battery now building by Mr. *Arthur Donaldson*.

Mr. Nesbitt was directed to pay *Samuel Raine* £1 10s., for two weeks' Board of *B. Broxon*.

Mr. Nesbitt was directed to pay Mr. *Mordecai*, Mr. *McKinney*, and *William Maclay* £24 3s., for expenses attending the carriage of Powder and Lead, &c., to *Northumberland County*.

Mr. Nesbitt to pay *John Elmslie* £9, for four Cartridge Boxes, for 6 and 4-pounder Cannon delivered *James Craig & Co.*, Commissaries, in lieu of the like number borrowed out of Continental Store, and sent to Camp; to be charged to Congress.

Mr. Nesbitt to pay *Samuel Smith* £32 10s., for five hundred and twenty Match Rope delivered Mr. *Towers*.

In Council of Safety, September 23, 1776.

Present: *Thomas Wharton, Jun.*, President, *Samuel Morris, Sen.*, *John Hubley*, *John Moore*, *Fred. Kuhl*, *Henry Keppeler, Jun.*, *Owen Biddle*, *George Gray*, *Francis Gurney*, *Samuel Cad. Morris*, *Joseph Blewer*, *John Bayard*, *James Cannon*, *John Bull*.

Resolved, That Captain *Blewer*, Captain *Gurney*, and Mr. *Samuel Cad. Morris*, be appointed to form a regular Muster Roll for the Navy of this State, and produce the same to this Board.

Mr. Nesbitt was directed to pay to *Michael Boyer* £18 2s. 6d., for riding two hundred and ninety miles to give notice to the Officers of the Associators to meet at *Lancaster*, to choose General Officers.

To pay *Ebenezer Lundy* £137 10s., for two hundred Cartouch Boxes and two hundred Bayonet Belts, delivered to Mr. *Towers*.

An Order was drawn on Mr. *Robert Towers*, in favour of a Messrs. *John Moore*, *John McClelen*, *John Carmichael*, *James Perry*, *Christopher Lavingair*, *Edward Cook*, *James Barr*, and *James Smith*, Members of Convention for *Westmoreland County*, for half a ton of Rifle Powder and one ton of Lead, for the defence of said County, agreeable to resolve of the 20th instant.

Mr. Nesbitt to pay Captain *John Hazlewood* £50, on account of the Fire Rafts; to be charged to his Account.

Mr. Nesbitt to pay Mr. *Thomas Davis* £250, on account of Piers built by him to be sunk in the River *Delaware*, near *Fort-Island*; to be charged to his Account.

An Order was drawn on Mr. Nesbitt, in favour of Messrs. *Peter Dehaven & Co.*, for £500, on account of the Gun-Lock Factory.

Owen Biddle, Esq., reports that he received from Colonel *Matthias Slough*, for the use of the Troops belonging to this State, viz: 250 men's Shirts; 153 Black Velvet Stocks, with Brass Buckles; 118 Brass Stock Buckles; 237 pair men's Shoes; 55 Regimental Coats and Waistcoats, and 6 Linen Waistcoats; 40 pair Buckskin Breeches, 76 pair ditto; 138 Knapsacks; 5 Bound Hats; 45 Powder-horn Straps, and 3 Shot Pouches; 10½ dozen men's milled Stockings; and forwarded to Colonel *Brodhead*, at *Head-Quarters*.

An Order was drawn on Mr. Nesbitt, in favour of *Williams & Clinton*, for £100, on account of the armed boat

Delaware, building by them; to be charged to their Account.

An Order was drawn on Mr. Nesbitt, in favour of *Robins, Dun, & Hails*, £60, on account of the armed boat *Convention*, built by them; to be charged to their Account.

Mr. Nesbitt to pay *Philip Veintz* £1 4s. 9d., for cleaning two pieces of Cannon sent to *Amboy* some time since; to be charged to Congress.

Resolved, That the Officers recruiting for the Naval Armaments of this State be allowed 20s. per man, in lieu of all expenses, for inlisting, and that each man be allowed one month's pay advance at their inlisting, to be continued in service until discharged by this or future Council of Safety.

Mr. *Towers* to deliver to *Gustavus Resberg, A. D. Q. M. G.*, for the use of the Flying Camp, one hundred Pitching Axes; to be charged to Congress.

An Order was drawn on Mr. Nesbitt, in favour of *Collinson Reed, Esq.*, for £100, to be by him put into the hands of the persons appointed by the Committee of *Berks County*, in order to supply the Families of poor Associators who are now in actual service.

Resolved, That *Hamilton Hazleton* be discharged from the Ship *Montgomery*, provided he enters into an engagement with Messrs. *Dehaven & Co.* to work at the Gun-Lock Factory of this State under their direction, until discharged by this Board or some future Council of Safety.

The Board adjourned to three o'clock, P. M., when the following Members met:

Thomas Wharton, Jun., President, *John Bayard*, *Henry Keppeler, Jun.*, *John Bull*, *Fred. Kuhl*, *Timothy Matlack*, *John Moore*, *Francis Gurney*, *Samuel Morris, Sen.*, *Joseph Blewer*, *James Cannon*, *Samuel Cad. Morris*, *George Gray*.

Mr. *Robert Towers* was directed to deliver to Colonel *John Lawrence* sixty stand of Arms, taking his receipt to be returned in good order when demanded by this Board.

In Council of Safety, September 24, 1776.

Present: *Thomas Wharton, Jun.*, President, *John Hubley*, *John Bayard*, *Francis Gurney*, *Joseph Blewer*, *John Bull*, *David Rittenhouse*, *Samuel Morris, Sen.*, *John Moore*, *Samuel Cad. Morris*, *Fred. Kuhl*, *Timothy Matlack*.

An Order was drawn on Mr. *Robert Towers*, in favour of Messrs. *Jacob Strowd*, *Neigal Gray*, *Abraham Miller*, *Simon Dreisback*, *John Ralston*, *Jacob Orndt*, and *Peter Bunkhalter*, Members of Convention for *Northampton County*, for three hundred pounds Powder and six hundred pounds Lead, for the use of said County, taking their receipt to be accountable for the same.

Mr. Nesbitt was directed to pay *William Clark & Co.* £96 1s. 1½d., for Tow Linen, bought by Mr. *Nicola*, for making Bed Case for the Barracks.

Mr. Nesbitt was directed to pay Mr. *Henry Rhoads*, a Member of Convention for *Bedford County*, £33 4s., for fifty-eight days' attendance, at 8s., and travelling expenses two hundred and forty miles, at 10d.

Mr. Nesbitt to pay *Joseph Simons* £53 17s. 6d., which, with seventy-two pounds Powder, ordered to be delivered him by Mr. *Towers*, is in full for two hundred and eighty-seven and a half pounds of Saltpetre, delivered to Mr. *Towers*.

Joseph Ferree, at *Germantown*, was directed to deliver Mr. *Jacob Lush* one ton Saltpetre.

An Order in favour of Mr. *Jacob Lush* for £100.

The Council adjourned to three o'clock in the afternoon, when the following Members met:

Thomas Wharton, Jun., President, *John Bayard*, *Samuel Cad. Morris*, *John Bull*, *Francis Gurney*, *Joseph Blewer*, *Frederick Kuhl*, *Samuel Morris, Sen.*, *David Rittenhouse*, *James Cannon*, *Timothy Matlack*.

An Order was drawn on Mr. Nesbitt, in favour of Mr. *Thomas Nevill*, for £50, on account of Gun Carriages; to be charged to his Account.

Mr. Nesbitt to pay Captain *Joseph Stiles*, for sundry necessities for the Artillery Company under his command, £18 19s.

Resolved, That *George Bryan*, Esq., Naval Officer of this Port, be directed to give notice to this Board of all Military Stores imported and entered in his office, as soon as possible after their arrival.

Resolved, That *Mr. Samuel Cad. Morris* be appointed to assist *Colonel Bayard* in procuring Gun Carriage, instead of *Colonel Matlack*, who is going to Camp.

Resolved, That *Paul Fooks*, Esq., Notary Publick and sworn Interpreter for the *French* and *Spanish* Languages, be continued in those offices, with all the powers granted him by his former Commission, until the form of Government of this State is established, or until it shall be altered by proper authority.

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In Council of Safety, September 25, 1776.

Present: *Thomas Wharton*, Junior, President, *Samuel Morris*, Sen., *David Rittenhouse*, *Francis Gurney*, *Henry Keppele*, Jun., *John Bull*, *John Bayard*, *Joseph Blewer*, *Frederick Kuhl*, *Samuel Cad. Morris*, *Timothy Matlack*.

Mr. Nesbitt was directed to pay to *Colonel Andrew Kuhl* £7, for two Guns, to be charged to the Colonel.

To pay the Managers of House of Employment £4 6s. 9d., for Oakum.

Mr. Towers was directed to deliver *Mr. William Will* half a pig, or about two hundred weight of Block Tin, he paying for the same.

Mr. Nesbitt to pay *William Chambers* £2, for a Gun delivered to *Colonel Joseph Armstrong*, of *Cumberland County*; to be charged to the Colonel.

Mr. Nesbitt was directed to pay *Mr. Nicholas Hicks* £117 14s. 2½d., for work done at *Billingsport*; to be charged to Congress.

George Ross, Esq., as counsel for *William Ross*, a prisoner in the Jail of this City, committed on a charge of his having killed a certain *Thomas Ralph*, appeared before this Board, and, for reasons contained in a written paper presented by him, "moves the Council of Safety to admit the prisoner to bail;" the Board thereupon, having taken the opinion of *John Dickinson*, Esq., on the cases, and having deliberated upon the arguments offered for and against the motion,

Resolved unanimously, That bail ought not to be taken in this case.

Mr. Nesbitt was directed to pay to *Baltzer Spangler* and others £9, for going express to the several Colonels of *York County*, to order them to collect the Militia in order to march to Camp in *New-Jersey*.

Mr. Nesbitt to pay *Elijah Etting*, for dieting ten Soldiers, prisoners of war, seven days after their arrival at *Yorktown*, before they were put in quarters, £3 15s.; to be charged to Congress.

Mr. Nesbitt to pay *Robert Stevenson*, for ten Guns delivered *Captain Samuel Nelson*, £23 19s.; to be charged to *Colonel Matthew Dill*, of *York County*, Fifth Battalion.

Mr. Nesbitt was directed to pay an Order drawn on this Board by *James Chapman*, Commissioner, and *John Vandegriff*, Assessor of *Bucks County*, for £300, towards Arms and Accoutrements, procuring by them in said County; to be charged to the Commissioners and Assessors.

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In Council of Safety, September 26, 1776.

Present: *David Rittenhouse*, Vice President, *John Bayard*, *John Hubley*, *John Bull*, *Samuel Morris*, Sen., *James Cannon*, *Timothy Matlack*, *Francis Gurney*, *Samuel Cad. Morris*, *Joseph Blewer*.

Resolved, That *Colonel James Potter* be allowed to contract on the lowest terms in his power for the making of fifty Rifle Guns, for the use of his Battalion; the said contract to be made good by this Board.

Mr. Nesbitt was directed to pay *Colonel Kirkbride* £51 1s., for Arms purchased from Non-Associators; to be charged to the Colonel.

Mr. Nesbitt to pay *William Ross* for dieting part of *Captain Weitzel's* Company, of *Col. Miles's* Battalion, £6 6s.

Mr. Nesbitt to pay *Ezekiel Webb* £9 10s. 3d., for diet of part of three Companies of *Colonel Miles's* Battalion.

Mr. Nesbitt was directed to pay *Captain Thomas Forrest* £17 18s., for balance of his Account for recruiting expenses.

Mr. Nesbitt was directed to pay *Benjamin Condy* £2 5s., for Spy Glass, delivered to *Lieutenant Christee*.

Mr. Nesbitt was directed to pay *Martin Pendergrass* £5 1s. 6d., for work done to Guard Boats.

The following persons were appointed Officers to carry on the Fortifications intended to be erected at *Billingsport*, viz:

Engineer, *Captain Blaitwaite Jones*; Assistant ditto, *Mr. Thomas Hanson*; Superintendent General of Workmen, *Colonel John Bull*; Assistant ditto, *James Dundass*; Clerk to Superintendents, *Robert Cather*; Commissary of Utensils, *John Moyes*; ditto of Provisions ———; Bricklayers, *Charles Souder* and *Edward McCaggen*.

Adjourned to three o'clock.

Met at three o'clock.

Present: *John Bayard*, *Timothy Matlack*, *John Bull*, *Samuel Cad. Morris*, *Samuel Morris*, *Francis Gurney*, *John Moore*, *John Hubley*, *Joseph Blewer*, *David Rittenhouse*.

Resolved, That *Thomas Seymour*, Esq., be appointed Commodore and Commander-in-Chief of all the Naval Armaments in the service of this State.

Resolved, That *David McCutchen* be discharged from his confinement.

Mr. Nesbitt was directed to pay to *Matthias Young* £3 15s., for painting the guard boat *Vulture*.

Resolved, That the Members of this Board, or as many as conveniently can, go down to *Fort Island*, to-morrow morning, to accompany Commodore *Seymour* to the Fleet; that Instructions be drawn up to deliver the Commodore with his Commission.

The following are the Instructions delivered to the Commodore, viz:

"In Council of Safety, September 26, 1776.

"The Council having thought proper to appoint you Commodore and Commander-in-Chief of all the Naval Armaments of this State in the River *Delaware*, which you are to notify to the Officers of the Fleet, by publishing to them your Commission, it becomes necessary to give you some Instructions.

"Instructions to regulate your conduct in some points of this important trust:

"And first, you are by all possible means to establish such a proper sense of subordination in the Fleet, that all the orders you think necessary to issue be punctually and implicitly obeyed; a loose and relaxed discipline utterly enfeebling every military establishment, however respectable it may otherwise be in the circumstance of number and force.

"Secondly. As it is the duty and inclination of this Council to maintain the Fleet in a constant preparation to receive the enemy, you must immediately take an exact survey of its present condition, and whatever may be wanting in its equipments to make report to *Captain William Richards*, who is appointed and directed to supply all its deficiencies.

"Thirdly. An attack from the enemy being highly probable, though the time uncertain, it is necessary that every part of the Fleet should have its proper station assigned, in such way as to afford mutual support, and that the whole may act to the best effect.

"Fourthly. You must particularly attend not only to the situation of the Fleet, but take great care that the officers and men are not absent from their respective vessels any length of time, and at any great distance; but as it is probable that some of the officers of the boats may be desirous of coming up to this City, you may give leave of absence to them in such number and for so long a time as the service may admit, so that not more than one-third be absent at any one time, or longer than forty-eight hours from their respective vessels.

"Lastly. Should any accident or circumstance happen in the Fleet, that has the least tendency to affect the service, you are to give the earliest information to the Council of Safety, that they, if they have the means of remedy, may apply such as the nature of the case may require.

"These being the principal matters that have occurred to the Council, they earnestly recommend to you, however, that you endeavour to promote the utmost harmony between you and the officers of the Fleet, and between one another, on which depends so much the success of every undertaking

where men are to act in concert and mutual assistance required."

Resolved, That the Officers of the Fleet belonging to this State be allowed the same pay that the Officers in the Continental service have, from the 1st of October next.

In Council of Safety, September 27, 1776.

Present: *Thomas Wharton*, Jun., President, *David Rittenhouse*, *Samuel Morris*, Sen., *John Bayard*, *Fred. Kuhl*, *Henry Keppeler*, Jun., *John Bull*, *John Moore*, *Timothy Matlack*, *Samuel Cad. Morris*, *Joseph Blewer*, *Francis Gurney*.

An Order was drawn on Mr. *Nesbitt*, in favour of Major *Nicola*, for £25, for sundry necessities for Barracks; to be charged to his Account.

Mr. *Nesbitt* was directed to pay Mr. *Robert Towers* £77 2s. 8½d., for 62 days' service up to 19th instant, and sundry expenses at Magazine, &c.

Mr. *Nesbitt* was directed to pay *Samuel Rain* 15s., for a week's Board of one of Colonel *Miles's* soldiers.

An Order was drawn on *Joseph Ferree*, Esq., to deliver *Henry Huber* one ton of Saltpetre and 600 pounds of Sulphur, out of the stores under his care at *Germantown*.

An Order was drawn on Mr. *Nesbitt*, in favour of Messrs. *Butler & Potts*, for £3,000, on account of Cannon cast by them for this State; to be charged to their Account.

Mr. *Nesbitt* was directed to pay Dr. *Parke* £8 2s. 6d., for attendance on sick Soldiers.

Mr. *Nesbitt* to pay *Henry Huber* £50, towards Powder made by him.

An Order on Mr. *Ferree* to deliver *George Hubner* 500 pounds Sulphur, taking his receipt.

Agreeable to a resolve of yesterday, a number of the Council accompanied the Commodore to *Fort-Island*, when the Vice President read the Commission and Instructions to him; and those officers who chose to continue in the service were desired to apply for new Commissions on Tuesday next.

In Council of Safety, September 28, 1776.

Present: *Thomas Wharton*, Jun., President, *David Rittenhouse*, *John Bayard*, *Samuel Cad. Morris*, *Francis Gurney*, *Fred. Kuhl*, *George Gray*, *John Bull*, *Samuel Morris*, *John Moore*, *Joseph Blewer*, *John Weitzel*, *Timothy Matlack*, *Owen Biddle*.

The honourable Congress having directed this Council to recommend Officers for the Battalions raised in this State for the Continental service, and the Board being informed that a Paymaster is wanting for the Second Battalion under the command of Colonel *Jos. Wood*, now at *Ticonderoga*, the Council do recommend Mr. *Benjamin Feshburn* for Paymaster to said Battalion.

Mr. *Nesbitt* was directed to pay *William Deane* £1 17s., for repairing Arms, &c., belonging to Second Battalion of *Philadelphia* County.

Mr. *Nesbitt* was directed to pay Lieutenant-Colonel *William Dean* £20 18s. 9d., for Arms taken from Non-Associators; to be charged to Colonel *Robert Lewis*.

Mr. *Nesbitt* was directed to pay Col. *Richard Thomas* £6 16s. 6d., for repairing Arms, &c., to be charged to this State; and £2 15s. for nursing sick Soldiers, to be charged to Congress.

Resolved, That Mr. *John Weitzel* be requested to purchase for this State a quantity of Blankets, coarse Cloths, coarse Linens, and five tons of Hemp, and forward to this Board as soon as possible, and his orders for the same shall be paid.

Mr. *Nesbitt* was directed to pay Mr. *John Weitzel*, a Member in Convention for *Northumberland* County, for sixty-four days' attendance in Convention and mileage one hundred and forty miles, £32 8s. 8d.

Mr. *Nesbitt* was directed to pay *Thomas Robbins* £24 5s. 5d., for work done for Armed Boats.

Mr. *Nesbitt* to pay *Josiah Wood* £30 10s., for one hundred Pikes delivered Mr. *Towers*.

Mr. *Nesbitt* to pay *Michael Kuhn* for going express £7 10s., to be charged to Congress; and 11s. 9d. for portage, charged to State.

Mr. *Nesbitt* to pay *Eleas Botner* for Gunners' Belts,

Priming Wires, &c., sent to General *Mercer*, £31 17s., to be charged to Congress; and £24 for thirty Budge Barrels delivered to Major *Proctor*, to be charged to this State.

Mr. *Nesbitt* to pay *Joseph Bonsall* for Plank and Scantling delivered to *Benjamin Loxley*, £23 15s., for making Cannon Carriages.

To pay *Paine Newman* for six Anchors delivered to Captain *Hazlewood*, £16 8s. 6d.

To pay *Mary McGinnis* 40s., to be charged to account of her husband, a soldier in Second Battalion of *Pennsylvania* Riflemen.

To pay to Doctor *William Currie*, Surgeon of the *Pennsylvania* Musketry, £13 14s. 3d., for his account of expenses, wages, &c.

Mr. *Nesbitt* to pay *Thomas Armour* for Accoutrements, repairing Arms, &c., for Militia of *York* County, £132 3s. 9d.

Mr. *Nesbitt* was directed to pay Colonel *Matthias Slough*, £177 12s. 6d., for Arms purchased by him for the use of his Battalion, to be charged to his Account; also, £665 4s. 9½d. for Clothing, &c., for a Company in the Flying-Camp, under the command of Captain *Jacob Glatz*.

Resolved, That it be recommended to the Colonels of the City Battalions of Militia to call them out on Monday next, in order to know what number of men will turn out of each, to be employed by this Board on the Fortification at *Bilingsport*, the said workmen to be allowed 3s. day and to have provisions found them. The immediate necessity of this service, the Council have no doubt, will have a proper weight with every person willing to put this City in a proper state of defence.

Doctor *William Currie* informing the Board that his health will not admit of his continuing Surgeon of Colonel *Atlee's* Battalion, therefore requests to resign this employment.

An Order was drawn on Mr. *Nesbitt*, in favour of Mr. *John Moore*, of *Westmoreland*, for £100, to be applied towards defraying the expenses of two Companies, some time since raised by the Committee of that County for the protection of the frontiers.

Robert Etterington, a prisoner confined in the State Prison, was enlarged upon his parole.

In Council of Safety, September 30, 1776.

Present: *David Rittenhouse*, Vice President, *John Bayard*, *Frederick Kuhl*, *Francis Gurney*, *Samuel C. Morris*, *Owen Biddle*, *Joseph Blewer*, *John Moore*, *James Cannon*, *Timothy Matlack*, *Samuel Morris*.

Mr. *Nesbitt* was directed to pay Mr. *Robert Bridges*, £648 4s. 6d., for one hundred and eight Tents left at Camp in *New-Jersey*.

Mr. *Nesbitt* to pay Mr. *John Moore*, £43 12s. 6d., for nine Rifles, bought for the defence of the frontiers of *Westmoreland* County, to be charged to Mr. *Moore*.

An Order was drawn on Mr. *Robert Towers*, in favour of Mr. *John Moore*, for four thousand Flint, for the service of *Westmoreland* County, taking his receipt.

Mr. *Nesbitt* to pay *George Tiddeman*, £28 10s. 4d., for Plank, &c., delivered Mr. *Benjamin Loxly*, for making Gun-carriages.

Mr. *Michael Swoope*, who was appointed a Member of this Council, for *York* County, having accepted of a commission in the Flying-Camp, the Convention therefore made choice of Colonel *Joseph Donaldson* instead of Mr. *Swoope*; and Colonel *Donaldson* appearing, took and subscribed the qualification directed by Convention.

Mr. *Nesbitt* was directed to pay *Johnston Elliot* £3 15s., for a Gun delivered to Mr. *Towers*.

Congress having resolved that they will provide for persons in their service who shall be so disabled as to be incapable of serving on board their Fleet, or in the Army, and a certain *Nicholas Curry*, a seaman lately belonging to the *Bull-Dog* armed boat belonging to this State, having been by accident disabled from ever performing his duty, the Council therefore do resolve that the said *Nicholas Curry* be allowed half pay from the time of his discharge until further provision is made for persons in like situation.

Mr. *Nesbitt* was directed to pay *Thomas Webber* £22 15s.,

for sixteen and one-fourth cords Wood, delivered at *Fort Island*.

Colonel *William Clark* deposited a receipt from Lieutenant-Colonel *Henry Slagle*, one of the Commissioners appointed by Convention to fix the Flying-Camp, for \$30,000, which sum he received from *Michael Hillegas, Esq.*, it being for the purpose of paying the bounty ordered by Convention for the Flying-Camp.

An Order was drawn on Mr. *Nesbitt*, in favour *William Clarke, James Potter*, and *John Morris, Jun.*, for £187 10s., and charge the same to their Account, it being for the purpose of paying their expenses to *Ticonderoga*.

Mr. *Nesbitt* was directed to pay Colonel *William Clark* £5, for ten days' Chair-hire, to carry \$30,000 to Camp.

Mr. *Nesbitt* was directed to pay *William Bitner* £19 16s. 4d., for repairing Arms.

Resolved, That *John Maxwell Nesbitt, Esq.*, Treasurer of this Board, apply to the President of the Congress for an Order in his favour for \$100,000, granted by Congress for the use of this State.

Resolved, That Mr. *Lewis Nicola* be continued in the office of Barrackmaster until further orders.

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In Council of Safety, October 1, 1776.

Present: *Thomas Wharton*, President, *David Rittenhouse*, *John Bayard*, *James Cannon*, *Henry Keppele*, *Samuel Cad. Morris*, *Francis Gurney*, *Joseph Donaldson*, *John Bull*, *Frederick Kuhl*, *Samuel Morris, Sen.*, *John Hubley*, *Joseph Blewer*, *George Gray*, *Owen Biddle*, Colonel *Matlack*.

Drawn an Order on the Treasurer, in favour of *Edward Bartholomew*, for £21, by way of commissions, for laying out £21, in the service of the Militia.

An Account of seventy-two Breakfasts for Captain *Richard Brown's* Company of three Battalions of State Troops, at 9d., given by *Jonathan Valentine*, £2 14s.; passed in Council.

Two Accounts for Nails bought of *Adam Zantzing*; one of *June 24th*, amounting to £13 16s.; and another of *August 28th*, amounting to £9 13s. 10d., passed in Council; these Accounts by *Thomas Savadge*.

Granted a Parole to *Joseph Cary* and *Jonathan Pearson*.

Thomas Miles's Account for repairing Guns, dated *September 28*, certified by *Robert Towers*, amounting to £9 4s.

A request to Mr. *Nesbitt* to let *John Clindinin* have £100 on his bond, to assist him in carrying on Saltpetre Works.

An Account for repairing Guns, by *George McGunnigle*, for £4 9s. 2d., to be charged to the State; and three new Guns, value £9, to be charged to Colonel *Calender*, of *Cumberland County*, certified by the Chairman of the Committee of Inspection of *Cumberland County*; passed in Council. £13 9s. 2d.

Another Account of £50 7s. 7d., certified by the Committee of Inspection of *Cumberland County*; £19 to be charged to Colonel *Calender*, for six Guns; £3 to Colonel *Wilson* for one Gun; and to Colonel *Montgomery* £4; the remainder for repairing Guns; to be charged to the State. Passed.

Resolved, That a return of the Arms, belonging to the State, be ordered to be laid before the Council, and that they be delivered out to the Associators in proportion; and that the Colonels of the several Battalions be informed thereof, and that the Associators who have the Arms belonging to the State be allowed to retain them.

A Draft for £200, in favour of Mr. *Arthur Donaldson*, for Floating Battery, No 2.

Resolved, That Colonel *John Bull* be appointed General Superintendent of the works to be carried on at *Billingsport*.

Adjourned to three o'clock.

Met pursuant to adjournment.

Present: *Thomas Wharton*, President, *John Bayard*, *Joseph Blewer*, *James Cannon*, *Francis Gurney*, *John Bull*, *Samuel Morris*, *Frederick Kuhl*, *David Rittenhouse*, *Owen Biddle*, *Henry Keppele*, *George Gray*.

Resolved, That Mr. *Peter Withington* be appointed a

Captain in Colonel *Cook's* Battalion, his rank to be settled hereafter.

Samuel Royal received a Captain's Commission in the Second Battalion of Militia, belonging to *Cumberland County*, commanded by Colonel *Alison*; and *George Wallace*, the Commission of First Lieutenant in said Company, signed by the President.

Jacob Meyers's Account of £15 12s. 4½d., for smith's work; passed.

Resolved, That this Board will, on *Saturday* next, appoint twelve Recruiting Sergeants to raise the more expeditiously the quota of men to be furnished by this State to the Continent, agreeable to a late resolve of Congress.

Ordered, That the above Resolve be published, that persons willing to engage in that service, who can be well recommended, may send in their applications.

Resolved, That *Thomas Strawbridge*, *Samuel Cunningham*, *John Flemming*, and *William Evans*, be appointed to procure Blankets, Stockings, and Woollen Cloths, for the use of this State.

That two hundred Dollars be put into their hands for the foregoing purpose.

An Order was drawn on Mr. *Nesbitt* for two hundred Dollars, in favour of the above gentlemen, and delivered to *John Flemming*.

Adjourned to the 2d, at three o'clock, P. M.

—
In Council of Safety, October 2, 1776.

Met agreeable to adjournment.

Present: *Thomas Wharton*, President, *Samuel Morris, Sen.*, *Owen Biddle*, *Francis Gurney*, *John Bayard*, *Frederick Kuhl*, *George Gray*, *David Rittenhouse*, *Henry Keppele*, *John Bull*, *Samuel C. Morris, Jun.*, *James Cannon*.

An Account, passed for Blankets, attested by *Frederick Antis*, Lieutenant-Colonel of Colonel *Potts's* Battalion, *Philadelphia County*, to be charged to his Account, left in the Flying-Camp, amounting to £21 7s. 6d.

An Order to *James McCaless*, Captain in Colonel *William Smith's* Battalion, *York County*, was drawn, directing him to hire a wagon to carry some sick belonging to his Company to their homes, and that the Council would pay all reasonable expenses attending the same.

Passed an Order in favour *Peter Lukins* for £7 14s.; ordered to be charged to Colonel *T. Potts*.

An Order was drawn upon the Treasurer for £500, in favour of *Samuel Morris, Esq.*

An Order was drawn in favour of *John Mitchell, Esquire*, for *Joseph Ferree*, for forty bushels of Salt.

An Order of Congress on their Treasurer, *Michael Hillegas, Esq.*, for \$100,000, in favour of this Commonwealth, was directed in Council to be passed to the credit of the same by said *Michael Hillegas*.

An Order on *Michael Hillegas, Esq.*, in favour of *John M. Nesbitt, Esq.*, for \$30,000 passed the Council.

An Account in favour of *Jeremiah Baker* for £139 12s. 11d., for Wood for the Barracks, certified by *Lewis Nicola*, was passed.

An Account, for ten Rifles and eight smooth bores, of £52, to be charged to Colonel *Timothy Green's* Account, passed.

An account of Guns and repairing, of £35 10s. 6d., passed, viz: two Guns valued £9 10s., to be charged to Colonel *Calender's* Account, *Cumberland County*; Colonel *Montgomery's* Account, five Guns valued at £16 10s.; the rest in repairs, charged to the State.

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In Council of Safety, October 2, 1776, }
Three o'clock afternoon. }

Members present: *David Rittenhouse*, Vice President, *Samuel Morris*, *Samuel C. Morris*, *John Bull*, *Geo. Gray*, *Francis Gurney*, *John Bayard*, *Frederick Kuhl*, *Joseph Blewer*, *James Cannon*.

An Account passed of *Vandel Burdisway*, of £3, for bringing down Captain *Pawling's* Company; to be charged to Congress.

An Account of eight Guns received by *Robert Towers*, amounting to £66.

An Account of thirteen Blankets delivered to *Clement Biddle, Esq.*, at Camp, delivered by *Abraham Laitcher*,

Major in Colonel *Green's* Battalion, Lancaster County, amounting to £14 8s., passed; to be charged to Congress.

New Commissions were given out to the Captains of the Gallies, and they were qualified to execute their trust faithfully, &c., which qualification they signed.

Adjourned to eight o'clock to-morrow morning.

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In Council of Safety, October 3, 1776.

Present: *David Rittenhouse*, Vice President, *John Bayard*, *Joseph Blewer*, *Samuel Morris*, Sen., *Francis Gurney*, *John Bull*, *Fred. Kuhl*, *Samuel C. Morris*, *James Cannon*, *Owen Biddle*.

Mr. *Nesbitt* was directed to pay *Emanuel Woodbey* £4 5s., for seventeen days' Boat hire.

An Order was drawn on Mr. *Nesbitt*, in favour of Major *Lewis Nicola*, for £100; to be charged to his Account.

An Order was drawn on Mr. *Nesbitt*, in favour of Mr. *James Dundass*, for £100, on account of the Fortification at *Billingsport*.

An Order was drawn on Mr. *Nesbitt*, in favour of Mr. *John Sparhawk*, for £2 3s. 6d.

An Order was drawn on Mr. *Nesbitt*, in favour of Colonel *Nicholas Housaker*, for \$1,000; to be charged to the Colonel, for the use of the *German* Battalion.

The following Commissions were granted this day agreeable to the Resolve of Congress, viz:

For the Privateer Sloop *Congress*, *William Greenway*, Commander, of the burthen of 40 tons, mounting 6 carriage-guns, navigated by 40 men, owned by *John Bayard*, *Jos. Dean & Co.*

Privateer Brig *General Lee*, *John Chatham*, Commander, burthen about 100 tons, mounting 12 carriage-guns, navigated by 90 men, owned by *John Bayard*, *Alexander Henderson & Co.*

The Council adjourned to three o'clock, afternoon, when the following Members met: *John Bayard*, *Francis Gurney*, *Joseph Blewer*, *Fred. Kuhl*, *Samuel C. Morris*.

Mr. *Nesbitt* was directed to pay *Henry Fraley* £4 15s., for a Rifle delivered to Colonel *Mallack*; to be charged to the Colonel.

Mr. *Nesbitt* to pay *Sacheverel Wood* £46 12s. 5d., for dieting Prisoners in the State Prison in this City; to be charged to Congress.

Mr. *Nesbitt* to pay Mr. *Robert Towers's* Account for making Cartridges, and men's wages, &c., £42 1s. 6d.

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In Council of Safety, October 4, 1776.

Present: *David Rittenhouse*, Vice President, *John Bayard*, *Samuel Morris*, Sen., *Joseph Blewer*, *Fred. Kuhl*, *Francis Gurney*, *Henry Keppeler*, Jun., *Samuel Cad. Morris*, *James Cannon*.

Mr. *Nesbitt* was directed to pay *Thomas Hemphill* for Tow Linen delivered *Lewis Nicola*, for Bed-Cases for Barracks, £28 19s. 4½d.

Colonel *William Cook*, Major *James Crawford*, and Capt. *Peter Withington*, officers appointed for the Twelfth Battalion of Regulars, to be raised in this State, for the Continental service, took the qualification directed by Convention, and delivered their Commissions signed by the President of Congress.

Mr. *Nesbitt* was directed to pay *William James* £2 0s. 8d., for six Kettles; to be charged to Colonel *Thomas Hackley*.

Mr. *Nesbitt* was directed to pay *Thomas* and *Isaac Heston*, for Painting, &c., on board the armed boat, £6 11s.; *Lawrence Fagen*, for Major *Rogers*, £5 6s. 1d.; to be charged to Congress.

Resolved, That Mr. *William Evans* be desired to purchase all the coarse Cloths, Blankets, and Stockings, in *Chester* County, for the use of State, and draw on this Board for the cost.

Resolved, That the Ship *Montgomery*, belonging to this State, be brought up and exchange her present cannon, (18-pounders,) and take sixteen 12-pounders; and that Captain *Blewer* and Captain *Gurney* be directed to procure proper carriages for said 12-pounders, and attend particularly to their being fitted and put on board said Ship.

Mr. *Nesbitt* to pay *Lewis Grant* £4, for a set of copper Powder Measures, &c., sent to Camp in *New-Jersey*.

An Order was drawn on Mr. *Nesbitt*, in favour of Colonel *William Cook*, for \$1,000, on account of recruiting the twelfth Battalion of Regulars, in the Continental service; to be charged to the Colonel.

An Order was drawn on Mr. *Nesbitt*, in favour of *Samuel Wheeler*, for £100, on account of work done for this State; to be charged to his Account.

Resolved, That *Nicholas Miller* and *Hawkins Boon* be appointed Captains, and *Thomas Branden* First Lieutenant, *Robert King* Second Lieutenant; and *Hannaniah Lincoln* First Lieutenant, and *James Williamson* Second Lieutenant, (*Withington's* Company,) in the Twelfth Battalion of Foot, to be raised in this State, for the Continental service, and their commissions delivered.

Mr. *Robert Towers* was directed to deliver *Richard Peters*, Esq., Secretary at War, one hundred Cannon Shot for 22-pounders, and Sheet Lead sufficient for aprons for twenty Cannon; to be charged to Congress.

The Council being informed that an election had been held in *Chester* County, on the first instant, in direct violation of the Declaration of Convention; hearing that *Nathaniel Vernon*, Sheriff of said County, was in town, ordered him to appear before this Board, and deliver up the returns he brought with him.

The Minutes of yesterday afternoon being read, at which time a quorum did not meet, this Board do hereby confirm the proceedings of the Members then present.

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In Council of Safety, October 5, 1776.

Present: *Thomas Wharton*, Jun., President, *David Rittenhouse*, *Samuel Morris*, Sen., *John Bayard*, *Joseph Blewer*, *Francis Gurney*, *Frederick Kuhl*, *George Gray*, *James Cannon*, *Owen Biddle*.

Josiah Wood's Account for one hundred and fifty Pikes delivered to Mr. *Towers*, amount £45 10s., passed the Board, and Mr. *Nesbitt* directed to pay.

Mr. *Nesbitt* was directed to pay Mrs. *Connelly* £7 10s., for six weeks' Board, to first *October* instant, at 25s. per week, agreeable to direction of Congress.

Mr. *Towers* was directed to deliver Major *Proctor* twenty-six Blankets, for the use of the Artillery.

Resolved, That the two Companies of Artillery, under the command of Major *Thomas Proctor*, be officered with one Captain and three Lieutenants, for the present; and that the following gentlemen be, and are hereby appointed Officers in said Companies, viz:

First Company: *John Martin Strohboogh*, Captain; *Worsley Emes*, First Lieutenant; *Charles Twenbull*, Second Lieutenant; *William Ferguson*, Third Lieutenant.

Second Company: *Thomas Forrest*, Captain; *Hercules Courtney*, First Lieutenant; *Francis Proctor*, Second Lieutenant; *Patrick Duffy*, Third Lieutenant.

Mr. *Nesbitt* was directed to pay *Christian Schaidler* £39, for thirteen Guns delivered Mr. *Towers*.

A Commission granted for *William Connell*, commander of Schooner *General Thompson*, six carriage-guns, twelve men, forty tons, owned by *Edmund Beach & Co.*

Resolved, That the three *Pennsylvania* Battalions, now in the Continental service, at *New-York*, be arranged as follows: two of them to be on the new Continental establishment, and to serve during the war; the other to be retained in the service of this State, until the first of *January*, 1778, unless sooner discharged, and to consist of ten Companies of one hundred men each, officers included; the privates of the three Battalions to continue in the service of this State; the officers according to seniority to have the choice of entering into either; the two Battalions to be recruited to their full complement of men, as speedily as possible; nothing in this resolve to affect the rank of the officers who are prisoners with *General Howe*.

SIR: The Council of Safety having entered into the enclosed arrangement of the three Battalions, belonging to this State, are desirous of having a return of the officers who choose to enter into the Continental service on the new establishment, that the Council may give them such rank as they conceive them entitled to. They mean to order and retain at home the

troops which are to continue in the service of the State, as soon as the condition of the Continental Army will admit of it. As they are hereafter, by the said arrangement, to keep twelve complete Battalions in the Continental service, Colonel *Brodhead* is therefore requested to consult the officers as speedily as possible on the subject, and make return to the Council of such as are desirous to enter into the Continental service, and who are willing to continue in the service of the State; that they may proceed in the affair, as it is of immediate necessity and very great importance.

To Colonel *BRODHEAD*.

A letter was wrote to General *McKinley*, at *Wilmington*, *New-Castle* County, requesting him to purchase all the coarse cloths, blankets, and stockings, he can procure, for the use of the troops of this State, and his drafts shall be answered.

Resolved, That a detachment be made from the Artillery Companies of this State of fifty men, to be sent to *Fort Montgomery*, under the command of Captain *Strohboagh*, subject to the direction of the Commander-in-Chief; and that two of the commissioned officers in his Company, and Lieutenant *Proctor*, of Captain *Forrest's* Company, proceed with the said detachment, that they may have an opportunity of seeing service; to be relieved at such a time as the Board may think proper, and that they shall march as soon as they are furnished with necessary camp equipage. Major *Proctor* is to see this resolve carried into execution.

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In Council of Safety, October 7, 1776.

Present: *Thomas Wharton*, Jun., President, *Samuel Morris*, Sen., *Joseph Blewer*, *Francis Gurney*, *Samuel Cad. Morris*, *George Gray*, *Fred. Kuhl*, *John Bayard*.

Mr. *Nesbitt* was directed to pay *Thomas Hemphill* £47 9s. 6d., for two hundred and eleven yards Tow Linen, and *John Lynn* £68 6s. 4½d., for three hundred and twenty-one and a half yards Tow Linen, delivered to Mr. *Lewis Nicola*, for Bed Cases.

An Order was drawn on Mr. *Nesbitt*, in favour of Captain *John Hazlewood*, for £50, on account of Fire Rafts; to be charged to his Account.

Mr. *Nesbitt* was directed to pay Mr. *Archibald Dick* £11 9s., for repairing Arms belonging to Colonel *Miles's* Battalion.

Mr. *Nesbitt* was directed to pay *John Pringle* £53 8s. 3d., being the balance due him on the cargo of the Brig *Greyhound*.

Mr. *Robert Towers* was directed to deliver to Captain *James Craig* two hundred Grape and one hundred Swivel Shot, he engaging to return the like quantity.

Resolved, That all the Powder now on board the Ship, Floating Batteries, and armed Boats, belonging to this State, be delivered to Mr. *Robert Towers*, Commissary, who is hereby directed to replace it with a like quantity.

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In Council of Safety, October 8, 1776.

Present: *Thomas Wharton*, Jun., *David Rittenhouse*, *Samuel Morris*, Sen., *John Bayard*, *Joseph Blewer*, *Owen Biddle*, *Henry Keppeler*, Jun., *Francis Gurney*, *Samuel C. Morris*, *Fred. Kuhl*, *John Bull*.

Mr. *Nesbitt* was directed to pay Mr. *Alexander Dick* £13 5s., for six Muskets, delivered to Mr. *Towers*.

Mr. *Nesbitt* to pay *Philip Becker*, for boarding men of Colonel *Miles's* Battalion, £12 10s. 6d.

An Order was drawn on Mr. *Nesbitt*, in favour of *Moses Marshall*, for thirteen and a half cords of Wood, delivered at *Fort-Island*, at the market price.

An Order was drawn on Mr. *Nesbitt*, in favour of Colonel *Philip Cole*, of *Northumberland* County, for £100, for the purpose of providing Drums, Colours, &c., for the use of his Battalion; to be charged to his Account.

Mr. *Nesbitt* was directed to pay *Benjamin Randolph* £18 13s. 2d., for Plank, delivered for use of *Fort-Island*.

Mr. *Nesbitt* was directed to pay Captain *William Hallock* £21 1s. 7d., for salvage of sundries saved out of Brig *Nancy*, blown up at *Cape May*.

Mr. *Nesbitt* was directed to pay Mr. *Owen Biddle* £446 14s. 1d., being the balance of his account for Clothing purchased by him for Colonel *Atlee's* Battalion, and sundries for *Fort-Island*, &c., &c.

FIFTH SERIES.—VOL. II.

Mr. *Nesbitt* was directed to pay to *James Boylan* £3 14s. 6d., for twenty-five Canteens; four of which delivered to Mr. *Towers*, to be charged to this State; and twenty-one delivered at *Flying-Camp*, to be charged to Congress.

Mr. *Towers* was directed to deliver to *John Moyer*, Commissary of Stores for *Billingsport*, 50 Shovels, 50 Spades, 20 Pitching Axes, 20 Wheelbarrows, 20 Handbarrows, 20 Pick Axes; for the use of the Fortification at *Billingsport*, taking his receipt.

In order that all the Accounts for pay due to those who attended as Members of the late Conference of Committees or Convention of this State, may be in one person's hands,

Mr. *Nesbitt* is hereby directed to call upon Mr. *Hillegas* and receive from him any money he has paid by order of this Board to such Members, the same to be charged by Mr. *Hillegas*, agreeable to the resolve of Convention made for that purpose.

This Board, taking into their consideration the advance prices of almost every necessary of life, and upon a proper representation from the chevaux-de-frise Pilots respecting their situation, do hereby

Resolve, That the said Pilots, in addition to their pay from this State, be allowed, from the date hereof, to receive 5s. per foot for every vessel they conduct through the chevaux-de-frise to and from *Chester*, to be paid by the captains or owners of such vessels.

An Order was drawn on Mr. *Nesbitt*, in favour of *John Martin*, for £5, to defray the expenses of bringing him from *Camp* and during his being under the Doctor's hands, he being wounded on *Long-Island*; to be charged to Congress.

Mr. *Nesbitt* was directed to pay Captain *Thomas Dungan*, of Colonel *Hill's* Battalion, of *Philadelphia* County, for sundry Arms, &c., for the use of his Company, £161 6s.

Resolved, That Mr. *Thomas Wharton*, Jun., and Colonel *John Bayard*, be appointed to fit out the ship *Montgomery*, now in the service of this State, and load her with such merchandise as may be proper to purchase such articles of clothing, &c., as may be necessary for the service of this State; for which purpose they are authorized, as soon as the situation of our river and bay will permit, to dispatch her to any place they may judge will be the best market and most probably supply the goods which shall be ordered.

Mr. *Owen Biddle* produced a receipt for a cask of Tow Linen No. 4, signed by *Lewis Nicola*, which cask he received from Colonel *Matthias Slough*, of *Lancaster*, and delivered unopened to said *Nicola*.

Commissions were this day granted for Officers of the Fourth Battalion of Associators in *Northumberland* County, viz:

Philip Cole, Colonel; *Thomas Sutherland*, Lieutenant-Colonel; *Thomas Foster*, First Major; *Casper Yost*, Second Major; *Devalt Miller*, Standard Bearer; *James McCoy*, Adjutant.

First Company: *John Clark*, Captain; *Henry Pongius*, First Lieutenant; *James Moor*, Second Lieutenant; *Patrick Watson*, Ensign.

Second Company: *Michael Weaver*, Captain.

Third Company: *Jacob Link*, Captain.

Fourth Company: *William Wirach*, Captain; *John Sherred*, First Lieutenant; *William Gill*, Second Lieutenant; *Nathaniel Moon*, Ensign.

Fifth Company: *George Wolff*, Captain; *George Conrad*, First Lieutenant; *Michael Wildgoos*, Second Lieutenant; *John Hesler*, Ensign.

Sixth Company: *George Obermiar*, Captain; *James McCauley*, First Lieutenant; *Peter Wirach*, Second Lieutenant; *Michael Schnider*, Ensign.

The Board then adjourned to five o'clock afternoon, when the following Members met:

Thomas Wharton, Jun., President, *John Bull*, *Frederick Kuhl*, *Samuel Morris*, Sen., *David Rittenhouse*, *Owen Biddle*, *Samuel C. Morris*, *John Bayard*.

Whereas the honourable Congress have resolved that the Accounts of the Militia of this State shall be paid as soon as certificates can be produced to the Committee appointed to settle the same, of their having returned all the publick stores in their possession; and as many poor people who cheerfully turned out in the service of their country may be deprived of their pay for a considerable space of time, to the prejudice

of their families and affairs, in consequence of the officers of the several Companies not being acquainted with the before-mentioned resolutions in time: Therefore

Resolved, 1st, That the State of *Pennsylvania* will be accountable to the Congress for all the Continental stores not delivered to the Deputy Quartermaster-General, that the payment of accounts of the Associators may meet with as little delay as possible.

2d. That the Officers of the several Battalions do forthwith apply to the Committee appointed by Congress for payment of their accounts, and when received, that they immediately pay off their men.

3d. That the Commanding Officer of every Battalion of Associators which has been in the service, do return to *Robert Towers*, Esq., Commissary, as speedily as possible, all such Continental or State stores, arms excepted, as were delivered to his Battalion, in order that such as belong to Congress may be restored.

As it is not improbable that General *Howe* may detach part of his Army by water from *New-York*, to invade this State, and as we should be unable to make any defence against them by land in our present unarmed condition; and as not only the safety of this State but the preservation and security of a great part of the military stores belonging to Congress is thereby endangered:

Resolved, That Mr. *Rittenhouse*, Colonel *Bayard*, and Mr. *Biddle*, be appointed to confer with a Committee of Congress on the expediency of having a body of Troops stationed near the City of *Philadelphia*, for the defence of this State, and that a General Officer of some experience be appointed to have the command of said force.

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In Council of Safety, October 9, 1776.

Present: *David Rittenhouse*, Vice President, *John Bayard*, *Samuel Morris*, Sen., *Henry Keppeler*, Jun., *John Bull*, *Francis Gurney*, *Frederick Kuhl*, *Joseph Blewer*, *Henry Wynkoop*, *Owen Biddle*.

An Order was drawn on Mr. *Nesbitt*, in favour of *Lewis Giron*, for £50, on account of Stone for sinking Piers at *Fort-Island*.

Mr. *Nesbitt* was directed to pay *Joel Zane* £10 16s. 3d., for Sash Weights delivered to *Thomas Nevill*.

Mr. *Nesbitt* was directed to pay *John Dunlap* £139 11s. 3d., for Cartridge Paper, and printing Commissions, &c.

Mr. *Towers* was directed to deliver *John Vandergrest* two hundred Gun-Locks, taking his receipt.

An Order was drawn on Mr. *Nesbitt*, in favour of *John McMicken*, for £150.

An Order was drawn on Mr. *Nesbitt*, in favour of Mr. *Thomas Nevill*, for £100, towards Gun-Carriages; to be charged to his Account.

Mr. *Nesbitt* was directed to pay Major *E. Williams* £105 19s. 9d., for his pay and rations to 1st October.

An Order was drawn on Mr. *Nesbitt*, in favour of *Henry Wynkoop*, Esq., for £500, for the payment of Arms, &c., purchased for this State; to be charged to his Account.

An Order was drawn on Mr. *Nesbitt*, in favour of *Jacob Rittenhouse*, for £24 19s. 2d., for Cartridge Paper delivered to Mr. *Towers*.

The Council being informed that several people have purchased a cargo of Salt from the importer at 12s. per bushel, and that they have since advanced the price of that necessary article on the consumer to 22s. 6d.:

Resolved, That this Council highly disapprove the conduct of those mercenary men, who, regardless of the publick good and the interests of their country, in this unreasonable and avaricious manner, monopolize those articles, so necessary to the community, and lay on such enormous profits as puts it out of the power of the industrious poor to procure a necessary supply for their families; and therefore this Board do further

Resolve, That the aforesaid purchase is, and shall be, void, and the cargo of Salt shall be purchased from the captain at the price aforesaid, and sold out to the inhabitants in such quantities as may be necessary for their families, at the prime cost, adding thereto so much only as will defray the necessary expense of unloading and measuring it; and that in future no person be admitted to make purchase of any goods or merchandise coming from sea to this port until the

vessels arrive and regularly enter at the custom-house, and until report of the cargo on said vessels to made to this Board.

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In Council of Safety, October 10, 1776.

Present: *Joseph Blewer*, *Francis Gurney*, *Frederick Kuhl*, *Samuel Morris*, Sen., Chairman, *Samuel C. Morris*, *Henry Keppeler*, Jun., *George Gray*.

Alexander Morrice was permitted to depart this State in the schooner *Mariamne*, Captain *William Graham*, to *Cape Nicola Mole*, in *Hispaniola*.

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In Council of Safety, October 11, 1776.

Present: *Thomas Wharton*, Jun., President, *David Rittenhouse*, *John Bayard*, *Frederick Kuhl*, *Francis Gurney*, *Joseph Blewer*, *Samuel C. Morris*, *Owen Biddle*.

John M. Nesbitt, Esq., Treasurer was directed to pay *James Tulton*, to portage of Anchors £2 14s., to be charged to this State; and £11 10s. 6d., for portage of Cannon, &c., sent to Camp in *New-Jersey*; to be charged to Congress.

Mr. *Nesbitt* to pay *John Bazelee* £11 15s., Gun Carriages, &c.

Mr. *Robert Towers* was directed to deliver Colonel *John Cadwalader*, or his order, one hundred Muskets, with Bayonets and Accoutrements, and take his receipt for the same.

An Order was drawn on Mr. *Nesbitt*, in favour of *Peter Jones*, for £5, on account of his wages, he being a wounded soldier belonging to Colonel *Wagner's* Battalion, and inform his Company.

An Order was drawn on Mr. *Nesbitt*, in favour of *Thomas Miles* and *Thomas Curgee*, for £50, on account of Arms making by said *Miles*, taking their joint bond for the same.

Mr. *Nesbitt* was directed to pay Doctors *Duffield* and *Rush* for their attendance on the Fleet and Artillery Company of this State, from 27th September, 1775, to July 5, 1776, with rations, £182 8s. 1d.

A Commission was granted, agreeable to Resolve of Congress, to *James Smith*, Commander of the letter of marque brig *Rutledge*, mounting twelve carriage guns, navigated by sixty-men, burthen about one hundred and twenty tons, owned by *Alexander Gillson*.

Mr. *Nesbitt* was directed to pay to *Charles Cooper* £57, for seventy-six Cartouch Boxes, Belts and Scabbards, delivered to the Commissioners of *Cumberland County*; to be charged to their Account.

Mr. *Robert Towers* was directed to deliver *Joseph Dean* and *Thomas Irvin* forty pounds of Powder, they paying for the same at 7s. 6d. per pound.

An Order was drawn on Mr. *Robert Towers*, in favour of Major *Thomas Proctor*, for fifty Knapsacks, fifty Haversacks, and fifty Canteens, for the use of his Artillery intended to be sent to *Fort Montgomery*.

An Order was drawn on Mr. *Nesbitt*, in favour of *Christian Shaffer*, for £20, towards repairs of Barracks; to be charged to his Account.

Resolved, That Colonel *Brodhead* be directed to procure proper lists of such Clothes and other articles now in possession of the Quartermaster, which were the property of the soldiers belonging to the three Battalions belonging to this State, either killed or taken prisoners on *Long-Island*, to have them properly appraised, and to cause certificates of such appraisements, with the names of the persons whose property they were, to be transmitted to this Board; and after such appraisal made, the Colonel is to distribute the said Clothing, &c., amongst the men now under his command in such manner as he shall think proper.

An Order was drawn on Mr. *Nesbitt*, in favour of *Joseph Carson*, for £500, to be charged to Mr. *Robert Smith*, on account of chevaux-de-frise building at *Billingsport*.

The Council adjourned to three o'clock, when the following Members met: *Thomas Wharton*, Jun., *David Rittenhouse*, *Owen Biddle*, *John Bayard*, *Frederick Kuhl*, *John Bull*, *James Cannon*, *Francis Gurney*, *Samuel C. Morris*, *Joseph Blewer*.

Resolved, That Messrs. *David Rittenhouse*, *Joseph Blewer*, *Emanuel Eyres*, and *Peter Brown*, go down to the Piers to-morrow, and fix upon a method for fastening the chain, and give directions to *Thomas Davis* and *Lewis Gyon* to prepare everything necessary to fasten it without delay; and that the Commodore order the boom to be

brought up to *Kensington*, to Mr. *Peter Brown's* landing, as soon as the tide will serve.

An Order was drawn on Mr. *Nesbitt* to pay *William Coleman*, a sick soldier, discharged from Colonel *Miles's* Battalion, £1 5s. per month, agreeable to resolve of Congress, until he recovers his sight, or further orders; to be charged to his Account.

An Order was drawn on Mr. *Nesbitt*, in favour of *James Dundas*, for £100, and charge the same to his Account.

In Council of Safety, October 12, 1776.

Present: *Thomas Wharton*, Jun., President, *Samuel Morris*, Sen., *John Bayard*, *Frederick Kuhl*, *James Cannon*, *George Gray*, *John Bull*, *Francis Gurney*, *Owen Biddle*, *Samuel Cad. Morris*.

An Order was drawn on *John M. Nesbitt*, Esq., in favour of Messrs. *Peter Dehaven & Co.*, on account of the Lock Factory; to be charged to their Account.

Mr. *Robert Towers*, Commissary of Stores, was directed to deliver Messrs. *Peter Dehaven & Co.* all the Gunlocks in his hands, taking their receipt.

Mr. *Nesbitt* was directed to pay *Baldwin & Tyler* £15 19s. 6d., for repairs of Arms.

An Order was drawn on Mr. *Nesbitt*, in favour of Mr. *Nicholas Hicks*, for £100, towards repairs at the Barracks; to be charged to his Account.

Mr. *Nesbitt* was directed to pay Major *Enion Williams*, for Guards, at State-House, Powder-House, &c., from July to November, 1775, viz: sixty-six Privates and thirteen Officers, at 2s. 6d. per day, £9 17s. 6d.; to be charged to Congress.

Whereas it has been represented to this Council that some persons in this State, preferring their own private emolument to the duties of humanity and the publick good, have monopolized and engrossed whole cargoes or large quantities of Salt; and as it is the practice in every well-regulated State, not only to discourage, but even to punish all monopolizers of the necessities of life; and as such evil practices at this time are pernicious and very unjustifiable, as, for the want of an established Government, provision cannot be made against them; and being desirous to give every reasonable encouragement to the importers of such article, this Council do

Resolve, That they will allow the generous price of 15s. per bushel for every bushel of Salt that may be imported into this State, and delivered to them, until the 15th day of November next; the same to be sold out to the publick in small parcels at the first cost, by such person or persons as they may hereafter appoint, in order that the necessities of the good people may be supplied at as reasonable a rate as possible, and the rapacious practices of avaricious men defeated; it is therefore earnestly recommended to said importers not to demand a higher price than is here offered; and to make report to this Council of the quantities they have or may import, that they may be treated with for the purchase of the same.

Resolved, That Colonel *Brodhead* be allowed \$30 per month from the time of Colonel *Miles's* captivity, while he continues commander of the *Pennsylvania* Troops, for the support of his table, agreeable to the resolve of Assembly; and that all the officers of the said Troops be allowed twenty-five per cent. on their pay, as established by the late Assembly, from the time of their march into *New-Jersey* until the new Continental allowance has taken place, in consideration of the extraordinary expense attending their services in the neighbouring States.

In Council of Safety, October 14, 1776.

Present: *David Rittenhouse*, Vice President, *Samuel Morris*, Sen., *Joseph Blewer*, *Francis Gurney*, *George Gray*, *Samuel C. Morris*, *Frederick Kuhl*, *Henry Keppeler*, Jun., *John Bayard*, *John Bull*.

Mr. *Robert Towers* was directed to deliver *Daniel King* fifty pounds of Copper, for the use of the Salt Works.

Mr. *Nesbitt* was directed to pay Dr. *Dunlap* £15 9s. 3d., for Medicines purchased for the use of the Fleet.

An Order was drawn on Mr. *Nesbitt*, in favour of Captain *William Brown*, for £100, on account of inlisting men for the Floating Battery; to be charged to his Account.

An Order was drawn on Mr. *Nesbitt*, in favour of *Lewis Nicola*, for £100; to be charged to his Account.

Mr. *Towers* was directed to deliver *Lewis Nicola* ten Wheelbarrows and ten Shovels, for the use of the Barracks.

Joseph Ferree, Esquire, at *Germantown*, was directed to deliver Doct. *Harris* one ton of Saltpetre, taking his receipt.

Resolved, That the Commissions of all the Captains and Subalterns of the Twelfth Battalion of Foot, to be raised in this State for the Continental service, shall be dated the 1st of October, 1776, and their rank hereafter settled.

Resolved, That *John Brady* and *John Harris* be appointed Captains, and *Christopher Gettig* First Lieutenant, in the Twelfth Battalion of Foot, to be raised in this State for Continental service, &c.

Commissions were delivered them dated 1st October.

Resolved, That *Francis Allison* be appointed Surgeon of the Twelfth Battalion, to be raised in this State for the Continental service.

Mr. *Nesbitt* was directed to pay *Jeremiah Baker* £138 4s. 10d., for Wood, &c., delivered at the Barracks for Continental Troops stationed there; to be charged to Congress.

Mr. *Nesbitt* was directed to pay to *Edmund Beach*, for pine Boards, for the use of the Convention, £11 0s. 6½d., for Armed Boat.

Resolved, That a number of the publick Arms be delivered to the Commanding Officers of the several Battalions of the City and Liberties of *Philadelphia*, upon their application to this Council; and that the Captains of each Company be directed to enter in a book the names of the Associators who receive any of the publick Arms, and place the number or other mark of each Musket opposite to his name.

Resolved, That the several Colonels of the Associators in this State, do, as soon as possible, make return to the Council of Safety of the number of Arms and Accoutrements in their respective Battalions, that this Board may take proper measures to supply their deficiencies.

The Council adjourned to two o'clock afternoon, when the following Members met: *Thomas Wharton*, Jun., President, *David Rittenhouse*, Vice President, *John Bayard*, *Samuel Morris*, Sen., *Frederick Kuhl*, *T. Matlack*, *James Cannon*, *George Gray*, *Joseph Blewer*, *Samuel C. Morris*, *Owen Biddle*.

Resolved, That Major *Proctor* be empowered to exchange two hundred Arms, now in his possession, for the like number of light Arms belonging to Congress.

The Council having received from Congress a copy of letter from General *Lee*, informing that the *Hessians* had embarked from *Staten-Island*, and did not doubt but that they intended a visit to this State, whereupon a letter was wrote to the Commodore, directing him to get the Fleet in a proper state of defence; likewise a letter to *Samuel Morris*, Jun., Esq., requesting him to send up the ammunition sloop, and supply himself with a shallop in her stead, to assist in sinking the chevaux-de-frise at *Billingsport*; also an express was despatched with the intelligence to Mr. *Henry Fisher*, at *Lewistown*, directing him to despatch two fast-sailing boats, to go as far as *Egg-Harbour*, and in order to give intelligence of the movements of the enemy, and if any discoveries were made to forward the same to this Council, and to direct the signals to be attended to.

The Council adjourned to seven o'clock, when the following Members met: *Thomas Wharton*, Jun., President, *David Rittenhouse*, *Samuel Morris*, Sen., *John Bayard*, *James Cannon*, *Joseph Blewer*, *Owen Biddle*, *Francis Gurney*, *Samuel Cad. Morris*, *Timothy Matlack*.

A complaint being made by Captain *Sharp Delany*, that a certain *John Brigs*, of *Willeys Town*, *Chester County*, had insulted his Company of Militia returning into town from exercise; and he appearing before this Council, and being charged with making use of disrespectful words against the liberties of *America*, and not denying the same, was committed to the State Prison.

Resolved, That a bounty of \$10 be given to every able-bodied man who shall enter to serve during the war on board the Fleet belonging to this State; and that Commodore *Seymour* be directed to take the most effectual measures for manning the Fleet to its full complement.

In Council of Safety, October 15, 1776.

Present: *Thomas Wharton*, Jun., President, *Timothy Matlack*, *Samuel Morris*, Sen., *Joseph Blewer*, *David Rittenhouse*, *Henry Keppeler*, Jun., *Benjamin Bartholomew*, *John Bayard*, *Fred. Kuhl*, *Samuel C. Morris*, *Owen Biddle*, *Francis Gurney*.

John M. Nesbitt was directed to pay *Samuel Morris*, Sen., and *Francis Gurney*, £510, being so much delivered to two Indian messengers from *Stockbridge* to *Fort Pitt*; to be charged to Congress.

Mr. Nesbitt to pay *Cornman & Barge* for 120 bushels of Coal, delivered to Major *Benjamin Loxly*, for the use of the Brass Cannon Foundry, £30; to be charged to Maj. *Loxly*.

Mr. Nesbitt to pay *William Roberts* £46 6s. 2d., for making Ammunition Boxes; and sundry Carpenters, work done at the State House and Magazine.

Mr. Nesbitt to pay *Walters & Bedwell* the balance due them for refining 195 pounds of Continental Sulphur, £125; to be charged to Congress.

Mr. Nesbitt to pay *John Britton* £42 18s., for white oak Scantling for the Pier sunk in the channel near *Fort-Island*.

Mr. Towers was directed to deliver to Messrs. *Walters & Bedwell* all the crude Sulphur in his possession, to be refined.

An Order was drawn on *John Maxwell Nesbitt*, in favour of Captain *John Harris*, or his order, for \$4,000, taking his receipt for the same, to be delivered to Col. *William Cook*, of the Twelfth Battalion; to be charged to the Colonel.

Mr. Nesbitt to pay *Pollodore*, (a Negro,) for beating drum for Colonel *Magaw's* Battalion, two months and four days, £9 15s.; to be charged to Congress, by their particular desire.

Resolved, That *Mr. Rittenhouse*, Colonel *Matlack*, Colonel *Bayard*, and *Mr. Biddle*, be appointed to view the several avenues to this City, and report to this Board the places most suitable in their judgment to erect works of defence; and they are directed to apply to General *Stephens*, Colonel *Dickinson*, Colonel *Cadwalader*, and Colonel *Humpton*, and acquaint them of this appointment, and request that they will give their assistance and advice in this important business.

Resolved, That application be made to the Board of War for a letter to the Commanding Officer in the State of *New-Jersey*, to deliver to persons appointed by this Board, three pieces of Brass Cannon, with the stores and ammunition belonging to them, to be brought to this City for the immediate defence of this State.

The Council then adjourned to four o'clock, when the following Members met: *Thomas Wharton*, Jun., President, *Timothy Matlack*, *Owen Biddle*, *John Bull*, *Francis Gurney*, *John Bayard*, *David Rittenhouse*, *Samuel Morris*, Sen., *Frederick Kuhl*.

Mr. Nesbitt was directed to pay *Dean Senkin*, for 4½ cords of Wood, delivered at *Fort-Island*, at the market price.

An Order was drawn on *Mr. Nesbitt*, in favour of *Adam Drinkhauze*, for seven Muskets, £21 10s., delivered to Col. *Haller*, at *Flying-Camp*; to be charged to the Colonel.

Mr. Nesbitt was directed to pay *James Thompson*, for 35½ gallons of Rum, and 4 quarts Molasses, for the use of Colonel *Miles's* Battalion while at *Lewistown*; to be charged to Congress, £18.

An Order was drawn on *Mr. Hillegas*, in favour of *John M. Nesbitt*, Esq., for \$40,000, being part of \$100,000 borrowed of Congress.

Mr. Towers was directed to deliver Colonel *Bull* 30 Spades, 50 Shovels, 50 Grubbing-Hoes, 60 Wheelbarrows, and 20 Axes, for the use of the Fortification at *Billingsport*.

Mr. Nesbitt was directed to pay *Daniel Reybold* £2 10s., for one day's stage hire, going to *Rudolph's Ferry*, to carry a Committee of this Board to *Billingsport*, and going express to *Chester* to forward a letter to *Henry Fisher*.

In Council of Safety, October 16, 1776.

Present: *Thomas Wharton*, Jun., President, *Samuel Morris*, Sen., *John Bayard*, *Owen Biddle*, *Jos. Blewer*, *Timothy Matlack*, *Frederick Kuhl*, *Samuel C. Morris*, *Francis Gurney*.

Mr. Isaac Cox informing the Council that his private business will not admit his continuing Paymaster to the Penn-

sylvania Troops any longer, therefore begged leave to resign his commission; which was accepted.

Resolved, That *John Redman*, Jun., be appointed Paymaster to the Troops belonging to this State, late commanded by Colonels *Miles* and *Ailee*, with the rank of Captain.

A commission was filled up and delivered to *Mr. Redman* dated this day.

An Order was drawn on *Mr. Nesbitt*, in favour of Captain *James Copperthwaite*, for £1,000, for carrying on the Continental Powder Mill; to be charged to his Account.

Major *Proctor* was desired to hold in readiness the detachment intended to be sent to *Fort Montgomery*, to march at a moment's warning.

An Order was drawn on *Mr. Towers* to deliver to *Robert Thompson* half a ton of Saltpetre.

Then adjourned to two o'clock. Met: *Thomas Wharton*, Jun., President, *David Rittenhouse*, *Samuel Morris*, Sen., *John Bayard*, *Fred. Kuhl*, *Owen Biddle*, *Francis Gurney*, *Joseph Blewer*, *Timothy Matlack*, *Samuel C. Morris*.

Mr. William Lyon, Member of this Council for *Cumberland*, appeared, and took and subscribed the qualification directed by Convention.

Resolved, That the following gentlemen be appointed Officers in the Twelfth Battalion of Foot, to be raised in this State for Continental service, commanded by Colonel *William Cook*, viz:

Captains: *Henry McKinley*, *Alexander Patterson*, *William Work*.

First Lieutenants: *Stephen Chambers*, *William McElhatton*, *John Reily*, *John Henderson*, *William Sayre*.

Second Lieutenants: *John Boyd*, *Samuel Quin*, *Edward McCabe*, *John Hays*, *William Burd*, *John Carithers*.

Ensigns: *Benjamin Lodge*, Jun., *John Stone*, *William Boyd*, *Thomas Hamilton*, *Blackall William Ball*, *Stewart Herbert*, *Andrew Engle*, *Henry Stricker*.

Adjutant: *Thomas Hanson*.

Resolved, That the following representation be made to the honourable Board of War:

The Council of Safety for the State of *Pennsylvania* propose to the honourable the Board of War that the following force be continued in the State, or at *Trenton* or *Billingsport*, in *New-Jersey*, as a necessary defence for this city, not only against the *British* Troops, but the growing party of disaffected persons which unhappily exists at this time; also for the protection of the vast quantity of stores belonging to Congress that are now in the publick Magazine, and at the same time to carry on such works of defence as have been or may be thought necessary, viz: The two *Virginia* Battalions, the *German* Battalion, and four Companies of *Marines*.

And it is proposed to raise four Battalions of Militia, to be taken into pay for the immediate defence of this State, to be furnished by the following Counties, viz: One from *York* County, of five hundred men; one from *Cumberland* County, of five hundred men; one from *Lancaster* County, of five hundred men; one from *Berks* County, of five hundred men.

It is apprehended that the above force, with the assistance of our Militia, might obstruct the progress of any body of troops that General *Howe* might detach from his army, until reinforcements could arrive from the *Flying-Camp*, or General *Washington's* Army; and it is presumed that a less force than the above-mentioned will by no means be adequate to the support of the present Government in this State against the opposite party, should General *Washington's* Army be defeated; and they would beg leave earnestly to urge the necessity of retaining for that purpose the Continental Troops now in this State.

As there are no persons of military experience amongst us, it is proposed that General *Stephens* be appointed to the command of this force.

In Council of Safety, October 17, 1776.

Present: *John Bayard*, Chairman, *Owen Biddle*, *Samuel Morris*, Sen., *Timothy Matlack*, *George Gray*, *Francis Gurney*, *Joseph Blewer*, *Samuel C. Morris*, *Frederick Kuhl*, *William Lyons*.

Mr. Nesbitt was directed to pay Captain *David Burch*

for five hundred and eighteen bushels of Salt, at 4s., £362 12s.

Mr. Nesbitt was directed to pay Colonel *James Kirkbride* £46 8s. 10d., for Arms and Accoutrements taken from Non-Associators; to be charged to the Colonel.

Mr. Nesbitt to pay *Little & Owner* £9 7s. 6d., for making Ammunition Chest for Fire Guard Boats.

Mr. Nesbitt to pay *Robert Fitzgerald* £28 2s., for Rammer and Ladle Shafts, Heads, and Pins, &c., for Major *Proctor*.

Mr. Nesbitt to pay *George Graham* £3 3s., for wharfage of the armed boat *Convention*.

Mr. Nesbitt was directed to pay Major *Thomas Proctor* £48 14s. 5d., for boarding sick Soldiers belonging to the Artillery Companies commanded by him.

Resolved, That Captain *Blewer* be appointed to employ proper persons to build ten flat-bottom Boats, for transporting Troops.

Resolved, That no persons be permitted to view the Fortifications, or go on shore at *Fort-Island* unless they are employed in our service, or have permission from the Committee for *Fort-Island*, or this Board.

A Letter was wrote to Commodore *Seymour*, directing him not to suffer any persons but such as are employed in the service of this State, to sound the channel through the chevaux-de-frise, or take any measures to gain information of our works of defence; and if any such should be discovered, to apprehend them, and inform this Board thereof.

The Council adjourned to three o'clock afternoon, when the following Members met: *John Bayard*, Chairman, *Owen Biddle*, *George Gray*, *Samuel C. Morris*, *Francis Gurney*, *William Lyons*, *Joseph Blewer*, *Frederick Kuhl*.

Resolved, That five hundred bushels of Salt be sent to the Committee of *Trenton*, to be sold out in small quantities to the inhabitants of the State of *New-Jersey*, at the rate of 15s. per bushel; with such other cost of freight, &c., as the said Committee may assess; and that Captain *William Richards* be directed to take up the Salt in his shallop, and receive of the said Committee at the rate of 15s. per bushel for the same; for which he is to be accountable to this State.

Resolved, That *Jonathan Coupland* be appointed Captain of a Guard Boat, in the service of this State.

In Council of Safety, October 18, 1776.

Present: *John Bayard*, Chairman, *Samuel Morris*, Sen., *Owen Biddle*, *Joseph Blewer*, *George Gray*, *Timothy Matlack*, *Francis Gurney*, *Frederick Kuhl*, *Samuel C. Morris*, *William Lyons*.

An Order was drawn on Mr. *Robert Towers*, in favour of Mr. *Owen Biddle*, for thirty pieces of Sail Duck, to be replaced by him or accounted for to this Board.

An Order was drawn on Mr. *Nesbitt*, in favour of Mr. *John Mitchell*; to be charged to his Account.

Mr. *Nesbitt* was directed to pay Captain *John Lighburn* for eight hundred bushels of Salt, at 14s., £560.

An Order was drawn on Mr. *Nesbitt*, in favour of *Christian Shaffer*, for £60, for work done at Barracks; to be charged to his Account.

Resolved, That in consideration of the high price of Clothing, &c., the pay of the men on board the Fleet belonging to this State, be advanced to £3 per month, to commence from the next pay day.

John Briggs was discharged from his confinement upon giving security for his good behaviour.

Adjourned to three o'clock, afternoon; Members met: *John Bayard*, Chairman, *Owen Biddle*, *George Gray*, *Francis Gurney*, *Joseph Blewer*, *Samuel Morris*, Sen., *Timothy Matlack*, *Frederick Kuhl*, *William Lyons*.

Mr. *Nesbitt* was directed to pay Captain *Joseph Blewer* £9 2s. 8d., for Junk delivered to Captain *Richards*.

In Council of Safety, October 19, 1776.

Present: *Thomas Wharton*, Jun., President, *John Bayard*, *Samuel Morris*, Sen., *Francis Gurney*, *David Rittenhouse*, *Joseph Blewer*, *Timothy Matlack*, *Samuel C. Morris*, *Frederick Kuhl*, *William Lyon*.

Mr. *Nesbitt* was directed to pay *Alexander Rutherford* £76 5s. for Cartouch-Boxes, Bayonet-Belts, &c.

Mr. *Nesbitt* was directed to pay to *John Pringle* £468, for three hundred and sixty Gun-locks delivered to Mr. *Robert Towers*.

Mr. *Towers* was directed to deliver *Jacob Lush* one ton Saltpetre and eight hundred pounds Sulphur.

Captain *William Gamble* requested leave to resign his commission as commander of the fire sloop *Etna*; which was accepted, and he is discharged from the service of this State.

Resolved, That *John Brice* be appointed Captain of the fire sloop *Etna*, in the room of Captain *William Gamble*, resigned.

Mr. *Nesbitt* was directed to pay Sergeant *Wever* £16; to be charged to the Commanding Officer of the First *Pennsylvania* Battalion.

An Order was drawn on *John Maxwell Nesbitt*, in favour of *John Williams*, for £60, towards the armed boat *Dela-ware*, building by him; to be charged to his Account.

A Letter was received from *Abner Davis*, a Third Lieutenant in the Second Battalion of Riflemen, belonging to this State, resigning his commission, as his health will not admit his continuing longer in the service; which resignation was accepted, and he is discharged accordingly.

Mr. *Nesbitt* was directed to pay *Sacheverel Wood*, for Provisions, &c., &c., for Convention and Council of Safety, when visiting *Billingsport* and *Fort-Island*, at several different times, £146 9s. 1d.

In Council of Safety, October 21, 1776

Present: *David Rittenhouse*, Vice President, *John Bayard*, *Samuel Morris*, Sen., *Joseph Blewer*, *John Bull*, *George Gray*, *Owen Biddle*, *Frederick Kuhl*, *Samuel C. Morris*, *Henry Keppel* Jun., *Timothy Matlack*, *William Lyons*.

John M. Nesbitt, Esquire, was directed to pay to Major *Lewis Nicola* £193 1s. 2d., being the balance of an account for repairs at Barracks.

An Order was drawn on Mr. *Nesbitt*, in favour Major *Lewis Nicola*, for £100; to be charged to his Account.

Mr. *Nesbitt* was directed to pay Captain *Jas. Cochran* £108 12s. 6d., for one thousand four hundred and forty-three and a half bushels of Salt delivered to *Robert Estburn*.

Mr. *Nesbitt* to pay *Ebenezer Lundy* £137 10s., for two hundred Cartouch-Boxes and two hundred Bayonet-Belts, delivered to Mr. *Towers*.

Mr. *Towers* was directed to deliver Captain *Ayres* a sufficient quantity of Ammunition to prove nine 6-pounder Cannon.

An Order was drawn on Mr. *Nesbitt*, in favour of *James Dundass*, for £500, on account of the Fortification at *Billingsport*; to be charged to his Account.

Mr. *Towers* was directed to deliver Messrs. *Peter Dehaven & Co.* three hundred pounds Copper, for the use of the Lock Factory.

Mr. *Nesbitt* was directed to pay *Peter Dehaven* for superintending Lock Factory, two hundred and twenty days, at 7s. 6d., £82 10s.

Mr. *Nesbitt* was directed to pay *James Carter* for superintending Lock Factory, eighty-one days, at 6s., £24 6s.

An Order was drawn on Mr. *Nesbitt*, in favour of Messrs. *Peter Dehaven & Co.*, for £500, on account of Lock Factory; to be charged to their Account.

Resolved, That Mr. *Gray* and Captain *Blewer* be appointed to sound the eastern channel of the River *Delaware*, near *Fort-Island*, and to give directions for stopping that passage, if they should find it necessary.

Mr. *Towers* was directed to deliver *William Kinnard* one piece of *Russia* Duck, for making Sails for the armed boat *Delaware*.

Resolved, That Captain *Francis Gurney* be appointed to receive of *Robert Eastburn* all the money now in his hands for Salt sold by him by order of this Council, and all other moneys which may be received by the said *Eastburn*, for any future cargoes; the said *Francis Gurney* to be accountable for such sums to this Board.

An Order was drawn on Mr. *Nesbitt*, in favour of *Allison & Worrel*, £50, on account of work done at *Fort-Island*; to be charged to their Account.

Mr. *Robert Eastburn* was directed to deliver *Carpenter Wharton*, Esq., five hundred bushels of Salt, he paying at the rate of 15s. per bushel for the same.

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In Council of Safety, October 22, 1776.

Present: *Thomas Wharton*, Jun., President, *David Rittenhouse*, *Samuel Morris*, Sen., *Henry Keppeler*, Jun., *Francis Gurney*, *John Bull*, *Samuel C. Morris*, *William Lyons*.

An Order was drawn on Mr. *Nesbitt*, in favour of Colonel *Nicholas Hausaggar*, for twelve hundred Dollars, for the use of the *German Battalion*; to be charged to the Colonel.

Mr. *Nesbitt* was directed to pay *James Scott*, for ten cords of Wood, delivered at *Fort-Island*, at 26s., £13.

Mr. *Nesbitt* was directed to pay to *Robert Towers*, Commissary of Stores, £119 4s. 6d., for making Cartridges, men's wages, Nitre purchased, &c.

Mr. *Nesbitt* was directed to pay Mr. *Hennesey* £1 9s. 2d., being the balance of his Account for expenses in searching after Deserters.

An Order was drawn on Mr. *Nesbitt*, in favour of Mr. *Moffat*, for £120, for Smith work; to be charged to Mr. *Robert Smith*.

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In Council of Safety, October 23, 1776.

Present: *Thomas Wharton*, Jun., President, *David Rittenhouse*, *John Bayard*, *Samuel Morris*, *Francis Gurney*, *Samuel C. Morris*, *Fred. Kuhl*, *James Cannon*, *Joseph Blewer*, *Timothy Matlack*, *Owen Biddle*, *George Gray*.

Mr. *Peter Rhoads*, Member for *Northampton County*, appeared the first time, and took and subscribed the qualification directed by Convention.

Mr. *Nesbitt* was directed to pay *Jacob James* £2 9s. 6d., for dieting Captain *Albright's* Company, of Col. *Miles's* Battalion.

Mr. *Towers* was directed to deliver Doctor *Bond* three pounds of Saltpetre for Medicine.

An Order was drawn on Mr. *Nesbitt*, in favour of Major *McMasters*, for £6, to be charged to this State, for expenses concerning *Bucks County* election.

Mr. *Nesbitt* was directed to pay *Archibald McCall* £175, for seven six-pounder Cannon, at £25; to be charged to Congress, being sent to *Amboy*.

Mr. *Nesbitt* was directed to pay *James Oellers* £178 0s. 6d., for twenty-one tierces and barrels of Sulphur, delivered Mr. *Towers*.

An Order was drawn on Mr. *Towers*, to deliver Captain *Daniel Joy* three hundred pounds of Powder for proving Cannon.

An Order was drawn on Mr. *Nesbitt*, in favour of Captain *William Richards*, for £500; to be charged to his Account.

Resolved, That Mr. *Wharton*, Mr. *Rittenhouse*, Mr. *Biddle*, and Colonel *Humpton*, be appointed to view the country, and fix upon a spot for a Magazine for military stores, and make report to this Board.

Mr. *Nesbitt* was directed to pay *Matthias Slough* £198 15s., for seven hundred and ninety-eight pounds Saltpetre, delivered Mr. *Towers*.

Mr. *Towers* was directed to deliver *Matthias Slough* two hundred and sixty-five pounds of Powder, which, with the above sum, is in full for one thousand and sixty pounds Saltpetre.

Mr. *Nesbitt* was directed to pay Doct. *Thomas Hendry* £18 15s., for one hundred pounds Saltpetre, which, with twenty-five pounds Powder, ordered to be delivered to him by Mr. *Towers*, is in full for said Saltpetre.

Mr. *Nesbitt* was directed to pay *Isaac Taylor* £5, for two Guns and two Bayonets, delivered to Mr. *Towers*.

Adjourned to three o'clock, afternoon.

Met according to adjournment. *John Bayard*, Chairman, *George Gray*, *Francis Gurney*, *Samuel C. Morris*, *Joseph Blewer*, *William Lyons*, *Frederick Kuhl*.

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In Council of Safety, October 24, 1776.

Present: *David Rittenhouse*, Vice President, *Francis Gurney*, *Samuel Morris*, *Fred. Kuhl*, *Owen Biddle*, *James*

Cannon, *Joseph Blewer*, *Samuel C. Morris*, *William Lyons*, *John Bayard*, *George Gray*.

An Order was drawn on Mr. *Nesbitt*, in favour of Monsieur *Thaddeus Kosciusko*, for £50, as a reward for his services in laying out a plan of a Fortification at *Billingsport*; to be charged to Congress.

Mr. *Nesbitt* was directed to pay Captain *John Jameson* £8 15s. 10d., for the expenses of his Company, in order to suppress the election at *Newtown*, *Bucks County*, per order of Colonel *Baxler*, Second Battalion.

An Order was drawn on Mr. *Nesbitt*, in favour of Commodore *Seymour*, for \$1,000, for the purpose of recruiting men for the Fleet; to be charged to his Account.

Resolved, That Captain *Joseph Blewer* and Captain *Francis Gurney* be desired to take such steps as they may think necessary to secure the person of *Charles Roberts*, Captain of the Schooner *Thetis*, at *Reedy-Island*, with all his papers, and lay them before this Board.

Resolved, That *Jacob Myle* be appointed Quartermaster to the *German Battalion*, commanded by Colonel *Hausaggar*.

Mr. *Nesbitt* was directed to pay *David Potts* £42 9s., for Bar Iron, delivered to *Jacob Myers*.

Mr. *Nesbitt* was directed to pay Colonel *Richard Thomas* £17 3s. 2d., for eight Guns, taken from Non-Associators in *Chester County*; to be charged to Colonel *Thomas*.

Mr. *Nesbitt* was directed to pay Captain *Robert Semple* £2 10s.

Major *Knox* received an order for eighty Shot of twenty ounces, and one hundred Swivel Shot, on the Commissary, to be returned.

Resolved, That the Officers of the Troops belonging to this State, who are now prisoners with the enemy, shall take rank in the service of this State according to their several commissions, and be entitled to pay and rations the same as if they were in actual service.

Mr. *Nesbitt* to pay *John Tyler* £6 11s. 9d., for repairing Arms belonging to Captain *Willis's* Company, of Colonel *Moore's* Battalion.

Agreeable to resolves of this Council, the following arrangement of Captains and Subaltern Officers for the Battalion to be kept in the pay of this State, was agreed to, viz:

Captains: 1. *Lewis Farmer*; 2. *John Murry*; 3. *Patrick Anderson*; 4. *James Marshall*; 5. *Philip Albright*; 6. *Abraham Dehuff*; 7. *Henry Crist*; 8. *John McGowen*; 9. *Martin Ganat*; 10. *James Francis Moore*.

First Lieutenants: 1. *Benard Ward*; 2. *Peter Shaffner*; 3. *John Thompson*; 4. *James Lang*; 5. *John Clark*; 6. *John Carpenter*; 7. *John Robb*; 8. *Robert Burns*; 9. *Jas. Hamilton*; 10. *Joseph Finly*.

Second Lieutenants: 1. *Jacob Metz*; 2. *Thomas Gouerly*; 3. *Thomas Boyd*; 4. *Stephen Hanna*; 5. *Abraham Smith*; 6. *James Sutor*; 7. *Robert Campbell*; 8. *George Grant*; 9. *Joseph Davis*; 10. *James Holmes*.

Third Lieutenants, or Ensigns: 1. *James Whitehead*; 2. *George Shaffner*; 3. *William Moore*; 4. *George Hafner*; 5. *Andrew Little*; 6. *Thomas Wilson*; 7. *Jacob Sneider*; 8. *Casper Weaver*; 9. *Thomas McComb*; 10. *George Guyer*.

Surgeon: *Jacob Reiger*.

Surgeon's Mate: *James Buck*.

Jacob Laverswyler Quartermaster, with the rank of *Thomas Wallace*, Adjutant.

The Council adjourned to three o'clock, when the following Members met: *David Rittenhouse*, Vice President, *Owen Biddle*, *George Gray*, *John Bayard*, *Francis Gurney*, *Joseph Blewer*, *William Lyons*.

Mr. *Nesbitt* was directed to pay the following Accounts:

Captain *Levering*, for repairing Arms, £3 4s. 9d.

John Dunlap, for printing for the Convention, £33 10s.

Benjamin Town, for printing for the Convention, £4 5s.

Resolved, That Captain *Blewer* be appointed to contract with proper persons for building twelve Boats to guard the Fire Rafts.

Resolved, That the Committee for *Fort-Island* be desired to erect a Fire at *Fort-Island*, and employ persons to manufacture Nails at said Island.

In Council of Safety, October 25, 1776.

Present: *Thomas Wharton*, Jun., President, *David Rittenhouse*, *Samuel Morris*, Sen., *Henry Keppeler*, Jun., *John Bayard*, *Frederick Kuhl*, *Francis Gurney*, *Samuel C. Morris*, *Owen Biddle*, *George Gray*, *Joseph Blewer*, *William Lyons*.

Mr. *Nesbitt* was directed to pay *Frederick Snider* £5 5s. 9d., for riding express to *Berks* County, with despatches to the Commanding Officers of the several Battalions to hold themselves in readiness to march to this City in case of an attack.

Mr. *Towers* was directed to deliver Captain *Wm. Brown* a sufficient quantity of Ammunition to prove the Guns for the new Floating Battery.

Mr. *Nesbitt* to pay *Jesse Jones* £11 10s., for seven Muskets delivered to Mr. *Towers*.

Mr. *Nesbitt* to pay *Adam Zantzing* £108, for Saltpetre delivered to Mr. *Towers*.

Mr. *Nesbitt* to pay Lieutenant-Colonel *Baxter* for part of a Company's expenses in *Bucks* County, in order to disperse the people at the late election there.

Mr. *Nesbitt* to pay Mr. *Evans*, for Blankets, coarse Cloths, &c., purchased by direction of this Council, for the service of this State, £50 1s. 7d.

Resolved, That the following arrangement be made in the Battalion belonging to this State, viz:

1st. That the men in the Companies lately commanded by Captains *Lewis Farmer*, *John Murray*, *Patrick Anderson*, *James Marshall*, *Philip Albright*, *Abraham Dehuff*, and *Henry Crist*, while formed in three Battalions, do now continue under the command of the said Captains respectively.

2d. That the men lately commanded by Captain *Henry Shade* be commanded by Captain *John McGowen*.

3d. That the men lately commanded by Captain *Francis Murray* be commanded by Captain *Morton Garret*.

4th. That the men lately commanded by Captain *Richard Brown* be commanded by Captain *James Francis More*.

5th. That eight Companies of the Battalion of this State be armed with muskets, and that their rifles be exchanged as soon as convenient.

6th. That two Companies be armed with rifles, and that the Colonel or Commanding Officer is to select the best men for that purpose out of the whole corps; the Captains to have the choice of said Companies according to seniority.

7th. That after the two Rifle Companies are formed, the men lately belonging to the Companies under Captains *Andrew Long*, *William Peebles*, *Casper Weitzel*, *Joseph Irvine*, *Peter Grub*, Jun., *Peter Z. Lloyd*, *Thomas Herbert*, *John Nice*, *Joseph Howell*, Jun., and *Joseph McClelland*, be united to Captains *Farmer's*, *Murray's*, *Anderson's*, *Marshall's*, *Albright's*, *Dehuff's*, *Crist's*, *McGowen's*, *Garret's*, and *Moore's* Companies, equal in number of effective men, and that the Commanding Officer of the Battalion allow the said men the liberty of choosing what Companies they will enter into, so far as he can consistent with the foregoing arrangement.

8th. That the Subaltern Officers be allowed to arrange themselves under such Captains as they, by mutual agreement, may think proper; but upon the Commanding Officer's representing to them any impropriety in the said arrangement, they are to rectify it.

9th. That all Non-Commissioned Officers be appointed by the Commanding Officer of the Battalion; which appointments are to be made known in Regimental Orders, which shall be sufficient authority for their acting in said stations.

Mr. *Nesbitt* was directed to pay *Jacob Tusten* £18 4s., for thirteen cords of Wood, delivered at *Fort-Island*.

Resolved, That, in forming a new Battalion, this Board will appoint such persons for Officers as, in their opinion, are suitable, without being confined to those in service. That all Captains and Subalterns in the Army shall rise regimentally. That all Field Officers shall be promoted according to the line. That the Board will make the foregoing a rule for their conduct, except in such instances where the good of the publick may require a deviation, of which the Board will at all times reserve the right of judging.

Resolved, That Lieutenant-Colonel *James Irvine* be promoted to the rank of Colonel, and appointed to the Ninth Battalion of Continental Troops of this State:

That Lieutenant-Colonel *Lambert Cadwalader* be pro-

moted to the rank of Colonel, and appointed to the Fourth Battalion (late *Shee's*) of ditto:

That Lieutenant-Colonel *Joseph Penrose* be promoted to the rank of Colonel, and appointed to the Tenth Battalion of ditto:

That *Richard Humpton*, Esq., be appointed Colonel of the Eleventh Battalion of ditto:

That *Daniel Brodhead*, Esq., be appointed Lieutenant-Colonel of the Fourth Battalion (late *Shee's*) of ditto.

That Major *Anthony James Morris* be promoted to the rank of Lieutenant-Colonel, and appointed to the Second Battalion (*De Haas's*) of ditto:

That Major *George Nagle* be promoted to the rank of Lieutenant-Colonel, and appointed to the Ninth Battalion of ditto:

That Major *James Dunlap* be promoted to the rank of Lieutenant-Colonel, and appointed to the Tenth Battalion of ditto:

That *Francis Gurney*, Esq., be appointed Lieutenant-Colonel of the Eleventh Battalion of ditto:

That *John Patton*, Esq., be appointed to the rank of Major of the Ninth Battalion of ditto:

That Captain *Jonathan Jones* be promoted to the rank of Major, and be appointed to the Second Battalion (*De Haas's*) of ditto:

That Captain *John Beaty* be promoted to the rank of Major, and be appointed to the Sixth Battalion (*Magaw's*) of ditto:

That Major *Henry Becker* be removed to be Major of the Tenth Battalion of ditto:

That Captain *William West* be promoted to the rank of Major, and appointed to the Fourth Battalion (*Cadwalader's*) of ditto:

That *Francis Mentges*, Esq., be appointed Major of the Eleventh Battalion of ditto:

That Captain *David Greer* be promoted to the rank of Major, and appointed to the Seventh Battalion (*William Irwin's*) of ditto:

Resolved, That the above-mentioned Officers have rank according to the order in which their names are here set down.

Adjourned to four o'clock afternoon, when the following Members met: *Thomas Wharton*, Jun., President, *David Rittenhouse*, *Samuel Morris*, Sen., *Francis Gurney*, *William Lyons*, *Frederick Kuhl*.

Mr. *Nesbitt* was directed to pay an Order drawn on this Board by *George Stevenson*, Chairman of the Committee of Inspection for *Cumberland* County, in favour of Mr. *Robert Miller*, for £550, for one hundred Rifles, making in said County for this State.

Mr. *Nesbitt* was directed to pay *Charles Cooper*, for Cartouch Boxes, &c.; to be charged as follows: £95 18s. 6d. to Colonel *Robert Callender*, of *Cumberland* County; £13 11s. 0d. to Colonel *John Montgomery*, of *Cumberland* County; £11 8s. 6d. to Colonel *Armstrong*, of *Cumberland* County; £56 6s. 6d. to Colonel *James Wilson*, of *Cumberland* County; making £177 4s. 6d. in the whole.

In Council of Safety, October 26, 1776.

Present: *Thomas Wharton*, Jun., *David Rittenhouse*, *Samuel Morris*, Sen., *Frederick Kuhl*, *Timothy Matlack*, *Joseph Blewer*, *Owen Biddle*, *George Gray*, *John Bull*, *Francis Gurney*, *Samuel C. Morris*, *Frederick Kuhl*, *James Cannon*, *William Lyons*.

Mr. *John M. Nesbitt* was directed to pay Captain *John Lightburn* £842 5s., for eleven hundred and twenty-three bushels of Salt, delivered to *Robert Eastburn*.

Resolved, That Major *Proctor* be ordered immediately to send forward the detachment of Artillery to *Fort Montgomery*, in the State of *New-York*, agreeable to a request of Congress, there to remain until further orders from this Council.

Mr. *Nesbitt* was directed to pay *Thomas Pryor & Co.*, £520, for four hundred Gun-Locks, delivered to Mr. *Towers*.

Mr. *Nesbitt* to pay *Luke Keating* £37 16s. 3d., for five barrels of Pork; to be charged to the Salt Works.

Mr. *Nesbitt* to pay *Alexander Boyle* for going to *Bucks* and *Chester* Counties, to summon Judges and others concerned in the said election, £6 5s.

Mr. *Towers* was directed to deliver *Richard Peters*, Esq., three hundred stand of Arms, for the Board of War.

Mr. *Towers* was directed to deliver *John Boggart* one quarter cask of Powder, to be by him delivered to the Committee of Inspection and Observation of *Bucks County*, and by them distributed to the Associators of said County.

Resolved, That the Officers of the three late Provincial Battalions, who have signified their desire to engage in the service on the new establishment, and accordingly are not provided for in the arrangement already made, be directed to repair to *Philadelphia*, as soon as the situation of the *American Army* will admit of their absence; and that Major *Williams* acquaint them with this resolve.

Mr. *Nesbitt* to pay Colonel *Henry Geiger* £6, for two Rifles, and £16, for six Firelocks, for the use of the Flying Camp.

Mr. *Towers* was directed to deliver Mr. *Gurney* one hundred Swivel-Shot, he paying for the same.

Resolved, That this Board will, on *Monday*, the fourth day of *November* next, proceed to appoint Captains and Subalterns in the Eleventh *Pennsylvania* Battalion, to be commanded by Colonel *Richard Humpton*.

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In Council of Safety, October 28, 1776.

Present: *Thomas Wharton*, Jun., President, *David Rittenhouse*, *John Bayard*, *George Gray*, *Samuel Morris*, Sen., *Owen Biddle*, *Francis Gurney*, *William Lyon*, *Frederick Kuhl*, *Timothy Matlack*, *Samuel C. Morris*, *Joseph Blewer*, *John Bull*.

Mr. *Nesbitt* was directed to pay Mr. *Robert Towers* £69 0s. 2d., for workmen's wages, making Musket Cartridges, &c.

Mr. *Robert Towers* was directed to deliver *John Sparhawk* one hundred and three pounds of Shot, to be replaced by him.

Mr. *Towers* was directed to deliver Colonel *John Bull* forty Pitching-Axes, one hundred Shovels, one hundred Wheelbarrows, and fifty Grubbing-Hoes, taking his receipt, being for the Fortification at *Billingsport*.

An Order was drawn on *John M. Nesbitt*, Esquire, in favour of Messrs. *Rutter & Potts*, for £1,000, on account of Cannon and Shot cast for this State; to be charged to their Account.

Mr. *Nesbitt* was directed to pay *Michael Kuhn* £5 12s. 6d., for going express to *Chester*, to summon Judges, &c., of the late election at *Chester*.

The Council adjourned to three o'clock, when the following Members met: *Thomas Wharton*, Jun., President, *David Rittenhouse*, *Owen Biddle*, *John Bayard*, *George Gray*, *Samuel C. Morris*, *William Lyon*, *Frederick Kuhl*.

John M. Nesbitt, Esquire, was directed to pay *Francis Clark* £150, for two hundred Cutlasses delivered to Mr. *Towers*.

Mr. *Nesbitt* was directed to pay Captain *Samuel Postlethwaite* £175 4s., for Muskets, &c., First Battalion, *Cumberland County*.

Mr. *Nesbitt* to pay *Michael Finley* £10 5s., for Shot-Pouches, for Colonel *John Montgomery's* Battalion, of *Cumberland County*; to be charged to the Colonel.

Mr. *Nesbitt* to pay Captain *Zebulon Potts* £63 5s., for Arms, &c.; to be charged to Colonel *Henry Hill*.

Mr. *Nesbitt* to pay Captain *J. Kean* £158 1s. 2d., for Flints, Arms, &c., for Militia.

—
In Council of Safety, October 29, 1776.

Present: *Thomas Wharton*, Jun., President, *David Rittenhouse*, *Owen Biddle*, *John Bayard*, *Samuel Morris*, Sen., *William Lyon*, *Frederick Kuhl*, *Timothy Matlack*, *Samuel C. Morris*, *Francis Gurney*.

An Order was drawn on *John M. Nesbitt*, Esquire, in favour of Mr. *Josiah Hewes*, and others, Wardens of this City, for £300 0s. 10d., for purchasing Oil for this State; to be charged to their Account.

Mr. *Nesbitt* was directed to pay *Frederick Vernon* £14 10s., for noticing the Commanding Officers of the different Battalions, in *Lancaster*, *York*, and *Cumberland Counties*, to hold themselves in readiness to march to this City, ten days and expenses.

Colonel *Matlack* reports that there is an order for paying to him about \$19,000, the balance remaining of a sum of

money put into the hands of Colonel *Biddle*, by the Commissioners for raising the Flying Camp; and requests this Board will order the same to be paid into the hands of their Treasurer: Therefore,

Resolved, That the said sum be paid to *John Maxwell Nesbitt*, Treasurer to this Board.

John M. Nesbitt was directed to pay *Leonard Rupert* £16 4s. 2d.; to be charged to Colonel *Haller*, of the Flying Camp.

John M. Nesbitt to pay *Thomas Weir* £6 0s. 4d., for expenses of his Company going to *Newtown*, *Buck County*, to suppress the election held there the first and second instant, per order of Lieutenant-Colonel *William Baxter*.

Mr. *Nesbitt* to pay *Hans Morrison* £12 15s., for Arms purchased; to be charged to Colonel *Robert McPherson*.

Mr. *Nesbitt* to pay *John Kerling* for nine new Guns delivered to Mr. *Towers*, at £4 10s.

An Order was drawn on Mr. *Nesbitt*, in favour of Captain *Zeb. Potts*, for eleven Blankets; to be charged to Colonel *Hill*.

An Order was drawn on *Michael Hillgas*, Esquire, in favour of *John Maxwell Nesbitt*, Esq., for \$20,000, being part of \$100,000 borrowed of Congress.

Resolved, That *Ludowick Sprogel*, Esq., Mustermaster, of the Fleet and Army of this State, be allowed the rank, pay and rations of Captain, from the 21st *October*, 1776.

—
In Council of Safety, Philadelphia, October 30, 1776.

Present: *Thomas Wharton*, Jun., President, *David Rittenhouse*, *Francis Gurney*, *Samuel Morris*, Sen., *George Gray*, *John Bull*, *Joseph Blewer*, *Fred. Kuhl*, *Samuel C. Morris*, *Timothy Matlack*, *William Lyon*.

Mr. *Nesbitt* was directed to pay *Benjamin Davis*, for a Drum, £2 10s., delivered to Captain *James Cowden*, of Colonel *Burd's* Battalion, of *Lancaster County*.

Ludowick Sprogel, Esq., £162 1s. 3d., for his wages and expenses going to muster the Troops, when in *Jersey* and *New-York* Government, and rations to 21st *October*.

Benjamin Davis £2 3s., for Drum-Heads and Snares, for the First and Third Companies of Artillery Militia of this City.

An Order was drawn on Mr. *Nesbitt*, in favour of Mr. *Francis Gurney*, for £100, for the purpose of purchasing Woollens; to be charged to his Account.

An Order was drawn on Mr. *Nesbitt*, in favour of *Peter Dehaven & Co.*, for £500, to be charged to their Account, for the use of the Lock Factory.

Mr. *Towers* was directed to deliver to Doct. *Harris* one ton of Saltpetre, to manufacture into Powder for Congress.

An Order was drawn on Mr. *Nesbitt*, in favour of Mr. *Thomas Nevill*, for £150, on account of Gun Carriages, making by him for this State; to be charged to his Account.

Mr. *Samuel Kerr* was discharged from his parole, as he appears to be very friendly to our cause, per certificates from Colonel *J. Parker* and others, and is permitted to return to his family at *Edentown*, in *North-Carolina*.

Mr. *Towers* was directed to deliver Captain *John Rice* twenty Muskets, for the use of the *Convention* galley.

An Order was drawn on Mr. *Nesbitt*, in favour of *James Old*, for £500; to be charged to his Account.

Mr. *Nesbitt* was directed to pay Captain *Samuel Boyd* £35 5s., for fifteen stand of Arms, and £58 10s. for twenty-five stand of Arms, taken from Non-Associators; to be charged to Colonel *George Ross*.

An Order was drawn on Mr. *Nesbitt*, in favour of Colonel *David Porter*, of *New-Jersey*, for £200, on account of one hundred and fifty barrels of Pork, to be purchased and put up by him for this State. (For the condition, see Memorandum Book.)

Mr. *Nesbitt* was directed to pay two Accounts exhibited for work done at *Fort-Island*, by men under the command of Major *Proctor*, certified by the Check Clerk, amounting to £112 17s. 6d.

Resolved, That Monsieur *Uttendorf* be appointed Adjutant of a Battalion to be raised in this State for the Continental service; and, as he has heretofore held a commission as Captain in a foreign service, that he now rank as Captain, his pay to commence from this day. That he be permitted to go to the camp in the State of *New-York*.

Resolved, That, in consideration of Monsieur *Uttendorf* having lost his Baggage in his voyage hither, it be recommended to our Treasurer to advance him the sum of two hundred Dollars, hereafter to be discounted out of his pay; to be charged to him.

Resolved, That Major *Proctor* be directed to reinlist such men belonging to the Artillery, in the service of this State, whose times are now expired, or such as may hereafter expire, who are willing to serve during the war, to be allowed the bounty of ten dollars, given for that purpose by the Council, and that the engagement entered into by him with *Mease & Caldwell*, respecting the clothing the Artillery under his command, be fulfilled by this Council.

In Council of Safety, October 31, 1776.

Present: *David Rittenhouse*, Vice President, *John Bayard*, *William Lyon*, *Joseph Blewer*, *John Bull*, *Samuel Morris*, Sen., *Francis Gurney*, *Fred. Kuhl*, *Samuel C. Morris*, *Timothy Matlack*.

Upon application from some inhabitants of *York-Town*, *Resolved*, That Doct. *John Kearsley*, now a prisoner in that Jail, be removed to the Jail in *Carlisle*, and that the Committee of *York-Town* be requested to see it done.

John M. Nesbitt, Esq., was directed to pay *Jacob Myers*, for Slit Iron and Steel he bought of *Jacob Morgan* for the use of *Fort-Island*.

An Order was drawn on Mr. *Nesbitt*, in favour of *Thomas Strawbridge*, for £75, on account of coarse Woollens, &c.; to be charged to his Account.

An Account was exhibited for Muskets and Rifles, belonging to the Militia of *Northampton County*, commanded by Colonel *Jacob Strowd*, amounting to £29 15s., which Mr. *Nesbitt* was directed to pay, and charge to the Colonel.

By order of the Council, two blank commissions, for Privateers or Letters of Marque, were delivered to Messrs. *James Mease & Robert Mease*, for a ship and brig, to be fitted out by them in a foreign port.

Complaint having been made to this Council by *Christopher Elliot* that *John Baldwin*, of this City, Cordwainer, has refused to receive in payment the Continental Bills of Credit issued by order of Congress, Thereupon the said *John Baldwin* was ordered to appear before this Board, and, being informed of the said complaint, did acknowledge that he had refused to receive the said Bills of Credit in payment. The Council urged the pernicious and destructive tendency of such conduct, and requested him to reconsider it, allowing him several days to form his judgment and fix his final resolution. This day, agreeable to notice given him, he again appeared before the Council, and declared that he was determined not to receive the said Bills in payment: Whereupon,

Resolved, That the said *John Baldwin* is an enemy to his country, and precluded from all trade or intercourse with the inhabitants of these States.

Resolved, That the said *John Baldwin* be committed to Jail, there to remain, without bail or mainprize, until he shall be released by order of this Council, or some other power lawfully authorized so to do.

Ordered, That the proceedings in *John Baldwin's* case be made publick.

The Council adjourned to three o'clock, afternoon, when the following Members met: *David Rittenhouse*, Vice President, *Samuel Morris*, Sen., *John Bayard*, *Timothy Matlack*, *Joseph Blewer*, *Francis Gurney*, *Samuel C. Morris*, *Fred. Kuhl*.

An Order was drawn on Mr. *Nesbitt*, in favour of Major *Lewis Nicola*, for £100; to be charged to his Account.

Mr. *Nesbitt* was directed to pay the following Accounts: *Sarah Austin's* Account for Boat-hire, £5, at several times.

Woolery Mengs's Account for two hundred and ninety-seven Bayonet Scabbards, delivered to Mr. *Towers*, £44 11s.

The Nurse at Hospital, at *Province-Island*, Account for attending sick belonging to the Fleet, £153 16s. 4d.

GOVERNOUR TRUMBULL TO GENERAL WASHINGTON.

Lebanon, August 31, 1776.

SIR: Adjutant General *Reed's* letter of the 24th instt. came to hand Tuesday morning, the 27th; yours of the same date, yesterday. On receiving the former, I advised with my Council. We concluded to send *Benjamin Huntington*, Esq., one of my Council, with direction to take with him Major *Ely*, at *New-London*, an officer there well acquainted with the people on *Long-Island*, to proceed there, and consult and agree with some of the sure friends of our cause, with secrecy as far as the circumstances would admit, for a number of their men, assured friends, and well acquainted on the Island, to join with a body from this State, if possible, to accomplish your wishes to cause a diversion to the enemy, to harass them on their rear, and to prevent their excursions in pursuit of the provision the Island affords. I hear they sailed for the Island yesterday. His return is expected the beginning of next week. If he succeeds according to our hopes, shall proceed with vigour to put the same in execution.

No exertions of this State, I trust, will be wanting at this critical conjuncture to harass and to keep the enemy at bay—to gain time and every advantage the case may admit.

I shall give the earliest intelligence of our proceedings, that you may coöperate with our designs. The race is not to the swift, nor the battle to the strong. It is nothing with God to help, whether with many, or with those that have no power. He hath so ordered things in the administration of the affairs of the world as to encourage the use of means; and yet so as to keep men in continual dependence upon him for the efficacy and success of them: to make Kings and all men to know the reins of the world are not in their hands, but that there is One above who sways and governs all things here below.

I am just closing; a post comes in, and brings the letters, copies of which are enclosed. Now expect Mr. *Huntington's* speedy return. Have sent for my Council. My own thoughts and such of my Council as come to me, are to send forward four or five of the companies now stationed at *New-*

London, with four field-pieces, (I hope six pieces to join those men which may be ready for the service on *Long-Island*;) four or five companies to follow from *New-London*, as soon as they can be marched down; and also to order on other companies to take the places of such as are removed from thence.

I am inclined to think we shall fall upon some measure similar to what is mentioned. No delay can be admitted at this critical moment. Please to give me the earliest intelligence how we may best serve agreeable to your desires. Shall send in the morning this intelligence to Governour *Cooke*, of *Rhode-Island*, and ask his assistance in the best way he shall think the circumstances of that State will admit.

September 1st.—Enclosed is a copy of another letter, dated yesterday, from *Southhold*, that you may observe the contents. I hope to pursue our measures so as to stop the enemy getting into *Suffolk County*.

I am, with esteem and regard, your Excellency's most obedient, humble servant,
JONTH. TRUMBULL.
His Excellency General *Washington*.

COLONEL REED TO GOVERNOUR TRUMBULL.

Head-Quarters, New-York, August 24, 1776.

SIR: There can be no doubt but that before this reaches you, you will have heard that the enemy have landed a considerable body of men on *Long-Island*, within seven miles of our lines. We cannot yet determine whether the main body of the army is landed with a view to make a general attack on that side, or whether it is a large detachment sent to draw off our attention from this place, while they proceed up with their fleet and principal force. The success has been various in the little skirmishes we have had, but our troops have generally drove them back. Before his Excellency rode out this morning, he directed me to acquaint you with our situation, and to submit to your consideration, whether it would be possible to transport a body of men, say one thousand, to *Long-Island*, below the enemy, with

a view to divide their force and make a diversion. His Excellency is not insensible that great part of the Western Militia are now in this Camp, but he supposes it might be possible that the Eastern Militia might be employed in such a service. I should illy express the General's intentions, if what I have said should be construed into an order, or even a request, unless in your judgment, and those with whom you think proper to consult, it should stand fully approved: nor will our operations be governed in the least by a dependence on such a measure. But at the same time, the great advantages arising from it are so extremely obvious that I need not enlarge upon them.

I have the honour to present you with the General's respects, and to assure you that I am your Honour's most obedient and humble servant,

JOSEPH REED, *Adjutant General.*

CHARLES W. F. DUMAS TO COMMITTEE OF SECRET CORRESPONDENCE.*

1er 7bre, 1776.

MONSIEUR: Après avoir envoyé à votre correspondant à *St. Eustache*, dont vous m'avez donné l'adresse dans votre lettre du 12^e Xbr, 1775, ma troisième lettre cotée C, dont vous trouverez ci-joint un ample extrait, qu'il vous plaira de relire, du moins la fin, où j'ai ajouté quelque chose. Je commence ma quatrième dépêche D.

En supposant qu'il ne vous soit parvenu qu'une seule de mes trois précédentes dépêches, vous ne devez pas être embarrassé de lire ce qui sera chiffré ici, et à l'avenir.

680 606 613 652 672 677 678 663 673 414, dont M. A. L., votre ami, m'a parlé dans deux de ses lettres comme chargé d'affaires du Congrès, qui viendrait me voir, et à qui il avait donné mon adresse, n'a pas encore paru devant moi.

Je n'ai pas reçu non plus la lettre que vous m'avez écrite après celle du 12^e *Decembre*, 1775, et avant celle du 2^e *Mars*, 1776, comme vous me l'apprenez dans cette dernière.

La non-apparition de cet homme et de cette lettre m'inquiète et m'afflige, non seulement parce que tout ce qui me vient de vous, Monsieur, et de vos amis, m'est cher et précieux plus que je ne saurois le dire, mais aussi et surtout, parce que je crains que le service du Congrès Général n'en souffre.

[* TRANSLATION.]

1st September, 1776.

SIR: After having sent to your correspondent at *St. Eustatia*, whose address you gave me in your letter of the 12th *December*, 1775, my third letter, marked C, of which you will find enclosed an ample extract, which you will please read again, at least the latter part, where I have added something. I commence my fourth despatch, D.

Even supposing that only one of my three preceding despatches may have reached you, you ought not to be embarrassed in reading what will be in cypher here, and in future.

This *Hortalez*, of whom Mr. A. L., your friend, has spoken to me in two of his letters as entrusted with the business of Congress, who was to come to see me, and to whom he had given my address, has not yet presented himself to me.

I have not either received the letter which you wrote me after the one of the 12th *December*, 1775, and before the one of the 2d *March*, 1776, as you inform me in this latter.

The non-appearance of this man and of this letter disturbs and afflicts me, not only because everything which comes to me from you, sir, and from your friends, is more dear and precious to me than I can express, but also and especially because I fear that the service of the General Congress may suffer in consequence of it.

The respectable bearer of the one of the 2d *March*, arrived at *Paris* on the 7th *July*, whence he sent it to me with one of his own dated 26th *July*. I have another from him of the 18th *August*, in which he tells me that he has a certain prospect of succeeding in his business. He also therein makes me a promise which renders me happy in advance, that he will lodge at my house. My wife has already prepared his apartment, and we shall verify the fable of *Philemon* and *Baucis*: for a virtuous man is for me a *Jupiter*; and I shall think myself more honoured with such a guest, than with a dozen of those princes who have sold their subjects to your enemies. If nothing occurs to alter his intentions, I shall have this pleasure in the month of *October* next.

30th *September*.—I have stated to you, sir, in my preceding [despatch,] that the letters of Mr. A. L. have greatly contributed to render my visits, my letters, and my memoirs, agreeable in a certain house. Here is one which I have lately received from him, which will prove it to you.

26th *August*, 1776.—After having told me of a service which he consented to render me in his country, where I have some business to arrange, which we agreed to make use of as a pretext to mask our interviews, he continues as follows: "Madame — has taken the trouble to send me your letters, and I beg you to send me by her the continuation of so many interesting matters, together with the account of the person you were waiting for [the bearer of your letter from *Philadelphia* of the 2d *March*.] I beg you to send me all that has reached you since the last letter you had the goodness to write me. I am in the habit of receiving packets from every hand; it is the duty of my post; hence I shall receive with gratitude, but of a distinguished character, what you

Le respectable porteur de celle du 2^e *Mars* est arrivé à *Paris* le 7^e *Juillet*, d'où il me l'a envoyée avec une des siennes datée du 26^e *Juillet*. J'en ai une autre de lui du 18^e *Août*, où il me marque that he has a certain prospect of succeeding in his business. Il m'y fait aussi une promesse qui me rend heureux d'avance, c'est de vouloir bien loger chez moi. Ma femme a déjà préparé son appartement; et nous vérifierons la fable de *Philemon* & *Baucis*: car un homme vertueux est pour moi un *Jupiter*; & je me trouverai plus honoré d'un tel hôte, que d'une douzaine de ces princes qui ont vendu leurs sujets à vos ennemis. S'il n'arrive rien qui altère ses desseins, j'aurai ce bonheur au mois d'*Octobre* prochain.

Du 30^e 7br. Je vous ai dit, Monsieur, dans ma précédente, que les lettres de M. A. L. ont beaucoup contribué à rendre mes visites, mes lettres et mes mémoires, agréables dans une certaine maison. En voici une que j'en ai reçue depuis peu, qui vous le prouvera.

Du 26^e *Août*, 1776. Après m'avoir parlé d'un service qu'il veut bien me rendre en son pays, où j'ai quelques affaires à démêler, dont nous sommes convenus de nous servir comme de prétexte pour masquer nos entrevues, voici comme il poursuit: "Madame * * * a pris la peine de me remettre vos lettres, et je vous prie de m'envoyer par elle la suite de tant de choses intéressantes, y compris le récit de la personne que vous attendiez [du porteur de votre lettre de *Philadelphie* du 2^e *Mars*.] Je vous prie de me mander tout ce qui vous est parvenu depuis la dernière lettre que vous avez eu la bonté de m'écrire. Je suis dans l'usage de recevoir des paquets de toutes les mains; c'est le devoir de mon poste. Ainsi je recevrai avec reconnaissance, mais d'une manière distinguée, ce que vous aurez la bonté de me faire passer, comme ce qu'il y aura sûrement de mieux en faits, en portraits, en situations. Puis toutes les plumes n'ont pas le talent de la vôtre.

"Dans tout ce que je demande à votre amitié, Monsieur, vous aurez bien du nouveau souvent à exposer."

L'éloge donné à ma plume, doit retourner à M. A. L., car je n'ai fait que le traduire.

Du 1^{er} 7br. "Je vous prie de continuer à me donner de vos nouvelles. Je vous remercie bien sincèrement du dernier envoi. [Je lui découvris ce qui concernait M. * * * porteur de votre lettre du 2^e *Mars*, après en avoir eu la permission de ce dernier.] Rien n'est plus intéressant, et n'éclaire peut-être davantage les matières."

shall have the kindness to send to me, as it will surely be of the best in facts, in portraits, in circumstances. For all pens have not the talent of yours.

"In all that I ask of your friendship, sir, you will often have a great deal new to communicate."

The praise given to my pen, should revert to Mr. A. L., for I have done nothing but translate it.

1st *September*.—"I beg you to continue to give me your news. I thank you very sincerely for the last sent. [I informed him about Mr. —, the bearer of your letter of the 2d *March*, after having had the permission of the latter.] Nothing is more interesting, nor perhaps elucidates affairs more fully."

16th *September*.—"You had flattered me with having the honour to see you in the course of the week which has just closed. It is that expectation which has prevented my answering you, intending to tell you the remainder verbally, as I shall do the first visit you shall make to the *Hague*."

"All that you have recommended to me has been done and put in train according to your desires. Mine shall always be to merit your confidence and to serve you."

I had sent to him open, with a flying seal, the letter which I wrote you by *St. Domingo*. We had agreed to this verbally, and he had promised me to send it to *Bordeaux* well recommended. I have reason to believe that this letter has been sent, and read to certain persons, for whom I had put expressly at the close of the letter, that when by a wise legislation and constitution you shall have, gentlemen, crowned the work of your liberty, I shall die contented with having seen a great [King] and a great Rep[ublic] sincerely desire the good of nations.

I received some days ago another letter from Mr. S. D. at *Paris*, 14th *September*. All those which I receive from him, as from you, gentlemen, are precious to me; and this one is doubly so, because, besides the most kind expressions with which it is filled, my zeal for your cause, gentlemen, is therein recompensed by the acknowledgment of having well served it. I cannot resist the temptation to transcribe here what he said to me on that point:

"The measures you took before my arrival here are perfectly right. You are entirely in the right, in saying that the H. of B. are the allies we should first and principally court; that F. is at the head of this H. and therefore what is done here, is sure to be done by the whole. This, therefore, requires my whole attention; and I can only say to you, my prospects are no way discouraging. I hope in person soon to tell you how very much I am yours and your lady's."

I cannot add anything more analogous to what you have just read, than the assurances of my perfect attachment to the *United States of North America*, and to their worthy Representatives in the General Congress. Deign to receive, sir, those of my profound respect for all the members in general, and for you and Messrs. *Dickinson* and *Jay* in particular.

Du 16^e 7br. "Vous m'aviez flatté que j'aurais l'honneur de vous voir dans le courant de la semaine qui vient de finir. C'est cette attente qui m'a empêché de vous répondre, comptant vous dire de vive voix le reste, comme je vous le dirai au premier voyage que vous ferez à *La Haie*.

"Tout ce que vous m'avez recommandé, a été fait et acheminé suivant vos désirs. Les miens seront toujours de mériter votre confiance et de vous servir."

Je lui avois envoyé ouverte, avec un cachet volant, la lettre que je vous ai écrite par *St. Domingue*. Nous étions convenus de cela de bouche, et il m'avoit promis de l'envoyer à *Bordeaux* bien recommandée. J'ai lieu de croire que cette lettre a été envoyée et lue à de certaines personnes pour qui j'avois mis exprès à la fin de la lettre, que lorsque par une législation et constitution sage vous aurez couronné, Messieurs, l'ouvrage de votre liberté, je mourrai content d'avoir vu un grand r. et une grande rép. vouloir sincèrement le bien des peuples.

J'ai reçu il y a quelques jours une autre lettre de M. S. D. de *Paris* 14^e 7br. Toutes celles que je reçois de lui, comme de vous, Messieurs, me sont précieuses; & celle-ci l'est doublement, puisque, outre les expressions les plus affectueuses dont elle est remplie, mon zèle pour votre cause, Messieurs, y est récompensé par le témoignage de l'avoir bien servie. Je ne puis résister à la tentation de transcrire ici ce qu'il me dit là-dessus:

"The measures you took before my arrival here are perfectly right. You are entirely in the right in saying that the H. of B. are the allies we should first and principally court; that F. is at the head of this H., and therefore what is done here is sure to be done by the whole. This, therefore, requires my whole attention; and I can only say to you, my prospects are no way discouraging. I hope in person soon to tell you how very much I am yours and your lady's."

Je ne saurois rien ajouter de plus analogue à ce que vous venez de lire, que les assurances de mon parfait attachement pour les *Etats-Unis de l'Amérique Septentrionale*, et pour leurs dignes Représentants au Congrès Général. Daignez recevoir, Monsieur, celles de mon profond respect pour tous les membres en général, et pour vous et Messrs. *Dickinson* et *Jay* en particulier.

Vous pouvez, Monsieur, mettre à l'avenir mon vrai nom sur vos lettres, comme vous avez fait ci-devant, et les adresser, sous couvert, soit à *M. Marc Michel Rey, libraire*

You can, sir, in future, put my real name upon your letters, as you have heretofore done, and address them, under cover, either to Mr. *Marc Michel Rey*, bookseller, *Amsterdam*, or to Mr. *A. Stuckey*, merchant, *Rotterdam*, according to the destination of the vessel which will carry them.

In order to be able to finish this letter at my ease, I have made my two pupils walk out with a lady, I promising to amuse her little boy; this little fellow has amused himself so well, that he has overturned my inkstand upon a sheet of this despatch. I have recopied only what he has spoiled, so as to be able to send my packet without delay.

If I continue to not sign my name, it is not from pusillanimity, but because I believe that your service requires that I should remain still for some time unknown; at least until Mr. D. comes to lodge at my house: for then I shall be known everywhere as the most zealous *American* in the whole Republic, and I shall glory in it. All that could happen to me, would be the loss of my present post; but in that case I am sure that Congress would indemnify me with an equivalent subsistence for me and mine, because I shall be able to continue to be useful to it, as much, and even more than heretofore, since I shall no longer be pressed by other duties, and my whole person shall be at all times and in all places, in the service of *America*. I have been mortified (and I have noticed it in my last letter to Mr. D.) at not being free in the last instance. I would have flown to P. in order to assist him, at least with the knowledge I have of several *European* languages.

I have another letter from Mr. S. D., from *Paris*, 3d *October*. Here is an extract from it: "Since my last, in which I mentioned the King of *Prussia*, I have attained a method of sounding that Monarch's sentiments more directly through another channel, which voluntarily offering I have accepted, and therefore waive writing on the subject, for the present, anything, [he was speaking to me about a memoir, upon which I would have composed a letter for that Monarch,] save that you may undoubtedly serve the *United States of America* most essentially in this affair, in a few weeks from this. The attention to my business here, the critical situation of affairs at this Court, and the anxious suspense* for the events at *New-York* and *Canada*, have actually fixed me here, and having received no intelligence for some time past, has well-nigh distracted me. I have, however, favourable prospects, and the most confirmed hopes of effecting my views in *Europe*."

I have another letter from Mr. A. L. from *London*, 23d *September*, in which he tells me, among other things, "we may every day expect to hear of a decisive action at *New-York*—decisive, I mean, as to the fate of *New-York* and of General *Howe*,—but not of *America*, which depends very little upon the event of *New-York* being taken or saved. I have been apprised by *Hortales* that the business for which I recommended him to you is to be transacted through *France*, which is the reason of your not seeing him.

* Ah, how much I share this anxiety with this worthy man! God grant that both he and I may very soon have some good news.

à *Amsterdam*, soit à *M. A. Stuckey, merch't, Rotterdam*, selon la destination du vaisseau qui les portera.

Pour pouvoir finir cette lettre à mon aise, j'ai fait promener mes deux élèves avec une dame, en m'engageant à amuser son nourrisson; ce marmouset s'est si bien amusé, qu'il m'a jetté l'écritoire sur une feuille de cette dépêche. Je n'ai recopié que ce qu'il a barbouillé, afin de pouvoir envoyer mon paquet sans retard.

Si je continue de ne pas signer mon nom, ce n'est point par pusillanimité, mais parce que je crois que votre service exige que je reste encore quelque temps inconnu; au moins jusqu'à ce que M. D. vienne loger chez moi: car alors je serai connu partout pour le plus zélé *Américain* de toute la république, et je m'en ferai une gloire. Tout ce qui pourroit m'en arriver, seroit la perte de mon poste actuel: mais en ce cas je suis sûr que le Congrès me dédommageroit par une subsistance équivalente pour moi et les miens, vu que je pourrai continuer de lui être utile, autant et plus encore que par le passé, parce que je ne serai plus gêné par d'autres devoirs, et que toute ma personne pourra être en tout temps, et en tout lieu, au service de l'*Amérique*. J'ai été bien mortifié (et je l'ai marqué dans ma dernière lettre à M. D.) de ne pas être libre en dernier lieu. J'aurais volé à P., pour lui aider, au moins par la connoissance que j'ai de plusieurs langues *Européennes*.

J'ai une autre lettre de M. S. D. de *Paris* 3^e 8bre en voici l'extrait: "Since my last, in which I mentioned the King of *Prussia*, I have attained a method of sounding that Monarch's sentiments more directly through another channel, which, voluntarily offering, I have accepted, and therefore waive writing on the subject for the present, anything, (il m'avoit parlé d'un mémoire, sur le-

quel j'aurais composé une lettre pour *the United States of America* most essentially in this affair in a few weeks from this. The attention to my business here, the critical situation of affairs at this Court, and the anxious suspense* for the events at *New-York* and *Canada*, have actually fixed me here, and having received no intelligence for some time past, has well-nigh distracted me. I have, however, favourable prospects, and the most confirmed hopes of effecting my views in *Europe*."

I shall close this despatch by telling you, sir, that in the last interview which I have had with a certain personage, he has testified to me that they are well satisfied with me. "Continue," he told me, "to give us copies, extracts, translations, of the interesting letters which you receive from your friends beyond and on this side of the sea; extend your correspondence still more and more; multiply your correspondents as much as you can; become the channel, the centre, of what your friends will have to say to their friends in *England*, and the latter to their friends in *America*; the confidant, in a word, on each side, and take me for yours always, and you will finish by entering at last into a correspondence with the Minister himself. I shall see him frequently this winter, and I shall labour to bring that to bear."

Finally, sir, permit me to recommend to your attention, and to that of the General Congress the memoir enclosed, marked by a *N. B.* For abundant precaution, I will enclose in my next despatch a copy of this memoir, and I shall then be able also to inform you, gentlemen, of the success that it will have had in *Hamburgh*, for the young man who took charge of it has already sent it.

Enclosed is an *Exposition of the Rights of the Colonies to Independence*. I do not know the name of the well-wisher, who is the author of it; but the manuscript was sent to me by the printer, to know if it was good, that is to say, in booksellers' language, if it would be worth publishing. I have replied to him that it had all the requisites to merit it.

I recommend you, gentlemen, with your brave armies, and all your brave people, to the care and protection of the Being, sovereignly good and wise, with my whole heart, which is entirely yours.

I close, and despatch this packet to day, the 10th *October*.

10th *October*, 1776.

Continuation of Despatch D: At the moment, sir, when I was going to close this packet, a letter came to me with this address: à Monsieur, Monsieur *Dean*, Envoy of the Congress of the Americans, now at the Hague, in *Holland*.

To-morrow I shall send this letter to its address. I see by certain marks, that it comes from *England*. The same personage through whom I am in relations with a certain Court, sent it to me with a letter, which says as follows: "The letter which I have the honour to send to you enclosed, has been addressed from *Cambray*, in *France*, under cover to me by the last post. You will know better than I where it ought to be sent to. Hence, from my interest for you and for your friends, I think I ought not to delay a moment to confide it to Madam *Uloder*. Have the goodness to remember, I pray you, that you have promised me a participation in all that shall come into your hands and to your knowledge, from more than one place; I rely upon it, with a real eagerness to serve you."

You will doubtless understand, sir, that it is in the packet of a Power which is a very good friend to the *United States of America*, that this letter has reached me.

events at *New York* and *Canada*,* have actually fixed me here, and having received no intelligence for some time past, has well nigh distracted me. I have, however, favorable prospects, and the most confirmed hopes of effecting my views in *Europe*."

J'ai une autre lettre de M. A. L. de *Londres* 23^e *Septembre*, où il me dit entr'autres, "we may every day expect to hear of a decisive action at *New York*—decisive I mean as to the fate of *New York* and of General *Howe*, but not of *America*, which depends very little upon the event of *New York* being taken or saved. I have been apprised by

H o r t a l e s
613 652 672 677 678 663 673 414 that the business for which I recommended him to you is to be transacted through
F r a n c e
600 666 660 679 680 681 634 638 682, which is the reason of your not seeing him."

Je terminerai cette dépêche par vous dire, Monsieur, que dans la dernière entrevue que j'ai eue avec un certain personnage, il m'a témoigné qu'on est fort content de moi. "Continuez," m'a-t-il dit, "de nous donner des copies, extraits, traductions, des intéressantes lettres que vous recevez de vos amis delà et deçà la mer; étendez même de plus en plus votre correspondance; multipliez vos correspondants tant que vous pourrez; devenez le canal, le centre, de ce que vos amis auront à dire à leurs amis en *Angleterre* et ceux-ci à leurs amis en *Amérique*, le confident, en un mot, de part et d'autre et prenez moi pour le vôtre toujours, et vous finirez par entrer enfin en correspondance avec

— l e m i n i s t r e m e
612 663 671 528 330 100 302 101 230 200 630 420 422

m e
488 300 401. Je le verrai fréquemment cet hiver, et je travaillerai à ménager cela."

Enfin, Monsieur, souffrez que je recommande à votre attention, et à celle du Congrès Général le mémoire ci-joint marqué par un *N. B.* Pour surcroît de précaution, je mettrai dans ma suivante dépêche une copie de ce mémoire, et je pourrai alors vous apprendre aussi, Messieurs, le succès qu'il aura eu à *Hambourg*, car le jeune homme qui s'en est chargé l'a déjà envoyé.

Voici un *Exposé des Droits des Colonies à l'Indépendance*. J'ignore le nom du brave homme qui en est l'auteur; mais le manuscrit m'a été envoyé par l'imprimeur, pour savoir si cela étoit bon, c'est-à-dire, en langue de libraire, s'il se débiteroit bien. Je lui ai répondu, qu'il avoit tout ce qu'il faut pour le mériter.

Je vous recommande, Messieurs, avec vos braves armées, et tous vos braves peuples, à la garde et protection de l'Etre souverainement bon et sage, de tout mon cœur, qui est tout à vous.

Je ferme et dépêche ce paquet aujourd'hui, 10^e Octobre.

Du 10^e Octobre, 1776.

Suite de la dépêche D. Au moment, Monsieur, où j'allois expédier ce paquet, il m'est parvenu une lettre avec cette adresse: à *Monsieur, Monsieur Dean, envoyé par le Congrès des Américains actuellement à La Haie en Hollande*.

Demain j'enverrai cette lettre à son adresse. Je vois à de certaines marques, qu'elle vient d'*Angleterre*. Le même personnage par lequel je suis en relation avec une certaine Cour, me l'a envoyée avec une lettre, qui dit ce qui suit: "On m'a adressé de *Cambray* en *France*, sous mon couvert, par la poste dernière, la lettre que j'ai l'honneur de vous envoyer ci-jointe. Vous saurez mieux que moi où il faut la faire passer. Ainsi, par égard pour vous et pour vos amis, je crois ne pas devoir différer un moment de la
M a d a m U l o d e r
confier à 517 234 444 243 498 641 88 99 244 307 299

83 194 401. Ayez, je vous supplie, la bonté de vous souvenir, que vous m'avez promis une participation à tout ce qui parviendra dans vos mains, et à votre connoissance, de plus d'un endroit; j'y compte avec un véritable empressement pour vous servir."

Vous comprendrez sans doute, Monsieur, que c'est dans le paquet d'une Puissance qui est bien bonne amie des *Etats-Unis de l'Amérique*, que cette lettre est venue jusqu'à moi.

*Ah que je partage bien cette anxiété avec ce digne homme! Dieu veuille que nous ayions bientôt, lui et moi, de bonnes nouvelles.

CAROLINE COUNTY, VIRGINIA, COMMITTEE.

In Committee, Caroline, September, 1776.

Having cause to doubt the fidelity of the following persons to the *United States*, the Sub-Committee was directed to tender them the test oath, as prescribed by Convention, which was accordingly tendered, and refused by *James Miller*, at *Roy's* warehouse, *James Dunlop*, *Andrew Leckie*, *John Gray*, *James Coates*, *John Thompson*, *James Gordon*, *James Craigy*, *James Stark*, *John Wallace*, and *Archibald McLean*, of *Port Royal*.

There is no doubt but these monsters of ingratitude will be pleased with this notification of their attachment to the jurisdiction of *Great Britain*, serving to recommend them as fit instruments to enslave their *American* benefactors, and consequently proper objects of Royal munificence, a large portion of which, perhaps, will fall to the man whose name stands foremost in this *black list*, as a reward for his disapprobation of and opposition to publick measures, sufficiently manifest, we think, in his refusing to accept the High Sheriff's commission, in refusing to qualify as a Justice of the Peace, in not complying with a requisition of Convention to contribute to the purchase of arms and ammunition, and in not voting at elections of Delegates and Committees.

Ordered, That a copy of this be transmitted to Mr. *Purdy*, to be published in his *Gazette*.

SAMUEL TEMPLE, Clerk.

COLONEL RICHARDSON TO MARYLAND COUNCIL OF SAFETY.

Gilpin's Point, September 1, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: Upon Dr. *Potter's* resigning his warrant for the enlistment of men to compose a company for the Flying Camp, my brother, *Joe Richardson*, undertook to enlist them, and having in three days made up the number, he now waits upon you for a commission, and I hope he will meet your approbation and appointment. The Ensign appointed for Captain *Potter's* company declines to act, therefore it is necessary to have a new appointment: my brother will mention a young man to your honourable Board, which I believe will answer the purpose very well; he is a sprightly, active, stout young man, and has engaged part of his men already. I have no doubt but the company will be filled up in the course of this week, and ready to begin their march, if your Board can assist him with some of the arms brought up by the *Defence*, which I hope will be done. He has picked up some arms already and will want cash to pay for them, the money lodged in the Committee's hands being expended on Captain *Fiddiman's* company.

All the companies are, I believe, now on their march to the camp, except Captain *Goldsborough's* and the above. Captain *Goldsborough's*, I expect, will set off in a few days, and I hope he will soon be followed by the *Caroline* company. I set out to-day on my way to camp.

I am, with due respect, gentlemen, your most obedient servant,

WM. RICHARDSON.

To the Honourable the Council of Safety of *Maryland*.

CAPTAIN NICHOLSON TO MARYLAND COUNCIL OF SAFETY.

Baltimore, September 1, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: The bearer, Mr. *Morris*, waits on you with an application to have Mr. *Middleton's* privateer stopped and examined for four deserters from the frigate. Circumstances are very strong that they are or will be on board her, for the particulars of which refer to him. This I hope you'll think necessary, for should there not be an example made of these, if to be found, thirty-odd (likewise from the *Eastern Shore*) I expect will leave her in the same manner.

I have sent three craft from this to wait your orders to get a load of coal. The first two went before I expected or should have wrote by them, and the last was out of the way. The *Resolution* returned here yesterday, the officer says by your direction. The *Defence* has required so much caulking that I do not expect she can be down before the last of the week. I am fitting and victualling her sufficient to go to sea should you think proper to order her. I have found great difficulties in getting her about two months' salt provisions, and as I did not use your order in *Philadelphia* for that purpose, (for the reason refer to Messrs. *Chase* and *Paca*,) you'll please to send by Mr. *Turnbull* £514,

one month's pay, which I shall apply to pay the ship's necessary disbursements.

I am, gentlemen, your most obliged humble servant,
JAMES NICHOLSON.

To the Honourable the Council of Safety of *Maryland*.

COL. HOLLINGSWORTH TO MARYLAND COUNCIL OF SAFETY.

Head of Elk, September 1, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: Some time since I wrote you how necessary it would be to have cash lodged in the County in some person's hands that I could occasionally call on as the service required it. As I have heard nothing since from your Honours, it induces me to suppose in the multiplicity of your business I have been forgot. Your Honours are too well acquainted with the nature of this business to think of its being done without money and much perplexity and trouble. I have laid out about £200 for beef, bread, wagons, &c., and have assumed for how much more I can't say, as the accounts from *Wilmington* and *Chestertown* have not come in yet, though doubtless they are in want of cash, as they have only my word for all they have done in forwarding the *Maryland* troops. 'Tis impossible for me to furnish the account with all the necessary probates till the troops have gone forward, as the forwarding them takes up all of my time; to see them delayed here would give me as much uneasiness as it would your Honours to hear of it. Necessity, therefore, now emboldens me to draw on you for one hundred and fifty pounds, and also to request that at least some more be sent to me at *Elk*, that I may be enabled to fulfil my contracts and forward the remaining part of the troops. There has no part of the troops sent on been delayed one hour for wagons, shallops or provisions. If Mr. *Joseph Gilpin*, whom I have drawn for, has the money lodged with him, there's no doubt but he can get a safe conveyance of it to *Elk*.

I am, gentlemen, your Honours' most obedient and most humble servant.
H. HOLLINGSWORTH.

To the Honourable Council of Safety of *Maryland*.

P. S. Since writing the above, as an opportunity offers, I have thought it most convenient and least complicated to draw in favour of Mr. *Gilpin* for £300 in one draft, which I have enclosed to him. And am
H. H.

JOSIAH BARTLETT TO JOHN LANGDON.

Philadelphia, September 1, 1776.

MY FRIEND: I am now to acknowledge thy favours of the 7th and 19th ult., which are come to hand, and ere this, you have received by Colonel *Whipple*, every necessary both for fitting out the ship and for your conduct as agent. Pray send her to sea as soon as possible, that she may be doing something to distress our enemies and assist our friends.

By the enclosed papers, you will see what is the news current here. The affairs at *New-York* seem at present to engross our chief attention. We have not had the particulars of the engagement last week on *Long-Island*, but believe it was very sharp and bloody. Generals *Sullivan* and Lord *Sterling* are prisoners to the enemy. I believe the enemy out-generalled our people, by decoying them out of their intrenchments, and then surrounding them; but before this reaches you, you will have later accounts from our Army, and more particulars than I can inform you.

September 2d.—This morning General *Sullivan* arrived here on his parole. He says he has a verbal message from Lord *Howe* to propose his being exchanged for General *Prescott*; and Lord *Sterling* for General *McDonald*. He also says that Lord *Howe* is desirous to converse with some of the members of Congress, not as such, (because he cannot acknowledge any such body,) but as private gentlemen, to see if they can't agree on some proposals for accommodation, and that he will meet them in any convenient place. These are verbal messages, and we have besides every reason to believe that Lord *Howe* has not, and cannot in the nature of things, have power to grant any terms that we can possibly accept; yet, as these reports are spread among the people by half Tories and those called moderate men, who (if it should be refused) would represent it that the Congress refused to hear his proposals, and would add ten thousand

lies of their own, on purpose to disaffect the common people, especially at this very critical time. When I consider these things, I am at a loss what is best to be done; however, I hope we shall be directed to those measures that are best for the *United States*.

I am, sir, your most obedient,
JOSIAH BARTLETT.

P. S. *Wm. Barrell* is dead and buried.

COMMITTEE OF LANCASTER, (PENN.) TO THE COMMITTEE OF CARLISLE.

In Committee, Lancaster, September 1, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: You will receive this by Captain *John Witmer*, who conducts to your town Lieutenant *William Barrington*, of the Royal Fusileers, ordered by the Council of Safety to be sent from hence (where he hath been some time confined) to the town of *Carlisle*, to join the other officers of that corps at that place. He was released from his confinement here on his engaging, by letter to the Council of Safety, to sign his parole agreeable to the directions of Congress, which he is to do on his arrival with you, or be confined. As he is one of the gentlemen who were stationed at *Lebanon*, we thought it best to take his temporary parole, binding him till his arrival with you, which we have entrusted with Captain *Witmer* for your perusal, and request you to return it by him. He takes with him a soldier of the Seventh Regiment, named *William Croft*, from among the prisoners here, as his servant, who we likewise beg leave to place under your direction, and for him he is to engage to be amenable.

We are, gentlemen, your very humble servants,
URI ATLEE, *Chairman*.

To the Committee of Inspection of *Carlisle*.

GENERAL WASHINGTON TO THE NEW YORK CONVENTION.

New York, September 1, 1776.

SIR: I was yesterday honoured with your favour of that date, and should have answered it by the return of the person who brought it, had I not been engaged then in a multiplicity of business, which occasioned me to forget it till he was gone.

In respect to the cattle on this Island, I shall desire the Commissary to purchase as many of them from the inhabitants as he can conveniently, and will afford every assistance the situation of affairs will admit of, to have the remainder secured; but as to those on *Long-Island*, it is impossible for me to take any measures, or give any assistance, to prevent their falling into the enemy's hands. I am persuaded the number of rangers you mention, were they to exert themselves, might be of service, and annoy the foraging parties of the enemy not a little; but, sir, I cannot spare any men for that purpose. Though our force is called in from the outposts and collected on this Island, yet it will not be more than competent to the defence of the several lines necessary to be maintained; nor is it, perhaps, by any means so great as common estimation and report make it.

I am extremely obliged by your opinion on the defensible state of the grounds above *King's Bridge*, though they had not escaped my observation. Their importance I am fully sensible of; and as far as the critical situation of things will allow, their defence shall be attended to, to prevent, if possible, the enemy from possessing them.

I have the honour to be, &c.,
GO. WASHINGTON.

The Hon. *Abm. Yates*, Junr., Esq., President, &c.

P. S. As the posts at *King's Bridge* are of such great importance, I think it will be well, and extremely necessary, to be favoured with your friendly exertions in affording every aid in your power for their defence. Cannot some more Militia be prevailed on to give their assistance, and in whom you can confide? I will not enlarge, being fully assured you will do all you can.

DR. MORGAN TO GENERAL GATES.

New-York, September 1, 1776.

MY DEAR GENERAL: The first chest for ten regiments I sent by Dr. *Potts*, and saw it on board the vessel myself. The other was put on board the vessel with Dr. *Kennedy*, Surgeon of Colonel *Wayne's* regiment, and committed to his particular care, with a card directed to Dr. *Stringer*, who,

I thought, was at the Lakes. Dr. Kennedy ought certainly to be accountable what has become of that chest. If it has miscarried, it must be owing to his neglect.

I now send you a large assortment of medicines, all capital articles. If you knew that I had already supplied fifty or sixty regiments, you would think this no small exertion of mine; but it is in favour of a General and friend I love. That you may have the better chance of getting it, I have ordered a mate with it, who will tell you we have got it through fire and water for you. The invoice is enclosed. I have directed it to you on purpose that it may not be stopped at Albany. But the bearer is to return to Dr. Stringer, unless Dr. Stringer should order him to stay.

Your Aid-de-Camp, Major Pierce, will be up with you, before this can possibly come to hand. Wherefore, being in the greatest hurry, I omit news, as he can give you information of the present state of our army better than I can.

I must tell you that by the resolves of Congress, July 17, which I sent to Dr. Potts, and which he received, and which he can show to you, the Director in each Department is to provide his own medicines, and not depend on me. However, if I can further oblige you, my dear friend, I will with the greatest pleasure. Mrs. Morgan writes me word she had a letter lately from Mrs. Gates, who (and your son Bob) is well. Wishing you success, I remain, my dear sir, your affectionate friend and most humble servant,

JOHN MORGAN.

Hon. Major General Gates.

P. S. My compliments to Major Stewart, Colonel Trumbull, Mr. Avery, Dr. Potts, and all friends. I understood Dr. Stringer took medicines with him from Philadelphia. It is his business, therefore, to supply you further.

EXTRACT OF A LETTER FROM NEW-YORK, DATED SEPTEMBER 1, 1776.

Last Monday morning we went over to Long-Island, and about midnight we were alarmed by the return of some of our scouting parties, who advised us that the English were in motion, and coming up the Island with several field-pieces; it was generally thought not to be the main body, but only a detachment, with a view to possess themselves of some advantageous heights. Upon which near three thousand men were ordered out, consisting chiefly of the Pennsylvania and Maryland troops, to attack them on their march. About sunrise we came up with a very large body of them. The Delaware and Maryland battalions made one party. Colonel Atlee, with his battalion a little before us, had taken post in an orchard and behind a barn, and on the approach of the enemy he gave them a very severe fire, which he bravely kept up for a considerable time, until they were near surrounding him, when he retreated to the woods. The enemy then advanced towards us, upon which Lord Sterling, who commanded, immediately drew us up in a line, and offered them battle in the true English taste. The British army then advanced within about three hundred yards of us, and began a very heavy fire from their cannon and mortars, for both the balls and shells flew very fast, now and then taking off a head. Our men stood it amazingly well; not even one of them showed a disposition to shrink.

Our orders were not to fire until the enemy came within fifty yards of us; but when they perceived we stood their fire so coolly and resolutely, they declined coming any nearer, although treble our number. In this situation we stood from sunrise to twelve o'clock, the enemy firing upon us the chief part of the time, when the main body of their army, by a route we never dreamed of, had entirely surrounded us, and drove within the lines, or scattered in the woods, all our men, except the Delaware and Maryland battalions, who were standing at bay with double their number. Thus situated, we were ordered to attempt a retreat, by fighting our way through the enemy, who had posted themselves, and nearly filled every field and road between us and our lines. We had not retreated a quarter of a mile before we were fired upon by an advanced party of the enemy, and those upon our rear were playing upon us with their artillery. Our men fought with more than Roman courage, and I am convinced would have stood until they were shot down to a man. We forced the advanced party, which first attacked us, to give way, through which opening we got a passage down to the

side of a marsh, seldom before waded over, which we passed, and then swam a narrow river, all the time exposed to the fire of the enemy. The companies commanded by Captains Ramsey and Scott were in the front, and sustained the first fire of the enemy, when hardly a man fell.

The whole of the right wing of our battalion, thinking it impossible to pass through the marsh, attempted to force their way through the woods, where they were almost to a man killed or taken. The Maryland battalion has lost two hundred and fifty-nine men, amongst whom are twelve officers: Captains Veazey and Bowie, the first certainly killed; Lieuts. Butler, Sterrett, Dent, Coursey, Muse, Prawl; Ensigns Coats and Fernandes; who of them are killed, or who prisoners, is yet uncertain. Many of the officers lost their swords and guns. We have since entirely abandoned Long-Island, bringing off all our military stores.

Generals Sullivan and Sterling are both prisoners. Colonels Atlee, Miles and Piper, are also taken. There are about one thousand men missing in all. We took a few prisoners. By a Lieutenant we took, we understand they had about twenty-three thousand men on the Island that morning. Most of our Generals were upon a high hill in our lines, viewing us with glasses. When we began our retreat, they could see the enemy we had to pass through, though we could not. Many of them thought we would surrender in a body, without firing. When we began the attack, General Washington wrung his hands, and cried out, Good God! What brave fellows I must this day lose! Major Guest commanded the Maryland battalion, the Colonel and Lieutenant-Colonel being both at York. Captains Adams and Lucas were sick. The Major, Captain Ramsey, and Lieutenant Plunkett, were foremost, and within forty yards of the enemy's muzzles, when they were fired upon by the enemy, who were chiefly under cover of an orchard, save a few that showed themselves and pretended to give up, clubbing their firelocks until we came within that distance, when they immediately presented and blazed in our faces; they entirely overshot us, and killed some men away behind in our rear. I had the satisfaction of dropping one of them the first fire I made. I was so near I could not miss. I discharged my rifle seven times that day as deliberately as I ever did at a mark, and with as little perturbation.

COLONEL CARY TO GENERAL HEATH.

Head-Quarters, September 1, 1776.

SIR: I am instructed by his Excellency to acknowledge the receipt of your favour yesterday, and to acquaint you he has directed the Quartermaster-General to furnish you with the horses wanted. He has also desired Colonel Moylan to place an Assistant Quartermaster up at King's Bridge, to supply such articles as are necessary, which would thereby save much trouble to all parties, and particularly to the General, as a considerable part of his time is taken up in reading letters from different quarters upon such subjects, which at this time is far from being agreeable to him.

Should such an Assistant Quartermaster be placed at King's Bridge, it is presumed care will be taken that no applications be made to him for any articles but only such as cannot be dispensed with.

I am, with due respect, sir, your most obedient servant,

RICH'D. CARY, JUN., A. D. C.

Major General Heath, King's Bridge.

EBENEZER HAZARD TO JOHN M'KESSON.

Dobb's Ferry, September 1, 1776.

SIR: Your express found me at the door and delivered me your letter. As I was only one of the persons concerned in the privateer I could do nothing in the matter, but sent the express to town with the letter, that the other persons concerned might be consulted and do what was necessary. The express has returned to this place and informed me he could not find either of the persons to whom I directed my letter, so that nothing yet can be done. But I intend sending the letter to town again to-morrow, and you may depend upon the earliest information respecting the sale of the privateer. I am willing for my own part to accept the offer of prime cost, and I imagine the rest of the partners will have no objection; but I think as only prime cost is offered,

it is hardly fair to expect us to run the risk of getting the sloop to *Poughkeepsie*; however, I will consent to whatever the rest agree to. I am, sir, your very humble servant,

EBEN'R HAZARD.

P. S. Will it not be proper for the Convention to have a rider *daily* to and from *New-York*, and to call on me both going and coming? I may be found at Major *Abraham Storms's*. Shall pay proper attention to the Committee's resolve about the post's riding on this side the river, but I fear people on the west side will be dissatisfied. Will you send word over the river, so that the post may be prevented going on the west side to *New-York* this trip?

OFFICERS COMMISSIONED IN KING'S COUNTY, NEW-YORK.

A Return of the Officers chosen by the different Companies in KING's County, who have signed the Declaration and taken their Commissions.

Light Horse: Adolph Waldron, *Captain*; Wm. Boerum, *1st Lieutenant*; Thomas Everet, *2d Lieutenant*; Jacob Sebring, Jr., *Ensign*; Isaac Sebring, *Quartermaster*.

Troop of Horse: Lambert Suydam, *Captain*; Daniel Rapelje, *1st Lieutenant*; Jacob Bloom, *2d Lieutenant*; Peter Van De Voort, *Ensign*; Peter Wykoff, *Quartermaster*.

Flatlands: Jeremiah V. D. Bilt, *Captain*; Albert Stotthoff, *1st Lieutenant*; Thomas Elsworth, *2d Lieutenant*; Peter V. D. Bilt, *Ensign*.

Gravesend: Rem Williamson, *Captain*; Samuel Hubbard, *1st Lieutenant*; Garret Williamson, *2d Lieutenant*; John Lane, *Ensign*.

Half of Brooklyn: Barent Johnson, *Captain*; Barent Lefferts, *1st Lieutenant*; Joost D. B. Vooise, *2d Lieutenant*; Martin Schenck, *Ensign*.

Flatbush: Corn's V. D. Veer, *Captain*; Peter Lefferts, *1st Lieutenant*; John Van Duyn, *2d Lieutenant*; John Benham, *Ensign*.

Half of Brooklyn: Ferd's Suydam, *Captain*; Simon Bergen, *1st Lieutenant*; Wm. Brower, *2d Lieutenant*; Jacob Stellenwert, *Ensign*.

Bushwyck: John Titus, *Captain*; Ab'm Van Ranst, *1st Lieutenant*; Peter Colyer, *2d Lieutenant*; John Skilman, *Ensign*.

New Uytrecht: Adrian Van Brunt, *Captain*; Adrian Hegeman, *1st Lieutenant*; Harm's Barkulo, *2d Lieutenant*; William Barre, *Ensign*.

JOSEPH BULL TO GENERAL WOODHULL.

SIR: I was last *Friday* evening taken in custody by order of General *Scott*, since which time I have been kept a prisoner (though humanely treated) at *New-Rochelle*, and by letter from General *Scott*, am acquainted I must go on board a sloop for *Norwich*, in *Connecticut*; this, without a hearing is hard; but what renders such a voyage truly distressing is my wife's being near her time of lying in, a woman of feeble constitution, without father or mother. I am very fearful it may end her days. All these evils, if justly deserved, I could the more cheerfully endure. As early as the first forming a Committee in *New-York*, I was one of the promoters, in which Committee I served about two years, as I thought with the approbation of my fellow-citizens at large, as I was, on a dissolution of the committee always nominated by the Committee and the people outdoors, who used often to correct our nomination, and was finally dismissed on account of my business often calling me abroad, so that I could not give due attendance. Between the dissolution of the first and the choice of a second Congress, I was informed a number of people had assembled to counteract, and if possible frustrate a second choice. I attended, and, with the assistance of a few others, they were prevailed on to drop that opposition, but would and did oppose a convention. When there was an answer appeared to the paper called *Philips*, I carried them through *Westchester* and *Dutchess* County, and so on through the borders of *New-England* as far as the first had reached, and if I had time, I could produce witnesses who would acknowledge I have proselyted them from toryism. One matter is within the compass of your knowledge, which doth not speak a wish the country might be subdued; and if I can before this goes from me, I shall furnish you with some

circumstances more, all of which, if it should appear to you, sir, are small, still they will, I think, evince that my wish is that way. I could further add, all my friends are, if the country is conquered, ruined, ties which, if nothing else, would induce me to be friendly to the *American* cause; but other motives alone would influence me.

If you can, sir, be of service to me in this case, you may be the instrument of saving life, and I am conscious will not lessen the strength of the cause. If the matter, sir, should lie with the General, I don't know but it is asking too much, but I should be much obliged if you could wait on him, and if you think proper, show him this letter, all which favours I shall thankfully acknowledge, and no one will more cheerfully retaliate them.

Your most obedient, very humble servant,

JOSEPH BULL.

To General *Woodhull*, at *Harlem*.

N. B. If Colonel *Philips*, Colonel *Corsa* and myself must proceed, we should be glad to give security and proceed by land; a boat will be exceedingly disagreeable at this hot season, and most of us subject to be sea-sick. We are the only prisoners here except Mr. *Jauncey*.

LIEUTENANT EDGET TO NEW-YORK CONVENTION.

GENTLEMEN: As I was nominated as Lieutenant in *Johannes Van Steenberg's* company, and in Colonel *Graham's* regiment, and as I was, while in the service, but unhealthy, very unfit for duty, and particularly at my departure from the army, and so I continue incapable of being in any ways serviceable to my country: therefore I humbly request your honourable body to please to grant my dismissal from the service; and in so doing you shall very much oblige, gentlemen, him who is yours, with respect.

Your devoted friend and very humble servant,

STEPHEN EDGET.

To the Honourable Congress of the State of *New-York* and Territories therein depending for the time being.

GENERAL SCHUYLER TO GENERAL GATES.

Albany, September 1, 1776.

DEAR GENERAL: Yesterday I received your favour of the 26th, continued to the 27th, and about four o'clock an express went off to General *Washington*, with copy of your letter and the several enclosures.

Not a sheet of musket cartridge paper is to be had here, or anywhere in this part of the country. A quantity sent from *New-York* on the 19th ultimo is not yet arrived. The grindstones and the other articles mentioned in the list sent me by Mr. *Lewis*, you will receive the soonest possible, excepting the wire, emery, and screw-plates, which must come from *New-York*, and the bar iron, which is sent for to Mr. *Livingston's* forge.

If you cannot procure a sufficiency of carpenters out of the troops to replace the sick and lame, let me know it, and I will try to send some from hence.

Not a man is stopped on the route to the army by my order, except such as have lately had the small-pox; and that was in consequence of information given me immediately before my order of the 20th ultimo to General *Waterbury*, which information is since corroborated by a letter of the 22d ultimo, yesterday received, from Governour *Trumbull*, who says: "Inoculation for the small-pox I find has been practised by the troops on their way to join the army. I hope a practice so pernicious in every respect will be discouraged. I have taken the liberty to suggest my fears and sentiments to General *Gates* on this subject. Indeed, sir, if it is not timely restrained, it appears to me it must prove fatal to all our operations, and may ruin the country."

You are perfectly right in taking it for granted that I send all your letters that contain anything that Congress or General *Washington* ought to know, to them, as also all papers of the least importance.

September 2.—Last night three *Philadelphia* gentlemen who passed through *New-York* on their way to this place, informed us that on *Tuesday* last there were several smart rencountres between our troops and the enemy on *Long-Island*, with alternate success; that considerable numbers fell on both sides; that on *Wednesday* they attacked our lines, but were repulsed with loss. It is supposed they lost

three thousand, we two thousand. General *Grant*, of theirs, killed. General *Sullivan* and Lord *Stirling* missing. Two of the *Pennsylvania* battalions suffered most. We wait with impatience for more particulars. One of the gentlemen, who left *New-York* on *Thursday* morning, heard a smart cannonade when at *King's Bridge*. Some of the *Hessians*. The enemy's ships of war, on *Thursday* morning, were still near *Staten-Island*, and no appearance of their moving.

The gentlemen above mentioned have brought half a million of dollars to our military chest. Let us know what part of it you will want. The troops can now be regularly paid off.

I send this by express, and hope it will soon be followed by another, announcing the total rout of the enemy.

Mr. *Avery* has not complied with my orders. Whether he is subordinate to Mr. *Livingston* or not, it was his business to obey, and if he thought himself injured, to have complained. I have wrote Mr. *Trumbull* the Commissary General, and have declared, that whilst Mr. *Livingston* is in this department, the returns shall be made as I have directed, and that I would have sent Mr. *Avery* down under arrest, but as I did not know what orders he had given him, I should waive the matter till I heard from him, that no damage might accrue to the service. Two heads to the same branch, and in the same department of the army, involves such an absurdity that I will never suffer it whilst I command.

Adieu, my dear General. I am your most obedient humble servant,

PH. SCHUYLER.

To the Hon. General *Gates*, &c.

Tyconderoga, September 1, 1776.

This may certify the most advantageous post on *Onion River* for the posting of six companies of men, raised for the defence of the frontier, is at *Jericho*, at *Baker's* block-house, and at *Colchester Point*.

Certified: JOSEPH WAIT, Lieutenant Colonel.

Head-Quarters, Ticonderoga, September 1, 1776.

SIR: You are directed to maintain your post at *Jerico* on *Onion River*, with the company under your command, sending out scouts and following the directions you may from time to time receive from the Committee of the County and Town, and the advice of *Deacon Rood*. You will remain till you receive orders from the commanding officers here. Any intelligence, or deserters of the enemy, are to be sent to Head-Quarters, *Ticonderoga*, immediately.

I am, sir, your obedient servant, JOHN TRUMBULL,

Dep. Adj. Gen'l Northern Army.

Commanding Officer of the Company raised by Captain *Fauceit*.

GENERAL ST. CLAIR TO LIEUTENANT COLONEL ALLEN.

Ticonderoga, September 1, 1776.

DEAR SIR: This is my third to you since yours of the 25th of *July*. Whether the former have reached you or not is doubtful, as our communication seems not to be much more open than heretofore. How that happens *God* knows, but certain it is, few letters to or from this army get on.

I wish to *God* you had returned to the regiment, though I well know your sentiments. I really expected you would have come back. The osier keeps its footing when the oak is torn up by the roots. You know my way of thinking, and you know likewise the obligations I have to your family—obligations which no change of circumstances can ever cancel. But you will excuse me, my dear sir; I believe it would have been true policy to have given some way to the temper of the times.

If I remember right, there were two points on which we were perfectly agreed: First, that independence was not the interest of *America* if the liberties of *America* could be otherwise secured; secondly, that if foreign troops were employed to reduce *America* to absolute submission, that independence or any other mode was justifiable. There is now no doubt about the employment of foreign troops, which I own I think was the watchword to every man of property in *America*, for I doubt very much whether, if

Great Britain should succeed by force, much odds would be made by the lordly conquerors between friends or foes, or if native and foreign avarice and rapacity would not be glutted with the indiscriminate spoil of both. I am persuaded many worthy men would not have wished things to go as they have done, because they thought it not consistent with the true interest of *America*, which might have long been happy in a regulated (not unwarlike) subordination to *Great Britain*—but that fatal proceeding, amongst whom I think I may reckon your venerable father, has cast the die.

Do not, my dear sir, imagine my late promotion has altered my sentiments. I will own to you I am pleased, not flattered with it. I am come to that time of life, and some how or other have always had a way of thinking, what some people call philosophy, but it is nothing but constitution, that puts me out of danger of that flutter and emotion that sudden and unexpected elation gives some people. I assure you I would rather experience the heartfelt satisfaction of discharging one social duty, one debt of gratitude, than have as many Honour's and Excellency's stuck to my name as would fill a quire of paper. To your father and brother, and Mr. *Penn*, I have obligations that I must ever feel, that I will never forget. You know I am a bad politician, but if you have not already taken too decisive a post—I cannot say one word more about the matter, and when I reflect on your own good sense and the superior understanding and experience of many of your friends, it would be insolence to offer you any advice.

We have made this a very strong post. The old *French* lines are repaired, and redoubts upon redoubts constructed, and men enough to defend them. If they come we shall certainly give a good account of them. General *Arnold* is down the Lake with the fleet—three schooners and a sloop, and ten gondolas, mounting in all about one hundred guns. The time is certainly near now. I wish you was here to share the honours, for we shall certainly bear them. We shall make up for the *Three Rivers*—but wherever you are, my best wishes shall ever attend you. Your baggage Major *Scull* takes to *Albany*, all but your bedding. Your mattress and blanket I let Mr. *Clajon* have, his having been stolen one day out of the General's house. The rest I will keep. Let me know the price, and the money shall be remitted for the whole. I thank you for the *marqué*. I will take all the care I can of it, and bring it with me when I return. If I return not, you do not want friends here who will do me the kindness to send it. Next time I will tell you all about the money, and am, &c.

WILLIAM GILLILAND TO GENERAL ARNOLD.

September 1, 1776.

SIR: The troops and sailors accompanying you on your cruise this day week, have wantonly and wickedly committed great destruction on several of my plantations on this settlement. They have forcibly raised two fields of potatoes that, if full grown, would have filled two hundred bushels; an acre of peas are entirely destroyed, which would have yielded sixteen to twenty bushels; five or six acres of corn are ruined; about ten dollars worth of smith's tools, and a multitude of other irons; two pleasure sleighs, five new sash windows, a new bedstead and bed-cord, several chairs, and many other articles, they have carried off, tearing houses, breaking doors, and committing every villany in the most insolent and licentious manner, even before my servants' face, whom I sent to guard these things, telling them it was by order of the officers they came for the vegetables, and have them they would, were I present myself. This was a bad return for seventy-five salmon given to them and Captain *Alexander's* people on that and the preceding day. As I am convinced you would not by any means countenance such proceedings, I rely and request you will have immediate justice done me, by ordering a survey or inquiry to be made to ascertain the amount of my damage. You may easily remember how General *Gates* served Captain *Romans* for suffering some of his men to pull up a few potato hills near *Ticonderoga*. It grieves me to see my crops destroyed, for whose preservation I came here and remain here at the risk of my life, and those crops on the deserted lots are all the pay I shall probably ever get from those by whom they were formerly occupied, who owed me very

considerable sums of money, and many of whom have died since their removal, the others gone down the country. I shall hope for your ready compliance, and that you will believe me to be, very respectfully, sir, your most obedient humble servant,
WILL. GILLILAND.

To General Arnold.

P. S. My salmon crib and all its apparatus were carried off last *Monday* night by the violence of a very great flood. If your carpenters could be spared to assist me one day or two, I should very soon be able to send you some salmon.

W. G.

If the men belonging to the vessels are suffered to come ashore where there are settlements, 'twill be impossible to prevent their doing mischief. Besides what I have mentioned above, the people belonging to one of the gondolas went ashore last *Sunday* afternoon to *Point Pleasant Bay*, three and a half miles south of my river, and not finding any of my people there, carried off five of my blankets, which my people left in a barn there where they lodged whilst reaping near that place. These things could not possibly have all been taken on board without the knowledge of the officers.

COLONEL HARTLEY TO GENERAL GATES.

Crown-Point, September 1, 1776.

HONOURED GENERAL: The sentry informs me that he heard a morning gun from the fleet to-day. I presume they remained near *Gilliland's* yesterday; this seems a little strange as there was so good a wind. The General will doubtless proceed on to-day. He may get to the *Isle Motte* if he pleases.

I have just despatched two boats, one to *Gilliland's*, the other to Major *Grier* to the fleet, really to see what they are doing on board, and to be able to give some account of their dispositions. He will go on till he meets with them. He is to return as soon as possible.

The galley and gondola came here this morning. I have procured a pilot, directed some biscuits to be put on board. The other apparatus he promises to send as soon as possible. The few artillery men I mentioned are not yet come. I would detain them but a very short time.

We endeavoured to take the large cannon out of a broken boat and put it into a sound one, but could not effect it, for want of a gin. We will make another trial, and if possible, send it up.

The party to cover the oar cutters is not yet arrived, though the one sent to bring the saw-mill gears is gone past.

I am, sir, your most obedient and very humble servant,

THO. HARTLEY.

To Major General Gates.

Twenty minutes past twelve o'clock, P. M.

P. S. If the post is arrived, I would be glad if a newspaper could be sent me. Yours, &c.

T. H.

INSTRUCTIONS TO THEIR REPRESENTATIVES, VOTED BY THE FREEMEN OF A TOWN IN CONNECTICUT, AT THEIR ANNUAL MEETING IN SEPTEMBER, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: Although we repose the highest confidence in your zeal for the publick weal and particular attention to the true interests of your constituents; yet we think it our duty to manifest to you our sentiments respecting a matter which we hope may come under the consideration of the honourable General Assembly of the State of *Connecticut* the ensuing session, and in our apprehension, is of the utmost importance to the people of this State, viz: The mode of electing Delegates to represent this State in the General Congress of *America*.

The exigency of publick affairs have heretofore seemed to require that they should be nominated and appointed by the General Assembly, which has been done to general satisfaction. *America* is now declared independent, and is forming into an empire unconnected with any other part of the globe. We think it a duty we owe ourselves and posterity to guard our rights and privileges on every quarter, lest a precedent founded at first in necessity or accident, should in time be construed to deprive us of one privilege which we deem essential to the preservation of all the rest. The power of electing Representatives, who, with others, are entrusted with power to declare war and make peace, to form alliances with foreign nations, and

FIFTH SERIES.—VOL. II.

to make laws for an extensive empire, (we conceive,) can be lodged nowhere in so safe hands as that of the whole body of freeholders in a State. Bribery and corruption, intrigue and undue influence, is much more easily practised upon a few than many; although we have the highest value for our own General Assembly, whose members have heretofore been governed and directed by the most laudable of principles, the love of their country's welfare, yet we are not sure that in all future times, the same attention will be paid to the true interest of their constituents, or the same principle be the ruling motive of action; and we must declare to you that we think it a right which unalienably belongs to the freeholders of this State to elect members to represent them in the General Congress of *America*, and a right and power which posterity cannot be deprived of by any previous or present obligation to others. We do, therefore, as part of the freeholders of this State enjoin it upon you as our Representatives in General Assembly, to use your utmost influence that the Assembly do order and direct that such election of Delegates to represent this State in General Congress, be annually made by the freeholders, or freemen at large, and not by their Representatives in General Assembly.

COLONEL H. B. LIVINGSTON TO GOVERNOUR TRUMBULL.

Camp, River Head, September 1, 1776.

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR HONOUR: I wrote to you the day before yesterday an account of the prevailing reports, since which, I have seen a Mr. *Hobart*, whose accounts are not more encouraging. But I am informed from undoubted authority that he has brought letters from the lower class of people in *Huntington* directed to the people at large in this County, tending to discourage them from making any further attempts against the enemy. I can't as yet find any certainty of their being very formidable; however, if they are, I am still determined as soon as the whole of my detachment arrives, to harass and distress them all in my power, until I can have your or General *Washington's* advice, which I wait with impatience for. Yours, &c.,

HENRY B. LIVINGSTON.

To His Excellency Governour *Trumbull*, (to be forwarded by all Committees,) *Lebanon*.

P. S. Mr. *Hobart* is a member of the *New-York* Convention. If a retreat is determined upon, a number of boats will be necessary to carry off the troops and the inhabitants; which I hope your Excellency will take into consideration.

GOVERNOUR TRUMBULL TO NATHANIEL SHAW, JUN.

Lebanon, September 1, 1776.

SIR: There being necessity of sending a number of troops from *New-London* to the east end of *Long-Island*, you are desired to provide necessary transports, and immediately provide for the carrying over Colonel *Erastus Wolcott's* regiment with their baggage and the six field-pieces at *New-London*, and you are directed to forward with them sufficient quantity of powder and ball. And as Captain *John Deshon* is directed to forward sufficient quantity of provision for the forces, would have you confer with him, and so cooperate that the provisions may be forwarded as the troops go over. Mr. *Andrew Huntington*, of *Norwich*, per order engaged of Captain *Jabez Perkins* one suitable vessel for said service, which must be improved as a transport or to carry stores; and there is more to be had at *Norwich* if wanted, and quite likely a further number will soon be wanted besides those immediately for Colonel *Wolcott's* regiment.

Resting satisfied that nothing will be wanting on your part to forward this important expedition, remain yours to serve.

JONTH. TRUMBULL.

To Mr. *Nath. Shaw Jun.*, in *New-London*.

CONNECTICUT COUNCIL OF SAFETY.

At a meeting of the Governour and Council of Safety of *Connecticut*, September 1st, 1776:

Present: his Honour the Governour, *Jabez Huntington*, *Richard Law*, *Jed'h Elderkin*, *Wm. Hillhouse*, *Nathaniel Wales*, Jun., *Benjamin Huntington*, Esquires.

His Honour the Governour gave an order on Captain

Sam'l Squire, to send two hundred pounds saltpetre to *New-York*, to the care of General *Wolcott*, dated this day, and delivered to Dr. *Turner* to carry.

His Honour the Governour, with advice of this Council, gave orders to the Commanding officers of the 3d, 5th, 8th, 11th, 12th, 20th, 21st and 25th Regiments of Militia in this State, forthwith to call out their said regiments, and see them equipped and marched to *New-London*, and have in readiness both officers and men to embark for *Long-Island*, and there to land in the most convenient place, to march from thence to the assistance of our army, against the troops and mercenaries of the King of *Great Britain* on that Island, or to be stationed at *New-London*, as occasion may require; all due pay and wages to be made by the Assembly of this State, and by the *United States of America*, in a just and equitable manner, as others of the Militia, lately sent from this State, are treated.

His Honour the Governour, by advice of this Council, gave orders to Colonel *Erastus Wolcott*, of the regiment at the forts at *New-London*, *Groton*, &c., without delay to put his officers and soldiers stationed at *New-London* and *Groton*, in readiness, well equipped, to embark for *Long-Island*, and to see the Sound is so clear that they may with safety pass the same, and forthwith to embark with them, and go upon the Island, and there coöperate with the forces on the Island, and from our army to command them in such manner as to secure and defend the inhabitants, assist to dispose of the stock in such manner as shall be agreed upon, and to annoy the enemy in such sort as he shall be able, and to take with him six of the field-pieces now at *New-London*, and order such as he may have to follow, to bring the residue to the number of six field-pieces; to use his prudence in engaging men, and take with him one of the Captains, and a suitable number of officers, and twenty-five matrosses for the service; all due pay and wages are and will be made by the Assembly of this State, or of the *United States of America*, in a just and equitable manner, as others of the Militia, lately sent from this State, are treated.

Gave orders to Mr. *Nathaniel Shaw*, Jun., to supply the troops going to *Long-Island* with stores of powder and transports for their use, and in particular that he employ a sloop belonging to Captain *Jabez Perkins*, which has already been engaged for that service.

Gave an order to Captain *John Deshon* to provide bread, flour, and other provisions necessary for the troops going from this State on to *Long-Island*.

COMMODORE HOPKINS TO THE MARINE COMMITTEE.

Providence, September 1, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: I stopped at *New-Haven* on *Wednesday*, and found the *Hampden* near ready for sea as Mr. *Lawrence* informed me, all but men and officers, which she had none; Captain *Hacker* had not got there. I left orders for him, when he came, to get as many men as would be sufficient, and come with the brig to *New-London*.

I came to *New-London* *Thursday* morning; did not find Mr. *Shaw* at home, but learned that the schooner and bomb brig were both sold, with all their stores, so that at present I do not know of any vessel that can be had that will answer; how Mr. *Shaw* came to sell them and their stores, or by whose orders, I can't tell. I likewise found the *Cabot* was gone out on a cruise; she had been gone out about a week, and have no knowledge how long she is to cruise, nor by what authority Captain *Hinman* could undertake to go out, as he had my orders, when I left *New-London* for *Philadelphia*, not to go to sea without he received orders from the Marine Committee or from me.

I came here yesterday; have not seen Captain *Saltonstall*, but hear the *Alfred* is about five miles below, with about forty men, including officers, on board, having spared some to Captain *Biddle*, and a number to Captain *Whipple*, who sailed on a cruise in four days after he got home, with one hundred and seventy-eight men on board. As soon as I get a little over the fatigue of my journey, shall set myself about manning the *Alfred*. Should be glad to know when I get her ready whether I may send her out under the command of Lieutenant Mr. *Jonathan Pitcher*, whom I believe to be a prudent, capable man. Should be glad of your sentiments, to know whether you approve of Captain *Hinman's* sailing with the *Cabot*, as I believe he has gone without

orders from any person. Mr. *House*, whom you appointed Lieutenant of the Brig *Hampden*, is gone out in the *Columbus*. If you think proper to appoint Mr. *Walter Spooner* as second Lieutenant, that he may act as first until *House* gets on board, I believe it will be best for the service.

I am, gentlemen, your most humble servant,

E. HOPKINS.

To the Hon. *John Hancock*, Esq., President of the Marine Committee, at *Philadelphia*.

P. S. I hear a sloop of *Dunmore's* is carried into the eastward by one of their privateers, loaded with tobacco.

COLONEL JOSEPH WARD TO GENERAL WASHINGTON.

Boston, September 1, 1776.

SIR: Your Excellency's letter of the 26th of *August* came by the last post. General *Ward* being out of town, I have transmitted the letter, with the enclosed resolve of Congress, to him.

I am sorry to inform your Excellency that Captain *Burke*, in the armed schooner *Warren*, on the 26th of *August*, was taken by a *British* frigate about ten leagues without this bay. Captain *Ayers*, in the armed schooner *Lynch*, was in company with the *Warren*, but made his escape, and brought this intelligence.

We hear with inexpressible pleasure of the repulse which our troops, under your Excellency's command, gave the enemy, and most ardently pray that it may be a prelude to the total defeat of those infamous tools of the most infamous tyrant.

I have the honour to be, sir, your Excellency's most obedient humble servant, JOSEPH WARD, A. D. C.

To His Excellency General *Washington*.

WINTHROP SARGENT TO MASSACHUSETTS COUNCIL.

Gloucester, September 1, 1776.

SIR: This is to inform you that Captain *Daniel Waters*, of the schooner *Lee*, retook and brought into this harbour an old coasting sloop, which was taken last *Sunday* by the *Milford* frigate of thirty-two guns; on board of the sloop were Mr. *Richey* and Captain *Alexander Lumsdale*, late Captain of the powder ship *True Runaway*, for *Salem*; for further particulars the prisoners can inform your Honours. The *Milford* is now off the Cape with one brig, one schooner, and a sloop, which are prizes; they have burnt and sunk four—two in sight of this place. Enclosed you have all the papers found on board the sloop, which please to return, as it is all we have to show the sloop was taken. Captain *Waters* has left the sloop here, and shall wait your directions in regard to her, and am, with due respect, your obedient, humble servant,

WINTHROP SARGENT, Agent.

State of Massachusetts Bay, in Council, Sept. 4, 1776.

The foregoing having been laid before this Board and read,

Resolved, That the Sheriff of the County of *Suffolk* be, and he is hereby directed to take the said *Richey*, and *Alexander Lumsdale*, and keep them in close custody till further order.

SAMUEL ADAMS, Secretary.

Council Chamber, September 4, 1776.

Whereas application is made that Mr. *Francis Curtice*, now a prisoner of war at *New-Salem*, in this State, under the care and custody of the Committee of Correspondence, Safety, and Inspection, of said place, may be exchanged for *Philip Stevens*, lately taken on board a coasting vessel at or near *New-York*, and now a prisoner on board some of the men-of-war of the enemy on that station; said *Stevens* being an inhabitant of, and belonging unto *Killingsworth*, in the State of *Connecticut*:

Whereupon, Ordered, That the Committee of Correspondence, Inspection, and Safety, of *New-Salem* aforesaid, be, and hereby are directed to deliver the said *Francis Curtice* unto *Samuel Redfield*, of *Killingsworth* aforesaid, to be exchanged for said *Philip Stevens*: Provided he, the said *Samuel Redfield*, shall give the said Committee a receipt, promising to return the said *Francis Curtice* into their custody, in case the proposed exchange shall not take effect.

[Mr. *Robert Basden*, mate of His Majesty's ship *Niger*,

who was taken in a sloop belonging to *Perth-Amboy*, and carried into *Beverly*, loaded with wine. We suppose them to be at *Northampton*. Mr. *Curtis*, belonging to the said ship, who was taken in a brig loaded with salt, and carried into *Plymouth*, near *Boston*. Supposed to be at the same place.]

MARYLAND COUNCIL OF SAFETY TO CAPTAIN DEANS.

Annapolis, September 2, 1776.

SIR: Sergeant *Barnes* of your company having suggested to this Board that his private concerns will suffer very considerably by his continuing in your company, more especially as the company is now on their march to the northward, we therefore think that the publick service will not suffer by Sergeant *Barnes's* leaving your company; therefore you are directed to give him a discharge. We are, &c.
To Captain *Deans*.

BALTIMORE COMMITTEE TO MARYLAND CONVENTION.

In Committee, Baltimore, September 2, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: This Committee having heard that your honourable House are about to raise a battalion or two in this Province, we beg leave to recommend the bearer, Mr. *Robert Wilmott*, a native of this County, and attached to the liberties of *America*, as a Lieutenant or Ensign in the service.

We are, with all due respect, your most obedient, humble servants,

SAML. PURVIANCE, Jun., Chairman.

WILLIAM LUX, Vice Chairman.

ANDREW BUCHANAN,

EDWARD TALBOTT,

JNO. BOYD,

BENJAMIN GRIFFITH,

WILLIAM WILKINSON,

THOMAS RUTTER.

To the Hon. *Matthew Tilghman*, Esq., President of the Convention of *Maryland*.

WILLIAM DEAKINS, JUN., TO MARYLAND COUNCIL OF SAFETY.

Lower District of Frederick County, September 2, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: Yours of the 17th last month to my brother *Leonard*, came to hand a few days after he had marched for *Philadelphia*; he waited several days after his letter to you of the 12th, but receiving no orders, he consulted Colonel *Griffith*, who ordered him to march, and recruit on the way four or five men to complete his company, after which his return was made from *Philadelphia*. I hope my brother will stand excused for this step, for both the Colonel and himself thought it for the good of the Province; his would have been one of the first companies full, had he not been unlucky in some of his officers. He has himself recruited most of his men. *Bruce*, who solicited you for the Ensign's commission, has not recruited one man, notwithstanding he engaged to go with the company till the day they marched, and even then promised the Captain to follow him in a day or two, but has since declined.

I know my brother will wish to have his first Sergeant, Mr. *Dennis Griffith*, appointed his Ensign, and when he makes his return, I expect he will solicit you in his favour. He is a very deserving young man, and I think merits the commission. The cash you sent by Mr. *Nicholls* for my brother, is delivered to the Committee of this District, who will account for it.

I am, gentlemen, your obedient, humble servant,

WILL. DEAKINS, Jun.

To the Honourable Council of Safety of *Maryland*.

JOHN BURRELL TO MARYLAND COUNCIL OF SAFETY.

Baltimore, September 2, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: I was first shipped as master's mate of the ship *Defence*, at her first setting out in the Provincial service. At the time Lieutenant *Boucher* left the ship I was advanced to master, by the Council of Safety. I hope your Honours will continue to advance me in rotation, or as Commodore *Nicholson* shall think right; as imagine him to be the best judge what I may deserve. Lieutenant *Nicholson* I hear is going to leave the ship, likewise Lieutenant *Johns*. If so, think I should be first Lieutenant, as I was master of

the ship before Lieutenant *Auchenbact* had his commission. From, gentlemen, your most obedient humble servant,

JOHN BURRELL.

To the Hon. Council of Safety, now sitting at *Annapolis*.

BALTIMORE COMMITTEE.

At a meeting of the Committee, September 2, 1776, Present: *S. Purviance*, Chairman; *W. Lux*, Vice-Chairman; *W. Buchanan*, *W. Wilkinson*, *J. Standefort*, *W. Tolley*, Jun., *G. Vaughan*, *B. Griffith*, *J. Calhoun*, *T. Sollers*, *E. Talbot*, *D. Shaw*, *J. Smith*, *J. Boyd*.

Mr. *Edmund Stansbury* is appointed to take an account of the number of inhabitants in *Gunpowder Upper Hundred*, in the room of Captain *James Bosley*, who resigned.

Upon motion, Resolved, That Messrs. *Walter Tolley*, Jun., *William Buchanan*, and *James Calhoun* be, and they are hereby appointed a committee to examine the accounts of Messrs. *Lux* and *Bowly*, relating to the schooner *Resolution*, who are to make their reports on *Wednesday* next.

Colonel *Walter Tolley* is unanimously appointed one of the committee for licensing suits, vice Captain *John Egar Howard*, who is marched with his company, to *New-York*.

Isaac Wigley having enrolled in Captain *Garritson's* company, and *Isaac Dew* in Captain *Thomas Rutter's*, the fines assessed on them as non-enrollers are remitted.

The Sheriff is directed to allow three shillings and nine pence per bushel, for good, clean, merchantable wheat, in discharge of an execution against *John Riley*, *William Reily*, and *Zebulon Bosley*, at the suit of *John Barrow*.

Attest: GEO. LUX, Secretary.

JOSIAH BARTLETT TO GENERAL FOLSOM.

Philadelphia, September 2, 1776.

MY DEAR SIR: I have received yours of the 14th ultimo, with the acts of our Legislature enclosed, for which I thank you, as it gives me particular satisfaction to be informed of the situation of affairs in our own State. I am fully sensible of the great difficulties we labour under by the soldiers being enlisted for such short periods, and that it would have been much better had they at first received a good bounty, and been enlisted to serve during the war. But you may recollect the many, and, to appearance, almost insuperable difficulties that then lay in our way. No money, no magazines of provisions, no military stores, no government; in short, when I look back, and consider our situation about fifteen months ago, instead of wondering that we are in no better situation than at present, I am surprised we are in so good. Who of us at that time expected that the infatuation of *Britain* would have forced us to the state we are now in? As circumstances now are, I think we ought, by all means, to be provided with a well-disciplined army, to serve during the war, and that they ought to be raised as soon as possible.

I am glad to hear that our powder mill is ready to be set going. Pray take particular care that the powder is good. A considerable quantity made by one of the mills of this State appears not to have above half the force of good powder, and does not catch quick. The danger from bad powder in an engagement is so great that the Congress have ordered that no powder be sent to the army but such as has been well tried and approved by inspectors appointed for that purpose, and have recommended it to the several Legislatures to appoint inspectors to prove all the powder that is made or imported into their respective States. A copy I will enclose if I can procure one before the post sets off. I will also enclose the orders of Congress concerning wounded and maimed soldiers and seamen.

The affairs at *New-York* seem at present almost wholly to engross our attention. We have not had the full of the particulars of the action of the 27th ultimo on *Long-Island* from the General; but by the best accounts we have obtained it appears that our people were decoyed and surrounded by the main body of the enemy, and obliged to fight their way through, or surrender prisoners. It appears there must have been some very great neglect, either in not sending out proper guards and parties to gain intelligence, or they not doing their duty. General *Sullivan* and Lord *Sterling* are prisoners, and I believe six hundred or seven hundred others. The consequence has been the evacuation of *Long-Island* and *Governour's Island*, of both which the

enemy are now in possession—a very unfortunate beginning of the campaign there. However, it is not irreparable, and I hope it will make both officers and soldiers more careful to keep proper guards, and not suffer themselves to be taken by surprise any more.

After writing the above, General *Sullivan* came to my lodgings in this city, and, by his account, the affair at *Long-Island* was much as I had heard. He says he has two verbal messages from Lord *Howe*, which he is on his parole to come to Congress to propose. One is, the exchange of himself and Lord *Sterling* for Generals *Prescott* and *McDonald*; the other is, to propose a meeting of some of the members of Congress, (as private gentlemen, for he can't acknowledge any such body as Congress,) to see if they can't agree on some propositions for an accommodation without further bloodshed; and says he will meet at almost any place for the purpose. These are only verbal messages, and I can easily foresee great difficulties that may arise, let the Congress accept or refuse the proposed conference. What the Congress will do is at present uncertain; but hope they will be directed by the Supreme Disposer of all events to do in this, and every other affair before them, what will be most conducive to the safety and happiness of these *American States*.

So wishes your friend and most obedient and humble servant,

JOSIAH BARTLETT.

To General *Folsom*.

MARINE COMMITTEE TO DANIEL TILLINGHAST.

Philadelphia, September 2, 1776.

SIR: The Secret Committee of Congress have directed Mr. *Thomas Green*, of *Providence*, in your State, to put into your hands the following articles belonging to the Continent, now in his possession, for which you will please to give him a receipt: 330 bolts of best *Holland* and *Russia* duck; 26½ casks of powder; 2 pair four-pound cannon; 3 pair three-pound do.; 4 pair swivels; 3 casks leaden ball; 21 casks twine; 598 pounds saltpetre; 60 pounds brimstone; 470 bushels salt; 50 half-johannes; 1 drum.

You have underneath a copy of a resolve of Congress, of the 30th ult., ordering such part of the above duck as is suitable for tents to be made up and forwarded with all possible expedition to his Excellency General *Washington*, which we request you will immediately execute; you will hold the rest of the articles ready for the future orders of this Committee, who are, sir, your humble servants.

"In Congress, August 30, 1776.

"Resolved, That the duck in the hands of Mr. *Green*, at *Rhode-Island*, be made up into Tents, and forwarded with all possible expedition to General *Washington*."

Extract from the minutes:

CHAS. THOMSON, *Secretary*.

PETITION OF MICHAEL FITZGERALD.

[Read September 2, 1776. Referred to the Board of War.]

To the Honourable the Congress for the UNITED STATES OF AMERICA:

The humble address of *Michael Fitzgerald* humbly sheweth: That your petitioner, from the Kingdom of *Ireland*, and last from *Havre-de-Grace*, having been cruelly and unjustly persecuted in his native country by the present enemies of these States, is heartily willing to bear a part in the present glorious struggle against oppression and tyranny; and having served seven years in a military capacity in a foreign kingdom, would request this honourable Board to place him in such a situation as to have it in his power to merit a character among them, and show his talents in the military line, as he did not think it necessary to bring recommendations from his friends, nor would they have countenanced his coming over at such a juncture. Your petitioner, for reasons which most strangers after expensive travelling may readily adduce, would beg to be taken notice of as soon as possible; and he promises, by a strict attention to the duties of his station, to endeavour to merit the esteem of his superiors, and to look for advancement only as his character and conduct may appear to deserve it.

With humility and deference, the petitioner is buoyed with hopes this honourable Board will take his case into their serious consideration, with that expedition that can be allowed an humble volunteer waiting for orders.

COMMITTEE OF READING TO THE COMMITTEE OF LANCASTER, PENNSYLVANIA.

Reading, September 2, 1776.

SIR: The Committee at *Lancaster* are requested to permit one *Hamilton Hannon*, a prisoner there, to come over with Mr. *Rose* and company to *Reading*, where his master, Captain *Swan*, is stationed, as it was by mere accident he happened to be separated from the Captain, who has since been without a servant.

Enclosed there is also a passport for a servant of Captain *Anstruther*, and his engagement for his good behaviour, agreeable to the order of the War Office. We hope they may both be sent by this opportunity, as their masters are in great want of them. By order of the Committee.

I am, sir, yours, &c.,

C. READ, *Secretary*.

To Mr. *William Attlee*.

War Office, August 12, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: Please to permit Captain *Anstruther's* servant, *William Brown*, a prisoner at *Lancaster*, to reside with his master at *Reading*, on his said master sending you an agreement that he will, by every means in his power, prevent the misbehaviour of his servant, either in corresponding with the enemy, or other misconduct as a prisoner, and as soon as he discovers any such misbehaviour, that he will give information thereof to the Committee of the town or place where he resides, that the said servant may be properly secured. Your obedient servant,

RICHARD PETERS, *Secretary*.

To the Committee of the Borough of *Lancaster*.

I do hereby promise to endeavour to prevent *William Brown*, soldier in the Twenty-sixth Regiment, from doing anything unbecoming the station he is in as a prisoner, (while he is in my service,) and to report to the Committee of the town of *Reading* any impropriety in his conduct that may come within my knowledge. As witness my hand, at *Reading*, the 13th August,

WM. ANSTRUTHER, *Capt., 26th Regiment*.

To the Chairman of the Committee of the Borough of *Lancaster*.

GENERAL WASHINGTON TO THE PRESIDENT OF CONGRESS.

New-York, September 2, 1776.

SIR: As my intelligence of late has been rather unfavourable and would be viewed with anxiety and concern, peculiarly happy should I esteem myself were it in my power at this time to transmit such information to Congress as would be more pleasing and agreeable to their wishes; but unfortunately for me—unfortunately for them, it is not.

Our situation is truly distressing. The check our detachment sustained on the 27th ultimo has dispirited too great a proportion of our troops, and filled their minds with apprehension and despair. The Militia, instead of calling forth their utmost efforts to a brave and manly opposition in order to repair our losses, &c., are dismayed, intractable, and impatient to return. Great numbers of them have gone off, in some instances almost by whole regiments, by half ones, and by companies at a time. This circumstance itself, independent of others, when fronted by a well-appointed enemy, superior in number to our whole collected force, would be sufficiently disagreeable; but when their example has infected another part of the army—when their want of discipline and refusal of almost every kind of restraint and government have produced a like conduct but too common to the whole, and an entire disregard of that order and subordination necessary to the well-doing of an army, and which had been inculcated before as well as the nature of our military establishment would admit of, our condition is still more alarming, and with the deepest concern I am obliged to confess my want of confidence with the generality of the troops. All these circumstances fully confirm the opinion I ever entertained, and which I more than once in my letters took the liberty of mentioning to Congress, that no dependence can be put in a Militia or other troops than those enlisted and embodied for a longer period than our regulations heretofore have prescribed. I am persuaded, and as fully convinced as I am of any one fact that has happened, that our liberties must of necessity be greatly hazarded, if not en-

tirely lost, if their defence is left to any but a permanent standing army. I mean one to exist during the war. Nor would the expense incident to the support of such a body of troops as would be competent almost to every exigency, far exceed that which is daily incurred by calling in succour and new enlistments, and which, when effected, is not attended with any good consequences. Men who have been free, and subject to no control, cannot be reduced to order in an instant, and the privileges and exemptions they claim, and will have, influence the conduct of others, and the aid derived from them is nearly counterbalanced by the disorder, irregularity and confusion they occasion. I cannot find that the bounty of ten dollars is likely to produce the desired effect; when men can get double that sum to engage for a month or two in the Militia, and that Militia frequently called out, it is hardly to be expected. The addition of land might have a considerable influence on a permanent enlistment. Our number of men at present fit for duty, are under twenty thousand. They were so by the last returns and best accounts I could get after the engagement on *Long-Island*, since which numbers have deserted. I have ordered General *Mercer* to send the men intended for the Flying Camp to this place, about one thousand in number, and to try with the Militia, if practicable, to make a diversion upon *Staten-Island*. Till of late, I had no doubt in my own mind of defending this place, nor should I have yet if the men would do their duty; but this I despair of. It is painful and extremely grating to me to give such unfavourable accounts, but it would be criminal to conceal the truth at so critical a juncture. Every power I possess shall be exerted to serve the cause, and my first wish is, that whatever may be the event, the Congress will do me the justice to think so.

If we should be obliged to abandon the town, ought it to stand as winter quarters for the enemy? They would derive great conveniences from it on the one hand, and much property would be destroyed on the other. It is an important question, but will admit of but little time for deliberation. At present I dare say the enemy mean to preserve it if they can. If Congress, therefore, should resolve upon the destruction of it, the resolution should be a profound secret, as the knowledge of it will make a capital change in their plans.

I have the honour to be, with great esteem, sir, your most obedient servant,
Go. WASHINGTON.

GENERAL ORDERS.

Head-Quarters, New-York, September 1, 1776.

(Parole, *Hartford*.)

(Countersign, *Boston*.)

It being necessary there should be an arrangement of the troops, in order that they may act with union and firmness, the Army, as brigaded yesterday, is now arranged in three grand divisions, under the following Officers, viz: Major-General *Putnam* to command the following brigades: *Parson's*, *Scott's*, *Clinton's*, *Fellows's*, and *Silliman's*.

The centre divisions, under General *Spencer* and General *Greene*, the former to command the whole until General *Greene's* recovery, viz: *Nixon's*, *Heard's*, *McDougall's*, *Wadsworth's*, *Douglass's*, and *Chester's*.

General *Heath's* to consist of General *Mifflin's* brigade and General *George Clinton's*.

The centre divisions to hold themselves in readiness to march immediately to *Harlem*, to prevent the enemy's landing on this Island.

Samuel Augustus Barker to act as Major to the brigades under Colonel *Douglass*, *Benjamin Tilmadge* Brigade-Major to Colonel *Chester*.

Colonel *Haslett's* regiment to march to join General *Mifflin*, to whose brigade he is to belong.

Head-Quarters, New-York, September 2, 1776.

(Parole, *Effingham*.)

(Countersign, *Putnam*.)

The General hopes, after the inconveniences that have been complained of, and felt, that the Commanding officers of corps will never in future suffer their men to have less than two days' provisions always upon hand ready for any emergency. If hard bread cannot be had, flour must be drawn, and the men must bake it into bread, or use it otherwise in the most agreeable manner they can. They are to consider that all the last war in *America*, no soldiers (except those in garrison) were ever furnished with bread ready

baked, nor could they get ovens on their march. The same must be done now.

The brigades under General *Spencer* are still to keep themselves in readiness to march at the shortest notice, but in the mean time are to have regimental and brigade parades assigned them in case of an alarm before they move—these parades not to interfere with any of those in General *Putnam's* division; to avoid which the officers commanding them are to consult him, and each other, that they may be disposed of to the best advantage.

When regiments march away in future, the officers are to see that the men take their tent-poles in their hands, all their tin camp-kettles, and see the tents tied up carefully and a sufficient guard left to take care of them.

The brigades of General *Putnam's* division are to furnish fifty men to attend at the Hospital upon Dr. *Morgan*, to whom their names are to be returned.

COLONEL LEWIS TO GOVERNOUR LIVINGSTON.

New-York, September 2, 1776.

SIR, YOUR HONOUR: I herewith present you with the state of the Militia ordered out under my command to this place, which at present is not so happy as I could wish, by reason of the discipline exercised upon them by the General officers of the Continental establishment.

When I arrived here I went to see his Excellency General *Washington*, to inform him of my circumstances, how that I had no field officers to assist me in the command of the regiment, &c.; to which he replied, it was hard to take the charge alone, and that I ought to have some assistance. I told his Excellency that I believed I could make it do with a Major, and that if it might be his pleasure I would appoint my oldest Captain, *Jonathan Dimon*. His Excellency replied, to be sure, I ought to have some assistance; from which I inferred that he acquiesced in it, and I accordingly appointed him. And most of the officers who have command of companies were subalterns in *Connecticut*, but were obliged to take upon themselves the duty of Captains on account of such officers refusing to come, and being in Continental service. Wherefore they respectively acted in that character, and distinguished themselves as such by cockades; but here it is general orders, that no officer or officers of Militia assume distinctions superior to his or their commissions from their respective Governours. And two gentlemen from *Connecticut*—one a General, the other a Colonel, in Continental service—recommended it to those officers who had infringed, to pull off their cockades, and not appear on guard in a character above their commissions. So they accordingly have observed this injunction, and requested me to write your Honour to obtain your Honour's opinion, and be governed and determined thereby. I would signify to your Honour these restrictions have caused no small uneasiness, as I am informed, in the Militia in general, but particularly so in the regiment under my command—as at *Fairfield*, when the regiment was embodied I proceeded to dignify it, and recommended it to officers commanding companies to appoint subalterns to vacancies, and encouraged them that they should retain their offices and reap the advantages thereof; but now their prospects wear other features, and those honours now no more exist. In these circumstances your Honour can view their discontent without my displaying it; indeed they are much dissatisfied with their situation. They reflect upon the encouragement they had before they came away; they represent their circumstances at home; how they left their land unsowed and their harvest ungathered cheerfully for the sake of liberty—but with their liberty they would preserve their honour, which they now think is already degraded; all which I have endeavoured very much to soothe, and they now act in obedience to command without badge or distinction, and wait your Honour's pleasure, which shall be their direction.

In the interim I am your Honour's most obedient, humble servant,
ICHABOD LEWIS.

To the Hon. *Jonathan Trumbull*, Esq., Governour of the Colony of *Connecticut*, at *Lebanon*.

P. S. I am at present very unwell and many of the regiment are out of health. We have at present no Doctor, and if I should not recover soon, and should procure a surgeon to come home, I hope your Honour would make no imputation to my disparagement.
I. L.

EXTRACT OF A LETTER FROM COLONEL JOSEPH REED TO
MRS. REED, DATED, NEW-YORK, SEPTEMBER 2, 1776.

I have only time to say I am alive and well; as to spirits, but middling. The justice of our cause, the hope of success, and every other circumstance that can enliven us, must be put into the scale against those of a contrary kind, which I allow to be serious. I hope you will endeavour cheerfully to submit to the dispensations of Providence, whatever they may be. My honour, duty, and every other tie held sacred among men, call upon me to proceed with firmness and resolution; and I trust that neither you nor my children will have reason to be ashamed of my conduct. Walking in this path, I am sure I am right; and having done this, the event must be left to the great Disposer of events. My country will I trust yet be free, whatever may be our fate who are cooped up, or are in danger of being so, on this tongue of land, where we ought never to have been.

GENERAL HOWE TO LORD GEORGE GERMAINE.

Head-Quarters, Long-Island, September 2, 1776.

MY LORD: As there may probably be another campaign before this rebellion is quelled, I would humbly propose an augmentation of eight hundred men to Colonel *Donop's* Chasseurs, to be sent from *Germany* in the Spring. A corps of these troops, consisting of one thousand, would be of infinite service in covering the march of the army, and would prevent much loss and fatigue to the main body, particularly in the present low state of our establishment; and if one hundred dismounted Hussars were sent over from *Hesse*, with proper accoutrements, to be added to this corps, horses might be procured here, and they would prove very serviceable in all our movements.

I am, &c.,

WM. HOWE.

EXTRACT OF A LETTER FROM AN ENGLISH FIELD-OFFICER,
DATED, CAMP, IN LONG-ISLAND, SEPTEMBER 2, 1776.

I have just heard there has been a most dreadful fray in the town of *New-York*. The *New-Englanders* insisted upon setting the town on fire and retreating. This was opposed by the *New-Yorkers*, who were joined by the *Pennsylvanians*, and a battle has been the consequence, in which many have lost their lives. By the steps the General is taking, I imagine he will effectually cut off their retreat at *King's Bridge*, by which the Island of *New-York* is joined to the Continent.

EXTRACT OF A LETTER FROM AN ENGLISH OFFICER OF THE
GUARDS, DATED LONG-ISLAND, SEPTEMBER 2, 1776.

It is very certain that the Rebels do not agree among themselves: That three nights ago there was a good deal of firing in the town of *New-York*: that the *New-Englanders* and *Pennsylvanians* wanted to set fire to the town: that the *New-Yorkers* opposed it, and that a battle ensued, in consequence of which the *New-England* and *Pennsylvania* people had withdrawn themselves; and that this, with other favourable circumstances, gave hopes that this distressful business would be soon brought to a happy issue.

PETITION OF CAPTAIN TOWNSEND'S COMPANY TO THE CON-
VENTION OF THE STATE OF NEW YORK.

The Petition of the Lieutenant, Non-Commissioned Officers, and Privates, belonging to Captain *Micah Townsend's* Company, raised to be under the direction of the Committee of *Westchester* County, humbly sheweth:

That the honourable the Provincial Congress of this Colony, when they gave instructions for raising Captain *Townsend's* company, allowed the Lieutenant twelve shillings per week, and the Non-Commissioned Officers and Privates eight shillings each per week, in lieu of rations and subsistence.

That at and near the *White-Plains* (which is the headquarters of the company) the allowance for their subsistence does not amount to near enough to support them, they being unable to get victuals for less than one shilling per meal, or to hire their board at any tolerable rate but by the week.

That your petitioners entered the company and did duty in the most busy season of the year, before and during harvest

time, and have had a harder share of duty than the troops who were allowed by your honourable House twenty dollars bounty and who have generally received near forty dollars.

Your petitioners therefore humbly pray that your honourable House will be pleased to increase the pay for their subsistence so far as to enable them, when they live with frugality, to support themselves by it in the part of the County where they may reside or be ordered. And your petitioners, as in duty bound, shall ever pray, &c.

ZEPHANIAH MILLER, *Lieutenant*,
JACOB TRAVIS, *Sergeant*,
WILLIAM MARTINE, *Sergeant*,
JOSHUA MEADS, *Sergeant*,
REUBEN BLOOMER, *Corporal*,
THOMAS BROOKS, *Corporal*,
JAMES STROBOG, *Corporal*,
ANTHONY MILLER, *Fifer*,

JAMES CARPENTER,
JONATHAN FERRIS,
WILLIAM WILLIAMSON,
ROBERT BLOOMER, JR.,
ELVEN HYOTT,
SAMUEL HOWELL,
WILLIAM SNIFFEN,
URIAH TRAVIS, JR.,
MOSES HIGENS,
JONATHAN FINCH,
JOHN BEAKS,
JOHN TRAVIS,
WILLIAM SEAMAN,
JAMES MILLER, JR.,
ELIJAH MILLER, JR.,
ZACHEUS DIBLE,

NATHAN HOLMES,
ABSALOM HUTCHINS,
THOMAS RAMOND,
DANIEL DEAN,
JOHN BROADSTREET,
JEREMIAH ROYELL,
SAMUEL MILLER,
JOHN MILLS,
SAMUEL LYON, JR.,
JEDEDIAH OWEN,
STEPHEN MUNDAY,
BENJAMIN FRETENBOROUGH,
FREDERICK DATEN,
ROBERT MERRITT,
WILLIAM FREDENBOROUGH.

In Committee of Safety for the County of Westchester, }
at the White-Plains, September 2, 1776. }

Resolved, That this Committee recommend to the honourable the Convention of this State, the reasonableness of increasing the subsistence money for Captain *Townsend's* company, as they are of opinion that eight shillings per week per man is not a sufficient provision for them.

By order of the Committee:

JOHN THOMAS, JR., *Chairman*.

HALIFAX, CUMBERLAND COUNTY, NEW-YORK, TOWN MEETING.

At a town meeting, regularly warned, held at *Halifax*, the 2d day of *September*, Anno Domini 1776, Lieutenant *John Thomas* chosen Moderator.

Put to vote whether they would choose a Delegate to meet the *Green Mountain Boys*. Voted in the negative.

A true copy. Test: PELATIAH FITCH, *Town Clerk*.

At a town meeting, regularly warned, held at *Halifax* the 18th day of *October*, Anno Domini 1776, Mr. *James Gray* was chosen Moderator.

Then it was put to vote, who present are for setting up a new State in this difficult and distressing time, and who for continuing through the present troubles, still to the State of *New-York*. Voted to continue still to the State of *New-York*, as above—nemine contradicente.

A true copy. Test: PELATIAH FITCH, *Town Clerk*.

ROCKINGHAM, CUMBERLAND COUNTY, TOWN MEETING.

At a legal and full meeting of the inhabitants of the town of *Rockingham*, met and assembled at our meeting-house, on the 26th day of *August*, 1776, and passed the following votes, viz:

First, Voted and chose Major *Oliver Lovell* Moderator, to govern said meeting.

2dly, Voted, When Dr. *Reuben Jones* had exhibited the papers in his hand which contained the substance of a petition sent to the honourable Continental Congress, by a number of Delegates of a General Convention, assembled at *Dorsett*, on the 16th and 17th days of *January*, 1776;

Also, the extracts of the votes and proceedings of a General Convention, held at *Dorsett*, on the 24th day of *July*, 1776, together with an association published by said Convention: The same was taken into consideration, and after deliberation,

3dly, *Voted*, To associate with the inhabitants of that District of land, commonly called and known by the name of the *New-Hampshire Grants*. Dissentients only two.

4thly, *Voted*, To send two Delegates to the Convention at *Dorsett*.

5thly, *Voted*, And chose Dr. *Reuben Jones*, and Lieutenant *Moses Wright*, members to join the Convention at *Dorsett*, on the 25th day of *September* next.

6thly, *Voted*, And chose a committee to make a draught for instructions for the Delegates, and to make report to the town of their instruction.

7thly, *Voted*, And chose Major *Oliver Lovell*, Lieutenant *Peter Evans*, Jun., and Mr. *Colborn Preston*, to be the committee.

8thly, *Voted*, And accepted the report of the above committee, which is as follows: The Delegates are to use their best influence in said Convention, that proper measures be taken to get that district of land commonly called and known by the name of the *New-Hampshire Grants*, formed and incorporated into a separate district or State, and to act on any other thing that shall be thought proper by said Convention met.

A true copy. WILLIAM SIMONDS, *Town Clerk*.

COUNTY COMMITTEE.

Persons consulted with for a new State.

<i>Chester</i> , - - - - -	{ Jabez Sergeant and
<i>Rockingham</i> , - - - - -	{ John Chandler, Esq.
<i>Windsor</i> , - - - - -	{ William Simons.
<i>Fullom</i> , - - - - -	{ Eben. Horsington.
<i>Townsend</i> , - - - - -	{ Lieut. Spaldwin,
<i>Kent</i> , - - - - -	{ Jo. Hildreth.
<i>Westminster</i> , - - - - -	{ Major Tylor,
<i>Chester</i> , - - - - -	{ Captain Fletcher.
<i>N. Marlboro'</i> , - - - - -	{ Deacon Akin.
<i>Gilford</i> , - - - - -	{ Nathaniel Robinson,
<i>Rockingham</i> , - - - - -	{ Joshua Webb.
<i>Putney</i> , - - - - -	{ Colonel Chandler.
<i>Abijah</i> , - - - - -	{ Benj. Whitmore.
	{ Benj. Carpenter.
	{ Dr. Jones.
	{ Locklen.
	{ Lovejoy.

GENERAL SCHUYLER TO THE PRESIDENT OF CONGRESS.
[Read Sept. 16, 1776. Referred to the Committee for Indian Affairs.]
Albany, September 2, 1776.

SIR: The bearers, two gentlemen from *Dartmouth College*, were referred to me by General *Gates*; they put into my hands copy of a memorial to Congress from the Rev. Dr. *Wheelock*, which has not yet been delivered, and requested of me to know if I could take any steps with respect to the *Indian* boys mentioned in it; if not, they begged my opinion on the subject. I did not hesitate to declare that I thought provision ought to be made for them, but that I did not conceive myself authorized to do it.

I have observed that all the youths of the *Six Nations* who have been at Mr. *Wheelock's* school, except one or two under the immediate influence of the *Johnson* family, are much attached to us in this contest, and I believe that an attention to those now there will be followed by like salutary consequences. In this sentiment it is my duty to recommend to Congress some allowance for those boys.

I have the honour to be, with great respect and esteem, sir, your most obedient and most humble servant,

PH. SCHUYLER.

GENERAL SCHUYLER TO GENERAL WASHINGTON.
Albany, September 2, 1776.

DEAR SIR: I have received a requisition from General *Gates* for two pounds binding and two pounds large wire, six pounds of emery, and six screw plates, none of which can be procured here or anywhere in this part of the country. Your Excellency will please to order these articles to be sent by the first conveyance.

Yesterday a gentleman from the Committee of this City, waited on me, and advised me that a person who was sent

up to purchase boards by the Assistant Quartermaster General, had procured a quantity from a master of a sloop, and had engaged that he should have the advantage of carrying them down in his own vessel, and represented further, that a very considerable time would elapse before they could reach *New-York* in that way, as there are several sloop loads, and requesting my advice on the occasion. Conceiving that you are in immediate want of the boards, I advised that they should be sent down in any vessels they could procure to carry them. I mention this, lest it should be thought that I had interfered in the Quartermaster General's Department.

I am sorry that Dr. *Morgan* has put me under the necessity of writing him the enclosed; but as I am resolved not to be insulted by any person worthy of my notice, I could not pass over the false and scandalous assertion in silence. I have met with the most unjust, cruel, and ungenerous treatment.

I have it amply in my power to justify every part of my conduct, and I hope the inquiry which I have entreated Congress to be made into it, will evince to the world how hardly I have been dealt by.

Some of the Captains in Colonel *Nicholson's* regiment have enlisted so very few men, that I durst not venture to sign warrants for their pay. The excuse they make is, that with the bounty allowed by Congress they could not engage any men, as it was so greatly inferior to what was given to the Militia.

I am, with sentiments of the greatest regard and esteem, your Excellency's most obedient humble servant,

PH. SCHUYLER

To His Excellency General *Washington*, &c., &c.

GENERAL SCHUYLER TO GOVERNOUR TRUMBULL.

Monday, September 2, 1776.

SIR: On *Saturday* I had the honour to receive your favour of the 22d ultimo, by Mr. *Williams*; and yesterday, by Mr. *Brown*, that of the 28th—both of which claim my best thanks. I shall immediately order copies of the transactions of the last treaty to be made out, and if Mr. *Williams* does not return to-day, I shall beg the favour of him to take charge of them. Mr. *Williams* will carry with him the money still due to the troops raised in your State, as also the amount of the several accounts enclosed in your letter. The invoices of clothing mentioned in your favour of the 28th, I did not receive: I suppose they were forgot to be enclosed. I shall immediately advise Congress that you have sent the clothing and tents, &c. Some of the swivels at *Salisbury* are finished, and batteaus go down to-day to bring them from *Red-Hook*, where they are to be to-morrow. I am happy that your Honour has suggested your fears and sentiments on that ill-timed measure of inoculation, by the troops destined for our army. On the 20th ultimo I despatched the orders to General *Waterbury*, pointing out what measures he was to take to prevent the infection reaching the army. I have long since written to Congress, begging them to point out the line of duty to be observed by the regimental Paymasters, but have not yet been honoured with an answer. As soon as I am, shall give those their instructions whom you have been pleased to appoint.

If many gentlemen in high offices, who have it not only in their power to be well informed of every part of my conduct, but who are so, and on whom I think it was incumbent to have justified me, were influenced by that candour and ingenuousness, which, whilst it distinguishes you for the goodness of your heart, reflects lustre on your every action, they would not have given ear to the variety of calumny to which I have been exposed, much less would they have countenanced it; in which case I should have looked down with silent contempt on my envious accusers, and bore with patience the unjust animadversions on my conduct, well knowing that the character of every man sustaining a publick office is exposed to them. Last evening we received an account that the enemy had made an attack on our lines on *Long-Island*, and were repulsed with loss. We wait anxiously for a confirmation of this favourable account. As our cause is just, as we have made use of and are still exerting that power which it has pleased God to afford us, we may have a humble hope that Providence will smile on our

endeavours. If it does, may Heaven inspire us with grateful hearts for its mercies, and may no unbecoming, unjust and ungenerous jealousies ever divide the *United States*. You, sir, and every one that profits by your example, will heartily join in the wish.

I am, sir, with every friendly wish and every respectful sentiment, your most obedient humble servant,

PH. SCHUYLER.

To Honourable Jonathan Trumbull, Esq.

GENERAL GATES TO GOVERNOUR TRUMBULL.

Ticonderoga, September 2, 1776.

DEAR SIR: I have a thousand obligations to you for your attention and care of the army in this department. The Congress have in some instances forgot us; but they are excusable in the vast demand that has been made upon them nearer home. Medicines, which with clothing you are forwarding to us, are articles in the utmost request. How much we are obliged to you for your regard to us, I think my masters will tell you also, they acknowledge that. You make me happy in acquainting me that camp equipage is coming for your regiments. All things conspire to make me believe that *America* will be free. If it is not, you will have the honour to reflect it is not your fault. The sickness of the carpenters at *Skenesborough* has delayed our row-galleys, and the misfortune General *Waterbury* met with in wounding his leg, contributed not a little thereto. All will be well at last. That is all you and I care for, as our boys will reap the fruits of our labour, and we shall die happy in the consolation of having done our utmost for them and for human kind.

I am your much obliged and most obedient humble servant,

HORATIO GATES.

To Governour Trumbull.

GENERAL GATES TO GENERAL WATERBURY.

Ticonderoga, September 2, 1776.

SIR: This minute the Conductor of Stores waited upon me, to inform me that the rigging, cables, blocks, and everything necessary for the equipment of the row-galleys had arrived last night. I should therefore be glad to have your opinion whether you think (as *Skenesborough* proves so very sickly) they had not better come down here as they are launched, in order to be rigged; but if, on the contrary, you think you can do it more conveniently and expeditiously with you, you must send the Captains of each boat down for what may be necessary in order to fit them out. Captain *Titcomb*, when he was last here, recommended himself for the galley he is now building. I acquainted General *Arnold* therewith, who approves of his being appointed if his health will permit and he is willing to undertake it. I would have him come down with his galley as soon as she is launched and fit to be sent forward.

As it is not my intention to leave more than five hundred men, artificers included, at *Skenesborough*, after the galleys are finished, I desire you will keep sending forward such as you think useless at that post.

Wynkoop's regiment are all to remain at *Skenesborough*. If there are any detachments from any other of the *New-York* regiments, you will order them forthwith to march to *Albany* to join General *Schuyler*.

HORATIO GATES.

To General Waterbury.

JOHN TRUMBULL TO THE BOARD OF WAR.

Head-Quarters, Ticonderoga, September 2, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: I have it in command from the Honourable Major General *Gates* to transmit you the enclosed returns of the Northern Army. They are nearly correct, except that from *Skenesborough*, which is too imperfect in the original to be inspected by you. I have, in the general return, collected nearly the true state of the troops at that post.

The returns of the names, rank, &c., of the officers of the corps at this post are likewise enclosed. *Irvine's*, *Dayton's*, and the *York* regiments being at a distance, prevents my sending them.

The artificers at this post, the people on board the fleet,

and the two additional companies of Artillery, are returned on command by their respective regiments.

I am, gentlemen, with the highest respect, your most obedient humble servant,

J. TRUMBULL,

D. A. G. Northern Army.

To the Honourable Board of Ordnance and War.

P. S. Since the returns were made up, one regiment from *Boston* (*Whitcomb's*) and part of a regiment of Militia have arrived.

JOHN TRUMBULL, D. A. G., TO GOVERNOUR TRUMBULL.

Ty., September 2, 1776.

HONoured SIR: Last night *Brown* arrived with yours to the General and me. We are pleased that the tents and clothing are coming.

One Colonel *Brown* arrived from *York* to-day with letters from our friends there, giving the same accounts.

The General has just now dispatched an express to Congress. The necessary work, &c., in my department has employed my time so fully that I can only write a line. The General has.

I find there is so much ceremony in the Congress, that I am not to be appointed in this place without a particular recommendation. As my name has been mentioned by General *Gates*, I have informed my brother at *York* that I shall ask no further recommendation. I am very willing to retire the moment that my country is desirous of it, or that Congress think that they can better the army by appointing an officer in my place.

You will not be surprised, sir, if you should hear me displaced. An inferior post I shall by no means accept, but either enter in the fleet as a privateer or return home.

I am, honoured sir, your dutiful

JOHN TRUMBULL, D. A. G.

To the Hon. Jonth. Trumbull, Esq., Governour of the Colony of *Connecticut*.

GENERAL ST. CLAIR TO THE PRESIDENT OF CONGRESS.

Camp at Ticonderoga, September 2, 1776.

SIR: I received your favour of the 10th of *August*, enclosing my commission as Brigadier-General, and return you thanks for the trouble you took to transmit it.

I am extremely sensible of the honour conferred upon me by the appointment, and it shall be my study to convince Congress they have not misplaced their confidence.

My most respectful compliments wait upon Mrs. *Hancock*; and I have the honour to be, sir, your most obedient and most humble servant,

AR. ST. CLAIR.

To the Hon. John Hancock, Esq., President of the most honourable the Continental Congress, and Major-General of the Forces in the service of the *United States of America*.

COLONEL HARTLEY TO GENERAL GATES.

Crown Point, Monday evening, September 2, 1776.

HONoured SIR: I have just now got a good saddle of venison, and send it you by the bearer. I hope it will afford you an agreeable dinner to-morrow. I have taken the advantage of the night to forward it to you.

The party you said you would send to cover the oar-cutters are not yet arrived. The men who went there are only to bring away some irons, &c., by direction of Major *Hay*.

By sending the party down the Lake with Major *Grier*, in order to go on with our works, I have all my healthy men on guard and fatigue. I wish the party were sent to *Raymond's Mill* immediately. What is very strange, General *Arnold* was within ten miles of this, yesterday afternoon. He then proceeded down the Lake. My men, with Major *Grier*, will go further, in order, if possible, to bring some more material account from the fleet. I am, sir, your most obedient humble servant,

THOS. HARTLEY.

GOVERNOUR TRUMBULL TO GENERAL WASHINGTON.

Lebanon, September 2, 1776.

SIR: Since my last of the 31st ultimo, have resolved to throw over upon *Long-Island* a thousand or fifteen hundred

troops, and the necessary orders are accordingly gone forth, and expect the same will be immediately effected. Have likewise wrote to Governour *Cooke* to afford what assistance in his power for the same purpose. Thought it expedient to give your Excellency the earliest intimation of this movement, that you might be able to direct in what manner they may best coöperate with the other troops in serving the general cause, and frustrating the intentions of our enemies upon that Island.

As we have various accounts, but no certain intelligence, respecting the situation of our armies, we are anxious to learn the particulars.

We remain, sir, with the highest esteem and regard, your most obedient humble servant,
JONTH. TRUMBULL.

To his Excellency *George Washington*, Esq., General and Commander-in-Chief of the Army of the *United States of America*, *New-York*.

GOVERNOUR TRUMBULL TO THE COUNCIL OF MASSACHUSETTS.

Lebanon, September 2, 1776.

SIR: Beg leave to recommend to your notice and attention the purport of the within application, and would wish and desire that the exchange might be effected; and doubt not, if can be consistently done, you'll give the bearer, Mr. *Samuel Redfield*, all the assistance and direction that may be needful for said purpose.

I am, with great truth and regard, sir, your obedient humble servant,
JONTH. TRUMBULL.

To the Hon. President of the State of *Massachusetts Bay*.

Killingsworth, September 1, 1776.

These wait on your Honours, by Mr. *Samuel Redfield*, to inform that Messrs. *Daniel Redfield* and *Philip Stevens*, joint-owners of a small coasting vessel, on their return from *New-York*, (where they had been in order for the transportation of some of our troops,) early on *Monday* morning last fell in with, and were taken by, the men of war in the Sound of *Branford*, who took them on board, and burnt their vessel. After detaining Mr. *Redfield* until *Wednesday* evening, five o'clock, he was suffered to come on shore, and is arrived home, and says that Mr. *Stevens* is still detained on board, and that he had the promise he should be exchanged for either of the men mentioned in the enclosed paper.

Mr. *Redfield* now waits on you for your direction and influence to procure one of the within-named persons for that purpose.

We need not add on this head, to induce your Honour to effect so benevolent a purpose, but only to say he is descended from one of the first families in this town—that he is a son of one of the deacons of this church, and has an aged father and several small children, whose support depends on his industry.

We are, may it please your Honour, with great esteem, your most obedient and most humble servants,

ELNATHAN STEVENS, *Justice of the Peace*.

AARON ELIOT, *Justice of the Peace*.

THEOPS. MORGAN.

To the Hon. *Jonathan Trumbull*, Esq.

CONNECTICUT COUNCIL OF SAFETY.

At a meeting of the Governour and Council of Safety of *Connecticut*, September 2, 1776:

Present: His Honour the Governour, *Jabez Huntington*, *Richard Law*, *Jedh. Elderkin*, *William Hillhouse*, *Nathaniel Wales*, Jun., *Benj. Huntington*, Esquires.

On intelligence received by Colonel *Marsh*, from *New-York*, that our troops have withdrawn from the Islands near *New-York*, and are about to make a stand at some more convenient place, his Honour the Governour sent orders to Colonel *Erastus Wolcott*, at *New-London*, not to embark for *Long-Island* until further orders.

Colonel *Jedediah Elderkin* exhibited his account of several journeys to *New-London* and *Salisbury*, on service of this State, on which a balance appears to be due to him of £12 19s. 5d.; which is allowed, and voted to draw on the Pay-Table for the said sum of £12 19s. 5d., in favour of

said Colonel *Elderkin*, in balance of the above sum. Order delivered Colonel *Elderkin*, September 2, 1776.

Colonel *Jedediah Elderkin* exhibited an account of his son, Mr. *Bela Elderkin*, of £6 12s. 8d., for service done in setting the furnace at *Salisbury* to work; which is allowed, and voted to draw on the Pay-Table for the above sum of £6 12s. 8d., in favour of *Bela Elderkin*, in full of said account. Order delivered Colonel *Elderkin*, September 2, 1776.

Copy of the above votes given Colonel *Elderkin*, September 4, 1776.

PETITION OF JOSEPH HUTCHINSON AND OTHERS.

To the Honourable the Governour and Council of the State of CONNECTICUT:

The petition of the subscribers, inhabitants of the County of *Windham*, to your Honours, beg leave humbly to show and represent, that in your petitioners' opinion the office of High-Sheriff of a County is at all times an office of importance to the State and to individuals in the respective Counties, and ought at all times to be lodged in the hands of men of responsibility, and such as are known and approved friends to the State, whereby conspiracies against the State will be suppressed, the publick tranquillity preserved, and justice duly administered in the execution of wholesome, approved laws of the land, and fraud prevented. Being possessed of such principles, we cannot consistent with our duty sit still at this alarming crisis, when every right, liberty, privilege, and immunity of the people of this and the rest of the *United States of America* are invaded, without remonstrating to your Honours against your Honours' any longer continuing in office the present High-Sheriff of the said County of *Windham*. We would, therefore, inform and make known to your Honours that *Eleazer Fitch*, Jun., Esq., of *Windham*, the present High-Sheriff of the County of *Windham*, is really unfriendly and inimical to the liberties and privileges belonging to, and claimed by, the *American United States*, and the measures they are pursuing in order to secure themselves in their just rights and privileges, and that he is really friendly to our enemies, in that the said *Fitch* hath and doth frequently associate with the Continental prisoners now in *Windham* County Jail, to their great encouragement, and also with other persons inimical to this and the *United States*, and with such persons only, and also treats with derision, and endeavours to discourage every preparation of the good people of this State for their own preservation, and by the whole of his conduct hath shown himself averse to the success of the *American* arms. We therefore beg leave to say to your Honours, that we look upon the said *Fitch* totally unfit any longer to sustain the office of High-Sheriff of said *Windham* County. We beg leave, further, to observe to your Honours, that for some years last past the said Sheriff *Fitch* has greatly neglected the duties of his said office, whereby many creditors have been, and now are, delayed in recovering their just dues. Executions against him, the said *Fitch*, issued on judgments obtained for his, or his Deputies', default in said office, have been frequently returned (*non est inventus*) by proper returning officers—his body being exempted from imprisonment in said County on account of his being Sheriff of said County. Whereupon your petitioners most humbly pray your Honours to take the matters aforesaid into your wise consideration, and remove the said *Fitch* from said office of Sheriff of said County, and appoint some suitable person of responsibility who is a known friend to this and the other *American* States, and a friend to the publick peace of this County, whereby the great and important purposes of said office may be accomplished, and the minds of the people of this County and State be quieted. And your petitioners, as in duty bound, shall ever pray.

Dated at *Windham*, in *Windham* County, September 3, A. D. 1776.

The evidences to support the first part of the foregoing complaint, are: *Nathan Hebard* and *Mary*, his wife; *Asahel Sawyer*, *John Dingley*, *Richard Howard*, *Lydia Phillips*, *Resolved Wheeler*, all of *Windham* aforesaid; and *Jerusha Frink*.

With respect to the last part, Mr. *Elkanah Tisdale*, of *Lebanon*, in said County; Captain *Jabez Huntington*, of said *Windham*; the records of the Supreme and County Courts for *Windham* County; *Sam'l Gray*, *Nath'l Wales*,

Jun., and *Hezekiah Bissell*, all of *Windham*; and *Nathan Frink*, Esq., of *Pomfret*, in said County.

Joseph Hutchinson,	Wm. Hovey,	Benjamin Flicher,
Sam'l Huntington,	Amos Hovey,	David Curtis,
Josiah Southworth,	Samuel Storrs,	Thomas Butler,
Jacob Bibens,	Prince Aspanwell,	Stephen Johnson,
Eleaz'r Huntington,	Solomon Albe,	Nathan Abbe,
Jeded. Huntington,	Elijah Albe,	Zebadiah Butler,
Andrew Hartshorn,	Daniel Storrs,	Jno. Bicknell, Jun.,
Daniel Linkon,	Jonas Hebbard,	Amos Babcock,
Nathan Johnson,	Amos Arnold,	Oliver Clark,
Samuel Linken,	Nath'l Phelps,	Israel Clark,
Ephraim Parker,	Jonathan Crosby,	Ebenezer Cary,
John King,	Paul Phelps,	Judah Storrs,
Seth Allen,	Timothy Harding,	Ebenezer Storrs,
Barzillai Swift,	James Leovens,	Henry Storrs,
Jabez Burrows,	Sam'l Clark,	Josiah Storrs,
Edmond Hovey,	Jed. Dana,	John Hunt,
Exp'r Storrs,	Josiah Stool,	Josiah Stool,
John Gilbert,	Prince Freeman,	Maltier Bingham,
Ab'm Storrs,	Samuel Wood,	Joshua Abbe, Jun.,
Dan'l Baldwin,	Noah Upham,	Aaron Geer,
Justus Storrs,	Samuel Upham,	Samuel Linken,
Daniel Allen,	Duffy Jacobs,	Nathan Linken,
Shubad Conant,	Thomas Swift,	William Croas,
John Martin,	John Fletcher,	David Johnson.
Cons't Southworth,	Josiah Storrs, Jun.,	
Jacob Sargent,		

PETITION OF WILLIAM DURKEE AND OTHERS.

To the Honourable the Governour and Council of the State of CONNECTICUT:

The petition of the subscribers, inhabitants of the County of *Windham*, to your Honours, beg leave humbly to show and represent, that in your petitioners' opinion the office of High-Sheriff of a County is at all times an office of importance to the State and to individuals in the respective Counties, and ought at all times to be lodged in the hands of men of responsibility and such as are known and approved friends to the State, whereby conspiracies against the State will be suppressed, the publick tranquillity preserved, and justice duly administered in the execution of the wholesome, approved laws of the land, and frauds prevented. Being possessed of such principles, we cannot, consistent with our duty, sit still at this alarming crisis, when every right, liberty, privilege, and immunity of the people of this and the rest of the *United States of America* are invaded, without remonstrating to your Honours against your Honours' any longer continuing in office the present High-Sheriff of the said County of *Windham*. We would, therefore, inform and make known to your Honours, that *Eleazer Fitch*, Jun., Esq., of *Windham*, the present High-Sheriff of the County of *Windham*, is really unfriendly and inimical to the liberties and privileges belonging to, and claimed by, the *American United States*, and the measures they are pursuing in order to secure themselves in their just rights and privileges, and that he is really friendly to our enemies, in that the said *Fitch* hath and doth frequently associate with the Continental prisoners now in *Windham County Jail*, to their great encouragement, and also with other persons inimical to this and the *United States*, and with such persons only, and also treats with derision, and endeavours to discourage, every preparation of the good people of this State for their own preservation, and by the whole of his conduct hath shown himself averse to the success of the *American arms*. We therefore beg leave to say to your Honours, that we look upon said *Fitch* totally unfit any longer to sustain the office of High-Sheriff of said *Windham County*. We beg leave, further, to observe to your Honours, that for some years last past the said Sheriff *Fitch* has greatly neglected the duties of his said office, whereby many creditors have been, and now are, delayed in recovering their just dues. Executions against him, said *Fitch*, issued on judgments obtained for his, and his Deputies', default in said office, have been frequently returned (*non est inventus*) by proper returning officers—his body being exempted from imprisonment in said County on account of his being Sheriff of said County. Whereupon your petitioners most humbly pray your Honours to take the matters aforesaid into your wise consideration, and remove the said *Fitch* from said office of Sheriff of said County, and appoint some suitable person of responsibility who is a known friend to this and the other *American States*, and a friend to the publick peace of this County, whereby the great and important purposes of said office may be accomplished, and the minds of the people of this County and State quieted. And your petitioners, as in duty bound, will ever pray.

Dated at *Windham*, in *Windham County*, September 3, A. D. 1776.

The evidences to support the first part of the foregoing complaint are: *Nathaniel Hebbard* and *Mary*, his wife; *Asael Sawyer*, *John Dingley*, *Richard Howard*, *Lydia Phillips*, *Resolved Wheeler*, all of *Windham* aforesaid; and *Jerusha Frink*.

With respect to the last part, Mr. *Elkanah Tisdale*, of *Lebanon*, in said County; Captain *Jabez Huntington*, of said *Windham*; the records of the Supreme and County Courts for *Windham County*; *Sam'l Gray*, *Nath'l Wales*, and *Hezekiah Bissell*, all of *Windham*; and *Nathan Frink*, Esq., of *Pomfret*, in said County.

William Durkee,	Peter Robinson,	Benj. Griffin,
Joseph Gerrings,	Ephraim Smith,	Joseph Ashley,
Nath'l Linken,	John Webb, Jun.,	Philip Abbott,
Jonathan Brewster,	Benjamin Smith,	Eb'r Griffin, Jun.,
Jacob Simons,	Hezekiah Manning,	John Blanchard,
John Clark,	Joshua Wieght,	Nath'l Forde,
Sam'l Geers,	Oliver Smith,	Dan'l Denison,
James Sawyer,	William Robinson,	Abraham Ford,
Robert Cunningham,	Sam'l Morgan,	Reuben Maynard,
Abraham Bliss,	Jonah Palmer,	Thomas Hodgkins,
Silas Dana,	Jonathan Robinson,	Henry Durkee,
Wm. Warner,	Reuben Robinson,	Henry Durkee, Jun.,
Zacehas Waldo,	Expe'r Robinson,	Wm. Abbott,
Sam'l Baker,	Pelatah Kimball,	John Fuller,
Sam'l Baker, Jun.,	John Howard,	Nath'l Hovey,
Benjamin Baker,	David Martin,	Benj. Meather,
John Baker,	James Howard,	Dan'l Clark,
John Baker, Jun.,	William Howard,	Seth Milher,
Isaac Bingham,	Isaac Bennet,	John Parish, Jun.,
Nath'l Bingham,	Joseph Dougset,	Sam'l Kasson,
Jonah Smith,	Elijah Greenslitt,	Jacob Perkins,
Nath'l Cary,	Wm. Martin, Jun.,	Wm. Preston,
John Walden,	Zebadiah Hall,	Wm. Preston, Jun.,
Jeremiah Bingham,	Sam'l Dorrance,	Jacob Parish,
Jer. Bingham, Jun.,	Thomas Stedman,	James Flint, 3d.,
William Perkins,	Henry Abbott,	Jeremiah Welsh,
Elisha Lillie,	Sam'l Moulton,	John Welsh,
Abner Flint,	Benj. Abbott, Jun.,	Thomas Snow,
John Kingsley,	Nath'l Hovey,	John Brewster,
Penvel Cheney,	Josiah Collins,	John Spafford.
Ebenezer Devotion,	Ebenezer Grifan,	
Richard Kimball,	John Hovey,	

COMMODORE HOPKINS TO GENERAL WASHINGTON.

Providence, September 2, 1776.

SIR: I am ordered by the Marine Committee to get the valuation of the stores that I brought from *New-Providance*, and as part of them was sent to *New-York* by your order, should be glad you would order Mr. *Knox* or some other of your officers to put a value on them, and order them to transmit such valuation to me as soon as convenient.

Sir, should be extremely obliged to you, if you have settled a cartel with Admiral or General *Howe*, if you would endeavour to get one Mr. *Henry Hawkins*, who was taken out of the sloop *L'Aimable Marie*, *Peter Donville* master, the 20th *May* last, off *Shrewsbury Inlet*, near *Sandy Hook*, and I believe is now on board the *Phoenix*, and I hear acts as a common hand. He is a young man and a near kinsman of mine, and his father and mother are very anxious to get him exchanged. I can send a prisoner of almost any rank that may be required for him.

Your assistance in this matter will very much oblige, sir, your most humble servant,

E. HOPKINS.

To his Excellency *George Washington*, Esq., Commander-in-Chief of the *American Army*, at *New-York*.

COMMODORE HOPKINS TO CAPTAIN JOSIAH.

Providence, September 2, 1776.

SIR: I received your letter yesterday; have inquired, and find Mr. *Charles Elder* is now at *North-Hampton*—make no doubt but shall be able to procure him as soon as Captain *Symonds* has leave to exchange you. Please to let me know by a line, and I will send immediately for him, and send him to *Block-Island*, if Captain *Symonds* gives his word a boat may come safe. There is a number of officers prisoners now in this Government. If there are any more men on board than belonged to the Continental fleet, should be glad to exchange them.

I have applied to Congress, and they have given General *Washington* directions to get you exchanged, if in his power, with Admiral *Howe*.

I am your friend,

E. HOPKINS.

To Mr. *James Josiah*, on board the ship *Cerberus*, off *Block-Island*.

ISAAC LATHROP TO RICHARD DEVENS.

Plymouth, September 2, 1776.

SIR: I am interested in a furnace which is now preparing for a blast and will be soon ready to go, and should be glad to furnish the Colony with shot or anything else in that way. You may remember I mentioned it to you some time since. As I don't expect to be at *Watertown* soon, I should be obliged to you to let me know by the way of Colonel *Warren* what quantity you may want, the sizes, &c., and you may depend on being as well served as at any works in the Colony. As I have never had an opportunity of supplying the Colony with any kind of warlike or other stores, and have spent my time and almost everything else in the common cause, I think I have an undoubted right to be favoured in this instance in preference to many others.

Your answer as above, by the first opportunity, will much oblige your friend and humble servant,

ISAAC LATHROP.

To *Richard Devens*, Esq.

ELNATHAN BATES TO RICHARD DEVENS.

Weymouth, September 2, 1776.

SIR: I received £47 by Mr. *Cotton Tuffts*, the 23d of *August*, and I would be glad if you would send the remainder of the account I sent relating to the nine-pounders; the further sum of £11 2d. I wrote for under the account, I expected to be part towards paying for the forty-two pounders. The iron I have sent for, and expect the cannon will be conveyed to *Hull*. The small-pox prevents my coming to *Boston* myself, but Dr. *Tuffts* can give you an account of the affair relating to the guns I have stocked, and those stocks I have prepared for the forty-two-pounders.

I have not been to the Castle yet, but desired Colonel *Lovett* to inquire of Colonel *Burbeck* with respect to what guns had no stocks prepared.

I am your humble servant,
To Commissary-General, Mr. *Richard Devens*, *Boston*.

P. S. SIR: Send what money you can by *Cotton Tuffts*, Esq., and make me accountable for the same.

ELNATHAN BATES.

Received £15 by virtue of the above order, for which I have given a receipt of *September 10*, 1776, for the same.

COTTON TUFFTS.

MASSACHUSETTS COUNCIL.

In Council, September 2, 1776.

Whereas, by a resolve passed by the General Court the 29th *April* last, the officers of vessels in the Colony sea service were allowed to enlist men out of the companies raised for the defence of the sea-coasts, and the officers of the said companies were thereby directed to permit any of their men to enlist into the Colony and Continental sea service only, and to enlist others to supply vacancies occasioned thereby as soon as may be:

And whereas such liberty or allowance, which was then given to the officers of vessels in the Colonial and Continental service, has been found to be very detrimental, having weakened and very much exposed to the enemy many of our harbours and towns on the sea-coast; and many of the officers of the sea-coast companies, after much expense of time and money to raise their companies, have had their men taken from them, to their great loss and damage, and thereby been discouraged from further recruiting; and some parts of the sea-coasts may, if this practice is allowed, be left destitute of all defence, and thereby become a harbour for our enemies, which would not only further distress our trade, but involve us in many other difficulties:

Therefore, *Resolved*, That the aforesaid resolve of the 29th of *April* be, and is hereby discontinued, and made null and void.

Sent down for concurrence.

JOHN AVERY, *Dep. Secretary*.

In the House of Representatives, September 2, 1776.

Read and concurred. J. WARREN, *Speaker*.

A true copy. Attest:

JOHN AVERY, *Dep. Secretary*.

COMMITTEE OF THE TOWN OF PITTSFIELD.

MR. WATSON: The cause of justice obliges us the Committee of the Town of *Pittsfield*, in conjunction with said Town, to desire you to give the following Declaration and Resolves a place in your publick paper, in order that the publick may not be misled by an enemy.

As every man's principles are best known by their conduct, so it appears that Captain *Charles Goodrich*, who was advertised by the Committee of Safety in *September 2*, 1776, in order to exculpate himself from the charge of being an enemy to his country, has endeavoured to turn the charge of inimical conduct on the Committee, and has carried his unlimited satire even against the Council of the State of the *Massachusetts Bay*. He tells the publick in *September 16*, 1776, that the Council had judged him to be a friend to his country, and condemned the Committee as being entirely ignorant of the line of their duty, and guilty of great indecency towards the constitutional authority of this State. If there was any such resolve, it must be judging *ex parte*; for the Committee were neither cited nor called upon by the Council, nor anybody else, to answer for their conduct; so that it appears said *Goodrich* has represented the Council to be the most partial, arbitrary body of men that ever existed, not giving the Committee the privilege of a hearing or any trial in the case. In this light said *Goodrich* has set forth the constitutional authority of this State, as he calls it. But that there is no such constitutional authority in this State, is evident, for in *September*, 1776, the House of Representatives have sent out their handbills to each Town in this State, to see if they would give leave to the present House to form the model of a new Constitution, and whether they, the people, choose to have it sent abroad to the people at large to be inspected before its ratification; by all which it appears said *Goodrich* has set the honourable Council in the most odious and contemptible light possible. If any should be so bold as to say we have a Constitution, we ask what is it? We never had but one Constitution, which was that of our charter, which we have some time ago rejected, and now we are to seek for another.

The Committee being thus injuriously treated, referred the matter to the Town, to whom they are responsible, who have taken the matter into hand, and passed the following resolves:

First, The question being put whether the Town will adopt the above Declaration? Voted in the affirmative.

Second, The question being put whether the Town is satisfied respecting the facts charged against Captain *Charles Goodrich* in an advertisement bearing date *September 2*, 1776, and whether the Town will justify the Committee in publishing said *Goodrich*? Voted in the affirmative.

Third, The question being put whether Captain *Charles Goodrich* has acted as an enemy to the union of the people and the cause of justice, in publishing the Committee in an advertisement bearing date *September 16*, 1776? Voted in the affirmative.

Fourth, The question being put whether the Town will order the above Declaration and Resolves to be published in the *Connecticut Courant*, for the restoration of the character of their Committee? Voted in the affirmative.

By order of the Town of *Pittsfield*.ELI ROOT, *Moderator*.A true copy: ISRAEL DICKENSON, *Town-Clerk*.

EXTRACT OF A LETTER FROM CAPTAIN DENNISON, OF THE EXPEDITION TRANSPORT, DATED HALIFAX, SEPT. 2, 1776.

Being commissioned by Lord *Howe*, after our arrival at *Sandy-Hook* with the fleet under his command, to return to *Halifax* with instructions for Governour *Arbuthnot*, and with directions for all those vessels that should arrive at *Halifax* to proceed immediately to the northward, I sailed on the voyage without interruption until we arrived in latitude 44°, when two *American* privateers bore down upon us, leaving a large brig astern of them, which we afterwards found was a prize they had taken the day before, being a transport from *Cork*, called the *James*, Captain *O'Reilly*, laden with provisions for the *British* troops. As we mounted eight guns, I ordered the vessel to be laid to, and everything prepared for the engagement, which continued for about one glass, when the smallest privateer

struck to us, and the other sheered off with her prize. The vessel we took carried eight guns, and was called the *Adventurer*, Captain *Bronson*; the other was called the *Defiance*, of eight guns, Captain *Morris*, of the same port. We brought our prize safe into this port, where she has been condemned and sold, the men sharing near twelve pounds sterling each.

EXTRACT OF A LETTER RECEIVED IN LONDON, BY THE NEW-YORK MAIL, DATED SEPTEMBER 2, 1776,

As the General's letter will doubtless be made publick at full length, I shall not trouble you with any account of the action, but only with my opinion of things at present, which indeed wear a very favourable aspect. I must inform you then, that half the number the Provincials were would have put them to the rout. I was with the Light Infantry, and therefore can give a tolerable account of their behaviour. Many of them fired their pieces and run, and numberless others, I believe, never saw which way they did fire, for when they discharged, both eyes were shut. Could we have trusted our spies' accounts, a terrible slaughter might have been made; but the General appears throughout his whole conduct to have been very wary, and perhaps to that wariness we owe our present conquest. By the prisoners and some deserters, we learn that there are near four thousand now sick in *New-York*, and the people of that city heartily tired of the war. The inhabitants of *Long-Island* and the Provinces of *Jersey*, are indeed a good sort of people, and appear to be very industrious, and I am apt to believe have no great stomach to the present war. An attack is certainly intended against *New-York*, and the east end, the place thought the weakest and least defensible. I suppose the General will not give them time to breathe, but push his successes like a winning gamester. I saw poor Captain *Logan* interred, who commanded in the Marines: he was a brave man and a good officer—the corps will miss him. The troops we left behind on *Staten-Isle* have been reinforced, in case any attempt should be made from the *Jerseys*. Provisions are plenty, except fresh meat, which, however, we have now and then, as often as it can possibly be procured for us. We are a noble fleet and army, able to attack almost any thing, and have very few sick.

JAMES LLOYD CHAMBERLAINE TO MARYLAND COUNCIL OF SAFETY.

Talbot County, September 3, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: Agreeable to your order I have this day engaged Sergeant *Bannen* with a guard of eight men to take charge of the publick magazine in this County, and hope for your order on our Paymaster to furnish him with one shilling per man for each day's sustenance, and with such pay as is due to the Militia, when in actual service, at the expiration of each month.

I am very respectfully, gentlemen, your obedient, humble servant,

JAMES LLOYD CHAMBERLAINE.

To the Hon. the President of the Council of Safety.

PRESIDENT OF CONGRESS TO GENERAL WASHINGTON.

Philadelphia, September 3, 1776.

SIR: I do myself the honour to enclose you sundry resolves, by which you will perceive that Congress having taken your letter of the 2d instant into consideration, came to a resolution in a Committee of the whole House, that no damage should be done to the City of *New-York*.

I have sent expresses to order the battalions up to Head-Quarters agreeably to the resolves herewith transmitted; and likewise to the several States to the northward of *Virginia*, to send all the aid in their power to the army.

I have the honour to be with perfect esteem and regard, sir, your most obedient and very humble servant,

JOHN HANCOCK, President.

To his Excellency General *Washington*.

PRESIDENT OF CONGRESS TO GENERAL LEWIS.

Philadelphia, September 3, 1776.

SIR: The Congress having just received information from General *Washington* of the very great and superior

strength of the enemy, and being convinced that they are determined to bend all their force against *New-York*, in order if possible to penetrate into that and the neighbouring States, have judged it absolutely necessary to augment our troops in that quarter. I have it in command, therefore, to direct that immediately on receipt hereof, you order three more Continental battalions to march from *Virginia* to reinforce the army at *New-York*.

The critical state of our affairs will not admit the least delay in executing this order. Suffer me, therefore, to press you to the greatest expedition, with that earnestness so naturally suggested by the importance of the cause, although I doubt not your own ardour would be a sufficient stimulus, when called on by the voice of Liberty and your Country.

I am, sir, your most obedient and very humble servant,

JOHN HANCOCK, President.

To General *Lewis*, *Virginia*, three battalions.

[General *Moore*, *North-Carolina*, two battalions; Commanding Officer of Continental Troops in *Rhode-Island*, one battalion.]

In Congress, September 3, 1776.

Resolved, That three more Battalions be ordered from *Virginia* to reinforce the Army at *New-York*.

That two of the *North-Carolina* Battalions be ordered to march with all possible expedition under the command of Brigadier General *Moore*, to reinforce the Army at *New-York*.

That it be recommended to the Assemblies and Conventions of the several States to the northward of *Virginia*, immediately to send all the aid in their power to the Army at *New-York*.

That one of the Continental battalions in *Rhode-Island* be ordered immediately to march to reinforce the Army in *New-York*.

That it be recommended to the Assembly of Massachusetts to send to *Rhode-Island* a battalion of their Militia to supply the place of the Continental Battalion ordered from thence.

By order of Congress: JOHN HANCOCK, President.

PRESIDENT OF CONGRESS TO THE ASSEMBLY OF NEW-HAMPSHIRE.

Philadelphia, September 3, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: Our enemies being determined to make a powerful attack on *New-York* and the States adjoining thereto, and having for this purpose collected their whole force from every part of the continent, it is incumbent on the *United States of America* to take the most effectual measures to defeat this deep laid scheme against their country.

The Congress have just received information from General *Washington* of the very great and superiour strength of the enemy, and if we consider the recent change in the situation of our affairs at *New-York*, we shall soon be convinced that nothing will prove an adequate remedy in our present circumstances but the most vigorous exertions on our part. I am, therefore, by order of Congress, to request you will immediately send all the aid in your power to our army at *New-York*.

The state of our affairs is so extremely critical that delay may be attended with fatal consequences. Suffer me, therefore, to press you, in the name and by the authority of your country, to an immediate compliance, and with all the earnestness so naturally suggested by the importance of the cause; although I doubt not your own ardor would be a sufficient stimulus when called on by the voice of Liberty, yet my anxiety is so great I cannot refrain on the present occasion from beseeching you to exert yourselves. Everything is at stake. Our religion, our liberty, the peace and happiness of posterity, are the grand objects in dispute, which, that we may be able to preserve and transmit to future generations, is the constant and uninterrupted wish of,

Gentlemen, your most obedient and very humble servant,

J. HANCOCK, President.

To Assembly of *New-Hampshire*.

[Same to Assembly of *Massachusetts Bay*, Assembly of *Connecticut*, Assembly of *Rhode-Island*, Convention of *Pennsylvania*, Convention of *Delaware* Government, Convention of *Maryland*.]

JOSIAH BARTLETT TO WILLIAM WHIPPLE.

Philadelphia, September 3, 1776.

DEAR SIR: By that time this reaches you I expect you will be near ready to set out on your return to this city. Make all convenient haste. The Congress is, at this time, very thin. Colonel Lee is arrived here, but several others have taken leave of absence, among them Mr. Jefferson and Mr. Haywood. The unhappy affair of the 27th, on *Long-Island*, has occasioned the evacuation of our works there and on *Governour's Island*. Our people were ensnared, and, what vexes me, in a very careless manner.

Yesterday General Sullivan arrived at my lodgings, being on his parole. He says he has a verbal message to Congress, to propose himself and Lord Sterling in exchange for Generals Prescott and McDonald. He also says that Lord Howe expressed himself very desirous of an accommodation with *America*, without any more bloodshed—that he was very willing to meet, at almost any place, a number of the members of Congress, (as private gentlemen, for he could not own any such body as Congress,) to try if they could make any proposals for an accommodation; that he said he had waited near two months longer in *England* than he should have otherwise done, to procure proper powers for a final accommodation, with which he said he was now vested, &c., and he allowed General Sullivan to come here to propose the aforesaid conference to Congress. What will be done in the affair by Congress I know not, but think there are difficulties on both sides. If the Congress should accept of the proposed conference, only on a verbal message, when at the same time Lord Howe declares he can consider them only as private gentlemen, especially when we are certain he can have no power to grant any terms we can possibly accept, this, I fear, will lessen the Congress in the eye of the publick, and perhaps at this time intimidate people when they see us catching hold of so slender a thread to bring about a settlement. On the other hand, General Sullivan's arrival from Lord Howe with proposals of an accommodation, with thirty falsehoods in addition, are now spread over this city, and will soon be over the Continent; and if we should refuse the conference, I fear the Tories, and moderate men, so called, will try to represent the Congress as obstinate, and so desirous of war and bloodshed that we would not so much as hear the proposals Lord Howe had to make, which they will represent (as they already do) to be highly advantageous for *America*,—even that he would consent that we should be independent provided we would grant some advantages as to trade. Such an idea, spread among the people, especially the soldiers, at this time, might be of the most fatal consequence. Whatever is done by Congress in the affair will, I hope, be ordered for the benefit of *America*.

William Barrell died on Sunday morning and was buried last evening.

I am, sir, your friend and most obedient,

JOSIAH BARTLETT.

PETITION OF JEREMIAH HALSEY.

[Read September 5, 1776. Referred to the Board of War.]

To the Honourable the Continental Congress:

The Petition of Jeremiah Halsey humbly sheweth: That in the month of May, A. D. 1775, your petitioner was by the honourable General Assembly of the Colony of *Connecticut* legally appointed and commissioned a Lieutenant in Captain Edward Mott's company, in Colonel Parsons' regiment, and said company being ordered to join the army in the Northern Department, your petitioner joined said army and faithfully served through the tedious campaign at the siege of *St. John's* as an assistant engineer, and faithfully served through the whole siege until after the taking of that important fortress, when soon after your petitioner was taken sick of the camp disorder and a bad cough and a slow fever, and thereby not able to perform his duty and business, and the commander of *St. John's* being ordered by the General (who was then at *Montreal*) to send all the sick from *St. John's* to *Ticonderoga*, under the care of proper officers, and in pursuance of said orders Captain Cooke, the commander at *St. Johns*, ordered your petitioner to take a batteau and a number of sick and prisoners, and transport them across *Lake Champlain* to *Ticonderoga*, and there to make report to his Honour Major-General Schuyler, which your petitioner did, and delivered the prisoners to the proper guards,

according to General Schuyler's orders—the time your petitioner left *St. John's* being but two days before General Montgomery discharged the whole of the *Connecticut* troops; and when your petitioner arrived at *Ticonderoga* he was then sent by General Schuyler express to his Honour Governor Trumbull, on his return home; before his arrival the time for which your petitioner was engaged expired, and after your petitioner came away some evil-minded person falsely and wickedly informed General Montgomery, being then at *Montreal*, that your petitioner had deserted said service and returned without orders, and thereupon the General, very justly as matters were represented to him, desired that the scandalous and atrocious crime might be punished with severity for a publick example; and upon which information being transmitted by General Schuyler this honourable Congress on the 9th day of *January* last resolved that said conduct of your petitioner should be inquired into by a Court-Martial, and thereupon ordered General Schuyler to appoint a Court-Martial for that purpose, of which complaint and resolution your petitioner to his surprise had been informed by a letter wrote by General Schuyler, so that your petitioner by the false representation made to General Montgomery, is wholly deprived of seven months' wages as a Lieutenant, and also of his wages as an assistant engineer from the 22d *September* to the 14th *November*, being £11 4s. lawful money, and also injured in his publick character as an officer, and thereby prevented of doing that publick service for his country in this critical day, and in the defence of all that is dear to mankind, which your petitioner being determined to defend his injured country until all tyranny shall be subdued or perish in its ruins: He therefore humbly prays your Honours that as said charge is founded wholly upon mistake, as your petitioner is clearly able to evince by the orders given him, which he religiously observed, as will appear, and as General Schuyler hath not ordered a Court-Martial your petitioner is very loth to have a publick censure appear against him in the records of this honourable Congress founded wholly upon mistake, and thereupon prays that your Honours would appoint a committee to examine and inspect his papers and orders, which may be done in a few minutes and clearly show the mistake, and that the aforesaid resolution of Congress of the 9th of *January* last may be revoked or countermanded, as no Court-Martial has been called; and order the wages of your petitioner to be paid, or in some other way grant proper relief to your petitioner as your Honours in your great wisdom shall think just. And your petitioner, as in duty bound, shall ever pray.

Dated at *Philadelphia* the 3d day of *September*, 1776.

JEREMIAH HALSEY.

COLONEL JOSEPH WOOD TO BRIGADIER GENERAL ARTHUR ST. CLAIR.

Philadelphia, September 3, 1776.

DEAR GENERAL: I this moment received yours of the 3d instant, and return you many thanks for your kind concern for my health, which I am sorry to say is not so well as I could wish or expect, considering the length of time, from so small a wound; but one reason is, I can't get quit of the fever. Two or three days I seem perfectly well—after that comes on an inflammation in my leg, which spreads all over it—then I am forced to keep my bed five or six days, and bathe and poultice; and so I go on. God knows when I shall have the pleasure of seeing you. I long to be with you. I intend setting off next week, sick or well, making all the haste my health will permit. I am more easy that I have two such field officers as *Craig* and *Butler*; their commissions I have got, and shall bring them with me. I hope they will do all—hope did I say?—I am certain they will do everything possible for the good of the regiment. I have not seen my little favourite, so have heard no melody; nor have I seen your lovely partner—the two dear nymphs are out of town. At *Ticonderoga* how agreeable would they be. I am in doubt about our army at *New-York*. A letter from an officer of rank, this day, says they are in want of ten thousand men—if so, the Lord have mercy on them. All the Militia going and returning with such speed smells strong of cowardice, and dispirits the troops. I dined yesterday with five or six of the Congress. They think a few days will decide the matter one way or the other. It may for us, but not for the enemy; they can retreat to their

lines. You must know before this we have given up *New-York*, and must do what they wish for—fight them in the open field. You know, sir, how we are provided for that. Some of our men are brave—must be—to make a stand against double their numbers, and six times better armed. We can only hope that *God* will fight our battles as in old times—but I'll say no more.

Mr. *Willson*, with his lady, went for *Carlisle* to-day. He desired me to give his best compliments to you, and when he returns will send you a letter a mile long to make up for the short ones or the very few he has wrote you.

God bless you. All the family join in their good wishes for your prosperity in every shape, but none more so than, dear sir, your affectionate friend and very humble servant,

JOS. WOOD.

My compliments to Colonel *Craig* and Major *Butler* and all friends.

GENERAL WASHINGTON TO GENERAL MERCER.

New-York, September 3, 1776.

DEAR SIR: From the present complexion of our affairs, it appears to me of the utmost importance, and that the most salutary consequences may result from our having a strong encampment at the post on the *Jersey* side of the *North River*, opposite to *Mount Washington*, on this Island. I therefore think it advisable and highly necessary that you detach such a force from *Amboy* and its dependencies, under the command of an officer of note, authority, and influence, with a skilful engineer, to lay out such additional works as may be judged essential and proper, and the situation of the ground will admit of. They should be begun and carried on with all possible diligence and despatch.

It will be proper that a considerable quantity of provision should be collected for the maintenance and support of the camp; and for this purpose I wish you to have proper measures adopted to procure it, and have it deposited there, and at places of security not far distant.

As the Continental officers now at this post will take rank, and the command probably, of any you may send, unless he should be a general officer, I think and wish, if you have one that possibly can be spared, and in whose judgment, activity, and fortitude you can rely, that he may be appointed to the command, rather than an officer of inferior rank.

I am, &c.,

GO. WASHINGTON.

To Brigadier-General *Mercer*, *New-Jersey*.

GENERAL WASHINGTON TO COLONEL MOYLAN.

New-York, September 3, 1776.

SIR: Enclosed you will receive an extract of a letter of the 29th ultimo, from General *Schuyler* to his Excellency, which he directed me to transmit you, that you may be informed of what the Committee at *Albany* say and have done respecting the boards Mr. *Hughes* wrote to them for. His Excellency desires that you will take measures, not only for getting those they have sent to *Peekskill* down to *King's Bridge*, or some place near it, but also that you will exert yourself to have a pretty considerable quantity provided, as many will be wanted, in all probability, to shelter the troops that may be stationed there and at the posts about it.

I am, &c.,

R. H. HARRISON.

To Colonel *Stephen Moylan*, Quartermaster-General.

WILLIAM PALFREY TO GENERAL HEATH.

New-York, September 3, 1776.

DEAR GENERAL: As the books, papers, &c., belonging to my office are of importance to the publick, as well as to myself, I have taken the freedom to send them to your quarters, requesting the favour of you to give them house-room for a little while. As I expect a large sum of money, by the way of *Dobbs's Ferry*, soon, the General has directed me to deposit it somewhere in your neighbourhood. If it is agreeable to you, and you have room to spare, I should be extremely happy that we may mess together.

I am most respectfully, sir, your obedient humble servant,

WM. PALFREY.

To the Hon. Major-General *Heath*, near *King's Bridge*.

COLONEL MOYLAN TO GENERAL HEATH.

New-York, September 3, 1776.

DEAR GENERAL: Major *Bacon*, the superintendent of the smiths, will deliver you this. The General has ordered the tools and necessities belonging to his department to some place of security from the enemy, and at some time, as convenient as the nature of our situation will admit of, to your encampment. He is to consult with you, and take your orders hereon. Give him every assistance you can. It will oblige, dear General, your assured friend and very humble servant,

STEPHEN MOYLAN.

To Major-General *Heath*, *King's Bridge*.

REPORT OF COL. RUFUS PUTNAM TO GENERAL WASHINGTON.

Bloomington, September 3, 1776.

SIR: According to your Excellency's order, I have reconnoitered every part about the Island of *New-York* and the main, as far as *Frog's Point*, and, on a full view, find the enemy have such a variety of places to choose out of, that it's impossible to prevent their landing when they please. They have such guides and intelligence of our movements that they can always avoid or surprise any parties that are posted to oppose their landing. Their army is so numerous that they can attack any division of our army with a superior force; and yet, while our army is extended from *New-York* to *King's Bridge*, 'tis necessary to have a body of reserve at this place. But I cannot think it would be best, nor have we time, to make fortifications; since the moment any quarter is attacked, the whole body of reserve, I conclude, will be ordered to support it. I should advise the throwing obstructions in the way of landing. That they have one week's provisions always with them, and teams ready to carry their baggage wherever the service requires.

I mentioned to your Excellency that I thought your army should be collected together in some advantageous place, where supplies might be had, and a camp fortified in such a manner as the enemy dare not attack, or, if they did, must be repulsed; and I think so still, if it be possible to effect it. And to defend the passage of the *North River*, which I take to be the capital object, and at the same time keep open a communication with the Eastern and Southern Colonies, is to press the army from *Bundet* landing, on the *Jersey* shore—*Mount Washington* and the Heights, south as far as Colonel *Thompson's* house, on *Harlem River*—the Heights we now possess at *King's Bridge*, and as far south as the *Three Trees*. The batteries on the *Jersey* side to be filled with guns; the battery on the rocks below *Mount Washington* completed; a new one built below the hill opposite the sunken vessels. These, well filled with guns and ammunition, if the galleys also afforded their assistance, would render it very difficult for ships to pass. If they attempted to force this post, I think they must be beaten. If they detached into the country on either hand, it must scatter their army in such a manner that your Excellency must drub them. But if supplies cannot be had at this place, at the *Highlands* they may, both by land and water. I think there has been some proof the ships dare not attempt that passage; but they are not prepared to defend against a landing. This is surely worth attention; for if they possess themselves of this passage, we shall be in a bad box. For my sentiments about that place, I refer your Excellency to Lord *Stirling's* report last *May*. I know that this doctrine gives up *York* to destruction, and exposes many other towns to be ravaged by them. But what are ten or twenty towns to the grand object? If they once pass the *Highlands*, I see no way to prevent the junction of their armies. *Burgoyne* need never come from *Canada*. If *Howe* gets to *Albany*, our Northern Army must quit *Ticonderoga*, or fall a sacrifice.

I am your Excellency's most obedient humble servant,

RUFUS PUTNAM.

To his Excellency *G. Washington*, Esq., General, &c., &c.

GENERAL GEORGE CLINTON TO NEW-YORK CONVENTION.

King's Bridge, September 3, 1776.

SIR: Agreeable to a resolve of the Committee of Safety of this State, I now send you the examination taken against *John Wooly*, together with the prisoner under care of Sergeant *Mills*. The other person who was taken with *Wooly*

escaped our guards, as will appear by the enclosed letter from Lieutenant-Colonel *Hopkins*, dated 31st *August*. The enemy's shipping lay opposite *Hunt's Point*, and a considerable number of their troops are encamped on the opposite shore. We are very considerably reinforced at this post, *Horn's Hook*, &c., so that should they attempt paying us a visit in this quarter, I have not the least doubt but we shall be able to give a very good account of them. No movements have been made, except that of the enemy's possessing themselves of the different works evacuated by our troops on *Long-Island* and *Nutton-Island*, and some of their shipping moving up near the city, one of which was yesterday washing up under cover of *Nutton-Island* into the *East River*, as I am just now informed.

I am, with the utmost respect, your most obedient servant,
GEO. CLINTON.

To the President of the Convention of State of *New-York*.

KING'S BRIDGE, ss:

The Examination of *John Wooly*, prisoner, confined on suspicion of going on board the enemy's shipping, and supplying the enemy with provisions.

And upon examination of the said *John Wooly*, he being asked how often he had been on board the said shipping, answer was made by the examinant, only once; observing that a boat, the property of this examinant's father, lay exposed to being taken by the enemy, whereupon this examinant with his brother *Philip*, went in order to remove said boat out of the aforesaid danger, in accomplishing which they were met by a barge from the shipping (fairly exposed to their view) and taken, and thereupon carried on board the shipping, and upon the enemy's receiving intelligence from persons, as he thinks, who fled aboard upon principles of toryism. The examinant being asked whether or no he was a brother to *Thomas Wooly*, who this examinant says fled aboard and absolutely refused to take up arms against the Ministerial army, whereupon he answered, he was; whose conduct this examinant says he conjectures was a means of his and his brother's being treated with the lenity and usage they received; at the same time asserts and says that offers being made to him, this examinant, in case he would supply and fetch them provisions he should be set at liberty, whereupon this examinant answered he had none; nevertheless, together with his brother, was dismissed. This examinant being further asked in regard to the shipping, what number of shipping—also, what number of men he took to be on board the ship he was taken; in answer to which says, he saw two thirty-two gun ships and one twelve gun brig, and as for the number of men on board the vessel he was on board of, he says he imagines to be about two hundred and twenty or about that number, which being all the information he can give relative to the state of said shipping.

The above examination taken by us this 2d of *September*, 1776.

THOMAS MOFFAT, Major.

ALBERT PAWLING, Major of Brigade.

PETITION OF JOSHUA FERRIS.

To the Honourable the President and Members of the State of *NEW-YORK*, in Congress met:

The Petition of *JOSHUA FERRIS*, a prisoner confined in the Gaol of the *WHITE-PLAINS*, in *WESTCHESTER County*, humbly sheweth:

That your petitioner was enlisted in his Majesty's service the fifteenth of April last, and received his bounty money in the said service, not having the least suspicion of an alteration of the form of Government, and as your petitioner, on coming on shore, was apprehended and immediately loaded with irons, in which state he hath continued almost ever since, and as he humbly conceives himself to be under the limitation of a prisoner of war, he begs of this honourable House that his irons may be taken off, as he cannot possibly shift himself, or get clear of the vermin with which he is greatly infested, to the great disturbance of his unfortunate fellow-prisoners; and he further relies on your Honours' well-known humanity to treat him as an unfortunate prisoner of war, and allow him the same liberty as other prisoners belonging to his Majesty, as your petitioner declares that he will not interfere in any matters concerning the present unhappy troubles, but behave himself as becomes a faithful prisoner of war.

Your petitioner therefore humbly submits his case to your Honours, and begs for such relief as to your Honours shall seem meet. And your petitioner, as in duty bound, shall ever pray.

JOSHUA FERRIS.

GENERAL SCHUYLER TO GENERAL GATES.

Albany, September 3, 1776—6 o'clock, A. M.

DEAR GENERAL: Yesterday's post did not bring me a line from General *Washington*, and I deferred writing to you in hopes of an express by this time.

By a letter which Mr. *Trumbull*, the Paymaster, has received from his brother, and another from a Delegate in the Provincial Congress, we have the disagreeable intelligence that our troops have been obliged to retreat from *Long-Island*, and that it is probable the whole army will move, if it is not already, to this side of *King's Bridge*. Another letter says the enemy buried fourteen hundred and sixty-one, killed in the engagements on *Tuesday* and *Wednesday*, and we six hundred and ten of ours.

General *Sullivan* and Lord *Stirling* are prisoners. The former was in *New-York* on his parole when the post came away on *Friday* morning, who confirms the above account, and adds that the enemy's ships were in motion when he left the town. If so, I apprehend we shall sustain some loss in our military stores, should not a previous movement of part have taken place.

I cannot learn that we left any cannon on *Long-Island*, although the enemy were already firing on our works on the *Governour's Island*.

They have two frigates, an armed brig, and a tender, in the *Sound*, about twenty miles from *New-York*.

The traitor *Zedwitz*, who held a correspondence with *Tryon*, is only broke for his treason.

General *Lee* not yet arrived at *New-York*. The Provincial Congress moved up to *Fishkill*.

I am, dear General, your most obedient, humble servant,
PH. SCHUYLER.

To General *Gates*, &c.

H. GLEN TO GENERAL SCHUYLER.

Schenectady, September 3, 1776.

DEAR SIR: I find by three companies of batteau-men I have employed between this and *Fort Stanwix* in carrying provisions, &c., that I can spare the one company, that is, *Van Epp's* in particular; they are but twenty-one men. Should you think proper, I would discharge them, unless the General thinks there will be occasion for them this Fall. Should there be no more troops ordered for *Fort Stanwix* this Fall, I can supply that garrison with the two companies, *Lansing's* and *Wolcott's*, and will have a good deal of cash by discharging *Van Epp's* company, as they are very indifferent hands, and should there be any occasion for any hands, I can get in one day as many hands as I want, in town.

Yours, &c.

H. GLEN.

To Major General *Ph. Schuyler*, *Albany*.

GENERAL WATERBURY TO GENERAL GATES.

Skenesborough, September 3, 1776.

DEAR GENERAL: I received yours of yesterday, per Mr. *Avery*, which advised me of the arrival of the rigging and other necessities for the galleys. I am fully of your Honour's opinion, that it is best for the galleys immediately after they are launched, to be sent and rigged at *Ticonderoga*, and for the troops to come forward with them, as it is very sickly at this post. I shall send the *Philadelphia* galley to-morrow or next day to *Ticonderoga*.

I have received a considerable quantity of clothing which was sent by his Honour Governour *Trumbull*, for the use of the troops, and I should be glad to know whether I must send them forward to *Ticonderoga*. If it is your Honour's orders, I will send them forward forthwith. The Assistant Deputy Quartermaster-General is taken sick at this place and has petitioned for liberty to go home for a short space of time till he can gain his health better, and I don't choose to give him liberty till I can have your Honour's opinion in the affair.

I am your Honour's most obedient humble servant,
DAVID WATERBURY, JR.

I shall send forward Colonel *Swift* with part of his regiment in the first galley, and as the galleys are finished I shall continue sending the *Connecticut* troops forward, and come myself in the third. I shall send the boards they have hutted themselves with here, that they may do the same there, as they have no tents.

I would acquaint your Honour of a complaint from Colonel *Phinney* against Ensign *William Garwood*. The complaint is as follows:

SIR: Please to order under an arrest Ensign *William Garwood*, of Captain *Casdorp's* company of carpenters, for insulting language, and damning and threatening of me when endeavouring to suppress a riot, and desire that he may be brought to trial immediately.

EDMUND PHINNEY, Colonel.

To His Honour General *Waterbury*.

The above is a true copy of the complaint and desire, and I put him under arrest according to his desire.

D. W., JR.

To Major-General *Gates*.

COLONEL BROWN'S COMPLAINT AGAINST GENERAL ARNOLD.
To the Hon. *Horatio Gates*, Esquire, Major-General in the the Northern Department:

The complaint of *John Brown*, Lieutenant-Colonel in the regiment whereof *Samuel Elmer*, Esquire, is Colonel, humbly sheweth:

That at the Camp before *Quebeck*, on the 22d of *February* last, Brigadier-General *Arnold*, then Commander-in-Chief of the Continental Army at that place, did then and there in the presence and hearing of Colonel *Jeremiah Duggan* and others, declare and affirm that your complainant was guilty of the worst and blackest of crimes, viz: of plundering the baggage of officers taken prisoners, (contrary to articles of capitulation,) and other publick stores.

Your complainant further sheweth that the same General *Arnold*, at the camp aforesaid, on the 1st of *February* last, by his letter to Congress of that date, declared "that your complainant had been publicly accused of plundering the baggage of officers taken prisoners at *Sorel*, contrary to articles of capitulation, and to the great scandal of the *American* arms, and that it was his opinion that the promotion of your complainant would give great disgust to the army in general, till this matter should be cleared up."

Your complainant further sheweth that the same General *Arnold*, at or near the *Sorel*, in *Canada*, on or about the middle of *May* last, did, in the presence and hearing of General *Thomas* and Major *Sedgwick*, (then Secretary to General *Thomas*,) declare and affirm that your complainant was guilty of plundering officers' baggage taken prisoners, contrary to articles of capitulation, and that your complainant was a dangerous man and ought not to be continued in the army.

All which declarations and affirmations of General *Arnold*, made as aforesaid, were false, scandalous, and malicious, made and calculated with an avowed design to injure and ruin the character of your complainant, who flatters himself that his character as an officer and gentleman is equal to any of his rank in the Continental Army, without exception. And as the false and malicious charges made against your complainant by General *Arnold* are of such a high nature, and so essentially affect his character, fame, and reputation, as well as the character of every officer in the Continental Army, your complainant requests that General *Arnold* be immediately arrested and brought to trial, that your complainant may have justice done him in this particular.

Your Honour's most obedient and humble servant,

JNO. BROWN.

Tyconderoga, September 3, 1776.

CONNECTICUT COUNCIL OF SAFETY.

At a meeting of the Governour and Council of Safety of *Connecticut*, September 3, 1776:

Present: His Honour the Governour, *Jabez Huntington*, *Richard Law*, *Jedediah Elderkin*, *William Hillhouse*, *Nathaniel Wales*, Jun., and *Benjamin Huntington*, Esqrs.

Voted, To draw on the Pay-Table for £300, in favour

of Captain *Uriah Hayden*, towards building the ship *Oliver Cromwell*, and to be in account. (Order drawn September 3, 1776, delivered Captain *Hayden*.)

Voted, That *Jabez Huntington*, *Richard Law*, *Jedediah Elderkin*, *William Hillhouse*, *Nathaniel Wales*, Jun., and *Benjamin Huntington*, Esquires, be appointed, desired, and empowered to repair immediately to *New-London*, as a committee to observe the circumstances of our troops there, the state of the *Sound*, whether infested with the enemy or not, and to consider and direct what measures are best to be taken with regard to the inhabitants and stock on *Long-Island*, how to preserve them from the hands of the enemy, and to determine with regard to throwing troops upon said Island.

They are also empowered to take care that suitable stores of ammunition, provisions, and every necessary, be made thereon, according to the determination they shall make and the orders they shall give to Colonel *Wolcott* and others concerned therein. They are also to take into consideration, and give directions concerning the vessel belonging to the Colony, wherein Captain *Hardin* lately sailed—to order, if they see fit, that she be fitted for a guard vessel at the harbour of *New-London*, and on the *Sound*; and report what they find, and the directions and orders they shall give, to the Governour and Committee of Safety on *Thursday* next.

JAMES M'COBB TO HENRY GARDNER.

Georgetown, Massachusetts, September 3, 1776.

HONOURED SIR: I send enclosed the subscription of a few of the inhabitants of this poor town. I believe we are all to a man hearty in the common cause, but our poverty restrains us. The resolve of the honourable Court never came to hand until the 1st of *August*, which was the reason of our being so far behindhand. Our not having a post established any farther than *Falmouth*, which is fifty miles from here, is a very great damage to us. We ha'nt an opportunity to know our duty. The money will be ready as soon as the bills are sent down, and I suppose mostly in dollars. The honourable Court will be pleased to order how it will be transported.

I am, honoured sir, with the greatest respect, your most obedient, humble servant,

JAMES MCCOBB, Chairman.

To *Henry Gardner*, Esq., Province Treasurer, at his office, in *Watertown*.

Georgetown, August 3, 1776.

Whereas, application has been made to the several Towns in this Colony, to procure a sum of Hard Money to carry on the *Canada* expedition with success, to be exchanged for Continental Bills; We, the subscribers, do hereby promise that we will pay to the Committee of *Georgetown* aforesaid, the sum set to our names, on the conditions above, in hard money.

Witness our hands.

<i>James McCobb</i> , - -	200 dollars,	£60 00 0
<i>Hannah McCobb</i> , - -	50 dollars,	15 00 0
<i>Jordan Parker</i> , - -	20 dollars,	6 00 0
<i>Thomas Capron</i> , - -	20 dollars,	6 00 0
<i>Saml. McCobb</i> , - -	50 dollars,	15 00 0
<i>Willm. Rogers</i> , - -	30 dollars,	9 00 0
<i>John Parker</i> , - -	100 dollars,	30 00 0
<i>Nathl. Wyman</i> , - -	9 dollars,	2 14 0
<i>David Mors</i> , - -	8 dollars,	2 8 0
<i>William Wallless</i> , - -	4 dollars,	1 4 0
<i>Sarah McKentier</i> , - -	9 dollars,	2 14 0
<i>William Sprague</i> , - -	10 dollars,	3 00 0
<i>George Rogers</i> , - -	20 dollars,	6 00 0
<i>Daniel Ring</i> , - -	16 dollars,	4 16 0
<i>James Butler</i> , - -	16 dollars,	4 16 0
<i>John Hinson</i> , - -	60 dollars,	18 00 0
<i>William Butler</i> , - -	16 dollars,	4 16 0
<i>James Jewett</i> , - -	40 dollars,	12 00 0
<i>Benj. Lemont</i> , - -	20 dollars,	6 00 0
<i>James Lemont</i> , - -	20 dollars,	6 00 0
<i>David King</i> , - -	13 dollars,	3 18 0
<i>Jona. Wood</i> , - -	15 dollars,	4 10 0
<i>Henry Sewall</i> , - -	20 dollars,	6 00 0

COLONEL BAYLEY TO COMMITTEE OF SAFETY.

Newbury, September 3, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: I find that Doctor *Porter* has been very busy collecting testimony in order to invalidate *Daniel Hall's* evidence; but I know of no authority for what he has been doing. However, the evidence relating to *Hall's* character must be looked upon as inimical to our common cause, as well as all those who assist a man so inimical as Esquire *Porter*, and think that should any man appear from hence endeavouring to do it before you, they ought not to have their liberty to return. *Thomas Chamberlaine*, who swears something against *Hall*, has been very friendly to *Hall* till their plot was found out, and, by his conduct, must be of *Porter's* party.

As to any further trial of either of those we condemned as inimical, except they petition for it, I know of no authority they have for it; but what I thought was for them to be kept out of mischief, which I still think they and all such as espouse their cause, should be secured. You will doubtless see the need of it when you hear the evidence and trial. Certainly they that are not for us are against us. I shall be glad to know whether you will, if needed, receive from our State the unfriendly, &c.

I only mention things as I hear that have been done by Doctor *Porter* without any authority as I supposed. I took no notice of it, so as to attend his courts.

I am, gentlemen, your most obedient, humble servant,
JACOB BAYLEY.

CERTIFICATE IN FAVOUR OF ASA PORTER.

We, the subscribers, being a part of the Committee who sat on examination of *Asa Porter*, Esquire, hereby certify, that the said *Porter* was kept under guard with orders for no person to speak with him privately, and the cause of his arrest was not made known to him till he was brought before the Committee aforesaid, which was then made known to him. He was also informed by the Chairman of the Committee, to this effect, that he was not then to be tried, but only to be examined whether there were sufficient grounds of suspicion to bring him over for trial. After the vote of the Committee of said *Porter's* case was read to him, he told the Committee to this effect, that he did expect they would have given judgment on his case without giving him opportunity to defend himself, or to bring his evidence. We further certify, that the said *Porter* afterwards petitioned the said Committee for a hearing and for time to get his evidences, but he not being able to get all the Committee together which sat on the examination, part of them being at a distance and gone from home, those who came together, though they were a major part, and all gave it as their opinion that said *Porter* ought to have time to get his evidences or to be heard, yet as the whole were not together, did not think themselves at liberty to countermand the orders which had been given to Colonel *Bayley*, Colonel *Hurd* and *Thomas Johnson*, to send him to *Exeter*. Two of said last Committee being formerly at variance with said *Porter*, seemed to discover prejudice against him, and forced him out of town without giving him time to get the whole Committee together to hear his evidence or to make his defence; and said *Porter* hath been kept under guard with orders to suffer no person to speak with him in private from the time of his arrest to the time he was sent off to *Exeter*, excepting one night and part of a day.

As we think he, the said *Porter*, has not had that privilege allowed him which every freeman hath a right to demand, we will engage, if the honourable Committee to which he is consigned will give him liberty to be tried in his County, when he may have advantage of getting his evidences, and by persons who know the character of the persons who informed against him, to give sufficient surety for his good behaviour till the time of his trial.

NICHOLAS LOWELL,
JAMES BAYLEY.

COLONEL PORTER'S OBJECTIONS.

Plea to the jurisdiction of the Honourable Assembly of NEW-HAMPSHIRE in the case STATE versus PORTER.

1st. Because it is the Legislative body, and it doth not consist with the liberties of the people that the same body

which hath the power of making laws, should have the power of executing the laws, or determining the causes of individuals.

2d. All jurisdiction implies superiority of power, and therefore it would be absurd to suppose that this body of men, constituted for the purpose of legislation, would thereby become vested with authority to arraign before them for trial or punishment the persons of their constituents, whose servants they are, and to whom they are accountable for their conduct.

3d. Because Courts are now open in this State for the trial both of criminal and civil causes. In which case, if the Assembly should single out the present accused, and contrary to his inclination confine him to a trial before them, it would confirm the suggestion of Colonel *Hurd*, a member of the Assembly, by whose order he was brought before them, that it was done out of personal prejudice.

4th. Because in accusations of a criminal nature, especially where the State is concerned, the party accused ought to have some share in the choice of his judges, or to have liberty to except against so many appointed by the law, that those who remain may be deemed his own choice, as is the case in trial by jury.

5th. If the Assembly should take cognizance of this case, it would carry the person accused to a distance from home, or from his County, for trial; by which means he would be deprived of the benefit of evidence, and the credit of the witnesses (which ought to be tried as well as the facts) would not be known to the triers, and would be replete with those very inconveniences, and equally oppressive and burthensome with that adopted by the *British* Parliament, so much complained of in the late Admiralty Courts.

6th. Because the Assembly hath already heard the evidence against the accused, professedly in the quality of a grand jury.

7th. Because the accused would be thereby deprived of the privilege of trial by jury, which he hath repeatedly claimed, and which hath not only been held by the greatest authorities to be the best and only mode of trial consistent with the safety of the people, especially in cases of treason, but hath by this Assembly been acknowledged to be a right inherent in the people, which they ought not to be deprived of.

8th. Because the Representatives of the people (as such) can have no powers but what are delegated to them by the people whom they represent, and the people of *New-Hampshire* have not delegated to their Assembly or Representatives, the executive or judicial powers of government.

9th. In case the Assembly should assume a jurisdiction in this case, a precedent would be thereby formed for future trials of treason, in which the will of that court shall be the law, as well to determine the crime and penalty as to try the truth of the facts, by which manner the lives, liberties, and property of the people, would be made to depend solely on the will of the Legislative body, which would be an establishment of the most despotick tyranny.

As it hath been suggested that I am only endeavouring to evade a trial by claiming a trial by jury, when there is no law in this State to determine the crime and punishment of treason, which is a bar to that mode of trial, I would observe, that much less can be objected to a trial by jury without law, than to a trial by the Legislative body without law, especially when the former mode hath the consent of the party to be tried, and in favour of which there is a precedent in this State in a capital case. And should the Assembly deprive a man of his right because they have not provided a mode of trial consistent with that right, it would be making an advantage of their own wrong. But notwithstanding, it is not through my laches that there is no law made to determine the crime of treason, (upon which the safety of the State and the liberties of the people so essentially depend,) I have no inclination to make an advantage of it, and am willing to be tried by the County, and if found by the judgment of my peers to have done any act against this State, which having been done against the former Government, would have been determined treason by the municipal laws thereof, I am content to incur the like penalty.

LETTER FROM COLONEL HURD.

Haverhill, (Cohos,) July 15, 1776.

SIR: I have heard nothing from *Exeter* since I wrote per Colonel *Bayley*, from *Concord*. Upon my coming into this town last *Tuesday*, I found the people had been in great consternation about the *Indians*, as I before advised; that most of the women and children had come down from *Upper Cohos*, through fear, and got into garrison, the *Haverhill* folks having collected together in different parts of the town and built several picketed forts, with good breastworks of pine logs, and in *Bath* or *Gunthwaite*, above us, they have done the same, otherwise the upper towns had been wholly deserted. I endeavoured to quiet them all in my power, by assuring them that besides the force raising to go into *Canada*, we should have a sufficient number to protect us on our frontier, which would soon be along; but it is with difficulty they can be persuaded to think so: and some ill-minded persons, before Mr. *John Hale* came up with the powder and fire-arms, took pains to propagate that we should be neglected, and seriously proposed that if neither our Assembly nor the *Massachusetts* would send us speedy assistance, the best way to preserve ourselves from the insults of the savages, was to send over to General *Burgoyne*, acquaint him of our weak condition, and ask his protection. And this might verily easily be done, did the enemy know our circumstances, and had forces to spare. Nothing but their ignorance of the geographical part of the country, or want of strength, does prevent it. This was *Brush's* plan, and I am really surprised, when I reflect on the danger, that our Assembly are not more attentive to it; it is certainly our weakest side.

The *Haverhill* and *Newbury* Committees have kept constant scouts going for some time past between *Lake Champlain* and this river, and by the last that came in, we have letters (copies of which I herewith transmit) that give us some encouragement. By a scout that went out yesterday to *Onion River*, and another to *Crown-Point*, I took the liberty to write to General *Sullivan* and Colonel *Waite*, informing them what our General Court had done lately, and how I imagined ourselves most exposed to the enemy, which I hope may be some way serviceable. There have been many reports spread here, of *Indians* being seen and scouts fired at, but upon further search have proved groundless, and the people in general appear more composed. Some are returning to work on their plantations, but leave their wives and children here as the surest place. What has already happened has been considerable damage to the new settlements.

The bearer, Mr. *Atkinson*, of *Boscawin*, can inform of further particulars that you may please to inquire respecting our circumstances here, as he, with a number of others from the towns below, came up volunteers for our assistance on the first alarm. He has been good enough to send us two swivel guns, or small field-pieces, that have laid some years at *Boscawin*, perhaps since last war, (belonging, as they suppose, to the Province,) for the use of our forts, and he tells us there are two more at *Canterbury*, under Esquire *Clough's* care, which may be very useful to us. I beg the favour he may have the direction of the Committee of Safety to forward them also. They are of no service where they lie, and can be easily transported here.

I wish to hear that some part of the detachment designed for our protection were upon their march. If we had but a small company to guard the settlements at *Upper Cohos* for the present, it would be a great satisfaction to the people, and some among us talk of going on that duty for a fortnight or three weeks as volunteers, to chance their pay.

[The remainder of this letter is wanting. It was addressed to the Committee of Safety.]

COLONEL HURD TO PRESIDENT WEARE.

August 7, 1776.

SIR: In my last I hinted to you that we had our eyes on those persons who were propagating the notion of the expediency of sending into *Canada* for protection from the *Indians*, and should keep a strict watch upon their conduct. Colonel *Asa Porter* we knew was the principal promoter of it, and Colonel *Taplin*, of *Newbury*, who have both openly declared their opinion. Some few of us here and at *Newbury* were secretly informed that there was a plan pro-

pagating, by those very persons, to send into *Canada*, and that soon. We thought best to let it run on till their scheme was nearly ripe; but *Sunday* morning an accident took place that alarmed us, and obliged us to stir in the matter a little sooner than intended—an *Indian* young hunter, that knew the road, and was tried upon the matter, happening to blab it out. We expected the others would take the alarm, when some of the gentlemen on the *Newbury* side sent over to us of this town that they thought it absolutely necessary the Committee here should immediately secure Colonel *Porter*, while they were apprehending others on their side; which was soon done, together with one person in his house and another at *Bath*, who had been employed under him. They were all put under guard. And on *Monday* morning the Committees of these two towns met to consult on the business, and formed themselves into a Court of Inquiry, at which I assisted, in consequence of your orders in your last to take up such persons; and after two days' close attention to this business of examination of the several persons taken up, it appeared to them, by the evidence and circumstances attending, that Colonel *Porter*, Colonel *Taplin*, with two others, *David Weeks*, of *Bath*, and *Jacob Fowler*, of *Newbury*, had been practising things very inimical to their country—judged them accordingly, and doomed them to be sent to *Exeter*, to the care of the Committee of Safety there; for we must look upon them as dangerous persons in this quarter of the country, and more so at this critical time.

With this shall be transmitted copies of the two principal evidences, and when I come down to *Exeter*, which I intend next week, will bring the minutes of the whole trial, and inform the Committee more particularly.

August 8.—We had before written to Captain *Woodward* to be here with a party of his men at the time we intended taking them up, and he readily attended accordingly; and being desirous of seeing the Committee on the business of this company, we have entrusted him with the care of Colonel *Porter*, to see him safe down to *Exeter*, and to wait on you. The other persons now under guard we thought best to let remain a few days longer.

Colonel *Porter* was very averse to the orders for his going to *Exeter*, and would fain have had a final decision here, pretending there is not nor ought to be, any higher power than our town Committees; for he has all along denied the jurisdiction of our General Court, and must be conscious to himself that he has used us ill by frequent denial of our authority, and misrepresentation. The people here in general are much exasperated against him, so that we have been obliged to keep him under strict guard since the trial, at his own house, not suffering him to go out on his parole. It being now a very busy time with us in the midst of harvesting, and Colonel *Porter* pretending he wanted time to collect some evidences in his own favour, the committee (chosen for the purpose of sending him off) agreed to allow him five days.

We refer to Captain *Woodward* for further particulars on this matter; also of what news we have by another scout just come in from *Missisquo Bay*, where he was informed by Mr. *Metcalf*, that resides there, that the Ministerial Army was now fifteen thousand strong—*British* and *German* troops; that the *Canadians*, all except those who took commissions under Congress, are forgiven, and join them in multitudes; and that they can have, besides, what *Indians* they want. The *Caynawaga*, *Canausadaga*, and *St. Francis* tribes have determined to take up on their side; but that no *Indians* will come into this part of the country without *Regulars* at the same time; that the farmers need not be concerned; they will not be molested unless they are found in arms; and any person unarmed may travel into *Canada*. But this we look upon as a scheme only to lull us asleep, that we may fall an easy prey to them whenever they may think proper to push through this way. They have also propagated in *Canada* reports that our army at *New-York* is all cut up—fifteen thousand killed, and the rest dispersed; and that the regular army can easily march through the whole country. They keep but few troops at *St. John's*, being chiefly at *Montreal*, and are fortifying at *Isle de Noix*. No account now of a *French* fleet in the river *St. Lawrence*. I rather think they are reinforced, but do not give much credit to *Metcalf's* story, as he has all along favoured that side, though he professes to be friendly to us.

10th.—We have now another party come in from *Ticon-*

deroga with Mr. *Atkinson*, of *Boscawen*, (who was sent over as a guard to the four last *Frenchmen*,) by whom we have a letter from General *Gates*, a copy of which I shall enclose. The General is so much encouraged by the *Frenchmen's* account of things in *Canada*, he thinks of making a push there again, and would have Colonel *Bayley* go on with the road.

I am sorry to mention that the General makes great complaint of our men deserting the service. It is said there is not less than three thousand men lately gone off from the army, that are scattering through the country, whom the Committees of the several towns ought to take up and send back. It is a most shameful, wicked thing that men should take such large bounties, and then desert their country's cause.

Should Colonel *Bayley* receive orders, as now expected, to set his men to work again on the road, the Committee will immediately set about raising the fifty men, as directed by the honourable Committee of Safety, which appears to us absolutely necessary.

Pray excuse my lengthy epistle and small paper; my stock of it being almost exhausted, obliges me to write in 12mo., sermon-wise. Mr. Secretary I fear will lose his patience before he gets through; but I'll read as much for him another time, or for either of the Committee that will take the task off his honour's hands.

Being very respectfully, sir, your most obedient, humble servant,
J. HURD.

DANIEL HALL'S DEPOSITION AGAINST COLONEL PORTER.

The Deposition of DANIEL HALL, of NEWBURY, husbandman, relating to a plan forming by sundry persons at COHOS, to send over into CANADA for protection from the BRITISH Troops.

I, the said *Daniel Hall*, testify and declare, that, being in company with *David Weeks* some time in the beginning of *July*, and discoursing on our present distress and our army's leaving *Canada*, *Weeks*, seeming to hang in favour of the Ministerial troops, said he wished he knew my mind, that he would tell me something. I replied that he need not be afraid. "Then," said he, "I will tell you," but swore if ever I told he would kill me. "There is," says he, "a parcel of men joining to send to *Canada*, to General *Burgoyne*, for protection, and you are to be one of them; and they are to go with flags on their guns;" when I agreed to join them, and assist all that lay in my power. Says *Weeks*, "You must wait on Colonel *Taplin* for further instructions." After that I waited on Colonel *Taplin*, and requested to know of him what we should do, for I was afraid we should be all cut off. *Taplin* replied, "By God! if you will be regulated by me, we will do well enough," and that we must send to *Canada* for protection, and immediately, and he was afraid 'twas now too late. "But," says he, "I want to see Colonel *Porter* before I do anything; but, by God! I dare not be seen with him. I want to see *Willard Stevens*." I said, "You may see him at any time." *Taplin* then desired I would go and call him to his house. Calling again on *Taplin*, I inquired how he made out with *Stevens*. He said well enough, but they could do nothing till they sent down the river; that they should have word by *Solomon Stevens* in eight days. *Taplin* desired that I would come by two or three times a day; that he would be walking out, so as to speak with me often. He said further that he had seen *Porter*, but could not do anything till they had a return up the river. "We will, however, do well enough yet; we will own all *Cohos* yet."

July 10.—Soon after this I went to Colonel *Porter's* to buy rum, and when he gave me the bottle, said I had better come and see it put up myself. When we were in the cellar he said he supposed I was not ignorant of the plan they had laid. I answered I knew of one by *Taplin*. He said it was a matter of great consequence, and they must be as expeditious as possible, but not drive matters too fast. We must have news from *New-York*. I answered that we must not mind all that was in the papers. He said, "I do not take much notice of them;" but they should have letters from private gentlemen; and that it depended, in a great measure, on the news they should hear from *New-York*. "Can't you," says he, "lay a plan to go catching moose; for the Continent will stand in need of meat. We

won't say much now, but call on me once in a day or two, and I will let you know how we proceed."

July 24.—I then waited on Colonel *Porter*, as before agreed. He said that things worked well; but still we must wait a few days for news from *New-York*; that he then should be ready to furnish me with a writing to carry to *Canada*; and he would have me carry the writing ten or fifteen miles in the woods, till I got one or two more to go with me, under pretence of going a moose hunting, and then to proceed into *Canada* to General *Burgoyne*; that he should do the letters up in such manner that if we were to be taken they should not be discovered; for the writing should be on the outside—the wrapper to be some old account.

July 27.—Saw Colonel *Porter* again, when he said he had thoughts of altering the plan; for, as *Byal Chamberlain* was going with a scout to *St. John's*, that they would get all their party to go with *Chamberlain*, so that when they were arrived at *St. John's* they should take care of him as they pleased; then to go and see Colonel *Peters*, who, we hear, has deserted into *Canada*, and to let him know their plan.

July 29.—This day was in company with Colonel *Taplin*, and with *Willard Stevens* and *Solomon Stevens*—each of them by themselves. They say it was best to rest sending over to *Canada* till Colonel *Porter* comes up the river, expecting something of consequence by him—(he was then gone down to *Number-Four*, on a journey after his negro man *Neptune*)—and Mr. *Abiel Chamberlain* comes back from *Canada*, as the news seems to be against them at present. But they said as soon as *Chamberlain* returns they would have me go right off, and take *Tim Omsted* with me. *Willard Stevens* said he was afraid to send writings, but could send a token that should do. *Taplin* said they would have some writings for him to carry to Colonel *Porter's*; that I need not stay more than half an hour in *Canada*, under pretence to catch moose.

August 2.—I waited again on Colonel *Porter*, when he told me that he had been down the river; that he had seen Lawyer *Olcott*, who liked the plan well, and would assist us as far as he could. Says Colonel *Porter*, "*Indians* are seen down the river frequently. They have been seen in reality. There has been one regular officer and an *Indian* to *Claremont*, to see Mr. *Cossit*. They waited two or three days before they durst venture in, but very luckily came into one of our friends' houses, and there stayed till they had done their business—having seen several friends, but could not see Mr. *Cossit*. Their business was principally to see how many friends there are here to the Ministerial troops, and to see if they would help to conduct them to this part of the country." Colonel *Porter* further said that it would be best for *Solomon Stevens* to go soon to Mr. *Metcalf's*, and let him know the plan; "and there," says he, "he can be protected a few days, till he can be sent into *Canada* to find Colonel *Peters*, to let him know you are coming, and in a few days. I would have you go over with *Tim Omsted*, but I want to hear more of that fleet that they say is in the mouth of *Canada River*, and whether the regular army is drawing back from *St. John's* or not, or whether they be coming this way or not. I have just thought that I would write to Colonel *Peters*, by you, to this purpose, by way of cloak, that I hear paper money is of no value there, and that if he would send me over a quantity of it, I would spare him my negro boy; and under that I shall write further to this purpose, that he would remember his friends here. When he sees my name he will know the plan, for I dare not write further. You may tell him the rest by tokens." Colonel *Porter* also engaged that whatever provisions and money I wanted to carry me there, I should have from him.

The above was sworn to before the Committee of *Newbury* and *Haverhill*, and in a publick hearing.

Attest:

J. HURD, Clerk.

August 5, 1776.

JOHN BAYLEY'S DEPOSITION.

The Deposition of John Bayley, of Newbury, husbandman, relating to a plan forming by sundry persons between here and Cohos, to send over into Canada for protection from the British Troops.

I, the said *John Bayley*, declare that on *Saturday*, the

20th July, happening to fall in conversation with Colonel *John Taplin*, of whom I had been a little jealous, with sundry other persons, having had some hints from Mr. *Nath'l Merrill* that there was a plan on foot of sending into *Canada* for protection; observing also a good deal of uneasiness about him, and concern in his countenance, I asked the question by way of leading on, What we should do? He answered, if anything was done we must ask protection from General *Carleton* or *Burgoyne*, if he should come with his army; he would let us enjoy our privileges as before. After this I saw Colonel *Porter*; falling into company with him, we walked along towards the Court-house, and going up into the Chamber, sat down and talked considerable of publick matters. I asked him what we should do in these troubles? He said, "Though we are called Rebels, we might be forgiven. If we can't protect ourselves, I don't see why we may not send into *Canada* for protection. We can send a flag of truce to *St. John's*, to secure our interests and be protected." One Mr. *Morse*, being in hearing, said he should be afraid to go on such business; said *Porter* replied "He should not be concerned about sending the nearest friend he had on earth on such an errand: he thought it was a good plan, and that numbers of our people would join in it. He knew the *Scotch* people would readily come into the same, or were all on our side;" and much more to this purpose. And then upon hearing Colonel *Taplin* again Monday, 22d July, I told him what Colonel *Porter* had said, and asked, Have you thought further about what I said to you on Saturday? With great concern on his countenance, he replied, "If I dared, I could say something to you; but nothing could be done except we have something drawn up and sent to *Canada*, and then we shall have protection, I warrant you." I said, further, What shall we send, and whom shall we get to write? He said, "Colonel *Porter* will write what we think best." Then, says I to him, Whom shall we send? He answered, "*Daniel Hall* will go, and all the *Scot* people will sign what we shall draw up. I have talked with several of them, and I want to see one more." Who is that? said I. "Mr. *Harvey*." You had better go, says I, to see and feel of him. He says, "I shan't see him—can't you see him?" I replied, I am going to *Oxboro'*; I will see him. The same evening about sunset, I saw Colonel *Taplin* again. He says to me, "How does *Harvey* stand?" I answered, He will fight against *Indians* to the last extremity; but as to the Ministerial troops, they had not been invited, nor did he mean to do it. *Taplin* says, "By God, that's right." On the 23d day Colonel *Taplin* came to me and says, that he believed it was best to let all rest a few days, while we hear something from *York*; for 'twas a damn nice point, and we shall be hanged if we are found out. But through the whole of our conversation he all along said he did not want to injure any man, not knowing what may be the event; fearing the Ministerial troops might get the better of us, or let the *Indians* in upon us, 'twould be best to send over in time to *St. John's*. As to Colonel *Porter*, by my conversation with him I judged he meant to get help from *Canada*.

The substance of the above deposition was sworn to before the Committees of *Newbury* and *Haverhill* in a publick hearing.

Attest:

J. HURD, Clerk.

JOSEPH HAYNES'S DEPOSITION.

I, *Joseph Haynes*, of *Gunthwaite*, husbandman, declare and say that being at the house of Captain *John Young*, in said *Gunthwaite*, some time about the latter end of *June*, while Colonel *Asa Porter* was there also, I heard him, said *Porter*, saying that we were not likely to have any assistance from below; and after some considerable conversation on the subject, he said he thought it would be proper to send over to General *Burgoyne* to see what he intended to do with us. Captain *Young* replied, that he thought it would not be proper to do that until we could choose a committee to send to the Congress and know the truth of it, whether we were to have help or not; upon which Colonel *Porter* added, "*Perhaps it might then be too late.*" Mrs. *Young* then said, she thought it would not be safe to go over to *Canada*. Colonel *Porter* replied again, there was no danger, he should not be afraid to go—there were enough that would go. This was the purport of what he said, though

there was considerable more talk, all tending to discourage us: such as, there were seventeen thousand Regulars now in *Canada*, and if there should be twenty thousand they would be sufficient to defend the Lake against all the force of the *Americans*.

JOSEPH HAYNES.

Haverhill, August 24, 1776.

Grafton, ss., November 29, 1776:

Then personally appeared Mr. *Joseph Haynes*, and made solemn oath to the truth of the above Deposition, by him subscribed.

Before me:

J. HURD, Jus. Peace.

EBENEZER RICE'S DEPOSITION.

I, *Ebenezer Rice*, of *Haverhill*, husbandman, do declare that on or about the 24th of *July* last, when my brother, Captain *Edward Buckman*, of *Lancaster*, came up the river from his journey to *Athol*, and along through *Number-Four*, while he was in my house telling us some news, Colonel *Asa Porter* called in, and *Buckman* said it was reported in several places he had been at that General *Burgoyne* did not intend to do the people on *Connecticut River* any harm, or molest them, unless it should be those who were found in arms. Upon which Colonel *Porter* replied, he should be glad to know the truth of that; if he thought so, should be fond of sending over to *Canada*, as in that case it would be best not to build any forts here—they would be more damage to us than do us good; and by his conversation, *Porter* appeared very earnest to send a party over to *Canada*, and would fain have had Captain *Buckman* joined with him; but he, *Buckman*, declined, saying he thought the best thing he could do was to make all the preparation possible against them. This was the substance of their discourse, to the best of my remembrance.

EBENEZER RICE.

Haverhill, August 28, 1776.

Grafton, ss., November 6, 1776:

Then personally appeared Mr. *Ebenezer Rice*, and made solemn oath to the truth of the above Deposition, by him subscribed.

Before me:

J. HURD, Jus. Peace.

THOMAS MINOR'S DEPOSITION.

I, *Thomas Minor*, of *Guildhall*, at *Upper Cohos*, lately residing in *Haverhill*, husbandman, declare that being at the house of Mr. *Maxi Hazleton*, in said *Haverhill*, about the time of the alarm there, when Colonel *Asa Porter* came in, and several other persons present, said *Porter* told them all that our Assembly at *Exeter* had treated the petition or request of the people here sent down by Mr. *Jonathan Hale*, for assistance, with neglect and contempt, so that we were not likely to have any assistance from below, and he imagined the best way for us to do was to send over to *Canada* to General *Burgoyne* for protection, and he would be bound we should have protection from that quarter; with a good deal of other conversation to this purpose.

THOMAS MINOR.

Haverhill, August 24, 1776.

Grafton, ss., November 30, 1776:

Then personally appeared *Thomas Minor*, and made solemn oath to the truth of the above Deposition, by him subscribed.

Before me:

J. HURD, Jus. Peace.

EDWARD BUCKMAN'S DEPOSITION.

I, *Edward Buckman*, of *Lancaster*, in the County of *Grafton*, husbandman, declare that on or about the 24th *July* last, on my return from a journey down country, while at the house of my brother, *Ebenezer Rice*, in *Haverhill*, Colonel *Asa Porter* came in to inquire about the news, when I told him the report that I had heard in several places, that General *Burgoyne* did not intend to do the people on *Connecticut River* any harm, or molest them, unless it should be those who were found in arms; upon which, Colonel *Porter* replied, he should be glad to know the truth of that; if he thought it was really so, it would be better for us to send over to *Canada*, and not to build any Forts here; they might do us more hurt than good; or words to that purpose. To which I answered, I thought rather we had best build Forts, and be in readiness for them. It might be more likely to discourage the *Indians* from coming against us, if

they see we had Forts. Upon the whole, Colonel Porter said he thought it best, and appeared earnest to send a party over to *Canada*, to know the truth of the above report. I also recollect, that about a fortnight before this, being at his house, and talking about Mr. Johnston's returning from the *Massachusetts* Assembly, and not likely to get any help from them, as 'twas said they did not look upon us as in any danger, Colonel Porter said we had best send over to General *Burgoyne* for protection, and he would be bound he (meaning *Burgoyne*) would protect us. This, Colonel Porter spoke in a laughing or sneering way, though from the tenour of his conversation I thought it was his real sentiment. Yet I think he said, too, he should have thought that they (meaning the *Massachusetts* people) would not have scrupled to send us help, but when demanded only asked how many men were necessary. This conversation was before Mr. *Hale* returned from *Exeter*. I recollect nothing further at present, the above being the substance of what passed between us to the best of my remembrance.

EDWARD BUCKMAN.

Grafton, ss., November 6, 1776:

Then personally appeared Captain *Edward Buckman*, and made solemn oath to the truth of the above Deposition, by him subscribed.

Before me :

J. HURD, Jus. Peace.

ROBERT HASELTINE'S DEPOSITION.

I, *Robert Haseltine*, of *Haverhill*, blacksmith, declare that about a fortnight before Colonel *Asa Porter* was taken up here by the Committees, he called at my shop to have a little work done, when in our conversation he said, that as the *Indians* were a merciless set of people, "it would be better to send over to *Canada*, to *Burgoyne*, for protection than to suffer ourselves to be cut to pieces by them, for we were not likely to get help from below. They'll do nothing for us." To which I answered him, Why, do you think we should have more mercy shown us from the Regulars? "Oh, yes," says he, "the *English* are remarkable for their lenity. There was an instance of this sort, the last war, in Lord *Fraser*, a *Scotch* Rebel, who, though executed as such and forfeited his estate, yet his son, Colonel *Fraser*, was like to come in possession of the estate again;" "and I question," added he, "if they would put *Hancock* himself to death if they were to catch him." I told him, I believed if they were to catch him, they would hang him right off hand without judge or jury. This conversation we had after Mr. *Jonathan Hale* came home from *Exeter*, to the best of my remembrance.

ROBERT HASELTINE.

Haverhill, August 26, 1776.

Grafton, ss., November 29, 1776:

Then personally appeared Mr. *Robert Haseltine*, and made solemn oath to the truth of the foregoing Deposition, by him subscribed.

Before me :

J. HURD, Jus. Peace.

JOHN SANBORN'S DEPOSITION.

I, *John Sanborn*, of *Haverhill*, husbandman, declare that some time about the middle of *July* last, being at the house of Lieutenant *Hutchins*, inn-holder in said *Haverhill*, with a number of other persons who were assisting to build the fortification about the house, when Colonel *Asa Porter* came to the door on horseback, and gave the people a dollar to treat them with liquor, he then took the opportunity to tell us that Mr. *Hale* was not likely to get any help at *Exeter*; it was so resolved, (as he heard;) but perhaps he might get a little help if he waited awhile, though for his part, if he was *Hale*, he would not wait a minute, but come right off home. Then he said it would not do to keep that petty Congress in much longer. He looked upon it, if we kept them, 'twas worse than to have none, as they would not help us. It would be like jumping out of the frying-pan into the fire. This was the purport of what he said, to the best of my remembrance.

JOHN SANBORN.

Haverhill, August 26, 1776.

Grafton, ss., November 20, 1776:

Then personally appeared *John Sanborn*, and made solemn oath to the truth of the Deposition by him subscribed.

Before me :

J. HURD, Jus. Peace.

JOSHUA HOWARD'S DEPOSITION.

I, *Joshua Howard*, of *Haverhill*, in the County of *Grafton*, husbandman, declare that about the time of our alarm and apprehension of *Indians* coming upon us when we were raising a stockade fort about Mr. *Barron's* house, I went to Colonel *Asa Porter* and asked him if he would let a gallon of rum go towards building the fort. He said he had supplied one gallon already. Well, says I, so have I too. He said, "I shall not let my rum go till somebody is security for it." I again said I am not going to be security for the rum—you'll get your money as soon as I shall, and you are as able to wait for it or to lose it as I am. He said further, "I am willing to do my part with the rest of the neighbours," and asked what Mr. *Hale* had done, or Colonel *Hurd*. I told him Mr. *Hale's* people had been at work on the fort, and I did not doubt he'd do his part, but he was not at home, being gone down country—nor was Colonel *Hurd* at home, but we had his oxen and some help from his hands. Upon the whole, Colonel *Porter* did not incline to let his rum go, and I went off without it.

JOSHUA HOWARD.

Grafton, Haverhill, November 18, 1776:

Then personally appeared *Joshua Howard*, and made solemn oath to the truth of the above Deposition by him subscribed.

Before me :

J. HURD, Justice Peace.

BENAJAH HALL'S DEPOSITION.

I, *Benajah Hall*, of lawful age, testify and say that on *Wednesday* last, being at Colonel *Porter's* house in *Haverhill*, I heard *Joshua Howard* say, "*Neptune*, Colonel *Porter's* servant has 'listed twice and took his money." Then says Colonel *Hurd* to said *Neptune*, "make yourself easy—when I go down I will inquire and know whether you can go or not, and write to you that you may know." And the deponent further saith that he heard *John Bayley* say on oath before the Committee of Safety, on the day Colonel *Porter* was brought before said Committee, that in his conversation with said *Porter*, which happened a little before, he (said *Bayley*) carried matters as far or farther than Colonel *Porter*, in order to find him (said *Porter*) out, and that said *Bayley* further said that Colonel *Porter* said to him, at said Court-House, it is best to send to General *Burgoyne* if we can't get help elsewhere.

BENAJAH HALL.

Grafton, Haverhill, August 31, 1776:

Then the above named *Benajah Hall*, personally appearing, made solemn oath to the truth of the foregoing Deposition.

Before me :

CHARLES JOHNSTON, Town Clerk.

EPHRAIM WESSON'S DEPOSITION.

I, *Ephraim Wesson*, of lawful age, testify and say, that some time after General *Sullivan's* retreat from *St. John's* to *Crown-Point*, being in company with Colonel *Porter*, he, the said *Porter*, asked me whether I did not think it would answer a good end to send to the Commander-in-Chief in *Canada* to have a line of protection drawn, over which the Savages should not come? He thought it would be no better than murder to suffer them to scalp men, women, and children, unarmed and about their business, and answered no end on their side or on ours to do the like. I asked him whether he meant that we (at *Cohos*) should send over. He (the said *Porter*) said, "no, I mean the Congress or General *Washington*;" and I had no reason from said *Porter's* conversation to think him an enemy to his country, but rather thought him a friend to the late declaration of the Continental Congress for independence; and being at Colonel *Porter's* the day before he set out for *Exeter*, where was a number of the Committee of Safety for *Newbury*, and a major part of the Committee for *Haverhill*, of which I was a member, I heard said *Porter* request said committees that he might be tried at *Haverhill*, or somewhere in the County of *Grafton*, by a Committee of the County of *Gloucester* and *Grafton*, or by a Committee taken from the several Committees of said Counties, or if they would send to the *Upper Cohos* or *Number-Four*, he would be at the whole expense and abide their judgment, as he thought it a hardship to be sent to *Exeter*, which would not only enhance the expense of trial but prevent his getting such evidence as he could get at or near home. The question was accord-

ingly put to the Committee there together, and the answer was, we are willing that the Committee chosen to send Colonel Porter to Exeter should defer sending him till the whole Committees who ordered him to be sent may be called together. And we, the said Committees, afterwards, the same day, moved to two of the Committees for sending said Porter to Exeter, that said Porter might not be sent till the Committees who ordered him to be sent could be called together, as they were not all there; but the said Committee for sending said Porter to Exeter said, we will send him if we are not ordered to the contrary, and passed along and sent said Porter off the next day, without giving us time to notify the said Committees who ordered him sent.

Question. What is Daniel Hall's general character?

Answer. According to what I have heard people say of him, he is not a man of truth, or so industrious as he ought to be.

Question. What did you hear Colonel Hurd say about sending Colonel Porter to Exeter?

Answer. I heard Colonel Hurd say, Colonel Porter shall leave this town or I will. And further, Colonel Hurd said, I choose he should be sent to Exeter, for the Court there will be glad to see him, as they have heard he, the said Porter, has spoke against their proceedings.

EPHRAIM WESSON.

Grafton, ss., Haverhill, August 30, 1776:

Then the above named Ephraim Wesson, personally appearing, made solemn oath to the truth of the foregoing Deposition.

Before me: CHARLES JOHNSTON, Town Clerk.

THOMAS CHAMBERLAIN'S DEPOSITION.

I, Thomas Chamberlain, of lawful age, testify and say that Daniel Hall's general character is that he is a lying fellow.

Question. Is Daniel Hall's general character that he is a lazy fellow?

Answer. Yes.

Question. Do you think from what you have heard people say of him that he is a drinking fellow?

Answer. Yes. I think from what I hear people say of him he drinks more than is for his profit.

Question. Did you ever hear any person say that Daniel Hall was a thief?

Answer. I heard a man say that he had stole from him about three hundred feet of boards.

THOS. CHAMBERLAIN.

Grafton, Haverhill, August 30, 1776:

Then the above named Thomas Chamberlain, Esquire, personally appearing, made solemn oath to the truth of the foregoing Deposition.

Before me: CHARLES JOHNSTON, Town Clerk.

EZEKIEL LADD'S DEPOSITION.

I, Ezekiel Ladd, of lawful age, testify and say that I saw Colonel Porter about the 1st of July in Haverhill. I asked said Porter whether he was going off. He said, "no, I am only going to the height of land on Baker's River, and as soon as I can I shall return." I said to said Porter, we are determined to take the goods of such people as go off and leave us, and use them if we want them. Said Porter says, "if I don't come back again you are welcome to use them—but I mean to come right back again."

EZEKIEL LADD.

Grafton, Haverhill, August 30, 1776:

Then personally appeared Ezekiel Ladd, and made solemn oath to the truth of the foregoing Deposition.

Before me: CHARLES JOHNSTON, Town Clerk.

NOAH MOULTON'S DEPOSITION.

I, Noah Moulton, of lawful age, testify and say that on Monday, the day before Colonel Porter was sent to Exeter, I heard Colonel Porter say to Colonel Hurd as follows: Colonel Hurd, before this affair happened, you would not have trusted Daniel Hall for one copper. Colonel Hurd answers, It is true, I would not.

Asked by Colonel Johnson; 1st Question. Have you often heard people speak of Daniel Hall?

Answer by said Moulton. Yes.

2d Question. What do people in general say of him?

Answer. They say he is a lying fellow, and not to be believed, and a lazy, good-for-nothing fellow.

3d Question. Do you think that those people you have heard speak so of him were acquainted with him?

Answer. Yes.

NOAH MOULTON.

Grafton, Haverhill, August 31, 1776:

Then personally appeared Noah Moulton, and made solemn oath to the truth of the above Deposition.

Before me: CHARLES JOHNSTON, Town Clerk.

EXTRACT OF A LETTER FROM A HOUSE IN LISBON TO THEIR CORRESPONDENT IN LONDON, DATED SEPTEMBER 4, 1776.

Yesterday we received advice from Setuval of an English commander having arrived there with part of his crew in a boat, who met an armed American privateering sloop, which took his vessel and cargo about fourteen leagues off Cape St. Vincent. She belongs to Mr. Moore, of Falmouth, and was richly laden, bound from London to Salerno and Messina. The same privateer had taken several vessels, and would send them all to the first port in America they could make. There is a report of several American privateers cruising in the track of the Straits' mouth and to the eastward of the Western Islands.

THOMAS STONE TO MARYLAND COUNCIL OF SAFETY.

Philadelphia, September 4, 1776.

SIR: Enclosed I send you part of an Indian speech which respects Maryland. I have only to inform the Convention that assistance is extremely wanted at New-York, and to express my hope that the exertions of that honourable body will be in proportion to the exigency of our affairs.

I am, with great respect, sir, your most obedient servant,

T. STONE.

To the Hon. Matthew Tilghman, Esq., President of the Convention of Maryland, Annapolis.

LETTERS RECOMMENDING LIEUTENANT VON HEDERICK.

St. Croix, September 4, 1776.

HONOURABLE GENTLEMEN: My attachment to your Continent by the tenderest and most endearing connections of affinity and friendship; the great zeal and ardour I feel for the glorious cause of liberty and justice in which you are embarked, and my ardent wishes for your prosperity and success in your present laudable struggle against tyranny and oppression, and that your happy country—happy, indeed, if it can, under your sage and prudent counsels, inspired and directed by unerring Providence, vindicate and ascertain the sacred rights which it claims, and hand them down to a remote posterity—may be, in all future ages, an asylum and sanctuary for the sons of want and oppression of all nations, incline me to render you every assistance within the narrow sphere of my ability and influence. It is with this view that I have taken the liberty to recommend to your attention and friendship the bearer, Lieutenant Von Hederick, by birth a German, who has from his infancy been trained up in the military life, and is esteemed an experienced, well-disciplined officer, and to be endued with every accomplishment which can adorn the character of a good soldier. Hearing that you were raising and embodying four battalions of his countrymen, who were to be commanded only by German officers, although in much honour and actual service on this Island, where during eight years' residence he has supported a very unexceptionable good character, he immediately proposed himself for the Continental service, provided he could be properly recommended to your honourable body, and might expect promotion adequate to his merits.

And, although I have the honour of being personally acquainted but with few gentlemen of your very respectable body, I gladly undertook this office, and it gives me particular pleasure in assuring you that it is highly probable that several other very respectable officers in this Island may be inclinable to follow his example, provided they could meet with due encouragement.

You well know the nature of our Government; Lieutenant Hederick's ostensible motive, therefore, for going to your Continent, is the recovery of his health, and if he is well

received I make no doubt others of our best officers will in a short time find themselves indisposed also—for I have the honour to assure you that most of the *Danes* of this Island, and the *Germans* almost to a man, are warmly attached to your glorious cause.

I can only add, that, if in anything I can serve you while here, you may lay your commands on him who is, with the most perfect esteem, honourable gentlemen, your most obedient and devoted servant,

JOHN HEYLIGER.

To the Honourable Continental Congress of the free and independent States of *America*.

— St. Croix, September 4, 1776.

DEAR SIR: I am doubly happy in this opportunity, as it not only affords me an occasion of paying my respects to a gentleman for whom I have a most particular esteem, but also flatters me with the pleasing thought of being in some degree serviceable to a country to which I am riveted by the tenderest and dearest of ties, and also sincerely attached to the good people of it. The bearer, Lieutenant *Von Hederick*, observing by the resolve of Congress their directions for raising four companies of *Germans*, was desirous of a letter to some gentlemen of weight and consequence in your Province, and knowing of none more so than yourself, induced me to be thus troublesome. He is a gentleman who has from his infancy been constantly in the military service, and is esteemed an experienced, well-disciplined officer, who, during eight years' residence with us, has supported a very unexceptionable good character, and is possessed of every virtue that constitutes the good officer, and nothing doubt, under your auspices, of his being approved of and acceptable to your truly worthy and honourable Congress.

Mrs. *Heyliger* joins me in best respects to your truly amiable lady and every particular branch of your worthy family, and hope you will pardon this liberty when I assure you that I am, at all times and on all occasions, with the most perfect esteem, dear sir, your most obedient and very humble servant,

JOHN HEYLIGER.

To *Thomas Willing*, Esq.

— St. Croix, September 3, 1776.

HONOURABLE GENTLEMEN: I take the liberty to recommend Lieutenant *Hederick* to you, being a gentleman in the King of *Denmark's* service. His two brothers are Captains of the Fort in this Island. He has been in the army since a child, and he comes to serve you and *America* in general. With a good heart he gives up his commission here, on purpose to serve in *America* in the grand struggle for liberty. He has many letters of recommendation, and I hope he will meet with encouragement from the honourable Congress.

I have the honour to be, with respect, your humble servant,

CORNELIUS HAIGHT.

PETITION OF JOHN PAUL SCHOTT.

[Petition read September 5, 1776. Referred to the Board of War.]

To the Honourable the Continental Congress: The Petition of JOHN PAUL SCHOTT most humbly sheweth:

That your petitioner having served as a Lieutenant with the *German* troops commanded by Prince *Ferdinand* during the last war, and having acquired a considerable share of military skill in the profession of soldier, most humbly begs the honourable Congress (as he has ample testimonials with him of his good character) to grant him a Captain's commission in the Continental Army. And he, as in duty bound, will ever pray.

JOHN P. SCHOTT.

Philadelphia, September 4, 1776.

— Philadelphia, September 4, 1776.

Since our last, arrived here between thirty and forty inhabitants of this State, who have been taken at different times by the *English* Pirates on our coast. They were brought from the fleet at *New-York* on board the *Orpheus*, and landed at *Lewestown*, on *Cape Henlopen*.

GENERAL MERCER TO THE PRESIDENT OF CONGRESS.

[Read 6th September.]

Perth-Amboy, September 4, 1776.

SIR: I returned to this post yesterday, from *New-York*,

where I was ordered, by instructions of 25th and 27th *August*, to march as many of the troops under my command as could be spared from guarding this part of the country. In obedience to those orders from General *Washington*, between three and four thousand of the Militia of *Pennsylvania* and *New-Jersey* assembled at *Bergen*, ready to pass on to *New-York*, but were countermanded on the retreat of the army from *Long-Island*. We have, however, strengthened the posts of *Powles's Hook* and *Bergen Neck* to the complement of twenty-five hundred men.

By orders received last night, a body of troops are immediately to proceed to take post under General *Ewing*, opposite to *Mount Washington*.

The movements of the enemy seem to indicate their design of enclosing the army on *New-York* Island, for effecting which a powerful navy affords many advantages.

On a general view of our force, compared with that of the enemy, the event of this campaign is, in my opinion, greatly to be dreaded. General *Washington* has not, so far as I have seen, five thousand men to be depended on for the service of a campaign, and I have not one thousand. Both our armies are composed of raw Militia, perpetually fluctuating between the camp and their farms. Poorly armed and still worse disciplined, these, sir, are not a match, even were their numbers equal, which they are not, for veteran troops, well fitted, and urged on by able officers. Numbers and discipline must prevail at last. We may have both, if proper measures are speedily adopted and invariably prosecuted. Inlistments for a short period is the bane of military service, as well as doubly expensive; and giving soldiers, or even the lower orders of mankind, the choice of officers, will forever mar the discipline of your armies.

Should any disaster befall General *Washington's* army, either by another sweep of his best troops, or his being cut off from the necessary supplies, a body of men in reserve becomes absolutely necessary. It cannot be provided too soon; nor can any expense too great be held out to induce the first men in the country to engage in the service, till a period is put to the efforts of the enemies of *America*.

I beg the honourable Congress will not take amiss the freedom with which my sentiments on this most interesting subject are offered. The confidence you have honoured me with would be justly forfeited were I to suppress such observations as appear to me essential in support of the cause of *American* freedom.

I have the honour to be, sir, your most obedient servant,

HUGH MERCER.

To the Honourable *John Hancock*, Esq.

LORD DUNMORE TO THE SECRETARY OF STATE.

[No. 5]

Ship *Dunmore*, off *New-York*, }
September 4, 1776. }

MY LORD: Since my arrival here, I have received your Lordship's letter of the 21st of *May*, and am sorry to find that the *Duke of Cumberland* packet-boat, with the despatches, were lost, though I am afraid your Lordship would have found but little information that would have been agreeable to you. One reason why I am sorry that they did not get safe is, that mine contained originals of intercepted letters, that would have gone far to have warranted the securing the bearers of them. These were chiefly *French*, which it was not in my power, from the shortness of the time from their being intercepted and the sailing of the packet, to have copied. Of the others I have already sent you duplicates, and now triplicates.

It becomes necessary now that I should give your Lordship my reasons for being here. They are few, but I hope your Lordship will think them conclusive. First, the impracticability of watering, our numbers being reduced to one hundred and eight men capable of doing duty, and those decreasing every day. The last time we were on shore (as your Lordship will have seen by No. 4) we were opposed by above three times our number; and that we were sure to meet with, wherever we went. Secondly, our sickly state; yet I cannot say our sick list increased much in numbers, as there were as many died almost as there were added to it; in short, there was not a ship in the fleet that did not throw one, two, three, or more dead overboard every night. The *Roebuck*, I will venture to say as well regulated and as clean a ship as any in the navy, had seventy-five on her

sick list; and so in proportion had every other ship. Captain *Hamond* and myself finding it absolutely requisite to go to sea immediately, as the only chance of recovering the sick and saving those that were well; and being at sea, and knowing this to be the place of rendezvous for both fleet and army, we both thought it best to run in here, where we would have an opportunity of giving the General and Admiral every information that came within our knowledge relative to the state of the Southern Colonies and our own situation, and at the same time to procure some aid. Though both General and Admiral approve very much of our conduct, yet they seem very unwilling to part with any of their force at present. Indeed it is hardly to be wished till the fate of *New-York* is determined; when I hope, if they are able to spare us any assistance, they will. Sure I am, returning to *Virginia* without can answer no good end to his Majesty's service, but, on the contrary, would be giving fresh vigour and spirits to the Rebels, who would have it in their power to drive us from every spot where we might endeavour to land for water; and if we run up any of the rivers for water, they are there so narrow that the Rebels may annoy a ship from either side, with cannon, with impunity.

I have offered my services here, in the mean time, to General *Howe*, and shall be happy if I can be of use.

I have now only to congratulate your Lordship on the success of his Majesty's arms on the 26th ultimo. I was with the *Highlanders* and *Hessians* the whole day, and it is with the utmost pleasure I can assure your Lordship that the ardour of both these corps on that day must have exceeded his Majesty's most sanguine wish; and I am well convinced, from everything I have heard, that the fervour of the rest of the army was in no ways inferior to those I have just now mentioned, but of which I was not an eyewitness.

I am, my Lord, your Lordship's most obedient, humble servant,

DUNMORE.

To Lord George Germaine.

LORD DUNMORE TO THE SECRETARY OF STATE.

[No. 1.] Ship Dunmore, in Elizabeth River, Virginia, }
30th March, 1776. }

MY LORD: It gives me great comfort, in the very unhappy situation in which I am left, to think that my conduct meets with his Majesty's approbation. I can assure your Lordship, were it not for that, and the earnest desire I have to serve him, no earthly consideration could induce me to continue in this wretched State, where there is not a hope of gaining either honour, credit, pleasure, or profit. No! my sole comfort is that I am doing my utmost to serve the best of sovereigns.

What your Lordship observes in my despatches of the 22d of *October*, of the disposition of many of the people here to take an open part against the Rebels, is exactly as I had the honour to inform your Lordship; and I really believe now, had the *Liverpool* arrived (as your Lordship had reason to expect) about that time, I am well satisfied it would have made a wonderful change on the face of affairs in this country. But, my Lord, she did not arrive here till the 19th of *December*, two months after that, as your Lordship will have seen by my subsequent despatches.

Common fame has long since informed me that an armament was preparing for the southern part of this Continent; and many a pleasing idea it gave me, in the midst of my distress, the hopes that I should soon have relief. And your Lordship, however sensible your feelings may be, will not easily conceive what I felt on the receipt of yours, which informs me that, notwithstanding all my applications, representations, sufferings, and the efforts I had made with two incomplete companies of the Fourteenth Regiment—that notwithstanding all I had said or done—no attention was paid to it, but am left, in the first Colony on the Continent for riches, power, and extent, without the smallest assistance, and the preference given to a poor, insignificant Province, which has not a safe harbour with depth of water that will admit half the fleet that is sent there; and, as I am informed, should the army land, they must wade through a sandy pine-barren for many miles, before they reach the inhabited part of the country.

General *Clinton*, in his way to *North-Carolina*, called

here, and stayed with me two or three days, when I gave him every information in my power, relative to the situation of this Colony; and his Majesty may be assured, should the General return here, he shall have every assistance that one most zealously devoted to his Majesty's service can give him.

Your Lordship will observe, by my letter No. 34, that I have been endeavouring to raise two regiments here—one of white people, the other of black. The former goes on very slowly, but the latter very well, and would have been in great forwardness had not a fever crept in amongst them, which carried off a great many very fine fellows. The medical people here thought, and I believe with reason, that it proceeded from their being much crowded on board the ships, and want of clothing—both of which we have now provided against: the first, by landing, and taking possession of a small neck of land, which I have fortified in the best manner our abilities and circumstances would admit of; and I think, though we have now several thousands of the Rebel army in our neighbourhood, who frequently come and take a few shots at us, and retire, yet I am satisfied they will not willingly give us any disturbance there, though they threaten it much. We have in this little fort four ovens, and pretty good barracks for our *Ethiopian* corps. I have bought a large quantity of oznaburghs, of which I am making summer clothing for our garrison.

My Lord, in my despatch No. 34, I had frequent occasion to mention a family of the name of *Goodrich*, natives of this Colony. This is a spirited, active, industrious family, and it has cost me much trouble and pains (knowing the service they would be of to whichever party they joined) to secure them in his Majesty's service. The male part consists of a father and seven sons, five of which are arrived to the age of manhood, who are now most zealously engaged in his Majesty's service. Four of them are perfectly well acquainted with every river, creek, or branch within this Bay. I have now five of their vessels employed constantly running up the rivers, where they have orders to seize, burn, or destroy everything that is water-borne that they can get at. They often land, and take off what provisions they can get, which keeps the Rebels in constant motion; and I generally send a few of the Fourteenth Regiment with them. They land only where they are not likely to meet with opposition, and have orders to retire on board so soon as they see any force coming against them. I mention this family to your Lordship for two reasons: the first is, lest any of their vessels, of which they have many in various parts of the world, should fall into the hands of any of our ships of war, that they may have that attention shown to them that I think them so well entitled to. My second reason is, that, should we ever see better times in this quarter, (which I pray God we may soon!) his Majesty may show them such marks of his favour as he thinks their services are deserving of. They have all left their houses, negroes, plantations, stock, and every thing else, at the mercy of the Rebels, and are now, with their whole families, water-borne in this fleet.

I have received the late act of Parliament, with your Lordship's despatches, which I have hardly yet been able to look into, but should be glad to have your Lordship's opinion whether the word "not," in the 217th page and 18th line, standing between the words "Provinces" and "herein," is meant to be part of the bill, or is only an error in the press. If it is part of the act, it then restrains every Governour, Lieutenant-Governour, or Commander-in-Chief of any of his Majesty's Colonies or Provinces now in rebellion, from sending vessels to supply themselves, or those under their protection, with the necessaries of life; which I hope could never be meant.

Enclosed* I send your Lordship a letter of Mr. *John Norton*, dated the 22d of *November*, 1775, to Mr. *Robert Carter Nicholas*, Treasurer of this Colony, wherein Mr. *Norton* informs him that about £3,000 of the bills he drew in favour of Mr. *N.* had been presented and accepted. This Mr. *N.* most certainly means Mr. *Thomas Newton*, Junior, the endorser of the bills sent your Lordship in my letter No. 34.

My long residence in this quarter of the globe, in the publick capacity in which his Majesty has been pleased to employ me, has given me an opportunity of making many

* Received no enclosure with this duplicate.

observations on the policy of this Continent, that I should be happy to have an opportunity of communicating to your Lordship before matters are finally settled on this Continent.

Since writing the above, I have been reading the Act with more attention than I had leisure to do before, and I must observe to your Lordship, if my construction of it is right, it will be impossible to be complied with, for the Act says, in the 22d page, that "the prizes are not to be carried into any of the Colonies herein particularly mentioned." Now, all come under that predicament, *Nova Scotia* and the *Floridas* excepted; so that every vessel so soon as taken must be sent to one or other of these places, which would take them near three months to go and return, in which vessel they must send an officer and a number of men, according to the size of the vessel. Was this to be the case, there is not a man-of-war on this station, that would have either officer or man left in her in a month; were they even to detain them in the fleet, where such capture was made, they must leave so many men in them that in a very short time their ships would be so weak that they would not be fit to go to sea, which was the case here for some time, and having no Judge of the Admiralty here to try them, I was obliged to find a remedy for this inconveniency, which was this: I appointed five gentlemen in the fleet to act as Commissioners, who are empowered to take depositions and inquire fully into the circumstances of any captures made by the men-of-war, or the tenders; if in their opinion the vessel and cargo were seizable, they then appointed sworn appraisers to put a value on the vessel and cargo, and the vessel and cargo were sold to the highest bidder at publick auction, and the moneys arising from such sales are deposited in the hands of responsible people, either till his Majesty's pleasure should be known, or if a Judge of the Admiralty should afterwards be appointed, and the owners of the vessels were not satisfied with the judgment of the Commissioners, the cause might be tried by the Judge of the Admiralty from the depositions, etc., taken by the Commissioners, of which they are required to keep regular books, properly authenticated. This was the mode I thought requisite to adopt, rather than his Majesty's service should suffer by employing the sailors in taking care of prizes, and to prevent the goods from perishing and being totally lost, and probably the vessel also; indeed, most of these prizes have been loaded with provisions, which we should ere this have been in the greatest want of, had we not been so fortunate as to have taken them.

I am, my Lord, your Lordship's most obedient, humble servant,

DUNMORE.

To Lord George Germaine.

[No. 2.] Ship Dunmore, in Elizabeth River, Virginia, }
April 2, 1776. }

MY LORD: The packet not yet being sailed on account of the wind, and Lieutenant *Ordd*, of his Majesty's ship the *Roebuck*, having brought in two small vessels, one of which is from *Saint Nicola Mole*, bound to *Philadelphia*, in which were three *Frenchmen*. Two of the three were officers in the *French* army; one of them, Monsieur *De la Bussière*, says his only reason for wishing to go to *Philadelphia* was on account of his health, which may be true; he had, however, about him the letters (No. 1) to Mr. *Hancock*, and his discharge, (No. 2.)* The other officer acknowledged to me his intention was to go into the service of the Rebels, of which, were it requisite, the enclosed No. 3 is a very sufficient proof, as it is wrote by his own hand. The other was supercargo in the vessel, and had a large quantity of molasses and coffee on board. I have sent the three by the packet for your Lordship to dispose of as you shall think proper. I beg leave to inform your Lordship, that either two or three vessels (one of which was a *French* one, and navigated by *Frenchmen*,) loaded with powder, had sailed a short time before the schooner left the *Mole*, all bound to *Philadelphia*, but I make no doubt Captain *Hamond*, who is now in the river *Delaware*, will give a good account of them; sure I am he won't fail of zeal.

I am, my Lord, your Lordship's most obedient, humble servant,

DUNMORE.

To Lord George Germaine.

*No enclosures received with this duplicate.

FIFTH SERIES.—VOL. II.

[No. 3.]

Ship Dunmore, in Gwin's Island Harbour, }
Virginia, June 26, 1776. }

MY LORD: Since writing your Lordship of the 2d of *April*, nothing very material has happened, except our change of harbour, which I found absolutely necessary, as we were constantly exposed to the fire of the musketry of the enemy, (*Elizabeth River* not being above musket-shot over,) and in daily expectation of their bringing heavier metal down against us, and that we lay in a tide's way, and exposed to be burnt by fire-rafts, or boats, which they might have sent down amongst us, which indeed they did attempt, as your Lordship may see by the enclosed, (No. 1) which is authentick, as I had it from a spy I had amongst them who may be relied on; added to this, our salt provisions were quite expended, and we had no fresh. It therefore became requisite to move to a place where we could have an immediate supply of the latter, and there was no place (known to me) that appeared so eligible as the one we now occupy, and indeed so it has proved, for a finer harbour never was seen. We found on this Island (which contains two or three and twenty hundred acres of land) a considerable quantity of stock of different kinds, with great abundance of fish on all sides of it. The only fault that I can find to it, that it lies too near the main, which the Rebels occupy, all around us, as the haven between it and the main in some places don't exceed two hundred yards wide. On the west end of this Island, where it is narrowest, I have thrown up a small work, in which I have five cannon, with another on the east end with two, and two smaller ones, towards the centre, which I would willingly flatter myself will secure us from any insult from our enemy, who, however, seem to neglect no opportunity of annoying us.

I am extremely sorry to inform your Lordship that that fever, of which I informed you in my letter No. 1, has proved a very malignant one, and has carried off an incredible number of our people, especially the blacks. Had it not been for this horrid disorder, I am satisfied I should have had two thousand blacks, with whom I should have had no doubt of penetrating into the heart of this Colony. I have done everything in my power to get the better of it, but am sorry to inform your Lordship that all our efforts have hitherto proved ineffectual; but every other means shall be tried to put a stop to it. I have now separated the sick from the well, by the breadth of the Island, and mean if possible to keep them from each other.

I am sorry also to inform your Lordship that old Mr. *Goodrich*, whom I mentioned in my last to your Lordship, he having taken two prizes in one of the Rebel harbours, and not being able by contrary winds to get out, was in the night boarded with a number of boats by the Rebels, and taken, and is now confined in the gaol at *Williamsburg*, loaded with very heavy irons, and I really fear their inhuman treatment of him will put an end to his life; soon after this, two of his sons were unfortunate enough to fall likewise into their hands, who I doubt will not fare much better than the father.

Enclosed I send your Lordship (No. 2) the printed paper wherein the Convention of this Colony declare themselves independent of *Great Britain*, and I am well pleased they have declared themselves, for notwithstanding that they have by every artifice prepared the minds of the people for this event, yet I am well convinced it is quite repugnant to the wish of most. Their having ordered the prayers for the preservation of his Majesty, and those of his family, etc., to be erased, and substituted others for their Congress, Conventions, etc., in their place, I am well convinced (though this Colony is by no means remarkably over-religious) that this change will have a wonderful effect on the minds of the lower class of people, who, I am satisfied, even now only wait for an army able to protect them, which army, I doubt not, were they landed, they would immediately join; even many of those, I am satisfied, that now appear in arms against us would willingly change sides.

Finding the expense of hiring small vessels for tenders considerable, and that the prizes they were daily bringing in were selling for a song, I thought it best for his Majesty's service to purchase a few of the fittest for that purpose. I have therefore bought five small vessels which are all now employed in that service.

Hearing a few days ago, that there were a number of well-affected subjects to his Majesty on the Eastern Shore

of *Maryland*, I sent immediately three of the tenders there to bring off as many as were willing to come. They last night brought me between fifty and sixty, and would have brought many more had they had room for them; directly on hearing this I sent off five small tenders and a ship to bring as many more as wished to serve his Majesty; I have enlisted those that came in the Queen's Own Loyal *Virginia* Regiment.

By the *Virginia Gazette*, which I have just now received, I am sorry to see that the *Oxford* transport from *Glasgow*, having on board two hundred and seventeen *Highlanders*, was taken by two of the Rebel armed vessels on their way here; they had been taken before to the northward, by one of the Rebel vessels, who disarmed them and took the officers from on board, and put eight of their own people on board to carry her into port, but the carpenter of the vessel formed a party and retook her from these eight, and was bringing her in here to me, when they were again most unfortunately retaken; of what service would they not have been to me here!

Since I wrote your Lordship last, Mr. *John Grymes* is the only person of any consequence in this Colony, that has joined me, (who is a great acquisition.) He is of the first family in this country, of good fortune, but what is more valuable than either, he is a most amiable character, being a man of the strictest honour, of an excellent disposition, and good parts; brave, active and enterprising. The Island being between four and five miles in length, and our numbers fit to do duty very few, and finding horses on the Island, I advised Mr. *Grymes* to form a little troop, and take the command of it, which he has done, by which he (being posted in the middle of the Island) is able to give assistance to either end that should be attacked. Mr. *Ralph Wormeley*, one of the Council, and Mr. *Philip Grymes*, brother to *John*, are made prisoners by the Rebels, and sent to the back country.

I am, my Lord, your Lordship's most obedient, humble servant,

DUNMORE.

To Lord George Germaine.

[Enclosure in No. 3.]

INFORMATION OF A SPY, GIVEN TO LORD DUNMORE THE 3D DAY OF MAY, 1776.

Saturday, in the evening, as I was lying on the floor of *Neal's* house, as if asleep, I heard Major *Thomas Parker*, *Josiah Parker*, and — *Lawson*, speak freely that that night or before morning, that *Dunmore* and the fleet would be destroyed; and that on Major *Parker's* being ordered out with a company to join *Hoffler* at the mouth of the *Western Branch*, he asked *Josiah Parker* what should be done with the Tories he found on board the vessels, he answered, "Damn them, tomahawk them all and throw them overboard, and give yourself no further trouble about them;" that on firing signal guns at four o'clock on *Sunday* morning (which was done) the ship *Dunmore* if possible, if not her, that any other vessel should be boarded and set on fire, at the same time they should attack the lines on the *Mill Point*, and burn *Portsmouth*; that on *Sunday* morning about seven o'clock the party returned to *Neal's*, when *Parker* reported to the other officers that just before daylight they were under the stern of the *Dunmore*, heard a noise in the cabin, went close by the accommodation ladder, and thought to have boarded her, but daylight approaching too fast prevented the attempt; that they shot a negro going ashore in a canoe with a bottle of rum, which they drank to his health as he was expiring.

INFORMATION OF ANOTHER SPY, GIVEN 11TH OF MAY, 1776.

MY LORD: Since I had the honour of waiting on your Excellency on *Friday* evening last, I have received the following interesting intelligence: That the Shirtmen are and have been busy some time past in constructing boats, every way fit and proper to attack and destroy the fleet lying off *Norfolk*, that the whole or greatest part of said boats are ready, and only wait for favourable weather to be conducted to the shipping; that they are to be fully manned with desperadoes, and have a proper proportion of combustibles for burning the vessels; that their horrid plan is to operate in various ways, and conducted with the greatest secrecy at

dead of night; that some of the ships they are to board, some they are to burn, and cut the cables of the rest, so as they may drive on shore; that the landings on each side of the shipping are to be covered with their infernal demons, who are to put to death all that attempt to put their feet on shore; and lastly, that a very strong party are destined to your Excellency's ship in order that she may be with certainty destroyed. Such, my Lord, is the bloody plan intended to be perpetrated by those sons of murder and devastation, and your Excellency has had sufficient and repeated proofs of their barbarous inhumanity to convince you that no crime is too black and dismal for them to perform, and that they are well provided with desperate villains who will undertake to execute the most dreadful and horrid butchery. When I deliver my weak sentiments upon this very interesting and momentous affair, it proceeds from no presumption, but a real and great solicitude for the safety and preservation of your Excellency's person, which, believe me, my Lord, in the present situation of affairs, cannot be out of danger; your Lordship ought to have a much greater number of hands on board your ship, and their characters, if possible, well known; for be assured, my Lord, the fleet have too many villains on board, who give intelligence to the Shirtmen of everything that passes in the fleet, and they have the information almost as soon as it reaches your own ears; and I sincerely wish that your ship may be clear of such vermin. The most strict watch and outlook is necessary, and every implement of defence and destruction ready and prepared to repel those bloodhounds of murder and rapine. Upon a subject of such consequence, I do think I cannot, especially if I omit any that ought to be mentioned, exceed. Your Excellency will please to know that the three fellows that came lately on board your ship, had no meaning in their application, but were intended as spies under the protection of a flag of truce, and to observe the situation, condition, and strength of your Excellency's ship; and I think the names of two of the three were *Campbell* and *Fleming*.

[No. 4.] Ship Dunmore, in Potowmack River, Virginia, }
July 31, 1776. }

MY LORD: Since writing your Lordship of the 26th of *June*, at *Gwin's Island*, we have again been obliged to shift our quarters. The enemy brought down ten pieces of ordnance, and on the 9th instant began to play on my ship from two batteries; she was laid very near the shore in order to prevent the Rebels from landing on the Island; we were so near one of their batteries (which consisted of an eighteen and a twenty-four-pounder) that they struck the ship every shot. I got our raw and weak crew to fire a few shot at them, but I soon perceived that our six-pounders made no impression on their batteries. Our boatswain being killed, and several of the people wounded, I found it impracticable to make them stand any longer to their guns; we were therefore obliged to cut our cable, though there was not a breath of air stirring; but the little tide there was drifted us from the shore. When the Rebels found their guns had no further effect on us, they next day turned them on two small tenders that we found it requisite to place in the haven between the Island and the main, which soon obliged our people to quit them and get on the Island. One of them was set on fire; Mr. *Thomas*, midshipman of the *Fowey*, who commanded the other, was obliged to abandon her before he could effect it, being almost surrounded by the boats of the enemy; in making his escape he received two slight wounds, so near had they got to him; they made only one boy a prisoner. On the 11th we left the Island, and on the night of that day came to anchor in the Bay, at the mouth of the river *Potowmack*; there sprung up a fresh of wind, which parted the cables of many of the small crafts of our ill-provided fleet, some few of which were lost, but the people of all were saved except of one sloop, which drifted on shore and fell into the hands of the Rebels. We next morning put into the river *Potowmack*, where we are wooding and watering on an Island.

I have taken this opportunity of advising all those who have put themselves under the protection of his Majesty's ships, to proceed to such place of safety as they shall think proper; some go immediately to *Great Britain*, others to the *West Indies*, and others to *St. Augustine*, by which means we shall be disincumbered of everything but the transports, which I hope will enable us to harass and distress these

inveterate foes to the best of Sovereigns, and a most indulgent parent State.

Not finding water in that abundance we could wish on *St. George's Island*, I ordered all the empty water casks of the fleet to be put on board two of the transports, with which Captain *Hamond*, in the *Roebuck*, and this ship went up the river about a hundred miles, into fresh water, where we soon filled our casks; during our stay here about three hundred of the Rebels assembled themselves at the house of a Mr. *Brent*, who is one of their Colonels; we were, with the assistance of the *Roebuck's* Marines, volunteers, blacks and whites, able to muster one hundred and eight men; with these we landed under cover of two small tenders and a small row galley, which I had fitted up at *Gwin's Island*, in which Captain *Hamond* has put a six-pounder, and occasionally an officer and twenty men. She is proof against musket-shot and draws but eighteen inches of water. We were no sooner landed than the Rebels fled on all quarters from the house and offices, all of which we burned, and having done all the mischief in our power, we reembarked without the loss of a man killed, and only four or five wounded, of which number is Lieutenant *Wallace* of the Fourteenth Regiment; it is only a flesh wound, which I am satisfied will be well in a few days; every praise is due to the spirit of this young gentleman. We found only three of the bodies of the Rebels, but we flatter ourselves there were several more, that the rest had carried off; in Mr. *Brent's* house we found the enclosed newspaper, (No. 1,) by which your Lordship will see that the *Virginians* have altered their Constitution into a strange motley, which they call a Commonwealth; they therein set forth their reasons for so doing.

I have also the honour to transmit to your Lordship five letters which were intercepted by Captain *Hamond*. I need not comment upon them to your Lordship, whose judgment will much better direct you what is proper to be done with them and their authors than I can possibly do; sorry I am, however, to find that the letters of Mr. *Lee*, which I transmitted home in No. 34 were not found sufficient to secure him from giving further information to his countrymen here; the letters Nos. 2 and 3 are from the *Whartons*, who seem to me to have good intelligence, and very willing to communicate it to their friends here; I wish I was able to inform your Lordship where they had it from. I hope your Lordship will make them discover it. I am really sorry to inform your Lordship that *Cox*, the bearer of these letters, together with Mr. *Jennings*, his Majesty's Attorney General for *Maryland*, and the master of the sloop in which they came from the *West Indies*, made their escape from the sloop on the night before they were to have been delivered over to me; had I been so fortunate as to have got them into my possession I should most certainly have sent them home to your Lordship, as I most believe they are both freighted with every information their friends in *London* could communicate to them. It is by the *West Indies* that the Rebels receive all their information; it is first sent to the *British West-India Islands*, and from thence conveyed to *St. Eustatia*, with which place the Rebels have a constant intercourse, and are supplied by the *Dutch* with powder and ammunition of every kind, as well as all sorts of dry goods, rum, and sugar. I had certain information a few days ago of the safe arrival of a brig from that port with thirty tons of powder besides small arms and ammunition of all sorts to one of our outposts; in short, it is impossible for Captain *Hamond* (who does all in his power) without more assistance, to prevent them from running small craft, and sometimes larger, into the numerous ports of these two Colonies; they are now become so formidable, even by water, in this Bay, that they have actually drove all our tenders up to the fleet, and Captain *Hamond* does not think it safe to trust one of his Majesty's sloops alone in the Bay; nay, they had the impudence a few days ago, with one of their ships of eighteen guns and two of her tenders, to run up within a few miles of the fleet. We were then just turning down this river from watering; the *Roebuck* and *Fowey* both gave them chase, but they were so far windward, that they could not come up with them; at the same time the Rebels on shore opened a battery on the *Fowey*, whilst she was getting under way.

We are now anchored in the river, and I hope to-morrow will clear us of everything but the ships-of-war and the transports; but where we are to go, or what we can do next,

to render service to his Majesty, I own I am puzzled to know, and I find there is now not even a chance of our receiving any assistance. I really am at a loss what to determine on, for next month it will become very unsafe for the ships to keep the Bay, and I do declare I know not where we can go with our present force to make a harbour of any tolerable safety; for we no sooner appear off the land, than signals are made from it, when the coast is covered with men, and if we come to anchor within cannon-shot of either shore, guns are immediately brought to bear upon us, which it is not in the power of the ships to dislodge, as the shoals will not permit them to get near enough.

Enclosed is another paper (No. 4) that was found whilst we were last on shore, but I hope most sincerely that matters may be greatly exaggerated in it. We have had no other account of the matter either by land or water, but what I enclose your Lordship. Lest your Lordship should not have seen the resolutions of the Congress relative to Independence, I have sent it your Lordship, marked No. 5.

August 4.

Seeing a tender of Captain *Hamond's* (that he had sent to Sir *Peter Parker*) coming up, I would not close my letter till I saw Mr. *Whitworth*, who commands her; and I am extremely sorry to find that No. 4 contains but too true an account of our loss before *Charlestown*. I have letters from Sir *Peter* and General *Clinton*, both informing me that it is perfectly out of their power to give me any sort of assistance; which will render my situation, if possible, more intolerable than it has been for these fourteen months past that I have been constantly penned up in a ship, hardly with the common necessities of life; but what makes it now a thousand times worse, is, that I am left without even the hopes of being able to render his Majesty the smallest service; this, I must say, is truly discouraging, and leaves me in the utmost difficulty to determine what to do; my utmost desire is (when I do resolve) that I may do what may be most agreeable to his Majesty's wishes, and the best for his service. Mr. *Simonton*, the bearer of this, or Governour *Eden*, who accompanies him, will be able to inform your Lordship particularly of the forlorn state in which they have left us.

And I have the honour to be, my Lord, your Lordship's most obedient humble servant,

DUNMORE.

To Lord *George Germaine*.

GENERAL WASHINGTON TO COLONEL GAY.

New-York, September 4, 1776.

SIR: Whether you do not get the General Orders with that regularity which is to be wished, or whether (which is hard to suppose) you do not attend to them, I will not undertake to determine; but it is a melancholy truth that returns essentially necessary for the Commanding officer to govern himself by, and which might be made in an hour after they are called for, where care and order are observed, are obtained with so much difficulty. Nor can I help regretting, that not only regular returns, but that orders, in instances equally important, should be so little attended to. I therefore address myself to you in this manner, requesting in express and peremptory terms, that you do without delay make out and return to the Adjutant-General's office immediately, an exact state of the regiment or corps under your command, and that the like return be given in every *Saturday*, at orderly time, without fail.

I also desire, in terms equally express, that you do not suffer the men of your corps to straggle from their quarters, or be absent from camp without leave, and even then but few at a time. Your own reputation, the safety of the army, and the good of the cause, depend, under *God*, upon our vigilance and readiness to oppose a crafty and enterprising enemy, who are always upon the watch to take advantages. To prevent straggling, let your rolls be called over three times a day, and the delinquents punished. I have one thing more to urge, and that is, that every attempt of the men to plunder houses, orchards, gardens, &c., be discouraged, not only for the preservation of property and sake of good order, but for the prevention of those fatal consequences which usually follow such diabolical practices. In short, sir, at a time when everything is at stake, it behooves every man to exert himself. It will not do for the commanding officer of a regiment to content himself with barely giving orders; he

should see (at least know) they are executed. He should call his men out frequently, and endeavour to impress them with a just and true sense of their duty, and how much depends upon subordination and discipline.

Let me, therefore, not only command, but exhort you and your officers, as you regard your reputation, your country, and the sacred cause of freedom in which you are engaged, to manly and vigorous exertions at this time, each striving to excel the other in the respective duties of his department. I trust it is unnecessary for me to add further, and that these and all other articles of your duty you will execute with a spirit and punctuality becoming your station.

I am, sir, your most obedient servant,

Go. WASHINGTON.

To Colonel *Fisher Gay*.

GENERAL WASHINGTON TO COLONEL LIVINGSTON.

September 4, 1776.

SIR: In answer to both your favours, just received by Lieutenant *Smith*, I can only say, that circumstanced as we both are at present, it is not in my power to give you other instructions for your conduct than that you pursue every step which shall appear to you necessary and judicious for annoying and harassing the enemy and to prevent their foraging; and while those measures are in any degree effectual, I would wish to have you continue on the Island; but as soon as you find that you can be of no longer service, I would have you make your retreat to the main without further delay. You will take care to have the boats so provided as to secure your retreat in the best manner possible.

I am, with due regard, sir, your very humble servant,

Go. WASHINGTON.

To Lieutenant-Colonel *Henry B. Livingston*.

GENERAL WASHINGTON TO GENERAL SCHUYLER.

New-York, September 4, 1776.

DEAR SIR: Your favours of the 29th and 31st ultimo, with their several enclosures, have been duly received.

I sincerely wish the event of the skirmish on *Long-Island* had been as favourable to us as reported to you. Hurried and involved in a multiplicity of business, I cannot give you a particular detail of it. I shall only add, that we lost in killed and wounded and prisoners, from seven hundred to one thousand men; among the prisoners are General *Sullivan* and Lord *Stirling*. The enemy's loss has not been ascertained yet, but there is reason to believe, from the continuance of the action and the heavy firing between them and Lord *Stirling's* detachment, that it was considerable. We have been informed so by deserters. They overpowered our people by their numbers and constant reinforcements.

When I have an opportunity, and circumstances will admit, I will inquire after Lieutenant *Johnson*, and order him to *Albany*.

I am extremely obliged by your interposing to have the boards sent down. I have informed the Quartermaster-General, and directed him to take measures for obtaining a large supply, as I have grounds to apprehend many will be wanted.

The short inlistment of our troops has been the source of some of our misfortunes, and of infinite trouble and difficulty already, and I am not without apprehension that, sooner or later, must prove of fatal consequence. I have wrote my sentiments very fully to Congress upon this subject two or three times. In a late letter I have urged the expediency of a permanent army during the war. The necessity is too obvious to require arguments to prove it. I think it will be advisable to recruit out of the present army as fast as possible; but I fear the progress will be but small. The bounties given by the different States, to raise their quotas of men for so short a time, must have a pernicious tendency. Many will refuse to enlist, as that allowed by Congress is so low, in hopes of exacting more.

The letters from our officers in *Canada*, transmitted by General *Gates*, I have sent to Congress with the return you enclosed. I have also perused and delivered your letter to the Commissary, having sealed it first, and wish matters to be so ordered as best to promote the service.

Observing that General *Gates*, in his letter to you, mentions his want of cartridge paper for muskets, I have wrote

to Congress and requested them to supply it if possible, having none here or but very little, and have also directed the Quartermaster-General to send up some grindstones, not knowing whether they can be had at *Albany*.

I am, dear sir, &c.,

Go. WASHINGTON.

To Major-General *Schuyler*, N. Department.

P. S. Your letter preceding the two last came to hand when I was sending away my papers, and being put up with them after a cursory reading, I don't recollect it sufficiently to answer.

Being certain that we shall have occasion for a large quantity of boards for barracks and shelter for the troops which will be posted at *King's Bridge*, in its vicinity, and over the river, opposite the works erected at the upper end of this Island, I wish to be informed if they can be supplied, and shall be glad those who undertake it will begin to hurry 'em down with all expedition to the nearest landing place to the bridge.

EXTRACT OF A LETTER TO A GENTLEMAN IN LONDON, DATED LONG-ISLAND, (NEW-YORK,) SEPTEMBER 4, 1776.

Mr. *Washington* has issued a recommendation that all the women, children, and infirm persons, leave the city of *New-York*, as a bombardment and attack may be hourly expected, adding the following words: "Trusting that with the blessing of Heaven upon the *American* arms, they may soon return to it in perfect security." From which, added to certain accounts that there are six thousand of their soldiers sick in the place, it may be hoped that loyal city may not be sacrificed to the inexorable fury of fanatical and Congressional proscription. Our prospects of its safety are strengthened by the following circumstance: In the night of the 2d instant three persons escaped from the city in a canoe, and informed our General that Mr. *Washington* had ordered three battalions of *New-York* Provincials to leave *New-York*, and that they should be replaced by an equal number of *Connecticut* troops; but the former, assured that the *Connecticutians* would burn and destroy all the houses, peremptorily refused to give up their city, declaring that no cause of exigence whatsoever should induce them to entrust the defence of it to any other than her own inhabitants. This spirited and stubborn resolution prevailed over the orders of their Commander, and the *New-Yorkers* continue snugly in possession of the place. We have just been informed that the two battalions from *Cumberland County*, in *Pennsylvania* are sick of the contest, and dreading the Light Infantry, *Hessians*, Chasseurs, and Dragoons of the Royal Army, have very prudently bid adieu to military achievements, and in a body returned to their own farms, there to cultivate the arts of peace and reconciliation.

EXTRACT OF A LETTER FROM LORD PERCY TO A GENTLEMAN IN LONDON, DATED CAMP AT NEWTOWN, SEPTEMBER 4, 1776.

It was the General's orders that the troops should receive the Rebels' first fire, and then rush on them before they had recovered their arms, with their bayonets, which threw them into the utmost disorder and confusion, they being unacquainted with such a manœuvre. A light dragoon discovering three riflemen in a wood, who had secreted themselves in order to pick out the officers as they appeared, attacked them, shot one, took the other two prisoners, and brought them to Lord *Percy*, who rewarded him for his gallant behaviour. A great many of the horses belonging to *Preston's* regiment, that were left in *Boston* at the evacuation, were found on *Long-Island*.

CAPTAIN THOMAS TO MARYLAND COUNCIL OF SAFETY.

Harlem, September 4, 1776.

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR HONOURS: The unhappy situation of the *Maryland* troops now here, makes it absolutely necessary that you should be acquainted with it, and also you might have received information from others, yet I think it my duty also (though low in office) to make you acquainted with it, and I have not the least doubt but you will immediately apply a remedy.

We have now, and have had for some time, a number of our men sick, a number very ill. I have had from fifteen to

twenty of my men extremely ill, and have not yet been able to procure them the least assistance. The Province have but two Surgeons here—one of them very ill—and none can be procured here. From the best authority I can assure you we have, at this time, near two hundred men unfit for duty, and most of them without any assistance from the doctor. The neglect of the troops when sick discourages them more than any other circumstance, and I am convinced, if it was generally known, would have the worst of consequences, both as to recruiting for the troops already raised or in raising new levies. I hope the freedom I have taken will be readily excused, especially when 'tis considered, and I hope believed, that I have no other motive than the publick service. With this hope, I conclude myself your most obedient humble servant,

J. A. THOMAS.

To the Hon. the Convention of *Maryland*, or in their recess the Hon. Council of Safety of *Maryland*.

COLONEL NICOLL TO GENERAL HEATH.

Mount-Washington, September 4, 1776.

SIR: Last night, about ten o'clock, there came two regiments to this post of Brigadier-General *Heard's* brigade; and as Colonel *Hutchinson* is gone to *New-York*, who I understood was to give me orders, I send my Orderly-Sergeant to your Honour for orders. I have nothing particular to acquaint you of.

I remain with sincere affection, your obedient and humble servant,

ISAAC NICOLL, Colonel.

To General *Heath*.

GENERAL HEATH TO COLONEL NICOLL.

King's Bridge, September 4, 1776.

DEAR SIR: As Colonel *Hutchinson* is absent, I think you had better remain at *Mount-Washington* until he returns, (which will be soon,) and acquaint the Commanding officer who is come to that post with as many particulars respecting the post as you can; and after Colonel *Hutchinson's* return you will march back your detachment to this post.

I am, sir, yours, &c.,

W. HEATH.

To Colonel *Nicoll*.

CAPTAIN WILLIAMS TO GENERAL GATES.

Skenesborough, September 4, 1776.

HONOURED SIR: The blacksmiths that I have here to work are very uneasy; they want to know what they are to have per day, besides their wages. I beg that your Honour would let me know what they shall have.

I remain your very obedient, humble servant,

EDWARD WILLIAMS, Captain.

To Hon. Major-General *Gates*.

PASS FOR NEHEMIAH CARPENTER.

Westchester County, New-Rochelle, New-York, }
September 4, 1776. }

Permit the bearer hereof, *Nehemiah Carpenter*, Sen., to pass as far as *Norwalk*, he being a friend to the *American* liberty. ABRAM GUION, Chairman of Sub-Committee.

EXTRACT OF A LETTER DATED CAMP MOUNT-INDEPENDENCE, OPPOSITE TICONDEROGA, SEPTEMBER 4, 1776.

On the 31st ultimo departed this life, of a bilious disorder, Colonel *William Bond*. He met the last enemy with the greatest calmness and intrepidity. In his death our country has lost a true patriot and most vigilant officer of tried bravery. The first of this instant his remains were escorted with military parade to the place of burial, in the front of the regiment, where the Rev. *Ebenezer David* delivered a funeral oration, and made a prayer; after which the corpse was interred and the Colonel's character honoured by the discharge of three twenty-four-pounders from the Fort, and the usual volleys from the musketry. The whole was conducted in a manner suitable to the occasion.

New-Haven, Wednesday, September 4, 1776.

By advice of a Council of War, last *Thursday* night and *Friday* morning the whole of our army then on

Long-Island returned to *New-York*, and brought off, it is said, all their camp equipage, cannon, stores, &c. Their return was conducted with such secrecy that it was not discovered by the enemy till all our army and baggage were got over, and only three persons, who left the Island last in a batteau, fell into their hands. *Saturday* and *Sunday* our troops on *Governour's Island* and *Red-Hook*, evacuated our fortifications there, and brought off their cannon, &c., notwithstanding a very heavy fire from the enemy on *Long-Island*, in which we lost some men.

We hear that the main body of the enemy's army are now encamped near *Hell-Gate*. They have transported a number of boats over land, and it is supposed they intend to cross and land a little above their encampment, and attack our army near *King's Bridge*, where we are making great preparations to receive them, and our army in high spirits.

General *Sullivan* and Lord *Stirling*, who were both missing after the battle on the 27th ultimo, are both alive and well. The former having, on his parole, obtained leave to go to Congress, last *Saturday* passed *New-York* on his way to *Philadelphia*. It is said his business is to obtain an exchange for himself and Lord *Stirling*, for General *Prescott*, a prisoner in *Pennsylvania*, and General *McDonald*, a prisoner in *North-Carolina*.

Since our troops have evacuated *Long-Island*, the Tories and Regulars treat the friends to their country with the greatest severity. Colonel *Woodhull*, late President of *New-York* Congress, for refusing to give up his side-arms, was wounded on the head with a cutlass, and had a bayonet thrust through his arm.

By some people who left *Huntington* last *Monday*, we hear that the inhabitants of *Suffolk* County were to resign up their arms yesterday.

Our loss in the battle on the 27th ultimo remains yet uncertain, the calculations being from six hundred to one thousand. Colonel *Huntington's* regiment is said to have suffered much, there being missing 6 Captains, 6 Lieutenants, 21 Sergeants, 2 Drummers, and 126 Rank and File.

Yesterday sixty-four women landed at *Milford* from *Long-Island*, and we hear numbers are coming off daily to the Continent.

Captain *Redfield*, of *Killingworth*, on his return from *New-York*, was taken by one of the frigates, who burnt his vessel, and after detaining him a few days he was dismissed. There was another person in the vessel, whom they detained.

COLONEL LIVINGSTON TO THE COUNCIL OF WAR OF CONNECTICUT.

Seabrook, September 4, 1776.

SIR: Being informed that you are appointed by Governour *Trumbull* to preside at the Council of War, to be held at *New-London*, in order to determine whether it is proper to send a body of troops to the east end of the Island—*Long-Island*—in order to encourage and assist the inhabitants to repel our enemies: I have been stationed in that part of the Island with a detachment of two hundred men in order to protect the inhabitants from insult, also to do all in my power to distress the enemy whenever they should make any attempts in those parts. On *Saturday* last I received an account of the approach of the enemy; accordingly endeavoured to raise the Militia of the County, and marched my men to *River-Head*, within about five miles of a body of the enemy's Light-Horse. While I continued, there came an account to the officers commanding the Militia that our troops had abandoned and given up the Island. This so discouraged them that they dismissed their men and proposed to submit to the enemy. In this disposition I left them and effected a retreat, disarmed about seventy of the inhabitants, and brought off four pieces of ordnance, with our baggage and a quantity of provisions. The detachment are now with me at *Seabrook*, and are ready to acquiesce in any determination you shall make, and to proceed in conjunction with you to oppose our enemies stationed on that Island.

Your advice in this matter would oblige your most obedient, humble servant,

HENRY B. LIVINGSTON, Lieutenant-Colonel.

To the President of the Council of War held this day by order of Governour *Trumbull*.

CAPTAIN J. PAUL JONES TO THE MARINE COMMITTEE.

Providence, at Sea, in N. Lat. 37° 40', and W. Long. 54°, }
September 4, 1776. }

GENTLEMEN: I had the honour of writing to you the 27th August, per the brigantine *Britannia*, which I sent under the care of Lieutenant *William Grinnell*. Since that I have been to the southward, near the parallel of *Bermuda*, and brought to four sail of *French*, *Spanish*, and *Danish* ships, homeward bound, but without gaining any useful information. On the 1st current, I fell in with a fleet of five sail. One of them being very large, it was the general opinion on board here that she was either an old *Indiaman*, outward bound, with stores, or a *Jamaica* three-decker, bound homeward. We found her to be an *English* frigate, mounting twenty-six guns upon one deck. She sailed fast, and pursued us by the wind, till, after four hours' chase, the sea running very cross, she got within musket shot of our lee quarter. As they had continued firing at us from the first, without showing colours, I now ordered ours to be hoisted, and began to fire at them. Upon this they also hoisted *American* colours, and fired guns to leeward. But the bait would not take; for, having everything prepared, I bore away before the wind, and set all our light sail at once, so that before her sails could be trimmed and steering sails set, I was almost out of reach of grape, and soon after out of reach of cannon shot. Our "hair-breadth 'scape," and the saucy manner of making it, must have mortified him not a little. Had he foreseen this motion, and been prepared to counteract it, he might have fired several broadsides of double-headed and grape shot, which would have done us very material damage. But he was a bad marksman, and, though within pistol shot, did not touch the *Providence* with one of the many shot which he fired. I met with no other adventure till last night, when I took the *Bermuda*-built brigantine *Sea-Nymph*, bound from *Barbadoes* for *London*, with a cargo of two hundred and twenty-seven hogsheads and eight barrels of rum, five hogsheads, two tierces, and ten barrels of sugar, six bags of ginger, fourteen casks of oil, and twelve pipes "best particular *London* market *Madeira* wine." The brig is new, and sails very fast, so that she is a pretty good prize. By the master of the brig and a passenger, I hear that the *Andrew Doria* was off *Bermuda* a few days since; also, that Captain *Weeks* had an action with an *English* sloop-of-war off *Martinico*, and that our side was victorious, and drove the *Englishman* into *Martinico*.

I am now convinced that I am too late in the season. I will, however, try my utmost. 'Tis not impossible that I may yet fall in with another prize. I did not expect to have found a frigate conveying two ships, a brig, and a sloop. If the storeships come out all under convoy, my hopes of success from that quarter must fall short.

I have the honour to be, with much esteem and respect, gentlemen, your most obliged and very obedient, humble servant,

JNO. P. JONES.

To the Hon. Marine Committee, at *Philadelphia*.

N. B. The brigantine *Sea-Nymph's* crew are all as follows, viz:

1, *Francis Trimmingham*, master; 2, *William Lovie*, mate; 3, *William Johnson*, sailor; 4, *John Hardy*, sailor; 5, *Jamie*, 6 *Anthony*, 7 *Peter*, 8 *Will*, 9 *Davie*, negro sailors; and Mr. *Samuel Scott*, merchant, of *London*, passenger

CAPTAIN J. PAUL JONES TO COMMODORE HOPKINS.

Providence, at Sea, in N. Lat. 37° 40', and W. Long. 54°, }
September 4, 1776. }

HONOURED SIR: I know you will not suspect me of flattery when I affirm that I have not experienced a more sincere pleasure, for a long time past, than the account I have had of your having gained your cause at *Philadelphia*, in spite of party. Your late trouble will tend to your future advantage, by pointing out your friends and enemies. You will thereby be enabled to retain the one part, while you guard against the other. You will be thrice welcome to your native land, and to your nearest concerns. After your late shock, they will see you, as gold from the fire, of more worth and value; and slander will learn to keep silence when Admiral *Hopkins* is mentioned. But enough of this.

And now for my success. I sent in a *Nantucket* whaler by Captain *Grinnell*, 27th ultimo. She appeared, by the

voluntary testimony of the master, mate, &c., to be the property of rank Tories, who had ordered their oil to be carried to the *London* market, and the amount of it to be shipped out in *English* goods to *Nantucket*. Since that time I have been further to the southward, where I brought to a number of *French*, *Spanish*, and *Danish* ships, but saw no *Englishmen* till the 1st current, when I fell in with five sail. One of them being very large, we took her to be either an old *East-Indiaman*, or a *Jamaica* three-decker; but she proved to be an *English* frigate, mounting twenty-six guns upon one deck. She sailed fast, and pursued us by the wind, till, after four hours' chase, the sea running very cross, she got within musket shot of our lee quarter. As they had continued firing at us from the first, without showing colours, I was angry at this low piece of conduct; therefore, ordered ours to be hoisted, and began to fire at them. They then hoisted *American* colours, and fired guns to the leeward. But the bait would not take. Having everything prepared, I bore away across his forefoot, and set all our light sails at once, so that before her sails were trimmed and steering sails set, I was almost out of reach of grape, and soon after out of reach of cannon shot. Our "hair-breadth 'scape," and the saucy manner of making it, must have mortified him not a little. Had he foreseen this motion, and been prepared to counteract it, he might have fired several broadsides while we were within pistol shot. He was a bad marksman, and did not hit the *Providence* with one of the many shot which he fired. I met with no other adventure till last night, when I took the brigantine *Sea-Nymph*, bound from *Barbadoes* for *London*, with a cargo of two hundred and twenty-seven hogsheads of rum, besides oil, sugar, ginger, and *Madeira* wine. I understand by this brig that the *Andrew Doria* is off *Bermuda*, and that Captain *Weeks* hath given a trimming to an *English* sloop-of-war off *Martinico*. I am too late for *West-Indiamen*, but will not yet give up hopes. I am much afraid that the storeships come out under convoy; for who would have expected to find a frigate with no more than two ships, a brig, and a sloop?

If I meet with further success, I will write you in course. In the meantime, I rest assured that your good offices will not be wanting in my favour when the Navy rank and seniority come to be settled. If I was worthy of the rank of eldest Lieutenant of the fleet, I deserve not to be superseded in favour of any person who then bore an inferior or junior commission. It will be good policy if the Congress or the Marine Committee fix the parity of rank between land and sea officers, as it is in the *English* establishment, viz: An Admiral ranks with a General, a Vice-Admiral with a Lieutenant-General, a Rear-Admiral with a Major-General, a Commodore with a Brigadier-General, a Captain with a Colonel, a Master and Commander with a Lieutenant-Colonel, a Lieutenant-Commanding with a Major, and a Lieutenant in the Navy with a Captain of Foot or Marines. This would prevent numberless disputes and duellings, which otherwise will be unavoidable. But I remember that this agrees with your own opinion, and therefore I need use no arguments to enforce it.

My best wishes and respects await yourself and family; and I am, with much esteem and grateful respect, honoured sir, your very obliged and most humble servant,

JNO. P. JONES.

To the Hon. *E. Hopkins*, Esq., Admiral of the *American* Fleet, *Rhode-Island*; per the Brig *Sea-Nymph*, Captain *W. Hopkins*.

CAPTAIN JONES TO ROBERT MORRIS.

Providence, at Sea, September 4, 1776.

HONOURED SIR: I herewith enclose, for your inspection, all the letters and papers which I found in the brigantine *Sea-Nymph*. For the particulars of my cruise hitherto, I must beg leave to refer you to the within open letter to the Marine Board, which please to lay before them. I purpose to stand to the southward, in hopes of falling in with some ships, which, I understand, are now on their passage from *Barbadoes*. But at this late season my success is very uncertain. I will, however, ply about in this meridian as long as I think I have any chance, and if I fail at last, I can run to the northward, and try for better success among the fishermen, which may answer no bad purpose, by increasing the

number of our seamen. However my cruise may terminate, I forget not the singular obligation I owe to Mr. Morris, who promoted it for my honour and advantage; and I esteem the honour done me by his accepting my correspondence as the greatest favour I could have aspired to. I conclude that Mr. Hewes hath acquainted you with a very great misfortune which befell me some years ago, and which brought me into *North America*. I am under no concern, however, that this or any past circumstance will sink me in your opinion. Since human wisdom cannot secure us from accident, it is the greatest effort of reason to bear them well.

I will, from time to time, carefully communicate to you every intelligence in my power; and as the regulations of the Navy are of the utmost consequence, you will not think it presumption if, with the utmost diffidence, I venture to communicate to you such hints as, in my judgment, will promote its honour and good government. I could heartily wish that every commission officer were to be previously examined; for, to my certain knowledge, there are persons who have already crept into commission without abilities or fit qualification. I am myself far from desiring to be excused. From experience in ours, as well as from my former intimacy with many officers of note in the *British Navy*, I am convinced that the parity of rank between sea and land or marine officers is of more consequence to the harmony of the service than hath generally been imagined. In the *British* establishment, an Admiral ranks with a General, a Vice-Admiral with a Lieutenant-General, a Rear-Admiral with a Major-General, a Commodore with a Brigadier-General, a Captain with a Colonel, a Master and Commander with a Lieutenant-Colonel, a Lieutenant-Commanding with a Major, and a Lieutenant in the Navy ranks with a Captain of Horse, Foot, or Marines. I propose not our enemies as an example for our general imitation; yet, as their Navy is the best regulated of any in the world, we must, in some degree, imitate them, and aim at such further improvement as may one day make ours vie with, and exceed, theirs. Were this regulation to take place in our Navy, it would prevent numberless disputes and duellings which otherwise will be unavoidable. Besides, sir, you know very well that Marine officers, being utterly unacquainted with maritime affairs, are, in those cases, unfit persons to preside at, or compose half the number of a Court-Martial.

I beg pardon for this liberty. I thought that such hints might escape your memory in the multiplicity of business.

I have always understood that the sentence of a Court-Martial, when confirmed by a Commander-in-Chief, was definitive, and admitted of no appeal. To prove this, I must again recur to *English* authority, in the case of Lord George G. Sackville, who, for disobeying the orders of Prince Ferdinand at the battle of *Mindon*, was, by a Court-Martial held at the Horse Guards, rendered incapable of serving afterwards in any military capacity, although his great abilities were then well known, and are generally acknowledged at this day. I am led into this subject by hearing, with astonishment, the application and complaint of the late Captain Hazard to the Marine Board, after he had been found "unworthy of bearing his commission in the Navy," by the undivided voice of a Court-Martial, where I had the honour to sit as a member. If he was then unworthy of bearing his commission, I cannot see what new merit he can have acquired. And even if he had merit, it would not be sound policy to reverse the sentence. It would make officers stand less in awe, and attend less punctually to their duty; and it is not impossible it might induce future Courts-Martial, in some cases, to inflict personal punishment, from whence there is no appeal.

There was a mistake made in the date of my commission, which, unless you stand my friend, will make a material difference when the Navy rank is settled. I took command here the 10th day of *May*, as appears by the order and appointment of the Commander-in-Chief on the back of my commission, as eldest Lieutenant of the fleet; and my commission is not dated till the 8th day of *August*, which, you know, is not fair, as it would subject me to be superseded by Captain Robeson, who was at first my junior officer by six. Perhaps it might subject me to be superseded by others. If I have deserved so ill as to be superseded, I am unworthy of bearing my commission. I esteem it a greater disgrace and severer punishment than to be fairly broke and dismissed the service.

I have ordered Mr. Hopkins, the prize-master, to deliver you a turtle, which please to accept.

I have the honour to be, with grateful esteem and much respect, honoured sir, your very obliged and very obedient, humble servant,
JNO. PAUL JONES.

To the Hon. Robert Morris, Esq.

State of MASSACHUSETTS-BAY to JOHN CLOUSTON, Commander of the Sloop FREEDOM, in the service of said State:

You are hereby directed and commanded to repair, with the vessel under your command, to the harbour of *Boston*, in company with the sloop *Republick*, commanded by Captain John Foster Williams, now in *Dartmouth*; and there to wait for the further orders of the Council.

By order of a major part of the Council, the 4th of September, 1776:
SAMUEL ADAMS, Secretary.

Return of Officers on board the Armed Sloop called the FREEDOM, whereof JOHN CLOUSTON is Commander.

John Clouston, Captain.

James Scott, First Lieutenant.

Timothy Tobey, Second Lieutenant.

In Council, September 4, 1776.

Read, and Ordered, That the above Officers be commissioned agreeable to their respective ranks.

SAMUEL ADAMS, Secretary.

FOR SLOOP FREEDOM.

100 double-headed Shot at *Plymouth*.
10 6-pound Cannon and Carriages at do.
11 Swivel Guns and 1 Cohorn.
The Brig's Spritsail Topsails.
30 Hammocks.
2 bolts Duck.
2 Studding-sails.
2 barrels Powder.

CAPTAIN JOHN CLOUSTON.

In Council, September 3, 1776.

Read and Ordered, That William Watson, Esquire, be and he is hereby directed to deliver Jerathmeel Bowers the above articles out of the armed brig called the *Rising Empire*, — Welden, Commander, which was ordered to be hauled up by a resolve of the General Court, passed the 31st August last.

SAMUEL ADAMS, Secretary.

Boston, September 1, 1776.

TO CARPENTERS' STORES FOR THE SLOOP FREEDOM.

To 100 feet of oak Plank, 2-inch.
To 200 feet 2-inch pine Plank.
To 60 feet 4-inch Plank, oak.
To 50 weight Spikes, 6 inches long.
To 28 pounds of Deck Nails. } 1 Iron Tiller.
To 1000 Drawing Nails. }
To 1000 Shingle Nails.
To 1000 Clap-Board Nails.
To 10 pounds Pump Leather. 2000 Pump Nails.
To Jack Plane. To one Smoothing Plane.
To 100 feet pine Boards.
To 2 hhds. Rum.
To 2 bolts Duck.
Watersail and Ringsail, and Gafftopsail, and Topmast Steeringsail. Brig at *Plymouth*.
To 4 double Blocks, Iron Pins and Brass Cogs.
To sundry Hooks and Thimbles, and Bolts for deck and ring.
To 1 Yawl 17 feet; 1 Iron hearth, aboard the Brig at *Plymouth*.
To 2 tons of broken Cannon for ballast.
To 1 Anchor, about 200 pounds weight, for Hawser of 6 inches.
To 1 Iron grappling, aboard the Brig.

MASSACHUSETTS COUNCIL TO COLONEL AARON WILLARD.

You are hereby directed and commanded to repair immediately to the heights of *Dorchester*, and there make strict inquiry what number of men and officers are there, who

were inlisted for the Northern or *Canada* department, and to form one complete company out of those men, to be under the command of Captain *John Wentworth*; and you are to make report to the Council as soon as possible.

By order of the major part of the Council.

To Colonel *Aaron Willard*.

DECREE OF A COURT-MARTIAL ON LIEUTENANT MARSHALL.

New-Castle, September 4, 1776.

At a General Court-Martial, ordered to be held this day, to try all Prisoners that shall be brought before them.

Major MOONEY, *President*.

MEMBERS:

Captain <i>Dearing</i> ,	Lieutenant <i>Cooper</i> ,
Captain <i>Hodgdon</i> ,	Lieutenant <i>White</i> ,
Captain <i>Brown</i> ,	Lieutenant <i>Tanverin</i> ,
Lieutenant <i>Worthen</i> ,	Ensign <i>Leighton</i> ,
Lieutenant <i>Perkins</i> ,	Ensign <i>Bell</i> ,
Lieutenant <i>Aikens</i> ,	Ensign <i>Peavy</i> .

THOS. BOWLER, *Judge Advocate*.

Lieutenant *Andrew Marshall*, belonging to Captain *Daniel's* Company, confined by Capt. *Daniel* for disobedience of orders, for not going to *Great-Island* with a party of men ordered this duty on the Grand Parade at *New-Castle*, he, the said *Marshall*, said he would not go without his Captain went with his company. Furthermore, he said, on *Saturday* last, 31st *August*, that he, the said *Marshall*, had done the Captain's duty in exercising the men for some months past.

September 2, 1776.

The Prisoner, being brought into Court, pleaded Not Guilty. The evidences being duly sworn:

Evidences: *William Simpson*, *Benjamin Dam*, Sergeant *Langley*, *Samuel Banfield*.

Sergeant *Langley* testified that Lieutenant *Marshall* told his Captain he would not go with the company, without he, said Captain *Daniel*, went with him, but he was willing to go his proper turn. The other evidences agree to the same purport.

The Prisoner's Defence: Lieutenant *Marshall* says he thought he had no right to go or obey in that point out of his turn.

The Court having duly considered of the offence, are of opinion that the Prisoner is guilty of a breach of the 18th Article of the Rules and Orders of the Continental Army, and sentenced that the Prisoner be discharged from service.

HERCULES MOONEY, *President*.

September 4, 1776.

The Commanding Officer having considered the nature of the within crime and evidence produced, as well as the result of the Court, fully agree with the same, and ordered the within named *Andrew Marshall* to be immediately discharged from the service.

DAVID GILMAN, *Colonel*.

The Court having no further Prisoners laid before them, is dissolved.

And accordingly is dissolved.

HERCULES MOONEY, *President*.

LIEUTENANT MARSHALL'S PETITION.

To the Honourable Council and House of Representatives of the State of NEW-HAMPSHIRE, in General Court assembled:

The Remonstrance and Petition of *Andrew Marshall*, First Lieutenant of the Second Matross Company, in the service of said State, humbly sheweth, that when he had the honour of receiving his commission, he accepted of the same with a firm and steadfast resolution to exert himself to the utmost, that he might with honour to himself and faithfulness to his country, discharge the trust reposed in him. That he had spared no pains in exercising and disciplining the men in the company, and this without the least assistance or encouragement from his Captain, who never directly or indirectly conformed with the company in this respect—imposing the arduous and difficult task wholly on his officers, all which he is ready to verify; that he cheerfully complied with every order and command of duty, both within Fort *Sulli-*

van and elsewhere, until *Monday*, the 2d instant. When he had for a long time daily attended the company from Fort *Sullivan* to *New-Castle*, to exercise with Colonel *Gilman's* Regiment, that he remonstrated to Colonel *Gilman* that his duty was hard and unequal in being obliged to take the command of Captain *Daniel's* company every day, and that he, the said Captain, should be wholly excused; and that he informed Colonel *Gilman* that he was heartily willing to attend the company every day if his Captain would take the command thereof, or that he would equally divide the tour of duty with the officers of the company. That Colonel *Gilman* paid no attention to his complaints, but still persisted with Captain *Daniel* in overcharging your petitioner with unreasonable duty and fatigue. That your petitioner refusing to lead the company to *New-Castle*, when he humbly conceived that the Captain ought to have attended, he was arrested, a Court-Martial appointed, and your petitioner tried and most disgracefully discharged from the service. That as your petitioner has never been behindhand with any officer in his duty, and is ever ready and willing to sacrifice the last drop of blood for the defence of his country, he therefore humbly prays that the honourable Court would take the matter into consideration, and grant him a re-hearing before your Honours, that he may have that justice done him which he now thinks himself unreasonably deprived of.

Your humble servant,

ANDREW MARSHALL.

September 6, 1776.

State of New-Hampshire, }
In the House of Representatives, Sept. 6, 1776. }

The above Petition being read, *Voted*, That the Petitioner be heard thereon, *Tuesday* next, at three o'clock, afternoon, and that the said *Marshall* serve Colonel *David Gilman*, Captain *Eliphalet Daniel*, and Major *Hercules Mooney*, with the substance of the petition and this order thereon, by reading the same to the said Captain *Daniel* and Major *Mooney*, and delivering a copy thereof to the said Colonel *Gilman*, that they or any of them may appear on said day before this House, to answer to the said petition, and to show cause why the said officers have dismissed him from his post.

SAMUEL CUTTS, *Speaker pro tem*.

Sent up for concurrence.

In Council, *eodem die*, read and concurred.

E. THOMPSON, *Secretary*.

VOTE FOR DISMISSING LIEUTENANT MARSHALL.

In the House of Representatives, September 10, 1776.

The House taking into consideration the Petition and Remonstrance of *Andrew Marshall*, respecting his having unreasonable duty and fatigue imposed upon him by Colonel *David Gilman* and Captain *Eliphalet Daniel*, and respecting his being disgracefully discharged from the service as First Lieutenant of the Second Matross Company, by the judgment of a Court-Martial, being read, and the matter fully debated, and duly considered,

Voted, That this House approve of the judgment and decree of the said Court-Martial, and of Colonel *Gilman's* order thereon, for discharging the said *Andrew Marshall* from the said service.

Sent up for concurrence.

SAMUEL CUTTS, *Speaker pro tem*.

In Council, *eodem die*, read and concurred.

E. THOMPSON, *Secretary*.

LIEUTENANT MARSHALL'S PETITION.

To the Honourable the Council and House of Representatives of the Colony of NEW-HAMPSHIRE, in General Assembly convened, humbly shows:

Andrew Marshall, late First Lieutenant of the company of Matrosses, of which *Eliphalet Daniel* is Captain, in the service of said Colony, that he was by the said Captain lately accused of a breach of orders, for which he was tried by a General Court-Martial and sentenced to be broke. That at the time of disobeying the said orders he thought his conduct therein justifiable, but is now fully convinced to the contrary. That he is heartily sorry for his misbehaviour and bad conduct, and as it was his first transgression of the rules of military discipline, he humbly prays your Honours to take his case under your mild consideration, and that you

will pardon his crime and restore him to his said station in the said company.

And, as in duty bound, shall ever pray.

ANDREW MARSHALL.

September 10, 1776.

State of New-Hampshire, }
In the House of Representatives, Sept. 11, 1776. }

The above Petition being read and considered,
Voted, That the prayer thereof be granted, and that the petitioner be restored to his office.

Sent up for concurrence.

SAMUEL CUTTS, *Speaker pro tem.*

In Council, September 19, 1776, read and concurred.

E. THOMPSON, *Secretary.*

SIR JOHN HART, CONSUL-GENERAL AT LISBON, TO THE MAYOR OF BRISTOL.

Lisbon, September 5, 1776.

SIR: I think it proper to acquaint you that a *North American* privateer sloop is now cruising on the coasts of this Kingdom. She has already taken on the 1st instant, at a few leagues N. W. of Cape *St. Vincent's*, the brigantine *Mary and James*, of *London*, last from *Falmouth*, with a rich cargo, and sent away the Captain, with six of his men, who landed at *Setuval*, and bring this account. They learned, further, from the privateer's people, that four other *American* privateers were now at sea between the Western Islands and *Portugal*; that she had already made on these coasts five other prizes, and proposed, with a rashness that will not, I trust, go unpunished, to try a cruise on the *Mediterranean* coasts of *Spain*.

I send you this advice to the end you may take the best precautions in your power for the security of the *British* trade within your jurisdiction; and am, sir, your most humble and obedient servant,

JOHN HART.

To the Right-Worshipful *Thomas Farr*, Esq., Mayor of *Bristol*.

P. S. It appears by express just received from *Algarve*, that of the masters of the vessels taken, three of them put on shore at *Algarve* prove to be as follows: *Gregory Potbury*, of the brig *Sarah Anna*, from *Exeter*, for *Gibraltar* and *Malaga*; *William Carter*, of the snow *Lively*, from *Chester*, for *Genoa*; *William Davis*, of the brig *Good Intent*, from *Newcastle*, for *Gibraltar*. The *Guinea* vessel blown up was the *Africa*, of *Bristol*, Captain *Baker*.

MARYLAND COUNCIL OF SAFETY TO CAPTAIN FIDDEMAN.
[No. 168.] Annapolis, September 5, 1776.

SIR: As your Lieutenant, Mr. *Downes*, informs the Council that the arms of your company want a good many repairs, we would have you halt at *Chestertown* until you can get them done. Mr. *Winters* and Mr. *Robert Read* are employed to repair guns for the Province.

We are, &c.

To Captain *Fiddeman*.

MARYLAND COUNCIL OF SAFETY TO COL. HOLLINGSWORTH.
[No. 169.] Annapolis, September 5, 1776.

SIR: This will be handed you by Captain *Watkins*, whom we desire you will supply with what blankets he wants for his company. We request you will, if possible, get enough for him.

We are, &c.

To Colonel *Henry Hollingsworth*.

MARYLAND COUNCIL OF SAFETY TO THOMAS STONE.
[No. 170.] Annapolis, September 5, 1776.

SIR: This will be delivered to you by Captain *Watkins*, whose company is in a very bad situation for clothes, which cannot be procured on any terms in this Province. We must, therefore, beg that you will use your utmost endeavours to procure them for them at *Philadelphia*; but if the making of them up will take up too much time, they may be made up and sent to camp.

We are, &c.

To *Thomas Stone*, Esquire.

FIFTH SERIES.—VOL. II.

COLONEL EWING TO MARYLAND COUNCIL OF SAFETY.

Baltimore, September 5, 1776.

HONOURED SIR: As I am just going for *Philadelphia*, have thought proper to advise you that I have ordered my clerk, Mr. *Robert Porteous*, to settle my accounts with the Province, and to pay to Mr. *Jared Hopkins* the balance of what money is in my hands, all but £25, which I will reserve of the Province money in my hands for small contingent expenses I may incur. As Mr. *Porteous* is my cash-keeper and knows the amount, he can with propriety prove the account since the last settlement.

I am, with due respect, honoured sirs, your most obedient, humble servant,

THOS. EWING.

To the Hon. Council of Safety, of *Maryland*.

MR. WITHERSPOON'S SPEECH IN CONGRESS, ON THE CONFERENCE PROPOSED BY LORD HOWE.

MR. PRESIDENT: The subject we are now upon is felt and confessed by us all to be of the utmost consequence, and perhaps I may also say, of delicacy and difficulty. I have not been accustomed in such cases to make solemn professions of impartiality, and shall not do it now, because I will not suppose that there are any suspicions to the contrary in the minds of those who hear me. Besides, the variety of opinions that have been formed and delivered upon it, seem to prove that we are giving our own proper judgment without prejudice or influence, which I hope will lead to the discovery of what is most wise and expedient upon the whole.

As the deliberation arises from a message sent to us by Lord *Howe*, at least by his permission, I think it is of importance to attend with greater exactness to all the circumstances of that message than has been done by any gentleman who has yet spoken on the subject. It comes from the Commander-in-Chief of the forces of the King of *Great Britain*, and one who is said to carry a commission to give peace to *America*.

From the conduct of the Ministry at home, from the acts of Parliament, and from Lord *Howe's* proclamation in conformity to both, it is plain that absolute, unconditional submission is what they require us to agree to, or mean to force us to. And from the most authentick private intelligence, the King has not laid aside his personal rancour; it is rather increasing every day. In these circumstances Lord *Howe* has evidently a great desire to engage us in a treaty; and yet he has constantly avoided giving up the least punctilio on his side. He could never be induced to give General *Washington* his title. He plainly tells us he cannot treat with Congress as such; but he has allowed a prisoner of war to come and tell us he would be glad to see us as private gentlemen.

It has been said that this is no insult or disgrace to the Congress; that the point of honour is hard to be got over in making the first advances. This, sir, is mistaking the matter wholly. He has got over this point of honour; he has made the first overtures; he has told General *Washington*, by Colonel *Putnam*, that he wished that message to be considered as making the first step. His renewed attempts by Lord *Drummond*, and now by General *Sullivan*, point out to all the world that he has made the first step. It will, doubtless, be related at home; and I am of opinion it is already written and boasted of to the Ministry at home that he has taken such a part. Therefore any evil or condescension that can attend seeking peace first, has been submitted to by him. Yet has he uniformly avoided any circumstance that can imply that we are anything else but subjects of the King of *Great Britain* in rebellion. Such a message as this, if in any degree intended as respectful to us, ought to have been secret; yet has it been open as the day. In short, such a message was unnecessary; for if he meant only to communicate his mind to the Congress by private gentlemen, he might have done that many ways, and it needed not to have been known either to the publick or the Congress till these private gentlemen came here on purpose to reveal it. These, then, are the circumstances which attend this message as it is now before us: and the question is, shall we comply with it in any degree or not? Let us ask what benefit shall be derived from it? There is none yet shown to be possible. It has been admitted by

every person without exception who has spoke, that we are not to admit a thought of giving up the independence we have so lately declared; and by the greatest part, if not the whole, that there is not the least reason to expect that any correspondence we can have with him will tend to peace. Yet I think in the beginning of the debate such reasonings were used as seemed to me only to conclude that we should grasp at it as a means of peace. We were told that it was easy for us to boast or be valiant here, but that our armies were running away before their enemies. I never loved boasting, neither here nor anywhere else. I look upon it as almost a certain forerunner of disgrace. I found my hope of success in this cause, not in the valour of *Americans* or the cowardice of *Britons*, but upon the justice of the cause, and still more upon the nature of things. *Britain* has first injured and inflamed *America* to the highest degree, and now attempts, at the distance of three thousand miles, to carry on war with this whole country, and force it to absolute submission. If we take the whole events of the war since it commenced, we shall rather wonder at the uniformity of our success than be surprised at some cross events. We have seen bravery as well as cowardice in this country, and there are no consequences of either that are probable, that can be worth mentioning as ascertaining the event of the contest.

Lord *Howe* speaks of a decisive blow not being yet struck, as if this cause depended upon one battle, which could not be avoided. Sir, this is a prodigious mistake. We may fight no battle at all for a long time, or we may lose some battles, as was the case with the *British* themselves in the *Scotch* rebellion of 1745, and the cause notwithstanding be the same. I wish it were considered, that neither loss nor disgrace worth mentioning has befallen us in the late engagement, nor comparable to what the *British* troops have often suffered. At the battle of *Preston*, sir, they broke to pieces and ran away like sheep, before a few *Highlanders*. I myself saw them do the same thing at *Falkirk*, with very little difference—a small part only of the army making a stand, and in a few hours the whole retreating with precipitation before their enemies. Did that make any difference in the cause? Not in the least—so long as the body of the nation were determined, on principle, against the rebels. Nor would it have made any other difference, but in time, though they had got possession of *London*, which they might have easily done if they had understood their business; for the Militia in *England* there gathered together, behaved fifty times worse than that of *America* has done lately. They generally disbanded and run off as soon as the rebels came within ten or twenty miles of them. In short, sir, from anything that has happened, I see not the least reason for our attending to this delusive message. On the contrary, I think it is the very worst time that could be chosen for us, as it will be looked upon as the effect of fear, and diffuse the same spirit in some degree through different ranks of men.

The improbability of anything arising from this conference, leading to a just and honourable peace, might be shown by arguments too numerous to be even so much as named. But what I shall mention only is, that we are absolutely certain, from every circumstance, from all the proceedings at home, and Lord *Howe's* own explicit declaration in his letter to Dr. *Franklin*, that he never will acknowledge the independence of the *American States*.

I observed that one or two members said, in objection to the report of the Board of War, that it was like a begging of a question, and making a preliminary of the whole subject in debate. Alas, sir, this is a prodigious mistake. It was not only not the whole, but it was properly no subject of debate at all, till within these three months. We were contending for the restoration of certain privileges under the Government of *Great Britain*, and we were praying for re-union with her. But in the beginning of *July*, with the universal approbation of all the States now united, we renounced this connection, and declared ourselves free and independent. Shall we bring this into question again? Is it not a preliminary? has it not been declared a preliminary by many gentlemen, who have yet given their opinion for a conference, while they have said they were determined on no account and on no condition to give up our independence? It is then a necessary preliminary—and it is quite a different thing from any punctilios of ceremony. If *France* and *England* were at war, and they were both

desirous of peace, there might be some little difficulty as to who should make the first proposals; but if one of them should claim the other as they did long ago as a vassal or dependent subject, and should signify a desire to converse with the other, or some deputed by him, and propose him many privileges, so as to make him even better than before, I desire to know how such a proposal would be received? If we had been for ages an independent Republic, we should feel this argument with all its force. That we do not feel it, shows that we have not yet acquired the whole ideas and habits of independence: from which I only infer, that every step taken in a correspondence as now proposed, will be a virtual or partial renunciation of that dignity so lately acquired.

I beg you would observe, sir, that Lord *Howe* himself was fully sensible that the Declaration of Independence precluded any treaty, in the character in which he appeared; as he is said to have lamented that he had not arrived ten days sooner—before that declaration was made. Hence it appears, that entering into any correspondence with him in the manner now proposed, is actually giving up, or at least subjecting to a new consideration, the independence which we have declared. If I may be allowed to say it without offence, it seems to me that some members have unawares admitted this, though they are not sensible of it; for when they say that it is refusing to treat, unless the whole be granted us, they must mean that some part of that whole must be left to be discussed and obtained, or yielded, by the treaty.

But, sir, many members of this House have either yielded, or at least supposed, that no desirable peace, or no real good, could be finally expected from this correspondence, which is wished to be set on foot; but they have considered it as necessary in the eye of the publick, to satisfy them that we are always ready to hear anything that will restore peace to the country. In this view it is considered as a sort of trial of skill between Lord *Howe* and us, in the political art. As I do truly believe, that many members of this House are determined by this circumstance, I shall consider it with some attention. With this view it will be necessary to distinguish the publick in *America* into three great classes: 1. The Tories, our secret enemies. 2. The Whigs, the friends of independence, our sincere and hearty supporters. 3. The Army, who must fight for us.

As to the first of them, I readily admit that they are earnest for our treating. They are exulting in the prospect of it; they are spreading innumerable lies to forward it. They are treating the Whigs already with insult and insolence upon it. It has brought them from their lurking holes; they have taken liberty to say things in consequence of it, which they durst not have said before. In one word, if we set this negotiation on foot, it will give new force and vigour to all their seditious machinations. But, sir, shall their devices have any influence upon us at all? If they have at all, it should be to make us suspect that side of the question which they embrace. In cases where the expediency of a measure is doubtful, if I had an opportunity of knowing what my enemies wished me to do, I would not be easily induced to follow their advice.

As to the Whigs and friends of independence, I am well persuaded that multitudes of them are already clear in their minds, that the conference should be utterly rejected; and to those who are in doubt about its nature, nothing more will be requisite than a clear and full information of the state of the case, which I hope will be granted them.

As to the Army, I cannot help being of opinion, that nothing will more effectually deaden the operations of war, than what is proposed. We do not ourselves expect any benefit from it, but they will. And they will possibly impute our conduct to fear and jealousy as to the issue of the cause; which will add to their present little discouragement, and produce a timorous and despondent spirit.

War Office, Philadelphia, September 5, 1776.

Congress having directed the Board of War "to call in the several recruiting parties of the *German* Battalion, and that they have them formed and armed with all possible expedition and forwarded to *New-York*, taking measures and giving proper directions to have the battalion recruited to the full complement as soon as the same can be done,"

the officers of the said battalion are hereby enjoined immediately to repair with their men to the City of *Philadelphia*, that the Board may take the necessary steps to fulfill the directions of Congress.

RICHARD PETERS, *Secretary*.

UNIFORM OF NAVY AND MARINE OFFICERS.

In Marine Committee, Philadelphia, September 5, 1776.

Resolved, That the Uniform of the Officers of the Navy in the *United States* be as follows:

Captains: Blue cloth with red lappels, slash cuff, stand-up collar, flat yellow buttons, blue breeches, red waistcoat with narrow lace.

Lieutenants: Blue with red lappels, a round cuff faced, stand-up collar, yellow buttons, blue breeches, red waistcoat, plain.

Master: Blue with lappels, round cuff, blue breeches, and red waistcoat.

Midshipmen: Blue lappelled coat, a round cuff faced with red, stand-up collar, with red at the button and button hole, blue breeches, and red waistcoat.

UNIFORM OF THE MARINE OFFICERS.

A green coat faced with white, round cuff, slashed sleeves and pockets, with buttons round the cuff, silver epaulette on the right shoulder, skirts turned back, buttons to suit the facings.

White waistcoat, and breeches, edged with green, black gaiters and garters.

Green shirts for the men, if they can be procured.

Extract from the Minutes:

JOHN BROWN, *Secretary*.

CAPTAIN GORDON (PRISONER) TO THE COMMITTEE OF LANCASTER, PENNSYLVANIA.

Yorktown, September 5, 1776.

SIR: The Committee of this place having been pleased to grant permission for *Thomas Deaken*, of the Twenty-sixth Regiment, to come over here as my servant, your procuring him a pass for that purpose as soon as convenient, will oblige,

Sir, your very humble servant,

A. GORDON, *Captain, 26th Regiment*.

In Committee of Inspection for the County of York, }
September 4, 1776. }

On motion of Captain *Gordon*, prisoner of war here, that a boy named *Thomas Deaken*, of the Twenty-sixth Regiment, a prisoner in the Borough of *Lancaster*, be permitted to move here and reside with the Captain:

Granted, by order of the Committee:

THOS. ARMOR, *Chairman*.

DISCHARGE OF PHILADELPHIA ASSOCIATORS.

Amboy, September 5, 1776.

The first and third divisions of Artillery of the *Philadelphia* Associators having served with cheerfulness and alacrity at this post, and otherwise discharged their duty as good soldiers, from the time of the first march of the troops from *Philadelphia*, are hereby regularly discharged from their present station at *Amboy*, and to return to their families, with my hearty thanks in behalf of the publick.

DANIEL ROBERDEAU, *Brigadier-General*.

To *Samuel Mifflin*, Esq., Colonel of the train of Artillery at *Philadelphia*.

GENERAL WASHINGTON TO GENERAL MERCER.

New-York, September 5, 1776.

DEAR SIR: I have been favoured with your two letters of the 3d instant, and observe what you have done in consequence of my instructions. When I wrote for troops to be sent to the post opposite *Mount-Washington*, I did not imagine you would have so many to spare. About a thousand under General *Ewing*, in addition to those already at the post, I think will be fully competent to its defence and such works as may be necessary to erect, and will also be

sufficient to carry them on. More, I conceive, will be unnecessary, and may be better employed elsewhere.

I am, dear sir, &c., GO. WASHINGTON.
To Brigadier-General *Mercer*, *New-Jersey*.

P. S. You will be pleased to keep in view the matter I mentioned to you about *Staten-Island*; esteeming a diversion there, if it can be effected, will be of great service.

GENERAL GREENE TO GENERAL WASHINGTON.

New-York Island, September 5, 1776.

DEAR SIR: The critical situation which the army is in, will, I hope, sufficiently apologize for my troubling your Excellency with this letter. The sentiments are dictated, I am sure, by an honest mind—a mind which feels deeply interested in the salvation of this country, and for the honour and reputation of the General under whom he serves.

The object under consideration is, whether a general and speedy retreat from this Island is necessary or not. To me it appears the only eligible plan to oppose the enemy successfully, and secure ourselves from disgrace. I think we have no object on this side of *King's Bridge*. Our troops are now so scattered, that one part may be cut off before the others can come to their support. In this situation, suppose the enemy should run up the *North River* several ships of force and a number of transports at the same time, and effect a landing between the town and middle division of the army; another party from *Long-Island* should land right opposite; these two parties form a line across the Island, and entrench themselves. The two flanks of this line could be easily supported by the shipping; the centre fortified with the redoubts, would render it very difficult if not impossible to cut our way through.

At the time the enemy are executing this movement or manœuvre, they will be able to make sufficient diversions, if not real lodgments, to render it impossible for the centre and upper divisions of the army to afford any assistance here. Should this event take place (and by the by, I don't think it very improbable,) your Excellency will be reduced to that situation which every prudent General would wish to avoid—that is, of being obliged to fight the enemy to a disadvantage, or submit.

It has been agreed that the city of *New-York* would not be tenable if the enemy got possession of *Long-Island* and *Governour's Island*. They are now in possession of both these places. Notwithstanding, I think we might hold it for some time, but the annoyance must be so great as to render it an unfit place to quarter troops in. If we should hold it, we must hold it to a great disadvantage.

The City and Island of *New-York* are no objects for us; we are not to bring them into competition with the general interests of *America*. Part of the army already has met with a defeat; the country is struck with a panick; any capital loss at this time may ruin the cause. 'Tis our business to study to avoid any considerable misfortune, and to take post where the enemy will be obliged to fight us, and not we them. The sacrifice of the vast property of *New-York* and the suburbs, I hope has no influence upon your Excellency's measures. Remember the King of *France*. When *Charles* the Fifth, Emperor of *Germany*, invaded his Kingdom, he laid whole Provinces waste; and by that policy he starved and ruined *Charles's* army, and defeated him without fighting a battle. Two-thirds of the property of the city of *New-York* and the suburbs belongs to the Tories. We have no very great reason to run any considerable risk for its defence. If we attempt to hold the city and Island, and should not be able finally, we shall be wasting time unnecessarily and betray a defect of judgment, if no worse misfortune attend it.

I give it as my opinion, that a general and speedy retreat is absolutely necessary, and that the honour and interest of *America* require it. I would burn the city and suburbs, and that for the following reasons: If the enemy gets possession of the city, we never can recover the possession without a superiour naval force to theirs; it will deprive the enemy of an opportunity of barracking their whole army together, which, if they could do, would be a very great security. It will deprive them of a general market; the price of things would prove a temptation to our people to supply them for the sake of the gain, in direct violation of the laws of their country.

All these advantages would result from the destruction of the city, and not one benefit can arise to us from its preservation, that I can conceive of. If the city once gets into the enemy's hands, it will be at their mercy either to save or destroy it, after they have made what use of it they think proper.

At the retreat, I would order the army to take post at *King's Bridge*, and post along *Westchester* shore, where barracks may be procured for that part of the army that are without tents. I must confess I am too ignorant of the ground to form much judgment about posting the troops. Your Excellency's superiour judgment, formed from your own observation upon the ground, will enable you to make a much better disposition than I can conceive of.

If my zeal has led me to say more than I ought, I hope my good intentions may atone for the offence.

I shall only add that these sentiments are not dictated from fear, nor from any apprehensions of personal danger; but are the result of a cool and deliberate survey of our situation and the necessary measures to extricate us from our present difficulties. I have said nothing at all about the temper and disposition of the troops, and their apprehensions about being sold. This is a strong intimation that it will be difficult to get such troops to behave with proper spirit in time of action, if we should be attacked.

Should your Excellency agree with me with respect to the two first points, that is, that a speedy and general retreat is necessary, and also, that the city and suburbs should be burned, I would advise to call a general council upon that question, and take every general officer's opinion upon it.

I am, with due respect, your Excellency's most obedient humble servant,

N. GREENE.

To His Excellency Gen. *Washington*, *King's Bridge*.

CLEMENT BIDDLE TO GENERAL HEATH.

Fort Washington, September 5, 1776.

SIR: Having received orders from Brigadier-General *Mercer* to provide a considerable number of wagons in the State of *New-Jersey*, to be sent to *Burdell's Ferry*, opposite this place, I had pressed near three hundred wagons, about one half of which had arrived at the Ferry last night. His Excellency General *Washington* ordered a number of them to be discharged, and a part to be sent over to this place. I have tried to procure craft on the *Jersey* shore, but find none suitable for the purpose of passing them, but imagine some may be had on this side the river; and as I am under a necessity of repairing to *Amboy* I beg you will be pleased to give such orders therein as you may think necessary.

I have wrote to Colonel *Moylan* and Colonel *Reed*, and expect answers from them before I leave this.

I have the honour to be, very respectfully, your most obedient, humble servant,

CLEMENT BIDDLE,

D. Q. M. General *Flying-Camp*, &c.

To the Hon. Major-General *Heath*, *King's Bridge*.

GENERAL PARSONS TO GENERAL HEATH.

September 5, 1776.

SIR: As the machine designed to attempt blowing up the enemy's ships, is to be transported from the *East* to the *North River*, where a small vessel will be wanted to receive it, I wish you to order one for that purpose. As all things are now ready to make the experiment, I wish it may not be delayed. Though the event is uncertain, the experiment under our present circumstances is certainly worth trying.

I am, sir, your obedient, humble servant,

SAM'L H. PARSONS.

To Major-General *Heath*, at *King's Bridge*.

ABRAHAM YATES, JUN., TO GENERAL WASHINGTON.

In Convention of the Representatives of the State of New-York, }
Fish-Kill, September 5, 1776. }

SIR: I am directed by the Convention of this State to transmit to your Excellency a copy of a resolution which they entreat may be carried into execution with all possible despatch.

It is with extreme concern that we find ourselves under the disagreeable necessity of having recourse to this unhappy but necessary expedient, or of troubling your Excellency with a commission of this nature. But the critical situation of this State, the total want of brass field-pieces, and our inability to have this resolve executed by the Committee of the city of *New-York*, on account of their absence from the city, reduces us to the present dilemma, either of adopting this measure, or of neglecting the publick safety.

They therefore trust that your Excellency's zeal for the publick service will induce you to pardon the liberty they take of troubling you on this occasion.

I have the honour to be, with great respect, your Excellency's obedient, humble servant,

By order: ABM. YATES, JUN., President.

To His Excellency General *Washington*.

In Convention of the Representatives of the State of New-York, }
Fish-Kill, September 5, 1776. }

Whereas the King of *Great Britain* is studiously endeavouring by every means which artifice and lawless power can devise, to deprive the inhabitants of the *United States of America* of Ammunition, Cannon, and every warlike store, in order that they may fall a more easy prey to his tyrannical purposes, which cowardly designs have unhappily so far succeeded that this State is now distressed for the want of sufficient Arms to resist the powerful and unnatural enemy by whom they are now invaded:

And whereas the duty which the Representatives of a free people owe both to God and their country obliges them to make every possible exertion to procure Arms and Ammunition, in order to defend their rights and liberties, which are derived from the Supreme Being, and which posterity have right to claim as an unencumbered inheritance:

Resolved unanimously, therefore, That his Excellency General *Washington*, be requested and authorized to cause all the Bells in the different Churches and public edifices, in the City of *New-York* to be taken down, and removed to *New-Ark*, in *New-Jersey*, with all possible despatch, that the fortune of war may not throw the same into the hands of our enemy, and deprive this State, at this critical period, of that necessary though unfortunate resource for supplying our want of Cannon.

Extract from the Minutes:

JOHN MCKESSON, Secretary.

H. GLEN TO GENERAL SCHUYLER.

Schenectady, September 5, 1776.

DEAR SIR: I this day received a letter from Mr. *Lansing*, wherein I find the General is desirous to know if I have advanced any money on account to the batteau-men. This acquaints you I have given none to any of the batteau-men on any account whatever. Mr. *Van Epps* showed me a roll of his company, and I saw he had credit for £100 received from the General. I would be glad to know if the smiths must continue any longer than this week to make spikes.

I am, your most obedient, humble servant,

H. GLEN.

To Major-General *Schuyler*, *Albany*.

H. GLEN TO CAPTAIN DICKERSON.

Schenectady, September 5, 1776.

SIR: I yesterday saw a letter you wrote to Captain *Ernst Van Epps* of the batteau-men, wherein I find your company is intended for *Fort Schuyler*, formerly *Fort Stanwix*, and that you had five loads of baggage. General *Schuyler* has this day thought proper to discharge *Van Epps's* company, as there was no more occasion for three companies of batteau-men. I now send two empty batteaus to Major *Fonda* on purpose to take in your baggage: the two boats will take six loads. I must therefore request of Captain *Dickerson* to have his baggage at Major *Fonda's* on Sunday evening, or Monday morning. After the wagoners have delivered their loading at Major *Fonda's*, Captain *Dickerson* will give them a certificate for the time employed, on me for payment.

I am your most humble servant,

H. GLEN.

To Captain *Dickerson*, *Johnstown*.

H. GLEN TO WALTER LIVINGSTON.

Schenectady, September 5, 1776.

SIR: Mr. *Abraham Fonda* has seventy barrels of flour, but will not let me have it at the present price of 16s., but insists as the price shall be the 5th of *October* next; as such, would be glad to have your sentiments. I would like to take *Fonda* at his word, as the batteaus are here lying idle, and the batteau-men are already victualled for the trip. I shall expect your answer by the bearer this evening.

I am, sir, yours, &c.,

H. GLEN.

To *Walter Livingston*, Esq., Deputy Commissary-General, *Albany*.

GENERAL WATERBURY TO GENERAL GATES.

Skenesborough, September 5, 1776.

DEAR GENERAL: I would acquaint you the carpenters are going off, and they are all desirous to sell their tools, and I have no proper person here to receive them; and I don't imagine we shall want them, as there is a great part of them already discharged. The *Rhode-Island* carpenters are all discharged, but two, that ever arrived, and the whole of the tools belonging to the company are here, and I think it would be proper that some care should be taken of them, as no officer never came forward; but shall wait for your directions.

I remain, dear sir, your Honour's most obedient, humble servant,

DAVID WATERBURY, JR.

To Major-General GATES.

P. S. I have received one hundred and eighty-one more felling-axes, and the reason of my not sending them forward is by reason of the carmen's leaving the helves fifteen miles back. I have sent for the helves, and as soon as they arrive, I will immediately forward the axes.

GENERAL GATES TO GENERAL SCHUYLER.

Tyonderoga, September 5, 1776.

DEAR GENERAL: Your favour of the 1st and 2d I had the pleasure to receive yesterday morning by express. The great and awful event which you mention to have happened last *Wednesday* se'n-night at *New-York*, fills our minds with anxious expectation to have the particulars confirmed by authority. I am confident when those arrive, you will not lose a minute in forwarding them to *Ty*.

All the carpenters I could procure out of the troops to assist the shipbuilders at *Skenesborough*, have been sent there above a week ago. By one of the master carpenters who came here *Monday* night, I am informed it will not be possible for them to finish more than one galley, after those now on the stocks are launched; and to do this, they must put all the healthy men they have into one gang, and discharge the rest. If you think you can immediately despatch as many ship carpenters from *Albany* as will enable those at *Skenesborough* to do more, you will send directions accordingly to General *Waterbury*.

Yesterday I received a letter from General *Arnold*, dated from *Willsborough*, 2d *September*. He acquaints me he left *Button-Mould Bay*, and arrived at *Willsborough* the 1st *September*, at night. Before he passed the *Split-Rock*, he saw the *Lee* and a gondola heave in sight—they left *Ty* on *Monday*. The General further adds, "we are now under sail with a fresh southerly breeze, and expect to be at *Isle-aux-Têtes* before night."

I am pleased to find so much attention is beginning to be paid to the Northern army. I have ordered Mr. *Winslow* to write to Mr. *Trumbull* for half of the half-million of dollars you mention to have arrived from Congress.

I have acquainted Mr. *Avery* with the paragraph in your letter relative to him. He has my order to answer it. I wish the precise line Mr. *Livingston* and Mr. *Avery* are to walk, was once settled. In the state things are in, there will be eternal contention. If the army is well served, I am well satisfied, let who will serve it.

As the fleet is large and mounts a great number of cannon, and the body of troops here very considerable, it is immediately necessary that fifteen tons of powder, ten of lead, with flints and cartridge paper in proportion, should be sent to this post.

You mention nothing in your two last letters of the enemy's attempting to penetrate by the *Mohawk River*. I

therefore conclude your *Indian* news was false. I, however, ordered General *Waterbury* to send all the detachments of the *New-York* regiments (*Wynkoop's* excepted) to *Albany*; you can put them to mend the roads, if you do not think their services immediately wanted upon the *Mohawk River*.

The seamen you mention in a former letter to be inlisting at *New-York* for the Northern Department, will, I dare say, be pushed forward the instant they arrive at *Albany*.

Lieutenant-Colonel *Gansevoort* is very earnest for a reinforcement to be sent to *Fort George*. If the service does not immediately require the *New-York* troops to be all sent up the *Mohawk River*, you will, if you think proper, send Colonel *Gansevoort* the reinforcement he desires.

I am, &c.,

H. GATES.

To Hon. Major-General *Schuyler*.

GENERAL GATES TO GENERAL ARNOLD.

Tyonderoga, September 5, 1776.

DEAR GENERAL: Yesterday I received the following intelligence from General *Schuyler*, by express:

Extract from General *Schuyler's* letter dated at *Albany*, *September 2*, 1776:

"Last night three *Philadelphia* gentlemen who passed through *New-York* on their way to this place, inform us that on *Tuesday* last there were several smart rencountres between our troops and the enemy on *Long-Island*, with alternate success; that considerable numbers fell on both sides; that on *Wednesday* they attacked our lines, but were repulsed with loss. It is supposed they lost three thousand, we two thousand. General *Sullivan* and Lord *Stirling* missing. Two of the *Pennsylvania* battalions suffered most. We wait with impatience for more particulars. One of the gentlemen who left *New-York* on *Thursday* morning heard a smart cannonade when he was at *King's Bridge*; some of the *Hessians* were engaged. The enemy's ships of war on *Thursday* morning were still near *Staten-Island*, and no appearance of their moving. I send this by express, and hope it will soon be followed by another announcing the total rout of the enemy."

The instant any further news or intelligence of this great event arrives, you may be assured I shall despatch it immediately to you. I am attentive to what you mention with regard to an officer being appointed to the command of the *Royal Savage*, and have accordingly fixed my eye upon Colonel *Wigglesworth*, who has, upon my recommending it to him, most readily undertaken to serve as the third officer on board the fleet: yourself first, and General *Waterbury* second. He will sail to-morrow morning in the gondola now here. The Colonel is a good seaman; appears to be much of a gentleman; and has, as far as I can learn, an unimpeached good character.

Lieutenant *Calderwood* delivers you this letter, and carries down with him the seventy men you have demanded. I understand two hundred seamen are inlisted at *New-York* for this service. They shall be put on board the row-galleys the moment they arrive. The first row-galley will be to-day, the other two, General *Waterbury* assures me, will be launched this week. No time shall be lost in rigging them and despatching them to the fleet. As soon as you get the reinforcement I now send you, you will not, perhaps, think it necessary to detain Colonel *Hartley's* detachment. He seems exceeding anxious for them to return, as he hopes to engage his whole regiment for another year.

I send you by the bearer, Lieutenant *Calderwood*, the draught of the Lake, as you desire. Colonel *Trumbull* writes to you by this conveyance.

When General *Waterbury* and Colonel *Wigglesworth* join the fleet you will be able to dispose of it in three divisions: yourself in the centre, General *Waterbury* on the right, and Colonel *Wigglesworth* on the left. This disposition will teach the Captains of the vessels to know their commanding officers, and prevent any confusion or dispute about command in case an unlucky shot or other accident should take off the General.

Enclosed I send the declaration of a *German* deserter, brought here yesterday from *Metcalf's*. As you have seen and examined every part of the Lake in your way down, I should be glad to know your opinion what is the properest and most defensible station for the fleet to take. Gales of

wind will probably be heavy about the equinox; you are too good a seaman not to take a secure place for anchorage against that season. I am very much pleased to find the gondolas are such good sea boats.

I fancy you will think it is immediately necessary you should send hither your most experienced pilot to conduct the row-galleys with safety to the fleet. Let him have your positive and particular instructions how you think proper he should proceed. It will be proper you should communicate the orders you from time to time receive, to General *Waterbury* and Colonel *Wigglesworth*, that they may know how to act upon any emergency.

That the blessing of the Almighty may prosper all your undertakings, is the sincere prayer of, dear General, your affectionate, humble servant,

H. GATES.

To General *Arnold*.

CAPTAIN FASSETT TO LIEUTENANT LEE.

Head-Quarters, Pittsford, September 5, 1776.

SIR: You are hereby commanded forthwith to repair to this place with all the men now under your command, and bring with you all the families and their effects (such as you can bring) north of *Monkton*. Hereof you will not fail.

From yours, &c.,

JOHN FASSETT, Captain.

To Lieutenant *Thomas Lee*.

GOVERNOUR TRUMBULL TO GENERAL WASHINGTON.

Lebanon, September 5, 1776.

SIR: Since my last to you, I have received intelligence that since our troops retreated from the west end of *Long-Island*, the Militia have disbanded themselves, laid down their arms, and are making their submission to General *Howe*, and that all ideas of opposition there are at an end. Two companies of Continental troops that were stationed there are arrived at *Saybrook*. In this situation we cannot hope to make a diversion there to any purpose with what force we can throw over. We can only assist such as choose to retire from the Island in getting off their persons and effects, which to the utmost of our power will be done.

I have now ordered such of the remaining regiments of Militia in this State as can be spared from the immediate defence of the sea-coast, to march towards *New-York* with all expedition, that they may be ready, if wanted, to join and support the army under your command, make a diversion either on the main or on *Long-Island*, or cover the country; and if not necessary for any of these purposes, that they, or such part of them as shall be thought proper, may relieve and take the places of an equal number of the Militia of this State now in service, whose interest greatly suffers by their absence, as well as the general interest of the country.

I have also ordered the two regiments of Light Horse which did not before march with Colonel *Seymour*, to march towards *New-York*, and rendezvous at or near *Westchester*, where they are to attend your orders, and perform such duty as you shall prescribe, either by scouring the country and preventing or suppressing any risings of our internal enemies, in which service it is apprehended they may be particularly useful, or any other duty they are capable of, or to join the army, and act with them, if you shall judge it necessary and expedient.

The critical situation of affairs at this juncture, and the information in your favour of the 24th ultimo, that your numbers were yet outdone by the enemy, has induced me to order these regiments on this service, that nothing may be wanting on our part to the support and defence of the rights and liberties of the rising States of *America*.

I have likewise taken the liberty to propose to the General Assembly of the *Massachusetts-Bay*, and Governour *Cooke*, of *Rhode-Island*, to send forward a part of their Militia, as may be most convenient for them, to join and assist the army under your command. I am informed by Governour *Cooke* that they have a regiment there nearly raised, and that the State of *Rhode-Island* is ready to co-operate to the extent of their power in every measure necessary for our common defence.

I have it likewise in contemplation, if practicable, to procure a sufficient naval force to clear the Sound of the enemy's ships now in it, and have proposed the matter to

Governour *Cooke*, and requested of him to join their force with ours, and ask the concurrence of Commodore *Hopkins* with such part of the Continental fleet as are ready and capable to act.

I beg leave to ask your opinion whether a plan of this nature be practicable and useful, and, in case it should be attempted, whether a number of seamen may not be drafted from the army to assist in the enterprise?

I am, sir, with every sentiment of respect and esteem, your obedient, humble servant,

JONTH. TRUMBULL.

To His Excellency *George Washington*, Esq., General and Commander-in-Chief of all the Forces of the *United States of America*, at *New-York*.

CONNECTICUT COUNCIL OF SAFETY.

At a meeting of the Governour and Council of Safety of *Connecticut*, September 5, 1776,

Present: His Honour the Governour, Honourable *Matthew Griswold*, *Eliphalet Dyer*, *Jabez Huntington*, *Richard Law*, *William Hillhouse*, *Titus Hosmer*, *Nathaniel Wales*, Jun., Esq's.

Voted, That all the Troops of Horse, in this Colony, that are east of *Connecticut River*, be ordered forthwith to march to *New-York*, as far as *West-Chester*, there to await further orders, in order to coöperate with the Continental troops in defending against our common enemies.

Voted, That the persons at *New-London* that were directed by this Board to reside at *East-Haddam*, have liberty to go and reside at *Middletown*, upon their already given parole, and said *Sherbrook* to reside at *Wethersfield*, upon his parole aforesaid, until further orders.

New-London, September 4, 1776.—This Committee finding *Long-Islanders* in great distress, removing themselves and effects, on consideration, advise the Committees of Inspection of *New-London* and *Groton*, to pursue the advice and answer the requisitions of the Congress of *New-York*, with regard to assisting the inhabitants of *Long-Island* to come off with their effects to the main; and in order to this, the Committee further advise and recommend to Colonel *Wolcott* to put as many of his men on board the transports as may be thought sufficient to assist and guard them in prosecuting this design; and further advise the armed vessels now in this harbour to go as convoys to the transports, and that the same be done without delay.

Attest: BENJ. HUNTINGTON, Committee's Clerk.

At a meeting of the Governour and Council of Safety, September 6, 1776,

Present: His Honour the Governour, His Honour the Deputy Governour, *Jabez Huntington*, *Richard Law*, *Eliphalet Dyer*, *Jedediah Elderkin*, *Titus Hosmer*, *William Hillhouse*, *Nathaniel Wales*, Jun., *Benjamin Huntington*, Esq's.

Voted, To draw on the Pay-Table for £80 0s. 0d., in favour of *William Lux*, to enable him to carry on the work of making Carriages for Cannon for this State, and to be in account. (Order drawn September 6, delivered Colonel *Jabez Huntington*.)

Voted, To appoint *Thursday*, the 19th day September, 1776, to be kept and observed as a day of Publick Fasting and Prayer throughout this State.

His Honour the Governour, with advice of this Council, gave orders to the 3d, 5th, 8th, 11th, 12th, 20th, 21st, 25th, and 7th Regiments of Militia, and to the 2d and 4th Regiments of Horse, in this State, forthwith, without delay, to call out their regiments, and see them well equipped, both officers and men, and march towards *New-York*, and rendezvous at or near *West-Chester*, and there wait till further orders, in order to be ready to coöperate with the Continental Army in the best manner to defeat the purposes of enemies, who appear to be endeavouring to throw over a force upon the main, to cut off our communication with *New-York*, both by land and water; 20s. per man to be paid before or on their march.

Whereas the Militia of this State, upon the east side of *Connecticut River*, is ordered to march towards *New-York*, to rendezvous at or near *West-Chester*, which troops will want to be provided for with Provisions and all necessary Camp Utensils, Tents, &c.,

Voted, therefore, That Jonathan Fitch and Samuel Squire, Esq's., be, and they are hereby ordered and directed to make all the necessary provisions and preparations aforesaid. (Copy delivered Mr. Law, September 6, 1776.)

Voted and Resolved, That two Companies of the Regiments at New-London and Groton, under command of Colonel Erastus Wolcott, be detached by said Colonel Wolcott, and marched towards New-York with the Militia now ordered out into actual service there; and that they join themselves to the regiment of Militia under command of Gurdon Saltonstall, Esquire, Colonel; and that John Ely, Esquire, Major of Colonel Wolcott's Regiment, do proceed with said two companies, and take command in the regiment to which they are ordered to join as aforesaid, in his proper rank as Major and second in command of the same; and that the place of said two companies in Colonel Wolcott's Regiment be supplied by such men from Colonels Coit's and Saltonstall's regiments of Militia as are not and cannot at present be armed and equipped for immediate service against our enemy.

Voted, That a Guard, consisting of fifteen men, be stationed at the mouth of Connecticut River, on the Lyme side; that Ensign John Griswold, of said Lyme, be and he is hereby appointed the officer of said guard, and that he do immediately proceed to enlist said guard out of the Militia or other able-bodied men; and that said guard, when in actual service, shall be allowed the same wages other troops of this Colony have and receive, and shall also be allowed and paid nine pence per day for their billeting and subsistence.

Voted, To draw on the Pay-Table for the sum of £44 1s. 3d., in favour of Captain William Tyler, for a cask of Jamaica Spirits by him bought of Captain John Chenevard, for the Colony use. (Order drawn September 9, 1776; delivered to Mr. Hosmer.)

DAVID GELSTON TO NEW-YORK CONVENTION.

Saybrook, September 5, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: After delivering your despatches to the several Committees from Horse-Neck eastward to this place, I thought best to proceed to Lebanon with the despatches to Governour Trumbull, where I reached Sunday morning, and sent forward copies to the other Committees, agreeable to your order.

Upon the Governour's reading your despatches, and making some inquiries, he advised me to proceed without delay to Providence and wait on Governour Cooke, whom I saw next day. After delivering the despatches to Governour Cooke, returned to Governour Trumbull, and from thence to this place, and last night went to New-London, to see the Council of War there held respecting the distressed situation of Long-Island, and returned to this place this morning. When at Lebanon, was informed by Governour Trumbull he had written to Convention upon the subjects mentioned in your letter. Can only tell you the distresses which I hourly see and hear from Long-Island are beyond my power to describe. Expect to return to Convention soon.

I have the honour to be, gentlemen, your most obedient, humble servant,

DAVID GELSTON.

To the Honourable the Convention of the State of New-York.

Boston, September 5, 1776.

The Governour of Halifax received the Declaration of Independence about four weeks since, but would not permit the poor dupe of a printer (had he ever so good a mind) to publish any more of it than barely the last clause, where it says, "We, therefore, the Representatives of the United States of America, in General Congress assembled, do," &c., &c.; and his reason (as we are credibly informed) was, "Because it may gain over to them (the Rebels) many converts, and inflame the minds of his Majesty's loyal and faithful subjects of the Province of Nova Scotia."

Our last accounts from Halifax say they left there forty sail of vessels, prizes, &c.; that they were in a great fright, expecting an attack from our troops every day. Three expresses arrived, successively, with an account of their being at Cumberland, and having five hundred Indians with them, and, it was supposed there, about two thousand Americans. They had, it was said, cut a road of ninety miles, in

three weeks, through the woods, from Shepperday to Cumberland; that the above news came from the mouth of an express from Colonel Gorham, who every moment expected to be besieged, and wrote to Halifax for succours; and that an Indian (of the St. John tribe) was executed for damning his Excellency General Washington; that General Massey commanded there, and had with him near one thousand troops, chiefly Marines; that they were under apprehension of an attack from the Indians; that the refugee Tories were so alarmed they were preparing to go off for London in the ship *Princess Royal*, that was retaken—such as Doctor Gardner and family; Foster Hutchinson and tribe; Robert Hollowell and family; Mr. Mills, printer; and Lady Draper, &c., &c.; that in addition to those ingrates formerly mentioned as joining General Howe's army, are the following: Henry Liddle, John Burroughs, sailmaker, Archibald McNeil, Junior, William Hill, baker, Francis Skinner, Hugh Gordon, Doctor Sullivan, Anti Gallop, Cambridge, young Jones, who broke out of Concord jail, Sharwin, saddler, and Roberts, jeweller, John Patin, blacksmith, Andrew Cazneau, Francis Johonnet, Leveret Saltonstall, Haws Hatch, John Mansfield, breeches-maker, Charles Low, Parker and Philips, painters to the Artillery, and Campbell, of Worcester; and the following prisoners are still confined in one room, among felons, thieves, robbers, negroes, soldiers, &c., which we here publish for the satisfaction of their anxious friends:

James Lovell and Richard Carpenter, of Boston.

Consider Howland, master, and Jacob Taylor, mate, of the privateer brig *Washington*.

Bigelow, Kemp, Peak, and Sessions, Bunker's Hill.

Corporal Cruise and Cornelius Turner, Riflemen.

David Wells, Dorchester Neck.

Captain Francis Proctor, of Philadelphia.

Corporal Jeremiah Low, of Fredericksburg.

Colonel Ethan Allen, Bennington.

Sergeant Levi Munson, Wallingsford.

Sergeant Zechariah Brillmade, Woodbury.

Corporal Charles Steward, Stanford.

Corporal Roger Moore, Salisbury.

Corporal Samuel Lewis, William Gray, David Goss, and Adonijah Maxum, Sharon.

Ebenezer Mac and Levi Barnum, Norfolk.

John Gray, Arlington.

Ishural Flower, New-Hartford.

Barnabas Cane, Saratoga.

Preston Denton, Stillwater.

In the Hospital.

Amos Green, Norwich.

Jonathan Mayhew, Goshen.

William Drinkwater, New-Milford.

In the King's Yard.

John James Burkie, (a Swiss,) New-York.

Twelve Canadians.

Not one of Colonel Allen's men died until after their return from England; then Anthony Belisle, a Canadian, died, off Cape Fear.

All in the jail, but Sessions, are well, and in good spirits, but wishing for an exchange.

CLAUDE CRESPIGNY TO RALPH IZARD.

Tingmouth, Devonshire, September 6, 1776.

DEAR SIR: I return you many thanks for your favour of the 31st, and must beg that your next may be directed to me in the *Crescent*, at Bath. I propose to be there on this day se'n-night.

Mrs. C., who desires me to thank you for the plan you was so kind as to send her, is entirely recovered. Not so with me; but the Bath waters are to do wonders for me.

I sincerely congratulate you on the Carolina business. It seems to me to have been as ill conducted as it was unsuccessful. Was General Lee there? I hope he was. I believe him to be very able, and I want him to give proofs of his being to be trusted.

To see a King a tyrant, and his Ministers tools and rogues, is not very surprising; but to see a whole nation mad, is rather more extraordinary. Even now I can scarcely meet with one man in twenty who does not wish to see the nation and himself bankrupt, rather than not bring America to the

feet of Lord *George Germaine*. This, indeed, is an addressing country, and a blessed stock of Tories overrun it.

I am called away, and if I were not I have neither news or entertainment to send you. We unite most heartily in regards and best wishes to yourself and Mrs. *Izard* and family.

I am, very heartily, yours,
To *Ralph Izard*.
CLAUDE CRESPIGNY.

COLONEL BULLITT TO COLONEL JOSEPH REED.

Charlestown, September 6, 1776.

SIR: Enclosed you have the returns of the battalions that have acted in *South-Carolina* this campaign. The extensiveness of the department, and our being hurried on the campaign before there was time to properly regulate the troops of this department, renders it something difficult to get the returns in that order I could wish; yet everything in my power I will do to accomplish the desirable end. I could wish some general regulation was established by the War Office. An order for the different returns of the different States to be made to the Deputy Adjutant-General, would enable him to be regular in his. As matters stand, there are orders from the Board to make the returns to them from the different States, by the Generals commanding in them. Such regulation will interfere with my ever being able to make up a proper return of the department. At least, the Generals of each State should let me have monthly returns, to enable me to discharge my duty. This, as also to have a statement of the number of battalions taken into the service of the Continent, in this department, sent to me, that I may be enabled to regulate their ranks, I should be obliged to you to procure from the War Office, that I may be able to regulate the ranks of the battalions. At present, I am uncertain what troops are Continentals or Provincials. You will greatly oblige me in having the above regulations adopted, and letting me hear from you as soon as possible on the subject, that I may be enabled to proceed, in this interval of real action in the campaign, to regulating and forming the battalions.

I am, with respect, yours,
To Colonel *Joseph Reed*, Adjutant-General.
T. BULLITT, D. A. G.

MARYLAND COUNCIL OF SAFETY TO WILLIAM HINDMAN.

[No. 171.]

Annapolis, September 6, 1776.

SIR: As the state of our Treasury on the *Western Shore* is at present very low, and demands are daily increasing, we request you will send to *Annapolis* by the first safe opportunity what money you can conveniently spare, not exceeding £10,000. We request you to send it in unsigned bills, if you have that quantity by you. We are, &c.

To Mr. *William Hindman*.

GENERAL M'DONALD (PRISONER) TO THE BOARD OF WAR.

[Read September 7, 1776.]

Philadelphia Gaol, September 6, 1776.

To the SECRETARY OF WAR:

General *McDonald*'s compliments to the Secretary of War. He is obliged to him for his polite information, that the Congress have been pleased to agree that Generals *Prescott* and *McDonald* shall be exchanged for the Generals *Sullivan* and *Stirling*. General *McDonald* is obliged to the Congress for the reference to the Board of War for his departure. The indulgence of eight or ten days will, he hopes, be sufficient to prepare him for his journey. His baggage will require a cart to carry it. He is not provided with horses—submits it to the Congress and the Board how he may be conducted with safety to his place of destination, not doubting his servant will be permitted to go along with him, and that his sword may be returned to him, which he is informed the Commissary received from his servant on the 25th of *May* last.

General *McDonald* begs leave to acquaint the Secretary and the Board of War, for the information of Congress, that when he was brought prisoner from sick quarters to General *Moore*'s camp, at *Moore's Creek*, upon the 28th of *February* last, General *Moore* treated him with great politeness, and told him that he should be treated with respect to his rank and commission in the King of *Great Britain*'s service. He

would have given him a parole to return to his sick quarters, as his low state of health required it much at that time, but Colonel *Caswell* objected thereto, and had him conducted prisoner to *Newbern*, but gently treated all the way by Colonel *Caswell* and his officers.

From *Newbern* he was conducted by a guard of Horse to *Halifax*, and committed on his arrival, after forty-five miles journey the last day, in a sickly state of health, and immediately ushered into a common gaol, without bed or bedding, fire or candles, in a cold, long night, by Colonel *Long*, who did not appear to me to behave like a gentleman. That notwithstanding the promised protection for person and property he had from General *Moore*, a man called *Longfield Cox*, a wagon-master to Colonel *Caswell*'s army, seized upon his horse, saddle, pistols, and other arms, and violently detained the same by refusing to deliver them up to Colonel *Bryan*, who conducted him to *Newbern*. Colonel *Long* was pleased to detain his mare at *Halifax* when sent prisoner from thence to here. Sorry to dwell so long upon so disagreeable a subject.

JOHN ADAMS TO MRS. ADAMS.

Philadelphia, Friday, September 6, 1776.

This day, I think, has been the most remarkable of all. *Sullivan* came here from Lord *Howe*, five days ago, with a message that his Lordship desired a half an hour's conversation with some of the members of Congress in their private capacities. We have spent three or four days in debating whether we should take any notice of it. I have, to the utmost of my abilities, during the whole time, opposed our taking any notice of it. But, at last, it was determined by a majority, "that the Congress being the Representatives of the free and independent States of *America*, it was improper to appoint any of their members to confer in their private characters with his Lordship. But they would appoint a Committee of their body to wait on him, to know whether he had power to treat with Congress upon terms of peace, and to hear any propositions that his Lordship may think proper to make."

When the Committee came to be balloted for, Doctor *Franklin* and your humble servant were unanimously chosen. Colonel *R. H. Lee* and Mr. *Rutledge* had an equal number; but, upon a second vote, Mr. *Rutledge* was chosen. I requested to be excused, but was desired to consider of it until to-morrow. My friends here advise me to go. All the staunch and intrepid are very earnest with me to go, and the timid and wavering, if any such there are, agree in the request. So I believe I shall undertake the journey. I doubt whether his Lordship will see us, but the same Committee will be directed to inquire into the state of the army at *New-York*, so that there will be business enough, if his Lordship makes none. It would fill this letter-book to give you all the arguments for and against this measure, if I had liberty to attempt it. His Lordship seems to have been playing off a number of Machiavellian manoeuvres, in order to throw upon us the odium of continuing this war. Those who have been advocates for the appointment of this Committee, are for opposing manoeuvre to manoeuvre, and are confident that the consequence will be, that the odium will fall upon him. However this may be, my lesson is plain—to ask a few questions and take his answers.

I can think of but one reason for their putting me upon this embassy, and that is this: An idea has crept into many minds here that his Lordship is such another as Mr. *Hutchinson*, and they may possibly think that a man who has been accustomed to penetrate into the mazy windings of *Hutchinson*'s heart, and the serpentine wiles of his head, may be tolerably qualified to converse with his Lordship.

RICHARD DALLAM TO MARYLAND COUNCIL OF SAFETY.

State of New-Jersey, Brunswick, September 6, 1776.

SIR: *James May*, who is concerned with me in the Gun Factory, will, in my absence, want a sum of money to go on therewith, and as he is unknown to your Board, I have thought it necessary to advise you thereof, and to request your Board to furnish him with what sum Mr. *James Harris* may draw on you for on my account, to be paid in guns, part of which, I expect, are already finished. The Council of Safety's compliance herewith, I expect, will be to the

publick advantage; and oblige, sir, your Honour's very humble servant,
 RICHARD DALLAM.

To the Hon. *Daniel of St. Thomas Jenifer, Esq.*, President Council of Safety.

RICHARD DALLAM TO THE PRESIDENT OF CONGRESS.

State of New-Jersey, New-Brunswick, September 6, 1776

SIR: I have drawn a bill in favour of Colonel *Charles Reed, Esq.*, for the sum of £440, Continental currency, (being balance due his battalion,) on the Continental Treasurer, to whom you will please to give an order for the payment thereof.

I shall be to-morrow entirely without money, and large demands are making for the payment of troops who have staid out their time. The Congress will please to order me a further sum as soon as possible.

I am, honourable sir, your most obedient, humble servant,

RICHARD DALLAM, *Deputy Paymaster-General.*

To the Hon. *John Hancock, Esq.*, President of Congress.

RICHARD DALLAM TO THE PRESIDENT OF CONGRESS.

State of New-Jersey, Brunswick, September 6, 1776.

SIR: The return of the *Pennsylvania* and *Jersey* Militia has occasioned such large draughts on me this week, that I have not more than two thousand dollars left. The honourable Congress will therefore order me a further sum as soon as possible.

I have this day drawn in favour of Colonel *Charles Reed*, for the balance due his battalion *Jersey* Militia, (being £440,) which you will please to order payment of, and charge to my debt.

I am, sir, your Honour's most obedient, humble servant,

RICHARD DALLAM, *Deputy Paymaster-General.*

To the Hon. *John Hancock, Esq.*, President of Congress.

GENERAL WASHINGTON TO THE PRESIDENT OF CONGRESS.

[Read 9th. Referred to the Board of War.]

New-York, September 6, 1776.

SIR: I was last night honoured with your favour of the 3d, with sundry resolutions of Congress; and perceiving it to be their opinion and determination that no damage shall be done the city in case we are obliged to abandon it, I shall take every measure in my power to prevent it.

Since my letter of the 4th nothing very material has occurred, unless it is that the fleet seem to be drawing more together and all getting close in with *Governour's Island*. Their designs we cannot learn, nor have we been able to procure the least information of late of any of their plans or intended operations.

As the enemy's movements are very different from what we expected, and from their large encampments a considerable distance up the Sound, there is reason to believe they intend to make a landing above or below *King's Bridge*, and thereby to hem in our army and cut off the communication with the country, I mean to call a Council of General Officers to-day or to-morrow, and endeavour to digest and fix upon some regular and certain system of conduct to be pursued, in order to baffle their efforts and counteract their schemes, and also to determine on the expediency of evacuating or attempting to maintain the city and the several posts on this Island. The result of their opinion and deliberations I shall advise Congress of by the earliest opportunity, which will be by express, having it not in my power to communicate any intelligence by post, as the office is removed to so great a distance and entirely out of the way.

I have enclosed a list of the officers who are prisoners, and from whom letters have been received by a flag. We know there are others not included in the list.

General *Sullivan* having informed me that General *Howe* was willing that an exchange of him for General *Prescott* should take place, it will be proper to send General *Prescott* immediately, that it may be effected.

As the Militia regiments in all probability will be impatient to return and become pressing for their pay, I shall be glad of the direction of Congress, whether they are to receive it here or from the Conventions or Assemblies of the respective States to which they belong. On the one hand,

the settlement of their abstracts will be attended with trouble and difficulty; on the other, they will go away much better satisfied, and be more ready to give their aid in future, if they are paid before their departure.

Before I conclude I must take the liberty of mentioning to Congress the great distress we are in for want of money. Two months' pay, and more to some battalions, is now due the troops here, without anything in the military chest to satisfy it. This occasions much dissatisfaction and almost a general uneasiness. Not a day passes without complaints and the most importunate and urgent demands on this head. As it may injure the service greatly, and the want of a regular supply of cash produce consequences of the most fatal tendency, I entreat the attention of Congress to this subject, and that we may be provided as soon as can be with a sum equal to every present claim.

I have wrote to General *Howe* proposing an exchange of General *McDonald* for Lord *Stirling*, and shall be extremely happy to obtain it, as well as that of General *Sullivan* for General *Prescott*, being greatly in want of them and under the necessity of appointing, *pro tempore*, some of the Colonels to command brigades.

I have the honour to be with the highest respect, sir, your most obedient servant,

GO. WASHINGTON.

P. S. As two regiments from *North-Carolina*, and three regiments more from *Virginia*, are ordered here, if they could embark at *Norfolk* and come up the bay with security, it would expedite their arrival and prevent the men from a long, fatiguing march. This, however, should not be attempted if the enemy have vessels in the bay, and which might probably intercept them.

GENERAL ORDERS.

Head-Quarters, New-York, September 3, 1776.

(Parole, *Vernon.*)

(Countersign, *Mifflin.*)

The General most earnestly requests that the several Brigadiers and Commandants of Brigades get their respective corps in the best order as soon as possible, and for this purpose they should join in brigades as soon as can be, on a parade appointed for that purpose.

The Brigade-Majors, according to the new arrangement, are to attend every day for orders while they stay in town; if they should march to reinforce General *Mifflin's* and *McDougall's* brigades, they will fix upon one to come to Head-Quarters every day for orders.

General *Fellows's* Brigade to furnish a Captain, two substitutes, and fifty men, for boat duty, till further orders, to parade at Head-Quarters, and receive orders at eight o'clock every morning.

Some instances of infamous cowardice, and some of scandalous plunder and riot, having lately appeared, the General is resolved to bring the offenders to exemplary punishment; the notion that seems too much to prevail of laying hold of property not under immediate care or guard, is utterly destructive of all honesty and good order, and will prove the ruin of any army when it prevails. It is therefore hoped the officers will exert themselves to put a stop to it on all future occasions. If they do not, ere long death will be the portion of some of the offenders.

The state of the ammunition and arms should be a subject of constant attention to every officer.

The General hopes the justice of the great cause in which they are engaged, the necessity and importance of defending this country, preserving its liberties, and warding off the destruction meditated against it, will inspire every man with firmness and resolution in time of action, which is now approaching—ever remembering that upon the blessing of Heaven, and the bravery of the men, our country only can be saved.

The General orders a return of every Regiment to be made immediately, and delivered to the Brigadier, or Commandant of the brigade, so that the Brigade Returns may be made at twelve o'clock to-morrow.

The near approach of the enemy obliges the guard to be doubled. The several Brigade-Majors are immediately to settle the duty of their brigades, according to their strength. This is confined to General *Putnam's* division.

After Orders.—Captain *Hezekiah Holdrige*, of Colonel *Wyly's* regiment, appointed to act as Major of said regiment for the present.

Head-Quarters, New-York, September 4, 1776.

(Parole, *America*.)

(Countersign, *Shelburne*.)

It is with amazement and concern the General finds that the men of every regiment are suffered to be constantly rambling about, and at such distances from their respective quarters and encampments, as not to be able to oppose the enemy in any sudden approach. He therefore not only commands, but most earnestly exhorts, the Colonels and commanding officers of corps, as they value their own reputation, the safety of the army, and the good of the cause, to put an immediate and effectual stop to such an unsoldierlike and dangerous practice; as one step towards the accomplishment of which, he orders and directs that all those who shall be absent without leave be immediately punished.

The sick of the several regiments of Militia are to be discharged, if they are well enough to get home, and choose to be discharged. All the other sick are to be provided for in such a manner, and in such places as the Director-General of the Hospitals and the several Regimental Surgeons shall think best for them. In giving these discharges, particular care is to be taken by the Colonels and General *Wolcott* to see that none but those who are really sick be dismissed, and that the discharges be given in writing by General *Wolcott*.

The General does in express and peremptory terms insist upon exact returns of the several regiments and other corps; and the Brigadiers and officers commanding brigades, are to see that this order is complied with without delay, as it is essentially necessary for the General to be acquainted with the exact state of the army.

Colonel *Glover*, during the absence of General *Clinton*, is to be considered as Commandant of his brigade, and to be obeyed accordingly.

The increased number of wagons, will, in future, admit of more regularity in marching the regiments than has yet prevailed. Whenever, therefore, a regiment is ordered to march, they should get their baggage in readiness; but not move it till conveniences are provided. The Quartermaster of the regiment should then overlook it, and stop all heavy, useless lumber; and the Commanders of regiments would do well to take particular care in this matter. No Colonel is to seize any boat or wagon by his own authority, on penalty of having his baggage turned out and left.

The Brigade-Majors are ordered to have their Brigade Returns immediately made, or the General will put the delinquents in arrest, unless the Adjutants fail in their duty, and they put such Adjutants in arrest.

The Brigade-Majors, both standing and temporary, are hereafter punctually to attend at eleven o'clock at Head-Quarters. There has been of late a shameful remissness in some of them.

Head-Quarters, New-York, September 5, 1776.

(Parole, *Chatham*.)

(Countersign, *Maryland*.)

The Brigade-Majors immediately to settle a Court-Martial, making an allowance for the absence or indisposition of any officers. They are to meet at the brick house near the encampment, late of General *McDougall*, to-morrow at ten o'clock. Notice to be given accordingly. They are first to try the scoundrels who have been detected in pillaging and plundering Lord *Stirling's*, and other property.

Such as were directed by yesterday's orders to apply to General *Wolcott* for discharges, are in future to apply to the Brigadiers under whom their regiments are ranged.

Head-Quarters, New-York, September 6, 1776.

(Parole, *Pitt*.)

(Countersign, *Oamden*.)

David Henly, Esq., is appointed Deputy Adjutant-General until further orders; and is immediately to repair to General *Spencer's* division to regulate the several returns, and do the other duties of said office, extending his care to the division under General *Heath*; he is to be obeyed and respected accordingly.

Colonel *Glover*, commandant of General *Clinton's* brigade, is to recommend a suitable, active officer, for Major of Brigade, in Major *Henly's* stead.

The General expects the Majors of Brigade to be very active and careful; to get their brigades in the best order; to bring on their guards and fatigue parties early; see the proper reliefs marched off; returns made; and to march with the brigade to the alarm-posts as frequently as possible.

The Adjutants being under their particular direction, they are to see that they do their duty, and put them in arrest where they fail in it.

The Majors of Brigade and Adjutants are reminded that the returns are all expected in to-morrow, both regimental and brigade, in order to complete the General Return. Any one who fails will be noticed in publick orders.

The General is resolved to put a stop to plundering and converting either publick or private property to their own use, when taken off or found by any soldiers. He therefore calls upon all the officers to exert themselves against it; and if the Colonels or other officers of regiments see or know of any horses, furniture, merchandise, or such other property in the hands of any officer or soldier, and do not immediately take hold of it, giving immediate notice of it to the Brigadier-General, such officer will be deemed a party, brought to a court-martial, and broke with infamy. For, let it ever be remembered, that no plundering army ever was a successful one.

GENERAL WASHINGTON TO GENERAL HOWE.

Head-Quarters, New-York, September 6, 1776.

SIR: By a letter from Major-General *Sullivan*, while on *Long-Island*, and which he acquainted me was wrote by your permission, I was informed it would be agreeable to exchange that gentleman for Major-General *Prescott*; and Brigadier Lord *Stirling* for any Brigadier of yours in our possession.

In consequence of this intelligence I have wrote to Congress, requesting that General *Prescott* may be sent here, that this proposal may be carried into execution.

We have no Brigadier of yours a prisoner with us, except General *McDonald*, taken in *North-Carolina*, whom I am willing to exchange for Lord *Sterling*, and shall be glad to know your pleasure on the subject.

I have the honour to be, sir, your most obedient servant,
Go. WASHINGTON.

To Lieutenant-General *Howe*.

GENERAL WASHINGTON TO NEW-YORK COMMITTEE OF SAFETY.

Head-Quarters, New-York, September 6, 1776.

SIR: I have now before me your letter of the 4th instant, enclosing the report against ordering out any more of the Militia from the Counties of *Orange*, *Dutchess*, *Westchester*, or *Ulster*. The reasons alleged by the Committee to whom this matter was referred, are entirely satisfactory to me, and therefore I do not expect a compliance with that part of my letter which respects this matter.

I have the honour to be, &c.,

Go. WASHINGTON.

To the Hon. *Abraham Yates*, Jun., Esq., Chairman, &c.

GENERAL WASHINGTON TO GOVERNOUR TRUMBULL.

New-York, September 6, 1776.

SIR: I have been honoured with your favour of the 31st ultimo, and am extremely obliged by the measures you are taking in consequence of my recommendation letter. The exertions of *Connecticut* upon this, as well as upon every other occasion, do them great honour, and I hope will be attended with successful and happy consequences. In respect to the mode of conduct to be pursued by the troops that go over to the Island, I cannot lay down any certain rule; it must be formed and governed by circumstances and the direction of those who command them.

I should have done myself the honour of transmitting you an account of the engagement between a detachment of our troops and the enemy, on *Long-Island*, on the 27th, and of our retreat from thence, before now, had it not been for the multiplicity of business I have been involved in ever since; and being still engaged, I cannot enter upon a minute and particular detail of the affair. I shall only add, that we lost, in killed, wounded, and prisoners, from seven hundred to one thousand men. Among the prisoners are General *Sullivan* and Lord *Stirling*. The enclosed list will show you the names of many of the officers that are prisoners. The action was chiefly with the troops from *Jersey*, *Pennsylvania*, the lower Counties, and *Maryland*,

and Colonel *Huntington's* regiment; they suffered greatly, being attacked and overpowered by numbers of the enemy greatly superiour to them. The enemy's loss we have not been able to ascertain, but we have reason to believe it was considerable. The engagement was warm, and conducted with great resolution and bravery on the part of our troops. During the engagement, a deep column of the enemy descended from the woods, and attempted an impression upon our lines, but retreated immediately on the discharge of a cannon, and part of the musketry from the line nearest to them. As the main body of the enemy had encamped not far from our lines, and I had reason to believe they intended to force us from them by regular approaches, which the nature of the ground favoured extremely, and at the same time meant, by the ships of war, to cut off the communication between the City and the Island, and by that means keep our men divided, and unable to oppose them anywhere, by the advice of the General Officers, on the night of the 29th, I withdrew our troops from thence, without any loss of men and but little baggage.

I am, &c., Go. WASHINGTON.

To Governour *Trumbull*, Connecticut.

COLONEL MOYLAN TO THE PRESIDENT OF CONGRESS.

New-York, September 6, 1776.

SIR: I am informed there remains in the hands of *Thomas Greene*, Esquire, of *Providence*, a quantity of *Russia* duck, which is ordered by the Secret Committee to lay till further orders from them. We are here in great want of tents; if, sir, you would procure an order from said Committee to have the duck made up into tents and forwarded to me, it will be of the greatest service to the army.

I have the honour to be, with great respect, sir, your most obedient and humble servant,

STEPHEN MOYLAN.

To the Hon. *John Hancock*, Esq., President of Congress.

COLONEL MALCOM TO JOHN M'KESSON.

New-York, September 6, 1776.

DEAR SIR: I am apprehensive that the State hath a bad bargain of my countrymen. I believe Captain *Stewart* is a very good man, but he has made a horrid collection of soldiers. If the Convention think proper to send me the conditions upon which the company is raising, the bounty allowed, with an order to take some direction concerning it, perhaps I might save the State money, with respect to their pay. I shall return with my regiment, so that the Convention will be relieved of the expense so far. I understand they allow fifteen dollars bounty to the Captain, and he to get the men as he can; if so, they will most certainly be disappointed in their hopes. The reason is obvious—half a dozen men have already been flogged, and thrice the number have deserved to be so.

I would be happy to see a good company or regiment of my countrymen in the army, but equally mortified to see it disgraced by such a set as I have got with Captain *Stewart*. They are the very last sweepings of hell.

I had a letter from our old friend, good General *Woodhull*. Mr. *Morris* must prophecy no more. He said, "Colonel *Elliot* would do to redeem the General."

As to news or lies I can send nor make none: duty is too severe. However, it agrees well with me. I have never in my life been so stout as when lying in the woods on *Long-Island*—dry once a week. General *Lee* hourly expected, as if from heaven, with a legion of flaming swordsmen. I fear we shall evacuate your poor city. The very thought gives me the horrors. Offer my respects to the President and members, and Mr. *Benson*. Accept the same, and believe that I am with sincere esteem,

Dear sir, your much obliged and humble servant,

WILLIAM MALCOM.

To *John McKesson*, Esq.

Let me hear from Convention on the first subject soon; the sooner the better. Indeed if the order was even discretionary to stop a further enlistment on bounty, it would be proper. I will not stop it without sufficient cause.

EXTRACT OF A LETTER FROM COLONEL JOSEPH REED TO MRS. REED, DATED NEW-YORK, SEPTEMBER 6, 1776.

I have written twice this week, but whether any letters ever reach you or not, I do not know. I hope they do, as they will serve to keep up your spirits in our critical situation. We are still here, in a posture somewhat awkward; we think, (at least I do,) that we cannot stay, and yet we do not know how to go: so that we may be properly said to be between hawk and buzzard. To attempt a description of all the circumstances which attend us, would take more time than I can spare, nor would it give you any great consolation. Our comfort is, that the season is far advanced, and if a sacrifice of us can save the cause of *America*, there will be time to collect another army before Spring, and the country be preserved. The councils of the Congress seem to be dark and intricate, and very badly calculated to raise or continue an army from which substantial benefit can be derived. My sensations are too acute and forebodings too strong for such a service, though I do not find my spirits sink under difficulties, but rather rise. I sometimes think my mind is a very peculiar one; it rises when the spirits of others fall, and suffers by anticipating evil. To use the modern phrase, I have made it up for whatever may happen, and feel no other concern than what arises from thoughts of you and our dear little folks, and even these I get rid of as soon as possible, for it can only unfit me for duty, without doing you any service. When I look around, and see how few of the numbers who talked so largely of death and honour are around me, and that those who are here are those from whom it was least expected, (as the *Tilghmans*, &c.,) I am lost in wonder and surprise. Some of our *Philadelphia* gentlemen, who came over on visits, upon the first cannon went off in a most violent hurry. Your noisy Sons of Liberty are, I find, the quietest in the field. The motions of the enemy are very dark and mysterious. Such another surprise would do us mischief. I send a list of such officers as have sent out for their baggage, and are certainly prisoners. I suppose there are others whom we shall hear of soon. I am glad *Atlee* is safe, because everybody allows he behaved well. An engagement, or even the expectation of one, gives a wonderful insight into character. But we are young soldiers.

EXTRACT OF A LETTER FROM AN OFFICER IN THE ARMY TO HIS FRIEND IN THE COUNTRY, DATED

Turtle-Bay, September 6, 1776.

Monday, August 26, the Regulars, who were landed, in a body of twenty thousand men, on *Long-Island*, began, in the afternoon, to advance, in large bodies, up towards *Flatbush*; and large columns were seen, towards night, to file off towards the grand road to *Newtown*. A regiment of Riflemen and some others were posted in the woods and eminences towards *Flatbush*, to prevent the enemy from making an approach that way. General *Sullivan* posted himself on a high and advantageous ground on the *Bedford* road, and some works were cast up there, to prevent the enemy's penetrating that way. Our numbers on these advanced posts were but small compared with the enemy. They might, possibly, consist of fifteen hundred or two thousand men. The grounds were so advantageous, the woods so thick, &c., that our people imagined that they could, with small numbers, withstand the enemy, at least till such time as that they might be reinforced. But all these advantages were, by good generalship in the enemy, lost at once. The enemy, in the night, filed off, with the Light Horse and Light Infantry, to the eastward, until they came on the great *Jamaica* road, which was not guarded, and passed by all our posts, and flung themselves, in great numbers, into the woods on our left wing, and there lay concealed, without our knowledge, just by our lines. While this was effecting on our left, the enemy had the art to land a party on the right, between our lines and the Riflemen in their rear. This they effected under cover of the night, which was dark and gloomy, being assisted by a small creek, which ran up on the right of the Riflemen. This cut off all intelligence from the army, so that the officers had no intelligence of what had been done. When the enemy had thus prepared matters, they began an attack upon our right wing, down near *Flatbush*, where our officers expected it would begin, about three o'clock in the morning. As soon as this

was perceived, General Lord *Stirling* and General *Parsons*, with a detachment of about a thousand men, were sent off to reinforce the advanced posts on our right; but before they could reach the out-posts, they, being attacked on the right, both in front and rear, were much scattered and broken. In the mean time, the enemy which had advanced to the woods on our left, advanced some of them, briskly, almost to our lines, from which receiving a heavy fire, they gave way, and wheeled to the left, towards our right, to flank and surround Lord *Stirling* and his detachment, which they, in a manner, effected. In this detachment there was a regiment from *Maryland*, which were proper Regulars, kept together in a body, and fought the enemy nobly. The fire was kept up till near twelve o'clock, when our people retreated down to a creek, being surrounded by the enemy and water. After pouring a most heavy fire upon the enemy, they attempted an escape across the creek, which most of them effected, but some were killed and some drowned. Some of our people kept coming in almost all day and next night, and some the day after. Our whole loss consists of between five and six hundred men, the most of whom are taken. General *Sullivan* and General Lord *Stirling* are among the number captured. Colonel *Huntington's* and the *Maryland* regiments suffered the most.

General *Parsons* says that some of our men fought through the enemy not less than seven or eight times that day. He lay out himself part of the night, concealed in a swamp, from whence he made his escape, with seven men, to our lines, about break of day the next morning.

This unfortunate affair gave the enemy all the woods and high grounds, and confined us to our lines. These were a good defence against musketry, but not against cannon and shells. When we had spared as many men from our other posts as we could with any safety, and manned our lines on the Island as amply as we could, the enemy had more than two men to our one. We were determined, however, to defend them, if the enemy should attempt to force them, sword in hand; but it soon appeared that this was not their design. They began to entrench themselves, and to make regular approaches, which, it was judged, we could not withstand. There was danger that the enemy would get up some of their ships between the Island and the town, and so cut off our retreat; which, should it have happened, would have been very fatal to the cause. It was, therefore, determined to retreat, by a council of officers. *Thursday, August 29*, orders were given, towards night, for all the sick to be moved to *New-York*, in such a manner that nobody so much as suspected the design. Orders were given for all the regiments that had been on duty for a day or two to parade at seven o'clock, and to be replaced by new regiments, &c. As soon as it was dark the army retreated, and from that time to the next morning, nine thousand five hundred men passed the river, with all our military stores and baggage, and most of our cannon; and that with so much secrecy and silence that the enemy never so much as suspected it till we called off our sentries from the lines, after break of day. Scarce anything was lost in the retreat. It perhaps equalled almost anything of the kind with which history gives us any acquaintance, and was, doubtless, a wise measure, and much of the goodness of God is to be seen in it.

The army are now much more collected, and able to make a defence whenever a grand attack shall be made; and our retreat, in case of a defeat, would not be so extremely difficult and hazardous. The troops, in general, are in good spirits, and I believe will do their best to defend the country.

GENERAL MIFFLIN TO GENERAL HEATH.

Mount-Washington, September 6, 1776.

MY DEAR GENERAL HEATH: General *Washington* has ordered me to remain here, in order to forward the works, which are to be finished as soon as possible. This order puts it out of my power to attend to the necessary regulations of the regiments on the east of *Harlem* River. Let me, then, beg you to give your eye a cast over them, and make such regulations as you would wish and direct me to make, were it in my choice to be with those regiments. I know your great and frequent perplexities will interfere, now and then, with my request; but your zeal and love for

business will induce you to undertake anything *pro bono publico*.

I am, dear sir, yours,

TH. MIFFLIN.

To Major-General *Heath*, Head-Quarters, *King's Bridge*.

EXTRACT OF A LETTER RECEIVED IN LONDON FROM A BRITISH OFFICER, DATED NEW-YORK, SEPTEMBER 6, 1776.

General *Howe* finding himself at the head of twenty-one thousand men, in high health and fit for action, was determined to begin upon it as soon as possible. Accordingly, a great number of regiments were embarked on board the transports, and everything prepared for an expedition, so secret that neither the second in command at land or sea could guess where the blow was to fall.

Everything being prepared and the cannon embarked, in the night of the 21st of *August*, the *Rainbow*, of fifty guns, commanded by Sir *George Collier*, got under weigh, and anchored near a strong post of the enemy's, called *Denys's*, upon *Long-Island*, who fled from thence instantly, expecting the man-of-war would level the place to the ground. A little after nine the transports all anchored in *Gravesend Bay*, on the southern part of *Long-Island*. The flat-bottom boats immediately landed the troops, and the gallant Lord *Howe* was present to direct the operation.

The army, when landed, consisted of eighteen thousand men—the rest being left upon *Staten-Island*. Lord *Cornwallis* commanded one of the advance posts, General *Grant* another, and Earl *Percy* had a post of difficulty and danger, to which he, on all occasions, showed himself equal.

The King's forces lay still, getting ashore cannon, &c., for three or four days, and then encamped at *Flat-Bush*. After this, they moved on in three bodies, and surprised many of the enemy's out-posts, and killed and took a number of men.

The 27th, was a pretty smart action between a body of our troops and one of the enemy; but they fled, with considerable loss. Among the prisoners taken was Lord *Stirling*, one of the Rebel Generals.

The 28th, the Rebels made another stand, but retreated again very soon. This day *Sullivan* was taken, another of their Generals. Nothing could behave better than the *Hessians*, and particularly their *Jägers*, or Riflemen, who are as much superiour to those of the Rebels as it is possible to imagine.

The 29th, upon a movement of the men-of-war and the troops, the Rebels ran away, and left the Island to the conquerors, flying over to *New-York* in the greatest confusion and dismay.

Long-Island being thus in our possession, with so little loss, (for our killed is but fifty-nine, and our wounded and prisoners only two hundred and seventy,) our men are elated beyond measure, and our enemies depressed.

The *Rose*, commanded by Captain *Wallis*, is gone into the last river, to cover the transit of the troops over. But she has been very roughly handled; and two other men-of-war, I hear, are just ordered in her room. General *Washington* is ready to receive us on the other side, and will welcome us ashore with the *feu de joie* of forty thousand men.

I am told that the enemy have detached a body of twenty thousand men from *Boston* to besiege *Halifax*; and I hear some of the men-of-war will sail, in two or three days, for its defence. It is supposed Sir *Peter Parker*, as Commodore, will go there in the *Chatham*.

Matters go on swimmingly; and I don't doubt the next news we send you is that *New-York* is ours, though in ashes, for the Rebel troops have vowed to put it in flames if the Tory troops get over.

EBENEZER HAZARD TO ABRAHAM YATES.

Dobbs's Ferry, September 6, 1776.

SIR: I received yesterday a letter from the Comptroller, in which he says, "Mr. *Franklin* has received no letter from Convention respecting the *Albany* riders; unless there is an absolute necessity for his going constantly on one side the river, it had best not be altered." However, notwithstanding this, I imagine the Convention's design may be answered by the post's riding constantly on the east side as far up as the *Fishkill*, and then crossing, when it is his turn

to ride on the west side, to *New-Windsor*; and as there are few or no letters between *New-Windsor* and *New-York*, the revenue of the office will not be diminished by the alteration.

In the same letter the Comptroller mentions that it is the Postmaster-General's desire I should keep my office at Head-Quarters, as most of the letters now going are for the army. In consequence of this I expect the Convention will not long have the office so near them, unless they furnish a rider to ply constantly between Head-Quarters to carry thither such letters as may come for the army, and wait there while the General gets his despatches ready to go by return of post. This I should think they might do without being at any additional expense, as I understand they have a rider here who is to hold himself in constant readiness to go to Head-Quarters whenever called upon. Please to favour me with a line upon this subject as soon as you conveniently can.

I have not had a word from town yet respecting the privateer.

I am, sir, your very humble servant,

EBEN. HAZARD.

To *Abraham Yates*, Jun., Esq., President of Convention at *Fishkill*.

EBENEZER HAZARD TO JOHN M'KESSON.

Dobbs's Ferry, September 6, 1776.

DEAR SIR: *Sampson* gave me your letter yesterday in due season. Their Honours, according to your account, are like myself, very busy doing nothing. I cannot tell where the post-office will be fixed; it is kept at present at *Hercules Cronks'*, next door to Major *Abraham Storms'*, one mile above *Dobbs's Ferry*; but the Comptroller has informed me that it is the Postmaster-General's desire it would be kept at Head-Quarters, and I am apprehensive I shall be obliged to remove thither, unless the Convention will keep a rider to go from hence to Head-Quarters with letters, and wait there till the despatches are ready to go by return of post. When the matter is settled I will let you know. Whenever you determine contrary to the opinion of so respectable a body as the Representatives of the State of *New-York*, you should do it "with submission." I cannot get one word of true news here, though I have made diligent inquiry. I send you a newspaper containing a new resolve of Congress.

I am yours,

EBEN. HAZARD.

To *John McKesson*, Esquire.

COLONEL BIRDSALL TO NEW-YORK CONVENTION.

Fishkill, September 6, 1776.

SIR: At this critical hour I conceive time will not admit for me to tarry. The Secretary told me to-day to wait till four o'clock and my business should be done soon enough to ride part of the way home to-night. I have nothing at present to ask for but the bounty for my company, and that to them I am engaged, and that I have to-day applied for. It is a fact, if soldiers are not paid according to promise they have a just cause to complain.

N. B. In regard to Colonel *Smith's* regiment, he has discharged none of his men; but when he parted with me at *New-Rochelle* he was determined to make a stand on some part of the east end of *Long-Island*, and collect his regiment to advance, as circumstances would admit, westward to oppose our enemy; but as his regiment now, some part of them went with him and some by themselves, and some now waiting and ready to go, and some dispersed to their friends for relief till further orders, an immediate call is now for every hearty *American* friend to proceed, as I intend to do, for the protection of *Long-Island*. And so I remain your sincere friend, and am ready with heart and hand to defend the cause of *America*.

BENJ. BIRDSALL, Lieutenant-Colonel.

LIEUTENANT WILLIAMS TO NEW-YORK CONVENTION.

Fishkill, September 6, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: I was informed this day by some of the gentlemen of the Convention, that you wanted me to give

the best information relative to Colonel *Smith's* regiment. Time will not permit me in person to do it. After my compliments to the Convention, I take the pleasure of giving them a detail of the affair as nigh as I can. The day our regiment marched from *New-York* we were met near *Harlem* by Mr. *Townsend* and *Lawrence*. They informed us that we were to be put on *Long-Island* at some rate or other; but whether we were to be put over as a regiment to be stationed there or not, I cannot particularly tell. However Colonel *Smith* gave leave for every man to shift for himself in getting their effects and families off from *Long-Island*, and as I took it he did not expect the regiment to form again. I told them that I did not look upon it in the power of the Colonel to discharge me from the service, and therefore should hold myself in readiness to execute any lawful orders should be given by your Convention, and should expect to continue in service until discharged agreeable to resolution of Congress.

I am, gentlemen, your humble servant,

THOS. WILLIAMS, 1st Lieutenant of
Captain *Nostrand's* Company.

To the Convention of the State of *New-York*.

RICHARD THORNE TO NEW-YORK CONVENTION.

Fishkill, September 6, 1776.

SIR: I have been informed that one of the Representatives of the State of *New-York* publicly said in the honourable body over which you preside, that from the testimony of Colonel *Jeronimus Remsen* I had deserted his regiment without any cause known to him, or words to that effect; and that some disagreeable intimations were then given of my being disaffected to the cause of my country. As I feel myself much injured by such declarations or intimations, I beg the patience of you, sir, and the Convention, while I shortly state the manner and occasion of my short absence from the regiment.

On *Tuesday*, the 20th ultimo, in the lines at *Brookland*, I was seized with a disorder frequent in our camps—the flux. I continued there without any remission on duty with my disorder increasing, and on *Thursday* night following was almost all night out with a guard on *Fort Oblong*, with a very heavy dew and extremely uncomfortable, although my disorder had then become of the worst and bloody species of that name. The too free use of the good things of this life by the commanding officer of the regiment, to which, however, he might have been induced by the inclemency of the weather and the absence of the Lieutenant-Colonel, left me that night without any assistance, and obliged me so to expose myself to the most inclement weather during the night, and nearly endangered my life from my disorder. I continued, however, in camp with the disorder increased to a high degree, affording every countenance and aid in my power until *Sunday*, the 25th day of the month, when Colonel *Remsen* was pleased to give me a permit, here ready to be shown to the honourable Convention, and in the words following, to wit:

"Brookland, August 25, 1776.

"The bearer hereof, Mr. *Richard Thorne*, Major of Colonel *Jeronimus Remsen's* regiment, being sick and weak, not able to do duty in the regiment, is permitted to return home to recruit himself.

JERONIMUS REMSEN.

"To all Officers concerned."

As to the state of weakness and debility I was reduced to by the disorder and fatigue I underwent, I cheerfully appeal to Dr. *Latham*, who attended me, and is now in *Fishkill*. The almost unremitted application of my time, and any little talents God has been pleased to give me, to the attending Committees and the cause of my country, in one way or another, for several months past, will, I trust, effectually prevent any suspicions of those who best know me that I have any spark of disaffection; but it cannot but give me pain that any such disagreeable intimations with respect to me should from any quarter undeservedly have been given to the Convention.

I have the honour to be your most obedient, humble servant,

RICHARD THORNE.

To the President and Convention of the Representatives of the State of *New-York*.

GENERAL GATES TO GENERAL SCHUYLER.

Ticonderoga, September 6, 1776.

DEAR GENERAL: Yesterday I received the enclosed letter from Colonel Bayley, from Cohos, with a Hessian deserter, whose examination and capitulation you will find in the packet.

This moment I got your letter of the 3d instant, and have just now seen Captain Todd. The measure of quitting Long-Island may, for anything I can tell, be a necessary one, but I cannot help having my apprehensions for the consequences. I am happy to hear our troops behaved with so much true courage and magnanimity. To lose a post, or even a battle, may be our misfortune, as it has often been the misfortune of the bravest and most experienced veterans, but Great Britain loses everything upon this Continent the moment our troops can be brought to fight theirs in the open field.

Enclosed is a copy of my last letter to General Arnold; also a copy of my orders and instructions to Colonel Wigglesworth.

If your Indian intelligence, of the enemy intending to penetrate by the way of Oswego, has proved abortive, I wish you would immediately reinforce Fort George with all the troops that can be spared from Albany, and upon both communications, as Colonel Gansevoort complains for want of men to guard and forward the provisions across the Lakes. Pray order Mr. Douw, the A. D. Q. M. G., to attend his duty immediately at the carrying-place. The grindstones, so much wanted, are not yet sent here. If my Aid-de-Camp, Major Peirce, is in Albany, I beg you will acquaint him it is my positive orders he comes here immediately.

September 8, 1776.—The grindstones are just arrived, but no musket cartridge paper. The enclosed letter from Lieutenant-Colonel Gansevoort, obliges me to send Colonel Phinney's New-Hampshire regiment to Fort George, to batteau the flour from thence. This regiment came lately from Boston, where they were all inoculated and cleansed from the small-pox. At the same time as you order a detachment from below to Lake George, you will order Colonel Phinney, upon his being relieved, to return to this post. No intelligence that can be depended upon has yet arrived from the fleet. Scouts and parties are out, both by land and by water, to make discoveries. This moment two hogsheads with cartridge paper are arrived from Fort George. The paper is rather too thick for musket cartridges, and too thin for cannon—but it must do until we get better. I am, &c.,

Ho. GATES.

To Major-General Schuyler.

The Examination of Anthony Hasselaband, of Colonel Riedesel's regiment of Dragoons, who deserted at Montreal the 24th June, with nineteen others, but does not know what became of them. Says:

That in February one thousand Hessians, three thousand Brunswickers, and three thousand Westphalians, the latter all Roman Catholics, embarked on board forty-six Dutch vessels, at Staad, in Hanover, and sailed for America; that forty-three of these arrived at Quebec 27th May, the other three being blown off from the fleet in a storm about Easter, and supposed to be lost; that some time in June the whole marched for Montreal, where they arrived the latter end of the same month.

That five hundred of the Westphalians and Brunswicker troops were drafted as Dragoons, horses purchased in Canada, and daily training for that purpose. Five hundred more were drafted as Riflemen. The whole are new recruits, from sixteen to twenty-two years of age, quartered at Longueuil, opposite Montreal, under the command of Colonel Beluiz, of the Brunswick troops.

That at Quebec ten of the Germans had deserted; one was afterwards, at Longueuil, ordered to run the gauntlet, through three hundred men; but the whole of the German troops mutinied, owing to their not receiving their pay and provisions as promised them, refused to inflict the punishment, and were going to murder the General, but Colonel Beluiz quieted them with promises of their receiving their allowances regularly for the future. That he understood all the Germans were to return about Michaelmas, and that the English and Canadians amounted to about 5,000 men.

September 5, 1776.

CAPITULATION.

His Serene Highness the Duke of Brunswick, having thought fit to complete and strengthen his serene Dragoon Regiment, all his Infantry Regiments, and his Rifle Corps, and committed the recruiting to me, the subscriber, Colonel Riedesel, Lord of Eisenback, and me thereunto authorizing: therefore, have herewith engaged Anthony Hasselaband, born in Kirchshagen, age twenty-one years, — months, religion Catholick, measuring five feet seven inches, as a Ranger of Horse, and promise him his usual Brunswick pay, and more than double the pay in case of a march, besides bread and other emoluments and capitulation of six years, after which determination he shall be discharged without hindrance.

Given at Head-Quarters, Wolfenbittel, 20th Jan., 1776.

[SEAL.] RIEDESEL,
Colonel and Chief of a
Dragoon and Independent Regiment.

GENERAL GATES TO COLONEL HARTLEY.

Tyonderoga, September 6, 1776.

SIR: I have sent General Arnold, by this conveyance, a reinforcement of seventy men, and have desired him to return the detachment of your regiment to Crown-Point. I desire you will directly order the oar-makers to bring up all the oars now made to Tyonderoga. If convenient, they may also bring what stuff they have on hand unmade up. There will be no necessity for their returning to that place. So you may for the present withdraw any party you had at the oar-makers' encampment. All the oar-makers must come up with the oars, &c.

I am, sir, your very humble servant, Ho. GATES.
To Lieutenant-Colonel Hartley.

COLONEL HARTLEY TO GENERAL GATES.

Crown-Point, September 6, 1776.

HONOURED SIR: There has been a very heavy cannon-ading down the Lake all this morning. It is, undoubtedly, between our fleet and the enemy; so that you may prepare accordingly. I have sent down a boat just now, to know more particularly.

Sir, I think it of the greatest consequence to hold this ground, if possible. If the enemy should get it, it will be a severe blow. I mean to act agreeable to your orders in all respects.

I would be glad you would immediately send down Colonel Wayne's regiment, or the Second Regiment of Pennsylvanians. If you, from the information I can give you, should think proper to reinforce or strengthen this post further, it may be done if the regiment could be here this evening, with some intrenching tools. I think we could finish a work, by morning, that would hurt them as much as the action at Bunker's Hill.

I am, in haste, your most humble servant,

THOS. HARTLEY.

To General Gates.

P. S. I shall fire three four-pounders, within a short space of time from each other, in case the enemy approach before I can send or hear from you.

T. HARTLEY.

GENERAL GATES TO COLONEL HARTLEY.

Tyonderoga, September 6, 1776—8 at night.

SIR: This moment I received your letter of this forenoon by the bearer. Instead of thinking the support of Crown-Point an object upon this emergency, it is my positive orders to you, that in case of the defeat of our fleet, you immediately retire, with what is saved from their overthrow, to Tyonderoga; better fortune may await America, than that its naval force upon this Lake should be destroyed. Should unhappily that be the case, you are to obey my orders.

I am, &c.,

HORATIO GATES.

To Colonel Hartley.

GENERAL GATES TO GENERAL SCHUYLER.

Head-Quarters, Ticonderoga, September 6, 1776— }
8 o'clock at night. }

SIR: The following is an extract of a letter this moment

received from Lieutenant-Colonel *Hartley*, commanding officer at *Crown-Point*:

"*Friday, 2 o'clock.*—There has been a very heavy cannonading down the Lake all this morning. It is, undoubtedly, between our fleet and the enemy; so that you may prepare accordingly. I have sent down a boat just now, to know more particularly."

I am exceedingly vexed that it is above a month since I wrote you, repeatedly, for musket cartridge paper, and not one sheet yet arrived. Let me entreat you to send, if not the exact sort we want, as many old books or such substitute as you can procure. The moment I know the result of this firing down the Lake, I will acquaint you of it by express.

I am, dear General, &c.,
To General *Schuyler*.
HORATIO GATES.

COLONEL HARTLEY TO GENERAL GATES.

Crown-Point, Sept. 6, 1776—2 o'clock, p. m.

HONOURED SIR: Since my last, at eleven o'clock this morning, we have heard no firing down the Lake. There must have been hot work. Some noise was heard all the morning, but not till about ten o'clock was it known to be cannon, when upwards of one hundred cannon shot were distinctly heard. I have sent a trusty officer and five men down the Lake, who are to return immediately and bring me intelligence. There are about one hundred officers and men of this regiment along with the fleet. Perhaps this is no unlucky circumstance.

I have called in all my out-parties except a few scouts. I have all my men on fatigue—four four-pounders, three of them mounted. I shall give you the signal of firing three guns within a minute or two of each other, should the enemy be approaching.

In my works here I can fight one thousand or fifteen hundred men conveniently. If you send me a good regiment I will dispose of them to the best advantage I am capable. There are only three places on this point which the enemy can make a landing at without the utmost difficulty. Those three avenues may be stopped in a little time.

My men are in good spirits, as many as I have. By to-morrow morning, if I should have no assistance, we would give a couple of thousand men some difficulty to take our little works from us.

If you send a regiment to reinforce me, I believe, sir, you might securely leave the eighteen-pounder here, and send a few more artillermen; or, if you please, I shall send the cannon up immediately.

I have made every disposition that my small judgment would admit of, either to fight the enemy, or to make a retreat, if upon all circumstances, it were necessary. I hope to act in such a manner as will be perfectly agreeable to you.

Please to direct the following articles to be sent me this evening: One field carriage (if possible) for a four-pounder, one hundred cartridges for the same gun, and the like number of bags of cannister shot; if the eighteen-pounder remains here, a carriage for that. Excuse my incorrectness, being in great haste.

I am, sir, with the greatest respect, your most humble servant,
THOMAS HARTLEY.

To General *Gates*.

P. S. Entrenching tools are very badly wanted. I shall perhaps send you another express this evening, if I hear any firing from below. Should our fleet have happened to have been successful, the regiment you send may return to-morrow or next day. I would also be glad that the following articles were sent this evening: 4 lint stocks, 4 prining-wires for a four-pounder, 1 coil slow-match, 3 ladles for those guns, and 3 pair drag-ropes.

Yours, &c.,
THOMAS HARTLEY.

As our officers have delivered up all their papers to make cartridges for the Artillery, we shall want paper to write letters unless a few quires be sent us.
T. H.

GOVERNOUR TRUMBULL TO MASSACHUSETTS ASSEMBLY.

Lebanon, September 6, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: I presume you are already informed that our army has retreated from *Long-Island*, and the enemy

are in possession of that and *Governour's Island*, which, with the command of the west end of the Sound, will enable them to land at pleasure either at *York-Island*, at *Westchester*, or *Horse-Neck*. In case they should land on the first, they will divide our army into two parts, but should they elect either of the latter places, and their ships should at the same time run up the *North River*, they will cut off our army from the country and all supplies, and will lay the country, especially the west part of this State, from whence all our Militia are drawn off to join the army, wholly at their mercy. Should this be the case, it will be of great importance that a sufficient force should be collected at or near *Westchester*, to protect the country from incursions, and, as opportunity may offer, make a diversion in favour of the main army. To effect this purpose as far as is in our power, I have ordered two regiments of Light-Horse, and the regiments of Militia which remain in this State, to march with the utmost expedition to *Westchester*, but as they alone will be inadequate to the purpose intended, I have taken the liberty to propose to the State of *Rhode-Island* to join their Militia with ours, and now beg leave to propose to you to send such part of your Militia as you think proper to join them.

The critical situation of the army, and the important consequences that will ensue from the events of this campaign, make it necessary to exert ourselves to the utmost, to procure a favourable issue. I make not the least doubt of your ready concurrence in every proper and necessary measure, and am,

Gentlemen, your most obedient, humble servant,
JONTH. TRUMBULL.

To the Hon. General Assembly of the State of *Massachusetts-Bay*.

STATE OF CONNECTICUT.

BY THE CAPTAIN-GENERAL.

To SAMUEL ABBOT, Esq., Lieutenant-Colonel of the *Twentieth Regiment of Militia*, in this State, Greeting:

Whereas it appears our enemies are now making their most vigorous exertions to subjugate and destroy these *American States*; and by their movements it looks highly probable, they are endeavouring to throw over a force upon the main, to cut off our communication with *New-York*, both by land and water, which makes it necessary to throw in all the succours in our power, in this critical and perhaps decisive moment:

I do hereby, therefore, by the advice of my Council of Safety, order and direct you forthwith, without delay, to call out your regiment, and see them well equipped, both officers and men, and march towards *New-York*, and rendezvous at or near *Westchester*, and there wait till orders, in order to be ready to coöperate with the Continental Army in the best manner to defeat the purposes of our enemies.

Given under my hand at *Lebanon*, this sixth day of *September*, A. D. 1776.
JONTH. TRUMBULL.

To Colonel *Samuel Abbott*, in *Norwich*.

N. B. Those troops who are ordered to march out of this State will be paid twenty shillings each, before or on their march, in part of pay or wages, and the chief commanding officer in each regiment, on application to him, may excuse such of his regiment from marching as on account of sickness, or other peculiar circumstances, he shall judge reasonable.
J. T.

JOHN SLOSS HOBART TO NEW-YORK CONVENTION.

Fairfield, September 6, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: This will be handed to you by Mr. *Uriah Mitchell*, of *Queen's County*, who was employed by Mr. *Townsend* and myself as an express, but was prevented from crossing the *Sound* till we got to *Southhold*. He has despatches which will inform you of our proceedings till *Saturday noon*; for what has happened since that time I must refer you to him, as he is perfectly acquainted with all the particulars.

Mr. *Mitchell* had been driven from home by the Tories for having been very active in the *American* cause, on which account I take the liberty to recommend him to

Convention for some employment that will afford a maintenance for the present.

I shall sail upon an expedition to the Island to-night. As soon as it is over, I shall use all possible despatch to join Convention.

In the mean time, have the honour to be your obedient servant,

JOHN SLOSS HOBART.

To *Abraham Yates, Esq.*, President of the *New-York Convention*.

DAVID GELSTON TO THE COMMITTEE FOR NEW-LONDON, CONNECTICUT.

Saybrook, September 6, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: By accounts this moment received from *Long-Island*, there are no Ministerial troops to the eastward of *Jamaica*. Colonel *Livingston* is now gone off for *Long-Island* with his men; he had no time to write you. I write by his request. He and I submit to your consideration, that if it be possible to send over a number of troops, as many as you can, if only one hundred men, whether it would not be of great service? If ten thousand could be sent as was talked of (when with Mr. *Shaw* yesterday) to *Huntington*, I presume, gentlemen, you see the infinite service it would be to the grand struggle we are engaged in. Would not naval force be of great use? If it should be determined upon to send only a small number of troops, Colonel *Livingston* begs they may join him at *Canoe Place*. Does not all possible despatch appear necessary?

I have the honour to be, gentlemen, your most obedient, humble servant,

DAVID GELSTON.

To the Committee, *New-London*.

GOVERNOUR COOKE TO GENERAL WASHINGTON.

Providence, September 6, 1776.

SIR: The necessity which caused the unexpected evacuation of *Long-Island*, hath alarmed the General Assembly of this State, as it seems that communications cannot be kept open with an Island where the enemy's ships can approach. This hath filled us with apprehensions for the Town of *Newport* and the Island of *Rhode-Island*, which are of so great importance to this and the other United States. Upon which the Assembly hath thought proper to appoint *John Collins, Joshua Babcock, and Joseph Stanton, Esquires*, a committee to wait upon your Excellency, to acquaint you with the state of this Government, and to confer with you upon the best measures to be taken for its defence, and with respect to the Island of *Rhode-Island*. I beg the favour of your Excellency to treat them with the most entire confidence, and have no doubt but that the same disposition which hath always induced you to manifest your regard to this State, will induce you to give us your best advice and assistance.

Upon receiving information of the landing of the enemy upon *Long-Island*, and a letter from Governour *Trumbull*, acquainting us with your request that a body of men might be thrown upon the east end of that Island, this State ordered the whole brigade, with the two galleys, and a sufficient quantity of provisions and ammunition, to proceed to that Island, and ordered them to be replaced by the Militia of the State.

We exerted ourselves to get them in readiness, and some of them were under orders to proceed, when we received the most uncertain and aggravated accounts of the evacuation of *Long-Island*, which occasioned us to stop the men until we could receive intelligence to be depended upon; which we did not gain until the last evening. I beg leave to observe to your Excellency the advantages that may accrue to the common cause from the several States having early and authentick intelligence of all matters of importance that shall happen, and to request your Excellency to favour us with accounts of everything material.

I have the honour to be, with every sentiment of esteem and respect, sir, your Excellency's most obedient, humble servant,

NICHOLAS COOKE.

To His Excellency *George Washington, Esq.*, General and Commander-in-Chief of the Armies of the *United States of America, New-York*.

SELECTMEN OF CHARLESTOWN TO NEW-HAMPSHIRE COMMITTEE OF SAFETY.

Charlestown, [Number Four,] September 6, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: Your favour came to hand yesterday, informing us of General *Gates's* complaint against the conduct of a person acting as a physician in this town, inoculating soldiers for the small pox when on their march to the army. Had the General's complaint been founded upon the whole truth of facts, it would most certainly have been highly justifiable by all good men, and the doctor punished, as every enemy to his country deserves. No doubt the General was by somebody informed of such proceedings: probably an enemy to the doctor, or to the scheme of inoculating for the small pox—the most glorious invention ever yet found out for the preserving the lives of mankind against the power of that sovereign disorder in its natural course, which has been for many years approved of by the most skillful physicians in most of the civilized States on earth, and is now recommended by the Continental Congress, and by the several Assemblies of *New-York, Connecticut, Rhode-Island, and the Massachusetts-Bay*.

We received General *Gates's* letter of the 10th of *August*, upon the subject of complaint, which hath been answered by the Committee of Safety, a copy of which you have herewith enclosed.

We conceive it rather hard that we should bear the whole weight of General *Gates's* resentment, since other towns have been guilty of the like offence. There have been many of the soldiers inoculated at *Keene* and *Claremont*, and we do not at present see why it is not as likely that the small pox should be carried to the army from either of those places, as from here. We have no reason to believe that any of the soldiers have carried it from hence to the army, but we can with great truth assert that the small pox has been, by the soldiery, brought and left here—one man who came from *Ticonderoga*, another belonging to Colonel *Wigglesworth's* regiment, and another belonging to Colonel *Whitcomb's* regiment. And we have reason to suspect that several of the inhabitants have taken it from the soldiers of the two Continental regiments, on their route through this town, from *Boston* to *Ticonderoga*, who were inoculated at *Boston*.

We are desirous of quieting the minds of our brethren in the army, in case we can be assured that the small pox shall not be brought here again by the soldiers, who are continually marching to and from the army. Upon these several circumstances we suppose it cannot be kept out of the town, and we must conceive it to be a breach of privilege to be denied of the same liberty (of inoculating our families) that other towns in this Colony enjoy, which we suppose at present to be highly expedient for their safety, which we can do, and not expose any soldiers marching to and from the army, or anybody else, as we had proposed to remove the pest-house from where it now is to about two miles distance from the town and from the road; and put the management of it under such proper regulations as that no person hereafter shall be exposed to take it in the natural way. We had proposed to lay the doctor, the nurses, attendants, and each person inoculated, under bonds, not to spread it through their means, so that all persons may be assured of safety in that regard. Notwithstanding, if it be your will and pleasure that a final stop be put to it in this town, we will do our endeavour to do it, but it's impossible at present to cleanse the town of it. The inoculation is stopped at present; therefore beg to know your sentiments of the matter. Pray, gentlemen, consider that we are more exposed than all the people of the Colony besides.

Gentlemen, we are your humble servants.

SAMUEL HUNT,

WM. HAYWOOD,

ENOS STEVENS.

Selectmen of *Charlestown*.

To the Hon. Committee of Safety.

EXTRACT OF A LETTER FROM GUILFORD, SOUTH CAROLINA, DATED SEPTEMBER 7, 1776.

Since my last, our publick affairs are *in statu quo*, except our *Indian* affairs. General *Rutherford*, from the District of *Salisbury*, hath gone over the mountain with a considerable army, to the middle towns, where the Southern Army

and ours are to join the 9th of this instant, by whom we hope to have a good account of the *Indians*. The *Virginia* troops are forming at *Long-Island*, and expect to be ready to visit the upper towns by the middle of this month. The Southern army hath destroyed several of the lower towns, got a great deal of old corn, and destroyed the new. The *Indians* seem sick of their undertaking, and threaten to kill all the whites in the nation. The Tories who fled to them, and perhaps incited them to take up the hatchet, are flying from them, and surrendering to the friends of liberty, among whom is the famous *Robinson*.

Williamsburg, Va., September 7, 1776.

A vessel is safe arrived at *Hampton* with one thousand bushels of salt, and a small quantity of rum and sugar; the master of which gives us reason to expect a number of others in a few weeks, with salt and other useful articles. The *West-India Islands* are in a starving condition for want of the *American* supplies.

COUNCIL OF VIRGINIA TO THE PRESIDENT OF CONGRESS.

In Council, Williamsburg, July 20, 1776.

SIR: We had the honour to receive your letter of the 8th instant, enclosing the Declaration of Independence and the resolve of Congress respecting the augmentation of the Rifle corps at *New-York*. We shall take care to have the Declaration immediately published so as that the people may be universally informed of it, who, we have the pleasure to inform you, have been impatiently expecting it, and will receive it with joy.

We are perfectly satisfied of the utility of riflemen, and wish it was in our power to assist in raising the number in our country, voted by Congress for the support of *New-York*; but the Convention has adjourned, and we are vested with no powers which can, in any manner, enforce or carry into execution that vote. If commissions could be sent to proper persons, they might raise companies which would have a right to march to *New-York*, but we could not oblige them to do so.

It is with pleasure, sir, we observe that you say, in consequence of the Declaration you are fully convinced that our affairs may take a more favourable turn, and we firmly rely on the protection and continuance of the powerful interposition of that Being whose power no creature is able to resist.

I have the honour to be, with the greatest respect, sir, your most obedient and most humble servant;

JOHN PAGE, *President*.

To the President of Congress.

CAPTAIN NICHOLSON TO MARYLAND COUNCIL OF SAFETY.

September 7, 1776.

SIR: By the enclosed requisition, you'll find I have taken upon me to put part of the Militia on duty. Be pleased to take the matter under consideration, and give such orders to the Generals or Colonels as you shall think proper. They are both out of town, which obliges me to act. For further particulars, must refer you to my brother.

I am yours,

B. NICHOLSON.

A COPY OF ORDERS.

Baltimore town, September 6, 1776.

SIR: I must request your company to go on guard until I can hear from the Council of Safety, which, I judge, will be to-morrow or next day at furthest. The necessity of the case will, I hope, induce you to comply (although my requisition does not flow from strict authority) when I inform you that the *German* companies have marching orders, and this day at twelve o'clock desire relief; and Captain *Nathaniel Smith*, whom I have applied to for that purpose, says 'tis out of his power.

B. NICHOLSON.

To the Commanding Officer of the Independent Company.

DOCTOR WEISENTHALL TO MATTHEW TILGHMAN.

Baltimore town, September 7, 1776.

SIR: The bearer, Dr. *Andrew Porter*, having been a candidate for a Surgeon's place on the Surgeon's list for FIFTH SERIES.—VOL. II.

some time, and is now willing to go as such in a battalion going to the flying camp. His abilities for that station are such that can recommend him.

Being with due respect, sir, your most obedient, humble servant,

C. WEISENTHALL.

To the Hon. *Matthew Tilghman*, Esq., President of the Convention, *Annapolis*.

WILLIAM ELLERY TO GOVERNOUR COOKE.

Philadelphia, September 7, 1776.

SIR: As Mr. *Hopkins* expects that the post will get to *Providence* before him, he hath left with me the second and third of exchange drawn by *Andrew Caldwell*, Treasurer, upon *Philip Moore*, *A. Mercer*, *J. Donaldson*, and *W. Erskin*, Esquires, owners of the privateers *Congress* and *Chance*, *New-England*, in favour of you and others, a committee for building the two frigates at *Providence*, for thirty-seven thousand five hundred Continental dollars, value received of *Stephen Hopkins*, Esquire; and hath requested me to transmit to you one of the bills by the post, and to keep the other. Agreeably to his request, I now enclose you the second of exchange—the first bill he hath with him—and wish it may go safe.

Mr. *Hopkins* tells me that he doth not propose to return to Congress until Spring, if ever. It is, therefore, necessary that an additional Delegate should be immediately appointed; for, otherwise, the State of *Rhode-Island* may be unrepresented, which might be attended with pernicious consequences to us. I may fall sick, and not be able to attend Congress when some matter may be brought upon the carpet which will immediately relate to our State; not to mention that if two Delegates were here, they might have an opportunity to relax, now and then, from that constant attention which, if one Delegate only should be continued here, he would be obliged to give, unless he should leave the State unrepresented in Congress, which I am determined not to do, let what will be the consequence; and a constant attendance on Congress for nine months, without any relaxation, is too much even for a robust constitution. Besides, it is necessary that motions should be made and supported; in which case, the advantage of having two on the same side is manifest. In causes of no great importance it is common to engage two lawyers; and the vulgar observation, that "two heads are better than one," is just. Can, then, the State of *Rhode-Island* hesitate about immediately appointing an additional Delegate? I am sure it cannot.

I should be exceedingly glad that Governour *Hopkins* might return; for he is well acquainted with the mode of conducting business, and is well esteemed in Congress; and I have reason to think, from what hath passed, that we should act in concert and harmony. But if he should conclude not to return, it would be best that two should be immediately appointed; for matters of great consequence will be on the carpet. In the multitude of council is safety; and, in that case, the Delegates might alternately visit home, brace up their relaxed minds and bodies by a journey and enjoying their native air, and thereby be better able to discharge the duties of their office. There is nothing against our State appointing three Delegates but the expense; and if the amount of the allowance to the two Delegates, and their expenses for one year, be summed up, and compared with what would be the amount of the expense, to the State, of these Delegates, at five dollars per day, I believe the difference will be found to be but trifling. But if it should be something considerable, I am sure the benefits resulting to the State therefrom would compensate for any such additional expense. If a Confederacy should hereafter take place, a Council of State would doubtless be appointed, in which case, our State would have only one Delegate to support constantly. The other two, if three should be appointed, would be present only a small part of the year, when the Congress should sit.

Mr. *Hopkins* will acquaint you with the news, and the state of our armies, &c., so that I hope I shall be excused in not saying anything on those subjects. The same reason will excuse my not writing to the Assembly by this post. I wrote a letter to send by the last post, but, unluckily, the post had set out before my letter reached the office.

Congress have ordered one of our battalions to *New-York*, and its place to be supplied with a battalion of Mili-

tia from *Massachusetts*. It was moved, at first, that both the battalions should be ordered thither. I opposed the motion to the best of my abilities, and think we have come off pretty well. I expect that if our affairs at *New-York* should take an ill turn, that the other battalion will be ordered from our State; for it is the sentiment of Congress that the Continental battalion should be drawn together, for that greater reliance is to be placed in them than in a Militia unaccustomed to discipline and the hardships of a camp; and, indeed, the liberties of this country, in my opinion, cannot be established but by a large standing army.

Heartily wishing success to our cause, and to you, sir, and your family, health and prosperity, I continue to be, with great respect, yours,
W. ELLERY.
To Governour Cooke.

CERTIFICATE IN FAVOUR OF JOHN RYON.

SIR: I entered on board his Majesty's ship *Roebuck* at *London*, August 14, 1775; and being stationed on this coast, on the 27th March last I was ordered on board of a pilot boat under the command of Lieutenant *Ball*. The 28th of the same instant was taken prisoner at *Lewistown*; from which place I was sent to *Dover*, where I remained till the 12th of May; from which place I was sent to *New-Castle*, where Mr. *Ball* and myself were to go on board the *Roebuck*; but, to our great disappointment, the *Roebuck* sailed for *Virginia*. By orders from the Committee of Safety, on the 19th of May I was confined to this gaol, where, most of the time, I have been close-locked in one room, not being allowed any friend to speak to me.

I am, sir, your most humble and obedient servant,

JOHN RYON.

Philadelphia Gaol, September 7, 1776.

These are to certify that the above *John Ryon*, seaman of his Majesty's ship the *Roebuck*, is prisoner in this gaol since the 19th of May last, in close confinement; and from all the inquiry I have made, find that he behaved himself firm and steadfast to his duty, by refusing every temptation and offer which have been made to him by the Rebels; do therefore recommend him to his Captain, and all officers in his Majesty's service, as a well-behaved young man.

DANL. McDONALD, Brigadier-General.

ADDRESS TO THE PUBLICK.

Freedom of speech and writing, on matters of publick concern, having, in every free country, been considered the best bulwark to preserve the spirit of liberty from degenerating into supineness and slavery, it gave me great pleasure to observe that the Convention of *Pennsylvania*, in their declaration of the rights of the inhabitants, have made it an object of their deliberation, viz: "That the people have a right to freedom of speech, and of writing and publishing their sentiments; therefore, the freedom of the press ought not to be restrained."

On this principle I presume to offer a general hint to the consideration of the publick, and hope I do not therein exceed the line of prudence, or injure the personal character of any one.

Those who indulge the idea that the conduct of men in publick stations is exempt from impartial scrutiny, entertain notions incompatible with the good of society; for it is not merely the men, but the measures, which form the good or ill of society. It is the right of examination, and to remedy the defects, that constitute the safety of the people; and when that right is infringed, the Constitution falls a sacrifice to tyranny and usurpation. To appoint men of wisdom and virtue to places of publick notoriety is the characteristic of a judicious nation. Justice and temperance should be the standard for the appointment, and the measures will ever be gloriously supported; for the end cannot be crowned with a happy success where the means to obtain it are founded in publick or private wrongs.

The statesman, the officer, Quartermaster, Commissary, and all those in subordination to them, should be honest, disinterested, and free; otherways, the people, from whom they derive all their power, and are accountable to, will feel the effects of their intemperate measures: instead of distri-

butive justice, we shall be subdued by passion and resentment; and the property of the subject, instead of being protected, will be robbed by avaricious and wicked men.

We are now entering on a scene of publick calamity, to which our feelings and possessions have before been rather strangers; and great care ought to be taken to admit none to govern us, either in a civil or military capacity, but those whose ways are marked out by justice and peace.

The *Americans*, in general, are considered as a noble and generous people; and their contest with *Great Britain* founded on the rights of mankind, and in the historick page, will fill posterity with amazement and veneration.

It will be well to examine into the propriety of the hint I have here offered, and if any advantages may be reaped from it, we shall show our wisdom and our spirit of liberty by determining to pursue them.

D—.

Philadelphia, September 7, 1776.

GENERAL MERCER TO GENERAL WASHINGTON.

Amboy, 8 o'clock, A. M., September 7, 1776.

SIR: I have been confined two days by a fever, which has not yet left me. It is a great mortification that I have it not in my power to attend at Head-Quarters. It would, however, have been impossible for any officer from this place to be in time at *New-York*. By some neglect of the messenger, your letter was not delivered till seven this morning.

General *Roberdeau* waits on your Excellency, to know the result of your determinations, and to inform you of the state of the troops in the *New-Jerseys*.

My ideas of the operations for this campaign are to prevent the enemy from executing their plan of a junction between the armies of *Howe* and *Burgoyne*, on which the expectations of the King and Ministry are fixed. We should keep *New-York* if possible, as the acquiring of that will give eclat to the arms of *Great Britain*, afford the soldiers good quarters, and furnish a safe harbour for the fleet. If it even could be retained a month or two, keeping the field so long in this climate may be supposed to affect the health of *European* troops very much. On the other hand, a free and safe communication with the Counties from whence supplies of men and provisions can come to your army, is a consideration of superiour moment to any other. How far both those objects may be within the compass of your Excellency's force I cannot pretend to judge, having a very inadequate knowledge of the particulars necessary to found an opinion upon.

I have not seen Colonel *Rawlings*, but gave general orders at all the posts along the *Jersey* shore that the troops from *Maryland* should proceed immediately to *New-York*. I hope to be able very soon to effect some enterprise on *Staten-Island*, when we have a sufficient number of men for the Flying-Camp to dispose along the different posts; but the Militia are not the men for such a purpose. Four Colonels were with me some nights ago to inform that their men would fight the enemy on this side, but would not go over to *Staten-Island*.

I have the honour to be, sir, your Excellency's most obedient servant,

HUGH MERCER.

To His Excellency General *Washington*, Commander-in-Chief.

GENERAL WASHINGTON TO THE PRESIDENT OF CONGRESS.

[Read 13th September.]

New-York, September 7, 1776.

SIR: This will be delivered you by Captain *Martindale* and Lieutenant *Turner*, who were taken last Fall in the armed brig *Washington*, and who, with Mr. *Childs*, the 2d Lieutenant, have lately effected their escape from *Halifax*.

Captain *Martindale* and those two officers have applied to me for pay from the 1st of *January* to this time; but not conceiving myself authorized to grant it, however reasonable it may be, as they were only engaged till the last of *December*, at their instance I have mentioned the matter to Congress, and submit their case to their consideration.

I have the honour to be with profound respect, sir, your most obedient servant,

GO. WASHINGTON.

To the Hon. *John Hancock*, Esq.

JOSEPH TRUMBULL, COMMISSARY-GENERAL, TO THE PRESIDENT OF CONGRESS.

[Read 11th September. Referred to Colonel Lee, Mr. Hooper, and Mr. Sherman.]

New-York, September 7, 1776.

SIR: Enclosed I send you copies of three letters from me—one to General *Schuyler*, one to Mr. *Elisha Avery*, (a person of as much probity as any on earth, whom I sent to *Tyconderoga* in my department,) and one to Mr. *Walter Livingston*, Deputy Commissary-General—by which you find the situation of the affairs of my department in that quarter, and my sentiments thereon. I beg the same may be laid before Congress, and that they will consider this as my request to be dismissed from having any further charge of commissary matter in that district. I cannot undertake to act where I not only have not the countenance of the Commander-in-Chief there, but every step is taken by him to counteract all my regulations. When Mr. *Avery* went from hence, he expected to go into *Canada* with General *Gates*. At *Albany* General *Schuyler* told Mr. *Avery* in express terms he would furnish money to no person in the Commissary Department there but Mr. *Livingston*; however, General *Gates* persuaded Mr. *Avery* to go on. When he came to *Tyconderoga* he found enough to do to put matters on any tolerable footing. Mr. *Livingston* had not then, nor has he since, ever been beyond *Albany*, but left all to others, and all was in confusion. Soon after his arrival at *Tyconderoga*, General *Schuyler* sent Mr. *Avery* a temporary authority to act, when he knew he had full authority from me, which he had seen at *Albany*, and tacked to his authority a clause restraining him from purchasing anything whatever, however much the army might suffer for want of it. This, Mr. *Avery* noticed to me. I advised with General *Washington* on the subject, and sent an order to Mr. *Avery* to buy anything he could procure that the army wanted, any order from General *Schuyler* notwithstanding. General *Washington* had never restrained me or mine, and advised the measure. After this I directed Mr. *Livingston* to furnish provisions, and forward to Mr. *Avery* on his application or my direction, and to regulate the several stages and posts south of *Lake George*, and left *Tyconderoga* and *Skenesborough* to Mr. *Avery's* direction and regulation. On General *Schuyler's* return from *German Flats*, he sent an order to Mr. *Avery* to make weekly returns of provisions to Mr. *Livingston*. Mr. *Avery* shew the order to General *Gates*, and wrote General *Schuyler* that he did not consider himself subordinate to Mr. *Livingston*, and sent the returns demanded to General *Schuyler* instead of sending them to Mr. *Livingston*. On this, General *Schuyler* wrote me he should send for Mr. *Avery* down under arrest, but would first give me notice, on which I wrote the enclosed to him, Mr. *Avery*, and Mr. *Livingston*. I never meant to have the returns made by Mr. *Avery* to Mr. *Livingston*; I intended in that department, as in this, to have the issuing store account a check on the Magazine, and *vice versa*, which I have ever thought necessary and kept up but in this instance.

My authority from Congress of displacing, &c., any Deputy Commissary-General, I can't exercise, as I can't put myself, or ask any other person to take the office, where we can't have the countenance or support of the Commander-in-Chief. On the whole, where I can't have the appointment and direction of my own people, who I am in some degree accountable for, I do not choose to act, and therefore beg in this case to be dismissed from any further care or concern, and wish I may have such dismissal as soon as possible, as I can't be easy to think myself in any measure accountable where I can be of no real service.

I am with great esteem and respect, sir, your most obedient, humble servant,

Jos. TRUMBULL.

To the Hon. *John Hancock*, Esq.

New-York, September 5, 1776.

SIR: I have received letters from General *Schuyler*, Mr. *Avery*, and yourself, by which I find Mr. *Avery* and Mr. *Yancey* can neither of them be of any further service at *Tyconderoga*. I must say your treatment to Mr. *Avery* in some of your letters is such as I should not expect you to give him on my account or his own; such treatment I will not have him subject to as I find he must be if he stays there, both from your manner and General *Schuyler's* sup-

porting you in it. I have, therefore, directed them both to come off, and I give you this notice of it that you may immediately take particular and effectual care that the service does not suffer. They will deliver everything to such person or persons as you send to receive them, and I think it necessary that you go yourself immediately forward to *Tyconderoga* and the other posts, and see yourself that all matters are put on a proper footing at each place.

I am, sir, your humble servant, Jos. TRUMBULL.
To *Walter Livingston*, Esq.

New-York, September 5, 1776.

DEAR SIR: I received your favours—three of them by Mr. *Lucas* yesterday, and one from General *Schuyler*. By his, I find he is determined to get rid of you by his own sovereign authority. I therefore think it best for you to come off at once and leave *Ticonderoga*. I must desire Mr. *Yancey* to stay till Mr. *Livingston* can send somebody to take his place, which shall be soon. Let General *Gates* know this order, and the ground of it. Tell him I will not risk my character in the office while General *Schuyler* commands that army, but will let Congress know my refusal immediately.

I am, dear sir, your most humble servant,
Jos. TRUMBULL.

To Mr. *Elisha Avery*.

New-York, September 5, 1776.

SIR: I received your letter respecting Mr. *Avery*. I have directed him to withdraw from *Tyconderoga* immediately. I find he nor any other person can have anything to do in the Commissary Department in the northern district, without a continual clashing with Mr. *Livingston*, and that he is supported by the Commander-in-Chief; therefore all must give way to him. Mr. *Yancey* will also withdraw.

This I have noticed to Mr. *Livingston*, that he may take care accordingly. I never intended Mr. *Avery* should be subordinate to Mr. *Livingston*.

I am, sir, your most obedient servant,
Jos. TRUMBULL.

To Major-General *Schuyler*.

EXTRACT OF A LETTER FROM DOBBS'S FERRY, TWENTY-SIX MILES FROM NEW-YORK, DATED SEPTEMBER 7, 1776.

My last gave some brief account of matters on *Long-Island*. Since that letter several things have taken place worth relating. The principal is the evacuation of *Long-Island*. This movement occasioned at first some murmurings among the rash and inconsiderate; but all men of sense and reason who exercised their reflecting faculties, saw the necessity and evident propriety of it. The enemy, whose force upon the Island, from the best intelligence, nearly doubled ours, had advanced within two musket-shot of our lines, flushed perhaps with the advantage of the ground, and rapid progress they had made towards us. The continued rains, past fatigues, present hardships, from being exposed to the inclement season without any covering, and future alarms, were but lesser reasons for this measure. The impossibility of securing a proper retreat in case our lines should be carried by fixed bayonets, or we should be drove out by bombardment, was the grand operative reason, and such a one as all military men would deem sufficient, without any other, for the manœuvre. Our Commander-in-Chief, and the whole flower of our army, in case of a defeat, must have been killed or taken, as no reinforcement could have afforded them any assistance, by reason of the shipping. To transport across a wide ferry fifteen thousand troops, with all the baggage, military stores, and even cannon, from the forts in the enemy's mouths (as it were) in a short Summer's night, without even those who were retreating knowing anything of the matter till just embarked, required the conduct, the vigilance, the generalship of a *Washington*: and if Fame does not clarify his praises for it, she is not impartial. By eight o'clock on the *Friday* morning after the date of my last, everything was safe landed in the city—the General Officers in the last boat; and so unsuspecting were the enemy of the movements, that after the army was all safe landed many went over and plundered divers things from the Island before they peeped over our lines.

Governour's Island, which is partly commanded by *Long-Island*, was occupied by two regiments of our troops; these had no orders to embark for the city till ten o'clock. The *British* troops after cannonading some time, sent by a flag of truce Colonel (formerly Major) *Small*, to demand this Island, and every creature and thing upon it, telling our officers that they would all be cut in pieces with their troops if they did not directly surrender, for that General *Howe* would take the Island immediately. He begged, therefore, "for God's sake, and to prevent the effusion of blood, that they would instantly comply with" his modest request. Major *Coburn*, who happened to be present, answered this warm and pathetick address with a most stoical coolness and indifference, telling the Colonel that General *Howe* was welcome to the Island whenever he could take it, but that General *Washington* was the only person to treat with about surrendering posts.

A young officer then told the Colonel that he had violated an inviolable custom amongst civilized warriors, by firing upon them when the flag of truce lay off. This was really a fact, for General *Sullivan* had just come up with a flag. The Colonel protested his entire ignorance of the matter, and begged pardon, alleging upon his honour that he knew nothing of the flag. Upon being asked how many men they had lost upon *Long-Island*, he replied, "We are above a thousand the worse for that engagement." He spoke within bounds, for eighteen hundred were killed and disabled, as we are credibly assured by persons from the Island. Notwithstanding the Colonel's great concern for the vast effusion of blood, this Island was evacuated with the loss of one man's arm by a cannon-shot from the ships, and the baggage and artillery were brought off also.

P. S. I had forgot to inform you that in a furious cannonade up the *East River*, in consequence of a man-of-war's presuming to lie there, the gallant and experienced Major *Crane*, of the Artillery, lost a part of his foot, but is likely to do well. We have shattered the ship prodigiously, and are opening another battery against her.

THOMAS RANDALL TO NEW-YORK CONVENTION.

September 7, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: Enclosed is a letter from the Lieutenant of your schooner *General Putnam*, who informs you that the Captain went away without letting him know of his going, and of course it must be a neglect of his duty; you also have a petition from the ship's company, which complaint I fear is too true. You'll be pleased to take such steps as you think fit; for my part, I think it would be best to appoint a new commander for her. The Lieutenant, I believe, would be more industrious in the service. I also think it would not be amiss to order the people to be paid about one half of their wages to supply them with clothes and stores. I should do myself the pleasure of waiting on Congress, but cannot, owing to my bad situation; being so near the enemy, and at a loss where to find a place of safety for my family. Anything you command me to do here I shall readily comply with.

I am, gentlemen, your most obedient, humble servant,

THOMAS RANDALL.

To the Hon. President and gentlemen of the Congress of the State of *New-York*.

On board the *Putnam*, Cranberry Inlet, September 4, 1776.

SIR: I am sorry to inform you that there is a great disturbance in the vessel, which made its appearance during my absence; and Captain *Cregier* went away without informing me of it. They, I understand, had told him they were determined not to sail under his command, and requested that they might be permitted to petition the Congress for a discharge from the vessel on account of his bad conduct, which he did not grant; on my requesting to weigh the anchor in order to go out, they one and all acquainted me it was their determined resolution never to act in the schooner while he had the command of her, upon which I have thought fit to grant them the liberty to petition, and send it by the bearer of this letter; as I imagine that the Captain will not inform you of these disturbances, have thought to acquaint you in this manner, and as he is not expected back under eight or ten days, should be glad you

would write me as soon as possible, and let me know in what manner you think it is most prudent for me to act.

Your compliance will much oblige your humble servant,
THOMAS QUIGLEY.

To *Thomas Randall*, Esq., one of the Marine Committee, *Elizabethtown*.

EXAMINATION OF EMANUEL GABRIEL AND RICHARD KING.

Examination of *NICHOLAS EMANUEL GABRIEL*, Adjutant in Colonel *SWARTWOUT's Regiment*, and *Mr. RICHARD KING* of the same Regiment, taken by *HENRY GODWIN*, Captain of the Main Guard at *KING's BRIDGE*, September 7th, 1776, against one *GILBERT TIPPIT*, confined under Guard, in the main Guard-House by order of Major-General *HEATH*.

Richard King saith: That on September 5th, 1776, *Gilbert Tippit* said in publick company, amongst soldiers and others, that if we were united that the Regulars would overcome us; and that at several times he hath found fault with the measures, and spake words tending to a discouragement of the measures now pursued by the *United States of America*; and that he (*Tippit*) was no ways the worse for liquor when he spake these words, but looked upon him to be a sober man.

Adjutant *Gabriel* saith: That on the 5th of September, Anno Domini 1776, that he heard *Gilbert Tippit* discoursing among several soldiers and other persons, and endeavoured to discourage them, and that he (*Gabriel*) heard him (*Tippit*) say, that if all the men in the *United Colonies* were united, that the Regulars would overcome us yet; and that he (*Gabriel*) heard him also speak disrespectfully of the Commanding Officers in the service of the *United American States*.

CASE OF JOHN GROUT, OF CUMBERLAND COUNTY, NEW-YORK.

September 7, 1776.

SIR: As no man is so likely to have a clear remembrance of what passes at any time, as he who is principally concerned in the business, and because it is probable your memory may need refreshing, I have within put to writing the most material facts relating to my trial at *Chester*, last Fall; and as to my last trial there, I think you told me you were not present all the time; I shall therefore content myself with the depositions of some who attended the whole time.

You will please to commit to writing what you remember respecting my first trial.

Your friend and servant,

JOHN GROUT.

To Major *Lovejoy*.

My remembrance of the trial at *Chester* is as follows, viz:

When the accusation was read, I was asked whether I was guilty or not, and instead of answering the question, I asked who was to try me, and was answered, that it was the Committee of *Chester*, namely: *Thomas Chandler*, *Caleb Church*, *George Earl*, *Jabez Sergeant*, *Abraham Sawyer*, *Moses Guild*, and *David Hutchinson*. I then asked whether, if I would make such objections against any of those persons, and should show such matters against them, as would be sufficient to remove them from trying me as jurors in the common law courts, whether in such case the Committee would remove such persons, and not allow them to pass on my trial? I was answered by one and all the Committee, that no individual of the Committee should sit to try me against whom I should make such just objections. I then objected against *Thomas Chandler*, *Abraham Sawyer*, and *Caleb Church*, and assigned the following reasons, viz: That some time before, I had had information that said *Chandler* and some others had an intention to murder me, and that in consequence of that information, I had applied to *Rev. Mr. Whiting* to use his endeavours to prevent it. That he had applied to *Chandler's* father to hinder his son's designs; that notwithstanding which, said *Chandler* had endeavoured to put his designs in execution by attempting to draw me naked out of bed into the open air when sick of a fever, and afterwards by forcing me when sick, as aforesaid, through the open air about half a mile, and there attempting to choke me for denying some things he charged me with; and that the said *Caleb Church* and *Abraham Sawyer* at both those

times were present with *Chandler*, and did not disapprove of the violence. On which *Chandler* acknowledged the abuses aforesaid, and the Committee who were not objected to, unanimously resolved that *Chandler* should go off and not sit on my trial: and as he before was chairman, the Committee chose in his room another chairman, namely *Jabez Sergeant*. The question being likewise put, whether the objections against *Sawyer* and *Church* were sufficient to remove them from sitting on the trial, on which question the Committee was divided—half being on the yea side, and half on the nay side. After which Mr. *Chandler* took his seat, declaring that he had a right to sit as chairman of the Committee, and commanded the other members to sit with him at their peril; on which *Church*, *Sawyer*, *Earl*, and *Sergeant*, sat down with him. But *Guild* and *Hutchinson* protested against the procedures and withdrew; and I refused to make any defence, and remained entirely inactive. Some witnesses were sworn and examined, and judgment given that I was an enemy to my country, &c.

To the Gentlemen Committee of Safety for the County of CUMBERLAND.

John Grout humbly sheweth:

That he lately was accused by *Oliver Lovell*, Esq., of speaking disrespectfully of Congresses and Committees.

That in consequence of it he was brought before the Committee of *Chester*, and a quarrel arose among the Committee, in respect of the manner in which your Petitioner should be tried; the consequence of which trial was this, viz: a part of the Committee withdrew and would not sit to try your Petitioner with the rest; and a part of the remainder by the whole Committee was ordered to withdraw and not sit to try your Petitioner, for reasons which your Petitioner then offered. Nevertheless, the same remainder did sit to try your Petitioner; but your Petitioner finding the said Committee in a quarrel, made no defence, and they adjudged your Petitioner to be an enemy to his country, &c., from which judgment he appealed to the Committee of *Weathersfield*.

But as your Petitioner finds that persons accused of such crimes ought, agreeable to the advice of the Provincial Congress, to be tried by the County Committee, your Petitioner has not prosecuted his said appeal; and prays directions in the premises of this Committee.

JOHN GROUT.

[Endorsed—29th November, 1775. This Petition was laid before the Committee, who refused to sustain it or act upon it, and ordered me to withdraw it.]

In Committee of Safety, Cumberland County, }
July 24, 1776. }

Voted, To supersede the order passed yesterday, recommending to the Sub-Committee of *Chester* to call Mr. *John Grout* to an account, touching a complaint exhibited by *John Chandler*, Esq.

Also, *Resolved*, That the order for seizing said *Grout's* papers be null and void, and that no seizure of said papers be made.

Resolved, That Mr. *Grout* answer to the complaint of *John Chandler*, Esq., next sitting of Committee, viz: first *Tuesday* of *November* next; and that complainant serve Mr. *Grout* with a bill of particulars within fifteen days after notice of this order.

A true copy from the minutes:

ELKANAH DAY, Clerk.

In Committee of Safety, Cumberland County, }
July 26, 1776. }

In consequence of divers complaints of *John Grout*, it is recommended, that if the said *Grout* shall be accused between this time and the next sitting of this Committee, that he be not brought before, or tried by, the Committee of *Rockingham* or *Chester*, or either of them, but before the Committee of some other town.

A true copy from the minutes:

ELKANAH DAY, Clerk.

Voted, That this people do behave themselves decently, and that there be no rout, riots, or unlawful assembly, at this critical day; and that every person in this County defend the property of every person, and the prisoners in particu-

lar, and more especially the person and property of *Samuel Gale*, Esquire, *William Willard*, Esquire, *Richard Hill*, and their wives and families. All which we do highly recommend; persons that have not been called to an account for the transaction of the late murder excepted.

A true copy from the votes of said Committee.

Test:

REUBEN JONES, Clerk.

CUMBERLAND COUNTY.

Be it remembered, that on the 28th day of *August*, A. D. 1776, personally came before me, *Elkanah Day*, Clerk of the Committee of Safety for said County, *Daniel Ranney*, of lawful age, and, being duly sworn, depose and saith: that on the 22d of this instant, *August*, Mr. *John Grout* was brought before the Sub-Committee of *Chester*, being accused by *Reuben Jones*; that the accusation was read to Mr. *Grout*, and he was asked whether he was guilty or not guilty, to which he made no answer; and the question being more than once repeated, Mr. *Grout* at length spake, and said that he durst not make any answer, for, having been once before brought before the Chairman of the said Committee upon an accusation, and asked whether he was guilty or not guilty of the matters charged, he answered that he was not guilty, and that his thus answering was considered as a crime by the said Chairman, who immediately took the said *Grout* by the throat, and used him roughly for it. This Mr. *Grout* having said, neither the Chairman nor any of the Committee denied it, but told Mr. *Grout* that he should not be used in that manner any more. Mr. *Grout* then told the Committee that he had complained to the County Committee of the aforesaid ill usage, and likewise of the Chairman's having attempted to murder him, by attempting to draw him into the open air when sick of a fever. This the Chairman acknowledged. Mr. *Grout* then produced a copy of a resolve of the County Committee, made at their last meeting at *Westminster*, whereby they forbid the Committee of *Chester* arresting or trying Mr. *Grout* for any matter whatever, and ordering, that if Mr. *Grout* should after be accused, that he be carried before the Sub-Committee of some other township for that purpose. Mr. *Grout* then urged, with great earnestness, that they carry him before some other Sub-Committee; and I insisted that he could never submit to be tried by a Committee whose Chairman had attempted to choke him, for no other cause than because he had ventured to plead not guilty when he was absolutely innocent, and who had maliciously attempted to murder him as aforesaid. The Committee refused to carry said *Grout* before some other Sub-Committee, agreeable to the said resolve of the County Committee; and said *Grout* refused to submit to trial before them, alleging he was afraid of savage violence if he should venture to deny the accusation. The Committee nevertheless proceeded, and ordered the said *Grout* to prison.

DANIEL RANNEY.

Sworn, the 28th *August*, A. D. 1776, before me,

I, the aforesaid *Daniel Ranney*, do hereby certify, that as there is now no acting Magistrates in this County, I have offered the above to Doctor *Elkanah Day*, Clerk to the County Committee, and desired him to administer to me that the same is true; but he refuses, alleging that he has no right so to do. I do therefore hereby certify that the same above deposition by me subscribed is true, and that I am ready to make oath to the same whenever lawfully required; as witness my hand, the 28th of *August*, 1776.

DANIEL RANNEY.

In presence of

ABIJAH LOVEJOY,
ROBERT NICHOLS.

TO THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF NEW-YORK.

Westminster, Cumberland County, September 3, 1776.

At such a time as this, when the Constitution of this State is not settled, no Courts constituted and organized, nor any Magistrates commissioned, there is no doubt but every man who thinks himself injured by others has a right to appeal from the decisions of his arbitrary adversaries to the justice of the impartial publick. And to your justice, my countrymen, I now appeal, to determine whether I am not injured in a manner not to be borne in a free country.

My case is this, (in few words:) About fifteen months go, I had information that *Thomas Chandler, Jun.*, and some others intended to murder me; in consequence of which information, I applied to the Reverend Mr. *Whiting* to use his endeavours to hinder any such attempt. Mr. *Whiting* kindly undertook, but without success; for but a very few days afterwards, I being sick in bed of a fever, which raged to a great height, Mr. *Chandler*, with a small party with him, came to my house and made divers attempts to draw me naked out of my bed, swearing he would draw me in that manner about half a mile. He was entreated by sundry of my good neighbours, happening then to be present, to cease from an attempt so horrid, but to no purpose; for immediately a desperate fellow, then with him, at his commandment, divers times seized me and attempted to execute his aforesaid horrid orders; but was hindered partly by a brave defence my wife made, and partly by the most moving intreaties of my aforesaid neighbours. Nevertheless, the next morning *Chandler* and his aforesaid party came to my house and forced me away from it about half a mile, and there attempted to execute his wicked designs by choking of me; but a number of people coming to the place, he desisted, and I as well as I could fled for refuge to the Chairman of the then County Congress, who received me with kindness and tenderness, and wrote to Mr. *Chandler*, requiring him to desist from such practices; and the next week the Congress met, before whom I appeared, as did Mr. *Chandler* likewise, and I there prayed protection from future danger and abuses. Mr. *Chandler* made me great pretensions of doing me no injury in future, and the Congress thereupon declined meddling any further with it. Nevertheless, Mr. *Chandler* afterwards continuing his threats and abuses, I made repeated applications to the County Committee for relief, and at the meeting of that Committee the 24th of *July* last, they, on my proving that this same *Chandler*, who is Chairman of the Committee of *Chester*, having had me before him on an accusation of being guilty of a crime, asked me whether I was guilty or not, and that because I answered him that I was not guilty, he pinched my throat, shook, and otherwise abused me, which was all the trial he gave, refusing to call any witness. The County Committee, on account of this, as well as on account of Mr. *Chandler's* brother, *John Chandler*, being another of *Chester* Committee, ordered that that Committee should not try me on any accusation in a future time, but that I should be triable only by other Committees. Notwithstanding which, *Chandler* afterwards wrote a complaint, and procured the well-known *Reuben Jones* to sign it; in consequence of which I was brought before him and his brother *John*, &c., being in that manner accused of being an enemy to my country, and by them sent and committed to close gaol here, where I have been for more than ten days in a room more cold and wet than any cellar in town; during which time I have three times applied to Captain *James Clay*, Chairman of the County Committee, for trial before them, whether I deserve this imprisonment or not. But *Clay* being a great friend of *Chandler's*, by his written as well as verbal answers has absolutely refused to allow such trial before the County Committee.

Friends and countrymen of the State of *New-York*, and of this County in particular, you well know that the Convention or Assembly of this State have wisely ordered that any person imprisoned by a Sub-Committee, shall be allowed an appeal to the County Committee: And judge ye what Captain *Clay* deserves for refusing to grant this appeal, (but I thank God he cannot hinder my appeal to you.)

Captain *Clay* having thus arbitrarily shut those doors of right, which our Congress or Assembly so wisely opened, and thereby damned my appeals to the County Committee, I appeal to my country at large, to you, my countrymen, who I know will judge righteously.

I entreat that no one of my countrymen may suffer himself to believe or suspect, that any inimical practices of mine towards my country has occasioned this extraordinary treatment. My firm and unshaken attachment to the glorious cause in which my country is engaged, makes my adversaries dread the thoughts of my having a trial; their dirty souls know that a trial will certainly deliver me from their savage cruelties with honour.

That the publick may perceive why such men as the *Chandlers* are Committeemen in *Chester*, they are hereby

informed, that the township of *Chester* is a new plantation. The whole township, about ten years since, was the sole property of Colonel *Chandler*, father of the aforesaid *Thomas* and *John*; that the Colonel has settled only about thirty families thereon, and is now superannuated, and it will not, therefore, be thought strange that his sons, *Thomas* and *John*, should have such influence on a majority of thirty settlers, as to obtain an election for Committeemen; although it is well known that the aforesaid *John Chandler* is the same *John Chandler* who some years since fled from *Woodstock*, in *Connecticut*, for reasons which I conceive are well known to the publick.

JOHN GROUT.

GENERAL SCHUYLER TO GENERAL GATES.

Albany, September 7, 1776.

DEAR GENERAL: Last night I received a letter from Colonel *Dayton*, dated at *Fort Stanwix*, the 4th, enclosing the substance of a message sent from *Onondaga*, and that of another from *Oneida*, advising that seven hundred *Indians* and whites, under the command of *Butler*, were to arrive at *Oswego* on the 4th instant, and that great numbers would follow those. The *Oneidas*, who are, I believe, our real friends, advise that reinforcements should be sent. They also inform that a strong party, making, as they express it, five roads where they march, are on their way to that part of the *Mohawk* River called *Canajoharie*.

Should this information be confirmed, our force in that quarter will be greatly too weak; nor will it be much increased by the Militia, as the country is drained of men. You will, therefore, please to order three regiments to keep themselves in readiness to march at a moment's warning.

My last letter from General *Washington* was of the 24th of *August*, since which I have not heard a word from *New-York*, except by common report. I cannot, therefore, give you any certain intelligence of what is doing there. It seems agreed that *Long-Island* is evacuated, and so is the *Governour's Island*. General *Sullivan* is gone to *Philadelphia* on his parole, to try to get exchanged for General *Prescott*, and some say with offers for an accommodation from Lord *Howe*. Adieu, my dear General.

I am, most sincerely, your obedient, humble servant,

PH. SCHUYLER.

To the Hon. General *Gates*.

GENERAL SCHUYLER TO GENERAL GATES.

Albany, September 7, 1776.

DEAR GENERAL: Two of the three Commissioners appointed by Congress to audit the publick accounts in the Northern Department, are arrived here. You will please to give out in orders that every officer or other person to whom or by whom money has been advanced on account for the publick service, and which remains unaccounted for, immediately to transmit their accounts to *Jonathan Trumbull, Jun.*, Esq., Deputy Paymaster-General, that the same may be laid before the Commissioners; and that such whose accounts cannot be adjusted without their personal attendance, will have your permit to repair to this place. It is probable that General *Arnold* may have accounts unsettled; but as I suppose he cannot be spared at this juncture, if they cannot be settled without his personal attendance, I will request the Commissioners to go up, or postpone the settlement to a future day. I would have wrote the General on the subject, but my letter would not soon reach him, as he is, I suppose, with the fleet.

Your most obedient, humble servant,

PH. SCHUYLER.

To General *Gates*.

WALTER LIVINGSTON TO THE PRESIDENT OF CONGRESS.

[Read September 13, 1776. Referred to the Board of war.]

Albany, September 7, 1776.

SIR: The gentlemen who are appointed to audit the publick accounts in the Northern Department, are now here for that purpose; and I could wish Congress would enable me to make a final settlement of mine, by previously ascertaining what wages I am to allow those gentlemen whom I have employed as Assistant Commissaries at *Ticonderoga*, the

Landing, Fort George, Stillwater, Saratoga Falls, Half-Moon, Albany, Schenectady, Johnstown, German Flats, Fort Stanwix, the two principal Commissaries in *Canada*, and their assistants; likewise what number of rations each must be allowed.

Another matter which will greatly retard the settlement of my accounts, is, the value of a ration for the Northern army has never been fixed. I have applied to General *Schuyler* (by order of the Commissary-General, who is empowered to supersede me, without assigning a cause) for an order, fixing the sum to be paid as an equivalent for a ration. The General has referred the matter to Congress, and till Congress determines on the above, I cannot properly produce my accounts for a settlement, having paid considerable sums on account.

The Commissary-General has sent a Deputy-Commissary for this department, who, as he is not obliged to follow my directions, refuses to make me the necessary returns, which puts it out of my power to furnish the army with such supplies as from time to time must be wanted. As I received my commission from Congress, to them I now resign it. This dispute may injure the publick cause, which I am determined never to have a hand in. I beg Congress would, as soon as convenient, send a person to fill my office, or direct the Commissary-General to do it effectually. I have wrote the Commissary-General that I would this day send my resignation to Congress, and, as he is empowered to supersede me, requested him to send a proper person to furnish the army, informing him that I will continue to forward supplies till the first of next month, and if that time was not sufficient, that I would continue one week longer. Whatever Congress may think proper to allow me as a compensation for past services, I shall gratefully accept.

Requesting you to lay this before Congress, I remain, with the greatest esteem, your most obedient and most humble servant,

WALTER LIVINGSTON,
Deputy Commissary-General.

To the Hon. *John Hancock*, Esq.

H. GLEN TO GENERAL SCHUYLER.

Schenectady, September 7, 1776.

DEAR SIR: I would be glad to know by Captain *Lansing* if any officers have a right to inlist any of the batteau-men that are inlisted to serve as batteau-men during the campaign, as I am much disappointed this morning by Captain *John Bradt* and his officers inlisting some of the batteau-men as they were just setting off for *Fort Schuyler* with provisions; and some of the boats are lying here loaded for want of men Captain *Bradt* and his officers have inlisted of Captain *Lansing's* batteau-men.

Should Captain *Bradt*, or any officers of the Rangers which are now raising in *Albany* or *Tyron* County, have no right to inlist any batteau-men, I would be glad you would furnish Captain *Lansing* with a written order, that I may show them they have no right to inlist them. Should they have a right to inlist men who are engaged, it will hurt the batteau service, which should not be the case at present.

I am, dear sir, your most obedient servant,

H. GLEN.

To Major-General *Schuyler*, *Albany*.

GENERAL WATERBURY TO GENERAL GATES.

Skenesborough, September 7, 1776.

DEAR GENERAL: I received yours of this instant, and agreeable to your request, have got all the paper I could procure here, both cartridge and common writing paper, as your Honour made no distinction in your letter.

I shall proceed forward to *Ticonderoga* to-morrow morning with one of the galleys, and the other will go forward to-morrow evening or next day morning, which Captain *Thatcher* will be left to bring forward.

I am, dear sir, your Honour's most obedient, humble servant,

DAVID WATERBURY, Jr.

To General *Gates*.

P. S. I should be glad that some of Colonel *Swift's* regiment may be ordered up, with some batteaus, to forward the troops in.

ORDERS AND INSTRUCTIONS FOR LIEUTENANT-COLONEL JOHN BARRETT, OF THE MILITIA OF CUMBERLAND COUNTY, IN THE STATE OF NEW-YORK.

You are immediately to proceed to cut the road from *Number Four*, to the foot of *Mount Independence*, taking care to construct a good bridge over *Otter Creek*, at or near the Falls at *Rutland*. In doing this publick service, you are to exert your utmost vigilance with the detachment of Colonel *Van Dyck's* regiment of Militia, and all others under your command; to obey all orders and directions given you by your senior officers in forwarding a work so essential to the interest of the *United States*, and so necessary for the safety and protection of the interior inhabitants of all the Middle States of this Union.

Given at *Ticonderoga*, this 7th day of *September*, 1776.

ORDERS FOR CAPTAIN JONATHAN FASSETT, COMMANDING ONE OF THE INDEPENDENT COMPANIES RAISED FOR THE DEFENCE OF THE INHABITANTS LIVING ON THE GRANTS.

SIR: You'll immediately repair with the company under your command to *Jerico*, there to remain until such time as these orders are countermanded. You will keep constant scouts out to watch the motions of the enemy, and not fail, frequently and by every opportunity, to report to Headquarters any discoveries they may make, and the situation you and your company are in.

Given at *Ticonderoga*, this 7th day of *September*, 1776.

H. GATES.

[Mem: The same orders were sent to Captain *John Fassett*, for his station at *Colchester Point*.]

COLONEL PORTER TO GENERAL GATES.

Mount-Independence, September 7, 1776.

HONOURED SIR: Your orders of last night are received, and immediately executed. I am not able to do myself the honour of waiting upon you this morning by reason of sickness. My men are well prepared, well armed, and have sufficient quantity of ammunition; and will be ready to turn out on the shortest notice. All that I want is to know my alarm-post.

I am, with great respect, your most obedient, humble servant,

ELISHA PORTER.

To the Hon. General *Gates*.

P. S. I am too weak to write myself, and am obliged to employ another hand to write to you for me, but not too weak to subscribe myself as above,

E. P.

EXTRACT OF A LETTER FROM MOUNT INDEPENDENCE, NEAR TICONDEROGA, SEPTEMBER 7, 1776.

Last evening an express brought intelligence from *Crown-Point*, that heavy firing had been heard for several hours that day on the Lake, upon which the General (eleven at night) issued orders that we should hold ourselves in readiness for an attack; but we are all still to-day and hear nothing from our fleet. What boats the enemy had we know not, but it is thought here they have not a sufficient naval force to cope with us. Upon a moderate calculation we have now twelve thousand men which are effective. The Colonels *Whitcomb's* and *Finney's* regiments arrived here last week, and we hear there are two more hard by. Our works go on briskly. We have plenty of good bread, beef, and salt pork.

COLONEL HARTLEY TO GENERAL GATES.

Crown-Point, September 7, 1776—9 o'clock, P. M.

HONOURED SIR: The wind being so hard down the Lake, I have yet received no intelligence from the fleet; neither of my boats returned. At twelve to-night I shall send off a cannon some leagues down if I do not receive intelligence sooner; in the mean time will prepare part of a letter.

When I wrote for a reinforcement, I was not on any knight errant scheme: I did not mean that with such a small force to hold this ground against ten or twelve thousand men (should the fleet have unluckily been beat.) The reinforcement as well as my own regiment might have been in such a situation as to have retreated with security, had it

been imprudent to attack the enemy on their landing. At the same time to have been prepared to take any advantage the casualties of war, wind, time, &c., might have put in our power, and perhaps give some check to the enemy whilst you might have been preparing above, and have reinforced us if upon all circumstances you should think it proper. There are few pieces of ground in *America* where our irregulars could act against the enemy with a greater prospect of success than at their attempting a landing here, unless it were in an open woody country. However, sir, to your judgment and orders I shall always submit with pleasure. It was from an intimation in one of your letters that I asked for any reinforcement.

Had the fleet been beat, my situation here would have been rather critical. A little skirmishing might have been necessary whilst I sent off the sick, and was preparing for a retreat; the four pieces of artillery, if well worked, might have been useful. I wrote for a few cartridges, &c., for those guns. I have not received them.

I shall send up the eighteen-pounder as soon as possible. I hope the fleet may have been successful, whatever enterprise or action it may have been engaged in. But it is always best to prepare for the worst.

I have done all I could to procure intelligence and secure us against surprise. I have received a letter from *George Campbell, Esq.*, dated at *Albany* the 3d of *September*, relating to what he knew of the action on *Long-Island*. He mentions something of a letter which had come to *Albany*, giving an account that our troops had evacuated *Long-Island*. I hope there may be no truth in the last. I should be much obliged to you, if you would let me know the particulars as soon as you have them from *New-York*.

September 8, 1776—17 minutes past 10 o'clock, A. M.

The wind being so unfavourable yesterday and last night, has prevented either of my boats from returning. The wind has shifted. I expect every moment the arrival of one or other, when I shall immediately send the news to you. The guns were heard about twelve miles down the Lake, from about sunrise till eleven o'clock, on the 6th instant.

As you might wonder why you had not heard from here sooner, I now send this letter. Mr. *Burrows* presents his compliments to you.

I am, sir, with the greatest respect, your most humble servant,
THOS. HARTLEY.
To Major-General *Gates*.

GENERAL ARNOLD TO GENERAL GATES.

Windmill-Point, September 7, 1776.

DEAR GENERAL: I wrote you the 2d instant, from *Willsborough*, by Lieutenant *Calderwood*; the same evening anchored at *Schuyler's Island*, and on the 3d instant arrived safe at this place, which is four or five miles from the *Isle-aux-Têtes*, and seven miles from the *Isle-aux-Motte*. We found the *Isle-aux-Têtes* occupied by the enemy, and several hundred men encamped between that and us, who, the evening of our arrival, made a precipitate retreat.

I have posted my guard-boats at a point running into the Lake, about one mile below us. The enemy's boats have several times appeared on the Lake with a view of decoying our boats, but I have never suffered them to be pursued. Lieutenant *Whitcomb* arrived here the 5th, in the evening, and went off the same night with three men for *St. John's*, on the west side. I sent off Ensign *McCoy* early the next morning on the east side, with three men. They are to send me intelligence from time to time. I expect to hear from them to-morrow. Early yesterday morning the boats were ordered on shore to cut fascines to fix on the bows and sides of the gondolas, to prevent the enemy's boarding and to keep off small shot. One of the boats went on shore, contrary to orders, before the others were ready. They were attacked by a party of savages, who pursued them into the water. They all reached the boat, but before they could row off, three were killed and six wounded. The party was headed by a Regular officer, who called to our people to resign themselves. On our firing a few shot among them, they immediately dispersed. A party was sent on shore, who found a laced beaver hat, the button marked 47th Regiment. The *Lee* and *Gondola* arrived here yesterday morning. We are moored in a line across the Lake in such a manner, it will be impossible for a batteau

to pass us. I hope the galleys are nearly completed. The force of the enemy is uncertain. However, they have the advantage that they can man all their batteaus with soldiers whenever they think proper to attack; and our vessels are so low that numbers may carry them by boarding. This must be attended with great loss on their side, as I am positive they will not be able to surprise us. If I find the enemy have a considerable naval force, I design to retire to *Cumberland Head*, or *Schuyler's Island*, until joined by the three row-galleys, which will be superiour to all our present force, when the whole are joined. I believe the *Isle-aux-Motte* will be the best stand, as the enemy can bring nothing against us by land, nor will they dare to come on the Island; and by our guard-boats we can prevent any boats going from *Missisque Bay*. As you have more troops at *Ticonderoga* than you want, will it not be prudent to send up one thousand or fifteen hundred men, who might encamp on the *Isle-aux-Motte* and be ready at all times to assist us if attacked? Twenty men to a batteau will be sufficient. They might load under cover of the vessels, push out and fire, and retire under cover again; and if the enemy's boats should make their principal attack on any particular vessel, these batteaus might assist her. Each should be fixed for a swivel in each end, and if they are armed, one should be fixed in them. If you should think it necessary to send a detachment, it will be necessary to bring entrenching tools, that they may cover themselves from small-arms.

We have but very indifferent men in general. Great part of those who shipped for seamen know very little of the matter. Three or four good gunners are wanted. Enclosed is a list of our sick, who increase fast. I have sent up in these batteaus twenty-three men, who will be of no service for some time. I wish fifty seamen could be procured and sent down. I enclose you a letter from *Samuel Chase, Esq.*; you will observe he requests an explanation of your letter to Mr. *Adams*. He observes my character is much injured by a report prevailing in *Philadelphia* of my having sequestered the goods seized in *Montreal*. As you have had an opportunity of hearing that matter canvassed on the trial of Colonel *Hazen*, I beg you will be kind enough to write your sentiment to him on the matter. I cannot but think it extremely cruel, when I have sacrificed my ease, health, and a great part of my private property in the cause of my country, to be calumniated as a robber and thief; at a time, too, when I have it not in my power to be heard in my own defence.

The 15th of *August*, when we left *Ticonderoga*, the fleet were victualled for thirty days, which time is elapsed except six days. We have on board the fleet six or eight days' provision, beside twenty barrels of flour, left at *Crown-Point* to be baked, and ten barrels of pork, which I have ordered Lieutenant *Calderwood* to bring down; which will serve the fleet to the 20th. As the Lake is often very difficult to pass for a number of days, we ought to have at least one month's provisions on hand. Major *Grier* goes up with the sick, to whom I must refer you for particulars.

We are very anxious to hear from *New-York*; hope soon to have that pleasure by one of the galleys, which I think must be completed by this time.

Please to make my compliments to the gentlemen of your family, and believe me, with much respect, esteem, and affection,

Dear General, your obedient, humble servant,

B. ARNOLD.

To Major-General *Gates*.

LIST OF THE SICK ON BOARD THE FLEET, TO BE SENT TO THE GENERAL HOSPITAL, VIZ:

Royal Savage.—Alexander Asson, Nathaniel Henderson, Josiah Smith.

Sloop *Enterprise*.—Wounded Men—Robert Owens, George Stanley, Arch'd McDonald, James Quarel, John Shoemaker, Jonathan Stody.

Sloop *Enterprise*.—Sick Men—John Lynch, William Hinds, Thos. Hargins, Thos. Owens.

Lee.—James Wyman, Samuel Combs, Abel Wighting.

Galley *New-Haven*.—Benj. Murray.

Galley *Boston*.—Rufus Sumner, Josiah Row, Timothy Heath, Abial Atwood.

Galley *Connecticut*.—Solomon Thompson, George Jackson.

Died this morning of their wounds—Michael Sargent,
Thomas Allen, Moses Powel.

On board Sloop *Enterprise*, September 6, 1776.

STEPHEN MCCREA, Surgeon.

COLONEL LIVINGSTON TO THE CONNECTICUT COUNCIL OF
WAR.

Sag-Harbour, September 7, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: Having received certain intelligence that the inhabitants of *East-Hampton* had driven all their stock from *Montauk* westward, in order to furnish the Ministerial troops, I determined to make one more effort to save or destroy them. In this I have not succeeded, on account of my having had an account that the Ministerial fleet, or part of them, are turning *Montauk-Point*, lest they should destroy them. I have saved nearly three hundred and seventy small-arms, and now, through uncertainty whether assistance will be sent, have determined and ordered a second retreat as soon as a few distressed families can be brought. I am so much distressed for them that I cannot consent to leave them.

I am, gentlemen, your much obliged and humble servant,
HENRY B. LIVINGSTON.

To the Council of War at *New-London* or *Lebanon*.

ABRAHAM GARDINER TO GOVERNOUR TRUMBULL.

East-Hampton, September 7, 1776.

To His Honour JONATHAN TRUMBULL, Esq., Governour of
the Colony of CONNECTICUT:

SIR: In consequence of a report prevailing in town that the people of *Connecticut* are coming to take away our live stock and effects, the Trustees who transact the business of the town have met early this morning and unanimously agreed to send an express humbly requesting your Honour's prohibition of such measures, as apprehensive if prosecuted we shall be involved in perplexities and sufferings far beyond those we are now the subjects of, in that it may be construed we are somehow accessory thereto, which we are not, being subjects of his Majesty King *George*, and therefore mean not to act a part exposing of us to his displeasure. We have therefore thought proper to request your Honour's interposition as we judge in our favour.

We are your Honour's humble petitioners.

Signed per order of the Trustees:

ABRAHAM GARDINER, Clerk.

To his Honour Governour *Trumbull*.

SIR: The Trustees have desired me, the subscriber, to signify to your Honour my acquiescence in the above request, which I now do; and, in testimony thereof, subscribe myself your Honour's humble and obliged petitioner,

SAMUEL BUELL.

To his Honour Governour *Trumbull*.

GOVERNOUR TRUMBULL TO COLONEL LIVINGSTON.

Lebanon, September 7, 1776.

SIR: Yours of the 4th instant to the Committee at *New-London*, together with a copy of their answer, has been laid before me. The contents of their answer might be well at that time; but as matters now are, it appears to me to be most conducive to the good of the service for you to join the Continental army at *New-York* unless otherwise ordered. You will not construe this as an order from me, but act as your wisdom shall direct. I have, with advice of my Safety Council, ordered nine regiments of Foot and two of Horse to march with all possible despatch towards *New-York*, to rendezvous at or near *Westchester*, until further orders, to prevent the designs of the enemy, who seem to meditate the encircling the Continental army, and to cut off all communications between us and them, which will be attended with the worst of consequences, and must at all events be prevented.

I am, sir, your humble servant, J. TRUMBULL.

To Lieutenant-Colonel *Livingston*, with a party, at *Saybrook*.

FIFTH SERIES.—VOL. II.

CONNECTICUT COUNCIL OF SAFETY.

At a meeting of the Governour and Council of Safety of *Connecticut*, September 7, 1776,

Present: His Honour the Governour, *Ekiphalet Dyer*, *Titus Hosmer*, *Jedediah Elderkin*, *William Hillhouse*, *Nathaniel Wales*, Jun., *Benjamin Huntington*, Esquires.

In the forenoon, sundry Letters from the northward, received by *Brown*, were read and considered, as well as several Letters and several Despatches sent out to forward the marching the Militia the east side of the river towards *New-York*.

An order was given to *William Morgan*, Esq., to purchase two hundred fat Sheep, and drive to the Army at the northward, and deliver the same to the Commissary in that department, or by the order of General *Waterbury*, with encouragement that if the money is wanted to purchase the Sheep, the same shall be paid said *Morgan* out of the Treasury as he passes through *Hartford*.

HENRY REMSEN TO NEW-YORK CONVENTION.

New-Haven, September 7, 1776.

SIR: The bearer, Mr. *Peter Colt*, is agent for Colonel *Trumbull*, the Commissary-General, and goes up the *North River* to purchase flour and other necessities for the army, and being a stranger, desired me to point out the most eligible method to proceed, so that our army may be fully supplied. In consequence I have taken the liberty to request the gentlemen in Convention who represent the Counties along the *North River*, to communicate to Mr. *Colt* the persons' names he may apply to, and who are likely to be able to supply him with the provisions he may want, and to desire they will be pleased to furnish him with every other needful information on the subject.

I have been here some days waiting the arrival of Captain *Harrison*, with the goods from *Providence*, which were imported by Mr. *Van Zandt* and self for the State of *New-York*, and hope soon to be able to render an accurate account of the same, and should be obliged to Convention for orders what to do with them—whether they must be transported by land to the *Fishkills* or any other place within the State of *New-York*, or if they are to be stored in any inland town of this State. Many of our brethren have been obliged to abandon *Long-Island*, and come over into this State with their families, some of them almost naked, having left most of their wearing apparel and bedding. Perhaps Convention will order a sale of part of these goods, to supply such with clothing as may want.

I am, very respectfully, sir, your obedient, humble servant,
HENRY REMSEN.

To Robert Yates, Jun., Esq., President of the Convention.

CAPTAIN J. PAUL JONES TO THE MARINE COMMITTEE.

Providence, at Sea, in North Latitude, 36° 40', and }
West Longitude 51°, September 7, 1776. }

GENTLEMEN: I had the honour of writing to you 27th ultimo per the brigantine *Britannia*, a *Nantucket* whaler, which I sent under the care of Lieutenant *Grinnell*. Also 4th current per the brigantine *Sea-Nymph*, from *Barbadoes* for *London*, which I sent in under the care of Mr. *Hopkins*, master of the *Providence*, with a particular account of my cruise till that time. Nothing has since happened till last night, when I took the brigantine *Favourite*, laden with sugar, from *Antigua* for *Liverpool*, as per custom-house certificates herewith enclosed. As this vessel did not sail from *Antigua* till 18th ultimo, my future success must be very uncertain. The *West-Indies* are very much thinned of shipping, and I have already succeeded beyond my expectation; however, I will not yet give up the pursuit. I send this vessel in under the care of Mr. *Vesey*, my acting master. Since I despatched the *Sea-Nymph*, I have understood that there is a very considerable property in wine and cash over and above what is enumerated in her clearance. I hope this may appear in time to take measures accordingly. I herewith forward you a large bag of letters, which may, I hope, contain some useful information. Some of them contain bills of lading for the cargo. As I have no clerk, I hope to be excused for not sending copies of my former letters.

I have the honour to be, with grateful esteem and much respect, gentlemen, your much obliged, very humble servant,
JNO. P. JONES.

The *Favourite's* crew are as follows, viz:

John Davis, Master; *Bernard Gallaway*, Mate; *Jno. Williamson*, Second Mate; *Jno. Wilson*, *Ben. Allen*, *Wm. Robarts*, *James Bacop*, *Saml. Cornish*, *Jno. Gaunt*, *Jno. Irvine*, Seamen.

Providence, September 7, 1776.

Thursday last, arrived here a prize schooner, taken by the *Joseph*, privateer, Captain *John Field*, in consort with a Letter of Marque, commanded by Captain *Joseph Tillinghast*, both of this port. She was in ballast, and bound from *Grenada* to *Liverpool*, in *Nova-Scotia*.

Captain *Biddle*, of the *Andrew Doria*, in the service of the *United States*, we hear, has taken four valuable prizes, one of them said to be a large ship, which Lord *Dunmore* was sending to *England* with fifteen thousand bushels of wheat. Two of the prizes have arrived safe in port.

We learn that Captain *Jabez Whipple*, in the privateer *Independence*, of this place, has taken three valuable prizes, viz., a ship, brig, and sloop, and conveyed them into a safe port.

TO THE INHABITANTS OF THE MASSACHUSETTS-BAY.

GENTLEMEN: The recovery of the Colony from the wounds occasioned by the present glorious struggle, and its future flourishing condition, should engage our earliest attention. Nothing will be more likely to promote these valuable ends, next to the good morals of the people, than a proper form of government, securing and perpetuating to every man and his posterity the full enjoyment of their rights and privileges, civil and sacred. This will probably induce numbers to come and incorporate themselves with us. But as many, through Colonial prejudices, may object to strangers settling among us, allow me to point out the advantages thereof: Were these strangers only to reside among us till they had acquired fortunes, and then to remove back to their native country with themselves, families, and substance, sound policy would dictate their exclusion; whereas the strangers I mean to have admitted, are those that, groaning under the oppressions, difficulties, and absurd Government of their own country, fly to this, that they may enjoy their natural rights, with a design of continuing among and becoming one of us, through interest and intermarriages. Such flocking in upon the Continent, as we may suppose will be the case shortly, with riches, health, arts and sciences, will soon raise it to a more flourishing condition than it hath ever yet known: and this Colony will act wisely in endeavouring to secure its proportion of them. Their wealth will supply with loans those that, for want of them, are not now able to make the best improvement of their lands and estates, and it is likely something under the common interest; their numbers will help to consume the surplus produce arising from such improvement; their knowledge will assist in forwarding such improvement upon the most advantageous terms; their labour and industry will be so much gain to the publick stock; their persons and fortunes will lessen the proportion of taxes paid by the natives; and should any of them merchandise, that will tend to keep down the price of imported, and to raise the price of exported, commodities. The more merchants, the smaller the profits upon and the cheaper the goods brought from abroad. When the number is great, they cannot so easily enter into combinations to keep up the prices: each sells as cheap as possible to get custom, and gives as high as he can afford for the materials he wants to export. I imagine more great fortunes in proportion were made when the Colony had the fewest merchants, than hath been done since. Let strangers, such as above mentioned, be cordially received and encouraged; and waste lands will be cultivated, cultivated rise considerably in value, foreign trade be greatly increased, farming in all its branches be increased proportionably, and the strength of the State be soon doubled. Every traveller is amazed at the rapid progress that has been made in settling of *Pennsylvania*. To what has it been owing? Not so much to the excellency of its soil as to the encouragement that has been given by

the State for all strangers, and of every denomination, to settle among them. As the friend of liberty, I must wish each Colony the possession of it, in the highest degree attainable. As the friend of this Colony, I would willingly contribute to its uniting in its own particular form of government all the excellencies of the others, while it avoids their defects.

The former letter turned chiefly upon the necessity of having the Legislature consist of more than one branch. I shall now proceed to mention, that the members of each should be independent, neither placemen nor pensioners, or what is equivalent. The *South Carolinians* have resolved, (article the 10th,) "that if any member of the General Assembly, or of the Legislative Council, shall accept any place of emolument, or any commission (except in the Militia) he shall vacate his seat, and there shall thereupon be a new election, but he shall not be disqualified from serving upon being reelected." In allowing him to be re-chosen, they have virtually destroyed the advantage aimed at by the first part of the resolve. How few of the *British* Commoners but what are re-chosen immediately after having vacated their seats by accepting places? That the like should not exist among us, the sure way is to make the person ineligible; or, if that should be thought an infringement upon the rights of the electors, to oblige him to resign his place of emolument, or his commission, should he prefer being in the Council or Assembly. The *Jerseys* have made it one of their chartered rights, (the 20th,) "that the Legislative department of this Colony may, as much as possible, be preserved from all suspicion of corruption, none of the Judges of the Supreme or other courts, Sheriffs, or any other person or persons possessed of any post of profit under the Government, other than Justices of the Peace, shall be entitled to a seat in Assembly; but that, on his being elected and taking his seat, his office or post shall be considered as vacant." To have perfected the article, "the Council" also should have been inserted, and the paragraph have run, "to a seat in Council or Assembly." The *Virginians* have done the business completely, by ordaining and declaring, in the beginning of their form of Government, as followeth: "The Legislative, Executive, and Judiciary departments shall be separate and distinct, so that neither execute the powers properly belonging to the other: nor shall any person exercise the powers of more than one of them at the same time, except that the Justices of the County courts shall be eligible to either House of Assembly." This appears to me a most important regulation; but clashes so with contrary cases among ourselves, that I am fearful whether it will be adopted. Under Royal Governments a clamour was once raised against having certain characters in the Council, and all such were gradually left out. If the like are suffered under a new-modeled Government, it will be thought that the clamour was needless, and only the offspring of a party to serve a purpose. Let us be consistent, and not resemble the knavish Whigs of King *George* the First's time, who by a septennial act prolonged the Parliament four years beyond its natural life, which ought to have expired at the end of three, thereby subverted the Constitution, and, as an author says, "went farther in impoverishing and enslaving their fellow-subjects, than all their predecessors from the Restoration." I humbly apprehend, that sooner or later we must follow in the main the example of the *Virginians*, or rue the consequence. The deviations that may now exist in our infantile State without much danger to the present generation, will, if continued, prove extremely prejudicial when we have attained to maturity, and are become a rich people. And let it ever be remembered, that it is easier to prevent errors getting into the Constitution, than to eradicate them after a long indulgence. But would we avoid the errors alluded to, and set aside the arguments used in support of them, we should pay the persons filling the Judicial and Executive departments rather generously than otherwise. Pay well, and suitable men will be found that will be content with single places, and apply themselves to the proper discharge of the duties thereof. Be niggardly, so that your servants cannot live in character, and they will either seek more services than they can discharge, or will, by secret ways and means, supply deficiencies, or will do your work in a bungling, slovenly manner, and occasion more damage to the publick than the difference saved by an injudicious parsimony can repair. It is beneath the

dignity of a State to lay its servants under a temptation either to neglect the publick so that they may attend to their own private business, or to commit frauds, or to receive bribes in the way of presents, that they and families may be decently supported, answerable to their rank. It argues a mean and contracted soul to attempt it. When your rewards are fully proportioned to the services expected, see that you are well served, put up with no neglects, be careful how you admit of customs and perquisites, and punish criminals with exemplary severity.

I have above expressed my desire that the Judiciary, Executive, and Legislative departments might be preserved separate and distinct. The governmental powers being thus divided, the people are the better secured in the possession of their liberties. Each department hath enough to employ it, and by confining itself to its own particular business, will perform it with the greater despatch and advantage, to the no small emolument of the State; and being thus separated the guardians of the publick are increased, and dangerous encroachments upon the Constitution become the less probable. But that the proposed plan may take place, besides excluding the Judges from each branch of the Legislature, the Council should be solely legislative, and the executive power be entrusted with other individuals. Let, then, the Legislative Council consist of thirty, as mentioned in the former letter, upon the supposition of a rotation; and, instead of a Governour, let there be a Council of State, consisting of a given number, with President and Vice-President, who shall occupy the Legislative Department. I was formerly attached to the name of Governour, but considering how apt persons wearing that name are to imagine that they have an innate right to govern, distinct from what has been communicated, I prefer the word President, as less liable to make the creature vain and domineering. The *Carolínians* having constituted the President a branch of the Legislature, appoint that the Vice-President of the Colony should be a member and President of a Privy Council, which consists of six other members chosen by ballot—three by the General Assembly, and three by the Legislative Council; but they provide, that no officer of the Army or Navy, in the service of the Continent, or of the Colony, shall be eligible. A member of the General Assembly or Legislative Council does not lose his seat by being chosen of the Privy Council, unless elected Vice-President of the Colony. The Privy Council is to advise the President and Commander-in-Chief when required; but he is not bound to consult them in all cases. *New-Jersey* hath vested the Government of that Province in a Governour, Legislative Council, and General Assembly; and any three or more of the Council are, at all times, a Privy Council. *Virginia* chooses a Governour or Chief Magistrate annually, who, with the advice of a Council of State, exercises the executive powers of government according to the laws of the Commonwealth, and is not, under any pretence, to exercise any power or prerogative by virtue of any law, statute, or custom of *England*. The Privy Council, or Council of State, consists of eight members, chosen by joint ballot of both Houses of Assembly, either from their own members or the people at large; their advice and proceedings are to be entered of record, and signed by the members present, (to any part whereof any member may enter his dissent,) to be laid before the General Assembly when called for by them. The members of this Council are incapable, during their continuance in office, of sitting in either House of Assembly. Two of them are to be removed by joint ballot of both Houses of Assembly at the end of every three years, and be ineligible for the three next years. The vacancies occasioned by death or incapacity are to be supplied by new elections in the same manner. With all deference to the great abilities that composed the *Virginia* plan of government, I conceive that it is capable of an improvement, or, at least, of being better suited to this Northern Colony. If I understand this expression aright—"two members shall be removed at the end of every three years"—there must be a chasm of three years between every removal; of consequence, two members may be continued in twelve years before the first rotation is concluded, and after that, each may sit thus long in the Council of State; and yet the Governour is not to continue in office longer than three years successively, and is not eligible until the expiration of four years after he shall have been out of that office. This regulation appears out of proportion.

Besides, twelve years is certainly too long for any person to possess a share of the executive power, in a well-ordered Commonwealth, before he is reduced to a private station. The Executive department should be stable, and have men of knowledge and experience in business; but this may be provided for, without admitting any man's remaining in it for so long a time. I would, with all due respect, gentlemen, offer to your consideration the following proposals: Let there be a Council of State consisting of eight members, chosen out of the Legislative Council, the House of Assembly, or the people at large. Let each branch of the Legislature choose four, instead of choosing by joint ballot; and at the end of every year, in the like manner, remove and add two, till at the end of four years they have gone through the first rotation; after which, in the succeeding years, let the two that have been in four years be invariably removed. By this means no one will be in more than four years, and ever after the three first years the Council of State will consist of two members that are in their first year of service, two that are in their second, two that are in their third, and two that are in their fourth. Are any of them chosen out of the Legislative body, let their places in that body be vacated, and filled up by new elections. In case of vacancies by death or resignation, let them be filled up, when the number is even, by each branch of the Legislature's choosing a moiety as before; when odd, by the odd one's being chosen by joint ballot, or from time to time alternately, first by the House, then by the Legislative Council. Let no member, when removed, be eligible till he has been out as many years as he was in. Let no officer of the Army or Navy, in the service of the Continent, or of the Colony, be eligible. To this Council of State, let the Legislature add a President chosen by joint ballot, or let the Assembly nominate two or three, and the Legislative Council choose out of that nomination. Let the Council of State choose from among themselves a Vice-President. Let four make a quorum for doing business. Let the President have a single vote with the Council, besides a casting vote when necessary; the Vice-President the same when the President is absent. Let the advice and proceedings of the Council be entered on record and signed by the members present, (to any part whereof let any member be at liberty to enter his dissent,) to be laid before the whole Legislature, when called for by the joint voice of both branches, but not otherwise.

Lest I should be too lengthy, I shall close for the present, and remain, gentlemen, your faithful servant,

WILLIAM GORDON.

Roxbury, September 7, 1776.

MASSACHUSETTS COUNCIL TO THOMAS FLETCHER.

Watertown, September 7, 1776.

SIR: The Council have received your letter of the 27th of *July*, informing us that the *Indians* of the *Penobscot* Tribe, for good reasons by them suggested, conclude not to engage in the Continental army at present. Therefore the £30 put into your hands to enable you to enlist and bring up a number of said tribe cannot be improved for that purpose; therefore the General Court direct that you return said £30 to *Henry Gardiner*, Esq., Receiver-General for this State, and take his receipt therefor, the first safe opportunity.

MASSACHUSETTS COUNCIL TO COLONEL WILLARD.

Council Chamber, September 7, 1776.

SIR: You are hereby directed and commanded to take into your regiment a company of men commanded by Captain *John Wentworth*, now on *Dorchester Heights*, and give direction to said Captain to march said company immediately to the Northern Department of the *American* army, by the same routes the other part of your regiment were ordered to march; and you are further directed and commanded to take into your regiment a company of men lately marched from the County of *Middlesex*, under the command of Captain *Sargent*, and you are to give directions to said Captain respecting marching his company and joining your regiment, as you shall think best, having regard to former orders received from the Board respecting marching your regiment.

In the name and per order of the Council:

JOHN AVERY, Deputy Secretary.

To Colonel *Aaron Willard*.

RETURN OF FIRE-ARMS, ETC., BELONGING TO THE STATE OF
MASSACHUSETTS.

Where deposited.	Fire-Arms.	Gunpow- der.	Lead and ball.	Flints.	Sheet Lead	Sulphur.	Saltpetre.	Buckshot.	Cutlasses.	Match- -Rope.
Boston	18	<i>Pounds,</i> 1,000	<i>Pounds,</i> 11,200	16,000	<i>Pounds,</i> 500	<i>Pounds,</i>	<i>Pounds,</i>	<i>Pounds,</i>		<i>Pounds,</i>
Stoughton, in the care of Major Crane.....	-	5,000	-	18,000	-	10,000	10,000			
Andover, in the care of Samuel Phillips, Esq.....	-	4,000	-	-	-	8,000	11,000			
Purchased by the Court's Com- mittee and in several Towns.	-	18,620								
Ipswich, in the care of William Story, Esq.....	-	697	-	-	-	20,276				
At Boston and Milton, in the care of Major Vose.....	-	-	-	-	-	13,965				
Dartmouth, in the care of Levi Williams, Esq.....	-	-	-	-	4,500	5,688	-	-	200	
Salem, in the care of Richard Derby, Esq.....	67	2,000	-	17,000						
Watertown.....	50	10,000	9,600	16,000	-	-	44,700	300	-	800
Boston, fire-arms repairing by several Armourers.....	400	-	-	-	-	-	16,444			
Newburyport Committee.....										
	535	41,317	20,800	67,000	5,000	57,929	82,144	300	200	800

Sulphur, in the care of Mr. Webster and others, uncertain what quantity.
Powder-paste, in the care of Samuel Phillips, Esq. 5,000 lbs. Saltpetre sent from Philadelphia to Watertown—nine pipes and two tierces.

RICHARD DEVENS, C. G.
Boston, September 7, 1776.

Exeter, New-Hampshire, September 7, 1776.

We have certain intelligence from *Onion River*, which is about seventy miles from *Haverhill*, (*Cohoss*,) that a party of the King of *Great Britain's* troops, ten or twelve days ago, burnt nine houses, and destroyed everything in their way except one small fort, and carried off a Tory family. On the door of a building they left wrote the following notification: "We did not destroy this because we suppose it belongs to a friend; and if we have destroyed any effects belonging to a friend of the King's troops, send a bill, and it shall be paid on sight."

EXTRACT OF A LETTER RECEIVED IN LONDON FROM A
MERCHANT AT BARBADOES, DATED SEPTEMBER 8, 1776.

The *Ranger*, a privateer brig of sixteen guns, fitted out here to cruise against the *Americans*, has brought into *Carlisle Bay* an *American* armed schooner of ten carriage guns, from *Brest* bound to *Philadelphia*, on board of which were found several letters; amongst others, was one addressed to the Hon. *John Hancock*, Esq., from one Mr. *Hamilton*, an *American* gentleman who has been for some time at the Court of *Versailles*. I just had a sight of it; cannot remember the particulars, but have, as near as possible, sent you the contents, which are as follow:

"SIR: I have the happiness to acquaint you that you may assure the Congress that the *French* Ministry perfectly acquiesce with the proposals which Messrs. *Needham*.

Gunning, and myself, had the honour to lay before them. They have sent orders for a number of ships-of-war to be fitted for sea with all possible despatch; and a strong squadron will certainly sail from *Brest* for *Philadelphia* early in the month of *November*; and they will also have a very formidable squadron, two bombs, and a fire-ship, ready against *Spring*, which they intend to send to *Quebeck*.

"FRED. HAMILTON."

JAMES CAMPBELL TO THE PRESIDENT OF CONGRESS.

Chingoteague, Virginia, September 8, 1776.

SIR: I have the pleasure to inform you that the *Enterprise*, privateer, of *Baltimore*, under my command, is arrived safe in this inlet, having taken during my cruise the following prizes, viz :

The *Lancashire*, ship, a Guineaman in ballast, now in *Sinapuxent*, in *Maryland*—4 guns, 16 men;

The *Betsey*, brigantine, of *Jamaica*, from *Guadaloupe* for *Halifax*, having on board 120 hogsheads and tierces of molasses, now in this inlet ;

The *Black River*, ship, from *Dominica* for *Bristol*, having on board 158 hogsheads sugar, 58 hogsheads rum, 60 hogsheads molasses, *Egg-Harbour*;

The snow *James*, of *Lancaster*, from *Antigua*, having on board 100 hogsheads sugar, 171 bales of cotton, 2 hogsheads rum, 14 tierces and 47 barrels sugar, and 50 tons fustick, 23 men—not yet arrived;

The brigantine *Betsey, Guernsey*, from *St. Croix*, having on board 240 hogsheads rum, not yet arrived—expected this day ;

The sloop *Modesty*, of *Dartmouth*, in *England*, from *Barbadoes* for *Newfoundland*, 30 hogsheads and 4 tierces rum, and 20 barrels sugar, arrived yesterday in *Sinapuzent*.

The schooner *Liberty*, of Nova Scotia, from *Montreal* and *Anguilla*, having on board 1,000 bushels salt, 14 hogsheads rum, and ten casks nails;

A sloop from *Tortola*, with a small cargo of salt and rum. Dismissed, with thirty prisoners, being quite outnumbered by them.

When I sailed, I had fifty-three men and boys, twenty-nine of whom never were at sea. I suffered much in my health, and sprung both my masts; but expect to get better soon, and be out again before the Winter. I shall send your honourable Congress a survey of this inlet when my health permits, it being of great importance, and ought to be fortified, for which four guns would be sufficient. In it is fifteen feet water, and among the shoals without, a ship of any size may find shelter till lightened.

I am, sir, your most obedient servant.

JAMES CAMPBELL.

To *John Hancock*, Esq.

SAMUEL CHASE TO GENERAL GATES.

Annapolis, September 8, 1776.

DEAR SIR: I was by yesterday's post honoured with your letter of the 23d of *August*. I cannot account for the delay of my letter of the 14th of *June*. I wrote you a letter on the subject of yours to Mr. *John Adams*, the first of last month. I suppose it has not reached you.

I sincerely rejoice to hear of our respectable force with you, and cannot but solicit you to inform me frequently of your affairs.

I am now attending our Convention for the framing of a new Government for this State. I wish and much pressed the completion of this business six months ago.

The same good opinion of Colonel *St. Clair* which induced me to recommend him to your notice, compelled me to urge his promotion, and for which I stayed in Congress beyond my time limited for my return here.

I have not heard from my friend General *Schuyler* since his treaty with the savage princes of the wilderness. I cannot express the respect, the affection, and friendship with which I desire to be remembered to that gentleman. I wrote to General *Arnold* the 9th of *August*. I wish to hear from him, and am anxious to procure some knowledge, and if possible a map, of the Lakes. Can you get one for me? Present my warmest wishes to General *Arnold*. *Erit mihi Neptunus*, if he will defeat *Burgoyne*.

I presume General *St. Clair* is at *New-York*, and there-

fore I omit to express my esteem and regard for him. I shall write to that gentleman to *New-York*.

I shall write to your lady on to-morrow. Every good attend you. Farewell.

Your affectionate and obedient servant,
SAMUEL CHASE.

MATTHEW TILGHMAN TO THE PRESIDENT OF CONGRESS.

[Read September 10, 1776.]

Annapolis, September 8, 1776.

SIR: I received by *Henry Frick* your letter to our Convention, after their rising yesterday evening. I immediately requested their attendance this morning, that I might communicate the contents, and doubt not, at this most critical juncture, they will exert all the power of this State in support of the common cause.

I had ordered the express to wait, that I might inform of the result, but I cannot keep him.

I have the honour to be, with the greatest respect, sir, your most obedient servant,

MAT. TILGHMAN, *President*.

To the Hon. *John Hancock*, Esq., President of Congress, at *Philadelphia*.

PRESIDENT OF CONGRESS TO GENERAL WASHINGTON.

Philadelphia, September 8, 1776—Sunday, 6 o'clock, P. M.

SIR: I am this minute honoured with your favour of the 6th instant, and am to acknowledge the receipt of your several favours to that date.

The Congress, concurring with the proposal of exchanging Generals *Prestcott* and *McDonald* for Generals *Sullivan* and *Stirling*, have authorized the Board of War to send the two former to you for that purpose, as soon as possible.

In consequence of the message which General *Sullivan* delivered to Congress from Lord *Howe*, respecting a conference with some of their members, they have, after great debate, been induced to pass the first resolution of the 5th of *September*, and have since appointed three gentlemen on that business, as you will observe by a subsequent resolution, to which, without any comment, I beg leave to refer you. But, in order to prevent similar messages for the future, they have passed a resolve directing the mode in which all applications shall hereafter be made, either to Congress or the Commander-in-Chief of the Army, and to which only any attention is to be paid. I beg leave to refer you to the resolve itself as the future rule of your conduct with respect to every such verbal application, until it shall be altered, or you shall hear further from Congress on the subject.

The list of officers who are prisoners with the enemy, which you mention as enclosed in your favour of the 6th, it is probable was through hurry omitted, as it has not come to hand.

Before this reaches you, a supply of money will doubtless be arrived, it being now two days since it was sent. Henceforth you will be more regularly supplied with that article. The Congress have ordered a large stock of cloth here to be immediately made up into tents, and to be forwarded to you with all possible despatch. They have likewise ordered some duck in the Eastern States to be made into tents and sent you.

To-morrow morning I will lay your letter before Congress, and acquaint you immediately of the result. General *Sullivan* went from here two days ago. The committee to wait on Lord *Howe* will set out to-morrow morning for *New-York*.

The interesting state of our affairs, and the anxiety of Congress to hear from you as often as possible, will naturally suggest to you the propriety of giving them all the information in your power, as often as your important concerns will admit of it.

My most ardent and incessant wishes attend you, that you may still rise superiour to every difficulty, and that your great and virtuous exertions on behalf of your country may be crowned with that success which, from the Supreme Being's love of justice, and the righteousness of our cause, in conjunction with our own endeavours, it is not irrational to expect.

I am to request you will direct Major *Hausegger* to repair to this city as soon as possible, to take the command

of the *German* battalion, of which he is appointed Colonel, being extremely wanted.

I have the honour to be, with every sentiment of respect and esteem, sir, your most obedient and humble servant,

JOHN HANCOCK, *President*.

To General *Washington*.

DR. FRANKLIN TO LORD HOWE.

Philadelphia, September 8, 1776.

MY LORD: I received your favour of the 16th past. I did not immediately answer it, because I found that my corresponding with your Lordship was disliked by some members of Congress. I hope now soon to have an opportunity of discussing with you, *viva voce*, the matters mentioned in it; as I am, with Mr. *Adams* and Mr. *Rutledge*, appointed to wait on your Lordship, in consequence of a desire you expressed in some conversation with General *Sullivan*, and of a resolution of Congress made thereupon, which that gentleman has probably before this time communicated to you.

We propose to set out on our journey to-morrow morning, and to be at *Amboy* on *Wednesday* about nine o'clock, where we should be glad to meet a line from your Lordship, appointing the time and place of meeting. If it would be agreeable to your Lordship, we apprehend that either at the house on *Staten-Island* opposite to *Amboy*, or at the Governour's house in *Amboy*, we might be accommodated with a room for the purpose.

With the greatest esteem and respect I have the honour to be, my Lord, &c.,

B. FRANKLIN.

To Lord *Howe*.

EXTRACT OF A LETTER RECEIVED IN LONDON BY WAY OF NANTZ, DATED PHILADELPHIA, SEPTEMBER 8, 1776.

The defeat of the Provincial forces at *Long-Island* was in a great measure owing to the bad conduct of Lord *Stirling*, who neglected sending a proper force for the defence of the heights above *Flatbush*, and by that means afforded General *Howe* an opportunity of showing his superiour generalship, in surrounding their lines, instead of attacking them in front as was expected. Only one battalion of Rangers, under the command of Colonel *Trail*, was left to defend the pass on the road to *Jamaica Plain*, where the grand attack was made. That young officer for a long time made head against the whole force of General *Clinton's* body of Infantry; but as no support was sent him, after losing two thirds of his men, and being dangerously wounded himself, he made good his retreat and joined General *Putnam* at *Brooklyn*. General *Sullivan*, Colonel *Smith*, and Major *Guy*, behaved with great bravery.

General *Washington* is at *King's Bridge*; the grand army under his command consists of about thirty-three thousand men. *Lee* is ordered by the Congress to make an attack upon *St. Augustine*. Every prospect of a reconciliation is at an end.

LANCASTER (PENNSYLVANIA) COMMITTEE.

At a meeting of the Committee of Observation, Inspection, and Correspondence, at the house of *Adam Reigart*, September 8, 1776,

Present: *William Atlee*, *Mathias Slough*, *Adam Reigart*, *William Bowsman*, *Michael Musser*, *John Miller*, *George Moore*, and *Henry Dehuff*. *William Atlee* in the Chair.

Resolved, That Captain *Zantzinger's*, Captain *Boyd's*, and Captain *Musser's* Companies be taken into pay as Guards under the direction of the Committee, for the ensuing month, and that the publick Arms in the hands of the other Captains and Officers and Privates of Colonel *Ross's* Battalion, who have heretofore done duty as Town-Guards, be taken by Colonel *Reigart* into his care and distributed to the Captains *Zantzinger*, *Boyd*, and *Musser*, to put into the hands of their Companies as Guards, and that the apprentices, gunsmiths, lockmakers, and such persons as are employed at the works at the Barracks, and belong to those Companies, be excused from duty as Town Guard, and be called upon only as Associators on the appointed days of exercise until further orders.

WILLIAM TRENT TO JACOB S. HOWELL.

Trenton, September 8, 1776.

SIR: By the bearer I have sent you two samples of sulphur ore, the largest piece which is part of a ball I got from Mr. *Van Swearingham*, tavern-keeper at *Middletown*, on the road that leads from *Hagerstown* to *Fredericktown*, in *Maryland*; the other comes from the *Ohio*. If either of them are of value enough to make the mines worth inquiring after, Mr. *Van Swearingham* can inform you of the place where the first was got, and I can give directions to find the mine the other was taken from.

On a plantation of one *Adam Small*, a *Dutchman*, near the *Red-House* on the road leading from the mouth of *Cornicocheque* to *Winchester*, are plenty of black flint-stones. Several hunters who have made flints for their guns of them, say they are very good. If flints are wanted for present use, I am informed there are stones which were brought for ballast and unloaded at *Moles' Point*, *Petapasco Landing*, sufficient to make flints to last the army several years.

I am, sir, your most humble servant,

WILLIAM TRENT.

To *Jacob S. Howell*, Secretary to the Committee of Safety, in *Philadelphia*.

In Council of Safety, Philadelphia, September 8, 1776.

This Board being informed that the publick stock of Flints is nearly expended, they therefore refer this letter to the Board of War, which has that matter immediately under their care. By order of Council:

THOS. WHARTON, JUN., President.

COLONEL CLEMENT BIDDLE TO THE BOARD OF WAR.

Perth-Amboy, September 8, 1776.

SIR: I find the troops here begin to want many necessaries that they will suffer for want of unless speedily supplied. Blankets will be much wanted. I have delivered out a number which I received from the Council of Safety of *Pennsylvania*, and have taken the order of the commanding officers of the battalions with receipts to be accountable for them. I beg to be instructed whether the blankets are to be paid for or not by the Flying-Camp.

The other articles which begin to be much wanted, are shoes, stockings, warm jackets, breeches, and shirts, and I would get a good number of them if I had orders, and that the Colonel or Commanding officers of the Flying-Camp were to stop the amount of what necessaries they took up from the men's pay. I would not proceed farther than I have done from the necessity in this business, until I could receive the directions of the honourable Congress or of the Board of War on this subject. I beg you will lay this before your Board, that I may receive their directions herein.

I have ordered Mr. *Risberg*, A. D. Q. M. G., to apply to you when necessary in my department, and beg the favour of your assistance to him.

I am, sir, your most obedient, humble servant,

CLEMENT BIDDLE, D. Q. M. G.

To *Richard Peters*, Esq., Secretary of War Office, at *Philadelphia*.

Colonel *Miles's* troops lost chief of their blankets. I have sent a number forward to supply them, but have few now left.

COLONEL GRIFFIN TO THE BOARD OF WAR.

Head-Quarters, Perth-Amboy, September 8, 1776.

SIR: I have enclosed a return of the army in the *Jerseys*, as also a list of the prisoners taken at *Long-Island* by General *Howe's* army. You will please have it published, in order that the friends of the gentlemen may send them such things as they think necessary.

We find, by a resolution of your Convention, they have ordered all the Militia to march to this place, whether armed or unarmed. It has been an exceeding ill-advised plan, as we have not one hundred stand of arms in our stores; nor would we give them to Militia if we had a much larger number. I hope in a few days we shall have enough of the Flying-Camp, with the *Jersey* Militia, to prevent the enemy from making any incursions on the *Jersey* side, so that we

shall be able to dismiss the whole of the *Pennsylvania* Associators.

I am, sir, your most obedient servant,

SAML. GRIFFIN.

To *Richard Peters*, Esq., Secretary to the Board of War, at *Philadelphia*.

GENERAL WASHINGTON TO THE PRESIDENT OF CONGRESS.

[Read 10th September.]

New-York, Head-Quarters, September 8, 1776.

SIR: Since I had the honour of addressing you on the 6th, I have called a council of the General Officers, in order to take a full and comprehensive view of our situation, and thereupon form such a plan of future defence as may be immediately pursued, and subject to no other alteration than a change of operations on the enemy's side may occasion.

Before the landing of the enemy on *Long-Island*, the point of attack could not be known, or any satisfactory judgment formed of their intentions. It might be on *Long-Island*, on *Bergen*, or directly on the city. This made it necessary to be prepared for each, and has occasioned an expense of labour which now seems useless, and is regretted by those who form a judgment from after-knowledge. But I trust men of discernment will think differently, and see that by such works and preparations we have not only delayed the operations of the campaign till it is too late to effect any capital invasion into the country, but have drawn the enemy's forces to one point, and obliged them to decline their plan, so as to enable us to form our defence on some certainty.

It is now extremely obvious from all intelligence, from their movements, and every other circumstance, that, having landed their whole army on *Long-Island*, (except about four thousand on *Staten-Island*.) they mean to enclose us on the Island of *New-York*, by taking post in our rear, while the shipping effectually secure the front; and thus, either by cutting off our communication with the country, oblige us to fight them on their own terms or surrender at discretion, or, by a brilliant stroke, endeavour to cut this army in pieces, and secure the collection of arms and stores, which they well know we shall not be able soon to replace.

Having therefore their system unfolded to us, it became an important consideration how it could be most successfully opposed. On every side there is a choice of difficulties, and every measure on our part (however painful the reflection is from experience) to be formed with some apprehension that all our troops will not do their duty. In deliberating on this great question, it was impossible to forget that history, our own experience, the advice of our ablest friends in *Europe*, the fears of the enemy, and even the declarations of Congress, demonstrate that, on our side, the war should be defensive (it has been even called a war of posts;) that we should, on all occasions, avoid a general action, or put anything to the risk, unless compelled by a necessity into which we ought never to be drawn. The arguments upon which such a system was founded were deemed unanswerable; and experience has given her sanction. With these views, and being fully persuaded that it would be presumption to draw out our young troops into open ground, against their superiours, both in number and discipline, I have never spared the spade and pick-axe. I confess I have not found that readiness to defend even strong posts, at all hazards, which is necessary to derive the greatest benefit from them. The honour of making a brave defence does not seem to be a sufficient stimulus when the success is very doubtful, and the falling into the enemy's hands probable; but I doubt not this will be gradually attained.

We are now in a strong post, but not an impregnable one; nay, acknowledged by every man of judgment to be untenable, unless the enemy will make the attack upon our lines when they can avoid it; and their movements indicate that they mean to do so. To draw the whole army together, in order to arrange the defence proportionate to the extent of lines and works, would leave the country open for an approach, and put the fate of this army and its stores on the hazard of making a successful defence in the city, or the issue of an engagement out of it. On the other hand, to abandon a city which has been by some deemed defensible, and on whose works much labour has been bestowed, has a tendency to dispirit the troops and enfeeble our cause. It

has also been considered as the key to the northern country; but, as to that, I am fully of opinion that the establishing strong posts at *Mount Washington*, on the upper part of this Island, and on the *Jersey* side opposite to it, with the assistance of the obstructions already made, and which may be improved, in the water, that not only the navigation of *Hudson's River*, but an easier and better communication, may be more effectually secured between the northern and southern States. This I believe every one acquainted with the situation of the country will readily agree to, and will appear evident to those who have an opportunity of recurring to good maps. These, and many other consequences which will be involved in the determination of our next measure, have given our men full employ, and led every one to form a judgment of the various objects presenting themselves to his view.

The post at *King's Bridge* is naturally strong, and is well fortified. The heights about it are commanding, and might soon be made more so. These are important objects, and I have attended to them accordingly. I have also removed from the city all the stores and ammunition, except what was absolutely necessary for its defence, and made every other disposition that did not essentially interfere with that object—carefully keeping in view, until it should be absolutely determined, on full consideration, how far the city was to be defended at all events. In resolving points of such importance, many circumstances peculiar to our own army also occur. Being only provided for a Summer's campaign, their clothes, shoes, and blankets will soon be unfit for the change of weather which we every day feel. At present we have not tents for more than two-thirds—many of them old and worn-out; but if we had a plentiful supply, the season will not admit of continuing in them long. The case of our sick is also worthy of much consideration. Their number, in the returns, forms at least one-fourth of the army. Policy and humanity require they should be made as comfortable as possible.

With these and many other circumstances before them, the whole council of General Officers met yesterday, in order to adopt some general line of conduct to be pursued at this important crisis. I intended to have procured their separate opinions on each point, but time would not admit. I was therefore obliged to collect their sense more generally than I could have wished. All agreed the town would not be tenable if the enemy resolved to bombard and cannonade it; but the difficulty attending a removal operated so strongly, that a course was taken between abandoning it totally and concentrating our whole strength for its defence. Nor were some a little influenced in their opinion, to whom the determination of Congress was known, against an evacuation totally, as they were led to suspect Congress wished it to be maintained at every hazard. It was concluded to arrange the army under three divisions: five thousand to remain for the defence of the city; nine thousand to *King's Bridge* and its dependencies, as well to possess and secure those posts as to be ready to attack the enemy, who are moving eastward on *Long-Island*, if they should attempt to land on this side; the remainder to occupy the intermediate space, and support either. That the sick should be immediately removed to *Orangetown*, and barracks prepared at *King's Bridge*, with all expedition, to cover the troops.

There were some General Officers, in whose judgment and opinion much confidence is to be reposed, that were for a total and immediate removal from the city, urging the great danger of one part of the army being cut off before the other can support it—the extremities being at least sixteen miles apart; that our army, when collected, is inferior to the enemy; that they can move, with their whole force, to any point of attack, and, consequently, must succeed by weight of numbers if they have only a part to oppose them; that by removing from hence we deprive the enemy of the advantage of their ships, which will make at least one-half of the force to attack the town; that we should keep the enemy at bay—put nothing to the hazard—but, at all events, keep the army together, which may be recruited another year; that the unspent stores will also be preserved; and in this case, the heavy artillery can also be secured. But they were overruled by a majority, who thought, for the present a part of our force might be kept here, and attempt to maintain the city a while longer.

I am sensible a retreating army is encircled with difficul-

ties; that the declining an engagement subjects a General to reproach; and that the common cause may be affected by the discouragement it may throw over the minds of many. Nor am I insensible of the contrary effects, if a brilliant stroke could be made with any probability of success, especially after our loss upon *Long-Island*. But when the fate of *America* may be at an issue—when the wisdom of cooler moments and experienced men have decided that we should protract the war, if possible—I cannot think it safe or wise to adopt a different system, when the season for action draws so near a close. That the enemy mean to winter in *New-York*, there can be no doubt; that with such an armament they can drive us out, is equally clear. The Congress having resolved that it should not be destroyed, nothing seems to remain but to determine the time of their taking possession. It is our interest and wish to prolong it as much as possible, provided the delay does not affect our future measures.

The Militia of *Connecticut* is reduced from six thousand to less than two thousand, and in a few days will be merely nominal. The arrival of some *Maryland* troops, &c., from the *Flying-Camp*, has, in a great degree, supplied the loss of men; but the ammunition they have carried away will be a loss sensibly felt. The impulse for going home was so irresistible, it answered no purpose to oppose it. Though I would not discharge, I have been obliged to acquiesce; and it affords one more melancholy proof, how delusive such dependencies are.

Enclosed I have the honour to transmit a general return, the first I have been able to procure for some time; also, a report of Captain *Newell*, from our works at *Horn's Hook* or *Hell-Gate*. Their situation is extremely low, and the Sound so very narrow, that the enemy have 'em much within their command.

I have the honour to be, with great respect, sir, your most obedient servant,

GO. WASHINGTON.

To the President of Congress.

P. S. The enclosed information this moment came to hand. I am in hopes we shall henceforth get regular intelligence of the enemy's movements.

GENERAL ORDERS.

Head-Quarters, New-York, September 7, 1776.

(Parole, Temple.)

(Countersign, Liberty.)

John Davis, of Captain *Hamilton's* Company of Artillery, tried by a Court-Martial, whereof Colonel *Malcom* was President, was convicted of "Desertion," and sentenced to receive thirty-nine lashes.

Levi Webster, of Captain *Hyde's* Company, Colonel *Wyll's* Regiment, convicted by the same Court-Martial of the same offence, sentenced to the same punishment.

The General approves the sentences, and orders them to be executed, on the Regimental Parade, at the usual hour in the morning.

A Court-Martial consisting of a Commandant of a Brigade, two Colonels, two Lieutenant-Colonels, two Majors, and six Captains, to sit to-morrow, at Mrs. *Montagnie's*, to try Major *Post*, of Colonel *Kachlein's* Regiment, for cowardice, in running away from *Long-Island* when an alarm was given of the approach of the enemy. The same Court-Martial also to try *John Spanzenbury*, Adjutant of the same Regiment, for the same offence, and likewise Lieutenant *Peter Zachlein*.

Benjamin Stone appointed Quartermaster, *William Adams* appointed Paymaster, *Nathaniel Webb*, Adjutant of Colonel *Durkee's* Regiment. *Daniel Tilden*, Esq., to do duty as Captain, till further orders.

Richard Sill appointed Paymaster to Colonel *Tyler's* Regiment.

Major *Lee* is desired to do the duty of Brigade-Major in Major *Henly's* stead, till an appointment is made.

Head-Quarters, New-York, September 8, 1776.

(Parole, Grayson.)

(Countersign, Tughman.)

Alexander McIntire, of Captain *Newall's* Company, *James Butler*, of Captain *Dalley's* Company, and *John Knowlton*, of Captain *Maxwell's* Company, all of Colonel *Prescott's* Regiment, tried by a Court-Martial whereof Colonel *Malcom* was President, and acquitted of "plundering

a letter belonging to a citizen of *New-York*; each ordered to be discharged and join their regiments.

Ames Reed, Corporal in Captain *Van Cleaver's* Company, Regiment late Colonel *Johnson's*, tried by the same Court-Martial, and convicted of "speaking disrespectfully and villifying the Commander-in-Chief," sentenced to receive thirty-nine lashes, at different days successively, thirteen each day, and reduced to the ranks.

John Lillie, of Colonel *Knox's* Regiment of Artillery, Captain *Hamilton's* Company, convicted by the same Court-Martial of "abusing Adjutant *Henly*, and striking him," ordered to receive thirty-nine lashes in the same manner.

The General approves the above sentences, and orders them to be put in execution at the usual time and place.

The General directs that in future, in case of any soldier detected in plundering, the Brigadier-General, or Colonel, or Commanding Officer of the Regiment, immediately call a Court-Martial, and have the offenders tried and punished without delay.

[No. 1.]

Sunday Morning, 9 o'clock.

SIR: I would inform you that the enemy has opened two three-gun batteries, and have at least four royals, and have very much damaged two platforms, and the breastworks are very much shattered. They have also broke our limbers. They have sent a shot through one of our large carriages. One of Colonel *Sargent's* regiment is killed, and two or three wounded; but we have none lost or wounded. They continue to keep up a very severe bombardment and cannonade. Their ordnance is twelve and twenty-four pounders. I should think it necessary that there should be carpenters sent here to repair platforms.

ELIPHELET NEWELL, Captain.

To Colonel *Henry Knox*.

P. S. We can bring but two guns to bear upon them.

[No. 2.]

New-Rotchel, September 8, 1776.

DEAR SIR: We have sent one *Samuel Hunt*, on *Long-Island*, a young man I think will answer every purpose he is sent after. It is uncertain when he will return; but this evening there is one Mr. *Sands* to be over, who can give us a particular account. There was one Mr. *Tredwell*, and another person from *Goshen*, in *Orange* County, the latter unknown to me, across here four or five days ago. Mr. *Tredwell* is a disaffected person, and all his friends live on *Long-Island*. I understand that his brothers are warmly engaged against us, and I am well persuaded he will go through the whole of their camps. He is expected over every hour. I have secured the horses, and intend to secure them, put them apart, and bring them to you, as soon as they cross. We will be able to get all we want from them. The news collected since I saw you, is, that the main body of their army is at *Newtown*, and Lord *Howe* keeps that as Head-Quarters; that all the wagons, as far eastward as they have been able to go, are pressed and carried to *Newtown*, and that every horse fit for the troop is pressed and taken away from their proper owners, without any respect of persons. They talk of raising three regiments—one to be a regiment of Rangers, to be commanded by Major *Robert Rogers*—and if the people will not turn out volunteers, they will draft them. They had their general muster yesterday, but raised no recruits on account of the weather; at which meeting they agreed to keep but two sentries on *Cow-Neck*—one at *Long-Point*, and the other at *Watch-Point*—which makes it safe to cross. It is said there are three regiments at *Flushing*, one at *Jamaica*.

From your humble servant,

ISAAC NICOLL, Colonel.

GENERAL WASHINGTON TO GENERAL HEATH.

Head-Quarters, New-York, September 8, 1776.

DEAR SIR: I have lately received information, on which I can in some measure rely, that it is impracticable for carriages to pass from *Harlem-Point*, or any of the landing-places contiguous to it, towards *King's Bridge*, any other way than along the publick roads. I should therefore conceive it would be highly expedient to throw every impediment and obstruction in the ways leading from the above mentioned places, as also in the roads leading from *Morris-*

sania, and *Delancy's Mills*, and indeed any other which you conceive there is a probability of the enemy's making use of, in order to prevent, or at least delay them, in the conveyance of their artillery. In some places it may be necessary to fell trees across the roads; in others I would recommend deep pits to be dug. In short, I must request you will have them broke up and destroyed in such a manner as to render them utterly impassable.

I am, sir, your most obedient servant,

Go. WASHINGTON.

To Major-General *Heath*.

P. S. I mean those roads within your district leading from *King's Bridge* down to the points on which it is supposed the enemy will land.

GENERAL WASHINGTON TO GENERAL MERCER.

Head-Quarters, New-York, September 8, 1776.

SIR: I have received your letter by General *Roberdeau*, of the 7th of *September*, and am sorry to hear of your indisposition, which, however, I hope will in a short time be removed. There has nothing very critical passed in this quarter since you were here; still matters wear so critical an aspect that I have determined to call over Colonel *Ward's* regiment from the post opposite *Mount Washington*; you will therefore be pleased to detach so many of the troops under your command as will make up this deficiency, and still keep General *Ewing's* complement of fifteen hundred men entire. Notwithstanding this assistance, I shall still stand in need of two or three thousand men to reinforce the posts here, and am anxious for the arrival of the *Maryland* and *Virginia* troops, which are on their march to this place. I shall be glad you will immediately inform me by express where they are, and when I may with certainty expect them. I could wish they were pushed forward with all possible expedition. General *Roberdeau* will communicate to you the result of the Council; also any other things material which are not mentioned in this letter.

I am, sir, your most obedient servant,

Go. WASHINGTON.

To Brigadier-General *Mercer*, *New-Jersey*.

P. S. I desire you will direct the engineer to expedite the works, to the utmost of his abilities, which are necessary for the defence of General *Ewing's* post.

GENERAL WASHINGTON TO GENERAL JAMES CLINTON.

New-York, September 8, 1776.

SIR: I have this day wrote to the President of the Convention of *New-York*, requesting that an aid of six hundred Militia may be sent to you from the Counties of *Ulster* and *Orange*, or any other that is more proper and convenient, for the purpose of assisting you, either in the defence of the Highlands, in case they should be attacked, or of constructing new works and fortifications by which they may be rendered more secure. However, whether you receive this reinforcement or not, I must entreat you in the strongest manner to exert yourself to the utmost of your abilities in making those two posts at the Highlands as defensible as possible. Their great importance must be obvious to every person.

I am, sir, &c.,

Go. WASHINGTON.

To Brigadier-General *James Clinton*, *Fort Montgomery*.

GENERAL WASHINGTON TO THE NEW-YORK CONVENTION.

New-York, September 8, 1776.

SIR: I have just received the resolve of your Convention, respecting the removal of the bells belonging to the different churches and publick edifices in this city to *Newark*, in the Province of *New-Jersey*. The measure I highly approve of, and shall accordingly have it carried into execution.

I have lately been conversing with General *Clinton* concerning the defence of the forts in the Highlands, who agrees with me in sentiment that the force already there is by no means sufficient. I should therefore conceive it would be greatly in advancement of the service, if you would cause a reinforcement of Militia, amounting to about six hundred men, to be sent there from the Counties of *Ulster*

and *Orange*, or any other that may be most proper and convenient. They may be usefully and importantly employed, as well in defence of the Highlands, in case they should be attacked, as in erecting new works and fortifications by which they may be rendered more secure.

I am, sir, your most obedient servant,

GO. WASHINGTON.

To the Hon. *Abraham Yates*, Jun., Esq., President, &c.

GENERAL WASHINGTON TO THE NEW-YORK CONVENTION.

New-York, September 8, 1776.

SIR: I wrote you this morning by your express, but forgot to mention a matter of consequence. It being determined to remove our sick to *Orange-Town*, we shall want four large *Albany* sloops for that purpose. The fatigue of travelling that distance by land would not only be more than the patients could bear, but we have full employ for our wagons in transporting baggage, tents, &c., for the troops from hence to our own posts. I must therefore beg the favour of your honourable body to procure the above number of vessels, and send them down with as much despatch as possible to this city.

I am, with respect, your most obedient servant,

GO. WASHINGTON.

To the Hon. *Abraham Yates*, Jun., Esq., President, &c.

P. S. I shall be glad to know, by return of the express, when I may probably expect the sloops down. There are several now on the lower parts of the river with boards; perhaps you might engage them to come this day, which would save time.

GENERAL GREENE TO THE PRESIDENT OF CONGRESS.

[Read September 13th.]

Camp at New-York, September 8, 1776.

SIR: This will be handed you by Captain *Sion Martindale* and Lieutenant *Moses Turner*, that were taken in the brig *Washington*, in *Boston Bay*, last Fall. They were sent home prisoners to *England* and ordered back to *Halifax*, where they were confined in gaol for some time; at last they found means to cut a passage out, and made their escape, and have got safe home. There is one Lieutenant *Child*, that was made prisoner with them, and made his escape at the same time the others did. They apply to Congress for their wages and rations due during their captivity. They also apply for an allowance for the losses they met with, and for several advancements they made for the brig *Washington* and the crew, during the time they were fitting for the cruise; all which, doubtless, the Congress will take under consideration, and grant what justice and equity entitle them to. They all belonged to the *Rhode-Island* regiments, and while they were under my command, they discharged their duty as became good and faithful officers. How they behaved after they entered on board the brig *Washington*, I am not able to say. They are men who have families, and no means of support for them but their industry.

I am, with due respect, your obedient servant,

NATHANAEL GREENE.

To the Hon. *John Hancock*, Esq., President of the Continental Congress, at *Philadelphia*.

Red-Hook, August 23, 1776.

I do hereby certify that Captain *Sion Martindale*, who commanded and was taken prisoner off *Plymouth*, in the brig *Washington*, was arranged in the Ninth Regiment, under my command; that during the time of his captivity, the place was considered vacant, and filled, by which means he lost his promotion to the rank and command of a field officer, which, from the casualties of the regiment, would have been his right. J. N. VARNUM, Colonel 9th Regiment.

To all whom it may concern.

GENERAL GEORGE CLINTON TO NEW-YORK CONVENTION.

King's Bridge, September 8, 1776.

SIR: Since I was honoured with the resolve of Convention of the 3d instant, respecting Colonels *Benson's* and *Smith's* regiments, I have used every means in my power

FIFTH SERIES.—VOL. II.

to discover the situation of those troops, and join them (if possible) to my brigade. I find them much dispersed—many (leaving their arms behind, as is said) having gone over to *Long-Island* and are not yet returned; where the Colonels and most of the other officers are, I have not yet been able to discover. Captain *Tour*, of Colonel *Smith's*, and Lieutenant *Hobart*, of *Benson's* regiment, only, have been with me; they promised to collect all the men they could find and join me, though at the same time they were very apprehensive of difficulties arising from *Smith's* regiment being inlisted not to go off the Island, and *Benson's* till the 1st of *September* only. I doubt not, however, but they will use their best endeavours. Some few of the men of both regiments are strolling about *Westchester* and *New-Rochelle*.

By the enclosed return of my brigade, you will observe that there are wanting to complete five hundred and ninety-six men; that this deficiency principally arises from the different Militia regiments not having furnished their quotas—from desertions, which latter have been so frequent that unless some effectual method can be devised to prevent in future, not only my brigade, but the whole army, will be much injured if not ruined. If I am rightly informed, the Militia regiments drafted their full numbers; but, having drafted them, never took the proper steps to make them join their companies, and now suffer them as well as deserters to go at large openly among them about their ordinary business, without apprehending and sending them back. I know it is my duty as well as the duty of every other officer in the service, to cause deserters to be apprehended; but it is also the duty of every friend to his country, and more particularly so of members of Committees and officers of Militia. They can do it without injuring the publick service in any degree. I can't: if I send officers and parties of faithful men after them, I thereby weaken the army. The deserters hear of them in their neighbourhood—their business—and, I am sorry to add, are too frequently aided in evading my guard. I wish the companies raised in *Dutchess* and *Westchester*, and put under the direction of the Committees of those Counties, might have it in special charge from your honourable body to apprehend and send back deserters in their respective Counties—the extra expense attending which could easily, and with justice, be defrayed out of such deserters' pay. I now enclose a list of *Dutchess* County deserters, and as soon as I can obtain a list of those from Colonel *Thomson's* regiment, I will (if approved by the Convention) forward it to Captain *Townsend*.

I beg leave to lay before you a petition I just now received from Colonels *Grahame*, *Hopkins*, and others, respecting the Surgeon of their regiment, which ought (in my opinion) to have been addressed to you in the first instance, the Convention only having power to redress the complainant.

I have confined one *William Mahony*, of *Fishkill* Landing, in the main guard, for seducing a soldier from his duty in the city, bringing him up here and endeavouring to pass him by our guards at *King's Bridge*, and thereby enable him to desert. *Mahony* confesses the soldier worked as a journeyman with him six weeks before he inlisted; that he knew he afterward inlisted, yet though I offered to release him if he would tell the soldier's name, the company and regiment he belongs to, (which I have the greatest reason to believe is in his power,) he will give me no other satisfaction than that the soldier's name is *Riley*; and from *Mahony's* conduct, I am induced to think the soldier, notwithstanding our guards did not suffer him to pass the bridges, has escaped by crossing the river some other way.

I also enclose examination taken against one *Tippet*, of this neighbourhood, who is also confined in our main guard by some of my officers, for the crime therein particularly mentioned, which is (in my opinion) of the most dangerous nature, and has been too much practised, and not without effect, by the disaffected, since the retreat from *Long-Island*, which is given out by them as a total defeat. I am extremely unhappy in being obliged to deprive any man of personal liberty but by due course of law; but in the above cases I flatter myself the Convention will justify me till I can have their directions, which shall be faithfully pursued on every occasion.

Nothing very material has occurred since my last. From

the best information we have had, the main body of the enemy lie at *Newtown* and *Bedford*. Their guards on the Island extend to the *Neck*, east of *White-Stone*. The *Highlanders* are in that quarter. It is said they have impressed from one thousand to fifteen hundred teems to carry across their boats and baggage, and they are erecting a battery opposite *Horn's Hook*, and heavy cannonade was heard all last night at or near that place, which continued till about seven o'clock this morning. I have not yet heard the particulars, but believe it was from our people against the enemy's new works; perhaps it was reciprocal.

From the disposition of the enemy's army and their delay, I imagine they intend attacking us in two or three different quarters; and I think it more than probable that their grand aim is to hem in our army and cut off our communication with the country, in which case this division of our army, were it possible, should be augmented. It ought to be considered they hem us in by water on three sides. The distance across up as far as *Maw-Neck*, between the two rivers, don't much exceed twelve miles, though I hope their shipping won't be able to pass *Fort Washington*; but this is very uncertain. I mention these matters to show the necessity of the Militia holding themselves in the most perfect readiness. For should the enemy attempt anything of this kind so high up, it will be of the utmost consequence to fight and vanquish them before they have time to throw up any works whatever.

My Brigade-Major, *Pawling*, who has served in that character ever since the brigade was formed, is without a commission, which is the case also with many others of the officers, who express uneasiness on that score. I wish some method could be fallen upon to grant them their commissions. I fear confusion may arise for want of an arrangement of the Field Officers; every Colonel claims seniority. I have taken some pains to settle their respective ranks, but without effect. I most earnestly wish the Convention would give me some directions in this respect, and point out how it is to be done.

Lieutenant-Colonel *Ferris* is now with me; he complains of being troubled with an old settled disorder in his head, which at present is so violent as to render him unfit for duty. I believe he is a good man, and acts from principle. He means to ask the Convention to supply his place until a return of health, which he hopes will take place on retiring a short time from the noise of the camp.

I am just informed that there are many disaffected persons near the *Sound* and *East River*, possessed of large stocks of cattle; that they neglect driving them back, and refuse to part with them to the Commissary at the ordinary prices. It is more than probable they will fall into the hands of the enemy, (where I believe the owners wish them,) unless some proper measures are speedily taken to prevent it.

I am, with the highest esteem, your most obedient servant,
GEORGE CLINTON.

To the President of the Convention of the State of *New-York*.

P. S. The cannonading was from the enemy's new battery against ours at *Horn's Hook*. I hear one of their shells killed one and wounded three men, but did no other damage.

JAMES WILLIAM PAYNE TO ROBERT BENSON.

Westchester, September 8, 1776.

SIR: On my first arrival from *Canada*, I made application to the honourable Convention to get in the Artillery service, a department which I rather choose to serve in, as I made it my study early, and having the charge of all the ordnance in the first campaign against *Canada*, I acquired a tolerable knowledge in the practical part; but there being no vacancies, I could not be provided for, and since my return home have been in a bad state of health, in consequence of the violent fatigues I suffered in *Canada*.

A few days ago I applied to his Excellency General *Washington*, laying before him my grievances, that I had just fled from *Long-Island*, leaving my family behind prisoners, having only time to escape with the clothes on my back. His Excellency desired I would write to the honourable Convention, where there were members who know my family and character; by their recommendation he would

immediately provide for me, as I embarked very early in defending the rights of *America* by every means in my power, and shall ever be actuated by the same principles in preserving the freedom of my country. I make no doubt those gentlemen of the Convention who are acquainted with me, will take my distress in their immediate consideration. You will please to let this be presented to the House, and if from motives of humanity to my little family they choose to write to his Excellency on the occasion, they will as soon as possible; which shall always be gratefully acknowledged by their most obedient humble servant,

JAMES WM. PAYNE.

To *Robert Benson*, Esq., Secretary to the Convention of *New-York*, at *Fishkill*.

LIEUTENANT SAYRE TO GENERAL HEATH.

Westchester, September 8, 1776.

SIR: There seems to be a movement of the enemy; there is a tender moved from the man-of-war to the brig, and has taken all the small crafts along the shore, and the officer of the party sent one of my sentries in order to go to Colonel *Hand*, and I thought it proper to give your Honour notice.

From your humble servant,

JAMES SAYRE, Lieutenant.

STANDARD OF THE THIRTEENTH REGIMENT.

Ground, Light Buff. Device, Pine-Tree and field of *Indian Corn*, (emblematical of *New-England* fields.) Two Officers in the uniform of the Regiment, one of them wounded in the breast, the blood streaming from the wound. Under the pine several children, one of the officers pointing to them, with the motto, "For posterity I bleed."

GENERAL NIXON TO GENERAL HEATH.

MY DEAR SIR: You have no doubt observed that the enemy decamped last night from the Heights to the northward of *Flushing Bay*. About three or four regiments are now encamping on the hill to the westward of the Bay, and opposite to the Island which forms *Hell-Gate*. Whether this body is that which decamped, or one marched from *Newtown*, we cannot determine. Certain it is, their movements indicate an intention to land near you or at *Harlem*. Four boats were sounding the channel a few minutes since, between *Little Hell-Gate* and the opening to *Harlem*. These appearances render it necessary that post should be taken on *Morris's Hill* this night, for reasons too obvious to be mentioned. If you have strength to do it with the troops marched up to-day, would it not be proper to be done? If you have not strength, (of which advise us,) we will post some regiments there to-night; although it will weaken the middle division, if a landing should be made below this evening. Whatever may be your determination, pray advise us of it in time.

I have the honour to be your humble servant,

JNO. NIXON, Brigadier-General.

To the Hon. General *Heath* or General *Mifflin*.

COLONEL NICOLL TO GENERAL HEATH.

New-Rotchel, September 8, 1776.

DEAR SIR: We have sent one *Samuel Hunt* on *Long-Island*, a young man I think will answer every purpose he is sent after. It is uncertain when he will return; but this evening there is one Mr. *Sands* to be over, who can give us a particular account. There is one *William Tredwell* and another person from *Goshen*, in *Orange County*, the latter unknown to me, crossed here four or five days ago. Mr. *Tredwell* is a disaffected person, and all his friends live on *Long-Island*. I understand that his brothers are warmly engaged against us, and I am well persuaded he will go through the whole of their camps; he is expected over every hour. I have secured the horses and intend to secure them, put them apart, and bring them to you as soon as they cross, as we will be able to get all we want from them. The news collected since I saw you, is, that the main body of their army is at *Newtown*, and Lord *Howe* keeps that as Head-Quarters; that all the wagons as far eastward as

they have been able to go, are pressed and carried to *Newtown*, and that every horse fit for the troop is pressed and taken away from their proper owners, without any respect of persons. They talk of raising three regiments; one to be a regiment of Rangers, to be commanded by Major *Robert Rogers*, and if the people will not turn out volunteers, they will draft them. They had their general muster yesterday, but raised no recruits on the account of the weather; at which meeting they agreed to keep but two sentries on *Cow-Neck*—one at *Long-Point*, and the other at *Watch-Point*—which makes it safe to cross. It is said there are three regiments at *Flushing*, one at *Jamaica*.

From your humble servant,

ISAAC NICOLL, Colonel.

To Major-General *Heath*, at *King's Bridge*; or in his absence, to Brigadier-General *George Clinton*.

RECOMMENDATION OF MAJOR GRAY.

Camp, White-Plains, September 8, 1776.

We, the subscribers, from a knowledge of Major *Gray's* abilities and integrity, and out of a regard for the good of the service, would recommend Major *Gray* to the Commissary-General's berth in the Northern Department, as a person every way qualified for it, and one who has great merit for his exertions last campaign in that quarter; and who, we make no doubt, will discharge the functions of that office with fidelity to the publick, honour to himself, and to the satisfaction of the troops who are on the way to be stationed there.

ENOCH POOR, Brigadier-General.

JNO. NIXON, Brigadier-General.

JNO. PATERSON, Brigadier-General.

ALEXANDER SCAMMEL, Brigadier-General.

JS. BALDWIN, Engineer.

SAML. COULTON, Lieut. Colonel Commandant.

To *B. Arnold*, Major-General.

GENERAL SCHUYLER TO THE PRESIDENT OF CONGRESS.

[Read 13th September. Referred to Board of War.]

Albany, September 8, 1776.

SIR: I did myself the honour to address Congress in a letter of the 16th *August*. As I humbly conceive Congress could have decided on that part of it which respected my disagreeable situation with very little interruption to those momentous concerns of the publick which claim their attention, I have reason to believe that either my letter or the answer to it has miscarried; and as the calumny against me daily increases, I take the liberty to enclose a copy of that letter, and again request that a committee or court may be instituted to inquire into every part of my conduct since I have been honoured with the command in the Northern Department; for, however little the publick may be interested, it is of some moment to a man conscious of the rectitude of his conduct, that he should be justified and his character cleared from aspersions that may involve him and his family, in this jealous day, into a variety of difficulties.

In obedience to the resolutions of Congress of the 6th *July*, I have stated the late General *Montgomery's* accounts as far as I was capable to do it, with the papers transmitted to me from *Canada* by General *Wooster*; amongst which there is not any book or memorandum in which it is noted what money the deceased General received either from me or any other person. I have, therefore, only charged what money he received from or through me, and struck the balance, against which is to be put the money he received in *Canada* from Mr. *Price*, or others; and what that is, may probably be determined by Congress. Copy of the General's account of disbursements I lodged in the pay-office here; and I believe most, if not all, that was advanced as pay to officers and soldiers is stopped by the Paymaster-General; but I believe very little of that for contingent expenses is yet accounted for.

When I received General *Montgomery's* papers, I caused my Secretary and Assistant Secretary to open, examine, and make schedules of them, as you will see by their certificates endorsed.

As the Commissioners appointed to settle accounts in this department are not furnished with copies or abstracts of disbursements made by the several commanders in *Canada*,

and by Mr. *Price* and others, they will find it extremely difficult, if not impossible, to liquidate the various accounts that will become the subject of their inspection. They should also be furnished with what money sent me by Congress, and which I stand charged with, and with what has been sent to the Paymaster-General in this department; for although I can give credit for what I have received, yet that may not be satisfactory to them. I have mentioned this to the gentlemen that are here, (Mr. *Wells* and Mr. *Carter*,) and desired them to apply for the necessary papers.

Every kind of clothing for the army, but shoes and stockings especially, are so absolutely necessary, and such great demands are daily made for them, that a mode of supply claims the most early attention. Could not yarn socks, to rise as high as the ankle, be procured in *Pennsylvania*? The leg-part might be supplied with *Indian* stockings, which, as they are much more lasting and more comfortable for the men in cold weather, would ultimately be cheaper.

As the publick labours under such difficulty for a supply of shoes, and that the demand will increase in a future campaign, perhaps Congress may think proper to appoint persons to erect a tan-yard in some part of the country where the materials for tanning can be most handily procured, and to which the hides from both armies in this Colony can be the easiest and most expeditiously conveyed. This, though perhaps not the cheapest mode of supplying the army, would, I conceive, be the most effectual.

General *Trumbull* has sent to the amount of £2,206 6s. lawful, in clothing, to the Northern Army, and was trying to procure more, as also tents for the troops. He has desired me to advise Congress of this.

The season advances so fast that it is time to think of preparing the Winter quarters for such troops as are not to be kept in garrison. The commander in this department should be advised of the intentions of Congress on this head the soonest possible, that barracks may be prepared at such places as Congress may direct, and magazines of fuel, straw, &c., provided in time. Perhaps it would be best not to canton the troops too far from *Ticonderoga*, as it may be supposed that an attempt will be made by the enemy in the course of the Winter on that post, or at least they will try to burn our navy in order to ensure their passage over the Lake in a future campaign. The barracks in this place will not contain above five hundred men, (if the Hospital is not occupied as a barrack, and I fear it will be wanted for the use of the sick.) If new ones are to be built, would it not be best to erect them in such parts of the country above, where the soldiers can at once have the advantage of purchasing vegetables, and where a plenty of firewood can be procured at a rate so easy as to make it an object worthy of attention, and where the materials for building are to be procured greatly cheaper than in town? *Stillwater* or *Saratoga* might be proper places. The amazing quantity of nails that were necessary for so many batteaus and vessels as we have built, has most effectually drained the country of that indispensably necessary article. All we can now get are from the blacksmiths, at a most immoderate price. I wish to have a quantity sent by way of *Hackinsack* to *Hudson's River*, and forwarded as soon as possible to this place. A very considerable quantity of glass will also be wanted, and cannot be procured anywhere nearer than *Philadelphia*.

As there is no appointment of a Deputy Adjutant-General in this department, Colonel *John Trumbull* now acts as such under a temporary appointment of General *Gates*. As he is active, discreet, and sensible, I beg leave to recommend him to Congress to be confirmed in that post.

The originals of the enclosed from Colonel *Dayton* came to hand on the 6th instant. I have requested the Committee of this County to order all the Militia to march into *Tryon County*; but before they can be ready, I expect further information from Colonel *Dayton*.

I have requested a further supply of ammunition from General *Washington*, which I shall soon have if he can spare any; but lest he should not have any to send, I must entreat Congress to forward both powder and ball in considerable quantities.

Since writing the above, a letter from General *Gates*, of the 5th instant, is come to hand. He observes that "as the fleet is large and mounts a number of cannon, and the body of troops here very considerable, it is immediately

necessary that fifteen tons of powder, ten of lead, with flints and cartridge-paper in proportion, should be sent to this post." I have not any of the articles here, and must entreat that they may be sent with all expedition. My Secretary and Aids-de-Camp have hitherto mustered the troops as they passed. I deferred making a temporary appointment, as I was in hopes Congress would have sent a muster-master; but the necessity is now so pressing that I have requested General Gates to appoint one if he can find a person fit for it; if not, to advise me thereof, and I would try to procure one here. Since I received the resolution of Congress that no officer should hold double commissions, I have attempted to procure a proper person to reside at Fort George as an Assistant Deputy Quartermaster-General in the room of Lieutenant-Colonel Buel, (of Burrell's,) who was appointed one last Spring; but I have not yet succeeded. Persons fit for such employments, where judgment and activity are both so essentially necessary, are not easily procured, especially where so many of them are wanted. I mention this lest Congress should imagine that I had wilfully omitted obeying the resolution.

I am, sir, most respectfully, your obedient, humble servant,
PH. SCHUYLER.

To the President of Congress.

P. S. Colonel Dayton cannot be short of salt provisions, as he mentions, unless the Commissary at his post has made a false return. He has had a constant supply of fresh meat since his last return, copy whereof I now enclose.

Fort-Schuyler, September 4, 1776.

DEAR GENERAL: The enclosed is a message this minute received from Oneida by the hands of three warriors.

Yesterday about two o'clock in the morning, Sconondo, with another Indian of the Castle, arrived express with intelligence by a letter from Mr. Spencer, that a numerous army, chiefly of Indians, were that day to arrive at Oswego; but he advised me to suspend my operations until the return of an express despatched to Onondaga, to know the certainty of the rumour, where it seems it had originated. That express has not yet arrived, but the earnest anxiety of the Oneidas on the occasion causes me to despatch this message before the other arrives.

We are pretty well supplied with flour, but scant of salt provisions.

I am, dear General, your most obedient, very humble servant,
ELIAS DAYTON.

P. S. I have transmitted copies of the Oneida letter to the commanding officers at the Flats and Johnstown.

Oneida, September 4, 1776—morning.

SIR: News from Onondaga inform that there are seven hundred Indians and whites at Swagotche that will be at Oswego this day, and that there are parties out for destroying the inhabitants along the river, and they desire them to be on their guard. They are to come first to Stone Arabia and go down; and that there are particular parties designed to take Major Fonda and Colonel Harkman. The Indians here desire word may be sent with all speed down to the places exposed—the number unknown. They make five roads where they pass in the woods. The Onedages sent word to Conishelage, fourteen miles from hence, that they take care of three of their warriors that have lately come from Canada; they will not be stopped; they will strike whenever they see white people—first here; if they fail, your Fort is the next place. The Indians desire you to keep all your people within on account of those arrived at Oswego, and that you will not send white people for spies lest they meet with harm. This news did not come by the messengers sent Onedage two days past; they are not yet arrived; but was sent by two particular chiefs. Three head warriors from hence are going to meet those three villains, in order to turn them back. I am guarded by my neighbours at present, though I expect I shall not be able to stay here long, on account of private villains in the neighbouring towns, though I shall be advised by the Indians, who have undertaken to protect me.

Your humble servant,

THOMAS SPENCER.

To Colonel Dayton.

N. B. The party designed for Oswego are commanded by

Walter Butler. I am at a loss whether they are yet arrived at Oswego or not. Great numbers will soon arrive after the above seven hundred at Oswego.

"BROTHER: We are threatened by those Indians coming to Oswego, on account we sit still and meddle not in the war. We expect to be struck by them. We think it is time to take care, and expect trouble from our enemies. It is the advice of the Onondagas so to do. We desire you will reinforce with all speed. We think there is occasion for more troops this way. We desire the Mohegan Indians in New-England may take their axe and come speedily to our assistance, as they agreed to do. We give our compliments to all the officers and great men, wherever this news may come, and that proper care may be taken that this our desire may be sent to the proper places for our speedy relief. The Chiefs met in council desire the above may be taken as their real sentiments.

"Present: Your humble servant,

"THOMAS SPENCER.

"To Colonel Dayton."

This is a true copy of a letter received this day from the Onondaga Chiefs, with a belt, by the hands of three of their warriors, written and signed, as in the copy, by Thomas Spencer.

ELIAS DAYTON.

September 4, 1776.

A Return of Provisions at Fort Schuyler, formerly Fort Stanwix: 180 barrels of Pork, 226 barrels of Flour, and 23 head of Cattle.

Soldiers Victualled—467.

H. GLEN.

August 13, 1776.

To Major-General Schuyler.

A true copy:

RICHARD VARICK, Secretary.

GENERAL SCHUYLER TO THE PRESIDENT OF CONGRESS.

[Read September 13. Referred to the Board of War.]

Albany, September 8, 1776.

SIR: Since sealing my letter of this day's date, Mr. Livingston, the Deputy Commissary-General, has informed me that he has sent his resignation to Congress. I am sorry for it, and wished to have him remain in the employment, as I am confident Congress will not be able to procure a person of more integrity or better qualified to discharge the duties of that office. It is a justice I owe him to observe, that he has not only acted as Commissary, but as Quartermaster, Storekeeper, and in every office in which he could promote the service, and if any person is entitled to an extra allowance, it is surely he. Some other person ought immediately to be appointed a Deputy Commissary-General in this department, for without such an officer we cannot possibly carry on the business with any degree of regularity.

You will be so good, sir, as to acknowledge the receipt of the despatches carried by the bearer, whom I wish should be sent back to me, with all possible despatch, and with such letters as Congress may please to honour me with.

I am, sir, with every sentiment of esteem and respect, your most obedient, humble servant,

PH. SCHUYLER.

To the Hon. John Hancock.

GENERAL SCHUYLER TO GENERAL WASHINGTON.

Albany, September 8, 1776.

DEAR GENERAL: Yesterday I was honoured with your two favours of the 20th ultimo and 4th instant—the former by Mr. Pelissier, the latter by Mr. Allen. Mr. Pelissier will leave this for Tyonderoga to-morrow morning.

Notwithstanding the retreat from Long-Island, I am still in hopes that the enemy will not be able to accomplish their intentions, and that you will, in the end, reap those laurels which you so highly merit.

General Gates, in a letter just received from him, observes, "that as the fleet is large, and mounts a great number of cannon, and the body of troops here very considerable, it is immediately necessary that fifteen tons of powder, ten of lead, with flints and cartridge paper in proportion, should be sent to this post." I have taken the liberty to transmit this request directly to Congress, supposing that

you would not be able to comply with it. Should I be mistaken, and your Excellency be able to order up any of these articles, you will please to advise Congress thereof.

By the enclosed papers, your Excellency will perceive that we are threatened with an enemy from the westward. I have requested the Committee of this County to order the Militia to march. They have directed half of the whole Militia of the County immediately to move to *Tryon* County, and I have requested General *Gates* to hold three regiments in readiness to march.

Colonel *Dayton* cannot be short of salt provisions as he mentions, unless the Commissary at his post has made a false return. He has had a constant supply of fresh meat since his last return, copy whereof I now enclose.

Enclose an account of what boards have gone from here. By comparing that with the account of what is received, the Quartermaster-General will know what number may be at *Peck's-Hill*, and on their way down. I shall order all to be sent that can be collected, but I fear they will be very considerable, as not many boards have been sawed lately.

My mills, that used to cut from forty to fifty thousand boards of fourteen feet long, have not cut one this year, as I was under a necessity of sending my oxen to the army. That has been the case with several others. Should you want timber for the buildings, I believe it might be procured here and sent down in sloops. Should you stand in need of small craft, to convey troops from one quarter to the other, they might be brought from *Lake George*. I believe fifty could be spared.

I am, dear sir, with the greatest esteem, your Excellency's most obedient, humble servant,

PH. SCHUYLER.

To his Excellency General *Washington*, &c., &c.

P. S. I have advised Congress of the information given me by Colonel *Dayton*.

GENERAL SCHUYLER TO GENERAL GATES.

Albany, September 8, 1776.

DEAR GENERAL: Your favour of the 5th instant was last night delivered to me. An hour or two before, I received a letter from General *Washington*, copy whereof you have enclosed.

I shall immediately try to procure as many ship carpenters as possible, and advise General *Waterbury* thereof.

Two hundred and fifty thousand dollars shall be sent you immediately.

I am sorry Mr. *Avery* cannot see the propriety of complying with my request. I have wrote the Commissary-General that I was pleased with his services, and had no reason to complain of his conduct, except in the instance of not making the returns as I directed. He will probably soon have the whole department to himself, and he will receive from me the same countenance and assistance which it is my duty to give Mr. *Livingston* whilst he is in employ, so long as I remain in the department.

I had already mentioned to Congress the necessity of a further supply of power and lead. I shall send an extract of your letter, and renew the request.

I have requested the Committee of this County to order the Militia to *Tryon* County. I have not heard from Colonel *Dayton* since mine to you of yesterday.

One company of seamen, twenty-six in number, will be here to-day and leave this to-morrow.

If Courts-Martial would severely punish officers for illiberal abuse against their superiours, such virulent and ill-founded complaints as you mention to be made by Lieutenant-Colonel *Brown*, against General *Arnold*, would soon cease. The latter gentleman will always be the subject of complaint, because his impartiality and candour will not suffer him to see impropriety of behaviour with impunity.

The resolution of Congress not to suffer officers to hold double commissions, distresses me much. I have attempted to procure a person to act as Assistant Deputy Quartermaster-General in the room of Colonel *Buel*, who is at *Fort George*, but cannot succeed. It is not an easy matter to get the variety of people we want, unless we take officers.

Is there any one with you, that is not an officer, proper to be appointed a Mustermaster? If there is, pray appoint him; if not, advise me thereof the soonest possible, that I may procure one here.

Soldiers are discharged from the General Hospital as unfit for further service. On their arrival here they apply for money. There seems a want of humanity in not supplying them with some, and yet the Paymaster risks a loss if he does. Please to order that none be discharged unless they are fully paid, and the receipt endorsed on the back of the discharge. I enclose you the Storekeeper's returns of what has lately been sent to you from hence.

A heavy cannonade was heard on *Friday* morning, by some people on their way up from *New-York*. A large body of the enemy were encamped on *Long-Island*, opposite *Hell-Gate*, and had taken possession of some of the islands there. It seems agreed that our troops behaved with great spirit on *Long-Island*.

I am, dear General, your most obedient, humble servant,
PH. SCHUYLER.

To the Hon. Major-General *Gates*.

RICHARD VARICK TO GENERAL GATES.

Albany, September 8, 1776.

DEAR GENERAL: Last evening I received a letter from Mr. *Egbert*, desiring me to order up shoes and other articles for the army. In answer to which I am sorry to say no shoes and stockings are to be had here. The General has wrote to Congress on this head. Shirts are sent up as fast as they can be procured. Small cartridge paper was sent up last week, and more is wrote for to *New-York*. Iron pots and kettles shall be sent as fast as they can be collected and wagons procured. It is not in our power to furnish any more lead or musket ball until it arrives from the southward.

I do myself the honour to enclose you a return of cannon, grape and swivel shot, being the first that has arrived in consequence of the requisitions from *Tyonderoga*. I shall order it up instanter, and as much more as may arrive, without the least delay. I am informed that some of the swivels ordered are arrived. If so, you may be assured that despatch in this instance will also be made.

I am, dear General, most respectfully, yours,
RICHARD VARICK.

To the Hon. Major-General *Gates*.

H. GLEN TO CAPTAIN EISENFORD.

Schenectady, September 8, 1776.

SIR: Yours of the 30th ultimo and 2d instant I have both now before me, and would have answered your first sooner, had I not been overcrowded with business, and the last just came to hand. As to salt provisions, it is entirely out of my power to help you to until the pork comes in, and that will be some weeks. I am well pleased with making two chimneys more in the barn, and in making a bake-oven; the latter and a well are very necessary in a garrison. As to sending you some cash in discharging some of the debts, in particular Captain *Bloomfield's* company, I would do with the greatest pleasure, but my orders from General *Schuyler* are to pay no money unless properly certified by the officers who have had things done for the publick. As to the wagoners not coming down next Winter, makes no odds, as the certificates they have will be paid by me to any person in this town, by producing the certificates will receive the money, or one person may receive the whole if he brings the whole of the certificates. As to the guns, I had expected they would have been brought to my store fifteen days ago, and instead of that Mr. *Van Tice* came to me this morning, and told me they were now done, but seems determined not to part with them till he has his money. Colonel *Van Dyck* told me you were to pay for them. I have told *Van Tice* to send you an account and write you a few lines on the subject, as I have no opportunity to send the guns, as my batteaus are all gone for *Fort Schuyler*. By the time the boats are back *Van Tice* may know where he is to get his money. As to the billeting money for your company and the rations for the officers, I believe the billeting money must be paid by the Deputy Paymaster-General, and the ration money by *Walter Livingston*, Esq., Deputy Commissary-General. If you will send down an account of the number of officers and rations due them, commencing and ending the time, and another account of the billeting money, I shall do my endeavours to get you the money, which I believe will be

no great difficulty in getting the money, so the accounts are properly drawn out and directed to the right person. If the Deputy Paymaster told you that Mr. *Livingston* was to pay it, then you had better draw the whole against Mr. *Livingston*, and an order on the account in favour of me or my order, so that I can get some of my friends at *Albany* to draw it, should you think proper, as I have hardly time to go to *Albany* myself. Should there be any thing wanting at your place, the commanding officer always better write to the General. If I had it in my power, no man would be more happy than I to serve my friends with any thing I had. I must conclude, with compliments to all friends, and believe me to be your most humble servant,

H. GLEN.

To Captain *John Eisenford*.

P. S. No receipt for kettles come to hand; nor your commission come to hand.

COLONEL HARTLEY TO GENERAL GATES.

Crown-Point, September 8, 1776—10 o'clock, P. M.

HONOURED SIR: Two of my boats have just now arrived from down the Lake, but neither of them bring satisfactory accounts from the fleet.

Sergeant *Mitchell*, with five men, went to the *Four Brothers*—the place where I ordered him—but saw no appearance of an enemy, or the fleet, this morning.

A party of upwards of twenty of my men were at *Gilliland's*. They heard a cannonading, supposed to be at the *White-House*, from *Wednesday* evening to *Friday*, near noon, last. You may perhaps judge what the cause of it may have been.

Part of my men at *Gilliland's* set off towards the fleet this morning.

Mr. *Brooks*, who first went from here, has not returned. He is either taken or will soon bring intelligence. I send another boat off to-morrow morning. My scouts have returned. No appearance of an enemy in the woods.

I am, sir, with the greatest respect, your most humble servant,

THOMAS HARTLEY.

To Major-General *Gates*.

GENERAL ARNOLD TO GENERAL GATES.

Isle-aux-Motte, September 8, 1776.

DEAR GENERAL: When I wrote the foregoing letter, I designed sending off the batteaus last evening, but was prevented by the stormy weather. Last night the enemy were heard by the guard boat and the people on board the vessels near in shore. On both sides of us several trees were felled and lights discovered. I believe the enemy were erecting batteries, which might have injured us, as the Lake is only one and a quarter miles over, and their design was doubtless to have attacked us both by land and water at the same time. I make no doubt we should have been more than a match for them, but did not think it prudent to run any risk, as it would answer no good purpose. I therefore ordered the fleet under way this morning, and at two o'clock, p. m., anchored at this place. Here, the Lake is about two miles over, and safe anchorage. We effectually secure any boats passing us. Just as we came to anchor, Lieutenant *Brooks* came on board, sent down by Colonel *Hartley* in consequence of hearing our cannon fired at the *Indians* on *Sunday* morning. I have thought it necessary to despatch him back again, that you may be out of suspense with regard to us. Four guard boats are constantly out, the rounds go every two hours at night, and every precaution is taken to prevent being surprised.

Our men are extremely bare of clothing, and the season is coming on severe, and more so on the water than land. If a watch-coat or blanket and one shirt could be sent for each man, it will be of great service for them. Rum is another necessary article. When the howitzers arrive, I beg three or four of six inches may be sent us, mounted on field carriages, with shells, &c., &c. Fifty swivels are much wanted; the last vessels have none.

I am, very affectionately, dear General, your obedient, humble servant,

B. ARNOLD.

To Major-General *Gates*.

P. S. Send me a few quires, paper.

COLONEL LIVINGSTON TO GOVERNOUR TRUMBULL.

HONOURED SIR: Since I wrote to your Honour, the people of *East* and *Southampton* have almost universally taken an oath of allegiance to *George III.*, King of *Great Britain*. It was tendered to them by Colonel *Gardiner*. They are now driving their cattle into the woods in order to hide them from us. They had brought them from *Montauk-Point* to *Easthampton*, in order to drive them westward to the enemy, in compliance with a proclamation issued by General *Erskine*, who is appointed commanding officer for the eastern part of *Long-Island*, by General *Howe*.

The want of whale boats is a great inconvenience to us, as a retreat is almost impracticable without them, should any vessels of force be in the Sound. I am informed there are as many as three hundred whale boats at *Boston*, that may be had for asking for.

If your Honour should send a body of troops to the Island, I should imagine they might be of service. If it should please your Honour to send any forces upon the Island, I should be extremely glad if I could know it beforehand, as his Excellency General *Washington* has honoured me with the command on the east end of the Island. I have just received a letter from him, desiring me to endeavour with all my powers to distress the enemy as much as possible, but not to run any risk of the detachment by suffering my retreat to be cut off.

The town of *Southold* are to-morrow to have a meeting in order to take the oath of allegiance, by Colonel *Phineas Fanning's* order; but I intend they shall have some unexpected guests at the meeting. The Tories at *Coram* are beating up for volunteers to join our enemies. Negroes as well as whites are taken into pay. If speedy measures are not used, the whole County of *Suffolk* will shortly be in arms against us. A small reinforcement will prevent it. General *Washington* was informed that I was joined by five thousand one hundred men, therefore thought it needless to send me any assistance.

I send with this a letter brought by express from the town of *Easthampton*; but from some words he dropped here, it was imagined that he had grown tired of the business he came upon, and instead of proceeding with the letter to your Excellency, intended to return to *Long-Island*. He has taken the oath of allegiance above mentioned. I have detained him in custody until your Honour's pleasure shall be known. I have also in confinement one *Patching*, formerly of *Connecticut*, and lately very active against us. What to do with these men I know not, unless the State will take charge of them. The bearer, Captain *Conklin*, has offered his services to cruise off *Montauk Point*, to give intelligence of the enemy's motions, if he can be furnished with a swift-sailing vessel he has in his eye at *New-London*. But the propriety of this I submit to your Honour's superiour judgment.

I remain, with all respect, your Honour's most obedient, humble servant,

HENRY B. LIVINGSTON.

To His Honour Governour *Trumbull*, Esq., of the State of *Connecticut*, *New-London*.[Per Captain *Conklin*.]

COLONEL LIVINGSTON TO GOVERNOUR TRUMBULL.

Saybrook, September 8, 1776.

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR HONOUR: I just now received your favour by express. I was just going to *Long-Island*, in order to prevent the people of *Southold* from swearing allegiance. But would do as you advise, immediately march my detachment to *New-York*, if I had not permitted many of them to go for their homes, on *Long-Island*, in order to bring off their families. They are to join me at this place, as soon as they have effected this. I shall wait for them three days, and then proceed to *New-York*, if no reinforcement is sent to *Long-Island*, in the meanwhile.

I remain your Honour's most obedient, humble servant,

HENRY B. LIVINGSTON.

To His Honour Governour *Trumbull*.

EXTRACT OF A LETTER DATED BOSTON, SEPTEMBER 8, 1776.

Captain *Proctor* is confined in the common gaol in *Halifax*, is treated most barbarously, and has been in irons ten

weeks on board the *Mercury* man-of-war. They threaten to take away his life, but he despises their threats; all that he wants is to meet his enemies in the field. He has been in *Halifax* gaol about five weeks, together with Colonel *Allen*, Mr. *Lovell*, and twenty-eight others.

CAPTAIN C. S. SMITH TO MATTHEW TILGHMAN.

Charles County, September 9, 1776.

SIR: As it is disagreeable to me to hold my commission as Captain of the Militia any longer, I now return it to the Council of Safety, enclosed herein. My reason for so doing, is, that the company seem to be discontented and getting into confusion. I therefore would prefer standing in the ranks as a common soldier.

I am, sir, your most humble servant,

CHARLES S. SMITH.

To Matthew Tilghman, Esq.

BALTIMORE COMMITTEE.

At a meeting of the Committee, September 9, 1776, Present: *S. Purviance*, Chairman; *Wm. Lux*, Vice-Chairman; *T. Gist*, *J. Boyd*, *D. Shaw*, *J. Smith*, *W. Buchanan*, *A. Buchanan*, *W. Wilkinson*, *T. Rutter*, *T. Sollers*, *A. Brittain*, *B. Griffith*, *J. Calhoun*, *W. Aisquith*.

Job Green having appeared before the Committee and desired a passport to pass the Fort for the schooner *Two Brothers*, now loaded with Bread and Flour intended for the *West-Indies*, and the Committee being informed that the said schooner was the same vessel which belonged to Mr. *James Clarke*, and was then called the *Sea-Flower*, demanded of Mr. *Green* whether he would make oath that the said vessel was his own property before the time Mr. *Clarke* was published as an enemy to his country; he answered that he would not. The Committee therefore unanimously rejected a clearance for said vessel to pass the Fort, the more especially as Mr. *Green* has refused to associate, and has paid a fine of £10.

Hugh Finley having applied for a mitigation of his fine, declaring himself willing to enroll:

Ordered, That £5 be remitted on producing a certificate from Captain *Thomas Philips* to that purpose.

Edmund Hogan's fine is remitted, he having made it appear that he enrolled in April last.

The German Companies which were appointed by the honourable Council of Safety to guard the Magazine and Laboratory in *Baltimore Town*, being ordered to march, and no directions given by the said Council about a guard, it then became necessary for the Militia to undertake that office, and accordingly, the Independent Company were ordered on duty; this Committee considering the expense that will accrue to the publick from a whole Company being in pay, when a few only are necessary to do duty, and at the same time being of opinion they had not authority to undertake such a measure without the direction of the Council of Safety, applied to *Charles Carroll*, Esq., one of that honourable Board, for his concurrence therein, who, by his letter recommends the measure. The Committee therefore

Resolve, To employ twelve men as a guard, and to pay them 3s. 6d. per day for such service, and to be under the command of an officer of the Militia; the said men to find themselves—the officers to be paid as usual. Captain *Henry Shaafe* is appointed to take the command, and release the Independent Company immediately.

Attested: GEO. LUX, Secretary.

JOSIAH BARTLETT TO JOHN LANGDON.

Philadelphia, September 9, 1776.

DEAR SIR: Yours of the 26th ultimo I have received, and delivered the enclosed to Mr. *Hancock*. I perceive you had not then received mine of the 12th, and am at a loss to guess the reason. I wrote by the post, expecting it would come to your hand before the arrival of Colonel *Whipple*. His arrival has, no doubt, settled all difficulties.

Yours, by Commodore *Manly*, I have not received as yet. The Congress have agreed to the exchange of Generals *Prescott* and *McDonald* for *Sullivan* and *Stirling*; and agreeable to Lord *Howe's* request for an interview with some of the members of Congress, they have appointed Dr.

Franklin, Mr. *J. Adams*, and Mr. *E. Rutledge*, for that purpose, but not as private gentlemen, but as a Committee of Congress; whether or not he will receive them in that capacity, is at present uncertain. They set off this day for *New-York*.

Yesterday, was sent in here by the *Sachem*, Continental vessel, a brig bound from *Antigua* to the *British* army. She mounted six guns, and fought obstinately; killed three men on board the *Sachem*; her loading said to be rum and sugar.

I hope before this our State has appointed another Delegate in your stead. Pray hurry them forward as fast as possible, as my very bad state of health hinders often our State from being represented in Congress, though I attend as much as possible.

I am, sir, your friend,

JOSIAH BARTLETT.

MRS. SUSANNA CONNOLLY TO THE PRESIDENT OF CONGRESS.

September 9, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: I am sorry to be under the necessity of giving you such repeated trouble, but my health has become so infirm, that since I last wrote to you, I have not enjoyed the satisfaction of one day's comfort; and the repeated hysterical fits to which I am become subject, render me truly miserable. I beg, gentlemen, you may be good enough to acquaint the Congress of my distressed situation; hoping they will permit me to return home, as I am willing to come under any restriction that the gentlemen may think proper to require of me. If the honourable Congress think I may be any prejudice to them at *Pittsburg*, as I hear Mr. *Morgan* is in town, if the gentlemen please to inquire of him. I hope, gentlemen, you will not let this pass unnoticed, as my situation is truly distressing—the loss of my health and being obliged to live in a prison. It's true gentlemen you do not desire me to live there; the allowance the gentlemen were pleased to make for me, I find it impossible for me to get lodgings for that sum in this City, as lodgings are now raised to a guinea per week. Mr. *Connolly's* confinement prevents me from having any assistance from him. I would with pleasure, gentlemen, live in gaol if my health was not so impaired.

I am, gentlemen, your most obedient, humble servant,

SUSANNA CONNOLLY.

June 10, 1776.

SIR: As I expected from the nature of your letter to me, that before now I should have been permitted to return home, I patiently awaited your further orders; but finding no appearance answerable to my expectation, and unconscious of having done anything to merit a detention here from an only child, at an expense very enormous, I must request the liberty of returning on next Monday. I am ready to submit to any examination, or to come under any restriction you may judge necessary; but if I do not hear from you before that time, I shall conclude that I have your permission, and depart accordingly.

I am, sir, your most obedient servant,

SUKEY CONNOLLY.

To John Hancock, Esq.

PETITION OF LIEUTENANT ANDREW PEPIN, OF CANADA.

[Read September 9, 1776. Referred to the Board of War.]

To the honourable the Continental Congress: The Petition of ANDREW PEPIN, Lieutenant in Colonel *LIVINGSTON's* Regiment, in the service of the UNITED STATES in CANADA, humbly sheweth:

That your petitioner was Captain of Militia in *Canada*, and on account of his zeal and attachment to the *American* cause was noticed by General *Montgomery*, who gave him his said commission of Lieutenant in the aforesaid regiment, commanded by Colonel *Livingston*, which commission was given the 20th of November, 1775. That your petitioner has done all in his power to maintain and support the cause, faithfully performing the several duties required of him. That in consequence of his late petition to your Honours, he has received his pay as Lieutenant to the 20th May last past, for which he returns his grateful thanks. He now begs leave to represent, that there is half a year's pay and rations now due to him; that he has a wife and four small

children, one of them blind; that he has been obliged to leave his native place and possessions by reason of his zeal for the *United States*; is now destitute of many necessities of life, in a strange country, without any other support for himself and family than the said pay of Lieutenant. That he applied for a commission, but was informed no army is to be kept up at present in *Canada*. That he is desirous to serve in the *American* army, has been a long time on expenses in *Philadelphia*; and humbly prayeth your Honours will be pleased to take into consideration the present deplorable and necessitous situation of your petitioner and family, and make an order that the arrearages of his pay and rations now due be paid to him, and grant him such other encouragement and relief as to you in your wisdom shall seem meet. And your petitioner, as in duty bound, &c.

ANDREW PEPIN.

Philadelphia, September 9, 1776.

PENNSYLVANIA COUNCIL OF SAFETY TO THE LANCASTER COMMITTEE.

In Council of Safety for the State of Pennsylvania, }
Philadelphia, September 9, 1776. }

Messrs. *James Craig* and *James Wharton* being employed to manufacture cordage for the *United States of America*, an article very much wanted, and being apprehensive they may meet with difficulty in procuring wagons to transport hemp from the country to the rope-yards, we take the liberty to request the favour of you, gentlemen, to afford them all the assistance in your power, and if necessary, to give them letters to any other Committees of Inspection and Observation for same purpose. Those gentlemen will furnish money for the payment of wagon hire.

By order of the Council:

THOS. WHARTON, JUN., *President*.

To the Committee of Inspection and Observation, *Lancaster County*.

COLONEL BURD TO WILLIAM ATLEE.

Middletown, September 9, 1776.

SIR: In consequence of a letter from the Committee of the County of *Northumberland* to us, which we herewith transmit to you, as also a letter to us from Mr. *John Harris*, we send you by Mr. *Michael Sheever* (our battalion messenger) the two prisoners sent to us, viz: *William Chattam* and *James Parker*. We make no doubt you will pay Mr. *Sheever* and his party; and we are with much esteem, gentlemen, your most obedient servants,

GEORGE FRY,
ABRAHAM DORR,

Members of the Township Committee of Paxton.

SIR: I have provided a party as above, and am with much respect, gentlemen, your most humble servant,

JAMES BURD.

To *William Atlee, Esq.*, Chairman of the Committee of *Lancaster County*.

ROBERT FRUTE TO THE PAXTON (PENN.) COMMITTEE.

In Committee for Northumberland County, }
September 5, Anno Domini 1776. }

Whereas it appears that *William Chattin* and *James Parker*, who are believed to be two of His Britannick Majesty's soldiers, lately made prisoners at the surrender of *St. John's*, have behaved themselves in such sort as to give great uneasiness to the good people of this County, in providing themselves with arms, and making other preparations, which appeared to indicate some ill design; and as the attempts of evil-minded persons, either to instigate the *Indians* to acts of hostility, or to raise dissensions among the inhabitants, may be attended with the most pernicious consequences, this Committee are therefore of opinion that the said *William Chattin* and *James Parker* be immediately removed to *Lancaster* to the corps to which they are supposed to belong.

By order of the Committee:

ROBERT FRUTE, *Chairman*.

To the Committee of *Paxton Township*, or to any Committee in *Lancaster County*.

JOHN HARRIS TO GEORGE FRY.

Paxton, September 9, 1776.

SIR: The bearer, a Sergeant of Captain *Parr's*, has two of the Regulars' soldiers prisoners, sent by the Committee of *Northumberland County* to the Committee of *Paxton Township*. My advice to you and the other members in town of said Committee, is to apply this day to Colonel *Burd* for a guard of our Militia to escort them safe to the Committee of *Lancaster*, delivering the paper signed by the Chairman of their Committee containing their crime or misbehaviour among the peaceable inhabitants of said County. I make no doubt but that Colonel *James Burd* will immediately order a proper guard at the publick expense, and write the Chairman of the Committee of *Lancaster County*, who will receive them and dispose of them properly. Prevail on the Sergeant to keep them in his custody till you can get a guard ready to receive the said prisoners from him. Show the Colonel this letter, with the paper from *Northumberland*.

I am, sir, with esteem your very humble servant,

JOHN HARRIS.

To Mr. *George Fry*.

DISCHARGE OF PENNSYLVANIA ASSOCIATORS.

Head-Quarters, Perth-Amboy, September 9, 1776.

The officers and soldiers of Colonel *Hart's* battalion of *Pennsylvania* Associators having done their duty as good and orderly soldiers, and having furnished a company for the Flying-Camp, are hereby discharged the service of the *States*, and permitted to return home.

SAMUEL GRIFFIN, *Deputy Adjutant-General*.

To *William Baxter, Esq.*, Lieutenant-Colonel.

REGULATIONS FOR CARRYING THE PUBLICK MAILS.

"IN CONGRESS, August 30, 1776.

"Resolved, That the communication of intelligence with frequency and despatch from one part to another of this extensive Continent, is essentially requisite to its safety; that therefore there be employed on the several Post-Roads a Rider for every twenty-five or thirty miles, whose business it shall be to proceed to his stage three times in every week, setting out immediately on receipt of the mail and travelling with the same by night and by day, without stopping, until he shall have delivered it to the next Rider; and that the Postmaster-General be desired, either by the use of way-bills or by such other means as he shall find most efficacious, to prevent delays in the Riders, or to discover where they happen, that such dilatory Riders may be discharged.

"And as it is requisite that the Deputy Postmasters should attend with punctuality at their several offices for the receipt and delivery of Letters:

"Resolved, That it be recommended to the Assemblies and Conventions of these States, to consider how far it may be consistent with the policy and good of their respective States, to excuse such Deputy Postmasters from those public duties which may call them from attendance at their offices, and to proceed therein as to their wisdom shall seem best.

"Extract from the Minutes:

"CHARLES THOMSON, *Secretary*."

New-York, September 9, 1776.

In consequence of the foregoing Resolution of Congress, "for the more frequent and speedy communication of intelligence," &c., *William Goddard*, Esquire, Surveyor of the General Post-Office, arrived here on *Saturday* morning last, on his way through the Northern States, in order to carry into immediate execution that necessary and important business.

We hear that the Deputy Postmaster of this city hath received orders to remove his office immediately from *Dobbs's Ferry* to Head-Quarters; so that the obstruction that correspondence hath lately met with will now, in a great measure, be removed.

New-York, September 9, 1776.

Since the retreat of our army from *Long-Island*, the enemy have extended themselves a considerable length on the shore bordering the *Sound*; and on *Tuesday* a large

number of them landed on *Blackwell's Island*, about three miles from this city, but the shot from our Batteries soon made them recross the river. On *Wednesday* a ship from the fleet (supposed to be a frigate) passed between *Governour's Island* and *Red-Hook*, and that night got up the Sound abreast of the Island the enemy had been drove from. When under cover of her guns, they the next day again came over to it in large bodies. This brought on a brisk cannonade for near two hours, in which the ship sustained so great damage in her hull, &c., as obliged her to move close in with the *Long-Island* shore for shelter from our shot and bombs. At the same time of attack a firing also began from the enemy's batteries on *Long-Island* opposite the city, which was returned with such spirit by our people in their fortresses at and about the ship-yards, that they gave us little or no annoyance since from that quarter.

Several men-of-war now lie within gun-shot of our main battery, and the greatest part of the fleet behind *Governour's Island*, though they have lately had very favourable winds to come up to the city, which gives us reason to think they mean not to attack it by water till they know the success of their forces in attempting to land on this Island.

TENCH TILGHMAN TO COLONEL MOYLAN.

Head-Quarters, New-York, September 9, 1776.

SIR: His Excellency commands me to desire that you would without loss of time set about preparing a sufficient quantity of boards, scantling, and every material necessary for the building of barracks at *King's Bridge* and the posts thereabouts. His reasons for pressing you to exert yourself at this time, are, that the *North River*, down which most of the articles must come, is now entirely free from any obstruction by the enemy, but how long that may continue is uncertain. The season advances fast when it would be impossible for the troops to lay in camp, even if they were all supplied with tents, and had a sufficient stock of blankets and other warm clothing; but you well know that in the article of tents, at least one-third part of the army are unprovided, and those that we have are worn and bad: as to bedding and other clothes, they are in a manner destitute. We have every reason to fear and suppose, that the great naval force of the enemy will oblige us to quit this city whenever they please to make an attack upon it. We must then depend upon barracks for shelter, and for that reason his Excellency calls upon you and your deputies to exert yourselves in the most strenuous manner, in collecting such a stock of wood for the building, and brick or stone and lime for the chimneys and ovens, as will enable you in a short time to provide comfortable covering for the men at the different posts. The commanding officers in conjunction with the Engineers will fix upon the proper spots for making the collection of materials, which will be nearest the places where the barracks shall be erected.

I am, sir, by his Excellency's command, your most obedient servant,

TENCH TILGHMAN.

To Colonel *S. Moylan*, Quartermaster General.

GENERAL WASHINGTON TO LORD HOWE.

Head-Quarters, New-York, September 9, 1776.

MY LORD: I do myself the honour of transmitting to your Lordship the enclosed letter, recommended to my care by Dr. *Franklin*, and which just now came to hand.

If your Lordship shall incline to return an answer to Dr. *Franklin*, and will honour me with the charge of it, I will immediately forward it to him by express.

I am, my Lord, with the greatest respect, your Lordship's, &c.,

Go. WASHINGTON.

To Lord Viscount *Howe*.

GENERAL WASHINGTON TO GOVERNOUR TRUMBULL.

Head-Quarters, New-York, September 9, 1776.

SIR: I have the honour of your favour of the 5th instant, and am sorry to say that, from the best information we have been able to obtain, the people on *Long-Island* have, since our evacuation, gone generally over to the enemy, and made such concessions as have been required—some through com-

FIFTH SERIES.—VOL. II.

pulsion I suppose, but more from inclination. As a diversion upon the Island has been impracticable under these circumstances, I think you have done well in assisting the removal of the persons and effects of our friends from thence.

I observe, with great pleasure, that you have ordered the remaining regiments of the Militia that can be spared from the immediate defence of the sea-coast, to march towards *New-York* with all expedition. I cannot sufficiently express my thanks, not only for your constant ready compliance with every request of mine, but for your own strenuous exertions and prudent forecast in ordering matters so, that your force has generally been collected and put in motion as soon as it has been demanded.

With respect to the Militia, both Horse and Foot, I am of opinion that they will render us more service by rendezvousing at different places along the Sound, in *Westchester* County and thereabouts, than by coming directly to this city. It will not only give the enemy, who are extending their encampment up the Island, an idea of our force along the coast, but if they should attempt a landing above *King's Bridge*, they will be in readiness to join our force about that place—the Horse particularly, whose rapid motion enables them to be in a short time at any point of attack. Besides, the difficulty of procuring forage upon this Island for any number of horses, is an objection to their being stationed here. I fear the Militia, by leaving their homes so suddenly, and in a manner unprepared for a long absence, have sustained some injury. To this cause I must impute, in a great measure, their impatience to return, and the diminution of their numbers at this time to about two thousand. Their want of discipline, the indulgences they claim and have been allowed, their unwillingness, I may add refusal, to submit to that regularity and order essential in every army, infecting the rest of our troops more or less, have been of pernicious tendency, and occasioned a good deal of confusion and disorder. But, sir, these things are not peculiar to those from any one State; they are common to all Militia, and what must be generally expected; for men who have been free, and never subject to restraint or any kind of control, cannot be taught the necessity, or be brought to see the expediency, of strict discipline in a day.

I highly approve of your plan and proposition for raising such a naval force as will be sufficient to clear the Sound of the enemy's ships-of-war. If Admiral *Hopkins* will join you, I should suppose it not only practicable, but a matter of certainty; and if it can be effected, many valuable and salutary consequences must result from it. As to drafting seamen from the Continental regiments, it cannot be done, as their numbers have been reduced so low already by taking men from them for the galleys, boats, and other purposes, that some of them have hardly any thing left but the name; besides, I must depend chiefly upon them for a successful opposition to the enemy. If it can be done out of the Militia, I shall not have the least objection, and heartily wish the enterprise, whenever attempted, may be attended with all possible success. Secrecy and despatch will be the most likely to give it a happy issue. The enemy's ships can receive no reinforcements but such as go round *Long-Island*. Our works at *Hell-Gate* preventing their sending ships that way, they are sensible of their importance, and yesterday opened two three-gun batteries to effect their destruction, but as yet have not materially damaged them; and they must be maintained if possible.

I have the honour to be, &c.,

Go. WASHINGTON.

To Governour *Trumbull*, *Connecticut*.

P. S. The more the Militia and Horse keep on the Sound towards *King's Bridge*, the better, as they will be ready to oppose any landing of the enemy, and also to receive orders for reinforcing any posts on this side, in case of necessity.

COLONEL REED TO GENERAL MIFFLIN.

Head-Quarters, September 9, 1776.

DEAR GENERAL: We understand that a number of sloops, shallops and petiaugers are collected at or near your post. As they are wanted here hourly, you will please to order them down to call at this place for orders. I fear the flat-bottomed boats will soon be in a bad condition unless

put under some good direction. Will you be also good enough to do it? *Tupper* complains of the want of whale-boats. You mentioned some being about *King's Bridge*. Enable one or two to get down. The galleys might also come nearer to us, except *Stanter's*, which is too heavy for any thing else but to lay guard.

You will excuse my troubling you with these matters, but the masters of sloops, galleys, &c., will not obey the orders given by the Quartermaster-General or myself, without your driving them.

I am your most obedient servant,
To Brigadier-General *Mifflin*. J. REED.

COLONEL REED TO GENERAL MIFFLIN.

Head-Quarters, 8 o'clock, P. M.

DEAR GENERAL: Colonel *Sargent* has just now informed us, by express, that about four thousand men, attended by a number of wagons, have marched down to the place from which the troops embarked this morning, which came to *Barnes's* or *Buchanan's Island*, and that they were landing on these islands.

The General desires you would have your brigade in readiness to turn out, and hopes that, agreeable to his letter to-day, you have found a communication over *Harlem River*.

You will please to despatch this intelligence to General *Heath*, that his troops may be also ready to march, if necessary, which, it is thought here, will be the case.

I am, in haste, your obedient, humble servant,
J. REED.

To Brigadier-General *Mifflin*.

The General further adds, that, at all events, the enemy must be prevented gaining possession of the heights this side of *Harlem River*, or the communication will be cut off. The General is very anxious on the subject, but being very much fatigued is gone to lie down. This depends much on your vigilance and industry.

ROBERT H. HARRISON TO GENERAL HEATH.

Head-Quarters, New-York, September 9, 1776, }
8½ o'clock, P. M. }

SIR: I am to inform you, by his Excellency's command, that all the *Maryland* troops that were here yesterday were ordered to march to-day, and join those troops at *King's Bridge* and its dependencies. Three companies more arrived this evening, which are also ordered to march to-morrow morning.

By a letter from Governour *Trumbull*, of the 5th instant, his Excellency is informed that he had ordered such of the remaining Militia regiments as could be spared from the immediate defence of the sea coast, to march towards this place with all expedition; also, two regiments of Light-Horse, to move forward and rendezvous above, near *Westchester*, for the purpose of affording such succour as the exigency of our affairs might require. His Excellency, conceiving that both the Militia and the Horse would be most serviceable if placed on the *Sound* and towards *King's Bridge*, where they might be ready to oppose a landing, and to give their assistance as it might be wanted, wrote to his Honour this morning to this purpose. He would have you inquire if any of 'em are in *Westchester*, or any where near *King's Bridge*, and take such measures for regulating their motions and conduct as may be most serviceable and beneficial, and most likely to give the speediest aids in case of an attack.

His Excellency, judging it of exceeding importance that the several roads leading from the rocks and points where the enemy may make a landing towards *King's Bridge* should be stopped and obstructed, wishes your particular attention to be paid to the business, agreeable to his letter of this morning.

Enclosed is a copy of a letter received from General *Nixon* just now, which his Excellency directed to be transmitted to you, that you may be on your guard in case the enemy should have a design to attempt a landing to-night. A copy is also enclosed for General *Mifflin*, in the letter directed to him, which you will immediately forward.

I am, in haste, very respectfully, sir, your humble servant,
ROBT. H. HARRISON.

To the Hon. Major-General *Heath*, at *King's Bridge*.

MAJOR VAN RENSSELAER TO GENERAL TEN BROECK.

Fort Constitution, September 9, 1776.

SIR: We are very much in want of thread and twine for cartridges, and sheet lead for aprons for the guns. If any of this thread or twine is to be had, I beg the favour of you to assist those men, *Andrew McFarlin* and *Thomas Preston*, to get them, for there is none to be had here.

By complying with the above request, you will much oblige, sir, your humble servant,

HENRY VAN RENSSELAER, Major.
To *Abraham Ten Broeck*, Brigadier-General, *Fishkill*.

JOHN SCHENCK TO ABRAHAM YATES.

Poughkeepsie, September 9, 1776.

SIR: This is to inform you I am willing to undertake to supply the garrison at the forts in the Highlands with such articles as you may order, if they are to be had; and, agreeable to your request, shall attend you to-morrow morning, to take my instructions.

I am, sir, with respect, your most obedient servant,
JOHN SCHENCK, Jun.

To *Abraham Yates*, Esq., President of the State Convention of *New-York*.

COMMITTEE OF SAFETY TO NEW-YORK DELEGATES IN CONGRESS.

[Read September 20, 1776. Referred to Mr. Chase, Mr. Paine, and Mr. Stockton.]

In Committee of Safety for the State of New-York, }
Fishkill, September 9, 1776. }

GENTLEMEN: Sensible of the great importance of the posts in the Highlands, we have lately directed an inquiry into their situation, which will appear from the enclosed returns to be far from such as we could wish.

The necessity General *Washington* has of all the troops that compose his army at *New-York*, prevented his sparing to those fortresses sufficient garrisons, or the necessary stores. What may be the fate of the country below the Highlands is as yet uncertain, and may possibly depend on the event of a single battle. Should these posts be properly secured, we cannot but hope that the greater part of this State might nevertheless be retained, and the communication between the Northern and Southern States be by that means kept up; for which reason we wish you to call the attention of the Congress to an object of whose importance they have always been sensible, and to ask a proper supply of stores. We have already afforded them all in our power to supply. Fire-ships would be of great use; yet for want of materials we are unable to proceed in preparing them. Seamen cannot be procured here to man our armed vessels without the greatest delay and difficulty, unless drafted from the army; perhaps they may be got at *Philadelphia*.

By the enclosed resolves, you will find that we have endeavoured to reinforce the garrison in the Highlands. As these men were all taken from the plough, we are very anxious to have them relieved as soon as the circumstances of the Continent will admit.

We have borrowed of the State of *Connecticut* twenty pieces of cannon—ten twelve and ten six-pounders—for the forts. We wish they were heavier, but we fear this deficiency cannot be supplied; and therefore must endeavour to do without them.

You will find by the enclosed resolves that we have taken measures to increase the number of our field artillery.

You will be mindful to transmit us every publick resolve of Congress, and at least one of the *Pennsylvania Gazettes* every week.

We remain, gentlemen, your very humble servants.
By order: ABM. YATES, JUN., President.

In Convention of the Representatives of the State of New-York, }
Fishkill, September 7, 1776. }

The Committee appointed the 2d instant to visit and examine into the state of Forts *Montgomery* and *Constitution*, in the Highlands, laid before the Convention returns from different officers at those fortresses, showing the condition and wants of the respective garrisons; from which, and the report of the Committee, (among other things,) it appears that there are at present no more troops in the

Highlands than seven hundred and sixty-four men, whereof three hundred and ninety-eight are at *Fort Montgomery*, and two hundred and sixteen at *Fort Constitution*—that the troops consist of Militia of the State, excepting five companies of the *New-York* Continental Battalion.

That to render *Fort Constitution* tenable, the *West Point*, which commands it, ought to be fortified.

That considerable progress is made in fortifying an advantageous eminence on the western shore, a little to the south of *Fort Montgomery*, and within the reach of cannon; but is still incomplete.

That the remaining part of the said troops, being one hundred and fifty, are employed in erecting works on the east side of the river, being about three miles below *Fort Montgomery*, at a place called *Red-Hook*, near *Peekskill*, which are well calculated to prevent the enemy's landing and becoming master of the Highlands opposite to *Fort Montgomery*.

That Brigadier-General *James Clinton*, commanding at the said fortress, informed the Committee that, exclusive of the post of *Red-Hook*, an augmentation of one thousand men was requisite for completing and defending the fortress under his direction; and earnestly requested that the Convention would immediately procure such reinforcement, as well as the several articles of ammunition, stores, and necessaries hereafter specified, of which he stood in the utmost need.

This Convention having duly considered the said representation and requisition, and well knowing how much the safety of this State, as well as the success of the united efforts of this oppressed Continent in the defence of our common liberties, must depend on maintaining the possession of the *Hudson* River, and guarding it against the invasion which is to be apprehended from the enemy; considering at the same time, the little probability that it can at present be in the power of his Excellency General *Washington* to detach for this service any of the army which is employed in opposing the progress of the enemy in the southern parts of this State: the Convention, under these circumstances, must again have recourse to the good people of this State; not doubting but that, inspired by a virtuous love for their country, they will, on an occasion so pressing, and at a period when their lives, their liberties, and every temporal blessing are in imminent danger, stand forth with zeal and alacrity in the greatest and best of causes; Therefore,

Resolved, That six hundred men be, with all possible despatch, detached from the Militia of this State, and sent to the *Forts Montgomery* and *Constitution*, as a reinforcement to those garrisons.

That one hundred and fifty men from that part of the County of *Albany* which is within and to the southward of the Manor of *Rensselaerwyck*, including the City of *Albany*; one hundred and seventy-five men from the County of *Dutchess*; two hundred men from the County of *Ulster*, and seventy-five men from that part of the County of *Orange* which lies above the mountains—all exclusive of commissioned officers—be immediately detached by ballot, and march to augment the garrisons at *Forts Montgomery* and *Constitution*.

Resolved, That the above reinforcement continue in service two months after their arrival at the said fortresses, and that this Convention will discharge them sooner in case sufficient garrisons of Continental troops shall be ordered to and arrive at those forts before the expiration of the said two months; and that the Militia so drafted shall be entitled to the same pay and rations as are allowed to the Continental troops.

Resolved, That the above levies be formed into Companies, in the following manner, viz: Those from the County of *Ulster* into three companies, and those from *Albany* and *Dutchess* respectively into two companies each, and those from the County of *Orange* into one company; and that each company have one Captain, two Lieutenants, four Sergeants, four Corporals, one Drummer, and one Fifer.

That the said reinforcement shall be formed into one Battalion, to be commanded by a Colonel, Lieutenant-Colonel, and Major, to be appointed by this Convention. That a Surgeon, Adjutant, and Quartermaster, shall be appointed for the said battalion; the first by the Convention, and the last two by the Colonel.

That the Captains and Subalterns be appointed by the Field Officers of the Regiments of Militia in each respective County from which the quotas are to be raised, out of the Militia officers, having regard to their ranks, and the dates of their commissions, if a sufficient number of such are willing to serve, if not, that they shall be at liberty to appoint such others as they may think properly qualified; and that the non-commissioned officers be appointed by the Captain of each company under whom they are to serve.

Resolved, That each non-commissioned officer and private shall provide himself with a good musket or firelock, bayonet or tomahawk; a blanket and knapsack; and every six men with a pot or camp kettle; and that one penny per mile be allowed to each non-commissioned officer and private during their march, for subsistence-money; and one day's pay for every twenty miles between their respective houses and rendezvous, going and returning.

And to the intent that the Levies so raised may not be unfurnished with arms, the Committees in the different Townships and Districts in the said Counties, and the Colonels of the respective regiments are hereby authorized and empowered to furnish all such as have not arms, by taking them from those who are not drafted, and such other persons in the Districts as have arms; the same being valued by the Committee of each District, the amount of such valuation hereafter to be paid to the proprietors of said arms, restored in the same order to their former proprietors.

Resolved, That fifty spades, fifty wood-axes, fifty pick-axes, twenty-four shovels, twenty-five bill-hooks, two thousand pounds weight of lead, one thousand pounds weight of langrage, one thousand round and bar-shot for nine-pounders, fifty set of cast-iron carriage-wheels for cannon, one thousand pounds weight of nails for building barracks, one thousand round of six-pound ball and grape shot, three sets of men's harness for drawing cannon, thirty pounds of twine and twelve pounds of thread for cartridges, and one armourer, with the tools of his business, be immediately procured and forwarded to *Fort Montgomery*; and that *John Schenck* be appointed an agent for that purpose, with authority to draw on the Treasurer for a sum not exceeding twenty-five hundred dollars, for which he shall keep and render an exact account.

In Committee of Safety for the State of New-York, }
Fishkill, September 10, 1776. }

Colonel *Livingston* informed the Committee that the following articles mentioned in General *James Clinton's* return of necessaries for *Forts Montgomery* and *Constitution* are in store at *Fishkill* landing, and may be ordered out to Mr. *John Schenck*, for the *Forts*. Thereupon the following order was unanimously made, and signed by the President, viz:

Please to deliver to Mr. *John Schenck* out of the stores in your custody, the following articles for the use of the *Forts Montgomery* and *Constitution*, taking his receipt for the same: Twenty-five spades, twenty-five bill-hooks, twelve shovels, five thousand pounds weight of lead; delivering first all the lump lead in store, and the residue in ball and buck-shot, and seven skeins or balls of thread.

ABM. YATES, JUN., President.

To *Nathaniel Sacket*, Esq.

The following Order was given to Mr. *John Schenck* for supplying the Fortifications, in the stead of the Order made by the Convention, on the 7th instant, the copy whereof Mr. *Schenck* returned:

SIR: You are requested, with all despatch, to procure the undermentioned articles for the use of the garrisons of *Forts Montgomery* and *Constitution*, and as soon as they are ready, to send them to Brigadier-General *James Clinton*, commander at the said garrisons, taking his receipt for the same, viz:

An Armourer, with all his tools complete.

50 wood-axes, 25 spades, 25 mattocks.

13 shovels, 20 wheelbarrows.

1,000 lbs. weight of 6 lb. iron shot, } one-half of each

1,000 lbs. weight of 9 lb. do. } double-headed.

3,000 lbs. weight of grape-shot from 4 to 6 ounces.

50 sets of great gun carriage-wheels.

32 thousand bricks—10 thousand shingles.

700 weight of bar iron—25 lbs. blistered steel.

400 weight of 10d nails—300 weight of 20d nails.

7,000 feet of three-inch oak plank.
 20 hogsheads lime.
 2,000 tacks—24 sheep-skins.
 1 large magazine lock—2 pair shears.
 A quantity of oil and paints to paint the carriages.
 1 dozen of flat and half-round files—1 dozen 39 square, do.
 —2 large sledges—2 hand-vices—10 broad-axes—10
 hand-saws—10 hammers—5 iron squares—2 dozen
 nail gimblets—6 pair compasses—5 sets of framing
 chisels and augers—6 spike gimblets—2 sets of match-
 planes for 1 and 1½ inch plank—10 lbs. of twine.
 By order: ABM. YATES, JUN., President.

GENERAL SCHUYLER TO THE PRESIDENT OF CONGRESS.

[Read September 16: Referred to Board of War.

Albany, September 9, 1776.

SIR: At half past ten this morning I received a letter from General Gates, [of September 6,] copy whereof I do myself the honour to enclose.

As it is most probable that the enemy are attempting to cross the Lake, I have therefore thought it necessary to apply to the neighbouring Counties of the *New-England* States, and those of *Ulster* and *Dutchess* in this, to order their Militia to march up. As soon as they arrive, I shall either move with that part which may go to the northward, or with those to the westward, as may be most necessary. Further information from General Gates and Colonel Dayton must determine me.

What cartridge paper his Excellency General Washington could spare, he has sent me. It arrived here on the 2d instant, was sent forward on the 3d, and arrived at Fort George on the 5th, and was probably forwarded from thence on the 6th.

I am informed that the army is in the greatest distress for medicines and hospital stores. As every misfortune and want they labour under is imputed to me, so is this. If I had not been able to foresee a scarcity of medicine, it ought not to be imputed to me as a crime; but Congress has it in their power to exculpate me, as they will find by a retrospect to my letter of the 10th of February last.

It is a duty I owe to myself, as well as my country, that I should not continue any longer in an office so much envied me, and in which I have suffered so much. I am therefore under the necessity of acquainting Congress that I shall resign my commission as soon as I return from *Ticonderoga* or *Tryon* County, not to prevent, but to insist on the most critical examination of my conduct. In this alarming day I shall find sufficient occasion to evince how unjustly my character has suffered, and that, as I have ever been the friend to my country, I will live and die so.

Permit me to assure Congress of the indispensable necessity of having a General officer at this place. If there remained one in the service who had not enlarged and liberal sentiments, I should not hesitate to beg that he might not be sent here.

I am, sir, with every respectful sentiment, your most obedient, humble servant,
 PH. SCHUYLER.

To the Hon. John Hancock.

GENERAL SCHUYLER TO GENERAL WASHINGTON.

Albany, September 9, 1776.

DEAR SIR: At half after ten this morning I received a letter from General Gates, copy whereof I enclose your Excellency.

As it is most probable that the enemy are attempting to cross the Lake, I have therefore thought it necessary to apply to the neighbouring Counties of the *New-England* States, and those of *Ulster* and *Dutchess* in this, to order their Militia to march up. As soon as they arrive, I shall either move with what part may go to the northward, or with those to the westward, as may be most necessary. This can, however, only be determined by further intelligence from General Gates and Colonel Dayton, which I momentarily expect to receive.

The cartridge paper arrived here on the 2d instant, was sent forward on the 3d, and arrived at Fort George on the 5th, at night, and was probably forwarded from thence on the 6th.

I am informed that the army is in the greatest distress for

medicines. As every misfortune and want they labour under is imputed to me, so is this. I am heartily tired of abuse, and was in hopes that Congress would have ordered an inquiry into my conduct. I requested it most earnestly on the 16th of last month, but have not yet been honoured with an answer. I will no longer suffer the publick odium, since I have it most amply in my power to justify myself, and shall therefore resign my commission as soon as I return from *Ticonderoga* or *Tryon* County. Of this I shall advise Congress, that orders may be given for a General officer to reside in this place, without which the service will suffer. But in doing this, I shall never forget the duty I owe to my country, and if I can, by advice or any other means, promote the weal of it, none will do it with more alacrity.

I am, dear sir, with every sentiment of esteem and respect, your Excellency's most obedient, humble servant,
 PH. SCHUYLER.

To His Excellency General Washington.

GENERAL SCHUYLER TO GENERAL GATES.

Albany, September 9, 1776—11 o'clock, A. M.

DEAR GENERAL: Half an hour ago, your letter of the 6th instant was delivered me. I shall immediately write to every quarter for the Militia to come up, and as soon as any of them arrive order them to march to you, and shall either conduct them myself, or march with part of them into *Tryon* County.

Two hogsheads of cartridge paper left this on the 3d instant, and which I hope has reached you. Not a sheet of any kind is to be procured here.

I hope General Arnold will give a good account of the enemy; but if he should unfortunately be drove back, I trust they will meet with a drubbing from you. God grant us success.

Pray give me the most early advice, that, if it is not necessary for the Militia to move up, they may be dismissed the soonest possible, as they are much wanted at home to get in their seed for their winter wheat.

Expresses should be sent by the way of *Skeneshborough* to stop the Militia from *New-England*. Adieu.

I am, dear sir, most sincerely, your obedient, humble servant,
 PH. SCHUYLER.

To the Hon. Major-General Gates.

GENERAL SCHUYLER TO GENERAL GATES.

Albany, September 9, 1776.

DEAR SIR: The bearer, Colonel Pelissiere, is appointed an Engineer in the Army of the *United States*. His Excellency General Washington has directed him to me to be employed in the Northern Department. He now goes to put himself under your command.

I am, dear General, your most obedient, humble servant,
 PH. SCHUYLER.

To the Hon. General Gates, &c.

H. GLEN TO WALTER LIVINGSTON.

Schenectady, September 9, 1776.

DEAR SIR: This moment received a letter from Captain Eisenford, who writes at the desire of the commanding-officer, Colonel Elmore, at the *German-Flats*, to send some pork and salt; complains of the soldiers getting sick of the fresh meat. I have had several applications for pork. If you have any, pray send some over, and will forward it; and if there is none, let me know, that I may acquaint them what they have to depend on in regard to the pork. I would be glad to know if I must send any flour to Johnston, and what quantity.

Yours, &c.,

H. GLEN.

To Walter Livingston, Esq., Deputy Commissary-General, Albany.

GENERAL GATES TO COLONEL HARTLEY.

Tyonderoga, September 9, 1776.

SIR: I have just now received your letter of last night, and am entirely at a loss what to believe in regard to the fleet. Your conjecture of the firing on Thursday being at or near the *White-House*, is the most probable, as it was a

post the enemy were not unlikely to endeavour to possess. I cannot think it possible any accident could have happened to the whole fleet, so as to cut off their communication with us, and if any extraordinary blow has been struck by either side, General *Arnold* would have sent a report. I exceedingly approve of your vigilance to get intelligence, and am certain you will send me the earliest you can procure of every thing that has passed upon the Lake.

Enclosed is all the news I know. Neither General *Schuyler* nor myself have had a line from General *Washington*. I shall give you the first authentick account I receive.

I am, dear sir, your most obedient, humble servant,
HORATIO GATES.

To Lieutenant-Colonel *Hartley*.

P. S. Pray send the oar-cutters, with all their oars, as soon as possible.

GENERAL ARNOLD TO GENERAL GATES.

Isle-aux-Motte, September 9, 1776.

DEAR GENERAL: Your favour of the 5th instant was delivered me this minute by Colonel *Wigglesworth*; the intelligence it contains is truly important. I shall wait with the greatest anxiety for the particulars, though the loss is great on our side. If the enemy have been repulsed, and suffered the loss of three thousand men killed, the number of their wounded is doubtless much greater, and must so much weaken and discourage them that they will hardly make another attack this season; and time must gain us a victory. I am extremely glad you have sent Colonel *Wigglesworth*; he is a gentleman of whom I have a good opinion. The master of the *Royal Savage* is ill with the fever and ague. I shall observe your directions very particularly. I hope soon to have the pleasure of seeing General *Waterbury* and the three galleys. I think the station we are in the best in the Lake to stop the enemy; there is not a good harbour, except where the Lake is wide, until you come to *Button-Mould Bay*, thirteen miles this side *Crown-Point*. Here I think we are very safe from gales of wind; the anchorage good, and several small harbours in the vicinity where the gondolas will ride safe from any wind that blows. I have sent you *Robert Atkins*, an experienced pilot, to bring down the galleys, and have given him particular directions.

I am heartily obliged to you for your good wishes, and make no doubt the Almighty will crown our virtuous struggles with success.

I am, with respect and esteem, your affectionate and obedient, humble servant,

B. ARNOLD.

To Major-General *Gates*.

P. S. I wrote you fully last night by Lieutenant *Brooks*; and now send by Major *Greer* twenty-two sick men, exclusive of fifteen of Captain *Alexander's* company.

GOVERNOUR TRUMBULL TO COLONEL LIVINGSTON.

Lebanon, September 9, 1776.

SIR: The almost constant vicissitude in affairs I find obliges us to alter our measures, and before I had received yours of yesterday, and in consequence of information and application from Captain *Leffingwell*, I have ordered his company, with such a number as was thought proper from Colonel *Westcott's*, at *New-London*, immediately to repair to *Long-Island*, to coöperate with you in such measures as may be thought proper to interrupt or obstruct the designs of the enemy there. You will, therefore, instead of proceeding to *New-York*, in consequence of my last advice, for the present join your troops and those I have sent forward, on *Long-Island*, and pursue every measure there to obstruct the designs of the enemy in that quarter. It is expected that General *Washington* will still give some diversion to the enemy on *Long-Island*. You will I dare say do every thing in your power there, till further advice, unless you find yourself obliged to retire to the main land again. You will give us advice of every important appearance, and any assistance in our power will be afforded. Our Militia are forwarding towards *New-York*, but will not be out of the way to throw across to *Long-Island*, if the General thinks proper.

May success attend your spirited endeavours; and am, with sincere regard, your humble servant,

J. TRUMBULL.

To Colonel *Livingston*.

GOVERNOUR TRUMBULL TO COLONEL LIVINGSTON.

Lebanon, September 9, 1776.

SIR: Since writing to you this day, received another of your favours without date, giving intelligence of some surprising conduct of the people on the east end of *Long-Island* relative to the present contest, as also of your having two persons in custody, who are suspected to have acted inimical to the interests of *America*. I can recollect nothing of importance to add to what I wrote to-day before, save only with regard to the two persons you mention which you have in custody. Those two persons you will deliver to the Committee of Inspection for the town of *Saybrook*, who are directed to examine them relative to the aforesaid conduct, and, if they find sufficient cause, to send one or both of them to the Committee of the town of *Colchester*, to be detained there upon their parole till further orders. Have enclosed an order to the Committee of *Saybrook*, which you will please to deliver accordingly.

I am, with esteem, sir, your obedient, humble servant,
J. TRUMBULL.

To Lieutenant-Colonel *Henry B. Livingston*.

GOVERNOUR TRUMBULL TO THE MASSACHUSETTS ASSEMBLY.

Lebanon, September 9, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: The vast importance of preventing the Ministerial Army taking the benefit of the stock on *Long-Island*, and availing themselves of the advantages of that post—assisting such of the inhabitants to remove, with their effects, who are disposed for it, and prevent their total seduction—I apprehend are matters of more consequence to the common cause than we can easily imagine. To dislodge that army from *Long-Island*, and destroy the two ships and tenders in the *Sound*, which at present prevent supplies that way by water to our army, might, at one blow, in a great measure relieve our bleeding country from its impending danger. How far it would be practicable, or what measures are proper to take at this alarming crisis, is matter of serious concern with us. It's supposed here, that in case an attempt should be made to collect a force at the east end of *Long-Island*, remove stock, &c., a number of whale-boats would be absolutely necessary to transport troops, stores, supplies, &c., as they might avoid all the vessels of force the enemy might send to obstruct us. I am informed that a large number of whale-boats that belong to the Continent are at and near *Boston*, and might be used for this important service. We have but very few with us. I am also informed that a regiment is ordered from you to *Providence*, to replace the Continental battalion removed from the State of *Rhode-Island*; and whether your regiment could not come in the whale-boats to *Providence*, carrying them across the land at *Buzzard's Bay*, is, I apprehend, worthy of your consideration, and to be executed without delay.

We are equipping what naval force we have, with all possible expedition. We are exerting ourselves, and desirous to unite our whole strength with the other States in our common cause. I don't doubt of your utmost attention and most vigorous exertions therein. Must entreat your answer to this, and such other measures as you judge may be beneficial. I have communicated to Governour *Cooke* on the subject.

I am, with great truth and esteem, gentlemen, your most obedient, humble servant,
JONTH. TRUMBULL.

To the Hon. Assembly of the State of *Massachusetts*.

CONNECTICUT COUNCIL OF SAFETY.

At a meeting of the Governour and Council of Safety of *Connecticut*, September 9, 1776,

Present: His Honour the Governour, his Honour the Deputy Governour; *Eliphalet Dyer*, *Jabez Huntington*, *Titus Hosmer*, *Jed. Elderkin*, *William Hillhouse*, *Nathaniel Wales*, Jun., *Benjamin Huntington*, Esquires.

Voted, To give, and accordingly gave, orders to Captain

Zebediah Smith, master of the prize-schooner *Elizabeth and Hannah*, (now at *Newport*,) lately taken and sent in by the armed schooner *Spy*, to embrace the first fair wind and weather, when the coast is clear of the enemy, and proceed with said prize to *New-London*, and up to *Norwich*, and take the necessary steps to procure a legal condemnation to be passed thereon as soon as may be.

Voted and Resolved, That one of the Committee of Pay-Table be appointed to receive, out of the Treasury, a sufficient sum of money to pay the twenty shillings to each man of the Militia now ordered to march towards *New-York*, and repair with the same to *New-Haven*, and then pay to the Colonel or chief officer of each regiment the sum of twenty shillings for each man his regiment shall consist of, taking his receipt for the same: the said sum to be paid over by such Colonel or chief officer to the soldiers of his regiment—that is to say, twenty shillings to each soldier; and his Honour the Governour is desired to write to the Committee of Pay-Table, and give them orders accordingly.

Voted, That *Mr. Martin Levingwell* be, and he is hereby, directed to deliver out to the Selectmen of *Norwich* the Arms contained in a chest of Arms left in his care, last Spring, by one *Mr. Lay*, of *Lyme*—taking care to have them prized, and a particular account of the price, mark, and number of each gun, cartouch-box, &c., and to whom delivered in the present service for which said arms are now taken, with the marks heretofore sent. It is directed that the Selectmen of the towns proceed upon the usual plan for furnishing the men now ordered to march; and that those men who have balls for their own guns make use of them.

Voted, That Messrs. *Elderkin* and *Wales* be desired to send forward one ton of the *Connecticut Powder* in their possession, to the care of Colonel *Jonathan Fitch*, of *New-Haven*, for the use of the publick.

Voted, That the two Prisoners in the hands of Lieutenant-Colonel *Livingston*, at *Saybrook*, if on examination they are found culpable, be committed to the care of the Committee of Inspection at *Saybrook*, and by them conveyed to the care of the Committee of Inspection at *Colchester*, to be kept on their parole, or in such way as they find most convenient, until further orders.

Hartford, September 9, 1776.

The Standing Militia of this State, together with the Troop of Light-Horse on the east side of *Connecticut River*, are ordered to march, with the utmost expedition, to *Westchester*, near *New-York*, where it is imagined the enemy will make an attempt to land from *Long-Island*.

JABEZ HUNTINGTON TO COLONEL LIVINGSTON.

New-London, September 9, 1776.

SIR: Yours of yesterday came to hand per *Mr. Franks*, and in answer to the contents was desired by the Committee to signify their advice for your troops not to proceed to *New-York* for the present, as we are in hopes of a requisition to act in conjunction with a force from *Rhode-Island*, where your troops will be most useful, as you are best acquainted with the advantages to be taken of the ground in any operations there. In the mean time, transports are going, and some gone, from here with guards on board to assist the Islanders in removing themselves and effects; and no doubt many will take the same measures from the vicinity of *Saybrook*, in which case we think your prudence will suggest the expediency of what assistance you can afford them in that design.

I am, with esteem, your humble servant,

JABEZ HUNTINGTON.

To Lieutenant-Colonel *Livingston*.

COMMODORE HOPKINS TO SAMUEL CHEW.

Providence, September 9, 1776.

SIR: I received yours, and now acquaint you that I had directions from the Marine Board to offer you the command of a schooner which they made no doubt was in *New-London*, and directed *Mr. Shaw*, their agent there, to preserve her, which can't be done, as the schooner is gone.

If *Mr. Shaw* procures any other in her room, shall fit her

out; but I have no orders to buy a vessel myself, that matter being entrusted to their agent, *Mr. Shaw*. If any thing offers, shall acquaint you. I shall be at *New-London* in a few days, when I shall be able to inform you with more certainty. In the mean time, I am your humble servant,

ESEK HOPKINS.

To Captain *Samuel Chew*, at *New-Haven*.

COMMODORE HOPKINS TO NATHANIEL SHAW.

Providence, September 9, 1776.

SIR: I received yours, and desire you will supply Captain *Hacker* with every thing that may be necessary to enable him to get with despatch his vessel ready to cruise. As to purchasing the schooner you best can tell, as you had directions in procuring the vessel. My instructions are to man her and order her where to cruise. I have no orders to buy or to direct any other person to buy; perhaps you would do well to write to the Marine Committee for orders in that matter, as I believe they had no apprehension of any war-like vessel, guns, or stores of any kind being sold without their especial orders so to do. I expect to come to *New-London* soon.

Am, sir, your humble servant,

ESEK HOPKINS.

To *Mr. Nathaniel Shaw*, Jun., Agent for the Continental Fleet at *New-London*.

COMMODORE HOPKINS TO HOYSTEAD HACKER.

Providence, September 9, 1776.

SIR: I received yours of the 5th instant, and observe that you think your vessel is in bad order. If it is necessary, direct you as soon as possible to grave or clean the brig and fit her for the sea, with five or six months' provisions on board. *Mr. Shaw* will supply you with every thing necessary. I shall come to *New-London* soon and give some directions about filling up your officers.

I am your friend,

ESEK HOPKINS.

To *Hoystead Hacker*, Esq., Commander of the *Hampden*, at *New-London*.

COLONEL DIKE TO MASSACHUSETTS COUNCIL.

Dorchester, September 9, 1776.

Agreeable to the orders of Major *Ward*, I send you an *Indian* fellow supposed to be a *Spy* from *Canada*. He says he was sent by *Carleton* to view *Boston*, *Dorchester Point*, and *Nantasket*. One of my soldiers says he saw this same *Indian* at *Quebeck* last *April*, and he was dressed as one of their Chiefs. Said soldier will be able to give your Honours a more full account. Two men belonging to *Milton* say that they saw said *Indian* at *Charlestown*, *Number-Four*, about a month ago.

All which is humbly submitted to your Honours by your humble servant,

NICHOLAS DIKE, Colonel.

To the honourable Council of the Colony of *Massachusetts-Bay*.

Dorchester, September 8, 1776.

A Declaration of *Constant Church*, an *Indian* belonging to the *Conet* Tribe, eight miles from *Quebeck*, now under Colonel *Dike's* Quarter-Guard.

The said *Church* says he left *Quebeck* after our army retreated to *Montreal*; that he is one of their Chiefs; that *Carleton* has agreed with the *Conet* Tribe to join his army, to give one dollar per man per day for scalping, and five dollars per scalp, and to kill all, both Tory and Whig, that will not join his army, and also women and children; and also to burn houses and barns and kill their cattle. Said *Church* also says that he was to come down by *Onion River*, and then on by *Number-Four*, and so on to *Boston* and the *Castle* and *Nantasket*, and then to return by *Cohos* to *Quebeck*. And also that *Carleton* was to drive our army to *Albany*, and the *Indians* were to come on our back settlements and kill, scalp, and destroy. The said *Indian* can act better than he will act before any body of men. The said *Indian* says that he was taken up at *Number-Four*, but they got nothing from him. Said *Indian* also says that he was sent by the Governour of *Quebeck* down to *Boston* about two years past.

RD. O. LYMAN, Captain.

State of Massachusetts-Bay, }
Council-Chamber, September 9, 1776. }

To the Keeper of the Gaol in CAMBRIDGE in the County of MIDDLESEX :

You are hereby ordered and directed to receive into your custody *Bill*, alias *Constant Church*, an *Indian*, supposed to be a Spy sent from *Canada*, and him safely keep in close confinement till the further order of the major part of the Council.

In the name and by order of the Council :

JOHN AVERY, *Deputy Secretary*.

M. DE BERRUYER TO GENERAL WASHINGTON.

Boston, September 9, 1776.

HONOURED SIR: In the quality of a *French* officer I have the honour of addressing myself to you to reclaim the equity in the circumstance which I find myself.

I shall have the honour to inform you that I had been sick for the space of six months in the *French* Cape. I then did decide it to come to *New-England* to establish my health. In consequence I did buy in company of two of my friends a sloop, which we did load to come to *North America*. We were under sail, and after we had been forty leagues at sea we sprung a leak, making five feet water in her hold in an hour. Being that distance from *St. Domingo* so we were not able to reach *Cape Nicola Mole* then. At that time we were forced always to come to this place in order to establish my health. I did then at sea, finding myself in danger, embark sundry goods and merchandise on board of an *English* vessel bound to *Piscataqua*; and as my health is repaired, I have bought a vessel at *Piscataqua*, being a small brig, which I ordered to be got ready for my departure for *St. Domingo*, to continue in my former service, and am now informed of the embargo for all shipping, for which reason it leaves me in a critical circumstance. Seeing that my conjecture is expired, besides I fear that war will be declared in *France* against *England*, which bears a true resemblance, as I was informed before I came away from *France*; besides one of my friends Monsieur Le Chevalier *Delatouch*, who commands a man-of-war at *St. Domingo*, who showed me a letter which he had received from his father who desired him to return to Old *France* immediately, which shows that there are appearances of war in *France*, being that there are orders to arm several vessels and frigates; in consequence of which he must go to *France* to exchange his ship, his not being capable to go or fight. This news ought to be believed, finding that the father of said officer is commander of the department *Rocheport*.

So you'll be pleased to consider each day that I stay from my duty will do me great damage, whereas if I should not find myself there in time of war I should be deprived to continue in my service, and in consequence I shall be at the King's displeasure, which I may expect if I am not there immediately, after serving twenty-seven years, although I am but thirty-six years old.

I believe, sir, that you would wish that I might return to *France*, and beg the permission to order my vessel may go, to which effect I have the honour to address you my request in company of the gentlemen of the Congress, in which I flatter myself you'll be favourable to me. My acknowledgment will be forever even as my sentiments, in consideration and respect with which I shall have the honor to be

Your Honour's most humble servant,

DE BERRUYER, *Dunourouy*,
Officier des troupes de St. Domingue.

ELEAZER RUSSELL TO NEW-HAMPSHIRE COMMITTEE OF SAFETY.

Portsmouth, September 9, 1776.

HONOURABLE SIR: By mistaking the time of the court's sitting, I am rather late in mentioning fees for the maritime office.

As no fees were ordered by authority, I did not care to act my own judgment in the case; therefore asked the opinion of several merchants on the articles in the enclosed list, and upon their advice have hitherto acted, at the same time keeping an exact account of what I have taken from each person, and promising, if the honourable court shall fix the fees lower, to return the overplus.

From wood coasters, (which is the bulk of the business at present,) I have taken only one shilling and sixpence for a pass, and that because the authority of the forts should be kept up, and proper submission made to them.

There has been but one foreign vessel cleared since my appointment, and the owners, who were present, said the fees were not enough, and offered me more.

The coasting fees are one-quarter part of what was formerly taken by the King's officers, and the foreign not more than one-fifth part.

In the *Massachusetts* State no offices are yet fixed, and some of their coasters have murmured at these fees being so high. One or two of our men, who had run for some time without order, have also thought hard of paying any thing. I ardently wish to be instructed on the matter, in order to proceed without blame.

Far be it from me to utter any thing that may bear the air of dictating, and yet duty to those who appointed me strongly urges that I should offer some thoughts for consideration, especially as my stand in life has given me an insight into the affairs of office, and an opportunity of observing the conduct of those who have rioted on the spoils of trade.

I have ever thought it unreasonable that an individual should grow rich upon the labours of the publick, and yet an equivalent may be expected for a person's devoting his whole time to a service. Fees that would now give a bare decent living, would be too high if trade should return to its natural flow, and exorbitant if it should be double what it was seven years past; and yet a difficulty would attend their being fixed too low now. Such are the humours of mankind that innovations are ever disagreeable, and in this case it might be much better to reduce than to enlarge.

At present, and perhaps for some time, one person may easily do the duty of the maritime office, and I honestly declare that fees which numbers of people might despise would perfectly satisfy me.

Should trade return to the course it had five or seven years ago, I'm sure from experience that the whole time of two persons would be scarce sufficient to go through the business. Then it may be proper for the profits to be such that the officer might pay a deputy or clerk, rather than return to the old, erroneous track, of multiplying officers, or paying them out of any revenue that may be collected.

Would it not be better that one list of fees should answer for the whole Continent? There ever was a murmuring when they were higher in one place than another. I should prefer their being rather lower than here.

There formerly has been, and is now, some uneasiness that a vessel of ten tons should pay as one of an hundred. This I submit, after mentioning that there is the same expense of paper, and often more time, in doing the business of the smaller. The case seems similar to going through the courts to recover a debt of ten pounds or a hundred pounds.

I have made no mention in the enclosed list of endorsing registers as often as vessels change their masters, or of cancelling or filing bonds, both which occasion considerable writing.

If I have erred in offering my thoughts, it's being from a sense of duty I hope will expiate the fault; and am, honourable sir, your most obedient and dutiful humble servant,

E. RUSSELL.

To the Hon. *Meshech Weare*, Esq.

WILLIAM LEE TO C. F. W. DUMAS.

London, September 10, 1776.

SIR: The 27th ult. and the 7th instant, in the absence of my brother, *Arthur Lee*, your two letters for him came safe to my hands. My brother is now on the Continent, and perhaps may write to you from where he is. The declaration of independence on the part of *America*, has totally changed the nature of the contest between that country and *Great Britain*. It is now on the part of *Great Britain* a scheme of conquest, which few imagine can succeed. Independence is universally adopted by every individual in the thirteen *United States*, and it has altered the face of things here. The Tories, and particularly the *Scotch*, hang their heads and keep a profound silence on the subject; the Whigs do not say much, but rather seem to think the step a wise one, on the part of *America*, and what

was an inevitable consequence of the measures taken by the *British* Ministry. In short, every one wants to form his judgment by the event of the present campaign, as something decisive is expected to happen from the arrangements under General and Lord *Howe*, and General *Carleton*, before the meeting of Parliament, which will be the 24th of October.

In the mean time every effort is made to prevent *France* from taking any open or even private part with *America*, for which purpose Mr. *Stanley*, Mr. *Jenkinson*, one of the Lords of the Treasury and confidential friend of Lord *Bute* and of the Solicitor-General, Mr. *Wedderburne*, have been at *Paris* some time to aid the negotiations of the *British* Minister, Lord *Stormont*. As far as money will answer their purpose, it will not be spared. The *French* are generally acute enough in observing what is for their interest, but most people here are at a loss to conceive what plan they have in view, as they have not hitherto, as we know of, taken any part with *America*.

The publick papers will tell you all the material news we have from *America*, but in general it is supposed the *Americans* will stand greatly in want of arms, ammunition, and artillery, to oppose such a force as is sent against them, and it is evident they have not experienced officers sufficient to manage such extensive operations as they have in hand. Should you have occasion to write to me, you may address, under cover, as you do to my brother.

I am, with esteem, sir, &c.,

WILLIAM LEE.

GENERAL LEWIS TO THE PRESIDENT OF CONGRESS.

[Read September 17: Referred to Board of War.]

Williamsburg, September 10, 1776.

SIR: I this day received your orders directing three more of the Continental battalions in this State to march to *New-York*. The Fourth, commanded by Colonel *Stephen*, the Fifth, and the Sixth, are those I shall order to march with all possible speed. I heartily wish they were more fit for service. Near half of them are sick, and the Seventh in the same condition, which is the only regiment left, the Ninth, on the Eastern Shore, excepted. The time for which the Second Battalion was enlisted being expired, all are gone to their respective homes. The officers have received bounty money, and are endeavouring to reenlist them and others for the completion of that battalion. I have ordered an express to General *Moore*, and another to Brigadier-General *Stephen*, with his commission and your orders.

General *Lee* not yet returned, nor have I heard of his being on the way.

I am, honourable sir, your most obedient and very humble servant,

ANDREW LEWIS, Brigadier-General.

MARYLAND COUNCIL OF SAFETY TO COL. HOLLINGSWORTH.

[No. 172.]

Annapolis, September 10, 1776.

SIR: Enclosed you have Captain *Lines'* bill of lading, for one hundred half-barrels of powder, belonging to our Province. You will be pleased to have it wagoned to the *Head-of-Elk*, and sent to *Baltimore Town*, to the care of the Committee of that place. We are, &c.

To Colonel *Henry Hollingsworth*.

MARYLAND COUNCIL OF SAFETY TO BALTIMORE COMMITTEE.

[No. 173.]

Annapolis, September 10, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: We have desired Colonel *Hollingsworth* to wagon from *Christine Bridge* to the *Head-of-Elk*, one hundred half-barrels of powder, belonging to our Province, and to send the same to your care when it arrives. Be pleased to stow it in the new magazine. We think it would be prudent to remove a considerable part of the Province powder that is now stored in *Baltimore* to the same place, as it may be dangerous to keep large quantities of that article within reach of the enemy. We are, &c.

To the Committee of *Baltimore County*.

MARYLAND COUNCIL OF SAFETY TO GENERAL BUCHANAN.

[No. 174.]

Annapolis, September 10, 1776.

SIR: It has been represented to this Board that it's absolutely necessary that competent Guards be kept at the

Magazine and Laboratory at *Baltimore Town*, and that Captain *Smith's* company cannot perform that duty, and do duty at the fortifications at the same time. We therefore request the favour of you to order such of the Militia of your County upon that service as you may think requisite.

We are, &c.

To General *Buchanan*.

MARYLAND COUNCIL OF SAFETY TO COLONEL SMALLWOOD AND GENERAL BEALL.

[No. 175.]

Annapolis, September 10, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: Enclosed we send you an order of the Council of Safety, relative to the arms belonging to this State. You are also requested to cause the several Captains in your department to return an exact list of all the guns, cartouch-boxes, knapsacks and haversacks, camp-kettles, blankets, tents, canteens, wooden bottles, priming-wires and brushes, and every other the effects or utensils belonging to this State, carried away by their respective companies, that we may know how to raise a proper account against the Continent for the same. This may be attended with some little trouble, but 'tis absolutely necessary to be done for the benefit of the publick. We request, therefore, that you will give proper directions, and make the returns as soon as conveniently can be. We are, &c.

To Brigadier-General *Rezin Beall* and Colonel *William Smallwood*.

MARYLAND COUNCIL OF SAFETY TO JESSE HOLLINGSWORTH.

[No. 176.]

Annapolis, September 10, 1776.

SIR: You are requested to sell at vendue all the flour you have belonging to this State that you think unfit for baking into bread. We are, &c.

To Mr. *Jesse Hollingsworth*.

MARYLAND COUNCIL OF SAFETY TO GERARD HOPKINS.

[No. 177.]

Annapolis, September 10, 1776.

SIR: We this day gave an order to Captain *Forrest* to receive from you one hundred camp-kettles. We must request that they may be put on board the *Defence's* tender; and that by the same vessel you send some cannon shot, and that they may sorted in the following manner, viz: four hundred of four-pounders, four hundred of three-pounders, and two hundred of two-pound shot; and also, eighty-six canteens, with as many priming-wires and brushes.

We are, &c.

To Mr. *Gerard Hopkins*, Deputy Commissary.

JOSIAH BARTLETT TO WILLIAM WHIPPLE.

Philadelphia, September 10, 1776.

DEAR SIR: The proposal of Lord *Howe* for the exchange of Generals *Sullivan* and Lord *Stirling* for *Prescott* and *McDonald* is accepted by the Congress. We have also agreed to send three of our members, not as private gentlemen, but as a committee of our body, to meet Lord *Howe*, to know of him whether he has any terms of peace to propose, and what they are, &c., &c. Whether Lord *Howe* will meet them as a committee of Congress, is uncertain. The gentlemen appointed are Doctor *Franklin*, Mr. *Adams*, and Mr. *Rutledge*. The two former had the unanimous vote of Congress, and at the first vote there was a tie between Colonel *R. H. Lee* and Mr. *Rutledge*; but as Mr. *Lee* had opposed the measure, he declined being voted for, as he said he could not accept. The votes then were for *Stockton* and *Rutledge*, and the latter carried it.

Nothing has since been done about the Confederation, as the Congress is pretty thin, and hurried with other business.

I am sorry to hear you did not arrive at *Boston* till the 20th ultimo, as I fear you will not return here so soon as I could wish; and what makes me more anxious for your speedy return, is my ill state of health, which has hindered my constant attendance at Congress. I have, for above a fortnight, been troubled with a very severe cough and asthma, and with a slow fever, if not a hectic; and, though I have attended the Congress every day, I have been often obliged to leave it long before it rose. I am loath that our Colony

should be unrepresented, and therefore hope you will return as speedily as possible.

There is a report from the Board of War now before Congress, for putting our army on a more respectable footing than at present. The substance is, that eighty-four regiments should be enlisted to serve during the war, and to give, as an encouragement, one hundred acres of land and ——— dollars bounty, to be proportioned to such State, who are to take care that it's quota is raised. The proportion set to our Colony is four regiments, which is too much, and shall try to get it altered if I am able to attend Congress when it comes on. This plan, perhaps, may be somewhat altered, but will, I am pretty sure, be adopted in the main. *Quere*: whether, as this is like to be the case, it is best for our State to do any thing at present about raising the regiment ordered in the Spring for our own defence; and whether petitioning Congress to take into their pay our Colonial troops will not be best, considering all circumstances?

You'll excuse me, as I am hardly able to write.

I am your friend, &c., &c., JOSIAH BARTLETT.
To William Whipple.

PETITION OF COLONEL SETH WARNER.

[Read September 10, 1776. Referred to the Board of War.]

To the Honourable the Delegates of the Thirteen UNITED STATES OF AMERICA, in General Congress assembled, the representation of the subscriber humbly sheweth:

That, having been honoured with your orders to raise a regiment on the *New-Hampshire Grants* for the service of the United States, he advised with the officers who had formerly commanded under him, as well as those more recently appointed to command, and was much troubled to find but two Captains of the late appointment, and not one of the former, who would serve under *Elisha Painter*, Esq., last July commissioned a Major for said intended regiment. A sense of duty to the publick alone constrains your memorialist to relate any thing that may affect Major *Painter's* reputation. But he rests assured, that, in the present critical situation of affairs, all parties concerned must be better served by making your Honours acquainted with the real state of the case, than by suppressing the whole or any part of this intelligence.

The Captains in question are remarkably popular, and have great influence with the men many of them have commanded. With their assistance, a regiment would, in all probability, be readily completed. Without them, nothing to purpose can be expected; which disappointment would unspeakably mortify your Honours' most devoted and obedient, humble servant,

SETH WARNER.

Philadelphia, September 10, 1776.

MEMORIAL OF COLONEL WARNER AND CAPTAINS HOPKINS AND BROWNSON.

[Read September 11, 1776. Referred to the Board of War.]

To the Honourable the Continental Congress, now assembled at PHILADELPHIA, the Petition of WAIT HOPKINS and GIDEON BROWNSON, in behalf of themselves and Captains OLIVER POTTER, MICAH VAIL, and WILLIAM FITCH, humbly sheweth:

That, on the 28th of July, 1775, your petitioners were appointed Captains in the regiment established by the Provincial Congress of New-York, under the command of Colonel *Seth Warner*.

Your petitioners, in full faith of receiving the premiums paid to other companies in the State of New-York, advanced much of their own money; which premiums, together with their back rations, are still due and owing to them, and that after repeated applications to the State of New-York for a settlement of affairs.

Your petitioners being again called upon to enter into the publick service, and to make application to a soldiery to whom they are unavoidably in arrears, implore your Honours to prescribe some way for the discharge of these just demands, which will greatly facilitate the raising the recruits needed upon the present pressing occasion. And, as in duty bound, they shall ever pray, &c.

WAIT HOPKINS,
Philadelphia, September 10, 1776. GIDEON BROWNSON.

N. B. As your petitioners have incurred much extra
FIFTH SERIES.—VOL. II.

expense in prosecution of the moneys due to themselves, their subalterns and soldiers, they would humbly request to be considered in that article, together with those petitioned for.

LORD HOWE TO DR. FRANKLIN.

Eagle, off Bedlow's Island, September 10, 1776.

Lord Howe presents his compliments to Dr. Franklin, and, according to the tenour of his favour of the 8th, will attend, to have the pleasure of meeting him and Messrs. Adams and Rutledge, to-morrow morning, at the house on *Staten-Island*, opposite to *Amboy*, as early as the few conveniences for traveling by land on *Staten-Island* will admit. Lord Howe, upon his arrival at the place appointed, will send a boat, (if he can procure it in time,) with a flag of truce, over to *Amboy*; and requests the Doctor and the other gentlemen will postpone their intended favour of passing over to meet him, until they are informed, as above, of his arrival to attend them there.

In case the weather should prove unfavourable for Lord Howe to pass in his boat to *Staten-Island* to-morrow, as from the present appearance there is some reason to suspect, he will take the next earliest opportunity that offers for that purpose. In this intention he may be further retarded, having been an invalid lately; but will certainly give the most timely notice of that inability. He, however, flatters himself he shall not have occasion to make further excuses on that account.*

R. H. HARRISON TO JOSHUA WENTWORTH.

New-York, September 10, 1776.

SIR: I am directed by his Excellency to acknowledge his receipt of your letter of the 26th ultimo, advising of the capture made of the ship *Nelly Frigate*, and of the acquittal of the brig *Elizabeth*, on a trial had the 22d; also, of your appealing to Congress from that decision.

Removed at such a distance as his Excellency is, and involved in a multiplicity of important business, it is impossible for him to give directions about, or to pay attention to, the Continental armed vessels at the eastward. Therefore, at the same time that he doubts not but your conduct is right respecting the appeal, he apprehends you should correspond with the Marine Committee appointed by Congress, in all matters that may occur in your department, presuming that they were appointed and are intended for that purpose. His Excellency can only repeat what he has already said, that the laws prescribed by Congress are the only rules by which you can conduct yourself. It is not his wish nor in his power to give any orders or advice authorizing a deviation or departure from them. If, in any instances, hardships of a peculiar nature cast up, Congress, and Congress alone, have it in their power to relieve, on proper representations being made.

The estate of Colonel *Lee*, late of *Marblehead*, having lent the Continent some guns to fit out their armed vessels, which are now wanted and applied for, you will deliver *Nathaniel Tracy*, Esq., eight that were at *Portsmouth*, which were taken in some of the prizes. Mr. *Tracy* has a claim to ten, which his Excellency would have replaced, if you have so many. The reason of mentioning eight is, that he has no account of your having more.

I am, &c.,

R. H. HARRISON.

To Joshua Wentworth, Esq., Portsmouth.

GENERAL MIFFLIN TO GENERAL HEATH.

Mount Washington, September 10, 1776.

DEAR GENERAL HEATH: The enemy are making dispositions to land at *Harlem*. They will probably attempt *Frog's Point* at the same time in which their landing may be urged at *Harlem*. That consideration has induced General *Washington* to order me to remain at Colonel *Morris's*, and upon the first intelligence of the enemy moving towards *Harlem*, to order one thousand men to join me at *Morris's*.

* The Committee being arrived at *Amboy*, opposite to the Island, and in possession of the Americans, the Admiral sent over his barge to receive and bring them to him, and to leave one of his principal officers as a hostage for their safe return. The Committee of Congress had not desired a hostage, and they therefore took the officer back with them. The Admiral met them at their landing, and conducted them through his guards to a convenient room for conference.—W. T. F.

from *Mount Washington*, and with them and the *Maryland* troops, march to the assistance of our friends at *Harlem*. I have therefore ordered Colonels *Cortlandt*, *Martin*, *Newcomb*, and *Furman*, to hold themselves in readiness to join me at Colonel *Morris's*; Colonels *Hutchinson* and *Phillips* to remain at *Mount Washington* with five hundred men as a garrison.

If a landing is attempted at *Frog's Point* and no danger appears of an attempt at *Harlem*, I am to join you with three battalions from *Mount Washington* and all the *Marylanders*. For that purpose, I have ordered several boats to be ready near Colonel *Morris's*, to carry our men over to the Heights of *Harlem*, which will save us much time.

The General expects you to prepare for a brunt on the side of *Frog's Point*, or he expects one at *Harlem*. I told him your disposition was made and you all ready.

I am, with respect, your obedient, humble servant,

THO. MIFFLIN.

To Major-General *Heath*, at *King's Bridge*.

COLONEL REED TO GENERAL HEATH.

Head-Quarters, New-York, September 10, 1776.

SIR: The great extent of the army, and the confusion consequent thereupon, for want of a sufficient number of experienced officers, has induced the General to appoint Major *Henley* Deputy Adjutant-General, and Major *Scammel* as assistant to me in my department. Major *Henley* is with General *Spencer*. Major *Scammel* is ordered to repair to your division. From his accuracy and industry I hope order and regularity will prevail, and doubt not he will be useful to you, as well as, sir, your obedient, humble servant,

JOS. REED.

To Major-General *Heath*.

GENERAL HEATH TO GENERAL MIFFLIN.

King's Bridge, September 10, 1776—quarter past 1, A. M.

DEAR SIR: The enclosed I have just received in one to me by express from his Excellency General *Washington*, by which I am informed that all the *Maryland* troops that were in the city the day before yesterday, were yesterday ordered to march and join the troops at *King's Bridge* and its dependencies, and that three companies more arrived the last evening, which are also ordered to march this morning.

You will, therefore, early this morning, order those troops which arrived yesterday at *Mount Washington* (I mean those from *Maryland*) to march to this post, and the three companies to halt at *Mount Washington*. Two regiments of Light-Horse from *Connecticut* are ordered here by Governor *Trumbull*, as is also a number of the Militia.

I am yours, &c.,

WM. HEATH.

To General *Mifflin*.

GENERAL HEATH TO GENERAL MIFFLIN.

King's Bridge, September 10, 1776—6 o'clock, P. M.

DEAR SIR: I have just returned from *Frog's Point*, *Hunt's Point*, and *Morrisania*, having been riding ever since ten o'clock this morning, without even so much as alighting to dine. I find the enemy making a very considerable movement from *Long-Island* to *Montrossor's Island*, where the boats have been passing all this day. I have ordered two hundred men, as a picket, this night to the widow *Morris's*, and General *Clinton's* brigade to lie on their arms. General *Clinton* is yet absent. I have this moment received a line from him, informing that the brig has been collecting boats all this day, and at two o'clock was standing up for *Frog's Point*. I think you would do well to be at the *Pennsylvania* camp this night, if you can; if not, that you repair there immediately on the first alarm, as you will be much wanted with that brigade.

I am, dear sir, yours affectionately,

WM. HEATH.

To General *Mifflin*.

GENERAL M'DOUGALL TO GENERAL HEATH.

September 10, 1776.

SIR: Early this morning about one thousand of the enemy landed on *Montrossor's Island*, and it's probable

many more will be landed there for the convenience of landing on the main, or to raise a battery to facilitate their landing at *Morrisania*. I judged it necessary to give you this intelligence.

Your humble servant,

ALEX. M'DOUGALL.

To General *Heath* or General *Mifflin*.

COLONEL SWARTWOUT TO NEW-YORK CONVENTION.

Head-Quarters, King's Bridge, September 10, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: As Lieutenant-Colonel *Ferres* of my regiment hath got liberty from General *Clinton* to return home, upon condition either to resign his commission or return to the regiment when he gets in a better state of health, he tells me when he was appointed by the County Committee that he was not fitting for that commission—for that he had a disorder very often which rendered him unfit for the service of an officer. The complaint of that disorder is that he is spleeny and a dizziness in the head, and that attends him whenever he has trouble. We can expect nothing but trouble in our present condition, so, consequently, he will not be fit for the service of this present campaign; for, should he not be here when we have action, he cannot be of great service to the regiment. He further tells me he has spoke with the General, and should be glad that Colonel *Ludington* might take his place as Lieutenant-Colonel, but the General tells me that he intends to leave that to your honourable Board. In my humble opinion, it would give greater satisfaction to the officers of my regiment that Major *Thompson* might be appointed to the commission of Lieutenant-Colonel, and Captain *Mott* Major, as he holds the oldest commission in my regiment as Captain. My regiment has been joined for some time. If matters should be ordered in another manner it might be productive of bad consequences, as I have seen several instances in the army heretofore; and as there are several of my regiment that have got no commissions, and some that have had subalterns' commissions, which were appointed as Captains by the field officers of the Militia. If there were some blank commissions sent to the General, he might fill them up agreeable to the muster rolls.

General *Clinton* tells me he has wrote you about the rank of the several regiments. I am almost confident my commission is the oldest of the regiments now raised, but as the General has left that matter to you, I am content to submit the same to your consideration, not doubting but you will do justice. As to my part, I can assure you, gentlemen, I mean to make no uneasiness about the question. I hope you will consider that the whole charge of the regiment lies on my shoulder, as Major *Thompson* is on the command.

I am, gentlemen, with great respect, your very humble servant,

JACOBUS SWARTWOUT.

To the Honourable Convention of the State of *New-York*, at *Fishkill*.

GENERAL JAMES CLINTON TO GENERAL WASHINGTON.

Fort Montgomery, September 10, 1776.

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR EXCELLENCY: Yours of the 8th of this instant I just received, and am glad to hear your Excellency has ordered a reinforcement of six hundred men, which I hope will be sufficient, and are as many as we can find barrack room for, if the three barracks were finished that I have ordered to be built.

I hope the Quartermaster-General can supply me with the nails, agreeable to an order sent him—and if not already sent, he may send them with one of the four sloops that goes down to bring the sick from the Hospital in *New-York* to *Orangetown*.

We are busy in fortifying these garrisons with the other posts as fast as possible, and order all the garrison out every day, both officers and soldiers, except those on guard and the sick, and a very few number of cooks, and those detached in the Artillery, who are employed daily in making cartridges, &c., and learning the Artillery exercise, for which I have as yet exempted them from any other kind of duty, in order to encourage them to learn.

I have likewise received two letters this day from Congress. Copies of them you have enclosed.

I have just now stopped Captain *Dirck Schuyler's* sloop

from *Albany*, and sent her down to *New-York* to remove the sick to *Orangetown*.

I have ordered Lieutenant *Henry Pawling* of the Second *New-York* Regiment, to proceed down the river with a whale-boat and eleven men, to press the first three good sloops he meets with for the same purpose.

I am your Excellency's most obedient, humble servant,
JAMES CLINTON, *Brigadier-General*.

To His Excellency General *Washington*, Head-Quarters, *New-York*.

REV. DAVID JONES TO GENERAL GATES.

Albany, September 10, 1776.

HONOURED SIR: When I left *Philadelphia*, Dr. *Franklin* delivered to me a large bundle of papers sealed and directed, and as he was reserved respecting the contents, I did not think it proper to send them by this express, but I hope shortly to have the pleasure to see you, when I shall give verbally the news of *New-York*. There is here a draft of the Militia to go to *Fort Stanwix*. It is said three parties are coming against them. I fear we are but weak in that department; but General *Schuyler* uses his best endeavours to reinforce them. We hear of a battle on the Lake, below *Crown-Point*; this hurries my return; I shall therefore come with the first wagon.

As the express will not wait, I must subscribe myself your Honour's most obedient, humble servant,

DAVID JONES.

To Major-General *Gates*.

DR. JONATHAN POTTS TO GENERAL GATES.

Fort George, September 10, 1776.

HONOURED SIR: I found on my arrival here a quantity of old linen had been sent in by the Committee of *Salisbury*, which I have forwarded to *Ticonderoga*, under the care of Doctor *Tillotson*, one of the senior Surgeons of the General Hospital, whom I beg leave to recommend to your Honour as a worthy gentleman. He has directions from me to make it up into bandages and lint for the use of the army.

I have received a letter from Dr. *Stringer* this day, which informs me that he could not procure that supply of medicines which he thought necessary for our Hospital at *Philadelphia*, and intends to proceed immediately to *New-England* to purchase such articles as we are in want of. He mentions no news from *New-York*, but that General *Schuyler* had authentick intelligence that seven hundred of the enemy were at *Oswego*, and that Colonel *Fanning* had gone over to the enemy.

Your Honour may be assured, should any fresh intelligence arrive at this post, I will immediately forward it to you.

I am your Honour's most obedient and very humble servant,

JONATHAN POTTS.

To Major-General *Gates*.

GENERAL GATES TO CAPTAIN VARICK.

Tyonderoga, September 10, 1776.

DEAR SIR: This moment I received yours of the 8th instant from *Albany*, with General *Schuyler's* letter of that date. I shall write fully to the General as soon as I receive accounts from General *Arnold*, as those are every hour expected; in the mean time, this is sent express by *Skenesborough* to order two of the blacksmith's bellows from hence hither, as the three row-galleys here cannot be fitted without them. This is, therefore, to desire you will without delay replace the bellows we now take from *Skenesborough*.

General *Waterbury* arrived yesterday, and is busy equipping the galleys, and will sail with them immediately after they are finished. Colonel *Cortlandt* has my orders to command at *Skenesborough*, but has a slight touch of the ague. I wish Colonel *Wynkoop* may be well enough to go there directly.

I am, sir, your affectionate, humble servant,

HORATIO GATES.

To Captain *Varick*.

GENERAL GATES TO COLONEL CORTLANDT.

Tyonderoga, September 10, 1776.

SIR: On receipt of this you will immediately order Lieutenant-Colonel *Abijah Brown* (who is now at *Skenesborough*) to this post. If he offers to make any hesitation or delay, you will instantly put him under an arrest and send him down under a good guard.

To Lieutenant-Colonel *Cortlandt*, *Skenesborough*.

COLONEL HARTLEY TO GENERAL GATES.

Crown-Point, September 10, 1776—8 o'clock, A. M.

HONOURED SIR: Mr. *Brooks's* and my other boat are just now returned; very bad weather and strong winds prevented him from being here sooner.

On *Thursday* it seems there had been some firing of cannon, and *Friday* morning a small action at *Windmill-Point*; this with the discharging of the loaded artillery to get them in order, has occasioned the alarm. It is very strange that the firing could be heard so far.

A considerable number of the enemy all around the fleet. Mr. *Brooks* discovered the tracks of a large party in the woods. This regiment has had one killed and four wounded.

Mr. *Brooks* has had a great deal of fatigue; but I have persuaded him to go up with this letter. He will be able to inform you particularly concerning the fleet, &c.

One *Cross*, a man who lives near *Cumberland-Head*, informed some of my men at *Gilliland's* that the enemy intended to be up in a week or ten days. This perhaps has no weight.

I am happy to find that no accident has befallen our fleet. I hope the alarm has otherwise had no bad consequences.

Twenty-four men of the detachment taken by General *Arnold* are returning back sick. I hope my regiment will be relieved, as the party has been gone three weeks.

I would be glad the news from *New-York* may also be favourable.

My scouts have discovered no enemy near this.

The gondolas I have ordered to proceed down this morning.

I am, honoured sir, with the greatest respect, your most humble servant,

THOS. HARTLEY.

To Major-General *Gates*.

P. S. The oar-makers will be up this evening.

GOVERNOUR TRUMBULL TO GENERAL WASHINGTON.

Lebanon, September 10, 1776.

SIR: When your Excellency was pleased to request the Militia of this State to be sent forward with all possible expedition to reinforce the army at *New-York*, no time was lost to expedite their march; and am happy to find the spirit and zeal that appeared in the people of this State to yield every assistance in their power in the present critical situation of our affairs. The season, indeed, was most unfavourable for so many of our farmers and labourers to leave home. Many had not even secured their harvest; the greater part had secured but a small part even of their hay, and the preparation for the crop of winter's grain for the ensuing year totally omitted; but they (the most of them) left all to afford their help in protecting and defending their just rights and liberties against the attempt of a numerous army sent to invade them. The suddenness of the requisition, the haste and expedition required in the raising, equipping and marching such a number of men after the large drafts before made on this State, engrossed all our time and attention.

On such a sudden demand of the Militia, your Excellency could not expect to find them all completely officered with either field or commission officers, when you consider that many of both were just before engaged in the service in the eight regiments we had so lately raised. At that time the Assembly could not think it proper to supply their places in the Militia by appointing other officers in the room and stead of those who only had left the Militia for a few months' service in the army, then to return: beside, it cannot be expected but, on such a sudden call as this, many officers may be sick, or at present unfit for service, or some necessary hindrance which may prevent their going forward at this time. And if in these cases we had under-

taken to appoint and commission field commission officers and subalterns in the room or places of those absent or otherwise hindered, in a little time we should soon have the greatest part of our Militia to become officers: for when once formally appointed and commissioned, they must remain, and others in whose room they are appointed, when they return, would be out of the Militia, and totally useless; beside many other inconveniences which might follow; and as it is necessary that every company be properly officered, at least in proportion to their numbers, and that those who do the duty of an officer in a particular rank, be considered and treated as an officer of the rank in which he does duty. To explain myself: A colonelcy is vacant, the Lieutenant-Colonel must act for the present company as Colonel, the Major as Lieutenant-Colonel, the eldest Captain in the regiment as Major, and if a captaincy is vacant the First Lieutenant; and when they return they will of course be reduced to their former rank in the Militia at home, to act as Captain, and so in succession. This is the only way I can possibly imagine to relieve the difficulty. Our Militia set out with these ideas; they were encouraged by them; and we could conceive of no difficulty to the publick, either in point of expense or expediency, for the vacancy to be filled up in this way, and to do the duty, take the rank, and receive the pay during the present service. This I am induced to suggest to your Excellency, as I am informed a great uneasiness has arisen by means of those who had taken rank in the manner above proposed, and have been surprised and obliged to relinquish their claim. I can conceive of no possible method beside to supply and fill up these vacancies. Am persuaded it will be agreeable to this State and will be attended with the least inconveniences of any method which occurs, and will give great satisfaction to the Militia who have joined your army, as well as those now going forward; and should be extremely sorry to have any damp on the spirits of so many who have in this critical time, sacrificed their interest beyond most others on the present occasion. Therefore should be much obliged to your Excellency, if no insuperable objections should arise, which at present do not occur to me, if orders might be given for our Militia to be filled up with officers proper to take rank in succession in the respective regiments, in manner as above proposed, for the present campaign; and am, with the greatest respect and esteem, your Excellency's most obedient, humble servant,

JONTH. TRUMBULL.

GOVERNOUR TRUMBULL TO GENERAL SCHUYLER.

Lebanon, September 10, 1776.

SIR: I am honoured with your favour of the 2d instant, and am greatly obliged by the readiness with which the payment of our arrears for last year and our bills for advancement this Summer was ordered as soon as it was in your power, and for the encouragement you give of favouring me with copies of the transactions of the last *Indian* treaty. The money received by Mr. *Williams*, I have the pleasure to hear, is safe arrived at *Hartford* and lodged with the Treasurer. The invoices were sent by the teams that carried the clothing, and will be delivered by the teamsters with their loads; if these will not be sufficient, new ones, upon advice, may be easily procured and sent you. It gives me the greatest pleasure to find the measures taken to prevent the inroads of the small-pox on the Northern Army have proved effectual, and that the liberty I have taken to hint my fears and sentiments on that subject has been received with your wonted candour. I sincerely lament that you should experience the want of it in respect to any part of your conduct, and especially that it should be found in any gentlemen in high offices. The sufferings of our army in the Northern Department last year, though in a great measure resulting from the nature of the service and inevitable, have left a deep impression upon the minds of the soldiery and laid us under the necessity of offering a double bounty this year to induce men to engage in that service. To prevent as far as possible every occasion of complaint of a similar nature this year, seems as well to be dictated by sound policy as justice to the soldiery. With this view I have sent forward clothing and medicine upon being informed of their wants, without waiting for particular orders from Congress, and again the last week I have ordered two hundred

sheep, with some salt and vinegar, to be sent over to our regiments with the camp utensils and tents which had been requested, upon being informed that our people were many of them sick at *Skenesborough* and in want of refreshments, especially mutton-broth and salt for their fresh meat which served to them six times a week, the want of which is supposed to be in part the cause of their sickness.

I am sensible, sir, the great variety of business on your hands renders it impossible for you to attend minutely to the transactions of your officers in lower departments; neither am I able to determine how far the complaints made are just, or the deficiencies complained of inevitable; but I must entreat your indulgence whilst I suggest that I am informed by what seems to me very good authority, that at *Skenesborough* scarce any provisions besides meat and bread are issued to the troops; that the sick suffer for want of wines and other refreshments; and that what little is to be purchased in the neighbourhood is procured by the soldiers at their own expense, and at the most exorbitant rates. Surely the Commissaries might furnish salt, vinegar, and vegetables, such as beans and peas at least, with suitable refreshments for the sick? If the idea should this year be fixed in the minds of the soldiery, that they are neglected in the Northern Department, or not sufficiently attended to, we must despair of engaging men for that service in future. The anxiety I feel for our troops, and for the future as well as the present defence of these States, will plead my excuse for troubling you with these matters. I must entreat your pardon for again mentioning the old gun-barrels and locks found at *Croton Point* and *Ticonderoga*. I am informed there is a large number of arms that have been in service and unfit for use now at *Albany*, *Ticonderoga*, and *Fort George*, &c. Our extreme want of good fire-arms compels me again to request they may be sent to me to be fitted for use.

I am, with great esteem and regard, sir, your most obedient, humble servant,

JONATHAN TRUMBULL.

To General *Schuyler*.

GOVERNOUR TRUMBULL TO GENERAL GATES.

Lebanon, September 10, 1776.

SIR: I am honoured with your favour of the 2d instant, and am glad to find it is in our power in any measure to relieve your wants, or contribute to the publick service in your department.

I am informed our battalions at *Skenesborough* are many of them sick, and in want of proper refreshments. To alleviate this inconvenience, the teams going and gone from hence with camp utensils, a few tents, and clothing, will carry some salt and vinegar; and I have also ordered two hundred sheep to be purchased and sent forward immediately. This, I am sensible, will bring them only a temporary relief. I find it is the opinion of some that their feeding principally upon fresh meat, and being destitute of vegetables, milk, salt, &c., are among the causes of their sickness. Surely it is in the power of the Commissaries to furnish salt, and vinegar, and vegetables, at least dry beans and peas. You are not insensible how much the soldiery complained for want of necessaries to the northward last year. 'Tis evident a disinclination to the service that way will ensue, and the consequences are equally evident.

I am informed there are some old gun-barrels and locks and arms rendered unfit for service at *Crown-Point*, *Ticonderoga*, and *Fort George*. Could they be sent to me by the return of some of our teams, I could soon have them repaired and fitted for use, and as they are so much wanted, I could wish you would give orders to that purpose. The value of them we should expect to account for with the Continent.

I am, with great truth and esteem, sir, your most obedient, humble servant,

JONATHAN TRUMBULL.

To the Hon. Major-General *Gates*.

CONNECTICUT COUNCIL OF SAFETY.

At a meeting of the Governour and Council of *Connecticut*, September 10th, 1776,

Present: His Honour the Governour, his Honour the Deputy Governour, *Eliphalet Dyer*, *Jabez Huntington*,

Titus Hosmer, Jed. Elderkin, William Hillhouse, Nathaniel Wales, Esqrs.

Voted and Resolved, That the Military Companies in the first and third societies in *Saybrook* be excused from marching towards *New-York* with the Regiment they belong to, at present; and that they remain at home, to assist in erecting the Fort there till further orders. (Copy delivered Captain *Samuel Shipman*.)

This Board do appoint *Gurdon Saltonstall, Esq.*, Brigadier-General of the nine Regiments of Militia of this State, now ordered to march towards *New-York*, and rendezvous at or near *Westchester*; and his Honour the Governour is desired to grant him a commission accordingly.

This Board do appoint *Oliver Smith, Esq.*, to be Lieutenant-Colonel of the Eighth Regiment of Militia for the present expedition towards *New-York*, and desire his Honour the Governour to grant him a commission accordingly.

And it is further *Resolved and Ordered*, That said *Smith* do proceed with said Regiment on the expedition towards *New-York*.

Voted and Resolved, That the First and Second Companies in the town of *New-London*, be excused from marching with the Regiment towards *New-York*, and be permitted to stay at home for the defence of the port and harbour of *New-London*.

This Board do appoint *Dr. Thomas Gray*, to be Surgeon's Mate and Physician of the ship *Oliver Cromwell*, and his Honour the Governour is desired to give him a warrant accordingly.

RICHARD LAW TO GOVERNOUR TRUMBULL.

Milford, September 10, 1776.

HONOURED SIR: Agreeable to your Honour's direction, have opened the enclosed from General *Washington*, and observed the contents, and now forward the same. Am happy to find the General highly approves every plan and movement made and taken by your Honour. Observe he thinks it best to have them rendezvous from *King's Bridge* eastward, through *Westchester*, along upon the *Sound*. Have seen and conversed with Colonel *Fitch*; and should have seen Mr. *Squiers*, but he was gone to *New-York*, and is expected home to-day, and intend to-morrow to see him. But by what I can learn of Mr. *Fitch*, it will be impossible to get tents. He says he has not been able to procure but three; and also camp-kettles, &c., are not to be had here. He tells me he heard they were to be had in *New-York*; advised him to send down immediately and procure them. I should think it would be best to extend the troops along the *Sound* as far eastward as *Eastchester*, if not *Rockal*; by that means, perhaps houses and barns may be found sufficient to supply the want of tents. However, as soon as Mr. *Squiers* returns, shall be better able to acquaint your Honour of what can be provided by them.

Have nothing new; but a heavy cannonading has been heard here all the forenoon, supposed to be at *Hell-Gate*. Mr. *Gray* was taken sick here, and another express was forwarded in his room.

Remain your Honour's most obedient, humble servant,
RICHARD LAW.

To the Hon. *Jonathan Trumbull, Esq.*, Governour of the State of *Connecticut*.
[Per favour of Mr. *Gray*.]

COLONEL LIVINGSTON TO GOVERNOUR TRUMBULL.

Saybrook, September 10, 1776.

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR HONOUR: I just now received your favours of yesterday, since which I have taken Colonel *Abram Gardiner*, who tendered the oath of allegiance to the inhabitants of *South* and *Easthampton*. I am told he, with a party of men, surrounded the houses of Colonel *Hedges*, at *Sag-Harbour*, and Colonel *Mulford*, at *Easthampton*, and obliged them to take the oath, much against their inclination. This gentleman with the other two, are inhabitants of and taken in the State of *New-York*. I should think it highly proper they were confined until they could have their trials in that State; but this I submit to your Honour's better judgment. Before I received your favour, I had sent off the greater part of my detachment to the assistance of my distressed countrymen on *Long-Island*.

They are endeavouring to get off their stocks, and to prevent the impositions of the boatmen, some of them having been so unreasonable as to exact one-half the stock they carried off for freight. By these cruel impositions, the inhabitants of *Long-Island* suffer much. Two or three of these hardhearted wretches I myself have detected and prevented, since I have been at this place. As soon as the detachment returns, I shall give Major *Ely* at *Southold* notice, and with your Excellency's approbation, prevail on him to join me at *Huntington*, as nothing of consequence can be achieved eastward of that place.

By what I can learn of the enemy, their whole attention is bent on their operations at *New-York*; it is possible we may do them some mischief before they are aware of it. I am extremely obliged to your Honour for the assistance you have afforded me, as it gives me an opportunity of pleasing his Excellency General *Washington*, who has just wrote to me to endeavour to distress the enemy all in my power. If I have no other motive, this request would prove a powerful incentive. I shall not fail to give your Honour advice of every material occurrence.

In the mean while, I have the honour to be, with esteem, your most obedient, humble servant,

HENRY B. LIVINGSTON.

To His Honour Governour *Trumbull*.

P. S. Your Excellency will attribute to the hurry I was in, and not to inattention or neglect, my omission in not dating my letter of the 8th instant.

COLONEL DAVIS TO GENERAL WASHINGTON.

Norwich, September 10, 1776.

SIR: I take the liberty to inform your Excellency of my safe arrival at *Norwich* last evening, after a long detention in getting up the *Sound*, by reason of the enemy and contrary winds. Although I have endeavoured to make all despatch in my power, and from the best advice I can get here, together with my own judgment, think it not prudent to come any farther by water, am now making preparations to come by land, with all possible expedition.

Pursuant to my orders from General *Ward*, as expected when I left *Boston* to come up to *York* by water, not knowing the *Sound* was blocked up, did not bring money to pay the vessels' pilots and sundry other charges that will arise. If your Excellency think proper, please to send me one hundred pounds or more, for which I must give an account, I hope to your satisfaction.

Any orders your Excellency shall be pleased to send, shall be thankfully received and punctually obeyed, by your most obedient servant,

JOSHUA DAVIS.

COMMODORE HOPKINS TO THE MARINE COMMITTEE.

Providence, September 10, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: Enclosed you have copies of Captain *Hacker's* and Mr. *Shaw's* letters, by which you will know circumstance of the brig and the schooner which Mr. *Shaw* was to purchase. The *Alfred* is this day going to *Newport*, there to be hove down, as upon examining find her bottom so foul that she will not do well to cruise until cleaned.

The *Andrew Doria* has sent in here two brigs—one from *Dunmore*, with salt, tobacco, rice, and flour, one phaeton and chaise, bound to *Antigua*; the other with fifty hogsheads of rum, from *Barbadoes* to the land. Captain *Biddle* had also taken a ship with fifteen thousand bushels of wheat, which Lieutenant *McDougall* thinks was bound to the westward.

There has also arrived in this port this week a large ship loaded with sugar, from *Grenada*, and a brig with rum from *Antigua*, taken by the sloop *Independence* of this place. The people on board Captain *Biddle's* prizes inform that they left the *Columbus* in latitude thirty-six, and when they parted a sixty-gun ship was in chase of her.

The whole attention of merchants and seamen at present seems to be on privateering, through the whole *New-England* Colonies. Any small carriage guns will now sell at the extraordinary price of four hundred dollars per ton.

I believe if you were to give the same prize money, which

is one-half, as they do, it would be a great deal easier to man the Continental vessels.

I am, with great regard, your most humble servant,
ESEK HOPKINS.

To the Hon. John Hancock, Esq., President of the Marine Committee, at Philadelphia.

SILAS DEANE TO C. W. F. DUMAS.

Paris, September 11, 1776.

SIR: I have to acknowledge the receipt of yours of the 29th ultimo, of the 2d, 5th, and 7th of this month, and at the same time to make my excuses for not answering them earlier; which was owing to my hurry of business, in part, and part to my hopes of being able to send you something agreeable from America, when I should next write you. Forgive, therefore, this seeming inattention, and accept my warmest thanks for the kind sentiments which you and your good lady entertain for me and my country. The cause of the Americans is the cause of mankind in general, and naturally interests the generous and the good in every part of the world.

The measures you took before my arrival, respecting this Court, were perfectly right, and you may rely on my secrecy as to your concerns. Our commerce is now on as good a footing in this kingdom and in Spain, as the commerce of any other nation, and I trust will very soon have an important preference. When I said in a former letter we wanted only a friendly intercourse by way of commerce, I had not the vanity to suppose the actual assistance of European Powers was not an object deserving attention; but I must say seriously, that if the American commerce can be established with the trading Powers of Europe, and if those Powers of Europe would protect that commerce, it would be all the assistance necessary; and the Colonies by land would be more than equal to any thing Great Britain could bring against them. You are entirely right in saying that the House of Bourbon are the allies we should first and principally court. France is at the head of this House, and therefore what is done here is sure to be done by the whole. This, therefore, requires my whole attention, and I can only say to you, my prospects are nowise discouraging.

As to the King of Prussia, I will, in my next, explain more fully my meaning, and at the same time send to you a state of the United Colonies, of their commerce, of their present contest, with some thoughts or observations on the manner in which Europe must be affected, and what part they ought to take in the present important crisis. My name and business have long since been known to the British Ambassador here, and to the Court of London, and they have remonstrated, but finding remonstrances to no purpose, they have wisely determined to take no notice of me, as I do not appear as yet in a publick character.

Let me ask of you if a workman skillful in the founding of brass and iron cannon can be engaged in Holland to go to America? Also, if I can engage two or three persons of approved skill in lead mines, to go to America on good engagement? Your answer will oblige me, and by the next post I will write you more particularly. The British arms will not, probably, effect any thing in America this season, as they had not begun to act the 8th of August, and that brings Winter to the very door, as I may say, and an indecisive campaign must prove to Great Britain a fatal one. I am, &c.,

SILAS DEANE.

Articles of Agreement agreed on and entered into by and between SILAS DEANE, Agent for the UNITED COLONIES OF NORTH AMERICA for transacting their business, commercial and political, in FRANCE, on the one part, and the Sieur PHILIPPUS-CHARLES JOHN BAPTIST TRONSON DU COUDRAY, Adjutant-General of Artillery in the service of FRANCE.

1. The Sieur Du Coudray, under title of General of Artillery and Ordnance, and in rank of Major-General in the Forces of the United Colonies, shall have the direction of whatever relates to the Artillery and Corps of Engineers, under the order and control only of the Congress of the United Colonies, their Committee of War, or the Commander-in-Chief for the time being.

2. The Corps of Artillery and Engineers, as well officers

as soldiers composing the same, shall be under his immediate command, with all the privileges and authority annexed to such command respecting either rewards or punishments, and in case of vacancy in said corps by death, removal, or new creations, it shall be for him to recommend to the Congress, or their Committee of War, the persons proper for filling the same.

3. Whatever relates to the supplying the said corps with provision, to the construction of artillery and fortification, to any plan or scheme relative to these objects, will be consulted on with him, and the execution of whatever may be agreed on committed to him, as within his department.

4. His allowance for pay and table shall be the same as to a Major-General in the service of the United Colonies in a separate command. Should he be made a prisoner, the same shall be continued. Should he by accident of war in the said service be rendered incapable of serving, or should he choose after six years' service to retire, he shall be allowed an honourable annual stipend or reward by the Congress, the particular amount of which Mr. Deane refers to the honourable Congress.

5. Monsieur Du Coudray shall be furnished with an Adjutant, two Aids-de-Camp, or one Aid-de-Camp, and a Secretary, and Designer, at the expense and in the pay of the United Colonies.

6. Monsieur Du Coudray's expenses, also those of his servants, in their voyage to America, shall be refunded him by the United Colonies.

7. No proceedings shall be had against Monsieur Du Coudray but in the same manner as is established and proceeded in against any other officer who is a native of said Colonies, of the same rank in said service; nor shall he be deprived or deposed from his office, but in consequence of a regular and accustomed proceeding against him.

8. Monsieur Du Coudray having, ever since the first day of August last, been employed in the service of said Colonies in procuring stores, &c., his title and emoluments to commence therefrom.*

9. In explanation of article four, be it remembered, that when Mr. Deane left the Congress, "what stipends or rewards to such as were disabled in the service, or might retire," was not settled, and it would be improper in him to make a precedent for them. Further, Monsieur Du Coudray's zeal in entering into this, to him, foreign service, the services he has rendered the United Colonies already in France, and the expected future services in his most important department, will not, in justice, put him in this respect on a footing of a native of the United Colonies, but merit a particular consideration, which, on the part of Mr. Deane, will be warmly recommended to the honourable Congress, in whose generosity Monsieur has the fullest confidence.

10. Monsieur Du Coudray will exert himself in despatching the Artillery and Stores agreed on; also will embark himself as early in the season as is consistent with such despatch.

11. Considering the particular situation of Monsieur Du Coudray as a foreigner, and his uncommon exertions for and in behalf of the United Colonies, it is agreed, that his pension or annual stipend on his quitting the service, as afore-agreed, shall be the one-half of his pay and table whilst serving, or other equivalent gratification.

12. Horses and carriages will be supplied Monsieur Du Coudray, at the expense of the United Colonies, when he has occasion for removing from one part of the Continent to another; also to the officers proposing to go out with him, or advance to him such sum as will be sufficient to procure them in the Colonies where they are serving.

13. Considering the situation of the American war at this time, Mr. Deane thinks that two Engineers, four Captains, and four Lieutenants, with the proposed Adjutant-General, will be as many as he can prudently agree for at present. Fresh intelligence is hourly expected, which may incline him to increase the number, but he now agrees for those at the rates proposed by Monsieur Du Coudray, viz: For the Adjutant-General five thousand livres per annum; for the Captains four thousand livres per annum; for the Lieutenants two thousand livres per annum; relying on their being

* Agreed to commence on the 1st of August, in consideration of his expenses in procuring the Artillery and Stores.
Signed:

S. DEANE.

officers which Monsieur *Du Coudray* can depend on for their skill and experience as well as fidelity in their departments.

14. Mr. *Deane* will advance to them the one-half of a year's pay at their embarking.

15. At the close of the war they shall be entitled to the same pension in proportion to their pay as Monsieur *Du Coudray*, but in this case Mr. *Deane* thinks they should be held to settle in the *United Colonies*, to be in the way of future service if called upon.

16. None of the aforesaid officers shall be at liberty to enter the service of any foreign Power, *France* excepted, without giving up said annual stipend, nor into the service of any Power whatever at war with the *United Colonies*, unless said Colonies shall refuse to employ them or dismiss them by agreement.

17. The sum advanced to the officers embarking is not to be considered as so much of their pay, and to be by them as such accounted for, but as a full satisfaction for their whole expense during their voyage, and their providing themselves with necessary camp equipage on their arrival. Their pay to commence, independent of this, from the time of their embarkation.

In testimony hereof the contracting parties have hereunto set their hands and seals, this 11th day of *September*, 1776, in the presence of

September 11, 1776.

MONS. DE COUDRE,
and MR. DEANE.

Charlestown, Wednesday, September 11, 1776.

On *Friday* his Excellency General *Lee* arrived here from *Georgia*, and on *Monday* he set out for the northward. In the orders of the 9th, his Excellency was pleased to signify his approbation of the conduct of our forces in the following terms:

"General *Lee* thinks it his duty, before his departure, to express the high sense he entertains of the conduct and behaviour of the Colonels and officers of the battalions of *South-Carolina*, both as gentlemen and soldiers, and begs leave to assure them that he thinks himself obliged to report their merits to the Continental Congress."

On *Thursday* the brigantine-of-war *Comet*, Captain *Turpin*, returned from a cruise, with the ship *Clarissa*, which he took lying at anchor off *Augustine Bar*, on the 28th of *August*. Her cargo consists of lumber, with about forty negroes and some household furniture, said to belong to a gentleman who was removing from *Georgia* to *East-Florida*. The day before Captain *Turpin's* arrival he saw a frigate, which gave chase on that day and part of the next, and came close into the land; but being considerably to leeward, and a dull sailer, could not come up with either the brig or her prize.

Deep-Spring, Virginia, September 11, 1776.

All the Officers, Cadets, and Soldiers of the Sixth Regiment that are absent with leave, are desired to join their regiment immediately, although their limited time of absence should not be expired. Should any soldiers be so imprudent as to disobey this order, they will be looked on as deserters, and treated accordingly.

Wanted in the Sixth Regiment a Chaplain, who is allowed by Congress thirty-three and one-third dollars per month, and two rations per day.

MORDECAI BUCKNER,
Colonel of the Sixth Regiment.

NOTICE OF MEETING OF DELAWARE CONVENTION.

We are informed by authority that the honourable the Convention of the *Delaware State*, which was elected on the 19th day of *August* last, for the special purpose of "ordaining and declaring the future form of Government of that State," met at *Newcastle* on the 27th day of the same month, and having furnished their quota of the Flying-Camp, and ordered another battalion to be forthwith raised, under the command of Colonel *Samuel West*, to reinforce the army of the *United States of America*, and having also finished the work for which they were particularly chosen, they dissolved themselves on the 21st instant.

The names of the Members for *NEW-CASTLE County*:—*Nicholas Van Dyke*, *Richard Cantwell*, *Alexander Porter*,

John Thompson, *Abraham Robinson*, *Thomas McKean*, *George Read*, *John Evans*, *John Lea*, *John Jones*.

KENT County: *Thomas Collins*, *Charles Ridgely*, *James Sykes*, *Richard Bassett*, *Jacob Stout*, *John Cook*, *Samuel West*, *John Clarke*, *Thomas White*, *Richard Lockwood*.

SUSSEX County: *Jacob Moore*, *James Rench*, *Isaac Bradley*, *John Wiltbank*, *Isaac Horsey*, *William Polke*, *Joshua Hill*, *Peter Hubbert*, *Phillips Kollock*, *Alexander Laws*.

The Hon. *George Read*, Esq., was unanimously chosen President, and Mr. *James Booth* Clerk, of the Convention.

In Convention of the Delaware State,
Wednesday, September 11, 1776, A. M. }

A Declaration of Rights and Fundamental Rules of the DELAWARE State, formerly styled the Government of the Counties of NEW-CASTLE, KENT, and SUSSEX, upon DELAWARE.

1. That all government of right originates from the people, is founded in compact only, and instituted solely for the good of the whole.

2. That all men have a natural and unalienable right to worship Almighty God according to the dictates of their own consciences and understandings, and that no man ought, or of right can be compelled to attend any religious worship or maintain any ministry contrary to or against his own free will and consent, and that no authority can or ought to be vested in, or assumed by any power whatever, that shall in any case interfere with, or in any manner control, the right of conscience in the free exercise of religious worship.

3. That all persons professing the Christian religion ought forever to enjoy equal rights and privileges in this State, unless under colour of religion any man disturb the peace, the happiness, or safety of society.

4. That the people of this State have the sole, exclusive, and inherent right of governing and regulating the internal police of the same.

5. That persons entrusted with the Legislative and Executive powers are the trustees and servants of the publick, and as such accountable for their conduct; wherefore, whenever the ends of Government are perverted and publick liberty manifestly endangered by the Legislative singly, or a treacherous combination of both, the people may, and of right ought to, establish a new or reform the old Government.

6. That the right in the people to participate in the Legislature is the foundation of liberty and of all free government, and for this end all elections ought to be free and frequent; and every freeman having sufficient evidence of a permanent common interest with, and attachment to, the community, hath a right of suffrage.

7. That no power of suspending laws or the execution of laws ought to be exercised, unless by the Legislature.

8. That for redress of grievances, and for amending and strengthening of the laws, the Legislature ought to be frequently convened.

9. That every man hath a right to petition the Legislature for the redress of grievances in a peaceable and orderly manner.

10. That every member of society hath a right to be protected in the enjoyment of life, liberty, and property, and therefore is bound to contribute his proportion towards the expense of that protection, and yield his personal service when necessary, or an equivalent thereto; but no part of a man's property can be justly taken from him or applied to publick uses without his own consent or that of his legal representatives: nor can any man that is conscientiously scrupulous of bearing arms in any case be justly compelled thereto if he will pay such equivalent.

11. That retrospective laws punishing offences committed before the existence of such laws are oppressive and unjust, and ought not to be made.

12. That every freeman for every injury done him in his goods, lands, or person, by any other person, ought to have remedy by the course of the law of the land, and ought to have justice and right for the injury done to him freely without sale, fully without any denial, and speedily without delay, according to the law of the land.

13. That trial by jury of the facts where they arise, is one of the greatest securities of the lives, liberties, and estates of the people.

14. That in all prosecutions for criminal offences, every man hath a right to be informed of the accusation against him, to be allowed counsel, to be confronted with the accusers or witnesses, to examine evidence on oath in his favour, and to a speedy trial by an impartial jury, without whose unanimous consent he ought not to be found guilty.

15. That no man in the courts of common law ought to be compelled to give evidence against himself.

16. That excessive bails ought not to be required, nor excessive fines imposed, nor cruel nor unusual punishments inflicted.

17. That all warrants without oath to search suspected places, or to seize any person or his property, are grievous and oppressive; and all general warrants to search suspected places, or to apprehend all persons suspected, without naming or describing the place or any person in special, are illegal and ought not to be granted.

18. That a well-regulated Militia is the proper, natural, and safe defence of a free Government.

19. That standing armies are dangerous to liberty, and ought not to be raised or kept up without the consent of the Legislature.

20. That in all cases and at all times the military ought to be under strict subordination to and governed by the civil power.

21. That no soldier ought to be quartered in any house in time of peace without the consent of the owner; and in time of war, in such manner only as the Legislature shall direct.

22. That the independency and uprightness of judges are essential to the impartial administration of justice, and a great security to the rights and liberties of the people.

23. That the liberty of the press ought to be inviolably preserved.

A true extract from the Journals of the Convention.
JAMES BOOTH, Clerk.

LANCASTER (PENNSYLVANIA) COMMITTEE.

At a meeting of the Committee of Observation, Inspection, and Correspondence, at the house of *Adam Reigart*, the 11th September, 1776,

Present: *William Atlee, Lodwick Lowman, William Bowsman, Henry Dehuff, George Moor, Adam Reigart, Sebastian Graff, and Andrew Graff.* *William Atlee* in the Chair.

Michael Sherrer yesterday brought a letter from Colonel *Burd*, with two of the Regulars, prisoners of war, here named, *William Chatten* and *James Parker*, who had got as far as into *Northumberland County*; thought proper to send them to the Committee of *Paxton*, who, by said *Sherrer*, forwarded them here, where they are now in confinement; and it is ordered by the Committee that Mr. *Atlee* pay said *Sherrer*, for his trouble and expenses in bringing down the said prisoners, the sum of thirty-six shillings and four pence, out of the Continental moneys in his hands.

Ordered, That the Chairman grant a pass to *William Gay*, the son of Sergeant *Gay*, to go to *Reading*, with accounts and papers from Adjutant *Thompson* to Captain *Crawford*, of the Twenty-Sixth.

Ordered, That the Chairman grant a pass to *Thomas Deacon*, of the Twenty-Sixth Regiment, to go over to *York*, to attend Captain *Gordon* as his servant.

John Smith, of the Twenty-Sixth Regiment, is permitted to work with *George Cryder*, shoemaker, he here in Committee engaging to be answerable for him, agreeable to the resolves of Committee.

John Gostitch, of the Twenty-Sixth Regiment, is permitted to work with *Leonard Eielcholtz*, skin-dresser, he here in Committee engaging to be answerable for him, agreeable to resolves of the Committee.

William Woodill, of the Seventh Regiment, is permitted to work with *Henry Halfenstein*, he here in Committee engaging to be answerable for him, agreeable to the resolves of the Committee.

EDWARD RUTLEDGE TO GENERAL WASHINGTON.

Brunswick, Wednesday evening, }
Sept. 11, 1776—10 o'clock. }

MY DEAR SIR: Your favour of this morning is just put into my hands. In answer, I must beg leave to inform you

that our conference with Lord *Howe* has been attended with no immediate advantages. He declared that he had no powers to consider us as independent States; and we easily discovered that were we still dependent, we would have nothing to expect from those with which he is vested. He talked altogether in generals; that he came out here to consult, advise, and confer with gentlemen of the greatest influence in the Colonies, about their complaints; that the King would revise the acts of Parliament and Royal instructions, upon such reports as should be made; and appeared to fix our redress upon his Majesty's good will and pleasure. This kind of conversation lasted for several hours, and, as I have already said, without any effect.

Our reliance continues, therefore, to be (under God) on your wisdom and fortitude, and that of your forces. That you may be as successful as I know you are worthy, is my most sincere wish.

I saw Mrs. *Washington* the evening before I left *Philadelphia*. She was well. I gave Mr. *Griffin* a letter from her for you.

The gentlemen beg their respects. God bless you, my dear sir!

Your most affectionate friend, E. RUTLEDGE.

To General *Washington*.

P. S. We wrote you about two hours ago, by the post.

SPEECH OF GOVERNOUR LIVINGSTON.

To the Council and Assembly of the said State, at a Session of the General Assembly at PRINCETON.

Speech of His Excellency WILLIAM LIVINGSTON, Esquire, Governour, Captain-General, and Commander-in-Chief in and over the State of NEW-JERSEY and Territories thereunto belonging, Chancellor and Ordinary of the same:

GENTLEMEN OF THE COUNCIL AND GENERAL ASSEMBLY:

Considering how long the hand of oppression had been stretched out against us, while the most assiduous applications for redress were either totally disregarded or treated with insult—how long the system of despotism concerted for our ruin had been insidiously pursued, and was at length attempted to be enforced by the violence of war—reason and conscience must have approved the measure, had we sooner abjured that allegiance from which, not only by the denial of protection but the hostile assaults on our persons and properties, we were clearly absolved. It may, however, afford some consolation to every man duly regardful of the convictions of his own mind and the honour and reputation of his country, that *America* deferred this important step till the decisive alternative of absolute submission or utter destruction, announced by a numerous fleet and army, had extinguished all hope of obtaining justice, and the whole Continent, save a few self-interested individuals, were unanimous in the separation; in a word, till the most scrupulous conscience could, on the maturest reflection, find itself justified, before God and man, in renouncing those tyrants who, after having ravaged a great part of *Asia*, and dissipated, in venality and riot, the treasures extorted from its innocent inhabitants by the hand of rapine and blood, finally meant to prolong their luxury and corruption by appropriating to themselves the hard-earned competence of the *American* world.

Thus constrained to assert our own Independence, and dissolve all political connection with a nation insatiate with plunder, and deaf to the voice of reason, of justice, and humanity, the late "Representatives of the Colony of *New-Jersey*, in Congress assembled, did, pursuant to the advice of the honourable the Continental Congress, the supreme council of the *American* Colonies, agree upon the form of a Constitution," which, by tacit acquiescence and open approbation, hath since received the assent and concurrence of the good people of this State, to whose consideration it was for that purpose submitted.

Agreeable to this Constitution, you, gentlemen, have been chosen the Legislative Council and Assembly of this State; and being jointly met, have, in further pursuance of it, proceeded to the choice of a Governour. Having conferred that honour upon one who feels himself very unequal to the task, but at the same time upon one who, having, during the whole contest, taken an active part in opposing the meditated bond-

age, now disdains, in its most perilous period, to shrink from a station which must render him peculiarly obnoxious to the common enemy, he can, with great sincerity, assure you that it shall be his constant endeavour faithfully to discharge the trust reposed in him. He is, moreover, confident, that how greatly soever you may find yourselves deceived in the favourable opinion you may have been pleased to entertain of his abilities, he will never give you any reason to call in question the rectitude of his intentions.

Gentlemen, in the present situation of affairs, it is absolutely necessary to turn our first attention to the operations of war.

The pay of our Militia, lately called out for the defence of *New-York*, (which has acquired signal renown by the spirit and alacrity with which it engaged in the common cause,) admits of no delay. That of half our Militia now on duty will be due in a few days.

Some further regulations respecting the better ordering the Militia, merit your speedy attention.

A law for regulating the impressing of such articles as the exigencies of the service may require, is of great importance.

No allowance having been made for the provender of the Light-Horse when in actual service, and it being impossible, from their perpetual station and being frequently employed as expresses, for the Commissaries to provide them, it is reasonable the men should be allowed an equivalent for keeping their horses themselves.

The fixing the seat of Government in some convenient and plentiful part of the State, calls for your seasonable deliberation.

Such other matters as may occur to me during the session, and appear more particularly conducive to give vigour to the Executive branch of the Constitution, I shall take the liberty to lay before you.

To enable me, gentlemen, the more successfully to execute the arduous office wherewith your unsought and unexpected predilection hath invested me, it affects me with singular pleasure to find both Houses composed of the most respectable characters. This affords a happy presage of your zeal and unanimity in promoting the true emolument of that State of which the uncorrupted voice of a free people has made you the guardians and protectors. As it is our indispensable duty, may it be our invariable aim to exhibit to our constituents the brightest examples of a disinterested love for the common weal; and be inflexible in our resolution to know neither friend nor favourite, whenever his solicitations appear incompatible with the general good. In our public capacities we ought to rise superiour to all private attachment or resentment, and make the intrinsic merit of every candidate for an office our sole rule for his promotion. Let us, gentlemen, both by precept and practice, encourage a spirit of economy, industry, and patriotism, and that public integrity and righteousness which cannot fail to exalt a nation; setting our faces, at the same time, like a flint, against that dissoluteness of manners and political corruption which will ever be the reproach of any people. May the foundation of our infant State be laid in virtue and the fear of God, and the superstructure will rise glorious, and endure for ages! Then may we humbly expect the blessing of* the Most High, who divides to the nations their inheritance, and separates the sons of *Adam*. In fine, gentlemen, while we are applauded by the whole impartial world, for demolishing the old fabrick, rotten and ruinous as it was, let us unitedly strive to approve ourselves master-builders, by giving beauty, strength, and stability to the new.

†WIL. LIVINGSTON.

Princeton, September 11, 1776.

*Deut. xxxii. 8.

†PHILADELPHIA, October, 1776.—In the speech of his Excellency Governor Livingston there is a passage which ought to be printed in letters of gold, that it might engage the attention of the most heedless American. The passage I mean is as follows:

"The most scrupulous conscience could, on the maturest reflection, find itself justified, before God and man, in renouncing those tyrants who, after having ravaged a great part of *Asia*, and dissipated, in venality and riot, the treasures extorted from its innocent inhabitants by the hand of rapine and blood, finally meant to prolong their luxury and corruption by appropriating to themselves the hard-earned competence of the American world."

This observation is true as the voice of truth itself. It is highly important. May it make a lasting impression on the mind of every one who wishes well to mankind!

FIFTH SERIES.—VOL. II.

GENERAL WASHINGTON TO THE PRESIDENT OF CONGRESS.

[Read September 13, 1776.]

New-York, September 11, 1776.

SIR: I was yesterday honoured with your favour of the 8th instant, accompanied by sundry resolutions of Congress, to which I shall pay the strictest attention, and, in the instances required, make them the future rule of my conduct.

The mode of negotiation pursued by Lord *Howe* I did not approve of; but as General *Sullivan* was sent out upon the business and with a message to Congress, I could not conceive myself at liberty to interfere in the matter, as he was in the character of a prisoner and totally subject to their power and direction.

The list of prisoners before omitted through hurry, is now enclosed, though it will probably have reached Congress before this.

I shall write by the first opportunity for Major *Hausegger* to repair to *Philadelphia*; he is in the Northern Army; and will also mention the several appointments in consequence of Colonel *St. Clair's* promotion.

As soon as Generals *Prescott* and *McDonald* arrive, I shall take measures to advise General *Howe* of it, that the proposed exchange for General *Sullivan* and Lord *Stirling* may be carried into execution.

Since my letter of the 8th nothing material has occurred, except that the enemy have possessed themselves of *Montrossor's Island*, and landed a considerable number of troops upon it. This Island lies in the mouth of *Harlem River*, which runs out of the *Sound* into the *North River*, and will give the enemy an easy opportunity of landing either on the low grounds of *Morrisiana*, if their views are to seize and possess the passes above *King's Bridge*, or on the plains of *Harlem*, if they design to intercept and cut off the communication between our several posts. I am making every disposition and arrangement that the divided state of our troops will admit of, and which appear most likely and the best calculated to oppose their attacks, for I presume there will be several. How the event will be, God only knows; but you may be assured that nothing in my power, circumstanced as I am, shall be wanting to effect a favourable and happy issue.

By my letter of the 8th you will perceive that several of the Council were for holding the town, conceiving it practicable for some time. Many of 'em now, upon seeing our divided state, have altered their opinion, and allow the expediency and necessity of concentrating our whole force, or drawing it more together. Convinced of the propriety of this measure, I am ordering our stores away, except such as may be absolutely necessary to keep as long as any troops remain, that if an evacuation of the city becomes inevitable, and which certainly must be the case, there may be as little to remove as possible.

The enclosed packet contains several letters for particular members of Congress, and for some gentlemen in *Philadelphia*. They came to hand yesterday, and were brought from *France* by a Captain *Levez*, lately arrived at *Bedford*, in the *Massachusetts State*. I must request the favour of you to open the packet and to have the letters put in a proper channel of conveyance to the gentlemen they are addressed to.

I have the honour to be, with the highest esteem, sir, your most obedient servant,

GO. WASHINGTON.

GENERAL ORDERS.

Head-Quarters, New-York, September 9, 1776.

(Parole, *Miffin*.)

(Countersign, *Putnam*.)

Elias Matthew, appointed Quartermaster to *Tyler's Regiment*.

Gardner Carpenter, appointed Paymaster to Colonel *Huntington's Regiment*.

The Colonels or Commanding Officers of Regiments, or Paymasters where appointed, are immediately to prepare and send in their pay abstracts for the months of *July* and *August*. The Paymaster will attend at his old office at Mr. *Lispnard's*, on *Thursday* and *Friday*, to receive those of the division under General *Putnam*. A time and place will be appointed in general orders to-morrow, to receive those of Generals *Heath's* and *Spencer's* divisions.

Mr. Adjutant *Bradford* to do the duty of Brigade Major to General *Nixon's* Brigade, during Major *Box's* illness.

The *Maryland* Brigade being ordered to march, General *Fellows* to supply two hundred and fifty men in their stead, till further orders.

The several Brigade Majors are required to have their men on the grand parade at eight o'clock every *Monday* precisely, or they will be publicly reprimanded. The late relief of the guards is a subject of general complaint. No failure of duty in the Adjutant will excuse, unless the Adjutant is put in arrest.

Head-Quarters, New-York, September 10, 1776.

(Parole, *Marblehead*.)

(Countersign, *Orange*.)

Major *Popst*, of Colonel *Kachlein's* Battalion, having been tried by a Court-Martial, whereof Colonel *Silliman* was President, on a charge of "cowardice and shamefully abandoning his post on *Long-Island*, the 28th of *August*," is acquitted of cowardice but convicted of misbehaviour in the other instance. He is, therefore, sentenced to be dismissed the Army, as totally unqualified to hold a military commission.

Adjutant *Spangenburg* and Lieutenant *Kachlein*, tried for the same offence, were acquitted. The General approves the sentence as to *Spangenburg* and *Kachlein*, and orders them to join their Regiment. But as there is reason to believe further evidence can soon be obtained with respect to the Major, he is to continue under arrest till they can attend.

The Brigade Major of the day to carry the parole and countersign to the several Guards as formerly, taking care that it be done early.

The Brigade Majors are directed to have the several Regiments join in Brigade as often as possible, and to be very careful that they are thoroughly acquainted with their alarm posts and the lines they are to man.

The General observes with great concern, that too little care is taken to prevent the men straggling from their quarters and encampments, so that in case of a sudden attack, it will be difficult to collect them; he therefore most anxiously desires both officers and men would attend to it, and consider how much their safety and success depend upon their being at hand when wanted. The order for calling the roll three times a day is to be punctually obeyed, and any officer omitting it will be brought to a court-martial.

Great complaints are made of the Adjutants, as being irregular and remiss in duty. The General informs them that he expects an alacrity and despatch of business equal to the importance of their situation, and will certainly make some examples, if (which he sincerely hopes may not be the case) there should be any further reason for complaint.

The Court-Martial to sit to-morrow for the trial of Captain *Rapaljee*, confined by Colonel *Lasher* for refusing to do duty.

Major *Scammel* is appointed a temporary assistant to the Adjutant General, and is to repair to General *Heath's* division. He is to be obeyed and respected accordingly.

Head-Quarters, New-York, September 11, 1776.

(Parole, *Ulster*.)

(Countersign, *Albany*.)

Robert *Williams*, of Colonel *Glover's* Regiment, is appointed Paymaster to said Regiment.

William Arnold and *Samuel Clark*, of Captain *Smith's* Company, Colonel *Smallwood's* Regiment; *Daniel Donovel*, of Captain *Hardenberg's* Company, tried by a Court-Martial, whereof Colonel *Malcom* was President, on a charge of "plundering the house lately occupied by Lord *Stirling*;" *Donovel* was convicted of the crime, and sentenced to receive thirty-nine lashes, the others acquitted. The General approves the sentence, orders the latter to join their Regiment, and *Donovel* to be whipped to-morrow, on the grand parade, before the guards march off. The Provost Marshal to see it executed, Colonel *Ritzema's* Regiment being removed.

Peter Richards, Sergeant in the General's Guard, convicted by the same Court-Martial of "abusing and striking Captain *Gibbs*," sentenced to be reduced to the ranks, and whipped thirty-nine lashes. The General approves the sentence, and orders it to be executed to-morrow morning, at the head of the company, at eight o'clock.

Colonel *Palfrey*, Paymaster, will receive the pay abstracts, agreeable to yesterday's orders, of General *Spencer's* division, at General *McDougall's* quarters, near *Harlem*, on *Saturday* and *Sunday*; of General *Heath's* division at his Head-Quarters, at any time.

The Commanding Officers of Colonel *Silliman's*, Colonel *Lewis's*, Colonel *Mead's* and Colonel *Thompson's* Regiments, to examine the state of the ammunition of their Regiments, it being reported that their men on guard last night were deficient.

John Christy, of Colonel *Humphry's* Regiment, convicted by a Court-Martial, whereof Colonel *Malcom* was President, of "desertion," ordered to receive thirty-nine lashes. The General approves the sentence and orders it to be executed to-morrow, at the usual time and place.

Such Regiments whose Paymasters have not been named in general orders, are by their Field Officers immediately to recommend suitable persons to the General for that office. Every recommendation is to be signed by the Field Officers of the Regiments who are present.

GENERAL WASHINGTON TO GENERAL MERCER.

New-York, September 11, 1776.

SIR: I have received your favour by Colonel *Weedon*. As it seems every day more probable that the posts at *King's Bridge* will be occupied by this army, and the principal defence made there, I have ordered Colonel *Bradley's* regiment to move from *Bergen*, as that post does not seem to be an object of the enemy's attention. I am in doubt whether it is necessary for you to replace this regiment, or leave it to the remaining troops. As you best know what number there are from your camp at that post, I must leave it to you to direct a further supply or not, as, under all circumstances, you think best and necessary. We find a moving camp will require a greater number of wagons than was expected. If Mr. *Biddle* could engage about fifty of the common country wagons, or in proportion of the *Philadelphia* teams, to go up to *Burdett's Ferry*, it would greatly relieve us. The idea of impressing is very disagreeable, and only to be adopted in case of the most urgent necessity. The enemy is taking post on the Islands about *Hell-Gate*, so as to make a landing with the greater ease and convenience. We are endeavouring to give them a suitable reception, and hope they will not be able to execute their scheme.

I am, &c.,

GO. WASHINGTON.

To Brigadier-General *Mercer*, *New-Jersey*.

ROBERT H. HARRISON TO GENERAL HEATH.

Head-Quarters, New-York, September 11, 1776.

SIR: I am commanded by his Excellency to acknowledge yours of last night, and to inform you that he is fully sensible that you are deficient in men, which is not only the case of your post, but of every other one, which he well knew would inevitably be the consequence, when it was determined that our defence should be divided and extended to so many objects. This having been determined on, and the point of attack uncertain, our attention must be had to every part where it is likely to fall.

That you may be reinforced, his Excellency has issued orders for Colonel *Ward's* regiment at *Burdett's Ferry* immediately to cross and be under your direction. He also desires that you would send out and get information, if you can, of the *Connecticut* Militia and Light Horse, and give them orders to advance as fast as possible, and take such stations as you shall think most proper.

I am, sir, your most obedient servant,

ROBT. H. HARRISON.

To the Hon. Major-General *Heath*.

ROBERT H. HARRISON TO GENERAL GATES.

New-York, September 11, 1776.

MY DEAR GENERAL: Congress having been pleased to appoint Major *Haussegger* to the command of a *German* battalion, and signified their earnest desire of his repairing immediately to *Philadelphia*, I have it in command from his Excellency to request that he may set out for that place without delay. They have also appointed *Joseph Wood*,

Esq., Colonel of the regiment lately commanded by Colonel *St. Clair*; *Thomas Craig*, Esq., Lieutenant-Colonel; *William Butler*, Esq., Major.

I could wish to write you a line or two more, but as I cannot for want of time, I shall conclude with my best wishes for your happiness.

Yours affectionately,

ROBT. H. HARRISON.

CERTIFICATE ON WISNER'S POWDER MILL.

In Committee, Wallkill, Ulster County, September 11, 1776.

This is to certify that *Henry Wisner*, Jun., has made sufficient proof to this Committee that he had manufactured at his Mill nine thousand one hundred and eighty-four pounds gunpowder, between the 1st of *March* and the 9th of *June* last.

By order of the Committee:

WILLIAM WILLKIN, *Chairman*.

To the Honourable the Representatives of the State of *New-York*.

In Committee, Wallkill, Ulster County, September 11, 1776.

This is to certify that Messrs. *Henry Wisner*, Jun., and *Morris Phillips* have made sufficient proof to this Committee, agreeable to a resolve of Congress, that they had erected a Powder-Mill in this precinct, and had her complete at work by the 20th of *May* last. And also, that sufficient proof has been made as aforesaid, that there was manufactured at said mill, one thousand four hundred and fifty-nine pounds of good merchantable gunpowder in seven days successively.

By order of the Committee:

WILLIAM WILLKIN, *Chairman*.

To the Honourable the Representatives of the State of *New-York*.

GENERAL SCHUYLER TO GENERAL GATES.

Albany, September 11, 1776.

DEAR GENERAL: At eleven this morning, I received your favour of the 7th continued to the 8th, with the several enclosures. I was in hopes to have received some intelligence of what occasioned the cannonade heard at *Crown Point*, on *Friday* the 5th. I have not heard a word from Colonel *Dayton* since my last to you. Many of the Militia are already arrived in this town and at *Schenectady*, where I have halted them, until, by intelligence from you and Colonel *Dayton*, I shall be enabled to judge which way it will be most necessary to conduct them.

Colonel *Gansevoort* is strangely mistaken to suppose that I ordered Colonel *Van Dyck's* corps to this place. I shall immediately order him back. He is not yet arrived here. It would be far from prudent, even if Colonel *Dayton's* information prove groundless, to draw what few troops are upon the western communication from thence; for as sure as we do, the enemy will attempt to distress us in that quarter. At this place we have no troops except two companies of *Van Schaick's*, so very incomplete by desertion and sickness, that they are hardly sufficient for the necessary guards of the stores and magazines. *Veeder's* and *Vosbrug's* company of *Wynkoop's*, are employed in repairing the roads. If they are taken from that, all supplies must stop. Even now the roads are extremely bad.

I have ordered Mr. *Douw* immediately to his post. He informed me that he was here by your leave. Major *Pierce* is gone down the country, when or where I do not know. As soon as I can find where he is, he will be sent up.

As you will be best able to judge whether Colonel *Phinney* ought to be moved from *Fort George*, when Colonel *Van Dyck* arrives there, you will give orders accordingly, and I shall also write to Colonel *Gansevoort* on the subject.

I have wrote to Congress and General *Washington* that as soon as I return from either *Tryon County* or *Tionderoga*, to either of which I must go accordingly as intelligence determines, I shall resign my commission and insist upon a hearing.

I have advised them of the necessity of having a General Officer at this place, and as you will command in chief, it is necessary that you should in time fix your own mind on the person that will be most proper for it. I believe my

countrymen will be astonished to find that I shall not only clearly exculpate myself of all the infamous charges laid to me, but point out that they ought to be bestowed elsewhere.

I am, dear General, with every friendly wish, your most obedient, humble servant,

PH. SCHUYLER.

To the Hon. General *Gates*.

GENERAL GATES TO GENERAL SCHUYLER.

September 11, 1776.

DEAR GENERAL: Your letters of the 7th and 8th are now before me. I can make no judgment of the dependence that ought to be placed upon the *Indian* intelligence sent Colonel *Dayton* from *Onondaga* and *Oneida*; a small diversion that way, it is natural to conclude, the enemy may think will divide our force and cause this important pass to be weakened in a considerable degree of its defence; therefore any drafts from hence should be made with the utmost wisdom and caution, and upon no account made at all before certain information is actually received that the enemy are to the east end of the *Oneida Lake*. Are the *Indians* who gave Colonel *Dayton* the information such men as you confide in? or is there any reason to suspect they are paid for giving the alarm?

I have published the order you desired, in regard to the arrival of the Commissioners of Accounts at *Albany*, and to the measures those who have received the publick money are to take to have their accounts settled; but it certainly would be highly proper for those gentlemen to come here immediately, as I cannot spare General *Arnold* from his command, nor any of the publick officers from their duty at this post. Besides, there are many demands due to poor inhabitants here and at *Crown Point*, which it would be distressing them exceedingly to be obliged to go to *Albany* to be paid. As to Mr. *Avery*, I desire not to be concerned in the dispute between him and Mr. *Livingston*. It is a matter of moonshine to me who is Commissary, so the troops are well supplied. I shall take care you do not want returns of men and provisions upon this ground. I have sent those continually, and now send you one of this day's date. General *Waterbury*, with the row-galleys, is now here. They are fitting for service with the utmost expedition. I wish Colonel *Wynkoop* were sent to *Skenesborough* to command there. I hope his health is reëstablished.

The Congress may think as they please, but unless the officers for the upper staff of the army are taken from the troops, I see not how this army is to be supplied. You cannot take Assistant Deputy Quartermaster-Generals, &c., &c., &c., as you do cannon carriages, from the stumps of trees. You desire I would recommend a Mustermaster, and you will send him a commission. Mr. *Peter Huges*, I believe to be an honest, sensible man of business. There is a variety of trees in these woods, and but few that bear such fruit. Your news, and every body's news, and all the news from *New-York*, want a something to make it complete. Clear up this obscurity as soon as you can. This moment I received the enclosed letter from General *Arnold*. General *Waterbury* and two of the row-galleys are now here; the third is hourly expected from *Skeen*. The General promises to lose no time in preparing them for action, and sailing instantly to join General *Arnold*. I shall be careful to send a timely supply to the fleet. I send you by this conveyance the *Tyonderoga* mail. I desire you will order the postmaster to send in it all the letters in his office for this army, sealed up to you, and I must beg you to forward it here.

Colonel *Wigglesworth*, with Lieutenant *Calderwood*, in two batteaus, with men and provisions, and the last gondola, joined the fleet in a short time after General *Arnold's* express came away, so that the fleet now consists of thirteen sail. Pray forward as much pork as possible; the fleet will want a considerable quantity. I send to *Gilliland's*, and the inhabitants in the rear of the fleet, to supply General *Arnold* with all the fresh beef and mutton, garden stuff, &c., that they can furnish. While we are uppermost *Gilliland* and the rest will take our money; it is all we can hope from them.

I am astonished at the calumnies that go to Congress against General *Arnold*, and more astonished they should be one moment attended to. To be a man of honour, and

in an exalted station, will ever excite envy in the mean and undeserving. I am confident the Congress will view whatever is whispered against General *Arnold* as the foul stream of that poisonous fountain, detraction. My respectful compliments wait upon the ladies.

I am, dear General, &c.,

HO. GATES.

To General *Schuyler*.

GOVERNOUR TRUMBULL TO GENERAL WASHINGTON.

Lebanon, September 11, 1776.

SIR: The bearer, Major *Backus*, has the command of the troops of Light-Horse now ordered from this State to rendezvous at or near *Westchester*, and there attend your Excellency's orders. I take the liberty to introduce him to you as an officer prepared to execute your orders to the best of his power, and hope, under your direction, he may do his country good service.

I am, sir, with great truth and regard, your obedient, humble servant,

JONTH. TRUMBULL.

To His Excellency General *Washington*.

N. B. A Major is the chief officer in each regiment of Light-Horse formed by this State.

GOVERNOUR TRUMBULL TO GENERAL WASHINGTON.

Lebanon, September 11, 1776.

SIR: The bearer, *Gurdon Saltonstall*, Esq., Brigadier-General of the regiments of Militia now ordered to march and rendezvous at or near *Westchester*, I beg leave to introduce to your Excellency as a worthy man, a steady and warm friend to the *States of America*, and an old, tried, and faithful servant of this State, and wish he may meet with that favour and countenance from your Excellency as his zeal and services deserve.

I am, sir, with great truth and regard, your obedient, humble servant,

JONTH. TRUMBULL.

To His Excellency General *Washington*.

CONNECTICUT COUNCIL OF SAFETY.

At a meeting of the Governour and Council of Safety of *Connecticut*, September 11th, 1776,

Present: His Honour the Governour, His Honour the Deputy Governour, *Eliphalet Dyer*, *Jabez Huntington*, *Titus Hosmer*, *William Hillhouse*, *Nathaniel Wales*, Jun., *Benjamin Huntington*, *Jedediah Elderkin*, Esq's.

Voted, That a draft be made on the Pay-Table for the sum of £500 0s. 0d., in favour of *Ebenezer Backus*, Esq., Major and Commander of the Second and Fourth Regiments of Horse, now ordered to march towards *New-York*, to enable him to provide for and support the gentlemen of the Horse, under his command, on said expedition, he giving his receipt to be accountable therefor. (Order drawn September 11, 1776, delivered Major *Backus*.)

Voted, That the Committee of Pay-Table be, and they are directed to liquidate the accounts of the Selectmen of the several towns, incurred in furnishing the Militia with guns and other warlike stores and equipments for service, and draw for the payment thereof, in the same manner as was directed by the General Assembly for the troops last raised by them.

COLONEL LIVINGSTON TO GENERAL WASHINGTON.

Saybrook, September 11, 1776.

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR EXCELLENCY: Since my last by Lieutenant *Smith*, I have been able to collect no assistance. The Militia of *Southold*, about one hundred and fifty in number, deserted me at the *River-Head*, on my way to *Huntington*, having heard that *Long-Island* was given up to the enemy. Colonel *Mulford* was gathering the Militia of *South* and *Easthampton* when this report (industriously circulated by our enemies) was spread among them. In vain I endeavoured to remove the fallacy. Colonel *Smith's* regiment, having been dismissed by their Colonel, arrived in small parties and confirmed the report.

I received, at the same time, letters from the town of *Huntington*, praying me, for God's sake, not to advance any farther, as they had already submitted to the enemy, and much feared that terms would not be granted them

should I proceed any farther. These considerations, together with a fear that our retreat might be cut off, as I had engaged no boats to take off the troops, induced me to determine a retreat, which was effected on the 2d of *September*. In three hours after, we arrived at this place. Since that time I have almost constantly been employed in assisting the unfortunate inhabitants of *Long-Island* to remove their stock. On my way from the *River-Head*, hearing that the disaffected in and about *Huntington* were disarming our friends, I took the same method, and have collected about two hundred and thirty-six small arms, have also brought off six pieces of ordnance—one nine, one twelve, and four six-pounders—all unmounted; five quarter casks powder, two and a half boxes of ball, one hundred and ninety cartouch-boxes, one hundred and sixty powder-horns, (filled,) one hundred and fifty-three bayonets. Before I left *Long-Island* the towns of *Easthampton* and *Southampton* had sent for their pardons to Lord *Howe*. Since I have left it they have almost universally taken the oath of allegiance to his Britannick Majesty, tendered to them by Colonel *Gardiner*. I have since taken him, and have him now in custody at this place, with two others. Governour *Trumbull* has appointed a committee to examine them, and if they merit the indulgence, to permit them the liberty of a town in *Connecticut*, on their parole. The Governour has also sent about two hundred and eighty men to my assistance, as my own are not to be depended on, their connexions being on *Long-Island*. Twenty-one deserted on the day of our retreat; since that, many others. This has reduced the detachment to a trifle.

I propose sailing from this place for *Huntington* to-morrow morning, and hope to have an opportunity of being serviceable. The whole of the troops I shall have with me will be about four hundred and twenty. I am thus particular, as I understand your Excellency was informed I had a greater number. I believe if ten thousand men were sent on the east end of *Long-Island*, they would give a very unexpected turn to affairs; the diversion would certainly surprise our enemies. I would not have had the presumption to mention this had I not heard it was your Excellency's intention. They are now perfectly secure. Their whole attention is bent on their operations at *New-York*.

I send enclosed a true state of the detachment under my care, and remain, with respect, your Excellency's most obedient, humble servant,

HENRY B. LIVINGSTON.

To His Excellency General *Washington*.

P. S. The enclosed are the Proclamations of Generals *Howe* and *Erskine*, which I intercepted at *River-Head*.

A General Return of a detachment of Colonel *Regiment*, or the First Regiment of *YORKERS*, commanded by Lieutenant-Colonel *LIVINGSTON*, September 12, 1776.

Present—1 Lieutenant-Colonel, 3 Captains, 6 Lieutenants, 3 Ensigns, 1 Adjutant, 10 Sergeants, 10 Corporals, 5 Drums and Fifes.

Rank and File Effective—178 present, fit for duty, 16 on command, 2 on furlough, 28 deserted; total 224.

Arms—320 good, 60 bad.

A true return, except two Sergeants and two Corporals on command. As Commanding officer of the regiment, I have taken upon me to nominate an Adjutant, until your Excellency's pleasure is known. I shall be joined to-morrow by Captain *Leffingwell's* Independent company of fifty men, and three companies of Colonel *Wolcott's* regiment, sixty men each, by Governour *Trumbull's* order. They are commanded by Major *Ely*, who is commanded to act in concert with me.

I remain your Excellency's most obedient, humble servant,

HENRY B. LIVINGSTON.

To His Excellency General *Washington*.

COLONEL LIVINGSTON TO GOVERNOUR TRUMBULL.

Saybrook, September 11, 1776.

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR HONOUR: I am just now applied to by Mr. *Marvin* for the arms I have taken from the Militia on *Long-Island*. I have collected about two hundred

and thirty-six stands—about one hundred and ninety of them complete with bayonets. If your Honour has occasion for any or all of them, they will be delivered to your order. The Militia, or owners of them, were, if they came over to the main, to have them on their application. However, if they are to be again returned, I should imagine it would be no detriment to the owner to have them in the service, provided they knew who to apply to for them hereafter. I did intend to take them over with with me to *Long-Island*, in order to put them in the hands of those who should join us in defence of the Isle; but if your Honour has need of them they shall be delivered.

I remain your Honour's most obedient, humble servant,
HENRY B. LIVINGSTON.

To His Honour Governour *Trumbull*.

COLONEL LIVINGSTON TO MAJOR ELY.

Saybrook, September 11, 1776.

SIR: Since I received your favour, I received a letter from Governour *Trumbull*, acquainting me with your destination. I should be glad you would immediately get in readiness your little detachment to proceed in conjunction with me to *Huntington*, as nothing of consequence can be achieved short of that place. I shall join you some time to-morrow at *Hashemomuck Beach*, or as soon as I can get in readiness. I have some reason to think a very powerful diversion will shortly be made on *Long-Island*. Keep secret our destination, or my design may be frustrated. If we are expeditious you may be of infinite service.

I am, sir, your most obedient, humble servant,
HENRY B. LIVINGSTON.

To Major *John Ely*.

ORDERS BY THE SELECTMEN OF THE TOWN OF BOSTON
RELATING TO THE SMALL-POX.

Boston, September, 11, 1776.

It appearing to the Town, at their late meeting, that there were but few persons then sick with the Small-Pox, the Committees who had visited the several Wards were directed to revisit them, and cause that such houses as were unoccupied and suspected of being infected, be well smoked and cleansed; as also to make strict inquiry how the orders given the inhabitants for cleaning the houses that had been infected have been complied with. The Selectmen were also directed to put the resolve of the General Court and the several laws now in force relative to the small-pox into immediate and strict execution, and to take the same measures to rid the town of infection as have been practised to prevent that disease from spreading in the town.

In compliance with the above, the Selectmen are determined to remove any persons who may be taken with the small-pox, and to prosecute those who neglect to give information of any in their families who have that distemper.

By order of the Selectmen:
WILLIAM COOPER, *Town-Clerk*.

Annapolis, September 12, 1776.

B. T. B. Worthington, *Charles Carroll*, Barrister, and *Samuel Chase*, Esqs., Delegates for this County in Convention, having received instructions from their constituents directing them in framing of a Government to vote for measures in their opinion incompatible with good government and the publick peace and happiness, resigned their seats in Convention, and on *Wednesday* last a new election was held for this County. On *Saturday* afternoon the polls were closed, and *John Hall*, *B. T. B. Worthington*, and *Samuel Chase*, Esqs., were declared and returned duly elected.

MARYLAND COUNCIL OF SAFETY TO MESSRS. VANBIBBER AND
HARRISON.

[No. 178.]

Annapolis, September 12, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: Your favours of the 9th, 24th, and 25th of *July*, and *August* 1st and 15th, are before us. It has been unlucky for this State, as well as for you, that so many of our outward-bound vessels have miscarried. We have been

tolerable lucky in our importations, having only lost the adventures by *Scott* and *Simmerton*, that we as yet hear of. Captain *Luce* is safe arrived in *Delaware*, and we daily expect to hear of the arrival of the rest of the powder you advise us that you have and are about to ship. We are very solicitous to charter or buy vessels to load out to your address, as we want a large sum of money in your hands for the purchase of salt, arms, coarse cloths, blankets, and lead, but we fear that we shall be disappointed in procuring as many as we want. You will, therefore, if possible, charter or buy vessels with you, and load them in with salt as far as thirty thousand bushels, and draw bills upon us or upon Messrs. *Willing, Morris & Co.*, at *Philadelphia*, and you may depend upon their being duly honoured. Next to salt, we want a large quantity of coarse cloths, blankets, sail-duck, light as well as heavy, lead, and muskets. We do not restrict you in price, but leave it to you to do the best you can for the State of *Maryland*, and your bills for the whole or any part thereof will be paid.

We are, &c.

To Messrs. *Vanbibber & Harrison*.

P. S. Your bill on *T. Johnson*, Esq., will be duly honoured.

MARYLAND COUNCIL OF SAFETY TO MESSRS. VANBIBBER AND
HARRISON.

[No. 179.]

Annapolis, September 12, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: Enclosed you have invoice and bill of lading for twenty-five hogsheads tobacco, two hundred barrels superfine flour, and one hundred barrels bread, on account of this State, which we wish may get safe to hand and to a good market. You will be pleased to despatch Captain *Conway* with a light load of salt and such of the articles as you can purchase for us, as recommended to you in our letter of equal date with this.

We are, &c.

To Messrs. *Vanbibber & Harrison*.

PHILIP THOMAS TO MATTHEW TILGHMAN.

Fredericktown, September 12, 1776.

SIR: I am directed by the Committee to inform the Convention that there are many deserters from our regiment now in this and the Upper District, and that they have sufficient reasons to believe they are secreted by their friends. Under these circumstances, the Committee wish the Convention to take some order therein, as they conceive the interposition of their authority may be necessary for the speedy apprehending them and discouraging desertion in future.

I am likewise to mention, that there have been and still are several sick soldiers lodged in this town, belonging to the Continental army, and as no provision hath been made for them, I am to request your directions.

I am, sir, with great respect, your very obedient servant,
PHILIP THOMAS,
of *Committee Correspondence*.

To the Hon. *Matthew Tilghman*, Esq., President of Convention.

BOARD OF WAR TO GENERAL WASHINGTON.

War-Office, September 12, 1776.

SIR: By direction of Congress to the Board of War, I have procured two of the *Philadelphia* Light-Horse to conduct the Generals *Prescott* and *McDonald* to your Excellency, to be exchanged, agreeable to the resolve of Congress, for the Generals *Sullivan* and Lord *Stirling*. I have directed the gentlemen of the escort to stop short at some safe place on the road, and send off an express to your Excellency for your directions in the matter.

The Generals are on their parole not to attempt an escape or take any steps contrary to the rules of war, but to deliver themselves to your Excellency for your proper disposal of them, until their exchange can be effected.

I have the honour to be your obedient, humble servant,
RICHARD PETERS, *Secretary*.

To His Excellency General *Washington*, &c., &c., *New-York*.

ROBERT GATES TO COLONEL STEWART.

Princeton, September 12, 1776.

DEAR SIR: It gives me great concern to find by your letter of the 26th of *August*, which I received last *Saturday*, that my answer to one you were so kind as to favour me with some time ago had not then come to hand. I hope you will not impute this to negligence, as it has been my desire to keep up a correspondence you assure me will give so much satisfaction to yourself and my friends. To prevent your letters from miscarrying for the future, please send them in my father's packet; Mr. *Francis Lewis* will do me the favour to convey mine in the President's packet.

You inform me that General *Arnold* with the fleet is gone down the Lake. When I consider the march he performed, and his actions before *Quebeck*, I join with you in making no doubt but he will signalize himself.

Many remarkable things have happened in this part of the world; one thing in particular, that our troops should abandon *Long-Island*. I will not pretend to give you a circumstantial account of the action upon this place; let it suffice to say in the language of the people, "We were out-generated, they were out-fought." It is reported in town to-day that the *New-England* Militia have come upon the back of the *Regulars* on *Long-Island*; Lord *Stirling* and General *Sullivan* were both taken prisoners in the engagement. The latter had a long conversation with Lord *Howe*, who permitted him on his parole to go to the Congress and settle an exchange of prisoners, (my Lord and himself for *Prescott* and *McDonald*.) and to tell the Congress that he should be glad to converse with any of the members of the Congress, not as members of that body, but as private gentlemen. The Congress sent Mr. *J. Adams*, Dr. *Franklin*, Mr. *Rutledge*, as Commissioners from the Congress of the *United States*. They met day before yesterday on *Staten-Island*, where, as far as we hear, they conversed two hours; but they did not converse on publick matters, Lord *Howe* having told them that he could not confer with them as members of Congress, being not authorized so to do by his commission. They this day passed through on their return to *Philadelphia*.

I am very sorry that Major *Peirce* has been so ill; hope he is by this time recovered, and that I shall soon have the happiness to hear from him. Pray remember me affectionately to him. I am much obliged to you for your kind inquiries concerning my health. The journey to *Princeton* quite drove that mean companion, the *ague*, away.

Remember me to Major *Lewis*, Colonel *Trumbull*, and Mr. *Clajon*. Adieu, my dear sir.

Yours sincerely and affectionately, R. GATES.
To Colonel *Walter Stewart*.

ROBERT H. HARRISON TO THE PRESIDENT OF CONGRESS.

Head-Quarters, New-York, September 12, 1776.

SIR: His Excellency being called from Head-Quarters to-day on business of importance, which prevents his writing, I therefore do myself the honour to inform Congress of what has happened since his letter of yesterday.

Last evening the enemy transported a number of men from *Buchanan's* to *Montessor's Island*, and by their several movements more strongly indicate their intention to land somewhere about *Harlem* or *Morrisiana*—most likely at both at the same time.

This morning one of the ships that has been for some time in the *Sound* moved down towards *Hell-Gate*, but the tide leaving her she could not get near enough to bring her guns to bear upon our fortification. If she means to attack it, it is probable she will warp in the next tide. Their batteaus have kept up a pretty constant fire against ours at that place, but without any considerable effect. This morning they opened a new one.

I do not recollect any other material occurrence, and shall only add, that I have the honour to be, with the highest respect, sir, your most obedient servant,

ROBERT H. HARRISON.
To the Hon. *John Hancock*, Esq., President of Congress.

GENERAL WASHINGTON TO THE NEW-YORK CONVENTION.

Head-Quarters, New-York, September 12, 1776.

SIR: I yesterday received the favour of your letter of

the 9th, with its several enclosures, and am extremely happy that your honourable body had anticipated my recommendation, by resolving on an augmentation of six hundred men to the garrisons in the *Highlands*. The importance of those posts demands the utmost attention and every exertion to maintain them.

The vessels for the removal of the sick are not yet arrived; their present situation gives me great anxiety. As the wind is now favourable, I would fain hope that a sufficient number will come down to-day to take in the whole; if they do not, my distress will be much increased.

General *Clinton*, in a letter of the 8th, transmitted me a list of artillery and ordnance stores wanted at *Forts Montgomery* and *Constitution*, which included the several articles you have determined to procure, except those mentioned below. I directed that they should be sent up; but as the situation of our affairs at this time may not perhaps admit of it, I think it will be prudent for Mr. *Schenck*, whom you have appointed an agent in this instance, to get all he can. Should he be able to obtain the supply you have voted to be necessary, and General *Clinton's* demand be complied with also, no damage will be done; our stores will not be too large.

I have the honour to be, with great respect, sir, your most obedient servant,
GO. WASHINGTON.

To the Hon. *Abm. Yates*, Jun., Esq., President, &c.

Entrenching tools, iron carriages, cannon harness, Armourer with the tools.

GENERAL WASHINGTON TO GENERAL JAMES CLINTON.

Head-Quarters, New-York, September 12, 1776.

SIR: I have before me your two letters of the 8th and 10th instant, the first enclosing returns of the number of men and ordnance and artillery stores at *Forts Montgomery* and *Constitution*; the last, copies of two letters from the Convention of the State of *New-York*, by which it appears they had ordered in six hundred Militia as a reinforcement to the two posts, and which I hope will prove sufficient to put them in a proper state of defence.

I ordered Colonel *Knox* to provide and forward the different articles wanted by you in the ordnance department, but he informed me that from the present unsettled state of our Magazine and Laboratory (many of our stores being removed and on their way to *King's Bridge* and *Mount Washington*) he could not comply at once with the whole of the demand, but would send what he could conveniently collect. The Convention of *New-York* having appointed Mr. *Schenck* to provide what articles they found wanting at their late review of your works and stores, and which include many of the articles you wrote for, I hope, as he will make it his business, that he will collect many articles which Colonel *Knox*, from the present hurry of our affairs, cannot attend to; and if they should both provide the same things, your store will only be fuller. I have again ordered the Quartermaster-General to send up the nails with all possible expedition. The Convention having ordered an Armourer, with proper tools, to be fixed at your two posts, I hope what arms are at present out of repair will be soon fit for use. We must make every shift with our old arms till we can get better supplied.

I am, &c., GO. WASHINGTON.
To Brigadier-General *James Clinton*, *Fort Montgomery*.

GENERAL WASHINGTON TO GENERAL SCHUYLER.

Head-Quarters, New-York, September 12, 1776.

DEAR SIR: I yesterday evening received your favour of the 8th instant, with its enclosures.

You were right in supposing me unable to comply with General *Gates's* request. I am by no means provided to supply so large a demand, and am glad you transmitted his application immediately to Congress.

The papers you enclosed but too strongly indicate the hostile intentions of the *Indians*; however, I trust if they should attempt an incursion upon the frontiers, that the force you will be able to oppose to 'em will be sufficient to repel their attacks, and prevent their doing much mischief.

I have delivered the returns of boards and plank to the Quartermaster-General, who will examine them and pay whatever is due as soon as proper accounts are rendered

him. As we shall have occasion for a great quantity, I must request your assistance in furnishing every supply in your power; neither timber or boats will be wanted. I am exceedingly hurried by a variety of business now before me, and shall only add that

I am, dear sir, with great respect, &c.,

GO. WASHINGTON.

To Major-General Schuyler, Northern Department.

DR. MORGAN TO GENERAL WASHINGTON.

New-York, September 12, 1776.

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR EXCELLENCY: Agreeable to orders I have been into the County of *Orange*, and collected seven members of Committee, and spent the whole of yesterday and part of this day in viewing the country, and looking out for proper coverings for the reception of the sick and wounded.

I am sorry to report that, in a circuit of fourteen miles in that County, I cannot find or hear of any suitable accommodations for more than about one hundred sick. No country can be worse provided in all respects; and the places proposed are remote from any landing. From the knowledge I have of *New-Ark*, I am persuaded it is a place infinitely superiour in all respects for the establishment of a General Hospital. There are but four miles of land carriage required; all the rest is water carriage. The houses are numerous, large, and convenient. If it be objected that they are full of inhabitants from *New-York*, so is every hovel through *Orange* County; and as to the town of *Orange*, I cannot find that there is room for one sick person without incommoding some one or other.

After this report, which is grounded on the most careful inquiry and inspection, I wait your Excellency's further orders; but if I may be permitted to offer my sentiments it is, that no time be lost in applying to the Committee at *New-Ark* by requisition for room for the sick; and if your Excellency thinks proper, I will immediately repair with all despatch to urge the matter without delay, or proceed in any other way your Excellency may see fit.

I am your Excellency's most obedient and very humble servant,

JOHN MORGAN.

To His Excellency General Washington.

STEPHEN MOYLAN TO COLONEL HARRISON.

September 12, 1776.

DEAR SIR: I have given a bill of scantling to a man who engages to get as much as will be wanted for the Barracks, between this and *Peekskill*, so that I don't think it necessary for the General to mention any thing at present relative to the timber.

I am yours,

S. MOYLAN.

To Colonel Harrison.

GENERAL CHESTER TO CAPTAIN ISHAM.

September 12, 1776.

SIR: In consequence of yesterday's orders I appoint you to take the charge and oversight of all the sick in my brigade who are not able to transport themselves from place to place. You are to continue to collect them together in some convenient house near the banks of the *North River*, and to provide necessaries for their comfort, both as to medicine and food, advising with the Hospital Surgeon who shall be appointed for that purpose, as well as the Regimental Surgeons who may attend the sick. And you are to apply to the Quartermaster-General for money for to supply the same, which you are to use with the utmost frugality. *Bloomingdale* may be as convenient a place to collect them together, as may be.

JOHN CHESTER, Commandant.

To Captain John Isham.

EBENEZER HAZARD TO ABRAHAM YATES.

Dobbs's Ferry, September 12, 1776.

SIR: I am honoured with your letter of the 10th instant, desiring, in behalf of the Committee of Safety, that the *Albany* post may ride on the east side of the *Hudson*

River, and cross it at the *Fishkill* or *New-Windsor*, when it is his turn to ride on the west side. In answer to it, I beg leave to inform you that I can see no reason why he should not ride as the Committee request, unless it will be contrary to the following order from the Comptroller, dated the 7th instant: "I desire the route of the *Albany* post may not be altered till there is an absolute necessity, or order from the Postmaster-General." However, sir, I cannot conceive that the alteration you propose can any way affect the revenue of the Post-Office, or occasion any inconvenience to the publick; and, therefore, for my own part, shall have no objections against it, but I do not expect to have the management of these matters much longer, having desired that another Postmaster may be appointed for the district of *New-York*.

I am respectfully, sir, your and the Committee's most obedient, humble servant,

EBEN. HAZARD.

To Abraham Yates, Jun., Esq., President of the Committee of Safety, at *Fishkill*.

P. S. The Convention are indebted to me for some postage: will you please to procure an order for the payment of it?

GENERAL SCHUYLER TO GENERAL WASHINGTON.

Albany, September 12, 1776.

DEAR SIR: Yesterday I was favoured with a letter from General Gates of the 7th instant, continued to the 8th, covering the information given by a *Hessian* deserter, and copy of his capitulation, copies whereof I do myself the honour to enclose.

General Gates informs me "no intelligence that can be depended upon has yet arrived from the fleet. Scouts and parties are out by land and by water to make discoveries."

Part of the Militia of this County are now in this town and *Schenectady*, and more are daily coming in. I have not had a line from Colonel Dayton since that of the 4th instant; I have therefore requested the Militia to remain here until I shall be enabled to judge which way it will be proper to march them.

I am, dear sir, most respectfully, your Excellency's obedient, humble servant,

PH. SCHUYLER.

To His Excellency General Washington, &c.

GENERAL GATES TO GENERAL ARNOLD.

Tyonderoga, September 12, 1776.

DEAR GENERAL: I had the pleasure to receive your letters by Lieutenant Brooks, of the Sixth Battalion of *Pennsylvanians*, from *Isle-aux-Mottes*. I am perfectly satisfied with your leaving *Isle-aux-Têtes*, and think from yours and every other account that the post you now occupy is much preferable. *Point-aux-Fers* is an object that should employ your serious attention. Should it be possible for the enemy secretly to get artillery and a post fixed there, while you are to the northward of that remarkable spot, it might prove a great annoyance to your fleet. Remember how exceedingly you ought to guard against the possibility of the enemy's possessing any narrow pass in your rear, a caution which you so much approved in the orders and instructions you received.

The row-galleys are all three at this place, and fitting with the utmost diligence. General Waterbury is indefatigable, and promises to sail without the smallest unnecessary delay; your best pilot should be sent by the return of the bearer to conduct them down. You wrote to General Schuyler to apply to Governour Trumbull for Captains to command these galleys. The Governour has sent four; by this we are encumbered with double officers, as you appointed three before you left Tyonderoga. What is best to be done in this difficulty? I shall endeavour to pacify all claimants until I hear from you. A good many seamen are procured, and will be sent in the galleys. I have ordered Commissary Avery, and Mr. Deacon Rood of *Onion River*, to acquaint all the inhabitants upon both sides the Lake, that what cattle, sheep, garden-stuff, or hogs, are sent to you, shall, upon your certificate be paid for in ready money, upon the presentment thereof to me.

Enclosed is a copy of a letter I have just received from Dr. Franklin. The tobacco is not yet come; it shall be sent to you in the first row-galley. Would it not now and

then be proper for a row-galley or gondola to cruise a little to the southward, above *Point-aux-Fers*, to protect boats, &c., passing to the fleet? The enemy are subtle, and quick at expedients; they may endeavour to impose false friends upon you; your watchword should never be given until sunset, and all boats at daylight kept at a proper distance, until their crews are examined.

In obedience to your request, I wrote very fully yesterday in my publick letter, upon the subject you so earnestly mentioned. I fancy when my letter is received, the Congress and your friends will be convinced that every report to your prejudice is founded in calumny, and should meet with the contempt and disregard it so justly deserves.

A fourth row-galley will be quite planked up by *Saturday* night. Your barge is here, and most elegantly painted and finished. She will be sent by Captain *Arnold*. The provisions I now send will last much longer than will be necessary for the supply of the fleet, until the first row-galley arrives, even if the inhabitants upon the Lake do not send you any fresh provisions, &c.

I hope to be able to send all the clothing you demand by Captain *Arnold*. Rum goes by this conveyance, and all the hard bread baked at *Crown Point*. Commissary *Avery* has my orders to write, and obey all your orders. The swivels will come with the galley. Gunners are very scarce, but you shall be supplied.

I would fain send you some intelligence from authority, of the proceedings of the armies at *Long-Island*; but neither General *Schuyler* or myself have received any letters from General *Washington* that are particular upon the subject. By private letters it is clear the enemy lost upwards of fourteen hundred men in the three repulses they met with in their attack upon our lines, *Wednesday*, the 28th ultimo; and Commissary *Trumbull* writes that we are still in possession of our lines upon *Long-Island*, and the City of *New-York*. It is beyond a doubt that our people have behaved with the greatest spirit, and that the enemy have suffered greatly, and must view our troops in a very respectable light.

I am, &c.,

HO. GATES.

To Brigadier-General *Arnold*.

P. S. When you receive an order to send a flag to the enemy, or have an opportunity by the return of one of theirs, send them the Act of Independence enclosed. H. G.

MAJOR SHEPARDSON TO GENERAL GATES.

Rutland, September 12, 1776.

SIR: The detachment of Colonel *Van Dyck's* regiment now on the road in repairing the same, under Colonel *Barrit's* inspection, consisting of ninety men, officers included, are without ammunition. If your Honour will please to give orders for their supply by Lieutenant *Cooke*, the bearer, you will greatly oblige

Your Honour's most obedient and very humble servant,
JOHN SHEPARDSON, Major.

To the Hon. *Horatio Gates*, Major-General.

[Endorsed: The bridge is building at *Rutland*, and the road to *Mount Independence* comes in at *Castletown*.
Delivered one thousand cartridges and one hundred flints.]

COLONEL SIMONDS TO GENERAL GATES.

Williamstown, September 12, 1776.

SIR: Agreeable to an express from his Honour Major-General *Schuyler*, I have caused the Militia under my command to be on their march to *Tyonderoga*. I thought proper to send this by express, so that in case the men should not be wanted, they may have early orders for their return, that so expense of their march farther than necessary may be prevented.

I am your Honour's most obedient servant,

BENJ. SIMONDS, Colonel.

To General *Gates*.

GOVERNOUR TRUMBULL TO COMMITTEE FOR NEW-HAVEN, CONNECTICUT.

Lebanon, September 12, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: I am informed that Mr. *Ralph Isaacs* of *New-Haven*, has done and said many things tending to

depreciate and obstruct the currency of the Continental bills of credit, and hath likewise encouraged and assisted deserters to make their escape from our army. How these matters are I do not pretend to judge, but think them very worthy your attention. Mr. *Dupeau* and the French Captain in company with him, can give you information. The same French Captain complains of great injustice from said *Isaacs*. As he is a merchant stranger, who is come to trade with us upon the faith of the resolves of Congress, I think his case falls within your cognizance as executors of these resolves; and as it is of the greatest importance that speedy justice should be done to such strangers, to encourage them to come and trade with us, I am of opinion you ought immediately to call said *Isaacs* before you, and take speedy and effectual care that equal and impartial justice be done this stranger.

To the Committee of Inspection, of *New-Haven*.

GOVERNOUR TRUMBULL TO COLONEL LIVINGSTON.

Lebanon, September 12, 1776.

SIR: I received your favour of the 11th instant, per Mr. *Marvin*, wherein you are so kind as to offer to supply some of our troops with arms for the present service. There are two companies from *Norwich* who want. Please to deliver Captain *Jabez Wright*, for his company, three guns, bayonets, and cartouch-boxes, and to Captain *Ezra Brewster*, for his company, fifteen guns, &c., taking their respective receipts, with promise to return them, extraordinary excepted. If it appear they want more, please to deliver them accordingly. Let them be prized by judicious men, under oath. Take duplicate receipts and accounts of appraisal; one of each to be sent me.

I am, with esteem and regard, sir, your obedient, humble servant,

JONTH. TRUMBULL.

To Colonel *Henry B. Livingston*, (in his absence to be opened by Mr. *Dickason*.) at *Saybrook*.

GOVERNOUR TRUMBULL TO COLONEL LIVINGSTON.

Lebanon, September 12, 1776.

SIR: Since my last of the 9th instant, I am favoured with a letter from General *Washington*, in which he gives his opinion, that, under present circumstances, a diversion on *Long-Island* is impracticable, and that the only object there is the securing and bringing off the persons and effects of our friends; perhaps some of the provisions for our enemies may be intercepted or destroyed.

I am obliged to recall Major *Ely*, to take charge of a regiment of Militia ordered towards *New-York*. The rest of the men from this State will remain there for the present, and so long as they can be serviceable in assisting our friends, or intercepting the provisions for our enemies. I confide in your prudence to direct their operations, and when the aforesaid objects are attained, upon the appearance of danger from the enemy's ships, to make a timely retreat to the Continent.

I am, &c.,

JONTH. TRUMBULL.

To Colonel *Henry B. Livingston*.

GOVERNOUR TRUMBULL TO ADMIRAL HOPKINS.

Lebanon, September 12, 1776.

SIR: Since my last to Governour *Cooke*, on the subject of a naval preparation and expedition against the enemy's ships, &c., in the *Sound*, near *White-Stone*, have received a letter from General *Washington*, urging the attempt, with the greatest confidence and almost assurance of success, if you fall in with the measure, and will take with you such Continental ships and vessels of force as are now in the ports of the State of *Rhode-Island*, and such others as that State can furnish. We are exerting ourselves to get in readiness those we have or can procure; which are, a twenty-gun ship, new built, a fourteen-gun brigantine, and the bomb brigantine which you brought in there. There is Captain *Pond*, in the Continental privateer, and another one, Captain *Rogers's*, belonging to the State of *New-York*, which probably may be had.

This measure requires secrecy and expedition. We entertain no doubt of your inclination, zeal, and activity, in

taking the command and conducting this squadron, which, we are persuaded, will clear the *Sound*, disappoint our enemy, and give great advantage to our army.

The main difficulty which occurs is the manning this fleet. But, after exerting ourselves in your State and ours to rally what men we can, sailors and marines, General *Washington* proposes a draft from the Militia lately gone towards *New-York*, and stationed along *Westchester* County and thereabout. We want much to hear from you of your opinion on the proposed plan, and what force you can collect, and how soon.

We herein transmit to you an extract of a letter received from General *Washington*, so far as concerns this subject; which is as follows:

"I highly approve of the plan and proposition for raising such a naval force as will be sufficient to clear the *Sound* of the enemy's ships-of-war. If Admiral *Hopkins* will join you, I should suppose it not only practicable, but a matter of certainty; and if it can be effected, many valuable and salutary consequences must result from it.

"As to drafting seamen from Continental regiments, it cannot be, as their numbers have been reduced so low already, by taking men from them for the galleys, boats, and other purposes, that some of them have hardly any thing but the name. Beside, I must depend chiefly upon them for a successful opposition to the enemy. If it can be done out of the Militia, I shall not have the least objection; and heartily wish the enterprise, whenever attempted, may be attended with all possible success.

"The enemy's ships can receive no reinforcement but such as go round *Long-Island*, as our works at *Hell-Gate* will prevent their sending any ships that way."

You will be so good as to communicate this letter to Governour *Cooke*, or, in his absence, to such gentlemen as is proper. I have wrote him very lately on the subject.

We shall want twenty four and six-pounders, with carriages, for the brigantine, as we fear we shall not be able to procure them from our furnace at *Salisbury*, timely; therefore should be glad you would bring that number with you, if possible, for the present expedition.

A speedy answer from you on the above proposal, and your opinion and advice in the preparation, from time to time, will much oblige your humble servant,

JONTH. TRUMBULL.

To Admiral *Hopkins*.

CONNECTICUT COUNCIL OF SAFETY.

At a meeting of the Governour and Council of Safety of *Connecticut*, September 12, 1776,

Present: His Honour the Governour, his Honour the Deputy Governour, *Eliphalet Dyer*, *Jabez Huntington*, *Titus Hosmer*, *William Hillhouse*, *Nathaniel Wales*, Jun., *Benjamin Huntington*, *Jedediah Elderkin*.

Voted, That the Selectmen of the Town of *New-Haven* have liberty, at the expense of said Town, to take three of the Twelve-pounders at the Furnace at *Salisbury* for the use of the Fortifications at *New-Haven*; also one ton of Shot assorted for the Cannon at said Forts, said Cannon and Shot to be made use of at said *New-Haven* until further orders from the General Assembly, or the Governour and Council of Safety; and if the General Assembly or Governour and Council of Safety shall see fit to order said three Cannon and Shot to any other use during the present contest, the expense of transporting said Cannon and Shot from *Salisbury* to be paid by the State to the said Town of *New-Haven*; and the Overseers of said Furnace are directed to deliver said Cannon and Shot accordingly. (Copy delivered Captain *Timothy Jones*, 12th September.)

Voted and Ordered, That Mr. *Hosmer* do, as soon as may be, procure some proper person to proceed to *Simsbury* and *Salisbury* if needful, and forward the Six-pound Cannon that are ready there to *Hartford* or *Middletown*, with Shot for them, and assist and consult with Mr. *Humphrey* therein, and in the mean time procure proper Carriages for them. Also the Swivels and proper Shot for them, and have twenty of the Swivels swivelled at *Hartford* or *Middletown*; and the Overseer of the Furnace at *Salisbury* is ordered to deliver such Cannon, Swivels, and Shot, accordingly. (Copy delivered Mr. *Hosmer*, 12th September, 1776.)

Memorandum, September 17, 1776.—*William Hillhouse*

FIFTH SERIES.—VOL. II.

and *Benjamin Huntington*, Esqs., attended to do business in Council, the other gentlemen not attending. *Richard Law*, Esq., arrived from *Millford* in the evening.

COLONEL LIVINGSTON TO ROBERT R. LIVINGSTON, JUN.

Saybrook, September 12, 1776.

DEAR BROTHER: I have just time to tell you I have been obliged to retreat from *Long-Island* to this place for several reasons that I have not now time to mention. I have given General *Washington* a particular account by the same conveyance this is sent by. I shall to-morrow, at the head of four hundred men, set out for *Huntington*. If I succeed in the attempt I am going to make, I shall yet save *Suffolk* County, though most of the inhabitants have been prevailed upon to take an oath of allegiance to the King of *Great Britain* through a persuasion that the Island was given up as indefensible. If you write to me, direct to the care of Governour *Trumbull*. He has assisted me with two hundred and sixty men; with him a correspondence is established. Remember me to all my friends.

Yours, &c.,

HENRY B. LIVINGSTON.

To Robert R. Livingston, Jun., Esq., in Convention at *Fishkills*.

GENERAL SALTONSTALL TO GOVERNOUR TRUMBULL.

New-London, September 12, 1776.

HONOURED SIR: The honour done me by the commission enclosed in your letter of the 10th instant, appointing me Brigadier-General of the Militia now ordered to march from this State to the aid of General *Washington's* army, lays me under the highest obligations to your Honour and the honourable Council of Safety.

I lament my ignorance in the duty of the office in every respect but zeal; however, will exert the utmost of my power to do the duty incumbent upon a commanding officer of a brigade. Intend to be at the head of the brigade next Sabbath day at *New-Haven*.

Your favour of 8th instant, per Captain *Lord*, received the 9th at *Lyme*, and that day gave orders for all the men that could be equipped at *Lyme* to march to the rendezvous at *Westchester*. The number, including officers, amounted to one hundred and four. And appointed officers to march those that were not equipped (invalids excepted) to *Fort Trumbull*, there to obey the orders of Colonel *Wolcott*—eighty in number. Captain *Chadwick's* company, the eighth in said regiment, did not produce any men equipped.

Returned from *Lyme* the 9th and found your favour of 9th, and observe what you say with respect to Major *Ely*, who had embarked for *Long-Island* before your Honour's express reached Colonel *Wolcott*, and is not returned. The lads of sixteen years rising are excused from duty. The 10th instant, gave marching orders to the three companies in *New-London*, (north parish,) amounting to eighty-four—all that could be equipped—and have appointed officers to return those remaining of the three companies to *Fort Trumbull*. The first and second companies in the town of *New-London* are by your Honour and Council of Safety excused from marching. Captain *Jonathan Calkins*, of this town, of the eleventh company in the regiment, is now ready to march with about thirty men equipped, and waits orders from the commanding officer of the Third Regiment. Captain *Jonathan Croker's* company of this town, and seventh in the regiment, is in the same sad state of Captain *Chadwick's*, not any equipped. On 10th instant, finding Major *Ely* absent, and the two companies ordered from *Fort Trumbull* not in a condition to march until his return, sent an express to order the companies marched from *Lyme* to halt at *New-Haven* for further orders;—and the like orders are given to the three *New-London* companies that are marched. I informed the regiment they would receive at *New-Haven* from the Committee of Pay-Table, twenty shillings per man towards wages. The *New-London* companies had not money to support them on the march to *New-Haven*; and to forward the service lent each Captain money sufficient for that purpose, who are to reimburse themselves out of money received at *New-Haven*. Your Honour will no doubt order that the brigade be supplied with more money than the twenty shillings per man; otherwise it will in my opinion be

impossible to march said brigade very far from *New-Haven* without discontent.

I am, sir, your most obedient and most humble servant,
G. SALTONSTALL.

To Governour *Trumbull*.

ALEXANDER EVANS TO ABRAHAM LOTT.

New-London, September 12, 1776.

SIR: I am sorry to acquaint you with the loss of part of my cargo of salt—about seven hundred bushels that was stowed on the south side—and my medicines. I saved my pepper and paper, raisins and prunes, the medicines being so heavy that I could not get them down to the boat, and the wagons were all pressed to carry the Regulars' baggage. The Island was delivered up forty-eight hours before I knew any thing of it. The privateers left it two days before I could get away, and left six prizes, which were all in Tory possession. I have about seven hundred bushels in, more or less, which I have put under the direction of the Congress here till hearing from the honourable Congress of *New-York*. I should be glad to know how to proceed.

I am, sir, your humble servant,

ALEXANDER EVANS.

To *Abraham Lott*, Esq., Member of the honourable Congress of *New-York*.

Boston, September 12, 1776.

Notice is hereby given that the Lecture this day is turned into a Day of Prayer, more especially on account of the critical state of our military operations.

Captain *Gill*, in a small privateer schooner, *Independency*, from this port, has taken and sent into *Plymouth* a brigantine, from *Antigua*, bound to *Europe*, laden with rum and sugars. She was first taken by a *Connecticut* privateer, but the people rose and retook her, and had her in possession three days before Captain *Gill* came up with her.

We hear a privateer from *Salem* has taken a brigantine from *Cork*, loaded with provisions for *New-York*, and sent her into some port at the eastward.

We hear from *New-York* that the *Roebuck*, of forty-four guns, Captain *Parker*, in attempting to get up *East River*, through *Hell-Gate*, got very roughly handled, being hulled fifteen times.

Captain *James Tracey*, and Lieutenant *Mains*, of the *Yankey Hero* brig, were sent from *Halifax* to *Staten-Island*, the last of *July*, on board the *Mercury* Pirate frigate, *James Montague*.

Captain *Procter*, of *Philadelphia*, who is now a prisoner in *Halifax* gaol, was eleven weeks in irons on board the above frigate, during which time he was treated in the most barbarous manner by the above *Montague*, who several times threatened to hang him, and offered one of his sailors forty shillings to swear his life against him. Mr. *Carpenter*, of this town, is closely confined in irons in *Halifax* gaol, by order of General *Massey*, who commands there.

We learn from undoubted authority that the schooner *Sally*, Captain *Roach*, which lately went from *Piscataqua* to *Halifax*, as a flag of truce, with prisoners, was, on her arrival there, made a prize of, (by that petty, paltry Jack-tar, Commodore *Arbuthnot*.) and the hands put on board a man-of-war.

One day last week were sent into *Providence* seven vessels, prizes, with supplies for those unrelenting, barbarous, tyrannical, blood-thirsty butchers, the Royal savage of *Britain's* troops, now on *Staten-Island*. They were taken by the Captains *Biddle* and *Whipple*, in two vessels-of-war belonging to the United and Confederate States of *America*. Particulars of their cargoes have not yet come to had.

Last *Sunday* was taken and carried into *Gouldsborough*, by two small boats, a brig from *Ireland*, bound for *Halifax*, laden with beef, butter, &c. She parted company with twelve other provision vessels the day on which she was taken, all bound for the above port.

By the *Hartford Post* we are informed that the Royal pirate frigate *Rose*, commanded by the infamous *Wallace*, in attempting to get up the *Sound*, at *New-York*, was hulled several times, and obliged to put back to the Ministerial fleet.

Williamsburg, September 13, 1776.

A vessel is arrived at *Hampton* with fourteen hundred bushels of salt and a small quantity of rum. The Captain informs that he spoke a *French* ship, one of a fleet of fourteen sail, laden with goods, and bound for *Delaware*. A number of *French* officers were likewise on board, who intended to offer their services to the *United States of America*.

By letters from Cape *Nicola Mole*, of the 28th ultimo, we learn that two frigates had lately arrived at *St. Domingo* from *France*, completely manned, in order to cruise off that island, and protect all *American* vessels within their limits. Two more frigates were daily expected, for the same purpose. These four frigates are to act in conjunction with two *Spanish* frigates, which are stationed at *Porto-Rico*, for the protection of all *North-American* vessels. The *Spanish* Captains are to pay equal attention to the General of *St. Domingo's* orders as to those of the Commander at *Porto-Rico*. There is every appearance of a speedy rupture between *France*, *Spain*, and *Great Britain*, as *Spain* and *Portugal* are absolutely now at war.

Sampson Matthews, Esq., is chosen Senator for the district of *East Augusta* and *Dunmore*, and *William Cabell*, Esq., for *Buckingham*, *Albemarle* and *Amherst* district.

MARYLAND COUNCIL OF SAFETY TO GEORGE COOKE.

[No. 180.]

Annapolis, September 13, 1776.

SIR: We have the pleasure to inform you that you were yesterday appointed Commander of the ship *Defence*, now lying at *Annapolis*, bound out on a cruise, and the honourable Convention have directed us to inform you of this appointment, and to request your immediate attendance to take the command of said ship.

We are, &c.

To Captain *George Cooke*, *St. Mary's* County.

MARYLAND COUNCIL OF SAFETY TO BENJAMIN RUMSEY AND JAMES TILGHMAN.

[No. 181.]

Annapolis, September 13, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: We are directed by the Convention to request your attendance in the Council of Safety immediately. Be pleased to signify when you can attend. The President is left with only three others, who are all members of the House, and the Convention do not incline to any new appointment until they hear from the absent members.

We are, &c.

To Colonel *Benjamin Rumsey* and *James Tilghman*, Esq's.

BALTIMORE COMMITTEE.

At a meeting of the Committee, September 13, 1776,

Present: *Samuel Purviance*, Jun., Chairman; *A. Buchanan*, *W. Buchanan*, *B. Nicholson*, *J. Gittings*, *J. Moale*, *D. Lux*, *T. Sollers*; *W. Wilkinson*, *W. Aisquith*, *B. Griffith*, *J. Calhoun*, *A. Britain*, *T. Rutter*, *D. Shaw*.

The Resolves of Convention for appointing Officers for two Companies of Militia in this County being read, the Committee, jointly with the Field Officers, proceeded to the choice of such Officers by ballot; when the following gentlemen were chosen, viz:

First Company: *Frederick Deams*, Captain; *David Evans*, First Lieutenant; *Charles Moale Croxall*, Second Lieutenant; *Samuel Kinsey*, Ensign.

Second Company: *Nicholas Norwood*, Captain; *Nathaniel Bond*, First Lieutenant; *Vincent Greer*, Second Lieutenant; *Henry Dunn*, Ensign.

The Committee being informed that *Job Green* had obtained permission from the Council of Safety for the sailing of the Schooner, which they, the Committee, had refused to grant at the last meeting, are unanimously of opinion that the said Vessel should not be suffered to depart this Port until the Council is made acquainted with a state of the case.

Whereupon it was Resolved, That Captain *Nathaniel Smith*, Commander of the Fort, be instructed to prevent the Vessel from sailing, and that the following Letter be immediately sent to him, viz:

"In Committee, Baltimore, September 13, 1776.

"SIR: The Committee being informed that *Job Green* has obtained a permission from the Council of Safety for the sailing of *James Clarke's* schooner, contrary to a resolve of the Committee entered into on *Monday* last, they are unanimously of opinion that the Council would not have granted Mr. *Green* the said permission had they been acquainted with the facts relative to the vessel in question. For this reason, the Committee requests of you that you will not permit the said vessel to depart this port until they have an opportunity of transmitting to the Council the state of the case, and receiving an answer thereto, of which they will advise you as soon as in their power.

"Per order of the Committee:

"S. PURVIANCE, Jr., Chairman."

Permissions are granted to the following gentlemen to load the following Vessels, by the Chairman, viz:

To Mr. *Hugh Young*, for the schooner *Polly*, *William Gosnald*, master, to *Carolina*, with bar-iron and rum.

To Mr. *Bowly*, for the schooner *Favourite*, *Benjamin Earle*, master, to *Martinico*.

To Mr. *David Stewart*, on behalf of himself and others, for the sloop *Independence*, *James Tibbett*, master, for *Martinico*; and the schooner ———, *William Gartner*, master, for *Hispaniola*.

Attest:

GEO. LUX, Secretary.

BALTIMORE COMMITTEE TO MARYLAND COUNCIL OF SAFETY.

In Committee, Baltimore, September 13, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: We take the liberty of transmitting you a copy of a resolve of this Committee, entered into on *Monday* last, relative to an application made us by *Job Green*, of this place, for a permission for the departure of a schooner loaded with provisions. The copy of said resolve we should have sent to you before now, had we not apprehended that Mr. *John Smith*, who was present in Committee during the transaction, had taken a copy of it with him, which we have reason to suspect he did not—it being reported to us that *Job Green* hath obtained from your Board a permission for the departure of said vessel, which we are inclined to think you would not have granted had you been acquainted with the circumstances of the case. In the mean time, to prevent Mr. *Green* making an advantage of your permission until you were fully informed of our reasons for refusing him permission, we have requested Captain *Smith* not to suffer the said vessel to sail before we receive further directions from you on the subject.

The true state of the case is as follows: Mr. *Green* lately applied to the Chairman to know if he might have a permit to load a schooner with flour to the *West-Indies*; which he was answered he might have, if he would engage to comply with the terms required by the Committee, of giving security in double the value of the cargo, (when the vessel sailed,) that the vessel should not proceed to any port or place prohibited by Congress or Convention. On promising these terms should be complied with, a permit to load was granted by the Chairman to Mr. *Green*, not suspecting that any fraud was intended. But being informed shortly after that the schooner which Mr. *Green* had obtained permission to load was a vessel belonging to Mr. *James Clarke*, of this town, who had been a few days before published by this Committee as an enemy to the interests of *America*, of which Mr. *Green* could not be ignorant, it gave us great room to suspect that the whole matter was a collusion betwixt Mr. *Green* and Mr. *Clarke*, and only intended to evade the incapacity of the latter from trading, to which he was subject by his conduct. We apprehend there is more room for such suspicion from Mr. *Green's* conduct, which does not stand so fair as we could expect from a friend to our common cause. But, at any rate, we conceived that every person was precluded from trading with Mr. *Clarke* after he was published by the Committee; and by Mr. *Green's* own acknowledgments before us, it appeared that no sale of the vessel was made to him before that time.

Per order of the Committee:

SAML. PURVIANCE, Jr., Chairman.

To the Hon. Council of Safety of Maryland, at *Annapolis*.

SECRET COMMITTEE OF CONGRESS TO MARYLAND COUNCIL OF SAFETY.

Philadelphia, September 13, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: We have been applied to for a supply of powder for the Continental frigate built at *Baltimore*, which should have been ordered down there; but as we understand you have a sufficient quantity at that place, and as there is some powder due to the Continent from your State, we request the favour of you to supply Messrs. *William Lux*, *Samuel Purviance*, and *David Stewart* with four tons and a half of gunpowder, for the use of the said frigate, and for proving her cannon, &c.; and hereafter we will repay you in powder the balance that will then become due to your State, or supply you with more should it become necessary.

Your compliance with this request will save time and charges. It will oblige the Secret Committee of Congress, of which we are a quorum; and we remain, gentlemen, your obedient, humble servants,

ROBT. MORRIS,
RICHARD HENRY LEE,
B. FRANKLIN,
JOSIAH BARTLETT.

To the Hon. the Council of Safety of Maryland.

GENERAL GEORGE CLINTON TO NEW-YORK CONVENTION.

King's Bridge, September 13, 1776.

SIR: The bearers, *William Treadwell* and Mr. *Ludlum*, went over from *New-Rochelle* to *Long-Island*, soon after the retreat of our army from that place, and continued there till yesterday. On their return to *New-Rochelle*, Colonel *Drake*, by my directions, sent them here. I have examined them, and transmitted the intelligence they gave to his Excellency General *Washington*; and I now send them to the honourable the Convention of the State, as well to account for their conduct in going over to the Island when in the hands of the enemy, as that they may be further examined.

I am, with much esteem, your most obedient servant,
GEO. CLINTON.

To the Honourable the President of the Convention of the State of *New-York*.

Enclosed is a line they wrote to General *Washington*, which he handed over to me.

WESTCHESTER COUNTY COMMITTEE TO THE NEW-YORK CONVENTION.

In Committee, Westchester County, September 13, 1776.

In consequence of orders from your honourable House to me directed, as Chairman of the General Committee of *Westchester* County, relative to the examination of the persons apprehended with *Lounsberry*, I caused the said prisoners, to wit: *Jacob Scureman*, *Bloomer Neilson*, *Joseph Turner*, and *Samuel Haines*, to be brought before me: *Josiah Disbrow*, the other prisoner, being unable to be removed, on account of his being wounded at the time of his apprehension.

Scureman says he was going over to *Rye* from *New-Rochelle*, came across three or four men with *Lounsberry*, in the woods; stopped and talked with *Lounsberry*; did not show the inlisting paper, nor ask him to sign it; he did not know *Lounsberry* was there till he saw him. They had three or four guns in company; did not bring one himself; says he was on board the *Phoenix* in the *North River*; was persuaded by *Godfrey Haines* to go, but he went with *Joshua Ferris*; did not come away with him. Upon the whole, said *Scureman* did not incline to tell the truth.

Neilson says he was in company with *Lounsberry* at the place aforesaid; did not meet by an agreement; confesses his name was put to the inlistment; he got no money; says that *Lounsberry* came from *Staten-Island* last; that *Lounsberry* over-persuaded him.

Turner taken upon *Sutton's Neck*; his name was in *Lounsberry's* list. Says *Lounsberry* asked him to sign the inlistment; he did not sign it himself, but *Lounsberry* put his name down; was to have £3 sterling, bounty promised him by *Lounsberry*.

Haines says he promised *Lounsberry* to inlist with him

last Spring; 'listed a few days before taken. The night after *Lousberry* was taken he was to go to *Staten-Island*.

The above persons appeared altogether evasive in their answers, and not willing to give a true account. They are sent up to *Kingston* gaol.

I would further inform your honourable House that *Jonathan Purdy*, Jun., a young fellow who went with *Barnes* to *Staten-Island*, in *March* last, and *Gilbert Horton*, of the *White-Plains*, have, before our Committee, called themselves subjects of *King George*, and claim the privilege of prisoners of war. These persons are in confinement, and should be glad your honourable House will give us some directions concerning them and all others who declare in that way, as we expect more of them.

From your very humble servant,

JOHN THOMAS, JUN., *Chairman*.

CORNELIUS GLENN TO ABRAHAM YATES, JUN.

Albany, September 13, 1776.

SIR: Whereas the time for the annual election of a Treasurer is near at hand, I have this day consulted with Judge *Ten Eyck*, who refers me to your opinion on this matter, as being privy to the intention of Congress as well to the new form of Government now a forming, and as such should be very glad of your advice, whether we must proceed in the usual mode, or drop the matter until a plan is prescribed for this department. Your answer on this head will be very agreeable, and necessary to have it soon.

And am, with respect, your most obedient, humble

CORNELIUS GLENN.

To Mr. *Abraham Yates*, Jun.

P. S. Mr. *Yates* is undoubtedly acquainted that the expense of this department is always accrued and due the year before it is raised; so that if it is not continued, it is a grievance to the people performing the service.

H. GLEN TO WALTER LIVINGSTON.

Schenectady, September 13, 1776.

DEAR SIR: Yours of the 10th instant I have received. As to the salt and pork which are intended for *Fort Schuyler*, *German Flats*, and *Johnstown*, when come to hand, shall be forwarded immediately according to your directions. I don't believe there is any pork to spare in *Johnstown*, though I shall know to-morrow, as I have wrote *Egberts*. Yesterday afternoon, Mr. *John Visher* came in town with about fifty head of cattle; wanted to leave some with me; I had no occasion for any yet, and should I want any, I can purchase a few round this place. I have a little pork left to victual the batteau-men once more for about twelve days, exclusive of what is to go up to *Fort Schuyler*.

Last evening Messrs. *Seller* and *Outhout* delivered me the enclosed proposals for some cattle they have. I am told it is very good for the season of the year. Should you approve of the proposal to take the cattle, there would perhaps be no occasion for the whole of the one hundred head you wrote me were to come this way in about twelve days' time. You might order some of them to the northward. I have made it publick that whoever has any publick demands against you, must call between this and *October 1st*. Your answer on this subject, with directions when the salt comes, I shall expect.

Your humble servant,

H. GLEN.

To *Walter Livingston*, Esq., Deputy Commissary-General, *Albany*.

COLONEL HENRY B. LIVINGSTON TO COLONEL SAMUEL COIT.

Saybrook, September 14, 1776.

SIR: I expected to have been sent for previous to the delivery of the arms you had of me this morning. You have not signed a receipt that I can with any face show to Governour *Trumbull*. I send you a form of one, and desire Captain *Davis* to deliver you the other. The arms delivered you are not by any means intended to be sold; I have not authority to go so far—they are only a loan. They belong to the Province of *New-York*; they are not my property. I must therefore beg you either to deliver the

arms, or a proper receipt, according to the form I send you.

Your most obedient, humble servant,

HENRY B. LIVINGSTON.

GOVERNOUR TRUMBULL TO COLONEL HENRY B. LIVINGSTON.

Lebanon, September 13, 1776.

SIR: Please to deliver to Colonel *Samuel Coit*, or his order, such number of guns, bayonets, and cartouch-boxes as will be sufficient to arm and equip such of his regiment as are destitute, taking care to have them appraised, and his receipt to see the same returned, extraordinaries excepted. A duplicate of such receipt and appraisal to be returned to me.

I am, sir, your obedient, humble servant,

JONATHAN TRUMBULL.

To Colonel *Henry B. Livingston*, *Saybrook*.

New-London, September 13, 1776.

Yesterday, the armed schooner *Spy*, Captain *Robert Niles*, belonging to this State, returned here. She brought in with her the schooner *Mary and Elizabeth*, *Bruce*, bound from *Barbadoes* to *Halifax*, laden with fifty-nine hogsheads of rum and eight barrels of sugar. About eighteen days ago, she took the ship *Hope*, *Quince*, bound from *St. Vincent's* to *London*, laden with two hundred and fifty hogsheads of sugar, thirty-two puncheons of rum, some molasses, cocoa, and coffee, and may be daily expected into some port.

In latitude 38°, longitude 65°, Captain *Niles* saw five large ships, which he supposed were transports, under convoy of a large man-of-war; the latter chased him some time.

WILLIAM BRADFORD TO MASSACHUSETTS ASSEMBLY.

Newport, September 13, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: The most honourable the Continental Congress having ordered one battalion of their troops stationed here to march immediately to *New-York*, and informed this State that they recommended to you to replace the same with a regiment of your Militia, the General Committee, appointed to act during the recess of the General Assembly, have exerted themselves to get that battalion in readiness to proceed with the greatest expedition; part of which will march to-morrow and the remainder the next day. The Committee have appointed Colonel *Church*, who will deliver you this, to make application to you to send forward the said regiment as soon as possible.

Mr. President *Hancock* having also written in the most pressing terms to this State to afford all the aid in our power to the army at *New-York*, the Committee have recommended it to Colonel *Richmond* to hold the other Continental battalion in readiness to march at a moment's warning. And he will accordingly march with it as soon as he receives authentick intelligence that the regiment of Militia from your State shall enter into this. They have also ordered a battalion, to consist of seven hundred Militia, to be immediately raised to supply the place of one of the Continental battalions removed. I have no doubt of your compliance with the application of Colonel *Church*; and beg leave to subscribe myself, with great respect and esteem, gentlemen, your most obedient and most humble servant,

WILLIAM BRADFORD.

To the Hon. General Court of the *Massachusetts-Bay*.

JEREMIAH POWEL TO GENERAL WASHINGTON.

State of Massachusetts-Bay, September 13, 1776.

SIR: The General Assembly of this State have for some days past been anxiously expecting the particulars of the late attack upon the Continental Army, under your Excellency's more immediate command; but the accounts hitherto received have been vague and uncertain.

It is the earnest desire of the Assembly, at this important crisis, to furnish you with every needed assistance in their power; and having just received a letter from Governour *Trumbull*, proposing the raising a part of our Militia for this important purpose, and soon after a letter from the honourable Congress to the same effect, as also a resolve of Congress relative to this matter, they have ordered a

a fifth part of the Militia not already in the service, (the remote Counties and some sea-port towns excepted) to be immediately drafted out, and to march with all possible despatch to your assistance, excepting one battalion ordered to *Rhode-Island*, in consequence of the resolve before-mentioned.

Our troops will gladly receive upon their route, your Excellency's orders for their destination, as the express returns.

A copy of our resolve respecting said draft is enclosed. As we cannot furnish tents for these troops, your Excellency will provide for them—perhaps four thousand men. We shall subsist them till they arrive at *Horse-Neck*, and depend upon your Excellency's giving orders for their receiving rations after that time.

We ardently wish you victory over the enemies of the *American States*, and remain, with great respect, your Excellency's most obedient, humble servant,

JER. POWELL, *President*.

To His Excellency *George Washington*, Esq., Commander-in-Chief of the Forces of the *United States of America*, *New-York*.

—
Resolves respecting Draft.

Whereas it has been represented to the General Court of this State, by the honourable the Governour of the State of *Connecticut*, that it is of the utmost importance to the *United States of America*, to have a large body of Troops stationed above the Island of *New-York*, to prevent the *British Army's* cutting off the communication between the *American Army* at the City and Island of *New-York*, and the country: And whereas the honourable Congress, in consequence of an application made to them by his Excellency General *Washington*, in the present critical state of our affairs, have since called upon this Government in the most pressing terms, immediately to send all the aid in our power to the Army at *New-York*: this Court being sensible that the safety, freedom and future happiness of *America* depend upon and demand a vigorous and manly management of this campaign, and well considering that, while all that is dear to this people is at stake, they should be chargeable with great remissness if they did not exercise the powers with which they are vested by this State for its salvation at this critical moment, by sending such reinforcement to the Army at *New-York* as the exigency of the case requires: And whereas the Militia of this State, within the Counties of *York*, *Cumberland*, and *Lincoln*, are too remote to march to the timely aid of the Army: And whereas the situation of the Counties of *Nantucket* and *Dukes County*, the Towns of *Boston*, *Dartmouth*, *Plymouth*, *Salem*, *Marblehead*, *Gloucester*, *Manchester*, *Beverly*, and *Newburyport*, renders it unfit for any part of the Militia to be drafted from them at present:

It is *Resolved*, That one-fifth part of the Militia of this State, not now in actual service by sea or land, excepting those of the Towns and Counties above named, be ordered by the major part of the Council to march immediately, under the command of such General officer as shall be appointed by the General Court and commissioned by the Council to command them, to remain and continue in the service within the four *New-England* Governments or the State of *New-York* or the *Jerseys*, until they are recalled by the General Court of this State, the House of Representatives, or the major part of the Council, under such regulations and upon such establishment as is hereinafter provided.

And that the said fifth part of said Militia may march without delay,

It is *Resolved*, That the major part of the Council make out their order in writing to Major-General *Warren*, commanding him that he immediately order the Brigadiers of the several Counties of *Suffolk*, *Essex*, *Middlesex*, *Worcester*, *Hampshire*, *Plymouth*, *Barnstable*, *Bristol*, and *Berkshire*, to cause the Militia, as well of the alarm-list as training-band of their respective brigades, to be mustered without delay, excepting those in the towns above excepted, and that they cause to be drafted therefrom when so mustered every fifth able-bodied man of the non-commissioned officers and private soldiers under fifty years of age, except the officers and students of *Harvard College*, grammar-school masters, and persons necessarily employed in the manufacture of gunpowder, not exceeding four to each

powder-mill, and armed with a good fire-lock, a bullet-pouch and powder-horn or cartridge-box, a bayonet, cutlass or hatchet, and twenty bullets fitted to their gun, with a knapsack and blanket; to march to the reinforcement of the Army as aforesaid, and that they form those so drafted into companies of sixty-four men each, including non-commissioned officers, or as nigh thereto as they conveniently can; and that the said Brigadiers, from the officers of their respective brigades, order one Captain and two Lieutenants to take the command of each of said companies, and that said Brigadiers shall form such companies as are raised and drafted from their respective brigades not amounting to sixteen into each regiment, and where they do amount to that number of companies, or upwards, into two regiments, and to each regiment so formed, assign or order from the Field Officers of such brigade, one Colonel, one Lieutenant-Colonel, and one Major, to command the same, and the officers of said detachment of the Militia drafted as aforesaid, shall have, while in said service, the same relative rank with each other as they now have.

And it is further *Resolved*, That if any person of the alarm-list or train-band, non-commissioned officer or soldier, shall, after being duly warned thereto, neglect to appear upon such muster designed for drafting, as aforesaid, he shall forfeit and pay the sum of ten pounds, one half thereof to the use of this State, and the other half to the person who shall sue for the same, by action of debt in any court proper to try the same; and if any person so drafted shall refuse to march upon being ordered thereto, not having a sufficient excuse therefor, and shall not secure some able-bodied and effective man to go in his stead, or shall absent or conceal himself, so that his officer cannot find him to give him marching orders, he shall for either of the said offences pay a fine not exceeding ten pounds, or be committed to prison not exceeding two months, upon his being convicted thereof, on indictment or presentment therefor by the grand jury for the County where the offence shall be committed, before any court proper to try the same, whose duty it shall be to make a presentment thereof.

And it is likewise *Resolved*, That the said detachment of Militia shall, while out of this Government, be under the general command of the Commander-in-Chief of the Continental Army, and shall be under the laws and regulations provided by Congress for said Army.

And it is further *Resolved*, That the pay and allowance of provisions for said detachment, shall be every way the same as that allowed the Continental Army.

And it is likewise *Resolved*, That the Selectmen of each Town from whence any part of said detachment shall be drafted, shall be and hereby are directed and empowered to procure as many teams or other conveyances within their respective towns, as shall be sufficient to carry the baggage of the said fifth part of the Militia to *Fairfield*, in *Connecticut*, in the most expeditious manner. And the said Selectmen are also directed to furnish said men with kettles and canteens, and also to pay each man one penny for each mile from the place they march from to the place of their destination, to support themselves.

And it is also *Resolved*, That the Brigadier of each County shall appoint one Chaplain, one Surgeon and Mate, one Adjutant, and one Quartermaster, to each regiment that shall be so drafted from his brigade, and the General officer appointed to command the detachment, shall appoint a Brigade-Major to each brigade.

And it is also *Resolved*, That each Brigadier-General, as soon as the men are drafted and formed into companies, be and hereby is directed to order them to march to *Horse-Neck*: subject, however, to such further orders as they may receive from the General Court of this State, the House of Representatives, or the major part of the Council, or the orders of the General and Commander-in-Chief of the Continental Army.

And it is *Resolved*, That in the absence of any Brigadier of any County, the next officer in command in said brigade shall be held to do the duty assigned to the Brigadier and shall be observed accordingly.

And it is also *Resolved*, That the Commissary-General of this State be and hereby is directed to send forward immediately to *New-Haven* such quantities of ammunition as this Court shall order.

JOHN AVERY, *Deputy Secretary*.

MASSACHUSETTS ASSEMBLY TO PRESIDENT OF CONGRESS.

September 13, 1776.

SIR: The General Assembly of this State beg leave to inform the honourable Congress that the *Milford*, frigate, of twenty-eight guns, and another ship-of-war, have been for some time cruising on this coast, and have taken several merchantmen and valuable prizes coming into port. We have applied to the Hon. *Thomas Cushing* and *John Langdon*, Esq., agents for building the Continental ships, at *Newburyport* and *Portsmouth*, requesting that one or more of those ships might be sent out to protect our coast; but are informed by those gentlemen that they have no guns, and if they had, they have no orders to send the ships to sea. Upon this information, the General Assembly of this State resolved to furnish the agent for building the Continental ships at *Newburyport*, with a sufficient number of guns for one of them, and afford him every other assistance in their power in fitting out and manning said ship, provided leave can be obtained from the honourable Congress for said vessel to cruise on this coast, for the protection of the trade thereof—the agent engaging to reimburse all the expenses this State shall incur in fitting out and manning said ship, and return said guns whenever said ship shall be otherwise employed.

We would further inform the honourable Congress that the guns proposed for the above purpose are twenty-four nine-pounders, which we apprehend are suitable for the ship under the command of *Hector McNeill*, Esq., and which is in the greatest forwardness for sailing.

As said ship will be inferior to the enemy in force, this State beg leave to suggest to the honourable Congress the great advantage of having the ship under the care of *John Langdon*, Esq., fitted out immediately to act in concert with her.

The readiness of the State of *New-Hampshire* to give all possible assistance to Mr. *Langdon* for the above purpose, will appear by a resolve of that State herewith enclosed.

Signed by the President.

To the Hon. *John Hancock*, Esq.

In the House of Representatives, September 6, 1776.

Voted and Resolved, That it be and hereby is recommended to *John Langdon*, Esq., Continental Agent for the Continental Frigate now at *Portsmouth*, to equip the said Frigate as soon as possible for a cruise against the *Milford* or any other of our enemies on this coast, in conjunction with one of the Continental Frigates in the *Massachusetts Bay*, and other of their Colony armed vessels—and Colonel *Samuel Sherburne*, with such as the honourable Board shall appoint, to be a Committee to consult with said Mr. *Langdon* on that affair, and to assist him if he need it. And that any soldier in the Colony service have liberty to enlist for the cruise, and their wages to continue besides the emoluments of captures, and to return to their service when the cruise is over.

E. THOMPSON, Secretary.

Plymouth, September 9, 1776.

Received of Captain *Richard Wheller* the brigantine *Rising Empire*, with her appurtenances, cannon, and stores, for the use of the State of the *Massachusetts-Bay*, to be delivered when called for by authority.

Received per

WILLIAM WATSON.

MASSACHUSETTS ASSEMBLY TO GOVERNOUR TRUMBULL.

State of Massachusetts-Bay, September 13, 1776.

SIR: Agreeable to your Honour's proposal and the earnest recommendation of the honourable Congress, expressed in their letter lately received, the General Court have ordered one fifth part of the whole Militia of this State not already in the service, those in some of the remote Counties and sea-ports excepted, to march immediately. One battalion of them, in consequence of a resolve of Congress accompanying their said letter, is ordered to *Rhode-Island*, and the remainder to *New-York*. They have wrote his Excellency General *Washington*, informing him thereof, that he may order their destination as the service may require. A copy of the Court's resolve respecting the draft of the said fifth part of the Militia is enclosed. We thank your

Honour for your exertions in the common cause, and assure you it will be our ambition to coöperate with the *United States* to the utmost of their power in efforts for their common safety. We are, &c.

J. WARREN, Speaker.

To Governour *Trumbull*.

MASSACHUSETTS COUNCIL TO GOVERNOUR COOKE.

Watertown, September 13, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: We have your letter of the 29th ultimo, and consider the sending out the Continental ships (as you do) of the greatest importance to these *United States*, and should be glad to promote their being sent out immediately, by every means in our power, for we trust they might be employed to very good purposes, especially as several of the enemy's cruisers are now infesting this coast.

We further assure you that we shall embrace such occasions as may present to render an *American* State any reasonable services; but considering how much this State is drained of its men by the publick calls, and how much our sea-coast is exposed to the incursions of the enemy, we have thought it needful some time since to pass a resolve, prohibiting the inlisting our sea-coast men into any other service, even such as it may concern this State particularly to attend to. We cannot, therefore, consent to your request that Mr. *Grannis* may be permitted to enlist his complement of Marines out of the troops in our pay.

If Mr. *Grannis* chooses another service in preference to ours, we shall endeavour to supply his place by as good a man.

Signed by the President.

To *Nicholas Cooke*, Esq., Chairman of Committee at *Providence*.

MASSACHUSETTS COUNCIL TO GENERAL WARREN.

State of Massachusetts-Bay, }
In Council, September 13, 1776. }

SIR: In pursuance of two resolves of the General Court of the State of the *Massachusetts-Bay*—one passed the 12th instant, and another passed the 13th instant—you are hereby ordered and commanded immediately to issue out your orders that one-fifth part of the Militia of this State, not now in actual service by sea or land, excepting those of the Counties of *York*, *Cumberland*, *Lincoln*, *Nantucket*, and *Dukes* County, and also the towns of *Boston*, *Dartmouth*, *Plymouth*, *Salem*, *Marblehead*, *Gloucester*, *Manchester*, *Beverly*, and *Newburyport*, to march immediately to *Horse-Neck*, in the State of *New-York*, under the command of such General Officer as shall be appointed by the General Court and commissioned by the Council to command them, to remain and continue in the service within the four *New-England* Governments, the State of *New-York*, or the *Jerseys*, until they are recalled by the General Court of this State, the major part of the Council, or the House of Representatives; and in order that the said fifth part of the Militia may march without delay, you are hereby ordered and commanded immediately to order the Brigadiers of the several Counties of *Suffolk*, *Essex*, *Middlesex*, *Worcester*, *Hampshire*, *Plymouth*, *Barnstable*, *Bristol*, and *Berkshire*, to cause the Militia, as well of the alarm-list as training-band of their respective brigades, to be mustered without delay, excepting those in the towns above excepted, and that they cause to be drafted therefrom, when so mustered, every fifth able-bodied man of the non-commissioned officers and private soldiers under fifty years of age, except officers and students of *Harvard College*, grammar-school masters, and persons necessarily employed in the manufacture of gunpowder, not exceeding four to each powder-mill, and armed with a good firelock, a bullet-pouch and powder-horn or cartridge-box, a bayonet, cutlass, or hatchet, and twenty bullets fitted to their gun, with a knapsack and blanket, to march to the aid of the army at *New-York*, excepting such men as are drafted from the Counties of *Plymouth* and *Barnstable*, which you are to direct the Brigadiers of said Counties to order to march to the State of *Rhode-Island*, to supply the place of a Continental battalion ordered from thence to the aid of the army at *New-York*, and there remain until recalled by the General Court, the major part of the Council, or the House of Representatives, and that they form

those so drafted into companies of sixty-four men each, including non-commissioned officers, or as nigh thereto as they conveniently can, and that the said Brigadiers, from the officers of their respective brigades, order one Captain and two Lieutenants to take the command of each of said companies, and that the said Brigadiers shall form such companies as are raised and drafted from their respective brigades, not amounting to sixteen, into one regiment, and, where they do amount to that number of companies, or upwards, into two regiments, and to each regiment so formed assign or order from the field officers of such brigade, one Colonel or Lieutenant-Colonel, and one Major, to command the same.

And you are to direct the Brigadier of each County to appoint one Chaplain, one Surgeon and Mate, one Adjutant, and one Quartermaster, to each regiment that shall be so drafted from his brigade.

And you are directed to make a return of the men drafted out of the several brigades before mentioned as soon as may be.

In the name and by order of Council.

JER. POWELL, *President*.

J. LOTHROP TO RICHARD DEVENS.

Plymouth, September 13, 1776.

SIR: I just now received your favour of 9th instant. In answer thereto, would inform you that we have been waiting for a few grindstones from *Boston*, which, when they come to hand, will enable us to blow in a few days, and am now about hiring a boat to go on purpose for them. I am obliged to you for your kind offers. You may be assured my utmost exertions shall be used to rid this business with despatch, and I believe I can with truth say you cannot be so soon supplied from any works whatever. I purpose to be to *Watertown* in a few days, and shall want to take some further directions with respect to the size of the weights, &c.

In great haste, I am, with esteem, your friend and humble servant,

J. LOTHROP.

CLARK AND NIGHTINGALE TO RICHARD DEVENS.

Providence, September 13, 1776.

SIR: We now enclose you a bill of lading for twenty-one hogsheds lime, which were all we had in town when this opportunity offered; for the demand for that article has been so great that it is impossible to keep it, and if an opportunity does not offer to ship it as soon as it is dropped out of the cart some other persons will have it. This makes ninety-two hogsheds shipped by us, and if we should meet with any vessel bound your way we will send the other eight.

We are, sir, your most obedient servants,

CLARK & NIGHTINGALE.

To *Richard Devens*, Esquire.

Shipped in good order and well-conditioned, by *Clark & Nightingale*, in and upon the good vessel called the *Centurion*, whereof is master for this present voyage *Joshua Johnson*, and now riding at anchor in the harbour of *Providence*, in *New-England*, and bound for *Boston*: to say, twenty-one hogsheds lime, being marked and numbered as in the margin, and are to be delivered in like good order and well-conditioned at the aforesaid port of *Boston* (the danger of the seas only excepted) unto *Richard Devens*, Esq., or to his assigns, he or they paying freight for the same—lime twelve shillings per hogshhead, with primage and average accustomed.

In witness whereof the master or purser of said sloop hath affirmed to two Bills of Lading, both of this tenor and date: the one of which bills being accomplished, the other to stand void. Dated in *Providence*, the 9th day of *September*, 1776.

JOSHUA JOHNSON.

JOSEPH JOSSELYN TO RICHARD DEVENS.

Hanover, September, 1776.

SIR: After my compliments, I desire you to send me all the old shot or gun iron you can, for to make shot. You sent Mr. *Harris* for shot; I intend to make them for you, but am in great want of iron to make them with. If you

can send me iron, I shall make you some more shot as soon as possible.

From your humble servant, JOSEPH JOSSELYN.

To *Richard Devens*, Esq., Commissary-General.

P. S. Pray send me a line by this bearer, Mr. *Wales*.

JOSEPH JOSSELYN TO RICHARD DEVENS.

Hanover, September 16, 1776.

SIR: I have sent you a number of shot by the bearer, Captain *James Lincoln*, viz:

H. Q. lb.			
To 83 shot, 32-pounders,	23 2 24 @ 30s.	£35	12 9
To 147 shot, 9-pounders,	11 3 7 @ 30s.	17	14 5
To 173 shot, 4-pounders,	6 0 20 @ 50s.	15	10 8
<hr/>			
41 2 23			
To carting the above to <i>Hingham</i> ,	- -	1	8 0
<hr/>			
£70 15 10			
To one 32-pounder,	- 0 1 6 @ 30s.	0	9 3
<hr/>			
£70 15 1			

45 6-pounders received at the same time.

Sir, the reason I have sent you the 32-pound shot and the 9-pound shot is because Major *Aaron Hobart* desired me to make them and send them to you, and take a receipt for them at that price for

JOSEPH JOSSELYN.

To *Richard Devens*, Esq., Commissary-General.

COLONEL GILMAN TO THE NEW-HAMPSHIRE ASSEMBLY.

Portsmouth, September 13, 1776.

Gentlemen of the Council and of the House of Representatives:

I am informed that you have made choice of Captain *Pierce Long* to command the battalion now raising for the protection of this State—a person I ever esteemed as a very great friend of mine; and if he obtained the appointment fairly had as lief be superseded by him as any person in the State.

If it had been agreeable, I should have been willing to have continued in the service; but as I find it otherwise, am content to live a retired life, though I have been at great cost to equip myself for a short service—much shorter than I expected when I engaged.

I think, gentlemen, that since I have been in the service I have discharged my duty to a punctilio, and that I have done part of the duty of a former Engineer, Colonel, and almost every other officer belonging to the regiment. And I have endeavoured that none of the interests of the State should be wasted; and what thanks have I got for my services, but to be slighted by my own countrymen, in that they have not dealt so generously with me as they have with my subaltern officers in giving me the offer of tarrying in the service, although I have taught them the first principles of the military art? Gentlemen, I do not make this complaint because I desire you to make any alteration in your choice; neither do I desire it, but to let you know I have a spirit as well as another man, and know when I am treated with the respect that is due to a person who has been engaged in the cause of his country as early as any one, and does not want a lawyer to plead his sincerity.

I think, gentlemen, at least you ought to be as cautious of slighting or offending real friends as you are of pleasing or reclaiming of enemies, lest you make enemies instead of friends; for such treatment as I have received will have a natural tendency to make enemies, though God forbid it should have that effect on me. I don't remember that when we groaned under our old Constitution that ever an officer was slighted or neglected for faithfully discharging his duty, but on the contrary promoted. But I am sorry that I have it to say there is too much of that in this day. I fear very much if there is not some alteration very soon, you will be put to it to get any person who is worth employing to engage in your service; for men of spirit will be cautious of engaging and fitting themselves when they are daily liable to be discharged without any crime laid to their charge, or reason assigned therefor.

I shall conclude at this time in wishing you Divine direction, and hope that Providence will, in His own time, open a door for our relief, and that our troubles will have a final

issue. I am a well-wisher to my country and the glorious cause we are engaged in.
From your affectionate friend and very humble servant,
DAVID GILMAN.

Williamsburg, in Council, September 14, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: Three days ago the Board delivered to Colonel *Thomas Fleming* of the Ninth Battalion, commissions for the several Captains and Subalterns under his command, upon his representing the very disagreeable situation they must be in, to be engaged in the service of the Continent without having their commissions to show in case the fortune of war should throw them into the enemy's hands. There was no resisting so powerful an argument, and yet the Board were so much at a loss for the proper date of the several commissions that they have issued them without any date, endorsing thereupon that that was purposely omitted, to reserve the matter of rank to the future determination of Congress, upon which head the Board would be glad to have their directions as soon as possible. It may be proper to observe that this matter ought to be settled so circumspectly as not to give any ground of offence to the different officers by inverting the order of their rank. Should the honourable Congress direct the commissions to be dated at the times the several regiments were respectively taken into Continental pay, such would certainly be the unhappy consequence; the Eighth and Ninth Regiments, for instance, would by that rule of precedence be postponed to the Seventh, which has ever hitherto taken rank of the other two. And it is submitted whether any other method can so effectually avoid this as the dating their commissions at the times they were respectively dated in the *Virginia* service. This would moreover remove the hardship which the officers here think they labour under as they stand related to those commissioned in the other States; for otherwise they must yield rank to officers who have not been so long engaged in opposition to our common enemy, but who have had the good fortune to receive their Continental commissions sooner.

In case the honourable Congress should judge the rule here recommended to be equal, it may be necessary that they should have the dates of the commissions granted to the officers of the First and Second Regiments, on the Provincial establishments, which therefore is enclosed. Those of the other regiments have been already transmitted. The Field-Officers of the Ninth Battalion have not yet received their commissions, which they are desirous of having as soon as may be.

Your several letters have been received desiring the Council to recommend proper persons to fill the vacant Majorities, and in doing so to pay a particular attention to military merit. If the nature of the service here had been such as to give an opportunity of distinguishing, the General must have been able to distinguish with more precision and

certainty than this Board; yet even he has not probably had the proper opportunities of judging, to enable him to comply with the intentions of Congress. In this situation of our army, the Board think there is nothing left them, but to refer you to the lists of officers which have been sent, and which will show how they stand in point of seniority.

We have received £1076 2s. 6d, by the hands of Mr. *Aylett*, which shall be carried to the credit of your account.

I am, gentlemen, your most respectful and obedient servant.

Signed by order of Council :
JOHN PAGE, *President*.
To the Honourable *Virginia* Delegates at Congress, *Philadelphia*.

BOARD OF WAR TO GENERAL WASHINGTON.

By order of the Board of War, I enclose you a copy of the arrangement of Officers in the old *Virginia* Regiments. At Colonel *Crawford's* instance I enclose a letter from him, and am, with the greatest respect,

Your very obedient and most humble servant,
RICHARD PETERS, *Secretary*.

To His Excellency General *Washington*.

List of Field-Officers in the service of Virginia.

Battal-ions.	Colonels.	Date of Commis'ns.	Promoted or Declined.
2d	William Woodford...	February 13, 1776.	Resigned
3d	Hugh Mercer.....	Same date	App'ted Brig'r-Gen'l..
4th	Adam Stephen.....	Same date	do. Major-Gen'l..
5th	William Peachy....	Same date	Resigned
6th	Mordecai Buckner...	Same date	Cashiered.....
7th	William Dangerfield..	February 29, 1776.	Resigned
8th	Peter Mughlenburg...	March 1, 1776....	Brigadier-General 21..
9th	Thomas Flemming...	March 2, 1776....	Dead.....
1st	William Christian....	.....	Has declined service..
Lieutenant-Colonels.			
2d	Charles Scott.....	February 13, 1776.	Made Colonel.....
3d	George Weedon.....	Same date	Made Colonel Brig'e..
4th	Isaac Reade.....	Same date	Made Colonel.....
5th	William Crawford...	Same date	Made Colonel.....
6th	Thomas Elliott.....	Same date .....	.....
7th	Alex'r McClanachan..	February 29, 1776.	.....
8th	Abraham Bowman...	March 1, 1776....	.....
9th	George Matthews....	March 4, 1776....	.....
1st	Francis Eppes.....	.....	.....
Majors.			
2d	Alex'r Spottswood...	February 13, 1776.	Lieutenant-Colonel...
3d	Thomas Marshall....	Same date	Do.
4th	Robert Lawson.....	Same date	Do.
5th	Joseph Parker.....	Same date	Do.
6th	James Hendricks....	Same date	Do.
7th	William Nelson.....	February 29, 1776.	Do.
8th	Peter Helphinston...	March 1, 1776....	Resigned.....
9th	Matthew Denovan....	.....	Dead.....
1st	John Green.....	.....	.....

A List of Officers in the First and Second Battalions of VIRGINIA Forces, while on Provincial Establishment, with the date of their Commissions.

	Captains.	First Lieutenants.	Second Lieutenants.	Ensigns.	Date of Provincial Commissions.
1st.	John Green.....	Richard Taylor.....	John Eustice.....	John Lee.....	September..... 6, 1775.
	John Markham.....	William Cunningham....	Joseph Scott.....	Tarlton Woodson.....	September.....16, 1775.
	John Seayres.....	Goodrick Crump.....	Matthew Smith.....	Nathaniel Burwell.....	September.....18, 1775.
	William Davies.....	Willis Wilson.....	Francis Boyakin.....	Jonathan Godwin.....	September.....30, 1775.
	John Fleming.....	William Lewis.....	John Pettus.....	David Anderson.....	October..... 2, 1775.
	Robert Ballard.....	Edward Garland.....	John Clayton.....	Claiborne Lawson.....	October..... 7, 1775.
	William Campbell...	Daniel Trigg.....	Alexander Cuming.....	George Lambert.....	December.....15, 1775.
2d.	George Gibson.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
	George Johnston...	Thomas Tibbs.....	William Samford.....	Peyton Harrison.....	September.....21, 1775.
	Richard Parker, Jun..	Catesby Jones.....	John Monroe.....	Alexander Parker.....	September.....28, 1775.
	William Taliaferro...	John Willis.....	Seymore Hooe.....	Benjamin Holmes.....	September.....29, 1775.
	George Nicholas...	Beverly Dickson.....	Thomas Russell.....	Merritt Moore.....	October..... 3, 1775.
	William Fontaine...	John Marks.....	Thomas Hughes.....	William Robinson.....	October.....21, 1775.
	Richard Kidder Meade	Edward Travis.....	Bullar Claiborne.....	John Nicholas.....	October.....24, 1775.
	Morgan Alexander...	George Jump.....	Marques Calmes.....	John Holden.....	November.....27, 1775.

Five Companies were added by Convention to complete these Battalions, the Officers to which being appointed since the Battalions were taken into Continental pay, received Continental commissions only:

				Date of their Continental Commissions.
1st.	Thomas Nelson, Jun.	John Moss.....	Thomas Archer.....	Callowill Minnis.....
	Edmund B. Dickinson	Charles Pelham.....	John Quarles.....	Thomas Herbert.....
	Samuel Hawes, Jun..	Thomas Jones.....	James Upshaw.....	Thomas Catlett.....
2d.	Everard Meade.....	Wood Jones.....	John Ogleby.....	John Worsham.....
	Francis Taylor.....	William Taylor.....	Benjamin Porton, Jun.	Francis Cowherd.....

A List of Captains and Subaltern Officers in the VIRGINIA service, Dates of Commissions, &c., &c.

	Captains.	First Lieutenants.	Second Lieutenants.	Ensigns.	Dates of Commissions.	Promoted, &c.
First Regiment.	John Green.....	Richard Taylor.....	John Eustace.....	John Lee.....	Jan'y 20, 1776.	Capt. Green, promoted.
	John Markham.....	William Cunninghame..	Joseph Scott.....	Tarleton Woodson....	Jan'y 21, 1776.	Capt. Markham..do.
	John Sayres.....	Goodrick Crump.....	Matthew Smith.....	Nathaniel Burwell....	Jan'y 22, 1776.	Capt. Sayres.....do.
	William Davies.....	Willis Wilson.....	Francis Boyakin.....	Jona. Godwin.....	Jan'y 26, 1776.	Capt. Davies.....do.
	John Fleming.....	William Lewis.....	John Pettus.....	David Anderson.....	Jan'y 27, 1776.	Dead.
	Robert Ballard.....	Edward Garland.....	John Clayton.....	Clairborne Lawson....	Jan'y 29, 1776.	
	William Campbell.....	Daniel Trigg.....	Alexander Cummings..	George Lambert.....	Feb'y 3, 1776.	Resigned.
	George Gibson.....	-	-	-	Feb'y 2, 1776.	
	Thomas Nelson, Jr.....	-	-	-	-	
	Edw'd B. Dickenson..	Thomas Archer, Jr.....	John Quarles.....	Thomas Herbert.....	Feb'y 25, 1776.	
Second Regiment.	George Johnson.....	Thomas Tebbs.....	William Santford.....	Peyton Harrison.....	Jan'y 23, 1776.	
	Richard Parker, Jun..	Castesby Jones.....	John Monroe.....	Alexander Parker....	Jan'y 24, 1776.	Lt. Monroe, resigned.
	William Talliafero....	John Willis.....	Seymore Hose.....	Benjamin Holimes....	Jan'y 25, 1776.	
	George Nicholas.....	Beverly Dickson.....	Thomas Russell.....	Merrit Moore.....	Jan'y 28, 1776.	Promoted.
	William Hontaine.....	John Marks.....	Thomas Hughes.....	William Robertson....	Jan'y 30, 1776.	Lt. Hughes and Ens. Robertson resigned.
	Richard Kidder Meade.	Edward Travis.....	Bullar Claibourne....	John Nicholas.....	Jan'y 31, 1776.	Lt. Travis, promoted in [the Navy.]
	Morgan Alexander....	George Jump.....	Marquis Calmes.....	John Holder.....	Feb'y 1, 1776.	
	Samuel Hawes, Jun....	Thomas Jones.....	James Upshaw.....	Thomas Catlatt.....	Feb'y 19, 1776.	
	Everard Meade.....	Wood Jones.....	John Ogleby.....	John Worsham.....	March 8, 1776.	
	Francis Taylor.....	William Taylor.....	Benj. Porter, Jun....	Francis Cowherd.....	May 8, 1776.	
Third Regiment.	Andrew Leitch.....	John Peyton.....	Valentine Peyton.....	John Jebbs.....	Feb'y 5, 1776.	Capt. Leitch, dead.
	John Fitzgerald.....	David Arill.....	Robert Dade.....	Adam Lynn.....	Feb'y 6, 1776.	Promoted.
	Charles West.....	John Tyler.....	Appollas Cooper.....	-	Feb'y 9, 1776.	
	John Thornton.....	Robert Powell.....	John Camp.....	Robert Slaughter.....	Feb'y 12, 1776.	
	Gustavus Baron Wallace	Reuben Brisco.....	Thomas Drake.....	James Davis.....	Feb'y 23, 1776.	
	William Washington....	John Francis Mercer..	Alvin Mountjoy.....	Allen Waller.....	Feb'y 26, 1776.	
	Phil. Richard Fran. Lee	Thomas Helen.....	Matthew Whiting, Jun.	John Tyler, Jun....	March 8, 1776.	
	Thomas Johnson.....	William White.....	Anderson Thompson...	Joseph Baynham.....	M'rch 21, 1776.	
	John Chilton.....	John Blackwell, Jun..	William Randall, Jun..	-	-	
	John Ashby, Jun.....	William Nelson.....	Isham Keith.....	Nathaniel Ashby.....	-	
Fourth Regiment.	Isaac Beale.....	George Walls.....	William Chevy.....	Samuel Jill.....	Feb'y 10, 1776.	
	John Morton.....	John Halscome.....	Obadiah Woodson....	Edward Wood.....	Feb'y 19, 1776.	
	John Brent.....	Edward Reed.....	Thomas Spencer, Jun..	Joseph Holt.....	Feb'y 23, 1776.	
	Thomas Ridley.....	Richard Blow.....	Albrigdon Jones.....	Timo. Thorp.....	M'rch 11, 1776.	
	Nathaniel Mason.....	Nicholas Massenburg..	John Gilliam.....	John Smith.....	M'rch 14, 1776.	
	James Lucas.....	John Stith.....	William Rodgers.....	Nathaniel Lucas.....	M'rch 19, 1776.	
	John Watkins, Jun....	William Hamlin.....	Charles Judkins.....	William Boyce.....	M'rch 21, 1776.	
	Thomas Matthews.....	-	John Rodgers.....	Henry Whiting.....	M'rch 25, 1776.	
	Arthur Smith.....	John Goodrick.....	Nicholas Parker, Jun..	William Davenport...	April 1, 1776.	
	John Washington.....	Jason Riddick.....	John Bowes.....	Edward Jiggett.....	-	
Fifth Regiment.	Burges Ball.....	Henry Fauntleroy....	Henry Jowles.....	Robert Beale.....	Feb'y 10, 1776.	
	George Stubblefield...	Robert Dudley.....	Peter Mino.....	Benjamin Winslow....	Feb'y 12, 1776.	
	John Pleasants, Jun..	William Mosley.....	William Eggleston....	Daniel Duval.....	Feb'y 24, 1776.	Resigned Captain.
	Thomas Gaskins, Jun..	Samuel Colston.....	John McAdam.....	Le Roy Edwards.....	Feb'y 26, 1776.	
	Gross Souiggs.....	Isham Tolbert.....	Joseph Earley.....	Barnabas Arthur.....	Feb'y 26, 1776.	
	Ralph Faulkner.....	William Fowler.....	Richard Kennon.....	John Fitzgerald.....	March 1, 1776.	
	Richard C. Anderson...	John Anderson.....	William Bently.....	Robert Tompkins....	March 7, 1776.	
	Richard Bernard.....	Waffendal Kendall....	Charles Aston, Jun....	John Aston, Jun....	March 9, 1776.	
	Harry Terril.....	John Goggin.....	Thomas McRenolds....	Robert Watkins.....	M'rch 12, 1776.	
	Andrew Russell.....	James McHaney.....	William Same, Jun....	William Smith.....	M'rch 25, 1776.	
Sixth Regiment.	James Johnson.....	Nicholas Hobson.....	Peter Garland.....	John Stokes.....	Feb'y 16, 1776.	
	Oliver Towles.....	Nathaniel Fox.....	Charles Tutt.....	Joseph Holliday....	Feb'y 16, 1776.	
	Thomas Patterson....	Joseph Curd.....	James Burnett.....	John Barksdale.....	Feb'y 24, 1776.	Dead.
	William Gregory.....	Peter Dunn.....	John Gregory.....	John Ball.....	Feb'y 26, 1776.	Captain Gregory dead.
	Samuel Hopkins.....	Obia Clay.....	Hutchins Burton.....	William Davison.....	Feb'y 26, 1776.	
	Thomas Ruffen.....	William Halley Ivory.	William Maney.....	Collin Cocke.....	March 1, 1776.	
	Samuel Joran Cobell...	Alexander Rose.....	Benjamin Talliaferro.	James Barnett.....	March 4, 1776.	
	Thomas Massie.....	John Hockaday.....	Richard Apenon.....	William Armistead...	M'rch 11, 1776.	
	Thomas Hutchings.....	Henry Williams.....	James Conway.....	Hardin Perkins.....	M'rch 21, 1776.	
	John Jones, Jun.....	Peter Jones.....	William Starke, Jun..	Dinwiddie Godwin...	-	
Seventh Reg't.	Gregory Smith.....	Thomas Hill.....	Reuben Herndon.....	James Pendleton....	Feb'y 7, 1776.	Promoted.
	Holt Richeson.....	Reuben Lipscomb....	Benjamin C. Speller...	Nathaniel Fox.....	Feb'y 26, 1776.	Do.
	Charles Fleming.....	William Mosley.....	William Barnard.....	Mays Carrington....	Feb'y 29, 1776.	
	John Webb.....	Henry Young.....	Griffin Fauntleroy...	Henry Waring.....	March 5, 1776.	
	Charles Tomkies.....	James Baylop.....	Thomas Buckner.....	Samuel Addens.....	March 7, 1776.	
	Nathaniel Cocke.....	Edward Wade.....	Joseph Hobson.....	Jarply White.....	March 7, 1776.	
	Matthew Jonett.....	John Thompson.....	Leonard Thompson...	John Champ Carlem...	M'rch 18, 1776.	
	Thomas Posey.....	Adam Wallace.....	Roland Madison.....	John Laysley.....	M'rch 20, 1776.	
	Joseph Spencer.....	Garland Burnley.....	William White.....	John Cunninghame...	May 8, 1776.	
	-	-	-	-	-	
Eighth Reg't.	John Stevenson.....	Robert Beale.....	Edward Rice.....	Simon Morgan.....	Dec'r 10, 1775.	
	William Darke.....	Daniel Culph.....	Isaac Israel.....	John Daniel.....	Feb'y 9, 1776.	
	George Slaughter.....	Henry Fields.....	James Hisley.....	John Graves.....	Feb'y 19, 1776.	
	Richard Campbell.....	Matthias Hite.....	John Steed.....	Leonard Cooper.....	Feb'y 19, 1776.	Promoted.
	Jonathan Clarke.....	Jacob Rinker.....	Adam Darling.....	Jacob Parrott.....	March 4, 1776.	
	Abel Westfall.....	Robert Higgons.....	Andrew Turk.....	Rees Pritchard.....	M'rch 12, 1776.	
	David Stephenson....	Joseph Dickdom.....	John Gratton.....	Samuel Coleman.....	M'rch 25, 1776.	
	Thomas Borry.....	John Joliff.....	Richard Easton.....	William Made.....	M'rch 27, 1776.	
	William Croghon.....	Abram Kirkpatrick...	James Higgons.....	James Berwick.....	April 19, 1776.	
	-	-	-	-	-	
Ninth Reg't.	John Cropper.....	John Poulson.....	James Drummond....	Charles Copper.....	Feb'y 5, 1776.	
	Lewis Joyne.....	Smith Sneed.....	Reuben Joyne.....	Charles Sneed.....	Feb'y 10, 1776.	
	Thomas Davis.....	Thomas Parramore....	Nathaniel Wilkins....	Severn Teacle.....	Feb'y 12, 1776.	Cashiered.
	Thomas Sneed.....	John Nicholas.....	Arthur Teacle.....	Wm. Black Bunting...	Feb'y 14, 1776.	
	Thomas Walker.....	William Henderson...	Samuel Carr.....	Hudson Martin.....	M'rch 11, 1776.	{ Lt. Carr appointed a Captain of Marines.
	Samuel Woodson.....	Nathaniel G. Morris...	Robert Woodson.....	Wm. Holman, Jun....	M'rch 13, 1776.	
	John Hayse.....	Andrew Moore.....	James Culbertson....	John Lewis.....	M'rch 16, 1776.	

A true Copy from the Original Lists in the War Office,

J. NOURSE, Clerk.

JOSIAH BARTLETT TO COLONEL WHIPPLE.

Philadelphia, September 14, 1776.

DEAR SIR: I have not received a line from you since yours of the 20th ultimo, from *Milford*. I have wrote to you every week since you left this City, which I hope are come safe to your hand, but shall not write you after this as I expect you will be on your return here by the time you receive this, or soon after. I hope our Legislature has appointed another Delegate to return with you, that I may return home immediately on your arrival, and try whether a change of air will be serviceable to my health, which is very much altered since you left me, though I am now rather better than I was last week. I shall be under some difficulty about procuring a horse and waiter to attend me on my return, unless you and your colleague will agree to deliver up one of yours to me for that purpose on your arrival, and keep but one to wait on you both here. If you shall not agree to that, I have wrote to Mrs. *Bartlett* to procure (if she can) a man and horse, and send with you here to accompany me back, as I think it will be much cheaper and better than to hire here. Pray inform Mrs. *Bartlett* of your determination, that she may know what to do.

Last *Wednesday* our Committee met Lord *Howe* on *Staten-Island*, where they ate and drank together. He treated them with great civility and politeness; and after about three hours' conversation, they took their leave of each other. His Lordship's conversation was full of his friendship for *America*—particularly the town of *Boston*, for their respect to the memory of his brother. He said that the ravaging and destroying *America* would give him great pain and uneasiness. Dr. *Franklin* replied that we should take proper, and he hoped effectual, care to prevent his Lordship's feelings on that account. On the whole all the terms he had to propose were, that we first of all lay down our arms and return to our allegiance; and then, he said, the King and Parliament would consider the acts we formerly complained of, and if they judged it proper would alter or amend them. They told him that General *Sullivan* said, that his Lordship in conversation told him that the King and Parliament would give up the right of taxation and of intermeddling with the internal police of the Colonies, and desired to know what authority he had to say it. Lord *Howe* replied, that General *Sullivan* must certainly have misunderstood him, as he had no right to say any such thing, nor did he believe the Parliament would give up those claims. The Committee are about to publish the whole affair, which I hope will stop the mouths of the weak and credulous, who have had great hopes of peace from the supposed great powers entrusted with Lord *Howe* as a Commissioner for that purpose.

Captain *Wickes*, in the *Reprisal*, is returned from *Martinico*, which he left the 26th ultimo; he has brought four or five hundred muskets, some powder, &c., &c. The affair of the *Reprisal* and the *Shark* man-of-war in the harbour of *St. Pierre*, in *Martinico*, occasioned the *British* Admiral *Young* to send to the *French* General, informing him that the Captain of the *Shark* would have taken the Pirate ship commanded by Captain *Wickes* if it had not been for the *French* Forts protecting him, and he, in the name of his *Britannick* Majesty, demanded that she should be forthwith seized and delivered up into his hands, or otherwise his protecting, not only the trading ships of Rebels, but their ships-of-war, would be deemed a breach of the peace between the two nations, and that on his refusal he should immediately send a man-of-war to acquaint his *Britannick* Majesty of the circumstances, &c., &c.

The *French* General, in answer, told Admiral *Young* that he had been misinformed concerning the affair; that the Forts did not interfere, but that the *Shark*, after engaging the *American* vessel for some time, thought proper to quit her and sheer off, and that the Forts did not fire on the *Shark* till after she had quitted the *Reprisal*, and was attempting, as they suspected, to seize an unarmed vessel that was then within reach of their cannon; that Captain *Wickes* had put himself under his Most Christian Majesty's protection, and that he should not deliver him up, or suffer him to be injured while there; that if the Admiral had been well acquainted with him (the General) he would never have made such a demand of him; that he should immediately

send an account of the affair to the King, his master, to whom alone he was answerable for his conduct, &c., &c. This is the substance as near as I can remember. I have seen authentick copies of both.

The affair of the Confederation rests at present. The Committee of the Whole have agreed that ninety regiments shall be enlisted for five years, if not sooner discharged by Congress. The affair of bounty is not yet settled; the proposal of giving lands as a part of the bounty has boggled us; however, it will be got over in a few days, I believe, and sent forward. The great difficulty of raising men for so long a period, made me think it my duty to prevent more being required of our State than their just proportion by numbers; and by producing the return of our number of inhabitants, I have got the proportion to be fixed at three instead of four regiments for our State, to be raised and completed for that term.

Mr. *Wythe* is come to Congress.

My very poor state of health makes it uncertain whether I may not be obliged to leave Congress before your return. If it should happen so, I should be very glad to meet you on the road, and would therefore propose your coming the upper road to *Hartford*, if you can conveniently.

I am, sir, your friend and most humble servant,

JOSIAH BARTLETT.

To Colonel *Whipple*.

War Office, September 14, 1776.

Congress having directed that the Board of War order all the *French* Officers who have received commissions in the service of the States, to repair immediately to their place of destination, the said Officers are hereby required to repair to their posts without delay.

RICHARD PETERS, Secretary.

JOHN ADAMS TO MRS. ADAMS.

Philadelphia, Saturday, September 14, 1776.

Yesterday morning I returned with Dr. *Franklin* and Mr. *Rutledge* from *Staten-Island*, where we met Lord *Howe*, and had about three hours' conversation with him. The result of this interview will do no disservice to us. It is now plain that his Lordship has no power but what is given him in the act of Parliament. His commission authorizes him to grant pardons upon submission, and to converse, confer, consult, and advise with such persons as he may think proper, upon *American* grievances, upon the instructions to Governours and the acts of Parliament, and if any errors should be found to have crept in, his Majesty and the Ministry were willing they should be rectified.

I found yours of 31st of *August* and 2d of *September*. I now congratulate you on your return home with the children. I am sorry to find you anxious on account of idle reports. Don't regard them. I think our friends are to blame to mention such silly stories. What good do they expect to do by it?

My ride has been of service to me. We were absent but four days. It was an agreeable excursion. His Lordship is about fifty years of age. He is a well-bred man, but his address is not so irresistible as it has been represented. I could name you many *Americans*, in your own neighbourhood, whose art, address, and abilities are greatly superiour. His head is rather confused, I think.

When I shall return, I can't say. I expect now every day fresh hands from *Watertown*.

Philadelphia, September 14, 1776.

On *Friday* last arrived here from *Martinico*, the Continental ship-of-war the *Reprisal*, Lambert *Wickes*, Esq., commander. On board of said ship came passengers several *French* officers, who we hear are strongly recommended to the honourable the Congress by the Governour of *Martinico*. One of them it is said is an accomplished Engineer.

On *Thursday* evening and *Friday* morning the Hon. Benjamin *Franklin*, John *Adams*, and Edward *Rutledge*, Esqs., returned to this city from *Staten-Island*, where they spent three hours in a conference with Lord *Howe*, upon the

subject of his propositions to the Congress. We hear that his Lordship possesses no other powers to accommodate the dispute between *Great Britain* and the *United States* than those mentioned in the act of the *British Parliament*, for appointing Commissioners to grant pardons, &c.

A vessel has arrived in this port with two thousand bushels of salt. The whole of it was immediately bought up by a respectable merchant of this city, who is now selling it out in small quantities, at a very moderate advance, for the benefit of the publick.

On *Friday* last Major-General *Prescott* and Brigadier-General *McDonald* set off from this city for *New-York*, in order to be exchanged for Major-General *Sullivan* and Brigadier-General Lord *Stirling*.

Several letters from *France* mention the very friendly disposition of the Court and people of that Kingdom towards the *United States*.

NATHAN HILANDS'S RECANTATION.

Hamilton Township, Cumberland County, }
Pennsylvania, September 14, 1776. }

I, *Nathan Hilands*, have some time past in words inimical to *American* liberty expressed myself, which I do by these presents acknowledge to be sorry for, and promise for the future to act agreeable to the directions of Congress, Convention, or Committees, and to hold the same in that due esteem and respect as becomes a lover of *American* liberty; and do likewise allow this, my recantation, to be put in the publick papers.

By order of Committee: JAMES MOORE, Clerk.

EXTRACT OF A LETTER RECEIVED IN PHILADELPHIA, DATED NEW-YORK, SEPTEMBER 14, 1776.

The enemy, from their different manœuvres and great preparations, intend soon to strike a decisive blow. Their plan is to outflank and hem us in; but I think they will be disappointed, for the heights above *Harlem* and *King's Bridge* are strongly manned and fortified, and all the points up to *Frog's*, securely picketed, the avenues blocked, and the roads cut up to prevent the approaches of their artillery.

They have opened the Courts of Justice upon *Long-Island*, in which Mr *Ludlow* presides as Chief Judge. They have confiscated several estates, and condemned one man to perpetual confinement, to linger out his life in chains, and to be fed on bread and water. I think such acts of oppression will turn to our advantage; they carry a high hand, and, flushed with the success which nature and not their own strength has given them, they think in a little time to sweep off our army and be in possession of *America*. Old *Oliver de Lancey* is a Colonel, your poor friend *Woodhull* is killed, and that fawning, treacherous courtier, Governor *Tryon*, lies at the point of death. This intelligence was got from a person who has been among them for some time, and I think may be depended on.

GENERAL WASHINGTON TO THE PRESIDENT OF CONGRESS.

[Read September 16.]

New-York, September 14, 1776.

SIR: I have been duly honoured with your favour of the 10th, with the resolution of Congress which accompanied it, and thank them for the confidence they repose in my judgment respecting the evacuation of the city. I could wish to maintain it, because I know it to be of importance, but am fully convinced that it cannot be done, and that an attempt for that purpose, if persevered in, might and most certainly would be attended with consequences the most fatal and alarming in their nature. Sensible of this, several of the General Officers, since the determination of the Council mentioned in my last, petitioned that a second Council might be called to reconsider the propositions which had been before them upon the subject. Accordingly, I called one on the 12th, when a large majority not only determined a removal of the army prudent but absolutely necessary, declaring they were entirely convinced, from a full and minute inquiry into our situation, that it was extremely perilous, and from every movement of the enemy and the intelligence received, their plan of operation was

to get in our rear, and by cutting off the communication with the main oblige us to force a passage through them on the terms they wish, or to become prisoners in some short time for want of necessary supplies of provision.

We are now taking every method in our power to remove the stores, &c., in which we find almost insuperable difficulties. They are so great and so numerous that I fear we shall not effect the whole before we meet with some interruption. I fully expected that an attack somewhere would have been made last night. In that I was disappointed, and happy shall I be if my apprehensions of one to-night or in a day or two are not confirmed by the event. If it is deferred a little while longer, I flatter myself all will be got away, and our force be more concentrated and of course more likely to resist them with success. Yesterday afternoon four ships of war, two of forty and two of twenty-eight guns, went up the *East River*, passing between Governor's and *Long-Island*, and anchored about a mile above the city, opposite Mr. *Stuyvesant's*, where the *Rose* man-of-war was lying before. The design of their going, not being certainly known, gives rise to various conjectures, some supposing they are to cover the landing of a part of the enemy above the city, others that they are to assist in destroying our battery at *Horn's Hook*, that they may have a free and uninterrupted navigation in the *Sound*. It is an object of great importance to them, and what they are industriously trying to effect by a pretty constant cannonade and bombardment.

Before I conclude, I would beg leave to mention to Congress, that the pay now allowed to nurses for their attendance on the sick is by no means adequate to their services—the consequence of which is, that they are extremely difficult to procure; indeed they are not to be got, and we are under the necessity of substituting in their place a number of men from the respective regiments, whose service by that means is entirely lost to the proper line of their duty, and but little benefit indeed to the sick. The officers I have talked with upon the subject all agree that they should be allowed a dollar per week, and that for less they cannot be had. Our sick are extremely numerous, and we find their removal attended with the greatest difficulty. It is a matter that employs much of our time and care, and what makes it most distressing, is the want of proper and convenient places for their reception. I fear their sufferings will be great and many; however, nothing on my part that humanity or policy can require shall be wanting to make them comfortable, so far as the state of things will admit of.

I have the honour to be, with great respect, sir, your most obedient servant,
Go. WASHINGTON.

Petition of Major-General GREENE and others for a reconsideration of the Proceedings of a Council of General Officers.

September 11, 1776.

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR EXCELLENCY: The situation of the army under your Excellency's command is, in our opinions so critical and dangerous, that we apprehend a Board of General Officers should be immediately called for the purpose of considering it. We do not mean to condemn as unwise or imprudent any measures which have heretofore been taken, but we conceive a reconsideration of an important question determined at the last Board of General Officers to be absolutely necessary to satisfy our own apprehensions and the apprehensions of many excellent Field Officers and others, from the dispositions now making by the advice of that Board.

We know the danger and bad policy of giving way to applications for the reconsideration of common propositions, which may have been solemnly determined, but the present case is of such magnitude and is big with such consequences to all *America*, that a breach of common forms and even the risk of establishing wrong precedents, should, in our opinions, be now overruled.

What we have to offer to your Excellency in general council, proceeds not from fear of personal danger nor the expectation of deriving to ourselves any honour and reputation from a change of measures: it proceeds from a love of our country and a determined resolution to urge the best and wisest measures, and finally, to execute if possible even

erroneous ones, which, on cool, dispassionate reconsideration, cannot be avoided.

NATHL. GREENE, *Major-General.*
JNO. NIXON, *Brigadier-General.*
THOS. MIFFLIN, *Brigadier-General.*
REZIN BEALL, *Brigadier-General.*
SAML. H. PARSONS, *Brigadier-General.*
JAMES WADSWORTH.

I think it a mark of wisdom to reconsider opinions upon subjects of high importance, whenever so many respectable gentlemen request it as have signed above me. I therefore heartily concur with them in the application above mentioned.

JOHN MORIN SCOTT, *Brigadier-General.*
To His Excellency General Washington.

A Return of the Army in the service of the UNITED STATES OF AMERICA, in and near the City of New-York, commanded by His Excellency GEORGE WASHINGTON, Esquire, General and Commander-in-Chief.

	OFFICERS PRESENT.													RANK AND FILE.					Wanting to complete.	Alterations since last Returns.										
	Commissioned.					Staff.			Non-commissioned.																					
	Colonels.	Lieut. Colonels.	Major.	Captains.	Lieutenants.	Second Lieut.'s.	Ensigns.	Chaplains.	Adjutants.	Quartermasters.	Paymasters.	Surgeons.	Mates.	Sergeants.	Drums and Fifes.	Present, fit for duty.	Sick, present.	Sick, absent.	On Command.	On Furlough.	Total.	Sergeants.	Drums and Fifes.	Rank and File.	Inlisted.	Dead.	Discharged.	Deserted.	Missing.	
General PARSONS's Brigade.																														
Colonel Huntington	-	-	-	2	3	6	1	1	1	1	-	1	-	16	13	80	89	78	101	-	348	16	3	292	-	1	1	-	-	-
Colonel Prescott	1	1	1	4	5	3	3	1	1	1	-	1	1	18	13	153	169	12	65	2	399	2	-	241	-	4	-	-	-	-
Colonel Ward	1	-	1	4	8	6	6	1	1	1	-	1	1	28	11	201	123	2	174	-	502	1	3	118	-	-	-	-	-	-
Colonel Wyllis	1	-	-	5	7	8	7	1	1	1	-	1	1	31	14	199	180	4	147	-	530	1	-	110	-	-	1	-	-	-
Colonel Durkee	1	-	-	6	7	8	7	1	1	1	-	1	1	29	13	303	115	1	104	-	520	-	3	120	-	1	-	-	-	-
Colonel Tyler	1	1	1	7	6	8	7	1	1	1	-	1	1	27	16	285	147	8	124	5	569	-	-	70	-	1	-	-	-	-
Total	5	2	3	28	35	38	32	6	6	5	-	6	5	149	80	1221	823	105	715	7	2868	20	9	971	-	7	2	-	-	-
General McDougall's Brigade.																														
Late McDougall	-	1	1	6	7	5	8	-	1	1	-	1	-	16	13	238	49	59	78	4	428	4	1	212	-	-	-	-	6	-
Colonel Smallwood	1	1	1	7	7	7	7	-	1	1	-	1	1	31	14	397	146	15	26	-	584	13	9	292	-	3	-	-	-	-
Colonel Webb	-	-	-	3	2	3	3	1	-	1	-	1	1	17	9	233	122	10	176	1	542	-	4	98	1	-	-	-	-	-
Colonel Ritzema	1	1	1	4	7	6	6	-	1	1	-	1	1	19	8	265	65	30	71	3	434	-	5	206	-	1	-	-	2	-
Total, with Artificers	2	2	3	20	23	21	24	2	3	4	1	3	3	83	44	1133	382	114	351	8	1988	17	19	808	1	4	-	-	8	-
General Scott's Brigade.																														
Colonel Lasher	1	1	1	10	10	10	-	1	-	1	-	1	1	20	13	317	119	36	35	3	510	3	-	-	-	17	-	9	-	-
Colonel Malcom	1	1	1	10	11	19	-	1	1	1	-	1	-	30	17	237	37	10	13	1	297	-	3	372	-	-	-	-	6	-
Colonel Drake	1	1	1	10	8	10	-	1	1	1	-	1	1	28	13	244	78	99	38	-	459	2	7	211	7	-	-	-	3	-
Colonel Humphrey	-	1	-	5	5	5	-	-	1	1	-	1	-	17	7	165	51	27	17	1	261	-	3	80	4	1	-	-	-	-
Total	3	4	3	35	34	44	-	3	3	4	-	4	2	95	50	963	285	172	103	5	1517	5	13	663	11	18	-	18	-	-
General WADSWORTH's Brigade.																														
Colonel Sage	1	1	1	8	8	7	8	-	1	1	-	1	1	31	14	240	173	1	68	-	482	1	2	182	-	2	-	-	-	-
Colonel Selden	1	1	1	8	7	8	6	1	1	1	-	1	1	31	12	253	146	-	65	-	464	1	4	200	-	1	-	-	-	-
Colonel Gay	-	1	1	7	8	8	8	1	1	1	1	1	1	31	16	253	149	-	46	1	449	1	-	215	-	-	-	-	-	-
Colonel Bradley	1	1	1	7	8	8	8	1	1	1	-	1	1	32	15	449	59	20	37	-	569	-	1	71	4	2	-	1	-	-
Total	3	4	4	30	31	31	30	3	4	4	1	3	4	125	57	1195	527	21	216	1	1964	3	7	668	4	5	-	1	-	-
Brigade commanded by Colonel SILLIMAN.																														
Colonel Silliman	1	1	1	4	7	7	6	1	1	1	-	1	-	32	15	233	111	3	67	1	415	-	1	249	-	-	16	1	-	-
Colonel Thompson	-	1	-	11	9	-	11	-	1	1	-	1	-	61	15	160	243	-	13	-	416	-	-	-	-	-	1	34	29	-
Lieutenant-Colonel Lewis	-	1	-	3	5	-	3	-	1	1	-	1	-	21	7	148	140	-	12	-	300	-	-	-	-	3	51	18	-	-
Lieutenant-Colonel Mead	-	1	1	6	8	-	6	-	1	1	-	1	-	30	4	112	111	6	21	8	258	-	-	-	-	-	-	6	-	-
Colonel Hinman	1	1	1	10	12	-	8	-	1	1	-	-	-	32	9	24	148	31	34	-	237	-	-	-	5	67	2	-	-	-
Total	2	5	3	34	41	7	34	1	5	5	-	4	-	176	50	677	753	40	147	9	1626	-	1	249	-	9	168	56	-	-
General NIXON's Brigade.																														
Colonel Varnum	-	1	1	6	7	6	8	-	1	1	-	1	-	21	10	252	92	9	38	-	391	4	-	249	-	-	-	-	-	-
Colonel Little	1	1	1	8	5	7	6	-	1	1	-	1	1	28	14	309	28	44	72	-	453	-	-	186	1	1	-	-	-	-
Colonel Hitchcock	1	1	1	7	6	5	5	-	1	1	-	1	1	19	15	209	104	5	50	-	368	-	-	-	2	-	-	-	-	-
Colonel Nixon	-	1	1	5	3	5	5	-	1	-	-	1	-	21	9	234	79	21	85	-	419	1	1	221	-	2	-	-	-	-
Colonel Bailey	1	1	1	5	5	4	7	-	1	1	-	1	1	17	11	179	169	3	152	-	503	-	1	128	-	1	1	-	-	-
Total	3	5	5	31	26	27	31	-	4	4	-	5	3	106	59	1183	472	82	397	-	2134	5	2	1056	1	6	1	-	-	-
General CLINTON's Brigade.																														
Colonel Glover	1	1	1	6	5	4	7	-	1	-	-	1	1	20	15	177	45	8	131	-	365	-	-	275	-	-	-	-	4	-
Colonel Read	1	1	1	8	7	6	8	-	1	1	-	1	-	31	16	163	183	9	150	-	505	1	-	135	-	1	-	-	-	-
Colonel Baldwin	-	1	1	4	4	5	6	1	1	1	-	1	1	21	10	204	174	8	82	-	468	-	1	172	-	1	-	-	-	-
Late Colonel Learned	-	1	1	8	8	8	8	1	1	1	-	1	1	32	14	183	120	6	211	1	521	-	2	119	-	4	-	-	-	-
Total	2	4	4	26	24	23	29	2	4	3	-	3	4	104	55	727	522	31	574	1	1859	1	3	701	-	6	-	4	-	-
General HEARD's Brigade.																														
Colonel Van Cortlandt	1	1	1	6	5	5	4	1	1	1	-	1	1	22	6	208	31	28	2	-	269	3	4	163	1	-	-	-	5	-
Colonel Johnson	-	1	1	7	5	5	6	-	1	1	-	1	-	22	12	204	29	-	-	2	235	5	3	227	1	-	-	1	10	24
Colonel Newcomb	1	1	1	7	7	7	7	1	1	1	-	1	1	28	5	268	46	19	2	-	336	-	9	167	-	-	-	-	7	-
Colonel Forman	1	-	1	3	6	7	8	1	1	1	-	1	1	21	12	267	34	55	11	5	372	2	2	104	1	-	-	-	23	-
Colonel Martin	1	1	1	8	8	7	7	1	1	1	-	1	-	28	12	305	64	10	1	2	382	-	3	200	1	1	-	1	1	1
Total	4	4	5	31	31	31	32	4	5	5	-	5	3	121	47	1252	204	112	16	9	1594	10	21	861	4	1	1	141	30	-
General FELLOW's Brigade.																														
Colonel Holman	1	1	1	8	8	8	8	1	1	1	-	1	1	32	16	367	116	-	93	-	606	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Colonel Cary	1	1	1	10	10	9	6	-	1	1	-	1	1	35	19	362	151	-	56	-	569	5	1	163	-	-	-	-	-	-
Colonel Smith	1	1	1	8	8	8	8	1	1	1	-	1	1	32	16	393	129	-	38	-	551	-	-	-	-	1	1	-	-	-
Total	3	3	3	26	26	25	22	2	3	3	-	3	3	99	51	1122	396	-	187	-	1726	5	1	163	-	1	1	-	-	-

Return continued.

	OFFICERS PRESENT.													RANK AND FILE.					Wanting to complete.	Alterations since last Returns.										
	Commissioned.					Staff.					Non-commissioned.						Rank and File.													
	Colonels.	Lieut. Colonels.	Majors.	Captains.	Lieutenants.	Second Lieut'nts.	Ensigns.	Chaplains.	Adjutants.	Quartermasters.		Paymasters.	Surgeons.	Mates.	Sergeants.	Drums and Fifes.		Present, fit for duty.	Sick, present.	Sick, absent.	On Command.	On Furlough.	Total.	Sergeants.	Drums and Fifes.	Rank and File.	Inlisted.	Dead.	Discharged.	Deserted.	Missing.
Brigade commanded by Col. DOUGLASS.																														
Colonel Douglass	1	1	1	7	8	8	8	1	1	1	1	1	1	32	16	314	112	-	77	-	506	-	-	172	-	-	-	-	-	
Colonel Pettibone	1	1	1	8	8	-	4	1	1	1	-	1	-	46	18	162	39	1	13	-	215	-	-	-	-	-	41	-	-	
Colonel Cook	1	-	1	7	7	-	4	1	1	1	-	1	-	24	7	46	22	55	3	-	126	-	-	-	-	-	-	4	-	
Colonel Talcott	1	-	1	10	5	-	6	1	1	1	-	1	-	19	8	104	101	-	29	-	240	-	-	-	-	-	6	-	-	
Colonel Chapman	1	1	1	8	7	-	9	-	1	1	-	-	-	19	12	118	108	-	47	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
Total	5	3	5	40	35	8	31	4	5	5	-	4	1	140	61	744	382	56	169	-	1087	-	-	172	-	-	41	10	-	
Brigade commanded by Colonel CHESTER.																														
Colonel Chester	1	1	1	8	7	8	8	-	1	1	-	1	1	31	15	338	93	5	98	1	535	-	-	129	55	3	1	-	-	
Lieutenant-Colonel Pitkin	-	-	1	7	11	-	9	-	1	1	-	1	-	46	19	219	76	-	-	-	391	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
Colonel Baldwin	-	1	1	12	11	-	10	-	1	1	-	1	1	70	31	169	152	31	46	28	426	-	-	-	-	1	23	18	-	
Major Strong	-	1	1	4	12	1	11	1	1	1	-	1	1	56	19	220	90	37	6	1	344	-	-	-	-	3	25	5	-	
Major Newbury	-	-	1	4	7	4	9	-	1	1	-	1	1	37	18	232	87	30	78	-	437	-	-	-	-	-	2	7	-	
Total	1	2	5	35	48	37	47	1	5	5	-	5	4	240	102	1178	498	103	228	30	2133	-	-	129	55	7	51	30	-	
Brigade commanded by Colonel SARGENT.																														
Colonel Sargent	1	1	-	8	6	7	2	-	1	1	-	1	1	21	14	295	63	71	98	-	527	-	-	113	-	-	-	2	-	
Colonel Selden	-	-	2	10	5	-	5	1	1	1	-	1	-	24	7	118	63	53	13	-	319	-	-	-	1	-	-	8	11	
Colonel Talcott	1	1	-	6	7	-	7	1	1	1	-	2	-	49	14	308	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	
Total	2	2	2	24	18	7	14	2	3	3	-	4	1	94	35	711	126	124	111	-	845	-	-	113	1	-	-	10	11	
General MIFFLIN'S Brigade.																														
Colonel Hand	1	1	-	3	7	6	5	1	1	1	-	1	1	21	14	210	25	18	10	5	288	4	2	354	3	-	2	11	-	
Colonel Shee	1	1	1	8	6	9	8	-	1	1	1	1	1	31	10	348	93	49	-	3	496	1	6	144	-	1	-	3	-	
Colonel Magaw	1	1	1	7	7	7	8	1	1	1	-	1	1	32	11	302	119	48	9	2	480	-	5	160	-	7	3	4	-	
Colonel Hutchinson	1	1	1	6	6	7	6	-	1	1	-	1	-	25	13	311	63	11	128	-	513	1	1	126	21	1	7	12	3	
Colonel Atlee	-	-	-	3	6	-	1	1	1	1	-	-	-	11	7	182	11	49	-	-	243	-	-	-	-	-	19	69	-	
Colonel Miles	-	-	1	5	9	-	1	1	1	1	-	-	-	15	5	153	47	38	11	-	355	-	-	-	-	-	4	135	-	
Colonel Ward	1	1	1	8	7	8	1	1	1	1	1	1	-	30	14	296	52	10	74	-	437	1	2	207	-	1	-	-	-	
Total	5	5	5	40	48	53	35	5	7	7	2	5	3	165	74	1802	410	223	232	10	2812	7	16	991	24	10	12	53	207	
General G. CLINTON'S Brigade.																														
Colonel Nichols	1	1	1	4	6	3	-	-	1	1	-	1	-	19	13	223	53	4	9	-	289	2	1	80	-	2	-	-	-	
Colonel Thomas	1	-	1	8	8	8	-	-	1	1	-	1	-	28	16	283	45	10	9	7	354	1	1	121	2	2	-	10	-	
Colonel Swartwout	1	1	-	9	7	9	-	-	1	1	-	1	1	29	15	256	66	4	27	11	364	2	1	117	-	-	-	43	-	
Colonel Powlings	1	1	1	8	7	6	-	-	1	1	-	1	-	21	15	220	85	1	47	5	358	-	3	120	-	-	-	4	-	
Colonel Graham	1	1	1	6	8	8	-	-	1	1	-	1	-	24	15	226	40	-	-	1	267	-	-	158	-	-	-	4	-	
Total	5	4	4	35	36	34	-	-	4	5	-	5	1	121	74	1208	289	19	92	24	1632	5	6	596	2	4	-	61	-	
A Return of the Regiment of Artillery, in the service of the UNITED STATES, commanded by HENRY KNOX, Esquire.																														
	Colonel.	Lieut. Colonel.	Major.	Captains.	Capt. Lieut'nts.	First Lieut'nts.	Second Lieuts.	Chaplain.	Adjutant.	Quartermaster.	Paymaster.	Surgeon.	Mate.	Sergeants.	Corporals.	Bombardiers.	Gunners.	Cadets.	Drums & Fifes.	Matrosses.										
Present, fit for duty	1	-	-	4	3	3	8	1	1	1	-	1	1	15	14	20	21	-	13	127										
Sick, present	-	-	1	1	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	8	7	-	-	29										
Sick, absent	-	1	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	3	4	-	1	13										
On command	-	-	-	2	6	4	7	-	-	-	-	-	-	9	11	17	20	-	5	89										
On furlough	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	3										
Total	1	1	1	8	9	7	16	1	1	1	-	1	1	26	26	48	52	-	19	261										

PROCEEDINGS OF A COUNCIL OF GENERAL OFFICERS.

At a Council of War held at General McDougall's Quarters, September 12, 1776.

Present—His Excellency General Washington; Major-Generals: Putnam, Heath, Spencer, Greene; Brigadier-Generals: Mifflin, Parsons, McDougall, Nixon, Wadsworth, Scott, Fellows, Clinton.

The General read a Letter signed by some General Officers, proposing that there should be a reconsideration of the matter determined in Council last week, with respect to the state and further disposition of the Troops.

The question was put whether the determination of last week should be reconsidered, and the opinions were as follows:

To reconsider: Generals Beall, Scott, Fellows, Wadsworth, Nixon, McDougall, Parsons, Mifflin, Greene, Putnam.

To adhere: Generals Spencer, Clinton, Heath.

It was considered what number of men are necessary to be left for the defence of Mount Washington and its dependencies; agreed that it be eight thousand.

GENERAL ORDERS.

Head-Quarters, New-York, September 12, 1776.

(Parole, Franklin.) (Countersign, Congress.)

The difficulty of procuring milk and other proper food for the sick, has induced the General to establish an Hospital where those necessaries can be procured in plenty. The regimental sick are, therefore, to be immediately mustered for this purpose. One of the Hospital Surgeons will attend with the Regimental Surgeon. Such as are able to remove themselves will be allowed so to do, under the care of a proper officer.

A suitable officer, not under the rank of a Captain, is to

be appointed by the Brigadier out of each brigade, to attend such sick of each brigade as cannot remove themselves; they are under the advice of the Surgeon, who also attends to see that all proper care is taken for their comfort while removing and afterwards.

The same Court-Martial which tried Major *Popst* to try Major *Hatfield*, charged with "making a false report of the guards."

As the care of the sick is an object of great importance, the General directs that a person, not under the rank of a Captain, be also appointed in like manner in each brigade, who shall be empowered to procure necessaries for them, and moneys furnished for that purpose, he taking care that the utmost regularity and care be used.

John Porter, Esq., is appointed Paymaster to Colonel *Ward's* Regiment, in the Continental service.

Head-Quarters, New-York, September 13, 1776.

(Parole, Newark.)

(Countersign, Amboy.)

Sergeant *Clements*, late of the General's guard, convicted by a Court-Martial, whereof Colonel *Malcom* was President, of "remissness of duty," is ordered to be reduced to the ranks. The General approves the sentence, and orders that he be sent back to the regiment from which he was taken.

The visiting officer has again reported that the men from Colonel *Silliman's*, Colonel *Lewis's*, and Colonel *Thompson's* regiments go upon guard deficient in ammunition, and with bad arms. The General hopes the officers of those regiments will immediately attend to it.

Simon Learned, late Lieutenant in *Learned's* Regiment, having resigned his commission as Lieutenant, is appointed Paymaster to said regiment.

General *Fellows's* Brigade to remove into the adjoining out-houses, and raft the boards which compose their present encampment to *King's Bridge*, or such part of them as may be deemed necessary by him.

A disappointment with respect to a proper place for the removal of the sick, in some measure vacates the order of yesterday, and the following is now to be attended to and obeyed. The situation of the Army rendering it difficult to make that provision for the relief and support of the sick in the City of *New-York* which their cases may require, in order in the most speedy and effectual manner to remove the sick to some place where they can be supplied with every thing necessary for them, the General directs the Surgeons of each brigade, under the immediate inspection of the Brigadiers, to examine the state of the sick, and to make a list of the names of such as they suppose can remove themselves to the Brigadier-General of the brigade, who is directed to send such convalescent persons to some convenient place in the neighbourhood of *New-York*, to be chosen by and be under the care of a discreet officer and one of the Regimental Surgeons, who is in the most prudent manner to make the necessary provision for the reception and support of such convalescent persons, who are immediately to be returned to their regiments, when their health will admit of their doing duty. Such as are so ill as not to be able to remove themselves, are to be collected under the care of another officer of the like rank in one place, and notice given to the Director-General of the Hospital, that they may be taken proper care of. In each of the above cases, the superintending officer is permitted to lay out money in the most frugal manner for the comfortable subsistence of his sick, which will be allowed him on rendering his account.

Mr. *Hendrick Fisher* is appointed Paymaster to Colonel *Prescott's* Regiment;

Charles Holby Hubbard, Esq., to Colonel *Sargent's* Regiment, until the person arrives who is designed for that office.

Head-Quarters, New-York, September 14, 1776.

(Parole, Bristol.)

(Countersign, Roxbury.)

The Court of Inquiry on Major *Hatfield* not having been able to proceed, he is released from his arrest until they can attend.

The General is exceedingly anxious that every soldier should be well provided with ammunition, and desires that every officer will be careful to see there is no deficiency in

this respect, as it is highly probable they may soon be called to action.

It is so critical a period, and so interesting to every true lover of his country, that the General hopes that every officer and soldier will now exert himself to the utmost. It is no time for ease or indulgence; the arms of the men, the condition of the sick, care to prevent imposition in order to avoid danger and duty, vigilance of sentries and guards, are all now requisite. We have once found the bad consequences of a surprise: let the utmost care be used to prevent another. For this purpose the General directs, that none be put out as sentries at night but picked men, that they be visited every half hour, and every motion of the enemy narrowly watched.

General *Wadsworth's* Brigade to furnish two sentries upon the road, to prevent wagons in the publick service going out empty or carrying sick.

Benjamin Haywood, late Lieutenant in the Fourth Regiment, is appointed Paymaster to said regiment.

Captain *Brown* is excused from duty on account of his assisting the Quartermaster-General.

EXTRACT OF A LETTER FROM COLONEL JOSEPH REED TO MRS. REED, DATED NEW-YORK, SEPTEMBER 14, 1776.

The enemy are evidently intending to encompass us on this Island by a grand military exertion, which, if successful, must immortalize the name of *Howe*, to get this whole army and its stores in their power. I hope they will fail. It is now a trial of skill whether they shall or not, and every night we lie down with the most anxious fears for the fate of to-morrow. My own personal safety is not regarded further than as respects you and our dear children. If my life would render any essential service to my country, I would cheerfully lay it down. I am called away.

Ever yours, &c.

P. S. My baggage is all at *King's Bridge*. We expect to remove thither this evening. I mean our Head-Quarters.

CAPTAIN HAMILTON'S CERTIFICATE.

I do hereby certify that *William Douglass*, the bearer hereof, faithfully served as a Matross in my company till he lost his arm by an unfortunate accident, while engaged in firing at some of the enemy's ships. He is therefore recommended to the attention of those who have been appointed to carry into execution the late resolve of the Continental Congress, by which provision is made for all persons disabled in the service of the *United States*.

A. HAMILTON, Captain of Artillery.

New-York, September 14, 1776.

EZEKIEL CHEEVER TO GENERAL GATES.

King's Bridge Inlet, September 14, 1776.

HONOURED SIR: Being on board a sloop in which Major *Pierce* has taken passage for *Albany*, embarrassed and perplexed to have the sloop cleared of stores brought from *York*, in order to proceed to *Albany*, although not of my department, I have effected the same. When I first saw Mr. *Pierce* in *York*, I did not think he would be of any service for this campaign; but he has surprisingly fast recovered health. His great anxiety to be with you in short time as possible, has induced me to mention the affair.

Last evening four ships-of-war more passed the *East River* up to *Horn's Hook*; the particulars I don't know, as I am in this place to take care of ordnance and stores, and have no one to assist me. I must refer you to Mr. *Pierce* for particulars. Wishing you all imaginable success in the department, and great good luck to ourselves, I remain, with the truest regard and esteem, your most humble servant,

EZEKIEL CHEEVER.

To Hon. Major-General *Gates*.

GENERAL HEATH TO HUGH HUGHES, A. Q. M. G.

King's Bridge, September 14, 1776.

DEAR SIR: You are immediately to engage and impress all the wagons and teams that you possibly can, which, with those here, you are to send to *New-York*, where they are

extremely wanted. The vessels also which come up with stores, baggage, &c., must be unloaded without delay, and sent down. I am, sir, yours, &c.

To *Hugh Hughes*, Esq., Assistant Quartermaster-General.

P. S. Such wagons as have taken sick contrary to orders, are to be sent back immediately.

CAPTAIN BAYLY TO GENERAL WASHINGTON.

Camp White-Plains, September 14, 1776.

SIR: I am extremely sorry that the present circumstances of my family will not admit of my indulging an inclination to continue in the service; and as the new arrangement which is about to take place will probably occasion some supernumerary officers in the regiment in which I command a company, the justice due to the inferior and very deserving officers of the same regiment, who are determined to spend their lives in the army, and the duty I owe my country, induce me to remove an obstruction to their promotion, and offer my resignation, which I flatter myself you will do the regiment the justice and myself the satisfaction to accept.

I am your Excellency's most obedient, humble servant,
MOUNTJOY BAYLY, *Captain*.

To His Excellency Gen. *Washington*, Camp *White-Plains*.

GILBERT LIVINGSTON TO NEW-YORK CONVENTION.

Poughkeepsie, September 14, 1776.

SIR: Your letter of the 14th is safely come to hand. Am sorry it is not in my power to take the chain down to the Fort. The iron the Committee (by the advice of the smiths) first engaged, on working up, we find vastly short of the quantity wanted. Since I have been here, have been obliged (no other of the Committee being with me) to send an express to the forge for ten tons more. This, I fear, will cause a delay we by no means expected, and as finishing the work depends on the contingency of getting the iron, it is impossible for me to guess the time when it will be finished. I sincerely wish that at least one of the gentlemen of the Committee were with me, as I expect to be obliged to go down to the Fort to see that the apparatus is got ready to fasten and stretch her chain with, that there may be no delay on that account. If one of the gentlemen comes up, it will be necessary that he brings at least two or three thousand pounds with him, as our Treasury is nearly exhausted.

I am, sir, with great respect, your very humble servant,
GILBERT LIVINGSTON.

To *Abraham Yates*, Jun., Esq., President of the Convention of the State of *New-York*.

GENERAL SCHUYLER TO THE PRESIDENT OF CONGRESS.

[Read September 23, 1776.]

Albany, September 14, 1776.

SIR: When I had the honour to address Congress on the 9th instant, it was probable that I should have been under the necessity of marching the Militia either to *Ticonderoga* or into *Tryon* County; that necessity is superseded, as Congress will perceive by the information contained in the enclosed papers, in consequence of which the Militia are dismissed; and I do, therefore, now, agreeable to my resolution signified in that letter, hereby resign my commission as Major-General in the Army of the *American* States, and all and every other office or appointment which I have been honoured with by the honourable Continental Congress.

I do not, however, by this step mean to decline or elude an inquiry which Congress may hereafter be pleased to make into my conduct; on the contrary, it is a duty I owe to myself, to my family, and to the respectable Congress of this State, by whose recommendation, unsolicited by me, Congress, I believe, was induced to honour me with a command, that I should exculpate myself from the many odious charges with which the country resounds to my prejudice. I trust I shall be able fully to do it to the confusion of my enemies and their abettors. But aggrieved as I am, my countrymen will find that I shall not be influenced by any unbecoming resentment, but that I will readily persevere to fulfill the duties of a good citizen, and try to promote the weal of my native country by every effort in my power. I trust that

my successor, whoever he may be, will find that matters are as properly arranged in this department as the nature of the service will admit. I shall most readily give him any information and assistance in my power.

As Congress may perhaps judge it necessary that a General Officer should constantly reside at this place, I shall continue to act as usual until such a reasonable time is elapsed in which one could be sent, which, I should suppose, need not exceed a fortnight. I wish it the soonest possible, as I propose attending my duty in Congress without delay.

It is a natural wish, sir, that those gentlemen who have been of my family, and incline to continue in the service, should be provided for. The office of Deputy Master-Master-General in this department is vacant; Congress will permit me to recommend my Secretary, Captain *Richard Varick*, a gentleman of merit, strict honour, probity, and capacity, to that employment. Major *Henry Brockholst Livingston*, my Aid-de-Camp, I also beg leave to recommend to the attention of Congress as a gentleman of a most amiable and deserving character; Major *Rensselaer*, my other Aid-de-Camp, declines any further service.

I am extremely sorry that I am not the only one of the General Officers in this department against whom the virulent tongue of slander has been employed. I perceive by General *Arnold's* letter that his reputation is also cruelly attacked. I have not the least doubt of the falsity of the reports that prevail to his prejudice; but as I have experienced that innocence is no guard against malevolence, I am the less astonished at what is said of him. I sincerely lament that this unhappy spirit is so prevalent at a time when unanimity is so essentially necessary. I dread the consequences to our common cause; we have external evils sufficient to contend with, without adding that of internal dissension.

As Mr. *Douw* is removed out of town, and the other Commissioners of *Indian* Affairs reside so remote that they cannot pay attention to that department, I humbly conceive it will be necessary that others should be immediately appointed.

I beg leave to suggest to Congress the necessity of a speedy answer to the matters I laid before them respecting the *Nantikoke* Indians, as the *Ochquaques* have already called upon me to know if I had received an answer.

I am informed that the term for which some of the *New-Jersey* and *Pennsylvania* troops, now at *Ticonderoga*, were engaged will soon expire, and that there is reason to apprehend many of the men will not reëngage; if so, it may be attended with many disagreeable and dangerous consequences. Permit me earnestly to entreat Congress to take some measures to retain them if possible.

I am, sir, with very sincere regard, your most obedient, humble servant,

PH. SCHUYLER.

To the Hon. *John Hancock*.

GENERAL SCHUYLER TO GENERAL GATES.

Albany, September 14, 1776.

DEAR GENERAL: Your favour of the 11th I had the pleasure to receive yesterday. I am happy to learn that General *Arnold* and our fleet are safe. I think his plan of being supported by a number of armed batteaus a good one. But would it not in that case be best for him to keep a station somewhere near the *Split-Rock*, that he might be more readily reinforced in case of necessity?

Mr. *Livingston* informed me that no pork is to be had in any part of the country. Would it not be well to send some of the best cattle to the fleet in the galleys and gondola, or to send them a daily supply of corned beef in a batteau doubly manned? It is probable that it would keep a few days, as the weather begins to grow cool.

I have advised the Commissioners of what you say relative to the persons that have accounts to adjust.

I have not yet had a line from Colonel *Dayton* since that of the 4th instant. I am in hopes the account he sent me was groundless. If I do not hear from him to-day, I shall take it for granted that it was so and dismiss the Militia.

I cannot inform you of what is passing at *New-York*. General *Washington's* time is so totally engrossed that I can hardly expect he should write me, unless there is an absolute necessity.

It is much to be lamented that calumny is so much cherished in this unhappy country, and that so few of the servants of the publick escape the malevolence of a set of insidious miscreants. It has drove me to the necessity of resigning.

Another company of seamen leave this to-day; I cannot say whether more are expected from *New-York*.

Mr. *Avery* observes that the roads by which the cattle came to *Ticonderoga* are scarcely passable. Is it not possible to send a small party to repair them. I have no men here, nor are any to be had in the country.

I am, dear General, your most obedient, humble servant,
PH. SCHUYLER.

To the Hon. General *Gates*.

RICHARD VARICK TO GENERAL WASHINGTON.

Head-Quarters, Albany, September 14, 1776.

SIR: The honourable the Continental Congress having (by their resolution of the 11th *July*) informed the Hon. Major-General *Schuyler* that officers of their army are prohibited from holding more offices than one, I do, therefore, in obedience to the said resolve, hereby resign to your Excellency the company which I now have in the regiment of forces of the *United States of America* raised in the State of *New-York*, whereof the Hon. Brigadier-General *McDougall* was late Colonel; and I do hereby request your Excellency to accept of this my resignation.

I am, sir, your Excellency's most obedient and very humble servant,
RICHARD VARICK,

Secretary to Major-General *Schuyler*.

To His Excellency General *Washington*.

RICHARD VARICK TO GENERAL GATES.

Albany, September 14, 1776.

DEAR GENERAL: Your favour of the 10th instant was delivered me on the 12th. Immediately on receipt thereof, I ordered the storekeeper to purchase the blacksmith's tools. I am this morning informed that he has procured them, and will be forwarded immediately.

Major *Pierce* is gone down to *New-York*. He was ill during his stay here, and was advised to go farther down to recover his health. This is the last place, in my opinion, that a sick person should come to, in the hot season, to reëstablish impaired health.

To-morrow I shall send you another return of all the stores forwarded to *Fort George* since my last.

I am, dear General, with every sentiment of esteem and respect, your most obedient and very humble servant,

RICHARD VARICK.

To the Hon. Major-General *Gates*.

COLONEL CORTLANDT TO GENERAL GATES.

Skenesborough, September 14, 1776.

DEAR GENERAL: I just received a letter from Colonel *Simons*, who is marching to this post about two thousand Militia-men. In consequence of the report of our fleet being taken, I send his letter forward by express, and have let him (Colonel *Simons*) know my opinion about his coming, which I thought was unnecessary, and advised him to wait the general orders. It is very sickly here; almost all my men are down. I cannot well do without my other company, which I hope the General will please to send me. They can bring some batteaus and oars with them. The galley will soon be finished, as they go on rapidly, being just planked up.

I am, dear General, your obedient humble servant,

PHILIP CORTLANDT.

To General *Gates*, at *Ticonderoga*.

Ile-aux-Noix, September 14, 1776.

Permit the bearer, *Antoine Gerouse*, to pass from hence to his own habitation on *Missisqui Bay*.

QUIN JOHN FREEMAN, Major Brigade.

To all concerned.

MAJOR HOISINGTON TO GENERAL GATES.

Newbury, September 14, 1776.

By the positive command received, and the reflections in the same on the troops under my command, and sensible of your Excellency's being entirely unacquainted with the footing on which they are raised, as well as a false representation of our neglect of the publick service, for your further information, I have enclosed you the resolves of the honourable Congress in which my orders are set forth, agreeable to which I have exerted myself to the uttermost of my power, as well as the recruiting officers appointed by the Committees—the first of which is but a little odds of four weeks, some three, and the last a little more than one, out of which time I have kept scouting parties two weeks; and now part of the company ordered on fatigue under the command of Colonel *Barrett*, are now in the woods towards *St. John's*, which has orders not to return under eight days, and the rest are at *Newbury* in *Coos*. Therefore, would beg the favour, if one of these companies of Rangers, raised and ordered to reconnoitre the woods, must join Colonel *Barrett* on fatigue, that Captain *Day's* company who have not yet marched, may do it. Accordingly I have given orders to be conveyed by the bearer, Captain *Wait*.

Am, sir, your humble servant,

JACOB HOISINGTON.

To His Excellency General *Gates*, Commander-in-Chief of the Northern Department.

COLONEL HUNTINGTON TO GOVERNOUR TRUMBULL.

Norwich, September 14, 1776.

HONOURED SIR: Mr. *Erastus Perkins*, the bearer, is sutler to my regiment, and has come here to get some liquors, &c. I find I gain strength daily; am in hopes of returning to my place in the army in two or three weeks. My father is gone to *New-London* agreeable to your desire.

My love and duty as is due, and remain, your affectionate son,

JEDEDIAH HUNTINGTON.

To Governour *Trumbull*.

CHRISTOPHER LEFFINGWELL TO GOVERNOUR TRUMBULL.

New-London, September 14, 1776.

SIR: Having returned from *Long-Island*, beg leave to report, that agreeable to the orders I received from your Honour, of *Sunday*, 10th present, I mustered and embarked the Infantry company under my command that evening; took up what shipping I could find suitable; joined Major *Ely* of Colonel *Wolcott's*, at *New-London* on *Monday*, who had four companies under his command; advised with the Colonel, and on *Tuesday* morning proceeded with them in the shipping, under convoy of the Continental brig, Captain *Hacker*, for *Southold*. Lost sight of the brig that night, and saw no more of her until we returned to *New-London*. Arrived with the remainder of the shipping at *Stirling* that evening, and landed. Previous to our sailing, gave proper signals to the commander on board every vessel. *Wednesday* and *Thursday* penetrated about twelve or fourteen miles up the Island to the westward as far as *Cutchague*, until we found families and effects sufficient to load our shipping, which effected and brought to *New-London*, and have mostly landed, viz: two hundred head cattle and about five hundred sheep, several families, furniture, provisions, &c. Before we had completed the loading of our shipping, several applications were made for vessels to go farther westward, but we gave no encouragement of sending any. Had the pleasure of observing our officers and men, both of Major *Ely's* as well as the Infantry, go through the fatigue with cheerfulness, activity and spirit.

I am, with the greatest esteem, your Honour's most obedient, humble servant,

CHRISTOPHER LEFFINGWELL.

COLONEL LIVINGSTON TO GOVERNOUR TRUMBULL.

Saybrook, September 14, 1776.

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR HONOUR: I did not so soon think to have troubled you again, but being detained longer than I expected by the Commissary to this detachment, who the day before yesterday was sent to *Norwich* for a supply of

flour, which we are almost out of. He has not yet returned, or I should, by this time, have been on my way to *Long-Island*.

I just received your Honour's favour by Colonel *Coit*. Judges are now appraising the arms in my possession, for his use. I have also just received an account that the troops sent to *Long-Island* by your Honour have returned. I had just sent them a guide and an express, to desire them to continue there until I could join them. I have also prevailed upon many of the Militia of *Southold* to join us.

If your Honour should still be of the mind to honour me with the command of the detachment that were on *Long-Island*, to act in conjunction with mine, I should be extremely obliged to you. My object is to seize upon a large quantity of arms lodged at *Sautunket*, at the house of Mr. *Richard Miller*; also to cut off the communications between *Suffolk* and *Queen's County*: that while we are thus employed the stock, &c., may be removed from *Suffolk County* to the main; also to seize upon any other advantages that may offer. Your Honour's approbation or disapprobation will determine me for or against the expedition.

I remain your Honour's most obedient, humble servant,
HENRY B. LIVINGSTON.

To His Honour Governour *Trumbull*.

P. S. Two tenders have passed *Hell-Gate*, into the *Sound*. An escort of an armed vessel will be sufficient, if your Honour determines we shall proceed.

WILLIAM BRADFORD TO THE PRESIDENT OF CONGRESS.
State of Rhode-Island, &c., Bristol, }
September 14, 1776. }

SIR: Governour *Cooke* having entered the Hospital for inoculation, makes it necessary for me to inform your Honour that immediately upon the receipt of your letter of the 3d instant, with the enclosed resolves of Congress, I called the Committee to act in cases of emergency during the recess of the General Assembly, who have taken every necessary measure to facilitate the march of the Continental battalion ordered by Congress to *New-York*—part of which set out this day, and the remainder to-morrow.

The Committee have the highest sense of the regard expressed by Congress for the security and defence of this State, in recommending to the *Massachusetts-Bay* to supply a regiment of their Militia to replace the battalion going to *New-York*; to make application for which they have appointed one of their members to wait upon the General Court of that State.

The Committee, also, in this exhausted state of this Government, still more weakened by the great number of privateers fitted from it, and not having it in their power to afford so speedy an aid in any other way, requested Colonel *Richmond*, who commands the other Continental battalion stationed here, to hold it in readiness to march at a moment's warning, and he accordingly will march for *New-York* as soon as he shall receive intelligence from the regiments from the *Massachusetts* entering this State. To replace it the Committee have ordered a battalion of Militia, of seven hundred men, to be immediately raised and embodied.

I have the honour to be, with great esteem and respect, sir, your Honour's most obedient and most humble servant,
WILLIAM BRADFORD, *Deputy Governour*.

To the Hon. *John Hancock*, Esq.

WILLIAM BRADFORD TO GENERAL WASHINGTON.
State of Rhode Island, &c., Bristol, }
September 14, 1776. }

SIR: Governour *Cooke* having entered the Hospital for inoculation, it becomes incumbent upon me to acquaint your Excellency that upon the receipt of a letter of the 3d instant, from Mr. President *Hancock*, enclosing several resolves of the General Congress, one of them ordering one of the Continental battalions in this State to march immediately to *New-York*, and requesting the *Massachusetts-Bay* to send a regiment of their Militia to replace it, and another recommending it to all the States northward of *Virginia* to furnish all the aid in their power to the army at *New-York*, I summoned the Committee appointed to act

in cases of emergency during the recess of the General Assembly to meet, who have taken every necessary measure to forward the march of the battalions ordered to *New-York*. Part of them will proceed this day and the remainder to-morrow.

The Committee not having it in their power to afford so speedy an aid in any other way, have requested Colonel *Richmond*, who commands the other Continental battalion in this State, to hold it in readiness to march at the shortest notice; and he accordingly will proceed with his battalion to *New-York* as soon as he shall receive intelligence that the regiment from the *Massachusetts* hath entered this State. To replace it, the Committee have ordered a battalion of Militia, of seven hundred men, to be raised and embodied.

I have the honour to be, with great esteem and respect, sir, your Excellency's most obedient and most humble servant,

WILLIAM BRADFORD, *Deputy Governour*.

To His Excellency General *Washington*.

REGIMENTAL ORDERS.

Camp at Newport, September 14, 1776.

That the whole Regiment march to join the Continental Army at *New-York*, agreeably to resolve of Congress of the 3d instant. Captain *Carr*, Captain *Gorton*, Captain *Dyer*, Captain *Arnold*, and companies, will form the first detachment, and cross the ferries to *Narraganset South-Ferry*, this forenoon, if possible. Major *Tew* will go forward with and have the care of them. Captain *Peck*, Captain *Hop-pin*, Captain *Martin*, Captain *Bailey*, and companies, to march this afternoon, and cross the said ferries. The Adjutant to go with and assist them. The other four companies to march to-morrow. The Quartermaster to have the necessary care of the whole, and is hereby fully empowered to impress and issue his warrant to impress any thing that is needful for accommodating and enabling the troops to get to *New-York* as above said. Lieutenant-Colonel *Comstock* will follow as soon as possible. Commissary *Phillips* will supply the whole with provisions, as far as *New-London*, which are to be received here and carried with the companies.

And in the most feeling manner I hereby order that you, on your way, behave in all respects with that order, decency, and character, which become a soldier fighting for his bleeding country, sensible of the necessity of supporting their rights and the liberties of their country. Each Captain will furnish himself with a copy of the above order; besides, it must be entered on the Orderly-Book, by the Orderly-Sergeant, and see that the same be read at the head of the company before they march.

CHRISTOPHER LIPPITT, *Colonel*.

Providence, September 14, 1776.

The privateers *Montgomery* and *Yankee Ranger*, of this port, have taken three large brigs bound from the *West-Indies* to *England*, laden with rum, sugar, coffee, cotton, and oil. They are all arrived in safe port.

We hear that Captain *Samuel Dunn*, in a privateer from *Swansey*, has taken a large brig with two hundred and sixty hogsheads of rum.

MASSACHUSETTS COUNCIL TO CAPTAIN SOUTHER.

September 14, 1776.

The brigantine *Massachusetts*, under your command, being properly armed and manned, and in other respects fitted for a cruise, you are hereby ordered and directed immediately to proceed to sea, and use your utmost endeavours to protect the sea-coast and trade of the *United States*, and you are also directed to exert yourself in making captures of all ships and other vessels, goods, wares, and merchandise, belonging to the King of *Great Britain* or any of his subjects, wherever residing, excepting only the ships and goods of the inhabitants of *Bermuda* and the *Bahama Islands*. And you are directed not to cruise farther south than latitude 34° north, nor farther east than the Grand Bank of *Newfoundland*, nor farther west than the Shoals of *Nantucket*, at all times using necessary pre-

caution to prevent your vessel from falling into the hands of the enemy.

And whereas you have received a commission, authorizing you to make captures as aforesaid, and a set of instructions have been delivered to you for regulating your conduct in that matter, these instructions you are hereby directed diligently to attend to; and if you are so fortunate as to make any captures, you are to order them to make the first safe harbour within the *United States of America*. And you are further ordered, not to expend your ammunition unnecessarily, and only in time of action, or firing alarm or signal guns.

SELECTMEN OF BOSTON—SMALL-POX.

September 14, 1776.

The Selectmen inform the publick, that by the return of the Committees appointed to inquire into the state of the Town respecting the Small-Pox, there are now but eighteen persons sick of that distemper, and those chiefly in the outskirts of the Town. They are so far recovered, that the Selectmen are determined to take off the guards from the Neck and the Ferries after *Wednesday* next; at which time, according to present appearances, the Town will be free of infection.

JOHN SCOLLAY,
EBENEZER STORER,
SAMUEL AUSTIN,
HENRY BROMFIELD,
JOHN GREENLEAF,

Selectmen of the Town of Boston.

ON COUNTY CONVENTIONS AND COMMITTEES.

MR. EDES: In last *Monday's* paper, I observed sundry resolutions of the Committees of Correspondence, &c., in the County of *Middlesex* in General Convention assembled. The matter suggested in said resolutions (excepting what respects their convening together) was to me highly agreeable, as it was full evidence of their patriotism and zealous endeavours to serve their country. I heartily wish their sense in this regard may be adopted; but however evident their patriotism may be, however worthy of notice their suggestions, yet I think the mode and channel in which they were originated, and were exhibited to publick view, are highly improper. Committees of Safety, &c., are officers made by, and known in, the law; therefore the law must be their rule. They are Town Officers, chosen in the same manner as the Selectmen are; their business is to inspect the political behaviour of their townsmen, and use their endeavours to suppress every effort of the enemies of their country, and whatever else is of the same complexion. But for the Committees of several towns to assemble together, and organize themselves into a body, resembling a Congress or General Assembly, exhibiting their doings under the name of Resolutions, is without their line, and beyond their sphere.

When the powers of government in this State were suspended by the enemies of our peace, such political manœuvres were necessary, and tended greatly to the salvation of *America*; but when this suspension was at an end, and the forms and execution of Legislative and Executive Government were assumed and restored, the reason and necessity of County Conventions came to a period; all that Committees of Correspondence, &c., now have to do, is, to take care of the enemies of the State, in their several towns, and to give all necessary information to each other and to proper Magistrates. County Conventions, at this time of day, can do no good, and may be productive of lasting mischief. If in their resolutions they coincide with the doings of the Legislature, it is nugatory, because the business may as well be done without them, and charges saved. But on the other hand, should their resolutions clash and interfere with the sense of the General Assembly, the State must be divided against itself. By the same rule that one hundred members are collected in one County, a proportionable number may be collected in the whole State, which (to say the least) would be double the number of the General Court. And no reason can be given why a State Convention of Committees, &c., may not take place, as

well as a County Assembly. Should this Convention proceed to publish resolutions different from the acts and the intentions of the Legislature, founded on mature and solemn deliberation, they (the Court) must be under duress, and in continual fears; the consequence of which (at least) must be formidable.

I hope and trust, as the General Court are the creators of Committees, that they will define their power, and limit their jurisdiction; for at present, it is unlimited, which cannot be affirmed of any constitutional part of State administration.

I am no friend to mysteries in Government—a rule within a rule, a wheel within a wheel! The line of Government should be unperplexed with intricacies, and the same should be affirmed of the law.

SPECULATOR.

County of Middlesex, September 14, 1776.

BENJAMIN GILES TO COLONEL BELLOWES.

State of New-Hampshire, Exeter, September 14, 1776.

To Colonel BENJAMIN BELLOWES, Jr.:

Pursuant to a resolve of the Council and Assembly of said State, in consequence of a requisition of the Continental Congress, you are required with all the despatch possible, not exceeding ten days, to raise and see equipped with arms complete, out of the Militia in your regiment, fifty men, and march them off for *New-York* to assist our brethren there in this important crisis; and for your assistance you are to call upon the alarm-list as well as the training-band, and direct their march to *Hartford*, in the State of *Connecticut*, where further directions and orders will be given for their regulations, and you are to let them know that they are to be detained in the service until the first of *December* next, unless sooner discharged, and that they are to receive twenty dollars down upon their being mustered, and with that the bounty to be made equal to the bounty of the *Massachusetts* State's afterwards; that the wages of the officers and soldiers and rations to be the same as in the Continental army; that the officers and soldiers be paid two pence per mile for travelling expenses from their homes to Head-Quarters, to be paid them at the place of rendezvous; that the Commanding officer of your regiment for the time being, is to appoint one Captain and two subalterns out of said men, which are to make up one company.

BENJAMIN GILES,

Chairman of Committee appointed for this purpose.

N. B. You are to make returns to the Assembly or Committee of Safety of this State as soon as may be.

You are appointed Mustermaster and Paymaster for the men to be raised in your regiment, and you are to pay the Captain eight pounds, Lieutenants five pounds eight shillings, Ensign four pounds, being one month's advance pay; non-commissioned officers and soldiers six pounds each.

STEPHEN EVANS TO MESHECK WEARE.

September 16, 1776.

HONOURED SIR: As I am informed by the Committee appointed by both Houses of the Legislative body of this State, that I am to raise in my regiment one hundred men, including officers, to be drafted for the purpose of marching and joining the Continental Army in *New-York* as a reinforcement there, and that I was appointed by said Committee Mustermaster and Paymaster to said men when raised, and in order to my complying, and discharging that trust, it is necessary that I should be supplied with money therefor, which will be for five commission officers, and all other officers necessary for arrangement with the number of men, and for the soldiers in the whole, one hundred men, which sum please to order paid to Major *Ebenezer Tibbetts*, and it shall be accounted for by your very humble servant,

STEPHEN EVANS.

To the Honourable *Mesheck Weare*, Esq., President of the Council of the State of *New-Hampshire*.

P. S. SIR: According to the orders I have received, the men are not to receive their billeting money before they get to *Hartford*, which I find will make a difficulty if they haven't it here before they start. I hope that will be ordered otherwise. As before, yours,

S. E.

Colonel <i>Whipple</i> ,	- -	76 or 73	476	
Colonel <i>Evans</i> ,	- -	100	600	
Colonel <i>Moulton</i> ,	- -	59	354	
Colonel <i>Gilman</i> ,	- -	109	654	Major <i>Bartlett</i> .
Colonel <i>Thornton</i> ,	- -	44	264	
Colonel <i>Webster</i> ,	- -	38	228	
Colonel <i>Gale</i> ,	- -	75	450	
Colonel <i>Meor</i> ,	- -	84	504	
Colonel <i>Sleeking</i> ,	- -	77	462	
			3,992	
			504	
			3,488	

ORDERS TO CAPTAIN HOUSE.

State of New-Hampshire, Exeter, September 14, 1776.

To Captain JOHN HOUSE:

Pursuant to a resolve of the Council and Assembly of this State, in consequence of a requisition of the Continental Congress, you are hereby authorized and empowered to raise a company of not less than fifty men, to march with all possible despatch (not exceeding ten days) for *New-York*, towards reinforcing the Continental Army there, of which you are to take the command, and have the appointment of the subaltern officers; and for their encouragement you are to inform them, that they shall receive twenty dollars down upon being mustered, and with that the bounty to be made afterwards equal to that of the *Massachusetts* State; and that the wages of officers and soldiers be the same, and the rations the same, as in the Continental Army, and to be two pence per mile for traveling expenses from their homes to Head-Quarters, the same to be paid at *Hartford*, in *Connecticut* State, on their arrival there; and you are to join and put your company under the command of one of the Colonels appointed to the regiments ordered from this State on the same service, to continue on duty until 1st *December*, unless sooner discharged.

But you are to observe this direction, not to take any of the men out of the regiments from which drafts are now making for the two regiments ordered from this State, and make return of your doings herein as soon as may be.

B. GYLES, *Chairman of the Committee*.

ORDERS TO COLONEL HUMPHREY.

Rhinebeck, September 15, 1776.

SIR: As the Convention has been pleased to make a resolve to order one hundred and seventy-five men to be raised in the County of *Dutchess*, for a reinforcement for the forts in the Highlands, you are hereby commanded to raise twenty-five men in your regiment immediately for your quota, and supply them with good arms, if possible, and all accoutrements, and a camp-kettle to every six men, and to be on Continental pay from their enlistment, and be allowed one penny on their march to the fort, and stand two months after their arrival, if not sooner discharged by the Convention. You are hereby desired to meet me on *Friday*, the 20th instant, at twelve o'clock that day, at *Poughkeepsie*, to consult raising the officers. Fail not at your peril.

Given orders by my hand, Head-Quarters, to the above date.

PETRUS TEN BROECK, *Brigadier-General*.To Colonel *William Humphrey*.

GENERAL SCHUYLER TO GOVERNOUR TRUMBULL.

Albany, September 15, 1776.

SIR: Yesterday I had the honour to receive your favour of the 10th instant. As I could not find time to get the treaty with the *Indians* copied, I took the liberty to send you the originals, which I hope you have received. It will not be necessary that I should be furnished with the invoices of the sundry articles you have been so good as to send to *Ticonderoga*. The amount of the first parcels was endorsed on one of the accounts brought me by Mr. *Williams*, and not discovered until after I had written.

I am happy, sir, that the reflections you have made on the state of the Northern army, are similar to those I have long since done myself the honour to communicate to Congress. The officers and soldiers who were last year engaged in the service, and those that are now, will be convinced

that I have paid early and repeated attention to their distresses. As soon as I can publish a narrative in justification of my conduct, which I am bound to do, in justice to myself, to my family, and to the Convention of this State, who, unsolicited by me, wrote a letter so favourable to Congress as induced them to confer the command in this department upon me, and who also kindly, though without my knowledge, requested Congress above two months ago, that an inquiry should be made into my conduct—that if guilty I might suffer; if otherwise, the odium which I so generally laboured under might be wiped away. I had gone before the Convention in this request, and I have since repeated it in the most pressing terms, but hitherto without success. Perhaps, it may hereafter appear, that it was in the power of Congress to have justified me against every calumny; if so, it is probable the candid will ask why it was not done. That, too, may possibly appear.

Your attentions, sir, to supply the army merits the warmest acknowledgments of every friend of his country. You have mine most unfeignedly. How it comes that the troops are not supplied with salt, vinegar, and mutton, I really do not know. By the last return, of the 1st of this month, four hundred and sixty sheep were at *Fort George*. There are not less than seven hundred barrels of salt at *Fort George*, &c., which I had ordered to be purchased last Fall, and a very considerable quantity of vinegar is gone up, for which I have given a special permit to a person who had it for sale. Peas have only lately been forwarded—as none were to be had of the last year's crop. I shall immediately write to the Superintendents of the Hospital, on the subject of wine and refreshments for the troops, and order that it be furnished the unhappy sick. I assure you, sir, that I have always felt much for them, and wished and strove to alleviate their distresses as much as lay in my power. Before fresh meat could be got for them from the interior parts of the country, I sent an hundred sheep from my farm at *Saratoga*, with as many milch cows as I could possibly spare, and ordered a number to be purchased in the vicinity of this place—which were sent the soonest they possibly could—nor shall I slacken to aid them during the short time I am to remain in the command, which I believe will not exceed a fortnight, as I have sent my resignation to Congress. I sincerely wish my successor may meet with less trouble than I have had, and give more satisfaction than I have been able to, with my best exertions. If he deigns to consult with me, I will do all in my power to aid him, and in every instance will try to convince my countrymen that I am the honest and warm though injured friend of *America*.

The cannonade on *Lake Champlain*, which was supposed to be occasioned by our fleet's meeting with the enemy, was only a few cannon fired by General *Arnold* at a party of the enemy, who attacked a boat belonging to the fleet, and killed three and wounded six of the crew. Our fleet lays off *Isle-au-Motte*, consisting of thirteen sail, and will very soon, if it is not already, be reinforced by three large and stout galleys. The intelligence from *Fort Stanwix* proved fallacious.

The Commissioners of Congress appointed to adjust the publick accounts in this department are arrived. I beg you will be so good as to cause publication to be made in your State, requesting all persons that have any accounts to settle to repair to this place. Little can, however, be done in the Canada accounts until they are furnished with General *Wooster's*. Will your Honour be so good as to advise that gentleman of this, if he should be in *Connecticut*?

The Storekeeper informs me, that he has not above fifty gun-barrels that cannot be repaired here. These he will send by the first conveyance, together with such as he may receive from *Ticonderoga*, which are ordered to be sent for.

I am, sir, most respectfully, and with great esteem, your most obedient humble servant,

PH. SCHUYLER.

To the Hon. *Jonathan Trumbull*, Esq., &c.

COLONEL CORTLANDT TO GENERAL GATES.

Skenesborough, September 15, 1776.

DEAR GENERAL: The clothing is gone off on board a petiauger which I detained for that purpose. She belongs to a person living near *Crown Point*. The Commissary is

on board with the goods. I can give the General but little information about the road from *Chesher's* to *Fort Edward*. Report says the labourers are idle and the road very bad. Colonel *Yates* writes me that the men are under no command, their Major sick, and they swear that they will obey none but their own officers; from which account, I believe little is done. Colonel *Wynkoop* is in *Kingston*, very unwell, so that I do not expect him for some time. I am in hopes that I shall keep my health, as I have been clear of the fever several days.

I am, with respect, dear General, your humble servant,
PHILIP CORTLANDT.

GENERAL GATES TO GENERAL SCHUYLER.

Tyonderoga, September 15, 1776.

DEAR GENERAL: This moment General *Waterbury* delivered me the enclosed list of naval stores, which are immediately wanted to complete the equipment of the row-galleys, and which they cannot sail without. I despatch Mr. *Egbert* to receive and bring them forward without delay. He is sober and vigilant. Pray strain every nerve to supply us, for it is of the greatest consequence to get the galleys down to General *Arnold*. Enclosed is General *Arnold's* last letter to me. He has stationed the fleet in a masterly manner.

Yours,

HO. GATES.

Wanted to complete the three Galleys—Three 8-inch cables, (new if possible;) seventy-one fathom 7-inch rope; ten ditto 5-inch do; five coils 3-inch do; six do 1½-inch do; one do 4-inch do; six do 2-inch do; two do 2½-inch do; three do spun-yarn.

The above-mentioned coils must be full coils.

N. B. The cables that are sent are good for nothing, old and rotten. No rope here fit for the breechings of guns; the seventy-one fathom 7-inch rope intended for that purpose.

GENERAL GATES TO COLONEL SYMONDS.

Tyonderoga, September 15, 1776.

SIR: I this moment received your letter, dated *Williamstown*, 12th instant. As I did not send the orders for your march to camp, I could not take measures more early to stop your proceeding. The last account from General *Arnold* convinces me there is no immediate necessity for the Militia coming forward at this time. A copy of his last letter to me I send you enclosed. The alarm was occasioned by some firing from our enemy on the shores opposite *Isle-aux-Têtes*; and I believe a great number of small-arms and cannon fired that and the succeeding days by brigades of the enemy at exercise at their post below, all which deceived the Commanding Officer at *Crown Point*.

A good road will be finished by this day se'nnight, from *Rutland* through *Castletown* to the east foot of *Mount Independence*, and an excellent bridge over *Otter Creek*, at *Rutland*, will be completed in three days. For the future, any body of men intended for our succour should march that way.

The *United States* are, in general, obliged to you for your alertness to succour their army, and particularly, sir,
Your, &c., &c.

HO. GATES.

To Colonel *Benjamin Symonds*.

EXTRACT OF A LETTER FROM TICONDEROGA, DATED MOUNT INDEPENDENCE, SEPTEMBER 15, 1776.

The 7th instant, our fleet lying across the Lake, against a place called the *Isle of Motte*, they sent a boat ashore with eighteen men, to cut fascines for some use on board; as soon as they got on shore they set their guns against a rock, when the Sergeant took two men as a sentry, while the others were at work. He had not placed them before he saw an *Indian* within half a stone's throw. The *Indian* hailed the Sergeant, saying, who is there? The Sergeant answered, who are you? To which he replied, I am a *Caughnawaga*. Then the Sergeant and men ran on board, and pushed off the boat as soon as possible; but the *Indians* were too nigh for them, for they came so nigh as to near tomahawk them. The Sergeant had a match in his hand just going to fire a cannon charged with shot, when an *Indian* fired and cut the

match off, so that he could not fire. They then discharged their eighteen pieces, but do not know whether they killed any. After which the fleet fired a considerable number of cannon into the woods, which soon scattered the savages. In the action we have three men killed, and five wounded, though not mortally. After the fleet found they had fled, there went a number on shore, but could find nothing but one laced hat. Our people are making strong here as fast as possible.

TO WILLIAM WINDS, MATTHIAS OGDEN, AND WILLIAM DE HART.

GENTLEMEN: When persons who are appointed and commissioned as officers in a regiment, or other department, neglect or absent themselves from their duty, or behave in a manner unbecoming the rank and character of officers and gentlemen, we think it the indispensable duty of others to make known their conduct; it is indeed a duty they owe to themselves, to the regiment, and to their country. Permit us, therefore, to inform you (if it has as yet escaped your notice) that the behaviour of Mr. *Lewis Johnston Costigan*, a Lieutenant in our regiment, is, and constantly has been, such as makes a complaint highly necessary. He is now absent, and has been so upwards of six weeks, although he desired leave only of fourteen days, and obtained twenty, and that, we have the greatest reason to believe, on a false pretence. Had this been the first instance of his endeavouring to sconce his duty, possibly it might have passed unnoticed; but his whole conduct ever since our knowledge of him has been the same, and he has not done, nor do we expect any duty of him while he can possibly avoid it.

We are, gentlemen, your most humble servants,

JOSEPH MORRIS, Captain.
SILAS HOWELL, "
JOHN CONWAY, "
J. POLHEMUS, "
JOSEPH MEEKER, "
ANDW. McMYER, "
DANIEL ROOT, "

We are of opinion that the above representation of Lieutenant *Costigan's* conduct is just, and request he may be superseded.

WILLIAM WINDS, Colonel.
MATT. OGDEN, Lieutenant-Colonel.
WM. D. HART, Major.

Tyonderoga, September 15, 1776.

GOVERNOUR TRUMBULL TO COLONEL HENRY B. LIVINGSTON.

Lebanon, September 15, 1776.

SIR: I have before me yours of the 14th inst. Acknowledge the favour of the arms you are so kind as to lend for the use of our Militia.

Yesterday, Captain *Leffingwell*, of *Norwich*, was here. I gave him a letter to Colonel *Wolcott*, wherein I have said, "What may be further done for the relief of the people on *Long-Island* cannot be so well judged by me at this distance; must therefore leave the same to your good discretion. If by the assistance of men from your regiment, with Captain *Leffingwell's* company, and some armed vessel that may be employed, any thing further can be reasonably expected to be done on *Long-Island*, for relief of those people, or bringing off stock, you will give your orders accordingly. Otherwise, Captain *Leffingwell* to join the Twentieth Regiment, at or near *Westchester*."

By this, you see my desire to serve those people doth agree with your inclinations. And if Colonel *Wolcott* shall judge it prudent to make any further attempts on the Island, I readily comply therein, and the command of the detachment of course devolves on you, in which I do heartily acquiesce, and wish you success in that, or whatever you undertake.

I am, with esteem and regard, sir, your obedient, humble servant,

JONATHAN TRUMBULL.

To Colonel *Henry B. Livingston*, at *Saybrook*.

COLONEL LIVINGSTON TO GOVERNOUR TRUMBULL.

Saybrook, September 15, 1776.

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR HONOUR: I am just informed that

General *Howe* has issued orders for the inlisting and impressing of two thousand men on *Long-Island*. The wharves are covered with our friends at *Sag-Harbour*. They are resolved to perish rather than take up arms against their countrymen. Now is the most favourable period for sending assistance to them, as they will join us to a man rather than be our butchers. I will embark to-day in order to give them all the assistance in my power. A most infamous abettor of the Ministry is just now brought in here—one *Zeb Howell*. A number of vessels are wanting to carry off the families and effects of these unhappy people. I shall wait for your Honour's answer by Lieutenant *Havens*, as I am still of opinion that it will be of much greater advantage to us, and a greater obstacle to the enemy's design, for us to land at *Huntington*.

I remain your Honour's most obedient and humble servant,

HENRY B. LIVINGSTON.

To his Honour Governour *Trumbull*.

—
Southampton, September 13, 1776.

DEAR SIR: A universal consternation is this moment fallen upon me and all my neighbours, by express by *Zeb Howell*, arrived from Head-Quarters at *Jamaica*, viz., that one brigade be forthwith raised for the sole purpose of defending his Majesty's well-disposed subjects on *Long-Island*, and for driving out or apprehending all secreted Rebels in said County, and for all other purposes, which other purposes explains us in the front of their main body in the hottest battle. Said express further saith, that all the fat cattle and sheep, except for the families' use, be forthwith drove unto *Jamaica*, and men pointed out to do it. Thirdly, all the Captains are commanded to take all the guns, except long fowling-pieces, and convey them in boats to *Hempstead*, south, and men nominated to receive them, and to do it immediately. And fourthly, that all effects, estates personal and real, belonging to those persons who have evacuated their houses and gone over to the Rebels, are confiscated, and if any person be found with any of their goods, they shall suffer as principals. Lastly, we have orders to send two men to *Jamaica* to give General *Howe* a true account of the state of *Suffolk* County. The western part of the County have appointed *Nathan Woodhull*, of *Setauket*, and to-morrow at one o'clock at *Sag* meeting-house, we have directed the town of *Easthampton* to meet us to make choice of one man for that purpose. Sir, this gloomy moment is so similar to the first day's march of the twelve tribes from *Egypt's* galling yoke, when an impassable mountain was on their right and left wing, the *Red Sea* before, and *Pharaoh* in burning rage behind them close pursuing, that we are in a perishing necessity for the same Almighty deliverance. May that great and glorious Being whose mercies are over his other works, look down in mercy and save us, or we perish. So you can't be at any loss how much sincere friendship I have for you, your brother, your spouse, and tender offspring, for whom my bowels yearn. I am, &c., &c.

To *Uriah Rogers*, at *Guilford*.

P. S. I have just heard that *Elisha Halsey* has got a commission or warrant to inlist, and the General informs us that he hopes we shall cheerfully inlist into the service to prevent the disagreeable necessity of detaching them.

—
Saybrook, September 15, 1776.

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR HONOUR: The above letter is a copy of one just now intercepted; though no name is signed, yet from the style and character I am at no loss the author to be Mr. *Obadiah Jones*, of *Southampton*.

Our men are embarking in order to proceed for *Long-Island*. Your answer by Lieutenant *Haven* is the only thing that detains me.

I remain, with respect and esteem, your Honour's most obedient, humble servant,

H. B. LIVINGSTON.

To his Honour Governour *Trumbull*.

P. S. The prisoner I have now in custody has been guilty of holding an intercourse with our enemies—a crime which is declared death in the State of *New-York*. A parole, therefore, in my opinion, ought by no means to be taken.

Watertown, Monday, September 23, 1776.

Yesterday se'nnight, arrived at *Newburyport* the brigantine *Georgia Diana*, *Peter Rigan*, master, bound from *Grenada* to *London*, taken by the *Washington*, privateer, *Nathaniel Odiorne*, having on board two hundred and fifty hogsheads rum and sugar, and about twenty chaldrons of coal, &c., &c.

Monday last returned to *Plymouth*, Captain *Sampson*, after a short cruise, in which he has taken five prizes, three or four of which are arrived safe into port.

On Monday evening last, was sent into *Cape Ann*, by Captain *Coas*, of the *Warren*, privateer, a brig of about one hundred and twenty tons, mounting three carriage guns and ten swivels; she was from the coast of *Guinea*, but last from *Tobago*, with some elephants' teeth and gold dust. When she left Captain *Coas*, he was in chase of a ship.

The ship which the *Warren* sent in last Saturday was from *Tobago*, bound to *London*, called the *Picary*, Captain *Breckholt Cleveland*, commander, having on board three hundred and twenty-five hogsheads of sugar, fifty hogsheads of rum, one hundred and sixty-one bales of cotton, one hundred and eighteen pipes, twenty-nine hogsheads, and ten quarter-casks *Madeira* wine, and some indigo.

The Honourable *Matthew Thornton*, Esq., of *Londonderry*, is chosen a member of the honourable Continental Congress, for the State of *New-Hampshire*, in the room of Colonel *John Langdon*, who has resigned.

Thursday afternoon, arrived in *Boston* harbour, *Wait Ratchbun*, prize-master to the ship *Venus*, from *Honduras*, of near four hundred tons, taken by *Elijah Freeman Paine*, in the schooner *Eagle*, from *Providence*, on the 23d August, at night, in latitude 35°, longitude 57°, west. Her cargo consists of one hundred and sixty tons of chip logwood, four hundred logs of mahogany, and one hundred and fifty weight of turtle-shell. The next day Captain *Paine* espied a brigantine, gave chase, and took her; she was from *Virginia*, bound to *Hamburgh*, laden with tobacco, belonging to one *Smith* of that place, but by the papers and letters found on board it appeared she was designed for *London*.

The *New-York Post* informs that on Monday last, about five thousand of the enemy landed about seven or eight miles above *New-York*, when a body of our troops attacked them, killed about five hundred, took a number of prisoners, four field-pieces, two standards, and a number of small-arms. Our loss in this affair, it is said, is about one hundred killed.

The same day two of the enemy's frigates, in attempting to get up the *North River*, were burnt by our people.

A letter from *New-York* mentions that when the Tories on *Long-Island* went to congratulate Lord *Howe* on his success in driving the Rebels from thence, he replied, "that he thought they ought rather condole with him on the loss of eighteen hundred brave men, and three Generals."

—
Charlestown, South-Carolina, October 2, 1776.

Intelligence having been received at *Savannah* on September 16th, by Colonel *Elbert*, that a party of the enemy from *Cockspur* had surprised two of the guard posted on *Wilmington Island*, and that they were expected to return the next night to plunder the other part of the Island, where a Sergeant and six privates from the *Georgia* battalion were fixed; he ordered a reinforcement of fifteen men to march and take post on the above mentioned Island. The reinforcement consisted of one private from the First Regiment, two from the Second, and twelve privates and one Sergeant from the Rangers of *South Carolina*, commanded by Lieutenant *Hicks*, of *Thomson's* Rangers. They arrived on the Island early in the morning of the 17th of September, and soon discovered the plunderers, viz., twenty-one blacks, and five white associates, busy in carrying off their booty. They were soon interrupted by Mr. *Hicks*, who, on the first fire, killed seven or eight of them; an engagement here ensued. The enemy lost eleven or more negroes killed, and one prisoner; four of the whites were also taken, one wounded. The one who got off was much wounded. Lieutenant *Hicks* lost two men.

Captain *Goodwyn*, of the Rangers, was sent immediately off to the assistance of our men, in expectation of the enemy returning to the Island, but they had learned wisdom by their late drubbing, and did not care to venture for more delicacies for their brother pirates' palates.

COLONEL DORSEY TO MARYLAND COUNCIL OF SAFETY.

Anne Arundel County, September 16, 1776.

The Field Officers of the *Elk-Ridge* battalion of Militia beg leave to recommend to the honourable Convention Mr. *Leven Lawrence* as First, and Mr. *Thomas Todd* as Second Lieutenant under Captain *Thomas Watkins*, Jun., of Colonel *Weems's* battalion, agreeable to a resolve of Convention the 10th instant.

THOMAS DORSEY, Colonel.

We the Field Officers of the Thirty-First Battalion, beg leave to recommend Captain *Thomas Watkins* as Captain, and *John Hams*, Jun., as Ensign, to one of the companies to be raised in *Anne Arundel* County, agreeable to the late resolve of the honourable Convention passed the 10th instant.

JOHN WEEMS,
RICHARD HARWOOD, Jun.
JOSEPH GALLOWAY.

To the Honourable Council of Safety.

COLONEL TYLER TO MARYLAND COUNCIL OF SAFETY.

Monday, September 16, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: Conformable to your request, I met my battalion on *Friday* last, when I assisted all in my power to raise the company wanting to reinforce the *American* army at *New-York*, and am very sorry to inform you there was the greatest backwardness that could be in our young men. I also was at the meeting of Colonel *Sims's* battalion the next day, which behaved with the same lukewarmness. There are several gentlemen recruiting, viz: Mr. *Levin Covington*, Mr. *Abraham Boyd*, and Mr. *Richard Wooten*, but am afraid a company will not be made, especially as the people will be divided with regard to their commander. I am of opinion that were we ordered by the Convention to meet our battalions together at *Upper Marlborough*, we should be able to settle all such difficulties, and by that means make out a company. I should be glad you would fix on a day for our meeting; it would save us the trouble of meeting on that account. *Monday* next would answer very well. All which I submit to your Honours, and am, gentlemen, your most obedient, humble servant,

ROBT. TYLER.

To the Honourable the Convention of *Maryland*.

BALTIMORE COMMITTEE.

At a meeting of the Committee *September 16, 1776*, Present: *Samuel Purviance*, Jun., Chairman; *B. Griffith*, *J. Calhoun*, *W. Aisquith*, *T. Rutter*, *T. Cockey*, *J. Moale*, *W. Buchanan*, *A. Buchanan*, *T. Sollers*, *E. Talbot*; *Geo. Lux*, Secretary.

The Committee having received a Certificate signed by *Henry Lowes*, on behalf of Doctor *James Houston*, representing him as an Associator in *Somerset* County, and vouching that no charge has been alleged against him, nor no suspicion of his being inimical to the liberties of *America*, the bond entered into by Doctor *Weisenthall* is hereby declared cancelled.

The Chairman and Vice-Chairman being absent, Mr. *John Moale* was appointed Chairman *pro tem*.

Mr. *Benkid Willson* (one of the *Quakers*) appeared to further a charge respecting fines assessed on him and his two sons as Non-Enrollers, &c., &c., &c.

Ordered, That the fine of £10 laid on *William Willson*, who lives in *Harford* County, be released, and that the Committee of *Harford* be informed of it by a letter from the Chairman of this Committee, that they may take order therein.

The Committee are also of opinion that if Mr. *Benkid Willson* can make it appear to this Committee by *Monday* next, that his son *Benjamin* was not sixteen years of age on the 15th of *March* last, the fine of £10 be released; otherwise that he pay the sum of £5 in lieu of the said fine of £10.

Mr. *John Bailey* was appointed First Lieutenant in Captain *Frederick Deam's* Company, vice Mr. *David Evans*, who resigned.

A Letter from *Jacob Karns* to the Clerk of this Committee, vindicating himself from being inimical to *America*, was received, read, and ordered to lie on the table.

Attest:

Geo. Lux, Secretary.

PRESIDENT OF CONGRESS TO GENERAL WASHINGTON.

Philadelphia, September 16, 1776.

SIR: The Congress having at different times passed sundry resolves relative to a variety of subjects, I do myself the honour to enclose you a copy of the same, as necessary for your information and direction.

The resolve of the 12th, respecting Colonel *Trumbull*, will, I trust, be satisfactory, and prove the means of his continuing in an office of such importance to the army, and which he has hitherto discharged with the greatest fidelity and success.

I have the honour to be, with perfect esteem and respect, sir, your most obedient and very humble servant,

JOHN HANCOCK, President.

To General *Washington*.

PRESIDENT OF CONGRESS TO JOSEPH TRUMBULL.

Philadelphia, September 16, 1776.

SIR: I have the pleasure to enclose you a resolution of Congress relative to your department, by which you will perceive that your letter and the papers transmitted therewith have been under their consideration, and that it is the expectation of Congress your difficulties will be thereby removed.

Since passing this resolve, your brother, Mr. *John Trumbull*, has been appointed by Congress Deputy Adjutant-General of the Northern Department, and Mr. *Livingston's* resignation as Deputy Commissary has been accepted, agreeable to his request.

The honour and reputation with which you have hitherto executed the arduous and extensive business of your office, and the satisfaction you have afforded the publick, convince me that you will still continue to render your country all the service in your power, and by no means decline your present employment.

Your bills on me till this date have been duly honoured.

I am, sir, your most obedient servant,

JOHN HANCOCK, President.

To *Jos. Trumbull*, Esq., Commissary-General.

BOARD OF WAR TO GENERAL WASHINGTON.

War-Office, September 16, 1776.

SIR: The Board of War have directed me to lay the foregoing memorial of the Second Lieutenants of the *Virginia* Regiments before your Excellency for your opinion and advice thereon, which the Board request you will communicate to them as soon as convenient.

I have the honour to be your most obedient, humble servant,

RICHARD PETERS, Secretary.

To His Excellency General *Washington*, Esq., &c., &c., *New-York*.

PETITION OF THE SECOND LIEUTENANTS OF THE FIRST VIRGINIA BATTALION.

[Read September 14, 1776. Referred to the Board of War.]

To the honourable the Continental Congress, now sitting in the City of PHILADELPHIA, the Petition of the Second Lieutenants of the First *VIRGINIA* Regiment humbly sheweth:

That your petitioners stood forth amongst the foremost in offering their service for the defence of the liberties of their country, and took the earliest opportunity of getting in the army as soon as the first troops were raised in *Virginia*. That though your petitioners were not influenced by any sinister motive of rank or precedence, yet they by no means supposed their pushing forward early was to be an almost total obstacle to their promotion, which must be the case if Lieutenants are to rise by their rank in companies and not by the date of their commissions. Your petitioners would further represent that when the last seven regiments were raised in *Virginia*, the greatest part of their regiment was immediately in the face of the enemy, which prevented your petitioners from seeking that preferment in their different Counties which their services and friends would probably have procured them. Your petitioners cannot help observing, that Sergeants and Privates from their regiment were permitted, at the same time, to go home on furlough, and some of them were elected First Lieutenants. In short,

if they are to rise by their rank in companies, and not by the date of their commissions, there are now seventy-five Lieutenants in the new-raised regiments of *Virginia* that stand between your petitioners (who have borne the heat and burthen of the day) and preferment. Your petitioners are now at a long distance from their friends and places of nativity; they have been informed that six new regiments are to be raised in *Virginia*, and consequently sixty more First Lieutenants put over their heads. Under these circumstances your petitioners have the melancholy prospect of growing grey in the service without a possibility of preferment.

Your petitioners would represent that they never conceived that First and Second Lieutenants had reference to any thing but companies—their pay and the number of men in their command being the same. Your petitioners, therefore, look up to your honourable House for justice, and pray that they may rise according to the dates of their commissions, and not be suffered to look forward with the gloomy certainty of being still further from promotion the older they grow in the service of their country. And your petitioners, as in duty bound, shall ever pray.

To His Excellency General WASHINGTON: The Memorial of the First Lieutenants of the Third VIRGINIA Regiment, humbly sheweth:

That the memorialists have seen the petition of the Second Lieutenants of the First *Virginia* Regiment, but they cannot conceive that it can be entitled the Petition of the Second Lieutenants of the *Virginia* Regiments, it being calculated to serve the purposes of that regiment only. Your memorialists, however, shall leave the petition to its fate, and only consider the distinction between First and Second Lieutenants.

Your memorialists would humbly represent to your Excellency the mode by which the troops were raised in *Virginia*. Field-Officers being appointed by Convention, a Captain, two Lieutenants, and an Ensign, were appointed by each County Committee. They proceeded first to appoint the Captain, then the First Lieutenant, then the Second Lieutenant, and then the Ensign. By this mode of appointment, every First Lieutenant was supposed to be equal in abilities, and superior to every Second Lieutenant. Your memorialists would further observe to your Excellency, that the mode of rising was settled in the two first raised regiments thus, viz: Every First Lieutenant took command and succeeded to a company before any Second Lieutenant, although the commission of the Second Lieutenant was of elder date. (The dating of commissions of the *Virginia* officers being from the completion of the companies, was the reason why any Second Lieutenant bore a commission of an older date than a First Lieutenant.) Further, the idea of the Convention of *Virginia* concerning the rank of Lieutenants, was it not already fully known, might be plainly gathered from the number of men which they appointed each officer to raise; to a Captain twenty-eight, to a First Lieutenant twenty-one, to a Second Lieutenant sixteen, to an Ensign nine. With these expectations many gentlemen who offered for companies accepted of First Lieutenantcies, expecting to rise upon the first vacancy.

Your memorialists would further observe, and can assure your Excellency, that, till very lately, no Second Lieutenant entertained an idea of ranking before a First Lieutenant. On the contrary, many of the eldest Second Lieutenants (where vacancies happened) received First Lieutenants' commissions, and many First Lieutenants, bearing commissions of a younger date than Second Lieutenants, have succeeded to companies, without the smallest objection on the part of the Second Lieutenants, and this even in the regiment to which the petitioners belong. By this your Excellency will plainly perceive that any innovation with respect to the rank of Lieutenants would materially injure the First Lieutenants, and that the Second Lieutenants can by no means suffer, though no new regulation should take place.

Your memorialists, trusting in your Excellency's wisdom and justice, hope that they will not be deprived of that rank which they have always deemed, and which custom has established to be, their right. That your Excellency may enjoy all happiness, is the earnest prayer of your memorialists.

RICHARD HENRY LEE TO SAMUEL PURVIANCE, JR.

Philadelphia, September 16, 1776.

DEAR SIR: Since your brother left this city, Mr. *Nicholson* has been confirmed First Lieutenant of the *Washington*; and his worthy brother may be assured that in settling the ranks of the Captains, his merit will not be forgotten. It is not probable that the frigates will sail in fleets for some time, and therefore it is likely that no higher appointment than that of Captain will soon take place. It will be highly proper for Captain *Nicholson* to hasten on the *Virginia* (for that is most certainly the name of the *Baltimore* frigate) as much as possible. Her great obstruction, I fear, will be the anchors; however, we hope that will be removed ere long, as means have been taken to forward them.

You will shortly see published the conference of our members with Lord *Howe*, on *Staten-Island*, in which you will find that his Lordship's much talked of powers are no more than to confer and converse with gentlemen of influence, and to prosecute the war! We anxiously expect here the issue of a long cannonade at *York*, and another lately on *Lake Champlain*.

I am, sir, your most humble servant,

RICHARD HENRY LEE.

To Samuel Purviance, Jun., Esq., Baltimore.

JOSIAH BARTLETT TO JOHN LANGDON.

Philadelphia, September 16, 1776.

DEAR SIR: I have not had the pleasure of receiving but one letter from *New-Hampshire* for some time. I fear there is some stoppage in the post, and that my friends in *New-Hampshire* find it as difficult to get letters from this place as I from them.

The Congress have passed a new order concerning the posts, which will, I hope, put them in a better situation. Yours by Captain *Roche* I have just received, and if it is in my power to serve him, will do it, depending on your recommendation; but at present know of no place open for him.

The Secret Committee are in want of proper goods to export to an *European* market, such as potash, dry fish, beeswax, &c., &c.; and they have desired me to write home to *New-Hampshire* to know whether any quantity sufficient to load a vessel or two can be procured; if so, they would give somebody a contract for that purpose. Please to make inquiry, and inform me if such things can be procured and sent from our State. It will be an advantage both to the publick and to individuals. I have wrote to some others to make the same inquiry.

As to news we have nothing very material here, and must beg leave to refer you to my letter to Colonel *Whipple* for what I have to send. I suppose you have formally resigned your seat in Congress, and another is appointed in your stead. Pray send them forward with all expedition, as my ill state of health will, I fear, prevent my attending Congress till they arrive here.

I am, sir, your sincere friend and humble servant,

JOSIAH BARTLETT.

RICHARD DALLAM TO JOHN HANCOCK.

[Read September 18, 1776.]

State of New-Jersey, Brunswick, September 16, 1776.

HONOURED SIR: By order of General *Mercer*, I have despatched the bearer, Mr. *Francis Dallam*, for a supply of money for this department.

The demands on me are very great and pressing, especially from the Deputy Quartermaster-General's Department, which is at this time in a strait for want of cash.

I am, sir, your Honour's most obedient, humble servant,

RICHARD DALLAM,

Deputy Paymaster-General to the Flying-Camp.

To the Hon. John Hancock, Esquire.

COLONEL CURTENIUS TO NEW-YORK CONVENTION.

Hackensack, September 16, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: Agreeable to your order of the 10th instant, I have enclosed an account of the quantity of lead, &c., shipped off, and the persons' names to whom delivered. As to military stores, I have none remaining in my hands, having delivered them from time to time to the military store-keeper,

Mr. Norwood; and after his removal the residue was delivered to Mr. Zedekiah Mills.

Mr. Allen and Mr. Varick have set up their business in this place, and I have engaged of them one hundred muskets, which will be ready (they say) in the course of a month; twenty-five of which are ready.

I am, gentlemen, your most obedient servant,

PETER J. CURTENIUS.

P. S. Mr. Norwood is removed to Passaic Falls.

GENERAL WASHINGTON TO THE PRESIDENT OF CONGRESS.

[Read September 17, 1776.]

Head-Quarters, at Colonel Roger Morris's House, }
September 16, 1776. }

SIR: On Saturday, about sunset, six more of the enemy's ships, one or two of which were men-of-war, passed between Governour's Island and Red-Hook and went up the East River to the station taken by those mentioned in my last. In half an hour I received two expresses, one from Colonel Sargent at Horn's Hook, (Hell-Gate,) giving an account that the enemy, to the amount of three or four thousand, had marched to the river, and were embarking for Barnes's, on Montrossor's Island, where numbers of them were then encamped; the other from General Mifflin, that uncommon and formidable movements were discovered among the enemy, which being confirmed by the scouts I had sent out, I proceeded to Harlem, where it was supposed—or at Morisania, opposite to it—the principal attempt to land would be made. However, nothing remarkable happened that night; but in the morning they began their operations. Their ships came up the North River as high as Bloomingdale, which put a total stop to the removal by water of any more of our provisions, &c.; and about eleven o'clock those in the East River began a most severe and heavy cannonade, to scour the grounds and cover the landing of their troops between Turtle Bay and the city, where breastworks had been thrown up to oppose them. As soon as I heard the firing, I rode with all possible despatch towards the place of landing, when, to my great surprise and mortification, I found the troops that had been posted in the lines retreating with the utmost precipitation, and those ordered to support them, (Parsons's and Fellows's brigades,) flying in every direction and in the greatest confusion, notwithstanding the exertions of their Generals to form them. I used every means in my power to rally and get them in some order; but my attempts were fruitless and ineffectual; and on the appearance of a small party of the enemy, not more than sixty or seventy, their disorder increased, and they ran away in the greatest confusion, without firing a single shot. Finding that no confidence was to be placed in those brigades, and apprehending that another part of the enemy might pass over to Harlem Plains and cut off the retreat to this place, I sent orders to secure the heights in the best manner with the troops that were stationed on and near them; which being done, the retreat was effected with but little or no loss of men, though of a considerable part of our baggage, occasioned by this disgraceful and dastardly conduct. Most of our heavy cannon, and a part of our stores and provisions, which we were about removing, were unavoidably left in the city, though every means, after it had been determined in Council to evacuate the post, had been used to prevent it. We are now encamped with the main body of the army on the Heights of Harlem, where I should hope the enemy would meet with a defeat in case of an attack, if the generality of our troops would behave with tolerable bravery; but experience, to my extreme affliction, has convinced me that this is rather to be wished for than expected. However, I trust that there are many who will act like men, and show themselves worthy of the blessings of freedom. I have sent out some reconnoitring parties to gain intelligence, if possible, of the disposition of the enemy, and shall inform Congress of every material event, by the earliest opportunity.

I have the honour to be, with the highest respect, sir, your most obedient servant.

P. S. SIR: The above letter is merely a copy of a rough one sketched only by his Excellency this morning, and who intended to sign it; but having rode out, and his return or where to find him uncertain, I have sent it away without. And I have the honour to be, sir, your most obedient servant,

ROBERT H. HARRISON.

EXTRACT OF A LETTER FROM HARLEM, SEVEN MILES FROM NEW-YORK, DATED SEPTEMBER 16, 1776.

Yesterday was an unlucky day for us. The enemy landed about ten o'clock, at Turtle-Bay, below Hell-Gate, under cover of many ships-of-war. The brigade under General Parsons were soon obliged to retire from the water-side, and give ground for the enemy to land. General Mifflin immediately marched from Mount Washington with a thousand men, to the ground near and below this place, where he made a stand, threw up some works, rallied our retreating troops, and in an hour after had the principal part of our army (who were stationed below us) drawn up in good order on the heights. Generals Putnam and Scott were in New-York, but made their way through the enemy's line, with all their men and the guards of the city. Colonel Knox is missing, and supposed to be taken, as he was late in town looking for a boat to cross the North River. Three days since it was resolved to quit the town, and we have been removing ever since. We have taken almost every thing out of the city, but lost some cannon and stores. New-York never was tenable, and the holding of it obliged us to divide our army into many weak parts, but now I think we are in a good way; we only want two or three days to refresh our men and secure the heights.

JOHN WHITE TO CAPTAIN PLATT.

Rhinebeck, September 16, 1776.

SIR: Desertion has arrived to such a pitch now amongst the troops in or belonging to this State at present, that I fear if not timely remedied our army will shortly be reduced to a mere shadow. Merely inflicting punishments on the delinquents when taken, I fear, will answer little purpose, as they find so many who will conceal and support them. I am, therefore, of opinion that Congress ought to take this matter into consideration, and devise ways and means to punish those who harbour, conceal, or support such deserters, with a strong recommendation to County and Precinct Committees to see that every man exerts himself properly in bringing to justice all such delinquents; otherwise they cannot be apprehended. I suppose there are not less in this and Northeast Precinct than thirty of them, who keep in the woods, and are supported by their friends. Our Committees are rather more indolent than formerly, and ought to be quickened a little; as long as they pass by these people without taking notice of them, private persons will also, and those fellows robbing the publick go unpunished.

I am, sir, your most humble servant,

JOHN WHITE.

To Captain Zephaniah Platt, in Congress, at Fishkill.

GENERAL SCHUYLER TO GENERAL WASHINGTON.

Albany, September 16, 1776.

DEAR SIR: I do myself the honour to enclose you copies of General Arnold's and Colonel Dayton's letters. In consequence of the intelligence they contain, I have dismissed the Militia.

Yesterday I transmitted to Congress copies of the papers here mentioned, together with my resignation, and have advised them that I shall continue to act as usual, until such a time is elapsed in which a General Officer can be sent here, if they think it necessary that one should reside here, which I suppose could not exceed a fortnight, immediately after which I propose attending my duty in Congress.

As there is not sufficient water at this season to raft boards to this place from the mills which border on Hudson's River above this, they must be brought part of the way by land, which will considerably enhance the price, and of which I have advised the Quartermaster-General.

I am informed that the term for which De Haas's, Maxwell's, and Winds's regiments were engaged expires the beginning of October, and I fear the soldiers will not remain in the service after that. If they leave Tyonderoga it will not only weaken, but greatly dispirit our troops. I sincerely wish Congress would take some measures, if possible, to detain these people, until the season shall be so far advanced as that there will be no prospects of the enemy attempting any thing in this quarter until another year.

Your Excellency's favour of the 12th instant, Mr. *Allen* delivered me yesterday.

I am, dear sir, most respectfully and sincerely your obedient, humble servant,

PH. SCHUYLER.

To His Excellency General *Washington*.

Head-Quarters, Ticonderoga, September 6, 1776, }
8 o'clock at night. }

SIR: The following is an extract of a letter this moment received from Lieutenant-Colonel *Hartley*, commanding-officer at *Crown-Point*:

"*Friday, two o'clock*.—There has been a very heavy cannonading down the Lake all this morning; it is undoubtedly between our fleet and the enemy, so that you may prepare accordingly. I have sent down a boat just now to know more particularly."

I am exceedingly vexed to think that it is above a month since I wrote repeatedly for musket cartridge-paper and not one sheet yet arrived. Let me entreat you to send, if not the exact sort we want, as many old books or such substitute as you can procure.

The moment I know the result of this firing down the Lake, I will acquaint you with it by express.

I am, dear General, your most obedient, humble servant,
HO. GATES.

To the Hon. Major-General *Schuyler*.

Windmill-Point, September 7, 1776.

DEAR GENERAL: I wrote you the 2d instant, from *Willsborough*, by Lieutenant *Calderwood*. The same evening anchored at *Schuyler's Island*, and on the 3d instant arrived safe at this place, which is four or five miles from the *Isle-aux-Têtes*, and seven miles from the *Isle Motte*. We found the *Isle-aux-Têtes* occupied by the enemy, and several hundred men encamped between that and us, who, the evening on our arrival, made a precipitate retreat.

I have posted my guard-boats, at a point running into the Lake, about one mile below us. The enemy's boats have several times appeared on the Lake, with a view of decoying our boats, but I have never suffered them to be pursued.

Lieutenant *Whitcomb* arrived here the 5th, in the evening, and went off the same night, with three men, for *St. John's*, on the west side. I sent off Ensign *McCoy* early the next morning on the east side, with three men. They are to send me intelligence from time to time. I expect to hear from them to-morrow.

Early yesterday morning the boats were ordered on shore to cut fascines, to fix on the bows and sides of the gondolas, to prevent the enemy's boarding, and to keep off small shot. One of the boats went on shore (contrary to orders) before the others were ready: they were attacked by a party of savages, who pursued them into the water. They all reached the boat, but before they could row off, three were killed and six wounded; the party was headed by a regular officer, who called to our people to resign themselves. On our firing a few shot among them, they immediately dispersed; a party was sent on shore, who found a laced beaver hat, the button marked 47th Regiment.

The *Lee* and gondola arrived here yesterday morning.

We are moored in a line across the Lake in such a manner it will be impossible for a batteau to pass us.

I hope the galleys are nearly completed. The force of the enemy is uncertain. However, they have this advantage, that they can man all their batteaus with soldiers whenever they think proper to attack us, and our vessels are so low that numbers may carry them by boarding; this must be attended with great loss on their side, as I am positive they will not be able to surprise us. If I find that the enemy have a considerable naval force, I design to retire to *Cumberland-Head* or *Schuyler's Island*, until joined by the three galleys, which will be superiour to all our present force. When the whole are joined, I believe the *Isle Motte* will be the best stand, as the enemy can bring nothing against us by land, nor will they dare to come on the Island; and by our guard-boats we can prevent any boats going from *Mississqui Bay*. As you have more troops at *Ty* than you want, will it not be prudent to send up one thousand or fifteen hundred men, who might encamp on the *Isle Motte*, and be ready at all times to assist us if attacked?

FIFTH SERIES.—VOL. II.

Twenty men to a batteau will be sufficient; they might load under cover of the vessels, push out and fire, and retire under cover again; and if the enemy's boats should make their principal attack on any particular vessel, those batteaus might assist her; each should be fixed for a swivel in each end, and if they are arrived, one should be fixed in them. If you should think it necessary to send a detachment, it will be necessary to bring entrenching tools, that they may cover themselves from small-arms.

We have but very indifferent men in general; great part of those who shipped for seamen know very little of the matter. Three or four good gunners are wanted.

Enclosed is a list of our sick, who increase fast. I have sent up in three batteaus twenty-three men, who will be of no service for some time. I wish fifty seamen could be procured and sent down.

I enclose you a letter from *Samuel Chase*, Esq. You will observe he requests an explanation of your letter to Mr. *Adams*. He observes my character is much injured by a report prevailing in *Philadelphia* of my having sequestered the goods seized in *Montreal*. As you have had an opportunity of hearing that matter canvassed on the trial of Colonel *Hazen*, I beg you will be kind enough to write your sentiments to him on the matter. I cannot but think it extremely cruel, when I have sacrificed my ease, health, and great part of my private property, in the cause of my country, to be calumniated as a robber and thief—at a time, too, when I have it not in my power to be heard in my own defence.

The 15th *August*, when I left *Tyonderoga*, the fleet was victualled for thirty days, which is elapsed except six days. We have on board the fleet six or eight days' provisions, besides twenty barrels flour, left at *Crown-Point* to be baked, and ten barrels pork, which I have ordered Lieutenant *Calderwood* to bring down, which will serve the fleet to the 20th. As the Lake is often very difficult to pass for a number of days, we ought to have at least one month's provisions on hand.

Major *Grier* goes up with the sick, to whom I must refer you for particulars. We are very anxious to hear from *New-York*; hope soon to have that pleasure by one of the galleys, which I think must be completed by this time.

Please to make my compliments to the gentlemen of your family; and believe me, with much respect, esteem, and affection, dear General, your humble servant,

B. ARNOLD.

To Major-General *Gates*.

Isle Mott, September 8, 1776.

DEAR GENERAL: When I wrote the foregoing letter, I designed sending off the batteaus last evening, but was prevented by the stormy weather. Last night the enemy was heard (by the guard-boats, and by the people on board the vessels near in shore,) on both sides of us. Several trees were felled, and lights discovered. I believe the enemy were erecting batteries, which might have injured us, as the Lake is only one and a quarter miles over; and their design was doubtless to have attacked us by land and water at the same time. I make no doubt we should have been more than a match for them, but did not think it prudent to run any risk, as it could answer no good purpose; and therefore ordered the fleet under way this morning, and at two o'clock, p. m., anchored at this place. Here the Lake is about two miles over, and safe anchorages, and effectually secure any boats passing us. Just as we came to anchor, Lieutenant *Brooks* came on board, sent down by Colonel *Hartley*, in consequence of hearing our cannon fired at the *Indians* on *Sunday* morning. I have thought it necessary to despatch him back again, that you may be out of suspense with regard to us. Four guard-boats are constantly out; the rounds go every two hours at night, and every precaution is taken to prevent being surprised.

Our men are extremely bare of clothing, and the season is coming on severe, and more so on the water than land. If a watch-coat, or blanket and one shirt, could be sent for each man, it will be of great service for them. Rum is another necessary article.

When the howitz arrive, I beg three or four of six inches may be sent us, mounted on field-carriages, with shells, &c.,

&c. Fifty swivels are much wanted; the last vessels have none.

I am, very affectionately, dear General, your obedient, humble servant,
B. ARNOLD.

To Major-General *Gates*.

P. S. Please to send me a few quires paper. B. A.

Fort Schuyler, September 11, 1776.

DEAR GENERAL: An express has just delivered your letter, dated the 9th instant, as also one of the 2d.

As I have been waiting for more authentick intelligence than that contained in my last message, I have delayed transmitting any accounts from this post longer than otherwise would have been my duty. No parties have as yet been discovered about or near this place, so that I begin even to suspect the truth of the report in general. Since my first message from *Oneida*, I have endeavoured to despatch a scout of *Indians*, accompanied by one of my regiment, to *Oswego*, but could not accomplish it, the Chiefs objecting to any of our men making one of the party. At length I obtained a few *Indians* only to start for *Oswego*, and proceed there, or at least until they should meet with an enemy, who left this Fort last *Monday*. As they had positive orders to return immediately with all speed, should they spy an enemy between here and *Oswego*, and they have not yet returned, I conclude there is none on their way. When they arrive you shall speedily be furnished with their intelligence. I constantly keep a large party commanded by a trusty Captain, at the east end of the *Oneida Lake*, supplied with axes, so that the passages may be stopped at the approach of an enemy; but I assure you, sir, I possess very little uneasiness from any expectation of their coming. Our Fort is now very strong, our men healthy and spirited, so that I will undertake to vouch for the security of *Fort Schuyler*.

Captain *Bloomfield*, with his company, arrived here about a week ago; but I can obtain no intelligence of Captain *Dickinson's* company.

Enclosed I transmit you the return of my regiment for the month of *September*.

I am, my dear General, your most obedient, humble servant,
ELIAS DAYTON.

GENERAL SCHUYLER TO GENERAL GATES.

Albany, September 16, 1776.

DEAR GENERAL: Enclose you a letter from General *Washington*. His Excellency gives me not a word of the state of the army, in one he did me the honour to write on the 12th instant. He is so immersed in business that he really has not time to lengthen a letter.

I have just received a letter from Colonel *Wynkoop*, who is still very much indisposed at *Kingston*, but hopes a speedy recovery, and will join his corps the soonest possible.

Governour *Trumbull* has forwarded sundry necessaries for the army, amongst which are some medicines. As you will soon command in this department, permit me, as a friend, to advise you to open, if you have not already done, a regular correspondence with that gentleman. You will find him one of those who dignifies human nature by his virtues—sincere, candid, and liberal in his sentiments. You will at once receive pleasure and profit by the intercourse.

It is said that there is an interview at *Amboy* between Lord *Howe* and a committee of Congress—Messrs. *Franklin*, *J. Adams*, and *Rutledge*, the members. On what occasion I do not know, for I have not heard from Congress for a long while past, although I have frequently wrote.

If General *Arnold* is with you, beg him to share in my best wishes. I owe him a letter, which I will repay with interest. Adieu.

Accept my best wishes, and believe me, dear General, very sincerely, your obedient, humble servant,

PH. SCHUYLER.

To the Hon. General *Gates*.

COLONEL VAN SCHAICK TO THE PRESIDENT OF CONGRESS.

Albany, September 15, 1776.

SIR: Having understood that a resolution appointing Paymasters to the several regiments at present on foot, has

been passed by Congress, and being well convinced of the utility thereof, and the many salutary purposes that will thereby be answered, I take the liberty to recommend to you as a fit person to officiate in that station to my regiment, Mr. *Leonard Gansevoort*, Jun., in whose integrity I can place the utmost confidence. I would be exceeding glad, if you should think proper to appoint him, that it might be done as soon as possible.

I have the honour to be, sir, your most obedient, humble servant,
GOOSE VAN SCHAICK.

To the Hon. *John Hancock*.

JACOB CUYLER TO NEW-YORK CONVENTION.

Albany, September 16, 1776.

SIR: In obedience to the order of the Committee of Safety, I did, on my arrival here yesterday morning, wait on General *Schuyler* with the papers to me delivered, and conferred with the General on the subject-matters; but previous to my arrival, orders were sent down to *Ulster* and *Dutchess* to stop the march of the Militia. The General mentioned to me he would write to the Convention, and give them all the intelligence both from the northward and westward. It will therefore be needless for me to say any thing on that subject. I propose to stay a few days with my family, and then to join the Convention.

I am, sir, with the greatest respect, your most obedient and most humble servant,
JACOB CUYLER.

To *Abraham Yates*, Esq., President of the Convention.

GENERAL GATES TO GOVERNOUR TRUMBULL.

Tyonderoga, September 16, 1776.

SIR: I am just now presented with your Excellency's favour of the 10th instant by Mr. *Brown*. Believe, sir, it is not the want of vegetables, salt, vinegar, or any very necessary article of salt or fresh provisions, that has occasioned the sickness at *Skenesborough*; but the natural unwholesomeness of the place alone is the cause of all the fever and ague there, here, and upon every part of the shores of this Lake, from *Skenesborough* to *St. John's*, inclusively. This is a calamity the inhabitants suffer in common with the troops, and the enemy's troops perhaps much more than ours, as the *Isle-aux-Noix* and *St. John's* are reputed to be the most unhealthy spots upon the Lake. The same climate that affects us distresses our enemies; with this difference, that they, to my knowledge, are not half so much indulged nor have half the comforts that our troops enjoy. The provisions delivered to the troops here are excellent, and plenty reigns in our camp. The two hundred sheep sent by your Excellency will be a seasonable supply. About one hundred thousand feet of boards have been distributed to, or rather taken, by the troops that were at *Skenesborough*, so there has been but little distress for want of tents. The Doctor, that is cold weather, is beginning, and the intermittents will cease of course. We grow daily more and more healthy. A good bounty will give us more troops; but those should be all engaged for the war, and, if possible, officered by men who have authority, and sense to exert it properly. General *Waterbury* is active in fitting the three row-galleys now here; the instant that is done, they will sail under his command to join General *Arnold* and Colonel *Wigglesworth*, at *Isle-aux-Motte*.

I am your Excellency's most obedient, humble servant,

HO. GATES.

To His Excellency Governour *Trumbull*.

ENSIGN WEBSTER TO GENERAL GATES.

Mount Independence, September 16, 1776.

I arrived here the night before last, but have been so ill of the ague was not able to come to your Honour to make my report, which I hope you will excuse. I left Lieutenant *Whitcomb* at *Rangers' Island*, near the *Isle-au-Motte*, where I was sick, and not being able to follow him, when I got some better I proceeded towards Head-Quarters. I discovered one batteau loaded with men, and four bark canoes. They were dressed in blanket coats, as near as I could judge.

As soon as I am able to move, will wait upon your Honour and inform you of all I have seen.

I am your Honour's most obedient, humble servant,
 AMOS WEBSTER,
Ensign Colonel Wait's Regiment.

To Major-General Gates.

GOVERNOUR TRUMBULL TO GENERAL WASHINGTON.

Lebanon, August 16, 1776.

SIR: Major-General Schuyler has requested that two hundred seamen may be raised in this State to man the vessels on the Lake. As most of our seamen are marched with the Militia to join your army, I have to ask the favour of you to permit Captain David Hawley and Captain Frederick Chappel to enlist such number of seamen out of our Militia as may be necessary for that service.

I am, sir, with great respect, your obedient, humble servant,
 JONTH. TRUMBULL.

To His Excellency General Washington.

Norwich, September 16, 1776.

Last week returned from *Long-Island* the *Norwich* Light Infantry company, commanded by Christopher Leffingwell, Esq., and seemed well pleased in having been instrumental in assisting and relieving a number of the distressed inhabitants, and removing them from thence to *New-England*, with their families and effects.

We learn by a gentleman from *Long-Island*, that it gave the distressed inhabitants great satisfaction to see our men in such high spirits when they were assisting them to embark with their families and effects; that a number of the worthy inhabitants, who still remain on that Island, are willing to embrace the first opportunity and move off with their families, &c., as they are in great fear of the enemy, who are daily expected.

CLARK AND NIGHTINGALE TO NEW-YORK CONVENTION.

Providence, September 16, 1776.

SIR: Last week we received a letter from Captain William Rogers, commander of the sloop *Montgomery*, in the service of your State, requesting us to undertake the agency, and act in behalf of the State and himself, in libelling one brig, which was returning from a whaling voyage with about three hundred barrels oil, and had been taken by the *English*, carried into *New-York*, and acquitted by them, and afterwards taken by Captain Rogers, in company with the privateers Schuyler and Mifflin, and sent in here. The commander and Continental Agent in behalf of the other two privateers (which are fitted out by the Continent) gave the brig up, as there were no papers appeared by which they could condemn her, and they produced a certificate, a copy of which you have enclosed, of their permission to sail at the time they did. As matters were thus circumstanced, we imagined it would be in vain to libel her, when the others, who were two thirds concerned, saw no prospect of condemning her; and after consulting with the Prize-master, we declined prosecuting. The other is a *Bermudian* sloop, which was taken with intrenching tools on board. The tools are taken out and were sent to General Washington, and they put a quantity of flour on board from some other of their prizes. She is libelled, and will be tried the 1st of *October* next, and as there is no claimer, she will of course be condemned. We shall now await your orders in what manner to proceed, as she was taken in company with the above-mentioned privateers, and shall be glad to hear from you as soon as possible. We are, in the mean time, with due respect, sir, your most obedient servants,

CLARK & NIGHTINGALE.

To the Chairman of the Congress of the State of *New-York*.

P. S. Enclosed with the certificate you have the affair of the brig stated by the lawyer.

THE CASE OF THE BRIGANTINE TEMPLE.

It appears by her papers that she was owned by William Rotch, of *Nantucket*, and cleared out there on a whaling voyage the 26th *May*, 1775, in common form, but did not sail till the last of *October* following.

After her clearing and before her sailing, to wit, in the month of *August*, the following resolve passed in the House of Representatives of the *Massachusetts-Bay* and concurred with by the Council: "That from and after the 15th day of this instant, *August*, no ship or vessel shall sail out of any port of this Colony on any whaling voyage whatever, without leave first had from the Great and General Court of this Colony, or from some committee or committees or persons they shall appoint to grant such leave." The brig sailed from *Nantucket* under the command of *Joshua Morris*, some time the last of *October*, for the coast of *Brazil*, on a whaling voyage, and upon her passage home, having about three hundred barrels of oil on board, she was taken by a *British* man-of-war and carried into *Sandy-Hook*, and after being detained a few days was dismissed with a pass from Admiral *Howe* to proceed to *Nantucket*. Soon after she left the *Hook*, to wit, on the 20th of *August*, 1776, she was taken by the Continental sloop of war called the *Mifflin* and the *Schuyler*, and by the sloop *Montgomery*, fitted out by the State of *New-York*, and carried into the harbour on the south side of *Long-Island*, where she lay till the *British* troops got possession of *Long-Island*, when the captors sent her into this port to be libeled.

At the time of capture she had on board no certificate that she had obtained leave to go on a whaling voyage; but since her arrival here, her owner, from *Nantucket*, has sent the following certificate, to wit:

"Treasury Office, September 28, 1775.

"I hereby certify that *William Rotch* hath given bond according to the direction of the General Assembly of this Colony, in order to send on a whaling voyage the brig *Temple*, *Joshua Morris* master.

HENRY GARDNER, *Treasurer*."

Quere—Whether it is advisable to libel the brig or no?

Newport, Monday, September 16, 1776.

The sloop ———, Captain *Lever*, belonging to *New-York*, arrived at *Dartmouth*, last *Thursday*, in seven weeks from *France*, by whom we learn that *American* vessels find a very free trade there, and that the *French* only waited for a declaration of independence from this country, when they were determined to strike some capital blow.

We learn by the above vessel that the carpenters were so closely engaged in the ship-yards, she could not procure a single hand to do one day's work on her; that Mr. *Deane*, from the honourable the General Congress, was at the *French* Court, and that letters for the Congress from him came in this vessel, which were despatched forward last *Friday* morning.

On the 3d of *August* Captain *Nathan Bull*, of this place, and Mr. *Gideon Coggeshall*, of *Middletown*, with twelve other *Americans*, made their escape from *Halifax* in an open boat, in which they came round *Cape Sable*, crossed the *Bay of Fundy*, and arrived at *Beverly* on the 14th of *August*, from whence Captain *Bull* was brought to town by land last *Wednesday*, in a very low state of health; by whom, and Mr. *Coggeshall*, we learn that *Halifax* was left without one ship of war; that the whole force they can raise there would amount but to fifteen hundred men; that a little before they came away a number of transports arrived from *England*, which brought out three hundred head of cattle, but ninety-three of which lived through the passage, and those miserably thin.

The fore part of last week the *Cerberus*, frigate, retook a prize brig between *Block-Island* and *Norman's Land*; this prize was one of *Dunmore's* motley squadron, bound to *Bermuda*, with a number of passengers, some household furniture and dry goods, from *Virginia*, and was taken by the *Andrew Doria*, Captain *Biddle*, close in with the Island; the people put on board to bring her in, made their escape in the boat, and landed at *Block-Island*, from whence they came to this place.

Captain *Samson*, in a brig belonging to *Plymouth*, has sent a sloop into an Eastern port, loaded with rum and cotton, bound for *Halifax*.

Three brigs loaded with rum, sugar, and molasses, arrived in some neighbouring port since the 9th; and it is said the ship loaded with fifteen thousand bushels of wheat, taken by the *Andrew Doria*, is arrived a little way to the Eastward.

Last *Tuesday* a fine large brig, loaded with about two hundred and forty hogsheads of rum, &c., went up the east passage; she was taken by the sloop *Revenge*, from *Swansey*, Captain *Samuel Dunn*, who was reported to have been taken.

The Hon. *Gurdon Saltonstall*, of *Connecticut*, is appointed Brigadier-General of the Eastern Militia of that State, and is marched with the whole of said Militia for *New-York*.

AARON HOBART TO RICHARD DEVENS.
Abington, September 16, 1776.

SIR: I have delivered to *Thomas Durfee*, Esq., eight of 6-pound cannon, and I had pig iron of him for the Province, six ton more than what I have given credit for. He desireth to settle with me himself about the cannon.

Sir, I should be glad you would send me one thousand pound by Captain *Tilden*, be sent with this account, and the remainder is to be let alone till I can see your Honour.

There are ready for the market eight 6-pound cannon, which I have sold to Captain *Tilden*, hoping that you have got supply. In case you want any more, let me know. I have got made three or four ton of 42-pound, 32-pound, and 9-pound shot.

From your humble servant,
To *Richard Devens*, Esq.

AARON HOBART.

Richard Devens, Esq., to *Aaron Hobart*, Dr.

SIR: I have delivered to *John Foster Williams's* order, six Cannon, 6-pound, £50 each, - - - - £300 0 0

To *John Closton*, per order, seven Cannon of 6-pound, each £50, - - - - 350 0 0

To Shell, upwards of twenty ton, at £20 per ton, - - - - 400 0 0

To three ton Grape Shell, £100, - - - - 300 0 0

To freight and Iron, one ton, - - - - 20 0 0

To 630 Pots, 5s., - - - - 157 10 0

To two ton of Shot, to *Closton*, at £30 per ton, - - - - 60 0 0

To carting six loads to *Watertown* and *Roxborough*, six dollars per ton, - - - - 10 16 0

To carting twenty-seven loads to *Weymouth*, 20s., - - - - 27 0 0

To seven Casks for Grape Shot, 4s., - - - - 1 8 0

To freight of twenty-seven loads Shell, 6s., - - - - 8 2 0

To carting thirteen guns to *Taunton*, 10s., for *Williams* and *Closton*, - - - - 6 10 0

£1681 6 0

CR.

By thirty tons Pig Iron, by Mr. *Spencer*, of *Dartmouth*, - - - - £270 0 0

By cash by *Thomas Cosling*, - - - - 100 0 0

By cash by Mr. *Orn*, - - - - 100 0 0

470 0 0

Due, - - - - £1211 6 0

Abington, June 10, 1776.

Watertown, September 16, 1776.

Last *Sunday* se'nnight was taken and carried into *Goldsborough*, by two small boats, a brig from *Ireland*, bound for *Halifax*, laden with beef, butter, &c. She parted company with twelve other provision vessels the day on which she was taken, all bound for the above port.

List of Prizes lately taken and carried into the WEST-INDIES, by some of the Ministerial Pirates.

The brigantine *Hester*, *John Marshall*, master, belonging to *New-York*, was taken on the coast of *Africa*, the 12th of *May*, 1776, and carried into *Antigua*, by the sloop *Weazel*, *Samuel Warren*, commander, the 12th of *June*. Her cargo consisted of ivory, wax, dry goods, and wood.

The brig *Duff*, Captain *Knapp*, from *Guadaloupe*, bound to *Newfoundland*, with rum, sugar, and molasses, was carried into *Bassaterre Road* the 3d of *May*, by the *Pomona*, sloop of war, Captain *Eastward*.

May 8th.—Brig *Hero*, Captain *Jones*, from *Saba*, in stone ballast, taken off *Eustatia*, by the *Pomona*, arrived at *St. Kitts* this day.

May 10th.—The sloop *Two-Brothers*, *Sandford Thompson*, master, from *Ocracock*, for *St. Croix*, with white oak staves and heading, taken by the *Pomona*, arrived at *St. Kitts* this day.

June 19th.—The sloop *Fanny*, Captain *Worth*, from the coast of *Braziletto*, bound to *St. Eustatia*, laden with spermaceti oil, &c., arrived at *St. Kitts*. She was taken by the *Pomona*.

June 20th.—The sloop *Prince of Orange*, *Eber Waterous*, master, from *Guadaloupe*, laden with sulphur and a small quantity of powder, taken by the *Pomona*, and sent up to *Antigua*.

June 23d.—The brig *Regicobus*, Captain *Booker*, from *St. Eustatia*, bound to *Amsterdam*, laden with sugar and coffee, but it is imagined she has a quantity of powder and warlike stores in sugar casks, taken off *St. Eustatia* by the *Pomona*, arrived at *St. Kitts* this day.

Taken by the *Portland*, *Thomas Dumaesque*, Esq., commander, two days after he left the fleet he was convoy for, and carried into *Antigua*, the sloop *Sally*, of ninety tons, *Giles Buckingham*, master, from *Philadelphia*, bound to *St. Croix*, taken in latitude 24° north, longitude 62° 30' west. Her cargo consists of six hundred and fifty barrels of flour, three hundred kegs of white biscuit, a few barrels of beef and pork, a great quantity of staves and heading; also, a new four-wheeled wagon, with iron axletrees, brass bushes for the wheels, and harness complete.

Two days after was taken by the *Portland's* tender, and carried into *Antigua*, the brig *Resolution*, of two hundred and fifty tons, *Robert Stacy*, master, from *Piscataqua*, bound to *Martinico*, laden with lumber: When she was taken she was in musket-shot of *Port-Royal* harbour.

July 17th.—The schooner *Fox*, ——— *Buck*, master, from *New-London*, for *Curaco*, taken by the *Seaford*, Captain *Colepoice*, arrived at *St. Kitts* this day.

Also the brig *Betsey*, ——— *Dresser*, master, from *North-Carolina*, for *St. Eustatia*, laden with lumber, taken by the *Pomona*.

July 19th.—Sloop *Maria*, Captain *Gurley*, from *St. Croix*, for *St. Eustatia*; her cargo consists of twenty-one hogsheads rum; taken by the *Pomona*.

A sloop from *New-London*, with oxen, horses, and lumber, taken by the *Pomona*, sent into *Tortola*.

And the sloop ———, Captain *Hutterfield*, from *St. Eustatia*, for *Bermuda*, laden with rum, taken by the *Pomona*.

The firing heard last *Sunday* morning was occasioned by the safe arrival of a fine prize ship of three hundred tons, at *Cape Ann*. The contents of her cargo at present unknown to us.

ORDERS FOR COLONEL BELLOWES.

Exeter, New-Hampshire, September 16, 1776.

SIR: Orders were yesterday sent off from hence to you, for your raising fifty men in your regiment, to recruit our Army at *New-York*, and three hundred pounds in money to pay them six pounds each. Upon a review of the matter this day, considering the frontier state of your regiment, it is determined that you omit raising the men at present; and as one Captain *John House*, of *Hanover*, hath received orders to raise a company of volunteers for said service, you are appointed Mustermaster to said company, and to pay each able-bodied, effective man he inlists six pounds; and if he should inlist more than fifty men, you are desired to advance the money, and your draft therefor shall be honoured; but if he should not be able to inlist so many as fifty men, it is expected you will make up that number out of your regiment. You are desired to acquaint Captain *House* of your being appointed Mustermaster to his company.

By order of the Council and Assembly.
I am your very humble servant.

To Colonel *Benjamin Bellows*, Jun.

ORDERS TO COLONEL JOHN LANGDON.

State of NEW-HAMPSHIRE.

To JOHN LANGDON, Esquire, Colonel of an independent Company of Militia in the Town of PORTSMOUTH:
Pursuant to a resolve of Council and Assembly, in consequence of a requisition of the Continental Congress, you

are hereby required, with all the despatch possible, to raise, and see equipped, out of the company under your command, three men, and join them to those that shall be raised in Colonel *Whipple's* regiment, to recruit the Army of the *United States of America* at *New-York*, to assist our brethren there; and you are to let them know that they are to be detained in said service until the first day of *December* next, unless sooner discharged. The men are to receive twenty dollars on their being mustered, and with that the bounty to be made equal to the bounty of the *Massachusetts* State afterwards; that the wages of the men be the same, and their rations the same, as in the Continental Army; that the men be paid two pence per mile for their travelling expenses from their place of residence to *New-York*.

You are to make return of your doings to the General Assembly, and, in their recess, to the Committee of Safety.

Given at *Exeter*, the 16th day of *September*, 1776.

BENJAMIN GYLES,

Chairman of a Committee appointed for that purpose.
To Colonel *Langdon*.

State of New-Hampshire, Portsmouth, September 28, 1776.

Agreeable to the within requisition to me directed, the company under my command have raised three men, viz: *Benjamin Dockum*, *Benjamin Dockum*, Jun., and *Jonathan Kenneston*, all able men, and equipped with one good musket each, which are to be charged to them, or returned to the Colony; the price of which three guns is twenty-three dollars.

JOHN LANGDON.

Portsmouth, September 23, 1776.

The brigantine *Three-Friends*, burthen about eighty tons, mounting eight carriages, owned by *Philip Moore* and *John Donaldson*, of the city of *Philadelphia*, in the State of *Pennsylvania*, merchants, and *Archibald Mercer*, of the town of *Brunswick*, in the State of *New-Jersey*, merchant, commanded by Captain *Daniel Jackson*, and *Henry Nutter*, Mate, navigated by twenty men, with twenty barrels provisions and four hundred weight powder and ball.

JOHN DONALDSON & Co.

ORDERS FOR CAPTAIN PARKER.

To Captain ROBERT PARKER:

You are hereby empowered to inlist a company of *Matrosses*, to consist of forty-four men, including officers, to guard and defend the battery on *Levey's Island*, for the term of one month, unless it should appear expedient to the Congress, or this Committee, to dismiss them sooner. And you are hereby acquainted that they shall receive, for the time they shall be in the service, the same wages as Captain *Salter's* company. And you will take care to inlist no man but what is properly accoutred.

SILAS DEANE TO ROBERT MORRIS.

Bordeaux, September 17, 1776.

DEAR SIR: I shall send you, in *October*, clothing for twenty thousand men, thirty thousand fusils, one hundred tons of powder, two hundred brass cannon, twenty-four brass mortars, with shells, shot, lead, &c., in proportion.

I am to advise you, that if, in future, you will give commissions to seize *Portuguese* ships, you may depend on the friendship and alliance of *Spain*. Let me urge this measure. Much may be got, nothing can be lost, by it. Increase, at all events, your Navy. I will procure, if commissioned, any quantity of sail-cloth and cordage.

A general war is undoubtedly at hand in *Europe*, and consequently *America* will be safe, if you baffle the arts and arms of the two *Howes* through the Summer. Every one here is in your favour.

Adieu! I will write again next week.

SILAS DEANE.

To Robert Morris.

LETTER FROM THE HAGUE TO A GENTLEMAN IN LONDON,
DATED SEPTEMBER 17, 1776.

Sir *Joseph Yorke* has made application to the States of *Holland* to forbid the *Americans* entering any of their ports

in the *West-Indies*, and also the carrying on any trade whatsoever with them. The answer given to Sir *Joseph* is said to be this: That *Holland* only considered itself as a commercial country, and that any check to its trade must be severely felt by its inhabitants; that the *West-Indies* received great part of their support from the Continent of *America*, which it would be very ill policy in them to put a stop to; and indeed would be almost impossible, as hardly any commands would tie a people down when they were in want of provisions; and that Sir *Joseph* might assure his Court that they had hitherto, and would still continue, to prevent any military stores being furnished to the *Americans* from any part of the dominions belonging to the States. The present trade with the *Americans* is exceedingly beneficial to them.

Deep-Spring Camp, September 17, 1776.

Deserted last night from my company of Riflemen, the following soldiers, viz: *Josiah Jones*, about twenty-two years old, six feet two inches high, well made, has short black hair, a very lively countenance, and when intoxicated very talkative and desirous of raising disputes; he carried away with him a hunting-shirt trimmed with red, a pair of leather breeches, several new shirts, and other things which I cannot recollect at present. *David Barnett*, aged twenty-one years, six feet four inches high, well made, has short black hair, a thin visage, (occasioned by the ague and fever, which he had when he deserted,) is very serious, and speaks but seldom; he carried with him a hunting-shirt trimmed with red, a pair of leather breeches, a pair of new shoes, and several yards of linen, which I had delivered to him about two days before he deserted. *Joseph Canterbury*, aged twenty-eight years, five feet ten inches high, well made, has short red hair, a reddish complexion, and a dejected look; he carried along with him a hunting-shirt trimmed with red, a gray-coloured broadcloth waistcoat and breeches, a pair of black stockings, two pair of shoes, and several yards of linen, which I delivered to him a few days before he deserted. They went off indebted to the publick store, and were raised and inlisted in *Amherst*, where I expect they will endeavour to get. Whoever will deliver the said deserters to the commanding officer in *Williamsburg*, or safely contrive them to the Sixth *Virginia* Regiment at *New-York*, shall have £4 10s. for each, and all reasonable expenses paid.

SAMUEL JORDAN CABELL,

Captain in the Sixth Virginia Regiment.

COLONEL STAINSTON TO MARYLAND COUNCIL OF SAFETY.

Caroline County, September 17, 1776.

SIR: Agreeable to the requisition of the Convention, made to the Field-Officers of this County, to endeavour to get a company made up to march for *New-York*, I thought it necessary to convene the Twenty-Eighth Battalion of Militia on *Saturday* last for that purpose; and after meeting in the usual field of parade, the several companies were drawn up, except the company under the command of Captain *John Fauntleroy*. I then requested he would draw up his company, who made me for answer, that he had but a few officers in the field, and that he should not draw up under me as the commander of the field.

Captain *Fauntleroy's* reasons for not joining the battalion I do not certainly know, but after the battalion was dismissed, I am credibly informed, he endeavoured to see who would join him against me; for what purpose I do not know, unless to treat me ill.

As it appears to me, sir, that he is a disobedient officer, and possibly was I to look over this injury to the common cause it might prove to be of bad consequences, besides under these circumstances my person as well as character may not be altogether safe, and in order, sir, that peace and harmony may again take place, I pray that a Court-Martial may be appointed by your Board for the trial of Captain *Fauntleroy*, in order to find out what I am to be accused with, and that he or myself may meet with the instant demerits we deserve.

I am, sir, your most obedient, humble servant,

BENSON STAINSTON.

To *Daniel of St. Thomas Jenifer*, Esquire, President of Council of Safety.

ALEXANDER MCFADON TO MARYLAND COUNCIL OF SAFETY.

Georgetown, September 17, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: I received your favour of the 8th instant, and duly observe the contents, wherein you request to know the steps I have taken to fulfill my engagements with the publick, what progress I have made, and what returns. The steps I have taken are as follows, viz: I have, at a very considerable expense, prepared a house that will contain sixteen looms and all other utensils for carrying on the weaving business. I shall by the last of next week have up eight looms, and as soon as I can procure hands will set up the remainder. I have purchased looms, hired journeymen, taken apprentices, &c. I have erected a mill for bruising and mangling flax, the best on the Continent. I have purchased a quantity of flax, and employed spinners, and expect in a short time to have it in my power to finish one hundred yards of linen per day, which the Convention may have, provided they will give me as much as I can sell my linen for. By receiving letters from the Council of Safety that they are much wanting coarse linen for tenting and sheeting, I carried two hundred and thirty-nine and a half yards to *Annapolis* the week before last, and by the valuation the Committee put on it I lost from six to ten pounds of what I could have sold it for here, notwithstanding they confessed they had not received as good linen from any other factory. This is publick punishment, in place of publick encouragement. With regard to the progress I have made in manufacturing, it is so well known to the most of the gentlemen in this part of the Province; and some of the members in Convention know I have brought manufacturing of linen to greater perfection than has ever before been done in the Province, and am able to bring it to as good perfection, both in fineness and whitening, as any imported, provided I meet with proper encouragement.

I am, with the greatest respect, gentlemen, your very humble servant,

ALEXANDER MCFADON.

To the Committee for inquiring into Manufactory.

BENJAMIN RUMSEY TO MARYLAND COUNCIL OF SAFETY.

Joppa, September 18, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: In the last letter wrote you by the *Harford* Committee, of which I was late a member, I was desired by them to inform you of their transactions in a particular department under the signature of the Chairman, and also of their dissolution, which they in consequence notified to the people by advertisements set up in the most publick places in the County.

Since my writing the above I received a letter from Mr. *Ashmead*, in which he informs me he had sent down to *Harford* the remainder of his guns and blankets, and also the enclosed account proved, which closes the affair of the £300, and there remains in my hands a balance of £10 18s. 1d.

No expectations can be formed of our Committee's acting longer without a new election. They universally looked upon the Convention's continuing them beyond the time for which they were elected by the people to be unconstitutional, and laying a foundation and precedent for one of the most alarming stretches of power—the continuation of some future Convention or publick body for many years. This was their opinion before the resolve of the Convention. I have no right to think it changed.

In obedience to the commands of the Convention, I called my battalion together on *Monday* last, and on reading their resolves, three Captains in the battalion, with their commissioned officers, to wit: Captain *James McComas*, Captain *Alexander Cowen*, and Captain *Robert Harris*, the first with thirty-one, the others with thirty of their privates, offered to serve their country agreeable to the resolves of the Convention; and to-day the Field-Officers meet in order to decide who shall go, and believe the lot will fall on Captain *Harris*, as he is a single man, of spirit, very desirous of going, and the farthest from the water and internal enemies, in case of an attack.

I should be glad to know of you if the arms and blankets in this County collected and now at *Harford*, could be spared for the use of the company in my battalion. It will be necessary to inform me immediately, and also to give *Hollingsworth* orders to make bayonets for them. They can be sent there directly, and before they march I think I

can have the residue with some difficulty got from the people in the same manner they were collected by the Committee.

Money being the life of all business and the sinews of war, it will be absolutely necessary to send up immediately and lodge in the hands of some one of this battalion a sum of money large enough to discharge the bounty and month's pay advance, and also gun and blanket money.

I returned from our place of meeting to attend six companies to-morrow at *Deer-Creek*, to assist our Captain in completing his company, and to endeavour to inspire as many as I can with a love of their country, and desire to serve her, and assure those that enlist with their speedy getting the money, though it would have the most charms if glittering in their sight.

Tents will be necessary. The soldiers that will go will chiefly be farmers and their sons. What price per yard will the Province pay if they find it, or can the Council of Safety furnish all the troops?

I am, gentlemen, your most obedient servant,

BENJAMIN RUMSEY.

To the Honourable Council of Safety of *Maryland*, *Annapolis*.

COLONEL BUCHANAN TO MARYLAND COUNCIL OF SAFETY.

Lexington, Baltimore County, September 17, 1776.

SIR: In compliance with yours of the 8th, (and the resolves of Convention therein referred to,) a meeting of the Field-Officers of Colonel *Tolly's*, and the *Baltimore Town* Battalions, with the Committees of Observation, was held on *Friday* last, by appointment previously advertised, for the purpose of nominating officers for two companies of Militia to march immediately for *New-York*, which nomination was accordingly made.

On *Saturday* I met my battalion to publish the same, and solicit volunteers. They were very backward in offering, until some officers of the companies turned out. This in some degree roused the ranks, and enabled the officers of three companies to get a considerable number of their men to offer to go. I met all these officers yesterday in town; each tells me he has engaged some; on the whole, I think about a number sufficient for one company, mostly of this battalion; and say if they had money to discharge the bounty advance and purchase of arms, they have no doubt of succeeding. Here we wait not only the money, but also for an explanation respecting the offers of companies, whether they are to be confined to two, and therefore supercede our nomination, or whether all volunteer companies, together with the two by us nominated, are to be taken into pay, not that I have the least expectation that the whole County can turn out more than the two companies properly equipped, in good time, one of which we would have a good chance of effecting by consolidating the three offering companies of my battalion, with one of those nominated.

I know not whether I have been right in telling the volunteers that so high a bounty is given to enable each to equip himself with a blanket as well as other necessities for their immediate march. This, however, will be the most expeditious method of procuring blankets, should they be paid for by the State, which is by some expected. The bearer, Captain *Teams*, one of our nominated Captains, will be a good opportunity to send money by for this business; he waits upon you for that purpose; and further instructions therein, to,

Sir, your most obedient and very humble servant,

WM. BUCHANAN.

To Hon. *Matthew Tilghman*, Esq., President of the Convention of *Maryland*.

P. S. Some directions for the subsistence of the troops are also wanting.

JOSEPH HEWES TO SAMUEL PURVIANCE.

Philadelphia, September 17, 1776.

DEAR SIR: Agreeable to my promise to your brother, I now send a printed article for seamen. You will observe the wages allowed to able seamen, is eight dollars per month; ordinary seamen and landsmen, six dollars and two-thirds of a dollar, per month.

I am respectfully, dear sir, your most obedient servant,

JOSEPH HEWES.

To *Samuel Purviance*, Esq.

PHILADELPHIA COMMITTEE.

In Committee of Inspection and Observation for the City and Liberties of *Philadelphia*, September 17, 1776:

On motion, it was unanimously

Resolved, That the Committee of Inspection and Observation for the City and Liberties of *Philadelphia*, and the Townships of *Moyamensing* and *Passyunk*, be dissolved, and they are hereby dissolved. The Committee of Accounts, and for the Distribution of Salt, to be continued until the business for which they were appointed be finally settled.

Extract from the minutes:

SAMUEL C. MORRIS, *Secretary*.

Committee of Accounts.

Philadelphia, September 25, 1776.

All persons who have any accounts against the late Committee of Inspection for this City and Liberties, are desired to bring them in immediately to any one of the subscribers, in order for settlement. It is expected that every demand will be furnished by the 15th day of *October* next, at which time they intend completing this business.

JOHN BAYARD,
JONATHAN B. SMITH,
JOSEPH DEAN,
SHARP DELANY,
FRANCIS GURNEY,
CHRISTOPHER MARSHALL,
WILLIAM BALL, and
SAMUEL C. MORRIS,
Committee of Accounts.

LANCASTER, PENNSYLVANIA, COMMITTEE.

At a meeting of the Committee of Observation and Inspection, and Observation and Correspondence, at the house of *Adam Reigart*, the 17th of *September*, 1776,

Present: *William Ailee*, *William Bowsman*, *Lodwick Lowman*, *Adam Reigart*, *John Miller*, *Andrew Graff*, *Christopher Crawford*, *Henry Dehuff*, *George Moore*, *Sebastian Graff*. *William Ailee* in the Chair.

Resolved, That Mr. *George Moore*, bricklayer, be employed, and he is engaged, to build the addition to the Barracks of Brick and Stone: the first or Cellar story of Stone, and the residue of Brick; that he be allowed for the stone-work at the rate of four shillings per perch, and at the rate of twelve shillings and sixpence per thousand for the brick-work; he, as usual, to find his own workman and labourers.

Robert Dixon, of the Seventh Regiment, is permitted to work with *Jacob Kehler*, wheelwright, he here in Committee engaging to be answerable for him, agreeable to the Resolves of the Committee.

Resolved, That the Bricks of the additional Buildings at the Barracks be had of *Peter Albright*, *Lewis Peters*, and *George Lindelberger*, in equal proportions, and each of them are requested to deliver twenty thousand Bricks as expeditiously as possible, for which they are to be allowed twenty-two shillings and sixpence per thousand, delivered at the Barracks.

John Rycraft, of the Seventh Regiment, is permitted to work with *Sebastian Graff*, he here in Committee engaging to be answerable for him, agreeable to the Resolves of the Committee.

SPEAKER OF THE ASSEMBLY OF NEW-JERSEY TO RICHARD STOCKTON, DELEGATE IN CONGRESS.

[Read September 23, 1776. Copy sent to General Mercer.]

Prince Town, September 19, 1776.

SIR: I take the liberty of enclosing you an extract of a letter from *Amboy*, from a gentleman who is a true friend to this country, and hearty in the *American* cause; and also a resolve of our House of Assembly, sent you by order of the House. The inconveniences the inhabitants of *Amboy* now labour under are daily increasing; therefore the House beg you and our other Delegates will please to use your utmost endeavours to get the grievances complained of redressed as speedily as possible, by appointing some person in that town, and others where troops lay, who are well

acquainted with the business, to furnish them with sufficient quantities of fire-wood.

I am, with respect, sir, your most humble servant,

By order of the House: JOHN HART, *Speaker*.

Resolve of the Assembly.

Resolved, That the President write to General *Mercer*, enclose him extracts of the Letter from the Speaker of *New-Jersey*, and the enclosed Letter from *Amboy*, and that General *Mercer* be desired to take such steps as shall effectually introduce order and remove the complaints of the inhabitants of the State of *Jersey*.

Extract of a Letter from AMBOY, dated September 16, 1776.

I would suggest the House to immediately make some law for protecting the little property still left in this town; the means must leave to them, but wood is the grand article. I think a provider in this town, for wood only, would be a great means of removing the complaint here, and there might be one in every town from this to the northward, as far as the camp goes. Leaving it to Quartermasters, living in other Governments, entire strangers to the method of procuring that article here, has been one great cause of complaint; but the season of the year and scarcity of hands to cut wood, it being salt hay time and sowing time, have greatly helped on the distress. The destruction and havoc made here with fences and houses, is great; another reason of our distress is, that the teams, when they bring wood, are impressed and detained in the service, which prevents them coming to town with wood, &c.

House of Assembly, September 19, 1776.

Mr. *Manning*, one of the members of *Middlesex*, informed the House, that from certain information by him received, the inhabitants of *Amboy* are great sufferers by their houses and fences being destroyed by the troops now there, owing in a great measure for the want of proper persons being appointed for purchasing a sufficient quantity of wood.

Resolved, That the Speaker do write a Letter to the Delegates for this State at the Continental Congress, desiring they will endeavour to have *Samuel Serjeant*, Esq., or some other suitable person or persons in *Amboy* to furnish the Troops with fire-wood, in order that the property of the inhabitants and that peace may be in future preserved, and the grievances complained of remedied.

REPORT OF A COMMITTEE OF THE COUNCIL OF THE STATE OF NEW-JERSEY.

State of New-Jersey, Council Chamber, September 19, 1776.

Your Committee, appointed to meet a Committee of the House of Assembly, in a free conference on the subject-matter of a memorial from the Committee of *Elizabethtown*, and a letter from Brigadier-General *Williamson*, respecting a supply of ammunition, and the pay of the Militia called into actual service, beg leave to report:

That the said Committees having met in conference, according to order; and having read and considered the said Memorial and Letter, came to sundry resolutions, which are as follows, viz:

1. *Resolved*, That the publick Magazine of Ammunition kept for the use of the Militia, at or near *Elizabethtown*, is nearly exhausted; and that it is necessary that provision should be immediately made for replenishing the said Magazine.

2. *Resolved*, That it is proper that his Excellency be requested to procure an immediate supply of one ton of Gunpowder for the use of the Militia; and that he be empowered to draw from the Treasury of this State, as much money as may be necessary for the purchase and carriage of the same.

3. *Resolved*, That large bodies of the Militia of this State have been called out, at sundry times, in the Continental service; and that for the want of a proper mode having been established for the pay of the said Militia, many inconveniences have arisen, and are daily increasing; Therefore,

4. *Resolved*, That it is proper that his Excellency the Governour be requested to make application to the honourable the Continental Congress, and desire that they will be

pleased to direct the immediate payment of such of the Militia of this State, as have been called out in the service of the Continent, and to establish some mode for the regular and punctual payment of such of the Militia of this State as shall hereafter be called into the said service.

By order of the Committee:

JOHN COOPER, *Chairman.*

A true Copy: CHAS. PETTIT, *Clerk of the Council.*

AFFIDAVIT OF ELIZABETH FRANKLIN.

Province of New-Jersey, City of PERTH-AMBOY:

Personally appeared before me, *Samuel Sergeant, Esq.*, one of the Aldermen of said city, *Mrs. Elizabeth Franklin*, of the same place, and she being duly sworn on the Holy Evangelists of Almighty God, on her oath doth depose and declare that she has no knowledge at all of the books of the Council of said Province, papers relative thereto, or chest in which they were said to be contained. That she never did see but one of the books, which was last *May*, at a time the Council were sitting. That *Governour Franklin* did, some time before he was made prisoner, as he informed this deponent, send away or secure some things; but she knows not what they were, or where sent. That she is an utter stranger as to the place where said books, papers, &c., now are, and verily believes they are not in the house where she now resides; and further saith not.

ELIZABETH FRANKLIN.

Sworn this 17th of *September*, 1776,

Before me: SAMUEL SERGEANT, *Alderman.*

GENERAL MERCER TO GENERAL WASHINGTON.

Perth-Amboy, September 17, 1776, 4 P. M.

SIR: I received just now the favour of Colonel *Grayson's* letter of yesterday, and in consequence shall send off a detachment of the men inlisted for the Flying-Camp to *Paulus-Hook*. The Militia of *Pennsylvania* and *New-Jersey*, stationed on *Bergen* and at *Paulus-Hook*, have behaved in a scandalous manner, running off from their posts on the first cannonade from the ships of the enemy. At all the posts we find it difficult to keep the Militia to their duty.

By some accounts received to-day, the enemy met with a repulse from your troops. I beg leave to congratulate your Excellency on the success, and hope it will animate our army to act more generally with the spirit of freemen.

I have the honour to be your Excellency's most obedient servant,

H. MERCER.

GENERAL WASHINGTON TO GOVERNOUR COOKE.

*Head-Quarters, at Colonel Morris's House, }
September 17, 1776. }*

SIR: I received the honour of your favour of the 6th instant by Messrs. *Collins, Babcock*, and *Stanton*, and should have acknowledged it before now had I not been prevented by the peculiar situation of our affairs.

I communicated my sentiments to those gentlemen upon the subject of your letter and the several propositions that were before me, who, I doubt not, will make a full and due report of the same to you and your honourable Assembly; however, I shall take the liberty of adding, that the divided state of our army, which, when collected in one body, is inferior to that of the enemy, their having landed almost the whole of their force on *Long-Island*, and formed a plan of cutting off all communication between that and the city of *New-York*, which we had but too good reasons to believe practicable and easy to effect with their ships of war, made it necessary and prudent to withdraw our troops off from the former, that our chance of resistance and opposition might be more probable and likely to be attended with a happy issue.

I feel myself much concerned on account of your apprehensions for the town of *Newport* and the Island of *Rhode-Island*, and should esteem myself peculiarly happy were it in my power to afford means for their security, and that of the State in general, or to point out such measures as would be effectual for that purpose. But, circumstanced as I am, it is not possible for me to grant any assistance; nor can I,

with propriety, undertake to prescribe the mode which will best promote their defence. This must depend on such a variety of circumstances, that I should suppose you and the Assembly, who are in the State, will be much more competent to the task than what I or any person out of it can be; therefore, I can only recommend that you will pursue such steps as you in your judgment shall think most conducive to that end, observing that it appears to me a matter of extreme difficulty, if practicable, to prevent the enemy's ships doing damage to every island accessible to 'em, unless the passes between them and the main are so narrow as to oblige them to come very near such batteries as may be erected for their annoyance, on commanding ground.

I cannot sufficiently express my thanks for the readiness you and your Assembly manifested in ordering troops, &c., to *Long-Island*, on hearing my request to *Governour Trumbull* upon that subject. At the time that I made it, I considered the plan of much importance, and that many valuable and salutary consequences might have resulted from it. But as things have undergone a material change since, it may not be improper to consider and be satisfied of some facts, which ought to be clearly known previous to any attempt to carry it into execution, and on which the success of it will greatly depend; such as an entire conviction of the friendly disposition of the inhabitants on the island; the number that would join the troops that might be sent over; the lengths they would go; the support they would and can give, and whether a retreat from thence could be safely afforded in case it should be necessary. Those matters, and others which a more minute consideration of the plan will present to your view, should be well weighed and digested, and which I thought it my duty to mention, especially as the scheme had originated with me. My anxiety and concern for the inhabitants at the east end of the island, who have been represented always as friendly and well attached to the cause of the States, prompt me to wish them every assistance. But if the efforts you could make, in conjunction with *Governour Trumbull*, would not promise almost a certainty of success, perhaps they might tend to aggravate their misfortunes. The Committee stated sundry propositions respecting this expedition: such as, if any thing was attempted, where a stand should be made? This must be left to the discretion of those who command; nor can I spare an officer for that purpose or recommend one. What number of men should be sent, and what proportion from the *Massachusetts*? The number necessary will depend upon the force they will have to oppose, and the assistance they would derive from the Islanders; the proportion from the *Massachusetts*, on the will of the Legislature or voluntary engagement of the people in the service. What artillery should they have? I am of opinion the artillery would be subject to loss, without any great advantage resulting from it. They also asked whether any frigates should be sent, &c. As the enemy have now the free and entire command of the *Sound*, and many ships of war in it, they will be much more liable to be taken than they would have been some time ago, and when it was proposed by *Governour Trumbull* to make an attempt upon the ships above *Hell-Gate*. In this instance, however, I do not conceive myself at liberty to say any thing peremptory one way or other, having no power over the frigates.

I am sensible of the force of your observation, that the common cause might be benefited by the several States receiving early and authentick intelligence of every material occurrence; permit me at the same time to assure you, that I often regret my incapacity in this instance, and that the neglect does not arise from want of inclination or through inattention, but from the variety of important matters that are always pressing upon, and which daily surround me.

Before I conclude, I shall take this opportunity to inform you that having received certain information that the enemy's plan was, to pass from *Long-Island* and land in our rear with their army to cut off all communication with the country, and for which they were making every possible disposition, a council of General Officers determined last week on a removal of the army from the city, in order to prevent the fatal consequences which must inevitably ensue, if they could have conducted their scheme, resolving at the same time that every appearance of defence should be kept up till our sick, ordnance, and stores could be removed. This was set about with the greatest industry,

and as to the sick was completely effected; but on *Sunday* morning before we had accomplished the removal of all our cannon, provisions and baggage, they sent three ships of war up the *North River*, whereby the water carriage was totally stopped, the ships anchoring not far above the city, and about eleven o'clock those that were lying at *Turtle Bay*, or rather below it in the *East River*, being six or seven in number, besides some transports, began and continued for some time a most severe and heavy cannonade, to scour the grounds and cover the landing of their troops. I had gone the night before to the main body of the army, which was posted on the Plains and Heights of *Harlem*, apprehending from many uncommon and great movements among the enemy, that they meant to make an attack there that night, or to land on the east side of *Harlem River*. As soon as the firing began I rode with all possible despatch towards the place of landing, where breastworks had been thrown up, and to my great surprise and mortification found the troops that had been posted in the lines, retreating with the utmost precipitation and disorder, and those ordered to support them notwithstanding the exertions of their Brigadiers (*Parsons* and *Fellows*) to form them, running away in the most disgraceful and shameful manner, nor could my utmost efforts rally them or prevent their flight. This scandalous conduct occasioned a loss of several tents and other baggage, which otherwise would have been easily secured. The remainder of the troops that were in the city got out, and the retreat of the whole was effected with the loss of but very few men; not more than three or four that I have heard of were made prisoners, and only one or two killed.

I am now encamped on the Heights above mentioned, which are so well calculated for defence, that I should hope that if the enemy make an attack, and our men will behave with tolerable resolution, they must meet with a repulse, if not a total defeat. They advanced in sight yesterday in several large bodies, but attempted nothing of a general nature, though in the forenoon there were some smart skirmishes between some of their parties and detachments sent out by me, in which I have the pleasure to inform you our men behaved with bravery and intrepidity, putting them to flight when in open ground, and forcing them from posts they had seized, two or three times. From some of their wounded men which fell into our hands, the appearance of blood in every place where they made their stand and on the fences as they passed, we have reason to believe they had a good many killed and wounded, though they did not leave many on the ground. In number our loss was very inconsiderable, but in the fall of Lieutenant-Colonel *Knowlton*, I consider it as great, being a brave and good officer; and it may be increased by the death of Major *Leitch*, of the *Virginia* regiment, who unfortunately received three balls through his side.

Having given you a summary account of the situation of our affairs, and in such manner as circumstances will admit of, I have only to add, that I have the honour to be, with sentiments of the highest esteem, sir, your most obedient servant,

GO. WASHINGTON.

To Governour *Cooke*, *Rhode-Island*.

P. S. The Committee have expressed their apprehensions of being obliged to abandon the Island of *Rhode-Island* and *Newport*, and requested my opinion. At present, I can see no causes for it, and the propriety of the measure must depend upon circumstances. But I should suppose they ought to be very pressing, and the necessity great, before they ought to be given up. Most certainly no imaginary ills or necessity should lead to such a measure. At this time the danger can only be ideal; and if the enemy persevere in their plans here, and our men behave as they should do, I am persuaded they will not have an opportunity to employ their attention elsewhere this campaign.

GENERAL GREENE TO GOVERNOUR COOKE.

Camp at Harlem Heights, September 17, 1776.

SIR: I suppose you have heard of the retreat from *Long-Island*, and the evacuation of *New-York*. The retreats were both judicious and necessary, our numbers being very insufficient to hold such an extent of ground. His Excellency had proposed to evacuate the city and suburbs of *New-York* some time before the enemy made their last landing, and had the Quartermaster-General been able to

furnish the necessary wagons to remove the stores and baggage, the retreat would have been effected in good order, had the enemy delayed their landing twenty-four hours longer. Almost all the old standing regiment was drawn out of the city, in order to oppose the enemy at *Hell-Gate*, where they made an appearance of a very large body of troops, and movements as if they intended a landing.

We made a miserable, disorderly retreat from *New-York*, owing to the disorderly conduct of the Militia, who ran at the appearance of the enemy's advance guard; this was General *Fellows's* brigade. They struck a panick into the troops in the rear, and *Fellows's* and *Parsons's* whole brigade ran away from about fifty men, and left his Excellency on the ground within eighty yards of the enemy, so vexed at the infamous conduct of the troops, that he sought death rather than life.

The retreat was on the 14th of this instant, from *New-York*; most of the troops got off, but we lost a prodigious deal of baggage and stores. On the 16th we had a skirmish at *Harlem Heights*: a party of about a thousand came and attacked our advance post. They met with a very different kind of reception from what they did the day before. The fire continued about an hour, and the enemy retreated; our people pursued them, and by the spirited conduct of General *Putnam* and Colonel *Reed* the Adjutant-General, our people advanced upon the plain ground without cover, and attacked them and drove them back. His Excellency sent and ordered a timely retreat to our advanced post, for he discovered or concluded the enemy would send a large reinforcement, as their main body lay near by. I was sick when the army retreated from *Long-Island*, which by the by, was the best effected retreat I ever read or heard of, considering the difficulty of the retreat.

The army now remains quiet, but expect an attack every day. Colonel *Varnum's* and Colonel *Hitchcock's* regiments were in the last action, and behaved nobly, but neither of the Colonels was with them, both being absent—one sick, the other taking care of the sick. Time won't permit me to say much more, as I am wanted to go into the *Jerseys*.

I had the honour of seeing and conversing with your Committee. I think, and so does his Excellency, that the operations of the campaign will have no effect upon you, as it will be impossible for the enemy to detach any part of the army, while our army is able to make any stand. I would not evacuate one foot of ground, as it will tend to encourage the enemy and dispirit our people. I am sure the Government is safe, and will remain so, unless the enemy can ruin this army. This is their grand object, and every nerve will be exerted to effect it; but they will not have opportunity and strength sufficient to molest you. I have not time to add one word more.

I am, with all due respect, your most obedient, humble servant,

N. GREENE.

To *Nicholas Cooke*, Esq.

EXTRACT OF A LETTER TO A GENTLEMAN IN ANNAPOLIS, DATED AT HEAD-QUARTERS, SEPTEMBER 17, 1776.

We are now encamped between *York* and *King's Bridge*, on very advantageous heights, and have formed our lines from the *North River* to a creek that makes out of *East River*, running up to *King's Bridge*.

Soon after we came to *New-York*, there was a council held by the General Officers, and the question was put, whether *New-York* was tenable against the *King's* forces. It was carried in the negative.

Three days ago the whole of our troops evacuated *New-York*; and the day before yesterday the *King's* troops landed about three miles below this, where there were two brigades stationed, who abandoned their posts with precipitation.

Yesterday morning the *Regulars* came within half a mile of our lines, and made a stand. A few of our scouts, who were out, attacked and drove them off. In two hours after, two thousand of them returned. General *Beall* sent out three companies of *Riflemen*, under the command of Major *Mantz*, who attacked them. Immediately General *Washington* reinforced with the remainder of our brigade, together with General *Weedon's* regiment from *Virginia*, Major *Price's* three independent companies, and one regiment of *Rhode-Islanders*. Never did troops go to the field with

more cheerfulness and alacrity; when there began a heavy fire on both sides. It continued about one hour, when our brave Southern troops dislodged them from their posts. The enemy rallied, and our men beat them the second time. They rallied again; our troops drove them the third time, and were rushing on them, but the enemy had got on an eminence, and our troops were ordered to retreat, the General considering there might be a large number of the enemy behind the hill, concealed; which was the case. We were informed by a prisoner that our men took, there were about eight or ten thousand concealed.

From the number of the enemy that I saw lay on the field dead and wounded, I think their loss must be three or four times ours. I have not yet been able to get a full account of our loss, only of our brigade, which is as follows: Captain *Low*, wounded through both his thighs. Twelve privates wounded, and three missing. Major *Leitch*, of Colonel *Weedon's* regiment, received three balls through his belly. More is the pity, for never was a braver hero. He stood the field, with the greatest bravery, till the third shot, when he was obliged to fall. He appears to be in good spirits. The doctors are of opinion he will recover. Colonel *Knowlton*, from *Boston*, killed in the field, who distinguished himself at *Bunker's Hill*, as well as in this engagement. He will be interred to-day, with all the honours of war.

From our present situation, it is firmly my opinion we shall give them a genteel drubbing, in case the *Yankees* will fight with as much spirit as the Southern troops.

As near as I can collect, our loss, killed, wounded, and taken, amounts to fifty men.

We expect every hour when the general engagement will come on; and if we prove successful, the campaign will be settled for this present year.

General *Washington* gave great applause to our *Maryland* troops, for their gallant behaviour yesterday.

Baltimore, September 23, 1776.

By a gentleman of undoubted veracity, just come to town from the camp at *Harlem*, we have the following intelligence, viz: That on *Sunday*, the 15th instant, the enemy landed their army near *Turtle Bay*, under cover of their shipping; from thence marched to the city of *New-York*, which we had evacuated, after taking out almost all our stores, &c. General *Putnam*, who commanded with a small detachment of our army, retreated, with little molestation or loss, to the main body of our army.

By the above gentleman, we are favoured with the following extract of a letter from a General Officer who was present at the time of action, viz:

"On *Monday* morning, *September 16*, the enemy appeared in several large bodies on the plain, about two miles and a half from our lines. About noon a firing began between a party of our Rangers, under the command of Lieutenant-Colonel *Knowlton*, and an advanced party of the enemy, who were supposed to be about three hundred. Three companies of Colonel *Weedon's* regiment of *Virginians*, under the command of Major *Leitch*, and Colonel *Knowlton*, with his Rangers, composed of volunteers from different *New-England* regiments, were ordered to try to get into the rear of the enemy, whilst dispositions were making as if to attack them in front, and thereby draw their attention that way. This took effect; for, on the appearance of our brave troops in front, the enemy immediately ran down the hill, took possession of some fences and bushes, and a smart firing began, but at too great a distance to do much execution on either side. The parties under Colonel *Knowlton* and Major *Leitch* began their attack too soon, as it was rather in flank than in rear. In a little time, Major *Leitch* was brought off wounded, having received three balls through his side; and in a short time after, Colonel *Knowlton* got wounded, which proved mortal. Our men, however, persevered, and continued the engagement with the greatest resolution. Part of Colonel *Griffith's* and Colonel *Richardson's Maryland* regiments, with some volunteers from the Northern regiments, who were nearest the place of action, advanced to support our men. These troops charged the enemy with great intrepidity, and drove them from the wood into the plain, and were pursuing them from thence, having silenced their fire in a great measure, when it was thought prudent

to order a retreat, fearing the enemy (as it was since found to be really the case) would send a large body to support their party.

"Major *Leitch*, it is hoped, will recover; but *Knowlton's* fall is much to be regretted, as that of a brave and good officer. We had about forty wounded. The number of slain is not yet ascertained, but is very inconsiderable."

"By a Sergeant who deserted from the enemy, and came in this morning, we were informed that their party consisted of the Second Battalion of Light Infantry, a battalion of Royal *Highlanders*, and three companies of the *Hessian* Riflemen, under the command of Brigadier-General *Leslie*. The deserter reports that their loss, in killed and wounded, amounts to one hundred and forty, about forty of which we found dead on the field, and buried."

"On the whole, the enemy got completely defeated, which has given great spirits to our army, who are encamped on the heights at *Harlem*, where they are advantageously posted, and in high spirits, waiting the attack of the enemy."

By letters received from *New-York*, we are informed that the enemy were encamped about two miles from Headquarters; that they were landing their artillery from *Long-Island* at *Horn's Hook*; and that an attack was shortly expected on our lines, which were very formidable.

JOSEPH TRUMBULL TO THE PRESIDENT OF CONGRESS.

[Read September 23, 1776.]

King's Bridge, September 19, 1776.

SIR: Since I wrote Congress requesting my dismissal from any further concern with Commissary matters in the Northern Department, I find Mr. *Livingston* has sent his resignation to Congress, and General *Schuyler* has sent my letter to Mr. *Avery*, ordering him off, back to me; and the time Mr. *Livingston* sets for leaving the business is near at hand. I must, therefore, beg a speedy determination of Congress thereon, or all will be in confusion.

I also wrote, some time since, respecting salt for curing provisions the approaching season, to which I have had no answer as yet. I must now also apply for directions concerning the purchasing and curing provisions for the next year. The season is now near at hand when it must be done, and an early attention thereto may make a very considerable saving to the Continent, by making the necessary preparations therefor, at the proper places, and in due time. I would humbly propose to Congress that large quantities of salted pork and beef, proportioned to the number of men most probably to be employed, should be put up, in the proper season, in different parts of the country, at the expense and for the benefit of the Continent, as it will be impossible to foresee or determine where we shall be attacked. Had a large quantity been secured last season, in and near this State, as was done in *Massachusetts-Bay*, it would have saved an immense sum to the Continent, which has since been paid to purchase the same pork from individuals. If it had not been wanted, it could have been disposed of without loss, if not to profit. What happened last season must another, if not provided against in time. I secured for the Continent last winter, and now have, a quantity of salt, near *Boston*.

My attention, from my employment, is led to these matters. I thought it my duty to mention them to Congress, and beg their early attention to, and orders on, these subjects.

I am, sir, your most obedient, humble servant,

JOS. TRUMBULL.

To the Hon. *John Hancock*, Esq.

JOSEPH TRUMBULL, COMMISSARY GENERAL, TO THE PRESIDENT OF CONGRESS.

[Read September 23, 1776.]

King's Bridge, September 19, 1776.

SIR: I have this day drawn on you in favour of Colonel *Thomas Lourey*, for sixty thousand dollars, for supply of the Continental troops in *New-Jersey*, which you will direct to be paid, and charge the same to my account accordingly.

I am, most respectfully, sir, your most humble servant,

JOS. TRUMBULL.

To the Hon. *John Hancock*, Esq.

HUGH HUGHES TO NEW-YORK CONVENTION.

King's Bridge, September 17, 1776.

SIR: The Commissary-General, and Commissary of Ordnance Stores, having complained of two *Albany* skippers who have deserted the service without discharging their loading, one of them named *Brooks*, has such utensils for supplying the army with soap and candles, that the business cannot be carried on without them. The other, named *Rolf* or *Roff*, has ammunition on board, besides sundry articles belonging to the Quartermaster-General's Department, it is said. It is not known but the first mentioned may have some things belonging to the same Department also.

As such conduct may immediately be attended with the worst consequences to the *United States*, besides setting a most dangerous and scandalous example, the General has directed me to acquaint your honourable House therewith, in order that a suitable remedy may be timely applied.

I have the honour to be, with the greatest respect, sir, your most obedient, and very humble servant,

HUGH HUGHES,

Assistant Quartermaster-General.

To the Hon. the President of the Convention of the State of *New-York*.

THADDEUS CRANE TO MAJOR JOSEPH BENEDICT.

Salem, Westchester County, New-York, September 17, 1776.

DEAR SIR: 'Tis with regret I address you on the following subject. I have left no stone unturned to the end the opposition to our cause which has so wickedly prevailed here might be suppressed. I find my neighbours inflexibly determined to fill up the measure of their guilt to the brim. The present situation of our enemy has so spirited up our Tories that, except our Convention provide some immediate remedy, I shall be drove to the disagreeable necessity of seeing our important measures obstructed by the men whose principles I abhor, and make no attempt to detect their machinations. I have several times lately been called upon to execute orders with which it has not been in my power to comply, and am continually liable to misfortunes of this kind—a circumstance with which I am extremely disobliged. However, sir, I might tell you that such is the state of the neighbourhood in which I am unhappily situated, that except some more effectual measures are taken, and that speedily, I might with some few of my good neighbours, suppress my sentiments through fear of falling under the resentment of a set of abandoned fellows, of whose cruel designs we want no proof. But, sir, 'tis needless for me to dwell on a subject with which you are so well acquainted. I would only suggest to you what I think might be done, through which your friends might be relieved, and the general cause served. If you should concur in sentiment with me, I beg the favour of you that you wait on the honourable Convention of this State, and through our members petition the House, that Captain *Samuel Dellivan* be commissioned to raise a company of twenty-five or thirty men, for the purpose of awing and detecting those insulting villains; his known character is a sufficient recommend to all who know him. He has, I think, every qualification requisite to such appointment, his situation very convenient.

On the whole, sir, I beg leave to suggest to you that the removal of a number of persons from this and other parts of our County is absolutely necessary, and that advantage which may be expected therefrom, depends on it being speedily done.

I am, sir, with much esteem, your very humble servant,

THADDEUS CRANE,

Chairman of the Committee.

To Major *Benedict*, *Cortlandt's Manor*.

DUTCHESS COUNTY (NEW-YORK) COMMITTEE.

In Committee, Dutchess County, September 17, 1776.

It having been suggested to this Committee by the deputies from this County in Convention that the quorum at present necessary to represent the County, being five, was too numerous, and that by means thereof was frequently deprived of a voice in the Convention,

Resolved, therefore, That the number of the quorum be reduced from five to three, and accordingly that of the nine

Deputies to represent this County in the Convention of the Representatives of this State, any three of them be a quorum for that purpose.

By order:

EGBERT BENSON, *Chairman*.

GENERAL SCHUYLER TO GENERAL GATES.

Albany, September 17, 1776.

DEAR GENERAL: Your favour of the 15th instant, was delivered me by Mr. *Egberts* about half after twelve, this day. I immediately attempted, but in vain, to procure the articles mentioned in the list you enclosed. Not an inch of such cordage was to be had. I therefore despatched two batteaus, with a most pressing letter to Mr. *Van Zandt*, at *Poughkeepsie*. The batteaus went off before two o'clock, with positive orders to the officer to go without delay, both in the night and day, so that I hope soon to receive the cordage, which will be forwarded from hence in wagons, the moment it arrives, with orders to procure fresh horses on the roads, that you may receive it the soonest possible.

The bearer is Major *Livingston*, my aid-de-camp, who goes on a visit to *Tyonderoga*. His amiable disposition will entitle him to your attention whilst he stays.

I am, dear General, yours most sincerely, &c., &c.

PH. SCHUYLER.

To Hon. General *Gates*, &c., &c.

PETITION FROM NEW-HAVEN TO THE GOVERNOUR, ETC., OF CONNECTICUT.

New-Haven, September 17, 1776.

The memorialists, from their maritime situation, are more exposed to the destructive measures of our internal enemies, than their brethren who live more remote from the sea-coast; as the conveyance of intelligence to the *British* army, who are now in possession of the whole of *Long-Island*, is liable to less interruption, than if there was a tract of inhabited country to travel through, before the camps of our enemies could be entered. These circumstances, added to a full persuasion and belief that there are persons, now residents in this town, who at least would rejoice at the loss of our liberties, and, we fear, contribute to the obtaining that end, induce us to approach your Honours on the present occasion. We should esteem ourselves very unfortunate, should we, in our zeal for the preservation of our liberties, entertain jealousies of any that are really friends to our country; but if an early disapprobation of Congressional measures; frequent assertions that we should certainly be overcome; that it was in vain to enter the lists against so potent a Power as *Great Britain*; invariably treating with singular marks of approbation the professed enemies of *American* liberty; in short, if an uniformity of conduct, the completion of which bears striking marks of their suspected character, will justify suspicion, we flatter ourselves we shall stand acquitted by your Honours of the imputation of feigning our fears.

Your Honours will permit us to point out the persons we have particularly in view: *Abiathar Camp*, *James Curgenven*, *William Glen*, *Edward Carrington*, *Ambrose Ward*, and *Ralph Isaacs*, are the men we have in our eye; besides particular acts and expressions of these men, which will admit of no construction but what pronounces them unfriendly to the general cause, they have by the whole tenor of their conduct, evinced to us most clearly the same point. We therefore consider their residence among us to be dangerous to our safety. We are every night exposed to be destroyed by our open enemies; we live on their borders, separated only by a few miles of water, the absolute command of which is in their hands; our internal enemies, intimately acquainted with our harbours and our defenceless situation, can introduce them into our houses, can involve us, our property, our wives, and our little ones in ruin, before we apprehend their approach. The great law of self-preservation, therefore, calls upon us to leave no avenue unguarded—no measure that will procure our safety unesayed. As the laws of this State have not provided a remedy adequate to the evil, we are under the necessity of applying to your Honours for your interposition in our behalf; praying that your Honours would order and decree, that the aforementioned persons be removed to some interior part of the country, or that your Honours would in some other way make provisions for our security. This mode of

procedure, we conceive, is not unprecedented among civilized nations; and if we are rightly informed, was very recently adopted in a neighbouring State, with regard to persons whose conduct had not afforded more grounds of jealousy than the conduct of those persons we have pointed out to your Honours.

And your memorialists, as in duty bound, shall ever pray.

Lamberton Smith,	Samuel Huggins,	Phineas Bradley,
James Gilbert,	David Dongal,	Paul Noyce,
Thomas Wilmott,	Joseph Peck,	Stephen Peck,
Allen Mather,	Fitch Allin,	Jonathan Brigden,
Jonathan Osborne,	Joel Gilbert,	Nathan Beers,
John Scott,	Joseph Hull,	Giles Mansfield,
Josiah Burr,	Timothy Bradley,	John Storrs, Jr.,
Ather Jervis,	Henry Daggett,	James Prescott,
Abel Burrit,	Samuel Clark,	Samuel Thatcher,
Michael Todd,	Hezekiah Sabin, Jr.,	Israel Munson,
Nathaniel Fitch,	Elias Beers,	William Punderson,
Samuel Munson,	Caleb Ford,	Gold Sherman,
Edward Meloy,	Robert Townsend,	Samuel Squire,
David Gilbert,	Isaac Doolittle,	Isaac Gorham,
Silas Merriman,	Silas Kimberly,	David Woodin,
Jonathan Edwards,	Ebenezer Townsend,	Isaac Sears,
Amos Gilbert,	Jacob Daggett,	Samuel Green,
Samuel Horton,	Benj. Dorchester,	Tuley Blakalee,
Zephaniah Hatch,	Benjamin Brown,	Ezekiel Eays,
Ezekiel Hotchkiss,	John Sherman, Jr.,	David Beecher,
William Scott,	Isaac Bishop,	Job Potter,
John Alling,	Stephen Herrick,	Samuel Clark,
David Osborne,	Jacob Pinto,	Jonathan Brown,
John Mire,	Abraham Pinto,	Joseph Mix,
Jer'h Parmalee, Jr.,	Jonathan Austin,	Stephen Sanford, Jr.,
Ebenezer Lines,	Isaac Jones,	Jonathan Mire,
Caleb Hotchkiss,	Major Lines,	Stephen Pardee,
Hezekiah Parmalee,	I. Cosens Ogden,	Samuel Griswold,
Stephen Bradley,	John Lathrop,	Enoch Moulthrop,
Pierpont Edwards,	Stephen Hotchkiss,	Aaron Gilbert,
John Wise,	John Benham,	John Hotchkiss,
Samuel Wilmott,	Asa Hotchkiss,	Nathan Dummer,
Eliphalet Brush,	John Pierpont,	John Denison,
William Doak,	Philip Binford,	Joseph Smith.

A true copy, as on file. Attest:

BENJAMIN HUNTINGTON, Clerk.

At a meeting of the Governour and Council of Safety, September 27, 1776:

Upon the Memorial of Isaac Doolittle and others, inhabitants of the Town of New-Haven, setting forth the fears and apprehensions they are under on account of sundry persons suspected of being inimical to the liberties of America; praying this Board to take the matter up, and order and decree such suspected persons to be removed, &c., as per Memorial, dated September 17, 1776;

Voted, That the consideration of said Memorial, and the matters therein contained, be referred to the honourable General Assembly, to be holden at New-Haven, on the second Thursday of October next; and that in the mean time a citation go forth thereon, to cite said suspected persons therein complained of, to appear before said Assembly, to make answer thereto; and that the civil authority, Selectmen, and Committee of Inspection for said town, be directed to make inquiry, and collect the evidence relating thereto, and lay the same before said Assembly, that justice may be done thereon.

A true copy of record. Attest:

BENJAMIN HUNTINGTON, Clerk.

On the final trial Ralph Isaacs and Abiathar Camp were found guilty.

COLONEL LIVINGSTON TO GOVERNOUR TRUMBULL.

Saybrook, September 17, 1776.

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR HONOUR: I send you a duplicate receipt and appraisal of the arms taken on Long-Island; they are valued extremely low, owing to their having been much rusted, and want of judgment in the appraisers; I hope it will be no temptation to their being kept from the State of New-York, as the want of them is great, and they can no ways be supplied for the value affixed.

I think, I informed your Honour in my last, that I had taken a prisoner accused of a capital crime, viz: carrying on an intercourse with our enemies; he has since been before the Committee of Saybrook, and confessed that he having been told the contents of a letter delivered him for the purpose of carrying it to Lord Howe, and that he did carry said letter to Lord Howe, and that the purport of said letter was to inform General Howe some arms taken from the people of Easthampton, by order of Colonel Gardiner in the King's name, had been retaken by the subjects of the States on this side the water; that the towns of South and Easthampton did send this letter to avoid the imputation

of being in connection with us. Thus much I collected from Mr. Howel's own confession. The Committee have thought proper to permit him his parole to remain in the County of Colchester; as this appears very singular to me, that a criminal accused of a capital crime, should be permitted to be at large previous to his trial, I have thought proper to remit your Honour an account of it; that if possible this matter may be rectified if wrong. Few men would pay much regard to their honour, when life is at stake. I should have proceeded early this morning for Long-Island, but the wind and tide being both contrary, prevents.

I remain your Honour's most obedient, humble servant,
HENRY B. LIVINGSTON.

To His Honour Governour Trumbull.

Saybrook, September 14, 1776.

Received of Colonel Henry B. Livingston, sixty-nine arms, valued, marked and appraised as above. These arms are delivered on condition they be returned to said Colonel Henry B. Livingston, or his order, unless taken in war by our enemies, they being only a loan in the present emergency. One hundred cartouch-boxes and sixty-nine bayonets being included.

(Duplicate.)

SAMUEL COIT, Colonel.

PROVIDENCE (RHODE-ISLAND) TOWN MEETING.

At a Town-Meeting of the Town of Providence, legally warned and assembled on the 17th day of September, A. D. 1776. Captain John Updike, Moderator.

This meeting being especially called pursuant to an order of a meeting of the Committee appointed to act during the recess of the General Assembly, held at the Court-House in Newport, on the 12th day of September, A. D. 1776, to raise the Town's proportion of the Battalion of Militia ordered for New-York; and the Town having taken the said order of said Committee into consideration, do thereupon vote and resolve, that in order to raise this Town's proportion of said Battalion with as much expedition as possible, the sum of six pounds lawful money be given as a bounty to each soldier who voluntarily inlists himself into said Battalion as one of this Town's proportion thereof; and that the Town Treasurer be requested immediately to hire a sufficient sum of money for this purpose.

Voted, That Messrs. Daniel Hawkins, Joseph Fuller, David Bacon, James Arnold, and Nathaniel Wheaton, Esq., be a Committee to number the male persons suitable to bear arms in the Town of Providence.

Voted, That Colonel Jabez Bowen be empowered to inlist men for this Town's proportion of the battalion aforesaid, until the officers are appointed.

MASSACHUSETTS ASSEMBLY TO WILLIAM BRADFORD.

Watertown, September 17, 1776.

SIR: We have your letter of the 13th instant, and would now inform you that in consequence of orders issued by this Court some days since, the most vigorous exertions are now making to detach as large a proportion of the Militia of this State as it's supposed can possibly be spared, to march to the aid of the army at New-York, with the utmost expedition. Since the issuing these orders, we have been requested by the honourable Congress to send one regiment of our Militia to Rhode-Island, to supply the place of one of the Continental regiments ordered from thence. Whereupon that part of our Militia to be raised in the Counties of Plymouth and Barnstable were destined to Rhode-Island, and Major-General Warren was commanded to give the necessary orders therefor. But as this regiment is to take the care of a number of whale-boats as far as Rhode-Island, agreeable to Governour Trumbull's proposal in a letter now come to hand, their arrival with you may be in some measure delayed; but you may be assured that every means will be used to get them there as soon as possible.

To the Hon. William Bradford.

MASSACHUSETTS COUNCIL TO GENERAL WARREN.

Council Chamber, September 17, 1776.

You are hereby directed and commanded to give orders to the Brigadiers of the Counties of Plymouth and Barnstable,

to cause the men drafted from their respective brigades, in consequence of the resolves of the General Assembly of this State, of the 12th and 13th instant, to march as soon as may be to *Falmouth*, or *Buzzard's Bay*, in the County of *Barnstable*, and to *Dartmouth*, in the County of *Bristol*, with their baggage, or such part of them as may be necessary, there to take charge of sixty whale-boats, to be provided by a Committee of the General Assembly, and in said boats, with all possible despatch, to proceed to *Rhode-Island*, and them to deliver to the Hon. *Nicholas Cooke*, Esq., Governour of said State. Hereof fail not, and make return of your doings as soon as may be.

To Major-General *Warren*.

MASSACHUSETTS COUNCIL TO GENS. FARLEY AND PRESCOTT.

In Council, September 17, 1776.

As one-fifth part of the Militia in this State are ordered to march to reinforce the army at *New-York*, and as you may be called to take the command of a brigade appointed to that service, you are ordered to hold yourself in readiness to march with said Militia on the shortest notice. If there is any thing in the situation of your affairs which will prevent your taking this command, you will immediately inform the Council thereof, that some other person may be called on to march in your stead.

JOHN AVERY, *Deputy Secretary*.

To Brigadiers *Farley* and *Prescott*.

EXTRACT OF A LETTER FROM CAPE NICOLA MOLE, DATED SEPTEMBER 18, 1776.

The *French* here are, to a man, in favour of *America*. There are ten thousand men in this island, one thousand here, who, with five hundred *Negroes*, are busy employed in building forts, and a *French* war is inevitable. A *French* frigate arrived the other day from *France*, with orders to the General to protect all *American* vessels. A pilot boat belonging to a merchant in *Philadelphia*, was taken the day before yesterday and sent to *Jamaica*; a *French* frigate of thirty-six guns, and a guarda-costa, which last hoisted Continental colours, were immediately sent after her, with orders to follow her into *Port-Royal* harbour, if they could not overtake her before, and demand her. What will be the consequences time will discover. The *French* were very much exasperated at her being taken, which was within two leagues of the land.

PETITION OF CAPTAIN FULFORD'S ARTILLERY COMPANY.

The humble Petition of Captain JOHN FULFORD's Company, the Royal Train of Artillery, or Second MARYLAND Matrosses, humbly sheweth:

That your worthy patriots, that are filled with a due sense of liberty, and were enlisted under the banners of the same, and are ready to advance into the field at a moment's call, and there to fight our daring foes in the present cause and behalf of *America*, and, in the highest spirits, like the bold soldier, willing to go to the field conquering and to conquer, undaunted like tyrants, not fearing to die, you will give them a hearing.

Gentlemen, from the great veracity and confidence that we repose in your Honours, we hope, therefore, that you will allow us, most honourable gentlemen, an addition to our pay, in order to alleviate our pain, and for our laborious work, and most fatiguing in life, and much more so than any company has gone through hitherto; namely, in building or assisting to build fortifications or batteries, together, most honourable gentlemen, with the hard fatigues of guard, namely, once every other day mounting, and still, gentlemen, we are resolved that our motto shall be, Death or Glory. Therefore, most honourable gentlemen, we hope your Honours will take your poor petitioners' petition into your most serious consideration, and consult deliberately thereon, and give us a grant, most honourable gentlemen, of something more than our present pay, which will make a retaliation or recompensation for our hard duty. And in so doing we shall be in duty bound to pray, most honourable gentlemen.

THE ROYAL TRAIN OF ARTILLERY.

God bless the Congress and direct our General!

Annapolis, September 18, 1776.

Philadelphia, September 18, 1776.

Yesterday arrived the Continental brig *Andrew Doria*, Captain *Biddle*, from a cruise, in which he took six vessels, viz: ship *Molly*, Brigder *Goodrich*, late belonging to Mr. *Jonathan Hudson*, of *Maryland*, and brig *Peggy*, Cook, both prizes of Lord *Dunmore's*, bound from *Virginia* to *Bermuda*; brig *Elizabeth*, Captain *Johnson*, a prize taken by the *English*, from *Cape-Fear*, *North-Carolina*, for *Bermuda*; brig *Lawrence*, Captain *Layburn*, from *Barbadoes* to *Newfoundland*, and two other brigs, in ballast, from *Virginia*, with *Tories*, for *Bermuda*. The two latter, being short of water and provisions, he let go.

By sundry gentlemen who arrived from *New-York* yesterday and the day before, we collect the following intelligence: That last Monday General *Washington* having received intelligence that an advanced party of the enemy was approaching his lines at *Harlem*, he prepared to attack them with one party in front, whilst another attacked them in the rear, to prevent their retreat, which was nearly effected, when the enemy, after a smart engagement, secured their retreat under cover of their men-of-war in the *East River*. Colonel *Knowlton* commanded one party, and Major *Leitch* the other—the former killed, and the latter wounded. That the Regulars had lost thirty men killed; that we had taken three field-pieces, and lost only five men. We are also informed that on Sunday evening last our people had sent three fire-ships down upon the enemy's fleet, one of which had grappled with a man-of-war; but the man-of-war disentangling herself, they burnt to the water's edge without doing any damage.

SIR WILLIAM HOWE TO LORD GEORGE GERMAINE.

Head-Quarters, York-Island, September 21, 1776.

MY LORD: I have the satisfaction to inform your Lordship of his Majesty's troops being in possession of the City of *New-York*.

Upon the Rebels abandoning their lines at *Brooklyn*, the King's army moved from *Bedford*, leaving Lieutenant-General *Heister* encamped upon the Heights of *Brooklyn*, with two brigades of *Hessians* and one brigade of *British* at *Bedford*, and took five positions in the neighbourhood of *Newtown*, *Bushwick*, *Hell-Gate*, and *Flushing*.

The two Islands of *Montresor* and *Buchanan* were occupied, and batteries raised against the enemy's work at *Horen's Hook*, commanding the passage at *Hell-Gate*.

On the 15th instant, in the morning, three ships of war passed up the *North River* as far as *Bloomingdale*, to draw the enemy's attention to that side; and the first division of troops, consisting of the Light Infantry, the *British Reserve*, the *Hessian Grenadiers*, and *Chasseurs*, under the command of Lieutenant-General *Clinton*, having with him Lieutenant-General *Earl Cornwallis*, Major-General *Vaughan*, Brigadier-General *Leslie*, and Colonel *Donop*, embarked at the head of *Newtown Creek*, and landed about noon upon *New-York Island*, three miles from the town, at a place called *Kepp's Bay*, under the fire of two forty-gun ships and three frigates, as per margin,* Commodore *Hotham* having the direction of the ships and boats.

The Rebels had troops in their works round *Kepp's Bay*, but their attention being engaged in expectation of the King's troops landing at *Stuyvesant's Cove*, *Horen's Hook*, and at *Harlem*, which they had reason to conclude, *Kepp's Bay* became only a secondary object of their care. The fire of the shipping being so well directed and so incessant, the enemy could not remain in their works, and the descent was made without the least opposition.

The conduct of the officers of the navy does them much honour; and the behaviour of the seamen belonging to the ships of war and transports employed to row the boats, was highly meritorious. Much praise in particular is due to the masters and men of six transports that passed the town on the evening of the 14th, under a heavy fire, being volunteers, to take troops on board for the more speedy disembarkation of the second division.

The *British* immediately took post upon the commanding height of *Inclenberg*, and the *Hessians* moving towards *New-York*, fell in with a body of Rebels that were retiring from *Stuyvesant's Cove*; some firing ensued, by which a Brigadier-General, other officers, and several men of the

*Phoenix, Roebuck, Orpheus, Carysfort, Rose.

Rebels were killed and wounded, with the loss of four men killed and eight wounded on the part of the *Hessians*.

As soon as the second embarkation was landed, the troops advanced towards a corps of the enemy upon a rising ground three miles from *Inclenberg*, towards *King's Bridge*, having *McGowan's Pass* in their rear, upon which they immediately retired to the main body of their army upon *Morris's Height*.

The enemy having evacuated *New-York* soon after the army landed, a brigade took possession of the works in the evening.

The prisoners made in the course of this day were about twenty officers and three hundred men. The enclosed return will show the artillery and stores taken.

The position the King's army took on the 15th in the evening, was with the right to *Horen's Hook*, and the left at the *North River*, near to *Bloomingdale*, the Rebel army occupying the ground with extensive works on both sides of *King's Bridge*, and a redoubt with cannon upon a height on the west side of the *North River*, opposite to the *Blue Bell*, where the enemy have their principal work, in which positions both armies still continue.

On the 16th, in the morning, a large party of the enemy having passed under cover of the woods, near to the advanced posts of the army, by way of *Vanderwater's Height*, the Second and Third Battalions of Light Infantry, supported by the Forty-Second Regiment, pushed forward and drove them back to their entrenchments, from whence the enemy observing they were not in force, attacked them with near three thousand men, which occasioned the march of the reserve with two field-pieces, a battalion of *Hessian* Grenadiers, and the company of Chasseurs, to prevent the corps engaged from being surrounded; but the Light Infantry and Forty-Second Regiment, with the assistance of the Chasseurs and field-pieces, repulsed the enemy with considerable loss, and obliged them to retire within their works. The enemy's loss is not ascertained; but from the accounts of deserters it is agreed that they had not less than three hundred killed and wounded, and among them a Colonel and Major killed. We had eight officers wounded, most of them very slightly, fourteen men killed, and about seventy wounded.

Major-General *Vaughan* was slightly wounded in the thigh, on the 15th, by a random shot, as he was ascending the Heights of *Inclenberg* with the Grenadiers; and I have the pleasure of informing your Lordship that Lieutenant-Colonel *Monckton* is so well recovered he has been walking about some days.

Captain *Balfour*, my second Aid-de-Camp, will have the honour of delivering your Lordship this despatch; and with the most profound respect, I have the honour to be, &c.,

W. HOWE.

To Lord *George Germaine*.

EXTRACT OF A LETTER FROM VICE-ADMIRAL LORD VISCOUNT HOWE, TO MR. STEVENS, DATED EAGLE, NEW-YORK RIVER, SEPTEMBER 18, 1776.

I have the satisfaction of being able to inform their Lordships that a disposition having been made for landing the army on *York-Island*, on the morning of the 15th, the Captains *Parker* and *Wallace*, whose abilities and distinguished resolution point them out for the most important services, with the Captains *Fanshaw*, *Hamond*, and *Hudson*, officers of great merit, passed the fire of the town of *New-York* with their ships on the evening of the 13th, to wait off *Bushwyck Creek*, opposite to *Kepp's Bay*, where the landing was proposed to be forced in the *East River*. The flat-boats, batteaus, and galleys, under the direction of Commodore *Hotham*, but arranged in divisions commanded by the Captains *Vandeput*, *Caldwell*, *Dickson*, *Caulfield*, *Phipps*, and *Molloy*, and the Lieutenant *Howorth*, of the *Eagle*, assisted by the Lieutenants *Henry*, *Parry*, *Chads*, and *Bristow*, agents of transports, were manned from the two-decked ships and transports, as on the former debarkation, and sent up at different times under the shore of *Long-Island*, undiscovered by the enemy on the opposite side.

Six transports, which Messrs. *Robert Roughead*, *Richard Fowler*, *John Randall*, *Thomas Brown*, ——— *Chambers*, and ——— *Stuart*, (the different masters making a voluntary offer of their services,) engaged to conduct, were sent

up the *East River* on the 14th, under the direction of the agent, Lieutenant *Knowles*, with Lieutenant *Laird*, whose active assistance in the most fatiguing parts of the debarkation duty, the conveyance of the artillery, has marked his zeal for the King's service in a particular manner. They were appointed to take in a number of troops from *Bushwyck*, for facilitating the more timely support of the first division embarked in the flat-boats at *Newtown Creek*.

The pilots declining on account of the strength of the tide to take charge of the particular covering ships that were intended to be placed towards *Hell-Gate*, for countenancing the appearance of a descent on that part of the coast, all the five were placed in *Kepp's Bay* on the morning of the 15th, and having, by the effect of their well-directed fire, compelled the Rebels to quit their entrenchments upon the shore, the debarkation was made without further opposition.

The General's publick acknowledgments addressed to the Commodore and the several officers and seamen employed, will be the best testimony I can render of their meritorious services on this occasion.

In order to facilitate the operations of the army in the *East River*, another detachment of the ships of war was appointed by the General's desire, to proceed up the *North River* to give jealousy to the enemy on this side. The *Renown*, Captain *Banks*, with the Captains *Davis* and *Wilkinson* in the *Repulse* and *Pearl*, were ordered for that purpose. They passed the enemy's battery without material injury early on the 15th, to a station about six miles to the northward of the town. On the ensuing night the enemy directed four fire-vessels in succession against them, but with no other effect than that of obliging the ships to move their stations, the *Repulse* excepted. The *Renown* returned on this side the town, but the two frigates remain still in the *North River*, with the *Tryal* armed schooner, to strengthen the left flank of the army, extending to the western shore of *York-Island*, as circumstances will admit.

SIR WILLIAM HOWE TO LORD GEORGE GERMAINE.

Head-Quarters, *York-Island*, September 23, 1776.

MY LORD: Between the 20th and 21st instant, at midnight, a most horrid attempt was made by a number of wretches to burn the town of *New-York*, in which they succeeded too well, having set it on fire in several places with matches and combustibles that had been prepared with great art and ingenuity. Many were detected in the fact, and some killed upon the spot by the enraged troops in garrison; and had it not been for the exertions of Major-General *Robertson*, the officers under his command in the town, and the brigade of Guards detached from the camp, the whole must infallibly been consumed, as the night was extremely windy.

The destruction is computed to be about one quarter of the town; and we have reason to suspect there are villains still lurking there ready to finish the work they have begun, one person escaping the pursuit of a sentinel the following night, having declared that he would again set fire to the town the first opportunity. The strictest search is making after these incendiaries, and the most effectual measures taken to guard against the perpetration of their villainous and wicked designs.

I have the honour to be, &c.,

W. HOWE.

To Lord *George Germaine*.

GENERAL WASHINGTON TO THE PRESIDENT OF CONGRESS.

[Read September 20, 1776.]

Head-Quarters at Colonel Roger Morris's House, }
September 18, 1776. }

SIR: As my letter of the 16th contained intelligence of an important nature, and such as might lead Congress to expect that the evacuation of *New-York* and retreat to the Heights of *Harlem*, in the manner they were made, would be succeeded by some other interesting event, I beg leave to inform them, that as yet nothing has been attempted upon a large and general plan of attack. About the time of the post's departure with my letter, the enemy appeared in several large bodies upon the plains, about two and a half miles from hence. I rode down to our advanced posts, to put matters in a proper situation, if they should attempt

to come on. When I arrived there I heard a firing, which, I was informed, was between a party of our Rangers under the command of Lieutenant-Colonel *Knowlton*, and an advanced party of the enemy. Our men came in and told me, that the body of the enemy, who kept themselves concealed, consisted of about three hundred, as near as they could guess. I immediately ordered three companies of Colonel *Weedon's* regiment from *Virginia*, under the command of Major *Leitch*, and Colonel *Knowlton* with his Rangers, composed of volunteers from different *New-England* regiments, to try to get in their rear, while a disposition was making as if to attack them in front, and thereby draw their whole attention that way.

This took effect as I wished on the part of the enemy. On the appearance of our party in front, they immediately ran down the hill, took possession of some fences and bushes, and a smart firing began, but at too great a distance to do much execution on either side. The parties under Colonel *Knowlton* and Major *Leitch* unluckily began their attack too soon, as it was rather in flank than in rear. In a little time Major *Leitch* was brought off wounded, having received three balls through his side; and in a short time after Colonel *Knowlton* got a wound, which proved mortal. Their men, however, persevered, and continued the engagement with the greatest resolution. Finding that they wanted a support, I advanced part of Colonel *Griffith's* and Colonel *Richardson's Maryland* regiments, with some detachments from the Eastern regiments, who were nearest the place of action. These troops charged the enemy with great intrepidity, and drove them from the wood into the plain, and were pushing them from thence, having silenced their fire in a great measure, when I judged it prudent to order a retreat, fearing the enemy, as I have since found was really the case, were sending a large body to support their party.

Major *Leitch*, I am in hopes, will recover; but Colonel *Knowlton's* fall is much to be regretted, as that of a brave and good officer. We had about forty wounded; the number of slain is not yet ascertained; but it is very considerable. By a Sergeant, who deserted from the enemy and came in this morning, I find that their party was greater than I imagined. It consisted of the Second Battalion of Light Infantry, a battalion of the Royal *Highlanders*, and three companies of the *Hessian* Riflemen, under the command of Brigadier-General *Leslie*. The deserter reports that their loss in wounded and missing was eighty-nine, and eight killed. In the latter, his account is too small, as our people discovered and buried double that number. This affair I am in hopes will be attended with many salutary consequences, as it seems to have greatly inspirited the whole of our troops. The Sergeant further adds, that a considerable body of men are now encamped from the *East* to the *North* River, between the seven and eight mile-stones, under the command of General *Clinton*. General *Howe*, he believes, has his quarters at Mr. *Apthorp's* house.

I have the honour to be, with sentiments of the highest regard and esteem, sir, your most obedient servant,

GO. WASHINGTON.

P. S. I should have wrote Congress by express before now, had I not expected the post every minute, which I flatter myself will be a sufficient apology for my delaying it.

The late losses we have sustained in our baggage and camp necessities, have added much to our distress, which was very great before. I must therefore take the liberty of requesting Congress, to have forwarded, as soon as possible, such a supply of tents, blankets, camp-kettles, and other articles, as can be collected; we cannot be overstocked.

GO. WASHINGTON.

GENERAL ORDERS.

Head-Quarters, New-York, September 15, 1776.

(Parole, *Essex*.)

(Countersign, *King's Bridge*.)

Head-Quarters, Harlem Heights, September 16, 1776.

(Parole, *Beall*.)

(Countersign, *Maryland*.)

The Arrangement for this Night.

General *Clinton* to form next to the *North River*, and extend to the left. General *Scott's* Brigade next to General *Clinton's*. Lieutenant-Colonel *Sayer*, of Colonel *Griffith's* Regiment, with the three companies intended for a reinforcement to day, to form upon the left of *Scott's* Brigade.

General *Nixon's*, Colonel *Sargent's* division, Colonel *Weedon's*, and Major *Price's* Regiments are to retire to their quarters and refresh themselves; but to hold themselves in readiness to turn out at a minute's warning. General *McDougall* to establish proper guards against his brigade upon the height, and every regiment posted upon the heights, from *Morris's* house to General *McDougall's* camp, to furnish proper guards to prevent a surprise, not less than twenty men from each Regiment. General *Putnam* commands upon the right flank to night; General *Spencer* from *McDougall's* brigade up to *Morris's* house. Should the enemy attempt to force the pass to night, General *Putnam* is to apply to General *Spencer* for a reinforcement.

Head-Quarters, Harlem Heights, September 17, 1776.

(Parole, *Leitch*.)

(Countersign, *Virginia*.)

The General most heartily thanks the troops commanded yesterday by Major *Leitch*, who first advanced upon the enemy, and the others who so resolutely supported them. The behaviour of yesterday was such a contrast to that of some troops the day before, as must show what may be done, when officers and soldiers will exert themselves. Once more, therefore, the General calls upon officers and men to act up to the noble cause in which they are engaged, and to support the honour and liberties of their country.

The gallant and brave Colonel *Knowlton*, who would have been an honour to any country, having fallen yesterday while gloriously fighting, Captain *Brown* is to take the command of the party lately led by Colonel *Knowlton*. Officers and men are to obey him accordingly.

The loss of the enemy yesterday would undoubtedly have been much greater, if the orders of the Commander-in-Chief had not, in some instances, been contradicted by inferior officers, who, however well they may mean, ought not to presume to direct. It is therefore ordered, that no officer commanding a party, and having received orders from the Commander-in-Chief, depart from them without counter orders from the same authority; and as many may otherwise err through ignorance, the Army is now acquainted that the General's orders are delivered by the Adjutant-General, or one of his Aids-de-Camp, Mr. *Tilghman*, or Colonel *Moylan*, the Quartermaster-General.

Brigade Majors are to attend at Head-Quarters every day at twelve o'clock, and as soon as possible to report where their several Brigades and Regiments are posted. If many Regiments have not been relieved for want of the attendance of their Brigade Majors for orders, it is therefore the interest and duty of every Brigadier to see that his Brigade Major attends at twelve o'clock at noon, and five in the afternoon; and they are to be careful to make the Adjutants attend them every day.

The several Majors and Brigadier-Generals are desired to send to Head-Quarters an account of the places where they are quartered.

Until some general arrangement for duty can be fixed, each Brigade is to furnish guards, who are to parade at their respective Brigadiers' quarters, in such proportions as they shall direct.

Such Regiments as have expended their ammunition, or are otherwise deficient, are immediately to be supplied by applying to the Adjutant-General for an order; but the Regiment is to be first paraded, and their ammunition examined; the Commanding Officer is then to report how such deficiency has happened.

Head-Quarters, Harlem Heights, September 18, 1776.

(Parole, *Jersey*.)

(Countersign, *Newport*.)

The Brigade Majors are immediately to settle a Court-Martial for the trial of prisoners, to meet at the white house near Head-Quarters.

Commanding Officers of Regiments, and all other officers, are charged in the strictest manner to prevent all plundering, and to seize every soldier carrying plunder, whether belonging to the same Regiment or not, or on whatever pretence it is taken; and the General positively commands that such plunderer be immediately carried to the next Brigadier, or Commanding Officer of a Regiment, who is instantly to have the offender whipped on the spot.

The Regimental Surgeons are to take care of their own sick for the present, until the General Hospital can be estab-

lished on a proper footing. They are to keep as near their Regiments as possible, and in case of action, to leave the sick under the care of their mates, and be at hand to assist the wounded.

Under the pretence of ranging or scouting, the greatest irregularities and excesses have been committed; the General therefore forbids, in the most express manner, any such parties, but by his leave, or of the Brigadier-General of the day, in writing, and then always to be under the direction of an officer. The General does not mean to discourage patrolling and scouting parties, when properly regulated; on the other hand, he will be pleased with and accept the services of any good officers who are desirous of being thus employed, and will distinguish them.

General *Parsons's*, General *Scott's*, and Colonel *Sargent's* Brigades are to march over *King's Bridge*, and take General *Heath's* orders for encamping. Colonels *Shee*, *Magaw*, *Haslett*, and the Regiment under Colonel *Brodhead*, are to return to *Mount Washington*, and be under the immediate care of General *Mifflin*.

Colonel *Ward's* Regiment, from *Connecticut*, may, for the present, be annexed to the Brigade commanded by Colonel *Sargent*.

Generals *Mifflin's*, *McDougall's*, *Heard's*, *Wadsworth's*, and *Fellows's* Brigades, and the Brigades under the command of Colonels *Silliman* and *Douglass*, are to have each a Regiment in the field this evening, by Mr. *Kortright's* house.

GENERAL GEORGE CLINTON TO COMMITTEE OF NEW-YORK CONVENTION.

King's Bridge, September 18, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: Since my last, many matters of importance to the publick, and more particularly to this State, have taken place; but I have been so situated as neither to find leisure or opportunity of communicating them to Congress. I returned late last night from the command of the picket or advanced party, in the front of our lines, and was just sitting down to write to the Convention, and intended sending an express, when I was favoured with yours of yesterday.

About the middle of last week it was determined, for many reasons, to evacuate the City of *New-York*; and accordingly, orders were given for removing the ordnance, military, and other stores from thence, which, by *Sunday* morning was nearly effected. On *Saturday*, four of the enemy's large ships passed by the city up the *North River*, and anchored near *Grenage*, and about as many up the *East River*, which anchored in *Turtle Bay*; and from the movements of the enemy on *Long-Island* and the small Islands in the *East River*, we had great reason to apprehend they intended to make a landing, and attack our lines somewhere near the city. Our army for some days had been moving upwards this way, and encamping on the heights, southwest of Colonel *Morris's*, where we intended to form lines, and make our grand stand. On *Sunday* morning the enemy landed a very considerable body of troops, principally consisting of their Light Infantry and Grenadiers, near *Turtle Bay*, under cover of a very heavy cannonade from their shipping. Our lines were but thinly manned, as they were then intended only to secure a retreat to the rear of our army, and unfortunately by such troops as were so little disposed to stand in the way of grape-shot that the main body of them almost instantly retreated, nay, fled, without a possibility of rallying them, though General *Washington* himself, (who rid to the spot on hearing the cannonade) with some other General Officers, exerted themselves to effect it.

The enemy, on landing, immediately formed a line across the Island. Most of our people were luckily north of it, and joined the army. The few that were in the city crossed the river, chiefly to *Paulus-Hook*, so that our loss in men, artillery, or stores, is very inconsiderable; I don't believe it exceeds one hundred men, and I fancy most of them, from their conduct, staid out of choice. Before evening, the enemy landed the main body of their army, took possession of the city, and marched up the Island, and encamped on the heights extending from *McGown's* and the *Black-Horse* to the *North River*.

On *Monday* morning, about ten o'clock, a party of the enemy, consisting of *Highlanders*, *Hessians*, the Light In-

fantry, Grenadiers, and *English* troops, (number uncertain,) attacked our advanced party, commanded by Colonel *Knowlton*, at *Martje Davit's Fly*. They were opposed with spirit, and soon made to retreat to a clear field, southwest of that about two hundred paces, where they lodged themselves behind a fence covered with bushes. Our people attacked them in front, and caused them to retreat a second time, leaving five dead on the spot. We pursued them to a buckwheat field on the top of a high hill, distant about four hundred paces, where they received a considerable reinforcement, with several field-pieces, and there made a stand. A very brisk action ensued at this place, which continued about two hours. Our people at length worsted them a third time, caused them to fall back into an orchard, from thence across a hollow, and up another hill not far distant from their own lines. A large column of the enemy's army being at this time discovered to be in motion, and the ground we then occupied being rather disadvantageous, a retreat likewise, without bringing on a general action, (which we did not think prudent to risk,) rather insecure, our party was therefore ordered in, and the enemy was well contented to hold the last ground we drove them to.

We lost, on this occasion, Colonel *Knowlton*, a brave officer, and sixteen privates, killed. Major *Leitch*, from *Virginia*, and about eight or ten subaltern officers and privates wounded. The loss of the enemy is uncertain. They carried their dead and wounded off, in and soon after the action; but we have good evidence of their having upwards of sixty killed, and violent presumption of one hundred. The action, in the whole, lasted about four hours.

I consider our success in this small affair, at this time, almost equal to a victory. It has animated our troops, gave them new spirits, and erased every bad impression the retreat from *Long-Island*, &c., had left on their minds. They find they are able, with inferior numbers, to drive their enemy, and think of nothing now but conquest.

Since the above affair, nothing material has happened. The enemy keep close to their lines. Our advance parties continue at their former station. We are daily throwing up works to prevent the enemy's advancing. Great attention is paid to *Fort Washington*, the posts opposite to it on the *Jersey* shore, and the obstructions in the river, which, I have reason to believe, are already effectual, so as to prevent their shipping passing; however, it is intended still to add to them, as it is of the utmost consequence to keep the enemy below us.

None of *Smith's* or *Remsen's* regiment have yet joined me, nor do I believe they intend. I have heard that many have gone over on the Island, and continued there. I have not been able to get any late account from thence. We are getting a new supply of *Connecticut* Militia in here; if they are not better than the last, I wish they would keep them at home. I hope, however, they are; they look better. A regiment or two lately arrived from *Virginia*. I can't recollect any thing else worth mentioning.

I am, with much respect, your most obedient servant,
GEO. CLINTON.

To *Henry Wisner*, *William Allison*, *Robert R. Livingston*, Esq., or either of them, at *Fishkill*.

P. S. I have lately heard, and believe General *Woodhull* is not dead, as was reported.

We shall want oak plank for platforms, and square timber. How can it be procured? I am sure, if left to the Quartermaster-General, he will not get it in time. The General desired me to make some inquiries when it may be had.

MAJOR BENEDICT TO COLONEL DRAKE.

Cortlandt-Manor, September 18, 1776.

SIR: The unhappy situation of our affairs at this most critical conjuncture, will no doubt sufficiently apologize for this address to you. The state of *Cortlandt's Manor* and northern post of *Salem* you are too well acquainted with to want any intelligence from me. The almost criminal disaffection of our ungrateful neighbours is, I think, now become a subject worthy the immediate attention of the guardians of this State. The present near approach of the enemy has emboldened our Tories to a most intolerable degree. They

are indeed now prepared for adventures such as till now they dared not attempt. I am under the painful necessity of telling you that except the leaders of this baneful herd can be removed to some remote part of the country, whereby the mischievous effects of their secret conferences with their remaining adherents may be prevented, your friends must not only be insulted as advocates for the cause of our country, but lie continually under pressing apprehensions of more important sufferings, through the wicked attachments of those abandoned fellows, made on their persons or estate. What horrid crimes they may soon commit Heaven only knows; I have no reason from present appearance to think they are governed by principles of manhood or justice. On the whole, sir, a delay in this matter for a few days may prevent all the advantage of such measures as may now be under deliberation. I think the immediate removal of some persons is of great, of very obvious importance.

I am, sir, with esteem, your very humble servant,

JOSEPH BENEDICT.

To Colonel *Gilbert Drake*, Member of the Convention.

LETTER FROM WILLIAM JOHNSTON.

Tunadilla, September 18, 1776.

An extract of a letter from Mr. *Spencer* at the *Oneidas*, to Colonel *Dalton* at *Fort Schuyler*, formerly called *Fort Stanwix*, warning the inhabitants to take care, for *Butler* was landed at *Oswego* with one hundred men, *Indians* and *Canadians*; and it is said there is more coming. They are intended to attack your country in five different places, viz: *German Flat-Stone*, *Ruby*, *Mohawk River*, the *Delaware*, and it is supposed the *Susquehanna* River, too. Now, you can take care and put yourselves in readiness, and send word to *Coschethon*, and stand your ground, and keep a Ranging company to watch their roads from *Chenango* across to you, and from *Oswego* and from *Tioga*. The people at the *Mohawk River* are in great confusion, so that our *Tunadilla* people cannot get much help from them. They have raised three companies, seventy-eight men in each company, to range in the woods on the frontiers, and are all employed now; and the country has had an alarm, occasioned by our scout finding a fire in the woods, and some fresh pork on sticks roasting by the fire, above *Shanackadigo*, up the *North River*. The scout was so close to them that they ran up a hill, and it appeared by their tracks to be about seventeen or eighteen men, and our scouts ran round the hill, but could not see them. It is supposed they got their meat from some that support them there; and I hope that all good people upon *Delaware* will take particular care, and not let any disaffected persons be harboured about you in your woods.

Now, sir, you may see by the above the danger you and we are in; and as we lie just in the way for the enemy to make their march to you, and to prevent their so doing, and for our mutual safety, oh! sir, you would do well to use your best endeavours to send us thirty or forty men, to be stationed here for some time at *Tunadilla*, with store of arms and ammunition; for we resolve as long as life permits to stand our grounds if we can have but some assistance. Our *Onaquagas* at the news of *Butler's* army at *Oswego*, mustered up in all speed about twenty-five or thirty of their Chiefs, and they were pleased in a friendly manner to come out of their way to tell us not to fear, as yet they would meet their friends at *Oneida* to prevent the enemy coming down upon us, and advise all *Indians* to lie by and not meddle in the present dispute; and if friend *Indians* would not be advised to lie neuter, our *Indians* are gone prepared to make battle against them; and if there was any immediate danger they would send two of their number to inform us. As yet we have had no account; in four or five days we expect them here, if they can keep the friend *Indians* from lifting the hatchet against us. What further may be said on this subject, the bearer, Mr. *Carr*, can inform.

Your care in this, and answer with speed, will greatly oblige us, your friends and well-wishers here in general, and me and mine in particular, who remain yours in all sincere affection,

WILLIAM JOHNSTON.

P. S. This to be laid before your Committee, or such good friends as will give us immediate aid against approaching danger. Further the bearer informs that the self-same

FIFTH SERIES.—VOL. II.

day he came away there was a man from *Venango* that informs that *Butler* has sent to them for to come and treat with him, or else he would send an army to cut them off; and the Chiefs are all gone to the treaty; and the *Onaguaga Indians* say that if they cannot have help soon they must either join or do something else. The *Onaguaga Indians* say they must have word within ten or twelve days, so as to know what to do in the affair.

MATE OF A VESSEL ON LAKE CHAMPLAIN TO THE NEW-YORK CONVENTION.

Left camp 18th September, 1776; about two hundred sick, principally with a little flux; most of them fit to stand on guard at the camp; none dangerous; little fever and ague.

That they have made fascines at *Isle-aux-Noix* to land their cannon on; their cannon in good order; the army in general well; *Isle-aux-Noix* low land bears clover; a *French* family on it; a large barn on it, which would make a good barrack; a dry, fine soil.

Met *Lamb* opposite to *Isle la Motte*; they went about eight knots; would get to the army in four hours; met him 19th.

Goforth at *Isle-aux-Noix*; three companies at *Ticonderoga*, of grey with green; at *Lake George* a company, (Captain *Woodward*, 25th,) of grey with blue—these were proceeding; at *Albany*, 27th, part of three companies, waiting for arms—they were proceeding; a company from *New-York* at *Crown Point*, only staid a night—21st, in the morning, they proceeded; *Stephen McDougall* there.

Near three thousand fit for duty; Major *Brown* came with a guard of fifty *Canadians* and got one hundred men volunteers, who went to *Chamblée*; got safe; belongs to Eastern regiment; lives at *Sandersfield*; about twenty-six years of age.

CONNECTICUT COUNCIL OF SAFETY.

At a meeting of the Governour and Council of Safety of *Connecticut*, September 18, 1776,

Present: His Honour the Governour, his Honour the Deputy-Governour, *Eliphalet Dyer*, *Jabez Huntington*, *Richard Law*, *William Hillhouse*, *Nathaniel Wales*, Jun., *Benjamin Huntington*, and P. M., *Titus Hosmer*, Esquires.

Voted, That an order be given to Colonel *Porter* to cast proper wheels and bed for a Powder-Mill, for Colonel *William Pitkin & Co.*, for the use of their Powder works at *Hartford*; taking the direction of Colonel *Pitkin* for the model thereof.

Voted, To draw on the Pay-Table for £220, in favour of Colonel *William Pitkin*, for making of Powder, and to be in account: (Order drawn September 18, 1776.)

Voted, That this Council do advise his Honour the Governour to grant to *James Church*, of *Hartford*, a permit to export a cargo of the value of sixty or seventy pounds to the foreign *West-Indies*, for the purpose of purchasing a load of Salt, to be brought into this State, for supplying the inhabitants with that article.

Upon the representation of Colonel *Samuel Coit*, of the Eighth Regiment of Militia in this State, that he, by reason of age and infirmity, is unable to serve in the present expedition as a Colonel in the Militia, now ordered to *New-York*, praying his Honour to release him, &c.:

Voted and Resolved, That said Colonel *Coit* be, and he is hereby, excused from said service in the present expedition, and he has liberty to return home accordingly.

Voted, That this Council do approve of an order drawn by his Honour the Governour on the Pay-Table, in favour of Colonel *Jonathan Fitch*, for £1,000, dated September 13, 1776, to be in account.

Voted, That this Council do approve of an order drawn by his Honour the Governour, September 17, 1776, upon Colonel *William Pitkin*, for forty pounds of Powder, in favour of Mr. *Asahel Case*, of *Norfolk*, for town stock, to be delivered at 5s. 4d. per pound.

Voted, To draw an order on the Pay-Table for £50, in favour of Captain *Elijah Hide*, to enable him to advance in part of wages of the gentlemen of the Horse under his command on their expedition to *New-York*, &c., to be in account.

Voted, To desire his Honour the Governour to draw on

Lieutenant-Colonel *Livingston* for eight Guns, for the use of the gentlemen of the Horse on their expedition to *New-York*.

Voted, That his Honour the Governour is desired to draw on the Pay-Table to amount of 20s. per man of the gentlemen of the Horse on their expedition towards *New-York*, who are to march under command of Captain *Andrew Lathrop*, of *Norwich*; said order to be in his favour, and to be in account.

Whereas great numbers of our distressed friends, inhabitants of *Long-Island*, by advice and request of the Convention of *New-York*, have fled and escaped from the enemy there, and more are still expected from thence into this State, in a destitute and helpless condition, and stand in need of assistance of the people here for their support, there being no law of this State which fully extends to their case:

Wherefore it is *Voted* and *Resolved* by this Council, that the Committee of Inspection in the several Towns where such distressed people come, be, and they are hereby, advised to provide such things as they shall judge necessary for the support of the people aforesaid, until the sitting of the General Assembly in *October* next, keeping an exact account of their expenses thereof, and that they lay the same, with the circumstances of those people, before said Assembly, for such orders and advice as they shall give thereon.

It being represented to this Board that many of the Troops from this State are returning home sick and wounded, and that they are exposed to suffer for want of proper accommodations and refreshments:

Voted and *Resolved*, That convenient Hospitals be provided for the reception and accommodation of the Troops from the Army at and near *New-York*, who are sick, on furlough, or discharged; that one or more such Hospitals be procured in every Town between *New-Haven* and *King's Bridge*, in the State of *New-York*; that a suitable person be employed at each of said Hospitals, whose duty it shall be to see that the same be furnished with provisions and refreshments for the use of the sick and wounded soldiers that may be received there, and that they be properly attended and taken care of therein; that the Selectmen in the Towns from *New-Haven* to *Greenwich* be appointed and empowered on behalf of this State, to take up and provide such Hospitals in their respective Towns, and to procure proper persons to oversee and furnish said Hospitals as aforesaid, and also to examine into the state and circumstances of sick soldiers belonging to this State on the road home, and to afford them such assistance as they judge necessary, and that Mr. *Elkanah Tisdale* be appointed to provide such Hospitals in the State of *New-York*, and appoint overseers to furnish them as aforesaid; that an order be drawn on the Pay-Table to draw upon the Treasurer, to pay said *Elkanah Tisdale* the sum of £100 lawful money, to enable him on his part to carry this Resolve into execution, and render his account of the same, and that said *Tisdale* do communicate and leave attested copies of this Resolve with several Selectmen aforesaid, and that he do also advise with, and ask the assistance of, the Committees in the State of *New-York*, and also of General *Washington*, (if necessary,) in executing this Resolve as aforesaid. (Order drawn and delivered Mr. *Tisdale*, September 20, 1776.)

MAJOR CARNES TO GENERAL GATES.

Fort George, September 18, 1776.

HONOURED SIR: My Colonel not being very well, I thought it my duty to acquaint you with it, and with the progress the regiment has made in the business we came upon.

The next day after we got here our men were despatched with flour and other stores for the use of the army with you, and they continue to carry cattle and stores daily, and have made great despatch, and to the entire satisfaction of the gentlemen here.

Colonel *Greaton* (with whom I came down at his earnest desire) began, as we thought, to mend upon his coming here; but for several days has been very ill indeed, and his life measurably despaired of, and it is now thus. He is very dangerous. But too much cannot be said in praise of the Conductor-General, and other gentlemen of the faculty. They have done every thing for the Colonel, and for others, that it was possible for men to do.

The sickness here rather abates, and I am persuaded that the mortality would not have been nigh so great as it has been, if the sick had been sent here sooner. Major *Loring* and other officers mend that came but lately, and they intend as soon as possible to return to their respective regiments.

Part of the troops that went from here returned last night, but not all, nor enough to do the duty necessary to be done, as I am informed. But Colonel *Phinney* is ready for your orders, and would have returned now if all the troops had come back. As for news, we have nothing very late that is very material.

Wishing, sir, that you may long be continued a great blessing to the *United American States*, and that your enemies may fall before you, I subscribe myself your Honour's most obedient, humble servant,

JOHN CARNES.

To the Hon. *Horatio Gates*.

P. S. Colonel *Phinney's* men are, almost all of them, used to the water, and understand boating.

OLIVER ELLSWORTH TO GOVERNOUR TRUMBULL.

Hartford, September 18, 1776.

SIR: Your Honour will not, perhaps, expect to be informed that any accounts of disbursements by this State, for the common safety, the year past, remain yet unprepared to lay before the Continental Congress for adjustment. This, however, is the case with regard to all the Commissaries' accounts, none of whom, notwithstanding the Assembly have ordered, and the Pay-Table Committee by advertisements requested their speedy settlement, have as yet exhibited their accounts, except Mr. Commissary *Bissel*, with whom a settlement could not be completed, as he was not, at that time, possessed of all the requisite vouchers. Your Honour will please to advise what further steps are to be taken for bringing those accounts to a final close, by, sir, your Honour's most respectful and obedient, humble servants,

THOMAS SEYMOUR, for
OLIVER ELLSWORTH.

To the Hon. Governour *Trumbull*.

To the Printer of the CONNECTICUT Courant:

In your *Courant* of the 2d instant I was advertised as an enemy to my country; whether injuriously or not, you will better enable the publick to judge by publishing the following extracts from the Journals of the Assembly of the State of the *Massachusetts-Bay*.

The Petition of *Charles Goodrich*, Esq., of *Pittsfield*, in the County of *Berkshire*, having been considered, the following Resolve is passed thereon, viz:

"In Council, September 16, 1776.

"Whereas the Committee of the Town of *Pittsfield* have advertised the said *Goodrich* in the *Connecticut Courant* of September 2d, 1776, as an enemy to his country, to the end that all connections and commercial intercourse be withdrawn from him till he give satisfaction for his unfriendly conduct; and the said Committee have set forth the reasons of their proceeding against him in this manner, the principal of which are, 'his having procured to himself a commission in the King's name, to exercise authority over the people as a Justice of the Peace, which they seem to have considered as a submission to *British* authority; his not paying a proper regard when he was drafted from the alarm-list to serve in the expedition against *Canada*; and his having joined himself with the most ancient Tories and implacable enemies among us.'

"As to the first charge, Mr. *Goodrich* received a commission from the major part of the Council of this Colony, of such tenure and form as they judged it proper to adopt, and such, as far as they could learn, as was agreeable to the practice of the other Colonies, and agreeable to the sentiments of the Congress. The said Committee, therefore, in exhibiting this charge, have discovered an entire ignorance of the line of their duty, and great indecency towards the constitutional authority of this State.

"With regard to the second article of charge, it appears that Mr. *Goodrich* considered himself as not liable, by the laws of this State, to be drafted from the alarm-list, in such

manner and for such purposes as was intended; and that therefore it was he did not yield a ready compliance, according to the expectation of the Committee. The other charges being general, and not supported by any proper proof or evidence, do not merit attention.

"Wherefore, it is *Resolved*, That it does not appear to this Court that the said *Charles Goodrich*, Esq., ought to be stigmatized as an enemy to his country; but that on the other hand, we consider him as a friend to the rights of mankind, and to the grand cause in which these *United States* are engaged.

"In Council, *September 16, 1776*,

"Read and accepted. Sent down for concurrence.

"*JOHN AVERY, Deputy Secretary.*"

"The foregoing is a true copy of the Resolve on the Petition of *Charles Goodrich*, Esq., which passed the honourable Board, and brought down to the House of Representatives, *September 16, 1776*.

"Attest: *SAM. FREEMAN, Clerk.*"

The following Vote is the reason that a concurrence with the proceeding was not tried in the House of Representatives, viz:

"In the House of Representatives, *September 16, 1776*.

"On motion, *Voted*, That no private matter be taken up during the present sitting of this Court.

"Extract from the minutes.

"Attest: *SAM. FREEMAN, Clerk.*"

The Committee above referred to are: *Valentine Rathburn, Joseph Wright, William Francis, Aaron Baker, Joseph Keeler, William Barber, Stepan Crawfoot, James Noble, and John Strong*. If these men, as the honourable Council have adjudged, ignorant of the line of their duty, would usurp a power to control their own constitutional Legislature, and punish with infamy a man for paying a dutiful respect to their acts and appointments—if these men, with the cry of liberty, and the misplaced confidence of the credulous, are aiming at a total dissolution of the powers of Government, and force a people, made desperate with anarchy, to seek a refuge in the jaws of *British* tyranny—if these are their views, and this the tendency of their conduct, they ought to be named to the publick, and guarded against as the most dangerous species of internal enemies.

I am, sir, your's and the publick's friend and humble servant,

CHARLES GOODRICH.

Pittsfield, September 18, 1776.

PROVIDENCE (RHODE-ISLAND) TOWN-MEETING.

At a Town-Meeting of the Town of *Providence*, holden on the 18th day of *September*, A. D. 1776, by adjournment, Captain *John Updike* Moderator:

Voted, That each soldier who inlists himself into this town's proportion of the Battalion to replace Colonel *Richmond's* Regiment, equip himself fit for marching to *Newport*.

Voted, That the officers be ordered not to inlist any men out of the neighbouring towns in the County into this town's proportion of the men for the Battalion now raising to go upon *Rhode-Island*, until *Saturday*, the 21st instant, and that they inlist the number of forty-three able-bodied men, as this town's proportion of said Battalion, officers included, who belong to this town.

Voted, That one hundred small-arms, belonging to the Town of *Providence*, be sold and delivered to Colonel *John Mathewson*, for the use of the State, at the price of £3 18s., each, and that the money therefor be paid to the Town Treasurer as soon as may be.

GENERAL LINCOLN TO MASSACHUSETTS COUNCIL.

Boston, September 18, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: By the late resolve of Court, the General Officer is to appoint a Brigade Major to each brigade. I should be glad of your Honours' advice, whether I am confined in the appointment to Militia officers? There are now no Brigade Majors in the Militia. It is an office of great importance, and requires a good degree of knowledge in military matters. I should be glad of your Honours' advice, also, whether such an officer may expect allowance

for a horse? Without one he cannot go; neither can he, in common case, do without one in camp.

Colonel *Crafts* will wait on your Honours for an answer.

I am your Honours' most obedient servant,

BENJ. LINCOLN.

TO THE PRINTER OF THE LONDON CHRONICLE.

London, September 19, 1776.

SIR: Observing that the Earl of *Chatham's* speech in favour of the *Americans* is now republished, and circulating by thousands through the kingdom, will you be pleased, at this most important crisis, to publish the following extract from Governour *Pownall's* celebrated speech in defence of the *Americans*, in 1769, which, with all submission, is no way inferior to his Lordship's:

"If you attempt to force taxes against the spirit of the people of *America*, you will find, when perhaps it is too late, that they are of a spirit which will resist all force, which will grow stronger by being forced—will prove superior to all force—and ever has been unconquerable: they are of a spirit to abide, nay, to court persecution: and if, amongst other propositions which they have taken up, they should once take it into their heads, that they are under a state of persecution, that spirit of enthusiasm which is of their temper, and of their very nature, will arise, and every mischievous consequence, in every extreme, will accompany it.

"This spirit is not dead in them; it is only dormant; the utmost care and skill of those who lead them, either in civil or religious matters, is employed to restrain and keep it down. If this spirit should once take fire—and believe me, sir, it is in such a state of inflammability, that the smallest spark would give it fire—it will break out into a flame, which no reason, no prudence, no force, can restrain: those who yet retain some lead, and have kept matters from running to extremities, to whom the people still listen—will either lose that lead, or will take the lead of this spirit when it shall be once gone forth—and if the ministers (whom we here call the clergy) once fall in with this spirit, if the people once call on them, they must take the lead—and if they do, the people (to use their own phrase) will be led by *Moses* and *Aaron*, by the civil and religious, under a bond of unity that no factions will divide, no force can break.

"The spirit of their religion will, like *Moses'* serpent, devour every other passion and affection; their love for the mother country, changing its nature, will turn to the bitterest hate; their affectation of our modes and fashions (the present source of great part of our commerce) will become an abomination in their sight.

"That spirit which led their ancestors to break off from every thing which is near and dear to the human heart; from every connection which friendship, relation, blood, could give; which led them to quit every comfort that a settled and civilized country (their own native country) could afford; and to encounter every difficulty and distress, which a wild wilderness of savages could oppose to them; * to struggle even for their existence,—that spirit equally strong, and equally inflamed, has but a slight and trifling sacrifice to make at this time; they have not to quit their native country, but to defend it; they have not to forsake their friends and relations, but to unite with and stand by them, in one common union. The only sacrifice they have to make is, that of a few follies and a few luxuries. It is not necessity that is the ground of their commerce with you; it is merely the affectation of our modes and customs: the love for home, as they call *England*, that makes them like every thing which comes from thence; but passion may be conquered by passion, and they will abominate as sincerely as they now love you; and if they do, they have within themselves every thing which is necessary to the food, raiment, or the dwelling of mankind, and have no need of your commerce.

"But, that gentlemen may not think this to be mere harangue, I will come to particulars. They have a great surplussage of hides; and leather hides are even part of their exports. They have peltry. They have wool, linen, and cotton. They work up all these, and have home-made and home-spun sufficient for their clothing. They have fish, game, beef, mutton, and every other article, at about one-third of the price which we pay here! They have iron

* See *Hutchinson's history*, as he calls it.

and copper, which they cast and work up in every form that is necessary. The only difficulty which they have at first to labour against, will be the manufacture of hardware. But when I tell the House that they do already make all the implements of husbandry better than those which come to them from *England*—and that the husbandmen buy such in preference to those made in *England*—they will see how large a stride they have taken towards the establishment of this branch of business; and (overloaded, from various reasons, as every branch of our manufactures is with manufacturers,) if a stop be put to them but for one year! The tide is on the turn; the manufacturers with the turn of that tide, will go over in shoals to *America*, as they once came over hither from the *Netherlands*. If it be not the humour of the House to bear to be told this now, they will remember it hereafter.

“In one word. If the spirit of the *Americans* should once arise upon the idea of persecution, those people whom *Great Britain* hath, to this hour, drawn as it were with a thread, and whom it has governed, as you have been ingeniously told,* with a little paper and pack thread, you will not, for the future, be able to govern it with a rod of iron: and every benefit which this country has derived from that country, will be stopped at every source.

“If it be not the humour of the House to believe this at present, I only beg they will remember it has been said, and that they are forewarned of it.”

Is it possible that any man living could have foretold with greater precision, the precise crisis that hath now, in this our day, come into event? Could an angel from Heaven have spoken more to the purpose? Yet this did not please; a certain late Governour's hypocritical epistles and criminal misrepresentations suited better, and for which he now enjoys an enormous pension, while Mr. *Pownall* (really the King's friend) has nothing at all from Government.

I am, sir, your most obliged, humble servant,
AN AMERICAN.

TO THE PRINTER OF THE LONDON CHRONICLE.

London, September 19, 1776.

SIR: I confess I was once an advocate for the *Americans*; their claim to be exempted from Parliamentary taxation seemed to me to be founded in justice; and I thought it was equitable at least to give them security against an oppressive exercise of it. But some of their late proceedings have convinced me that their opposition is not dictated by true patriotism, but by a spirit of tyranny and despotism. I shall not insist on their having destroyed the liberty of the press, and preventing any thing from being published amongst them, which controverted the measures of the Congress; I shall not mention their having obliged peaceable citizens, at the peril of the loss of their lives and fortunes, to subscribe associations, however contrary to their principles and opinions. Some of the late resolutions of the Provincial Congress at *New-York*, must fill the mind of every good man, of every friend to the rights of humanity, with indignation and horror. We there find these pretended advocates for freedom audaciously depriving their fellow-citizens of the common privilege of investigation and speech, precluding them of the benefit of trial by jury, subjecting them to punishments by *ex post facto* laws, and exposing to the mercy of an unconstitutional and inquisitorial judicatory, the fortunes and lives of those whom they may determine have spoken disrespectful of their proceedings, or controverted their authority. A judicatory, indignant reader! which may be composed of men who may at the same time act in the capacity of accusers, legislators, and judges, and enjoy the forfeited estates of those who may be so unhappy as to fall under their sentence. Are these the men for whom *Englishmen* are contending? Is the happiness of thousands to be sacrificed, to aggrandize riches like these? Shall the sacred name of Liberty be made the instrument to glut the avarice, the tyranny, of such enemies to civil society? I beg leave only to insert an extract from the resolves of the Provincial Congress, which met at *New-York*, on September 1, 1775, and submit it to the perusal of every impartial Briton:

“Resolved, That if any person or persons shall hereafter deny or oppose the authority of the Continental or this

* By Mr. Burke.

Congress, or the Committee of Safety, or the Committees of the respective Counties, Cities, Towns, Manors, Precincts or Districts, in this Colony, or dissuade any person or persons from obeying the recommendations of the Continental or this Congress, or the Committee of Safety, or Committees aforesaid, and be thereof convicted before the Committee of the County, or any thirteen or more of their number, who shall or may meet upon a general call of the Chairman of the Committee where such person or persons may reside, that such Committee shall cause such offenders to be disarmed, and for the second offence they shall be committed to close confinement at their respective expense; and in case any of the said Committees are unable to carry this or any resolution into execution, they are hereby directed to apply to the next County Committee, or Commanding Officer of the Militia, &c., for necessary assistance, as the case may require. But if it shall so happen, that any violators of this resolution shall reside in a County where there is no Committee of the County, in that case the matter shall be triable before the Committee of the next County, &c.

“Resolved, further, That the respective Committees and the Militia of the several Counties by order of their respective Committees, or of the Commissioned Officer of the Militia then nearest, are expressly enjoined to apprehend every inhabitant or resident of this Colony, who now is, or shall hereafter be discovered to be enlisted, or in arms against the liberties of *America*, and to confine such offender or offenders into safe custody, and his or their punishment is reserved to the determination of this or some future Provincial Congress. And the Committee nearest to any person who shall be so enlisted, or hath taken up arms against the liberties of *America*, are hereby directed to appoint some discreet person to take the charge of the estate, both real and personal, of any such person or persons; which person so appointed, shall be invested with such estate, and render on oath a just and true account thereof to this or some future Congress, or to Commissioners to be by them appointed, and pay the issues and profits thereof to the Treasurer appointed by this Congress for the use of the associated Colonies.”

Thus have these pretended advocates for liberty given us a true picture of their spirit and designs; and the best punishment which can be inflicted on their abettors in this country, would be to transport them to that, that they may experience the difference between the mild and equitable laws of a *British* Parliament and the tyrannical edicts of an *American* Congress.

I am, sir, your humble servant, APPIUS.

SPEECH OF HIS EXCELLENCY JOHN RUTLEDGE, ESQ., PRESIDENT AND COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF IN AND OVER THE STATE OF SOUTH-CAROLINA, TO THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY MET AT CHARLESTOWN ON THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 19, 1776.

Honourable Gentlemen of the Legislative Council,
Mr. Speaker, and Gentlemen of the General Assembly:

I think it my duty to pay this tribute of applause to those brave troops, who, in repelling the formidable *British* armament which attacked them on *Sullivan's Island*, vainly flattering themselves with an assurance of easy conquest, displayed firmness and intrepidity that would have reflected honour on *Roman* veterans; and I most heartily congratulate you on their heroick behaviour. It is an auspicious presage of what may be expected from the valour of our other troops, when theirs shall be the post of danger; as it demonstrates that men, animated by an ardent zeal for the sacred liberties of their country, and trusting in the Divine support, are capable of the most glorious achievements.

The *Cherokee Indians* having committed such barbarous acts of hostility as threatened desolation to the frontier settlements, at a time when the enemy lay in view of this town and an attack on it was daily expected, a considerable force was immediately sent into that nation to obtain satisfaction for their cruel outrages, by acting with the greatest vigour. Our people have behaved with much spirit. It has pleased God to grant very signal success to their operations, and I hope, by His blessing on our arms and those of *North-Carolina* and *Virginia*, from whom I have promises of aid, an end may soon be put to this war.

Since your last meeting, the Continental Congress have declared the *United Colonies* free and independent States,

absolved from allegiance to the *British* Crown, and the political connection between them and *Great Britain* totally dissolved—an event which necessity had rendered not only justifiable but unavoidable. This declaration, and several resolves of that honourable body received during your recess, shall be laid before you. I doubt not you will take such measures as may be requisite in consequence of them.

A well-regulated Militia being essential to the preservation of our freedom, I am persuaded you will think with me that your time cannot be better employed than in framing a law for making such improvements in the Militia as may produce the most beneficial consequences.

It is not improbable that, at the season appointed for the meeting of the next Assembly, the business of legislation must yield to that of a different nature; and it behooves us to employ this time of the enemy's absence in making the best preparations for defence, and enacting such laws as the present exigencies demand. I have therefore thought it for the publick service to call you together now, that you may deliberate on those matters which tend to the interest and security of the State.

I shall propose what, in the course of your session, appear so to me, and be happy in receiving your advice on, and concurring with you, in any that may effect those important objects.

JOHN RUTLEDGE.

September 19, 1776.

To this Speech, the Legislative Council returned the following Answer:

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR EXCELLENCY: We, the Legislative Council now met in a Constitutional Assembly of the State, return your Excellency our thanks for your speech to both Houses at the opening of the present session; it contains information truly glorious and important, and must be highly acceptable to every true lover of his country.

The late defeat of the *British* forces by our troops on *Sullivan's Island*, near *Charlestown*, is an illustrious event in our history. Those troops acquired as much honour as troops could obtain. By their bravery, under God, our country was relieved from much anxiety, and procured present safety. And we rejoice at the opportunity we have of paying our tribute to their merits, at the same time congratulating your Excellency upon their conduct, which was and is as honourable to themselves as important to the State. We embrace this auspicious presage of what may be expected from our other troops, in whom we have a most perfect confidence; and we are persuaded, that men animated with an ardent zeal for the liberties of their country, and trusting in the Lord of hosts, are equal to the most ardent enterprises.

The critical commencement of the *Cherokee* war fills us with a just indignation of the treachery of those savages, and convinces us of what, indeed, we had before little reason to doubt, of the indiscriminate atrocity and unrelenting tyranny of the hand that directs the *British* war against us. But it has pleased God to take an injured people under his protection, and to bless our arms with distinguished success, as well against our *British* enemies as their savage allies. In repelling this barbarous attack on our people, the spirit of our frontier inhabitants deserves the highest commendations; and with a continuance of the Divine favour upon their efforts, now in conjunction, as we have reason to believe, with the good people of *North-Carolina* and *Virginia*, we hope by a speedy and complete conquest of the *Cherokee* lands, already so happily and far advanced by our arms, this State, as well as our neighbouring States, will be effectually secured from a repetition of those hostilities from those merciless savages in a day of distress.

The Declaration of the Continental Congress, that “the *United Colonies* are, and of right ought to be, free and independent States—that they are absolved from all allegiance to the *British* Crown, and that all political connection between them and the State of *Great Britain* is, and ought to be, totally dissolved,” calls forth all our attention. It is an event which necessity had rendered not only justifiable, but absolutely unavoidable. It is a decree now worthy of *America*. We thankfully receive the notification of and rejoice at it; and we are determined at every hazard to endeavour to maintain it, that so, after we have departed, our children and their latest posterity may have cause to bless our memory.

We shall pay all proper attention to the resolves of the

truly honourable Continental Congress, and enter into such measures respecting them as may be expedient for the publick service.

Sensible as we are that a well-regulated Militia is essential to the preservation of our freedom, your Excellency may be assured that we shall endeavour to place that bulwark of our safety upon the best foundation; and that now, while we have an opportunity free from the immediate alarms of war, we shall diligently proceed so as to amend our old laws and to form others as may effectually tend to prosecute the publick interest, to be in a proper state of preparation to repel the expected attacks of the enemy, and in general to establish the best polity in our new State.

We beg leave to notify to your Excellency our entire satisfaction in and approbation of your publick conduct during the time of your administration.

In the Legislative Council the 20th day of *September*, 1776.

By order of the House:

THOMAS SHUBRICK, *Speaker*.

To this Answer of the Legislative Council, the President replied:

HONOURABLE GENTLEMEN: The sentiments which you express respecting our troops, must give them great pleasure.

Your determination to endeavour to maintain the independence of the *United States*, at every hazard, proves that you know the value and are deserving of those rights for which *America* contends.

I doubt not your attention to publick business; and am glad to find that my conduct meets with your approbation.

JOHN RUTLEDGE.

September 20, 1776.

—
To His Excellency JOHN RUTLEDGE, Esq., President and Commander-in-Chief of the State of SOUTH-CAROLINA: The Address of the General Assembly of the said State.

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR EXCELLENCY: We, the Representatives of the State of *South-Carolina*, met in General Assembly, beg leave most heartily to join your Excellency with our tribute of applause to those brave troops who lately signalized themselves by their firmness and intrepidity in repelling the formidable *British* armament which attacked them on *Sullivan's Island*, and thereby disappointing the vain and flattering expectations of our cruel and unnatural foes; a tribute we deemed justly due from an injured country for such heroick behaviour, and a grateful testimony of the early and auspicious presage of the future valour and heroism of men animated by the noblest of all incentives—an ardent zeal for the sacred liberties of their country, and a confidence in Divine justice.

We are happy to find the barbarous and ungrateful attempt of the *Cherokee Indians*, instigated by our *British* enemies, on our frontier settlements, are checked by the spirit and activity of our brave countrymen in those parts; and from their past success, as well as the zeal and activity of our friends of *North-Carolina* and *Virginia*, hope a speedy end will be put to the outrages of those detestable savages.

It is with unspeakable pleasure we embrace this opportunity of expressing our satisfaction in the declaration of the Continental Congress, constituting the *United Colonies* free and independent States, absolved from allegiance to the *British* Crown, and totally dissolving all political union between them and *Great Britain*; an event unsought for, and now produced by unavoidable necessity; and which every friend to justice and humanity must not only hold justifiable as the natural effect of unremitted persecution, but equally rejoice in as the only effectual security against injuries and oppressions, and the most promising source of future liberty and safety. The Declaration of Independency and Resolves of the honourable the Continental Congress, now laid before us, shall be the principal objects of our attention in our deliberations for the publick good.

We are fully persuaded that it is essential to the liberties and support of a free State to have a well-regulated Militia; and more especially to this State, in the present circumstances of affairs in *America*. We shall therefore think it our duty, while the business of legislation is not interrupted by the din of arms, to employ every opportunity to effect a

purpose so beneficial, in making the best preparations for defence, and in framing such laws as are necessary for the safety and security of the State.

In the General Assembly the 20th day of *September*, 1776.

By order of the House:

JAMES PARSONS, *Speaker*.

HIS EXCELLENCY'S ANSWER.

MR. SPEAKER AND GENTLEMEN: This most honourable reward cannot fail to make the deepest impression upon generous minds. It will increase the laudable ambition of those on whom it is conferred, and excite others to emulate that fame which they have acquired.

May the happiest consequences be derived to the *United States* from the independence of *America*, who could not obtain even peace, liberty and safety by any other means.

Your disposition and assurances afford a confident expectation that this session will be usefully employed.

JOHN RUTLEDGE.

September 21, 1776.

GENERAL MOORE TO THE PRESIDENT OF CONGRESS.

[Read October 7, 1776.]

Wilmington, September 19, 1776.

SIR: Yours of the 3d instant I had this day the honour to receive, and shall with all possible despatch proceed to execute the order of Congress, for marching two battalions of the Continental troops to the reinforcement of the army at *New-York*.

One entire battalion and a considerable part of two others having marched on an expedition to *Florida*, will put it out of my power to make up two full battalions. I flatter myself I shall, however, be able to march with about eight hundred men, and leave a sufficient number for the defence of this place.

I hope to begin my march in two days, and be assured, sir, nothing in my power shall be wanting to afford a timely aid to our friends engaged in the glorious cause of liberty, than which not any thing will contribute more to my happiness.

I have the honour to be, sir, your most obedient and very humble servant,

JAMES MOORE.

To the Hon. *John Hancock*, Esq.

ADDRESS TO GENERAL STEPHEN.

The Address of the Officers of the Fourth VIRGINIA Battalion to ADAM STEPHEN, Esq., Brigadier-General in the service of the UNITED STATES OF AMERICA:

SIR: It is with heartfelt satisfaction that the Officers of the Fourth Battalion have been informed, that the honourable Continental Congress have been pleased to promote you to the rank of a Brigadier-General in the Continental service. We conceive it a promotion justly due to your merit; and please to permit us to congratulate you on this event, which we cordially hope may be attended with every possible degree of happiness to yourself, and service to the just cause in which you have so early and readily embarked.

When we reflect, sir, on the kind, the indulgent, the manly treatment we have received whilst under your immediate eye, as commandant of our battalion; when we also consider with what facility you established amongst us that discipline and order so essential to the preservation and glory of an army, we are at a loss which most to admire, the polite gentleman or the accomplished officer.

By the regulation of Congress we fear we shall be deprived of you—although it is amongst one of the most desirable wishes of our hearts to be still under your immediate direction and command; should we, sir, be so unfortunate as to find our conjectures right on this occasion, we would wish you to know that the officers of the Fourth Battalion, with hearts replete with gratitude and respect, will devoutly implore the Divine Being for your safety and protection, in whatever part of *America* the service of the *United States* thereof may require your presence.

Portsmouth, September 19, 1776.

GENERAL STEPHEN'S ANSWER.

GENTLEMEN: I am sensible of the honour done me by your friendly and affectionate address.

In the course of all my service, and this is the twelfth campaign, I have seldom met with officers so warmly attached to the service, or so anxious and attentive to study their duty.

It is owing to you, gentlemen, that discipline has been established in the regiment with so much facility.

The harmony that has subsisted in the corps, and your exemplary conduct to the soldiers, has made me easy and happy in the command.

I will be ever interested in the behaviour of the Fourth Battalion, and am firmly persuaded that, when opportunity offers, they will distinguish themselves in the most honourable manner, in the service of the *United States*.

That your ardour may be tempered with prudence, and your efforts crowned with success, is the ardent wish of, gentlemen, your most affectionate, humble servant,

ADAM STEPHEN.

To the Officers of the Fourth Regiment.

COLONEL TRAVERS TO MARYLAND COUNCIL OF SAFETY.

September 19, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: The conduct of *Levi Willen*, First Lieutenant, and *Job Todd*, Ensign, in Captain *Henry Lake's* company, of my battalion, being very exceptionable, I beg you will be pleased to appoint a Court-Martial to inquire into their conduct.

I am, with much respect, gentlemen, your most humble servant,

WILLIAM TRAVERS.

To the Honourable Council of Safety of *Maryland, Annapolis*.

MARYLAND COUNCIL OF SAFETY TO COLONEL SIM.

[No. 184.]

Annapolis, September 19, 1776.

SIR: We send by Captain *L. Covington*, the bounty money for raising a company of Militia in your County. We do not send the month's pay advance, because we think the company ought to be in some forwardness before that money is issued. Arms are to be borrowed or impressed. You are to have a meeting of Field-Officers and Captains on *Monday* next, by order of Convention. When the recommendations are completed, we will send down warrants and money for guns, on having the appraisement returned.

We are, &c.

To Colonel *Joseph Sim*.

THOMAS GANTT TO MARYLAND COUNCIL OF SAFETY.

September 19, 1776.

HONOURED SIR: Mr. *Thomas N. Stockett* being desirous of being appointed Assistant Surgeon, applied to me for a recommendation concerning his medical knowledge, having lived with Mr. *Stockett* for four or five years past, the greatest part of which time he applied himself to the study of *physick*; and since my leaving that place, have had frequent opportunities of being acquainted with his method of practice; think him sufficiently qualified to act in that character, should you think proper to appoint him.

Remain your obedient servant,

THOMAS GANTT, 3D.

To the Hon. *Daniel of St. Thomas Jenifer*, Esq.

COLONEL SIM TO THE MARYLAND COUNCIL OF SAFETY.

Prince George's County, September 19, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: In compliance with a resolve of Convention, of the 6th instant, and sent me, I have recommended the bearer, Captain *Levin Covington*, to command the company to be raised in this County; and I have also recommended the other three commissioned officers, who are all very agreeable to the people, and are now engaged in recruiting; and I flatter we shall be able, in a very short time, to complete the company within my district. But as nothing effectual can be done without having both the bounty and advance money in hand, Captain *Covington* now waits on you for it; which I hope will be furnished him.

As the guns are to be furnished for this company, it will

be absolutely necessary the money for this purpose should be also sent down immediately.

I am, gentlemen, your most obedient servant,

JOSEPH SIM.

To the Hon. the Council of Safety of Maryland.

AN ACT FOR THE SECURITY OF THE GOVERNMENT OF NEW-JERSEY.

Whereas it is essentially necessary for the safety of the State that every person who holds any office or post of a publick nature should evince his fidelity and attachment to the Government from whence he derives protection, and under which he is authorized to act: and whereas, to effect this important purpose, it is necessary that a proper test be established, to be taken by all officers, civil and military, within this State; and that the Governour or Commander-in-Chief be authorized by law to administer such test, and the official and other necessary oaths, in the several Counties thereof:

1. *Therefore, Be it enacted by the Council and General Assembly of this State, and it is hereby enacted by the authority of the same,* That the following test shall be taken by all officers, civil and military, who are now in office, or hereafter shall be appointed, elected, or commissioned, within the several Counties of this State; that is to say:

"I, A B, do sincerely profess and swear (or, if one of the people called *Quakers*, affirm) that I do not hold myself bound to bear allegiance to the King of *Great Britain*; so help me God."

"I, A B, do sincerely profess and swear (or, if one of the people called *Quakers*, affirm) that I do and will bear true faith and allegiance to the Government established in this State, under the authority of the people; so help me God."

Which oaths or affirmations shall be administered by any person or persons who shall be duly authorized to tender the same by the Commander-in-Chief of this State, by *dedimus protestatem* or otherwise. And all officers refusing or neglecting, for the term of one month after notification given by any person named in the *dedimus protestatem*, to take the said test, are hereby declared to be disqualified and incapable of executing such their offices; in which case some other fit person or persons shall, pursuant to law, be appointed or elected, as the case may require.

2. And whereas it is necessary that fit persons be duly empowered to qualify the Magistrates and other officers who have been or shall be elected, appointed or commissioned throughout this State:

Be it enacted by the authority aforesaid, That his Excellency the Governour, or the Commander-in-Chief for the time being, shall be, and he is hereby authorized to issue commissions of *dedimus protestatem*, or other commissions, from time to time, as occasion may require, for the purposes aforesaid.

3. *And be it enacted by the authority aforesaid,* That the act passed the 5th of May, 1772, intituled "An Act for the security of his Majesty's Government of *New-Jersey*," and so much of the act passed the 10th of February, 1727-'8, intituled "An Act prescribing the forms of declaration of fidelity, the effect of the abjuration oath and affirmation, instead of the form heretofore required in such cases, and for repealing the former acts in the like cases made and provided," as relates to taking affirmations to the King of *Great Britain*, and the acts thereby repealed, shall be, and the same are hereby, repealed.

Passed at *Princeton*, the 19th of September, 1776.

Pursuant to the foregoing Act, his Excellency the Governour has been pleased to issue a commission to the Members of the Council, the Justices of the Supreme Court, the Secretary and the Clerk of the Supreme Court, empowering them, and each of them, to administer the oaths and affirmations, as the case may require, to all officers, civil and military, within this State; and commissions to the Judges and Clerks of the Inferiour Courts of Common Pleas, empowering them, and each of them, to administer the oaths and affirmations, in like manner, within their respective Counties.

By RICHARD Viscount HOWE, of the Kingdom of IRELAND, and WILLIAM HOWE, Esquire, General of His Majesty's Forces in AMERICA, the King's Commissioners for restoring Peace to His Majesty's Colonies and Plantations in NORTH-AMERICA, &c., &c., &c.

DECLARATION.

Although Congress, whom the misguided *Americans* suffer to direct their opposition to a reestablishment of the Constitutional Government of these Provinces, have disavowed every purpose of reconciliation not consonant with their extravagant and inadmissible claim of Independence, the King's Commissioners think fit to declare that they are equally desirous to confer with his Majesty's well-affected subjects, upon the means of restoring the publick tranquillity, and establishing a permanent union with every Colony as a part of the *British Empire*. The King being most graciously pleased to direct a revision of such of his royal instructions to his Governours as may be construed to lay an improper restraint on the freedom of legislation in any of his Colonies, and to concur in the revisal of all acts by which his Majesty's subjects there may think themselves aggrieved, it is recommended to the inhabitants at large to reflect seriously upon their present condition and expectations, and judge for themselves whether it be more inconsistent with their honour and happiness to offer up their lives as a sacrifice to the unjust and precarious cause in which they are engaged, or return to their allegiance, accept the blessings of peace, and to be secured in a free enjoyment of their liberties and properties, upon the true principles of the Constitution.

Given at *New-York*, September 19, 1776.

HOWE.

W. HOWE.

By command of their Excellencies:

STRAGHEY.

EXPLANATION OF A LATE DECLARATION.

By RICHARD Viscount HOWE, of the Kingdom of IRELAND, and WILLIAM HOWE, Esq., General of his Majesty's Forces in AMERICA, the King's Commissioners for deluding the good people of AMERICA by insidious offers of peace, or shedding their blood without mercy.

DECLARATION.

Although the Congress, whom the much-injured *Americans* suffer to direct their opposition to the establishment of tyranny, and an unconstitutional Government over these Provinces, have disavowed every purpose of reconciliation not consonant with that liberty to which they have the most clear and undeniable right, the King's Commissioners aforesaid think fit to declare, that they are equally desirous to confer with his Majesty's subjects (if any so weak and abandoned are to be found) upon the means of establishing a permanent tyranny over every Colony, and fix them the everlasting slaves of the *British empire*.

The King being most graciously pleased to direct a revision of such of his Royal instructions as may seem not to lay a sufficient restraint upon the freedom of legislation in any of the Colonies, and to concur in the revisal of all acts by which his subjects there may think themselves aggrieved, for the better strengthening and confirming the same, it is recommended to the inhabitants at large to reflect seriously upon their present condition and expectations, and to judge for themselves, whether it be more consistent with their honour and happiness to risk their lives in defence of a glorious Independency, or return to the galling yoke of tyrannick usurpation, and be deprived of every security in the enjoyment of their liberty and properties upon the true principles of a wicked and destructive policy.

HOWE.

W. HOWE.

GENERAL WASHINGTON TO THE PRESIDENT OF CONGRESS.

Head-Quarters, at Colonel Roger Morris's House, }
September 19, 1776. }

SIR: Since I had the honour of addressing you yesterday nothing material has occurred; however, it is probable in a little time, the enemy will attempt to force us from hence as we are informed they are bringing many of their heavy cannon towards the heights and the works we have thrown up. They have also eight or nine ships of war in the

North River, which, it is said, are to cannonade our right flank, when they open their batteries against our front. Every disposition is making on our part for defence, and Congress may be assured that I shall do every thing in my power to maintain the post so long as it shall appear practicable and conducive to the general good.

I have the honour to be, sir, your most obedient servant,
Go. WASHINGTON.

GENERAL WASHINGTON TO GENERAL HOWE.

Head-Quarters, September 19, 1776.

SIR: I have the honour to advise you, that in consequence of General *Sullivan's* information, first by letter and afterwards verbally, that you were willing to exchange him for Major-General *Prescott*, and Brigadier-General *Lord Stirling* for any Brigadier of yours in our possession, I wrote to Congress to send General *Prescott* to some convenient place from whence the proposed exchange might be made.

And supposing that it would be agreeable to exchange *Lord Stirling* for Brigadier-General *McDonald*, he is also come forward with General *Prescott*. Both these gentlemen are now at *Elizabethtown*, and I only wait your answer to this, in which you will please to fix the time and place, when and where the exchange may be effected.

I am, sir, with due respect, &c.,

Go. WASHINGTON.

To Lieutenant-General *Howe*.

GENERAL WASHINGTON TO COMMANDING OFFICER OF MASSACHUSETTS MILITIA.

Head-Quarters, at Colonel Morris's House, ten miles from }
New-York, September 19, 1776. }

SIR: The honourable Assembly of the State of the *Massachusetts-Bay* having informed me by letter of the 13th instant, that they have ordered a number of Militia to reinforce the army under my command, and requested my order for their destination, I therefore request that you will give direction that the whole of them may be brought forward as expeditiously as they can; sending before you, when you get within three or four days' march of *King's Bridge*, an officer to receive instructions from me how they are to be stationed and disposed of. It will be proper to send notice of this to the officers who are behind you with part of the men, that they may know how to conduct themselves.

I am, sir, &c.,

Go. WASHINGTON.

To the Commanding Officer of the First Division of the *Massachusetts* Militia marching towards *King's Bridge*.

GENERAL WASHINGTON TO THE MASSACHUSETTS ASSEMBLY.

Head-Quarters, Colonel Roger Morris's House, ten miles from }
New-York, September 19, 1776. }

GENTLEMEN: I was honoured the night before last with your favour of the 13th instant, and at the same time that I conceive your anxiety to have been great, by reason of the vague and uncertain accounts you received respecting the attack on *Long-Island*, give me leave to assure you that the situation of our affairs, and the important concerns which have surrounded me, and which are daily pressing on me, have prevented me from transmitting, in many instances, the intelligence I otherwise should have conveyed.

In respect to the attack and retreat from *Long-Island*, the publick papers will furnish you with accounts nearly true. I shall only add, that in the former we lost about eight hundred men; more than three-fourths of which were taken prisoners. This misfortune happened, in great measure, by two detachments of our people who were posted in two roads leading through a wood, in order to intercept the enemy in their march, suffering a surprise, and making a precipitate retreat, which enabled the enemy to lead a great part of their force against the troops commanded by *Lord Stirling*, which formed a third detachment, who behaved with great bravery and resolution, charging the enemy and maintaining their posts from about seven or eight o'clock in the morning till two in the afternoon, when they were obliged to attempt a retreat, being surrounded and overpowered by numbers on all sides, and in which many of them were taken. One battalion (*Smallwood's* of *Maryland*) lost two hundred and fifty-nine men, and the general damage fell upon the regiments from *Pennsylvania*, *Delaware*, and *Maryland*, and Colonel *Huntington's*, of *Connecticut*.

ware, and *Maryland*, and Colonel *Huntington's*, of *Connecticut*.

As to the retreat from the Island, it was effected without loss of men, and with but very little baggage. A few heavy cannon were left, not being moveable on account of the ground's being soft and miry through the rains that had fallen.

The enemy's loss in killed we could never ascertain; but have many reasons to believe that it was pretty considerable, and exceeded ours a good deal. The retreat from thence was absolutely necessary, the enemy having landed the main body of their army there to attack us in front, while their ships of war were to cut off the communication with the city, from whence resources of men, provisions, &c., were to be drawn.

Having made this retreat, not long after we discovered by their movement and the information we received from deserters and others, that they declined attacking our lines in the city, and were forming a plan to get in our rear with their land army, by crossing the *Sound* above us, and thereby cut off all intercourse with the country, and every necessary supply. The ships of war were to coöperate; possess the *North River*, and prevent succour from the *Jerseys*, &c. This plan appearing probable, and but too practicable in its execution, it became necessary to guard against the fatal consequences that must follow, if their scheme was effected; for which purpose I caused a removal of a part of our stores, troops, &c., from the city; and a council of General Officers determined on *Thursday* last that it must be entirely abandoned; holding up, however, every show and appearance of defence, till our sick and all our stores could be brought away. The evacuation being resolved on, every exertion in our power was made to baffle their design and effect our own. The sick were numerous, and an object of great importance; happily we got them away; but before we could bring off all our stores, on *Sunday* morning, six or seven ships of war, which had gone up the *East River* some few days before, began a most severe and heavy cannonade, to scour the ground and effect a landing of their troops. Three ships of war ran up the *North River* that morning above the city, to prevent our boats and small craft carrying away our baggage, &c.

I had gone the evening before to the main body of our army, which was posted about the Heights and Plains of *Harlem*, where it seemed probable, from the movements and dispositions of the enemy, they meant to land and make an attack the next morning. However, the event did not happen. Immediately on hearing the cannonade, I rode with all possible expedition towards the place of landing, where breastworks had been thrown up to secure our men, and found the troops that had been posted there, to my great surprise and mortification, and those ordered to their support, (*Parsons's* and *Fellows's* brigades,) notwithstanding the exertions of the Generals to form them, running away in the most shameful and disgraceful manner. I used every possible effort to rally them, but to no purpose; and, on the appearance of a small party of the enemy, not more than sixty or seventy in number, they ran off without firing a single shot. Many of our heavy cannon would have inevitably fallen into the enemy's hands, as they landed so soon; but this scandalous conduct occasioned a loss of many tents, baggage, and camp-equipage, which would have been easily secured had they made the least opposition. The retreat was effected with the loss of three or four men only. We encamped, and still are, on the Heights of *Harlem*, which are well calculated for defence against their approaches. On *Monday* morning they advanced in sight in several large bodies, but attempted nothing of a general nature, though there were smart skirmishes between their advanced parties and some detachments from our lines, which I sent out. In these our troops behaved with great resolution and bravery, putting them to flight in open ground, and forcing them from posts they had seized, two or three times. A Sergeant who deserted from them says, the report was they had eighty-nine missing and wounded, and eight killed; in the last instance his account is too small, because our people have buried more than twice as many. In number our loss was very inconsiderable; but in the fall of Lieutenant-Colonel *Knowlton*, of *Connecticut*, I consider it as great, being a brave and good officer. Major *Leitch*, who commanded a detachment from the *Virginia* regiment, unfortunately

received three balls through his side; he still supports his spirits, and seems as if he would do well. Colonel *Knowlton* was interred with every honour due to his merit, and that the situation of things would admit of. Since this affair, nothing has happened. The enemy, it is said, are bringing forward several heavy cannon to force us from the Heights. At the same time that they open their batteries in front, their ships of war, seven or eight of which are in the *North River*, are to cannonade our right flank.

Thus have I run over, in a cursory, rough way, an account of the most material events from the battle on *Long-Island* to the present moment. I have not time to study order or elegance. This, however, I do not so much mind, and only wish my narrative was more agreeable; but we must set down things as they are. I hope they will be better; nothing on my part shall be wanting to bring about the most favourable events.

I am now to make my most grateful acknowledgments to your honourable body for the succour they meant to afford me in the Militia lately ordered to march, and have only to lament that they should be so unprovided with tents and other camp necessities. Our distresses in these instances are extremely great, having by no means a sufficiency for the troops already here; nor do I know how they can be procured. I am at a loss for the officers' names who command this reinforcement, as they are not mentioned; however, I have wrote by *Fessenden* that they should lead the men on as fast as possible, sending before them, when they get within one or two days' march of *King's Bridge*, an officer to receive orders from me how they are to be disposed of. Instructions given now might become improper, by the intervention of a variety of circumstances.

I have the honour to be, &c.,

GO. WASHINGTON.

To the Hon. *Jeremiah Powell*, Esq., President, &c.

JOHN HUNTER TO JOHN M'KESSON.

King's Bridge, September 19, 1776.

SIR: I have been very industrious in getting the Linen Manufactory removed to *Hackensack*; it is necessary for me staying there, to have it carried on. General *Scott* would not have me resign my commission without orders from Congress. Mr. *Rosevelt* is for my continuing with the Factory. Mr. *Ramsey* has been sick for some time at *Elizabethtown*. Please send me an answer by return of the post, to be left at General *Scott's*.

I am, sir, yours respectfully,

JOHN HUNTER.

To *John McKesson*, Esquire.

JOHN THOMAS, JUN., TO NEW-YORK CONVENTION.

In Committee of Safety for the County of Westchester, }
White-Plains, September 19, 1776. }

GENTLEMEN: As a great number of poor and indigent persons, as well from the work-house as others of *New-York*, have been sent into this County, and no person to take care of them, it has been recommended to us to provide houses for said poor, which we have done in the best manner we could, which was to divide them in the several districts of said County; and as we find they must suffer, though they have houses provided, unless they have food, and as food is not to be got without money, we cannot find any one to provide for the said poor, without your honourable House will interpose either by appointing some person or persons to provide for them, or else to empower us to appoint persons in each district to provide for them, and at the same time we must be furnished with money as well to pay what has been laid out for the use of said poor as to purchase more provision. Humanity causes us to solicit your interposition, as without it the poor must suffer in spite of all can be done. By order of Committee:

JOHN THOMAS, Jun., Chairman.

To the President of the Convention of the State of *New-York*.

ROBERT AND JAMES TOTTEN TO NEW-YORK CONVENTION.

September 19, 1776.

We, having part in a brig laying in *Sawpit Creek*, agreed, with the other owners, to have her loaded in *Philadelphia*, in consequence of which we ordered a freight of flour, pur-

FIFTH SERIES.—VOL. II.

chased in that place. On applying to the Committee for a permit to go round in ballast, they did not incline to agree thereunto. Their reasons against it were, the danger of the Captain's availing himself of such an opportunity of going over to the enemy. The design of her voyage was to take a cargo of flour for *Curacoa*, and return with a freight of salt. We should thank the Convention if they would, as soon as convenient, give us their determination on the matter.

ROBERT & JAMES TOTTEN.

To the President of the Convention of *New-York*.

GENERAL GATES TO GENERAL ARNOLD.

Tyonderoga, September 19, 1776.

DEAR GENERAL: Last night I received your letters of the 15th and 16th instant, with the examination of Sergeant *Thomas Day*, late of Colonel *McLane's* regiment, and the old *Canadian*. The former I take to be the truth as nearly as he had an opportunity of knowing it. The latter I think of exactly as you do. However, it behooves us to keep a good look out.

I am much pleased with the disposition you have made with the fleet; confident it is the best. General *Waterbury* is indefatigable in fitting the galleys, and if he is not detained for want of proper rope for breechings, I see nothing can stop them more than a week at most.

This will be delivered you by Captain *Hawley*; General *Waterbury* thinks you will immediately appoint him to the command of the *Royal Savage*; he takes all his seamen with him.

Mr. *Avery* writes you by this conveyance, and explains the article relative to provisions; sufficient of both fresh and salt shall be sent you by the galleys.

I have this morning a letter from General *Schuyler*, in which is the following paragraph:

"I cannot inform you of what is passing at *New-York*; General *Washington's* time is so totally engrossed that I can hardly expect he should write me, unless there is an absolute necessity." This is every syllable I have heard since I had the pleasure to write to you last.

As this conveyance is not so entirely certain as that of the galleys, I shall defer being more particular until General *Waterbury* sails.

I am, dear General, your affectionate, humble servant,

HORATIO GATES.

To Brigadier-General *Arnold*.

P. S. The tobacco papers will be delivered you by the bearer.

COLONEL BARRETT TO GENERAL GATES.

Rutland, September 19, 1776.

SIR: In obedience to your Honour's commands, as soon as I arrived on *Otter Creek*, I immediately sent an express off with your Honour's orders to Major *Hoisington*. Said express has this instant returned without any thing from the Major more than verbal, which is that they were under the direction of the Committees only, and were not raised or incorporated to work on the roads, but for scouting only; therefore refuse to comply. The express informs me the reason assigned therefor was, that he had a scout out or about to go out, of two men of his party, but was not out when your Honour's orders arrived there, as the express avers. I would inform your Honour that there are two hundred men stationed that way, exclusive of Major *Hoisington's*, raised by the State of *New-Hampshire*. Your Honour's further orders in the affair I shall cheerfully and vigorously pursue. The party I have on the road and bridge are as expeditious as possible. The great bridge will be raised next week, and I hope finished if the weather permits. I am in want of spades; I could get but eight at *Skenesborough*.

From your Honour's most obedient, humble servant,

JOHN BARRETT, Superintendent.

To the Hon. General *Gates*.

MASSACHUSETTS COUNCIL TO GENERAL LINCOLN.

Watertown, September 19, 1776.

SIR: Your two letters of yesterday are now before us,

and you now have enclosed a printed copy of a resolve of the General Court; by perusing the same you will find that no provision is made for the appointment of brigadiers to this service. The Council on finding this to be the case, have given over the purpose of appointing any. By the same resolve you will also learn the power vested in you of appointing Brigade-Majors; and the Council have no doubt of your making judicious appointments. The Council apprehend they cannot with propriety give directions as to the furnishing horses for the use of officers or any other persons.

To General Lincoln.

COPY OF A LETTER FROM CAPTAIN BRAITHWAITE, OF THE HAMPDEN PACKET, DATED FALMOUTH, ENGLAND, SEPTEMBER 20, 1776.

September 5.—I received the mail and sailed for *Lisbon*, with the wind to the northward. I received as passengers Mr. Scott, Mr. Fisher, and Mr. Smith, and as distressed subjects, Captain Thomas Moore, his mate and five of his people, being the master and part of the crew of the *Mary and James*, of *Falmouth*, bound from *London* to *Salerno*, *Naples*, and *Messina*, but last from *Falmouth*, having sailed from thence the 20th of *August*, with a cargo worth between twenty and thirty thousand pounds, and was taken the 1st instant, on the coast of *Portugal*, fourteen leagues northwest from *Cape St. Vincent*, (in sight of *Mount Chigo*;) by an *American* privateer of eight carriage guns and a number of swivels, commanded by *Simon Forrester*,* an *Irishman*, well known at *Lisbon* and *Falmouth*. The privateer was sloop rigged and called the *Rover*; it being little wind, and rowing with twelve oars, she soon came up with Captain Moore. She had taken before, six sail on the coast, whose people she landed at *Faro*. The 22d of *August* a *Guineaman*, from *Bristol*, *John Baker*, master, engaged her, but blew up in the action, and only three men saved out of twenty-eight. They stripped Captain Moore and his people of every thing, and even threatened their lives, and sent the prize directly for *America*. The next day, being about eight leagues from *Cape Spichell*, they gave Captain Moore his boat, in which he reached *Setuval* that night. The Captain of the privateer would not tell him what place he belonged to, but said there were an hundred and fifty of them fitted out of different ports of *America*. The people told Captain Moore they belonged to *Salem*, and that several more had sailed from thence for the coast of *Spain* and *Portugal*.

T. P. BRAITHWAITE.

EXTRACT OF A LETTER FROM CAPTAIN MOORE, LATE COMMANDER OF THE MARY AND JAMES, DATED FROM ON BOARD THE HAMPDEN PACKET-BOAT, ARRIVED AT FALMOUTH.

You will be surprised at hearing from me in this part of the world. The reason you will see by the protest handed to you. I was taken by a privateer called the *Rover*, a sloop of eight carriage guns and fourteen swivels; when she left *America* she had on board eighty men, but when they took me they had only thirty-eight. The Captain's name is *Simon Thomson*; where she belonged to, I could not learn from them. They appeared more like pirates than any thing else. They had taken six vessels before mine, but I do not remember any of their names; she had also an engagement with a snow belonging to *Bristol*, Captain *Bates*, which blew up after fighting six hours; only three of the crew were saved out of twenty-six, two of whom were landed on the coast of *Algarve*, with three masters of vessels and their crews, and the others entered on board the privateer. There were men of different nations on board of her, but the Captain and major part of the crew were *Irish*.

A. J. ALEXANDER TO GENERAL WASHINGTON.

Grenada, September 20, 1776.

SIR: It is probable the many years I have been settled in this country, may almost have made you forget the acquaintance we once had. The noble and generous part you have acted in the foremost rank of the most honourable struggle that mankind were ever engaged in, shall always

*Another account calls him *Thompson*.

make me look upon that acquaintance as the greatest honour of my life.

I must confess I have long had an ambition to write you, to convince you of my hearty concurrence in measures which appear to me planned and executed with equal wisdom and justice. No man in the same humble sphere has raised his voice higher than myself in the cause of liberty, and I should be too happy to be able to contribute towards the support of that cause, which I consider as the cause of mankind.

Captain Moulton, the bearer of this, has promised to deliver it if he should be taken; if not, he will destroy it. I need hardly recommend him to your protection; the known humanity of your disposition makes me certain that he will meet with every indulgence which is consistent with the general welfare. I beg my most respectful compliments to your brothers, to Dr. Franklin, to Richard Henry Lee my old and intimate school-fellow, and in general to all your friends in *Virginia*, most of whom were formerly my acquaintance.

I am, with the greatest respect, sir, your most obedient and most humble servant,
A. J. ALEXANDER.
To General Washington.

COLONEL CRAWFORD TO GENERAL WASHINGTON.

Williamsburgh, September 20, 1776.

SIR: I should have been glad to have the honour of being with you at *New-York*, but I am doubtful we shall be involved in an *Indian* war to the westward, as the *Shawnees* and *Delawares* seem in doubt, and from the last accounts from *Fort Pitt*, had not met our people (Doctor Walker and the Commissioners) who were sent to treat with them from this Government. I should have come to *New-York* with those regiments ordered there, but the regiment I belong to is ordered to this place. If a war with the westerly *Indians* happen, I am to go there.

I this Spring, before I came from over the mountains, called at *Simpson's*, to see your mill go for the first time of its running; and can assure you I think it the best mill I ever saw any where, though I think one of a less value would have done as well. If you remember, you saw some rocks at the mill-seat; those are as fine mill-stone grit as any in *America*. The millwright told me the stones he got for your mill there were equal to *English* burrs. Your land on *Shurlee's Creek* is well cultivated, ready to your hand; the men on it thinking you have no patent for that land, or that, if you have, that you will sell them the land on reasonable terms.

At our last Convention I mentioned the state of lands, and the state of the claimants in general, and amongst other circumstances, mentioned the expense you had been at in having the first improvements on that land, and then laying a warrant on them, and notwithstanding those persons would take it at any rate, upon which an ordinance passed, that all equitable claims should take place. Some, I understand, have since been trying to sell their right of your land; but I have had some advertisements printed and sent up, forewarning any person to purchase those lands, setting forth your title.

I have laid the balance of your warrant on some land on the river that I think will suit, but have not got it run out to my mind, as there is some dispute, and I believe I shall buy them out, if I can reasonable.

Excuse the length of this letter. I shall only add that I wish you to enjoy life, health, and overcome all enemies, and should be happy to see you once more enjoy yourself in pleasure at *Mount Vernon*.

I am, sir, your most humble servant,

WM. CRAWFORD.

To His Excellency General Washington, *New-York*.

Williamsburgh, September 20, 1776.

A vessel has arrived at *Hampton*, with twelve hundred bushels of salt; and on *Thursday* one came up to *Burwell's Ferry*, with a quantity of that useful article, besides rum, sugar, linens, &c. She came from *Cape Nicola Mole*, and brings advice of an insurrection of the *Negroes* in *Jamaica*, on account of the scarcity of provisions. Between sixty and seventy white people had been killed, numbers of the

Negroes taken and gibbeted, and martial law proclaimed through the Island.

His Excellency General *Lee* is expected here daily from the southward.

Last *Thursday* Captain *Theodorick Bland's* Troop of Light-Horse arrived in town from *Petersburg*; and yesterday arrived, from *Gloucester*, the Seventh Regiment of Foot, (late *Daingerfield's*, now *Crawford's*) in place of the Fifth, who, as well as the Fourth and Sixth, are under orders to proceed to *New-York*.

COLONEL WRIGHT TO MARYLAND COUNCIL OF SAFETY.

Queen Anne's County, September 20, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: In obedience to a request from the President of the Convention, signified to me by his letter of the 8th instant, I immediately wrote to the several Captains, and Commanding-Officers where there are no Captains, requesting them to call their companies together—those on *Kent Island* to meet on *Monday*, and those on the main to meet on *Tuesday*, now past. A few days after I had wrote to the officers on the main, the principal persons in five of the companies (some of the officers in them excepted) had a meeting, and determined to meet on the *Monday*, and not on the *Tuesday*, agreeable to my request. Being in hopes it would be in my power to remove some prejudices, I desired Majors *Hemsley* and *Emory* to attend at *Kent Island*, (where more than an hundred privates attended,) and determined to go myself to the other field, where, after the privates were drawn up in one line, to the number of sixty or seventy, Mr. *James O'Bryon* informed them that the business of the day was to choose Field-Officers; that there was a probability of there being none gratified; that he offered himself for the first office, and said he demanded it as a matter of right for two reasons: first, because he was the oldest officer in the battalion, and, secondly, because he thought himself as well qualified, if not better, than any other. Three gentlemen were then named to take the polls. The number of those who voted, I cannot, with certainty, pretend to say, as I was by the company denied a copy of the number of votes, but believe it somewhere between fifty and sixty. However, on the clerks examining their numbers, Mr. *James O'Bryon* was declared duly elected Colonel, Mr. *James Bordley* Lieutenant-Colonel, Mr. *John Dames* First, and Mr. *George Hause* Second Major.

While the men were standing up, I happened to be in argument with Mr. *Turbutt Wright*, a threat was made to throw us over the fence. I knew it was designed for myself. However, it did not intimidate me from speaking my sentiments.

It is well known that gentleman has publickly advised the people not to meet in battalion under any appointment but their own, and he avowed it in the last Convention. It is said that some of the gentlemen (Delegates from *Queen Anne's County*) have wrote over to some of their friends, who have long opposed the Convention with regard to their appointments, not only of Field Officers, but other Militia officers, that the Convention is disposed to gratify them in their own appointments, and that now is the time. If that be the case, why does not the Convention signify it to us, or take the commissions from us by commissioning others? The people have been induced to believe they ought not to submit to any appointments but those made by themselves; so that whenever I have requested a meeting of the battalion, part of the officers and five of the companies have met before, and not on the days I appointed. The other four companies in the Twentieth Battalion have always conformed to the regulations of Convention, and, I believe, approve of the power being lodged in that respectable body.

It appears to me needless to attempt, hereafter, to call the battalion, as some of those who have received commissions from Convention, as well as others, refuse to obey orders—particularly those voted for and chosen last *Monday*.

There have been very few applications made to the Field Officers, and as we are of opinion no time was to be delayed, if any service was expected this Fall from the company to be raised in this battalion, we met yesterday and have recommended; but I am really apprehensive there will be great difficulty in arming them, if it is to be done with the Militia arms. There may be a few muskets offered for sale,

and I believe but few. As for impressing, which the Convention has given authority for, I shall not choose by any means to do it, and believe the other gentlemen will not. I most heartily wish some mode could be adopted to restore harmony to this distracted country; but which way it can be effected, I know not. Some are displeased with the Convention or Council of Safety appointing, and others, I believe, are not.

I have been informed the Convention has adjourned till *Monday* week, which is the reason of my giving your Board the trouble of this; but am determined, if I can make it convenient, to attend their next meeting, in hopes that something may be done to settle the unhappy disputes.

I am, gentlemen, your most obedient servant,

TH. WRIGHT.

To the President of the Council of Safety, at *Annapolis*.

CUMBERLAND DUGAN TO MARYLAND COUNCIL OF SAFETY.

Baltimore, September 20, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: Having a large quantity of bread belonging to the publick on hand already baked, and a vessel to dispose, that we think must answer your purpose, thought it most proper to advise you thereof. She is a large schooner that will carry about eleven hundred barrels flour, completely found ready for sea, a good sailer and as tight as a bottle. The price we ask for her is £850. If she will any way suit you, beg you'll advise me immediately for my government, as if she does not answer you, hope very shortly to dispose of her to some people of this place. Dare say the quantity of bread we have baked belonging to you, together with what Mr. *Spear* has baked for you, will entirely load this vessel, and if immediately sent out must come to a good market almost any where. I, myself, am just now returned from *Boston*, where I have been on a visit to my friends there, where I found both bread and flour very scarce and high; indeed scarcely any to be got; not one barrel of sweet flour was to be had in the whole town of *Boston*, and bad as it was, sold quick at four dollars per hundred weight. I think this vessel of ours loaded with a cargo of bread in bulk to go to *Boston*, must answer well with a little flour, and for returns could purchase best *India* goods of any kind very low, as they are falling still lower every day, from the great quantities of prizes that are constantly coming into them. I was myself for several days at their publick sales of prize cargoes, where I saw great quantities of sugars, spirits, rum, coffee, cotton, &c., sell very low indeed; or if those articles would not answer, it appears to me there might a great deal of money be made on a cargo of salt. I see it sell in *Boston* at four shillings per bushel by the quantity, and it was thought by most people there it would be lower, as a great many of their vessels were gone after salt, thinking it will be scarce and dear, which is thought there will not be the case; that I really believe salt may be bought as low in *Boston* as any where we can safely send for it, as there are many circumstances in favour of a vessel getting there safe, from their good forts on *Nantucket* and other heights, near which no King's ships will dare to come, and their coast is so much of iron-bound one (so called) that no ship will dare to lay off there this time of the year.

This vessel of ours will carry about four or five thousand bushels of salt, which would be a very handsome back freight, and she is extremely adapted for the purpose of carrying salt, being a very buoyant vessel that will not load too deep. I hope, gentlemen, you won't imagine I intend to dictate to you what should be done in those matters, as you undoubtedly do know much better than I can think or imagine; but several of my friends here advised me to write to this purport, what I know of these matters, which I hope you won't take amiss, as so great a quantity of bread being ready and much in our way, want to make more room, &c., and get it out while the bay is clear. Your favouring me with a line on this subject immediately will much oblige me, and if I can in any wise serve you in loading this vessel, shall be extremely glad of the favour, in which hope I act to your approbation in every respect.

Gentlemen, your most obedient, most humble servant,

CUMBERLAND DUGAN.

To the Honourable the Council of Safety of *Maryland*.

JESSE HOLLINGSWORTH TO MARYLAND COUNCIL OF SAFETY.

GENTLEMEN: The vessel Mr. *Dugan* mentions in his letter I know well, and do think she would answer your purpose either to carry bread or bring salt. She is a good vessel, and I think a fast sailer. I loaded her once, when she had a passage of about twenty days from here to *Bristol* in *England*, and I do believe what Mr. *Dugan* sets forth in his letter is matter of fact. There is not another vessel in this place will suit you as well as this. Indeed I believe there is not another you can have here at any rate.

Gentlemen, your most obedient servant,

JESSE HOLLINGSWORTH.

N. B. As to the value of this vessel, leave that to you and Mr. *Dugan*, but she is valuable.

BOARD OF WAR TO GENERAL WASHINGTON.

War-Office, September 20, 1776.

SIR: This will be handed you by four *French* gentlemen, who arrived from *Martinique*, well recommended, and they have accordingly been appointed by Congress officers in the Army of the *United States*. The first, Monsieur *Marquis de Malmedy*, is appointed Major by brevet. Monsieur *Jean Louis Imbert* is an Engineer, and goes without any particular appointment, to be employed in that capacity, in order to show to your Excellency his abilities, that you may judge of his qualifications. Monsieur *Christian de Colerus*, is appointed to the rank and pay of Major by brevet, and Monsieur *Jean Louis de Vernejout*, is appointed a Captain by brevet. They are ordered to wait on you for directions as to the duty they are to execute.

I have the honour to be, your obedient humble servant,
RICHARD PETERS, *Secretary Board of War*.

To His Excellency General *Washington*, &c., &c., Head-Quarters.

TH. JOHNSON, JR., TO MARYLAND COUNCIL OF SAFETY.

Philadelphia, September 20, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: I enclose you a letter from Mr. *Harrison*, which came under cover, together with a bill of lading for seventy-four casks of powder, each fifty weight, in the *Nancy*, Captain *Cirvin*, to Messrs. *Willing & Morris*. We have entrusted the powder into Mr. *Hollingsworth's* care, and requested him to forward it to you. The bill of lading is for the delivery of the goods on payment of £40 5s. in dollars at 7s. 6d., but the owner of the vessel alleges an agreement with Mr. *Harrison* that the customary freight should be paid. Nothing of the kind is mentioned in Mr. *Harrison's* letter to *Willing & Morris*. Will you be pleased to write us whether Mr. *Harrison* has advised you of it, and what you would have done? The claim is ten per cent. on the powder, valued at 5s. per pound, which comes to just double the money mentioned in the bill of lading.

I am, gentlemen, very respectfully, your most obedient servant,

TH. JOHNSON, JR.

To the Honourable Council of Safety of *Maryland*.

MARYLAND DELEGATES IN CONGRESS TO COUNCIL OF SAFETY.

Philadelphia, Friday, September 20, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: Captain *Watkins* waits on you by our advice with a return of his company, by which it appears he has now here only thirty-seven effective men, and indeed several of that number appear to us not really effective. The men complained of not being furnished with blankets and clothing according to the engagement made with them, and from this ground, as Captain *Watkins* alleges, the present discontent of the men originated. We have no certainty of getting the clothing, though our endeavours shall be continued. The officers have procured the blankets. Lieutenant *Long* goes to *Worcester* to endeavour to get the deserters to return to their duty, under our assurance, which we have presumed to give, that on their immediate return the past shall be forgiven. Captain *Watkins* and his men, we are very sorry to inform you, are on very ill terms. The Captain has beat some of them. He says he had great cause; they say he had none. Some of the men have said nothing shall induce them to continue in the company under Captain *Watkins*. We shall endeavour to keep the remnant of the men together under the care of the

Third Lieutenant until your orders can interpose; for though an inquiry seems to us to be necessary, it cannot be had here. If the Independent companies should be regimented, or even if the soldiers' clothes can be got, perhaps order may be restored in the company.

We have a letter of the 15th instant from Captain *Thomas*, from whence it appears our sick have not such care taken of them as they ought. We wish, if it is in your power to send a skillful and attentive person, who should have the immediate care of the Independent companies, you would do so. We have requested Doctor *Bond* to recommend such a one that we may prefer him to Congress for this purpose; but from the Doctor's answer, we almost despair of finding a suitable person here.

By a letter from General *Washington* of the 8th instant, we had a little brush on *Monday*, in which the enemy had about one hundred killed and wounded. Our loss was considerably less. Report had much exaggerated our advantage. Major *Leitch*, of the *Virginians*, is wounded, though it is hoped he will recover. Some of *Richardson's* and *Griffith's* battalions were in the action, and behaved well.

Colonel *Richardson* told *William Paca* that he lodged in the same house as Captain *Watkins*—that he is addicted to drink; and his appearance at several times we have seen him bespeaks it. Perhaps Colonel *Richardson* would not choose that what he said should be mentioned to Captain *Watkins*.

We are, gentlemen, your most obedient servants,

THOS. JOHNSON, JUN.,
WM. PACA,
SAM'L CHASE,
T. STONE.

To the Honourable Council of Safety of *Maryland*, at *Annapolis*.

By a letter this minute received from General *Washington*, dated the 19th, we are informed that he expects a general attack on his lines.

WILLIAM WILLIAMS TO GOVERNOUR TRUMBULL.

[Private.]

Philadelphia, September 20, 1776.

HONoured AND DEAR SIR: It will undoubtedly be needless for me to give you any account of the evacuation of *New-York* by our army, on Sabbath-day, the 15th—of most of our heavy cannon falling into the hands of our enemies, &c., as it will be communicated to you by my brother Commissaries, many ways ere this can reach your hand. This event, unhappy and distressing as it is, has been foreseen and known ever since the quitting of *Long-Island*, and had been determined by the General and his Council. Congress had been made fully acquainted with, and assented to it, as absolutely necessary, and directed that the city should not be destroyed by us on leaving it. These events, however, and signal advantages gained by our opposers, and the distress to which our army and country are and must be subjected in consequence of them, are loud-speaking testimonies of the displeasure and anger of Almighty God against a sinful people—louder than sevenfold thunder. Is it possible that the most obdurate and stupid of the children of *America* should not hear and tremble? God has most certainly a controversy with this people, and he is most certainly able to manage it, and he will accomplish his designs, and bring us to repentance and reformation, or destroy us. We must bend or break. The ways of his providence are dark and deep, but they are holy, wise and just, and altogether right, though our feeble understandings comprehend them not; and though his chastisements are severe and dreadful, they are dictated by unbounded wisdom and love. They have a meaning of awful and kind import: "Turn unto me, for why will ye die, oh sons of *America*?" We have thought God was for us, and had given many and signal instances of His power and mercy in our favour, and had greatly frowned upon, and disappointed our enemies, and verily it has been so. But have we repented, and given him the glory? Verily, no! His hand seems to be turned and stretched out against us; and strong is his hand, and high is his right hand. He can and will accomplish all his pleasure. It is God who has blunted the weapons of our warfare—that has turned the counsels of wise men into foolishness—that has, thus far, blasted and disappointed our hopes,

and made us flee before our enemies, and given them possession of our strongholds. Trouble does not spring out of the dust, nor rise out of the ground. I have always thought this was a just and righteous cause in which we are engaged. I remain unshaken in that firm persuasion, and that God would sooner or later vindicate and support it. I believe so still; but I believe this people must first be brought to know and acknowledge the righteousness of his judgments, and their own exceeding sinfulness and guilt, and be deeply humbled under his mighty hand, and look, and cry to, and trust in Him, for all their help and salvation, but in the use and exertion of all the strength he has given us. Surely we have seen enough to convince us of all this; and then why are we not convinced?—why is not every soul humbled under the mighty hand of God, repenting and mourning for its sins, and putting away the evil of its doings, and looking to him that smites us, by humble, earnest and fervent prayer and supplication, day and night? Why are not the dear children of God (surely there are many, through the scorn and insult of our enemies) besieging the Throne of Grace, sighing and crying for their own sins and backslidings, and for all the abominations that are done in the land, saying, “Spare, spare thy people, O Lord! and give not thine heritage to reproach. Let not the vine which thy right hand has planted here be rooted up and destroyed. Let not thy churches be washed and drowned. Let not virtue and the remains of religion be borne down and trampled in the dust. Let not thy name be blasphemed, nor our insulting, wicked foes say, Where is your God?—nor the profane world that there is no God that rules the world and regardeth the right—that vindicateth the just and righteous cause.” I know that God can vindicate his own name and honour without our help, and out of the stones raise up children to *Abraham*; and it is amazing folly and madness to cry, The temple! the temple of the Lord! and trust in that while we remain an incorrigible people. But such things are what God would have us learn and practise while his judgments are abroad in the land, and with such like arguments fill our mouths, and pour out our souls before him. Are any, are not all in *New-England*, especially who have any interest in Heaven, crying, begging, and entreating for the outpouring of the blessed spirit of God upon the land? ’Tis a most grievous and distressing consideration that God is pleased so to withhold the blessed influences and operations thereof, without which we shall remain stupid forever. Therefore, with redoubled fervency of ardent prayer and supplication, should every soul that has one spark of heavenly fire, kindle it to a fervent heat and expanded blaze. Oh *New-England*, oh my dear native land, how does my soul love thee! Be instructed, therefore, lest God’s soul depart from thee—lest thou be like *Chorazin* and *Bethsaida* in condemnation as thou hast been in privileges—lest he make thee as *Admah*, and set thee as *Zeboim*. Are the ministers of the Gospel alive and awake, and lifting up their voices like a trumpet, and sounding the alarm of the Almighty’s anger and wrath, ready to break on the defenceless heads of a guilty people? Are they warning the wicked of their infinite danger, animating and urging them to consideration? Are they, with ardent zeal and fervour, animating and enlivening the languid graces of the godly, exciting and leading them to fervent prayer—sighing and crying for their own dissensions and lukewarmness in religion, and for the sins and iniquities of the land, praying, begging and entreating with unceasing, and as it were, resistless importunity, for the copious effusion of the Blessed Spirit upon all orders and degrees of people, and refusing to let God go without an answer of peace, and in “the midst of wrath to remember mercy,” and not give up this his heritage to reproach, nor blast the blooming hopes and prospects of this infant country, the asylum of liberty and religion?

Strange that mankind should need such alarming providences to produce such an effect. It is no more than to act like reasonable creatures; to possess a spirit and temper that will add a thousand-fold sweetness and pleasure to all the enjoyments of this world; to exchange the slavery of the devil, that accursed enemy of our souls, for the service of God and the liberty of his children; to act justly, to love mercy, and walk humbly with our God; to answer the sole end of our creation, to secure a peace here infinitely better than the world can give, and an eternity of peace and happiness in the world to come. But still more

strange, if possible, and astonishing, is it that they should disregard the voice of the Most High, remain thoughtless and stupid under the dreadful tokens of his anger and the awful judgments of his hand by sickness and by the sword, of our unnatural and enraged enemies, threatening to depopulate the land and drench the plains with the blood of its inhabitants, leaving the weeping widows, helpless orphans, and all that survive the shocking carnage and subsequent massacre, to drag out their lives in want, wretchedness and miserable bondage, and all this aggravated with the constant prospect of leaving this dreadful curse entailed on all posterity. A thorough repentance and reformation, without all peradventure, will appease the anger of a holy and just God, avert these amazing calamities, secure liberty and happiness to this and all succeeding ages, and eternal felicity and glory to all the subjects of it. If such considerations and motives won’t awake a serious thoughtfulness and attention, I know not what will but the voice of the archangel and the trump of God.

I am, honoured and dear sir, most affectionately, your dutiful son and servant,

WM. WILLIAMS.

To Hon. J. Trumbull, Esq., &c.

P. S. You will not think proper to communicate this letter to the Assembly. I am anxious beyond the power of language to describe of contributing something to the good and salvation, temporal and eternal, of my countrymen. (Hope I have not been totally useless here.) If you should think this may have any tendency to awake our sleepy people, and be of no disadvantage, I am willing it should be printed, and, from other possible reasons, leaving out such of the beginning as may be a clue to guess the author or where he is, and with the description or signature of a letter from a gentleman of *Connecticut* now in a distant Colony. May God in great mercy preserve your health and long continue your valuable and important life! With kindest remembrance to my dear wife and friends, W. W.

MARINE COMMITTEE TO CAPTAIN YOUNG.

September 20, 1776.

SIR: The sloop *Independence*, of which you are appointed Commander, being now laden, completely fitted, armed, victualed, and manned, you are to proceed with said sloop and cargo for the Island of *Martinico*, putting into *Fort Royal* or *St. Pierre’s*, just as the winds and other circumstances point out for the best. On your arrival at either place, you must inquire for Mr. *William Bingham*, our resident in that Island. Should he be at the place where you put in, deliver to him the sundry despatches now committed to your care; should he be at any other part of the Island, you will send an express to inform him of your arrival, and that you have such despatches, which you are directed to deliver into his own hands. He will then repair to you immediately, and you must comply with his orders by landing the cargo wherever he may direct. You must also consult with him, and be advised by Mr. *Bingham* in all things that respect the interest or honour of the *United States* in the concerns of their sloop under your command. If you put into *Fort Royal* and Mr. *Bingham* is not there, you must wait on the General, and inform him you belong to the *United States of America*; ask the liberty of the port, and protection during your stay there. If you put into *St. Pierre’s*, and don’t find Mr. *Bingham*, wait on the Governour and Intendant, observing the same conduct. If Mr. *Bingham* is present, he will direct what you are to do on these points. You are to consider the *French*, and all nations but *Great Britain*, as the friends of these *United States*, and conduct yourself towards them accordingly; and during your stay in any *French* ports, be particularly attentive to the behaviour and prudent conduct of your people. You are to receive on board the sloop any arms, ammunition, or other goods, Mr. *Bingham* may order; receive from him, also, his despatches, and then proceed back for this port. You are to consider that we are anxious for you to make an expeditious voyage, notwithstanding which, as you are well armed and manned and the sloop sails fast, we do not forbid you chasing such vessels either going or coming as you think may become your prize. For this purpose you have a commission; a book containing the resolves of Congress respecting

prizes, which you must strictly conform to; and a list of the Continental agents, to some of whom you must address any prize you take. Should Mr. *Bingham* find it necessary to detain you any time, and he and you should think it advisable to make a short cruise during that time, we do not forbid it; but take care not to fall into the enemy's hands. It is an object with us that you should pick up, and bring home with you, as many seamen as possible; the more the better; and you may enter all you get on the same pay and terms of those you carry out. You must sling our despatches to Mr. *Bingham*, and on your return his to us, with a weight sufficient to sink them, and always keep them ready to be thrown overboard should you unfortunately be taken; for you must not let these packets fall into the enemy's hands on any account. You are to afford relief or assistance to any of the subjects of the *United States* that want it, if in your power, unless proof should appear that they are inimical to their country and its cause. You are authorized to take, burn, sink, or destroy the vessels and property of all *British* subjects, except those residing in *Bermuda* and *New-Providence*; but we recommend humanity and politeness to be inseparable companions of the officers in the Continental service. It is necessary you should be careful of the sloop, her materials and stores; diligent in the discharge of your own duty, and careful to make your officers and men perform theirs; strict in discipline, but attentive to render the service agreeable to all concerned in it. We expect you will be frugal in your expenses, and on your return furnish us with duplicates of your log-book and journal, giving, also, a satisfactory account of your voyage; and when you approach this coast, keep a good look out, as you may expect many of the enemy's ships will be cruising for plunder. If you cannot get in here, you may push for any of the inlets or other places of safety; the nearer to this the better.

We are, sir, your humble servants.

ACT OF NEW-JERSEY.

An Act to render certain Bills of Credit a legal tender within this State, and to prevent the Counterfeiting of the same and other Bills of Credit.

Whereas sundry disaffected persons have refused to take in payment the Bills of Credit emitted by the Continental Congress, and also the Bills of Credit emitted by the late Congress or Convention of this State; and whereas it is expedient that the said bills, and also the Bills of Credit lately issued on loan in this State, should be a legal tender:

1. *Be it therefore enacted*, by the Council and General Assembly of the State of *New-Jersey*, and it is hereby enacted by the authority of the same, That the Bills of Credit emitted and made current by the Continental Congress, the Bills of Credit emitted and made current by the Congress or Convention of this State, and the Bills of Credit issued on loan by virtue of an act of the Legislature of *New-Jersey*, made and passed in the year of our Lord one thousand seven hundred and seventy-four, intituled, "An act for striking one hundred thousand Pounds in Bills of Credit, and directing the mode for sinking the same," shall be, and they and each of them are hereby, declared to be a legal tender for the payment of money; and if any person or persons, from and after the publication hereof, shall refuse to take any of the Bills of Credit when the same shall be properly tendered in payment of any debt or demand whatsoever, (provided the whole of such debt or demand be so tendered,) he, she, or they, so refusing, shall be forever barred from suing for or recovering the same in any court in this State; and if any suit or suits shall be commenced for such debt or demand after tender and refusal as aforesaid, the defendant may plead payment, and give this act and the special matter in evidence.

2. And whereas it is necessary that the counterfeiting of the Bills of Credit, made current by publick authority, should be prevented, *Be it enacted* by the authority aforesaid, That all and every person and persons who, from and after the publication hereof, shall counterfeit or alter any of the aforesaid Bills of Credit by this act made a legal tender, or any of the Bills of Credit emitted and made current by any of the Assemblies, Conventions, or Congresses of any of the *United States of North America*, or utter any bill or

bills so counterfeited or altered, knowing the same to be so counterfeited or altered as aforesaid, and be duly convicted thereof, shall be adjudged guilty of felony, and be punished with death in like manner as persons convicted of counterfeiting or altering the former Bills of Credit of this State, and knowingly uttering the same, might or should have been.

Passed at *Princeton*, the 20th of *September*, 1776.

GENERAL WASHINGTON TO THE PRESIDENT OF CONGRESS.

Head-Quarters, Heights of Harlem, September 20, 1776.

SIR: I have been honoured with your favour of the 16th, with its enclosures. To prevent the injury and abuses which would arise from the Militia and other troops carrying away ammunition and Continental property, I have published the substance of the resolves upon the subject in general orders.

Since my letter of yesterday, nothing of importance has cast up. The enemy are forming a large and extensive intrenchment in the Plains mentioned in my last, and are busily employed in transporting their cannon and stores from *Long-Island*. As they advance them this way, we may reasonably expect their operations will not long be deferred.

Enclosed are sundry letters, &c., to which Congress will be pleased to pay such regard as they may think them deserving of. The letter from Monsieur *Devouroney* came open under cover of one to me. Those from Colonel *Hand* and Colonel *Ward* contain a list of vacancies in their regiments, and of the persons they esteem proper to fill them. The former I believe returned no list before. The latter says he never got any commissions. Generals *Howe's* and *Erskine's* proclamations show the measures that have been pursued to force and seduce the inhabitants of *Long-Island* from their allegiance to the States, and to assist in their destruction.

As the period will soon arrive when the troops composing the present army (a few excepted) will be disbanded according to the tenour of their enlistments, and the most fatal consequences may ensue, if a suitable and timely provision is not made in this instance, I take the liberty of suggesting to Congress, not only the expediency, but the absolute necessity there is, that their earliest attention should be had to this subject. In respect to the time that troops should be engaged for, I have frequently given my sentiments; nor have I omitted to express my opinion of the difficulties that will attend raising them, nor of the impracticability of effecting it without the allowance of a large and extraordinary bounty. It is a melancholy and painful consideration to those who are concerned in the work and have the command, to be forming armies constantly, and to be left by troops just when they begin to deserve the name, or perhaps at the moment when an important blow is expected. This, I am informed, will be the case at *Ticonderoga* with part of the troops there, unless some system is immediately come into by which they can be induced to stay. General *Schuyler* tells me, in a letter received yesterday, that *De Haas's*, *Maxwell's*, and *Winds's* regiments stand engaged only till the beginning of next month, and that the men, he is fearful, will not remain longer than the time of their enlistments.

I would also beg leave to mention to Congress that the season is fast approaching when clothes of every kind will be wanted for the army. Their distress is already great, and will be increased as the weather becomes more severe. Our situation is now bad, but is much better than the Militia that are coming to join us from the States of the *Massachusetts-Bay* and *Connecticut*, in consequence of the requisition of Congress. They, I am informed, have not a single tent or a necessary of any kind, nor can I conceive how it will be possible to support them. These circumstances are extremely alarming, and oblige me to wish Congress to have all the tents, clothing of every kind, and camp necessities, provided and forwarded that are to be procured. These Eastern reinforcements have not a single necessary, not a pan or a kettle, in which we are now greatly deficient. It is with reluctance that I trouble Congress with these matters, but to whom can I resort for relief unless to them? The necessity, therefore, which urges the application will excuse it, I am persuaded.

I have not been able to transmit Congress a general return of the army this week, owing to the peculiar situation of our affairs, and the great shifting and changing among the troops. As soon as I can procure one, a copy shall be forwarded to Congress.

I have the honour to be, with every sentiment of respect, sir, your most obedient servant,

Go. WASHINGTON.

P. S. *September 21st, 1776.*—Things with us remain in the situation they were yesterday.

Westchester, August 14, 1776.

SIR: I take the liberty to request that when you next write to Congress, you may be pleased to recommend the appointment of a Major to my regiment. As I learn that Congress have an objection to the advancement of my oldest Captain, I can't think myself at liberty to recommend any. The annexed gives your Excellency the names and rank of the Captains; one of them I hope will be pro-

moted: *Robert Clugage, Matthew Smith, James Ross, Henry Millen, Charles Craig, James Grier, David Harris, James Parr, James Hamilton.*

I beg your Excellency may please to appoint Third Lieutenant *John Dick* to be Second Lieutenant, vice *Jacob Zank*, who has resigned since the last promotion, and *Robert Cunningham* to be Third Lieutenant, vice *John Dick*.

If the Major be appointed from my Captains, I beg leave to recommend the following promotions in consequence, viz:

First Lieutenant *John Holliday*, to be Captain; Second Lieutenant, *William Wilson*, to be First Lieutenant; Third Lieutenant, *John Dougherty*, to be Second Lieutenant, and *Benjamin Lion* to be Third Lieutenant.

I wish to remind your Excellency that Lieutenant *Francis*, of my regiment, is still in arrest for associating and drinking to excess with the soldiers of the regiment.

I am, sir, with much respect, your Excellency's most boedient, humble servant,

EDWARD HAND.

To the Commander-in-Chief.

A Return of the Names of those recommended to fill up the Vacancies in the Twenty-First Regiment under my command, and the date of said recommendations or engaging, who have not had Commissions in said Regiment, &c.

VACANCIES.	Names of those that were and are recommended to fill up vacancies.	THE RANK THEY HAVE SUSTAINED.
For a Captain.....	Ephraim Burr.....	In the room of Captain <i>Hubbard</i> , deceased, engaged <i>April 1, 1776</i> .
For a Major.....	Captain <i>Josiah Fay</i>	Published in general orders to do the duty of Major, <i>June 30th</i> . Died <i>August 8, 1776</i> .
For a Captain.....	Ebenezer Cleavland...	Who was First Lieutenant in <i>Fay's</i> Company, was recommended as Captain in the room of the late Major <i>Fay</i> , deceased, <i>July 12, 1776</i> .
For a First Lieutenant..	Baxter How.....	Who was Second Lieutenant in said <i>Fay's</i> Company, was recommended as First Lieutenant in said Company, <i>July 12, 1776</i> .
For a Second Lieutenant	Jonathan Champney..	Who was Ensign in said Company, was recommended as Second Lieutenant in said Company, <i>July 12, 1776</i> .
For an Ensign.....	Jonas Snow.....	Who was Orderly Sergeant in said Company, was recommended in said Company as Ensign, <i>July 12, 1776</i> .
For an Ensign.....	Caleb Noble.....	Who was Orderly Sergeant in Captain <i>Bartlett's</i> Company, was recommended as Ensign in said Company, <i>July 20, 1776</i> .
For a Major.....	Captain <i>James Mellen</i>	Published in general orders to do duty of Major, <i>August 15th</i> , in room of the late Major <i>Fay</i> , deceased.
For a Captain.....	Nahum Ward.....	Who was First Lieutenant in said <i>Mellen's</i> Company, is recommended as Captain in room of Major <i>Mellen</i> , <i>September 11, 1776</i> .
For a First Lieutenant..	Samuel Shelden.....	Who was Second Lieutenant in said <i>Mellen's</i> Company, is recommended as First Lieutenant in said Company, <i>September 11, 1776</i> .
For a Second Lieutenant	Samuel Cloffin.....	Who was Ensign in said Company, is recommended as a Second Lieutenant in said <i>Mellen's</i> Company, <i>September 11, 1776</i> .
For an Ensign.....	Joseph Freeland.....	Who was Orderly Sergeant in said Company, is recommended as Ensign to said Company, <i>September 11, 1776</i> .
For a Chaplain.....	Ebenezer Cleavland....	Joined <i>January 1, 1776</i> .
For a Surgeon-Mate....	Israel Whiting.....	Joined <i>July 1, 1776</i> .
For a Chief Surgeon....	Elihu Wright.....	Engaged <i>August 1, 1776</i> .

N. B. I doubt not but the above, if duly commissioned, will behave well, as their experience and former good behaviour indicate the same.

So I am, with due submission, your Excellency's most devoted, humble servant,

To His Excellency General *Washington*, Commander-in-Chief of the Continental Army.

J. WARD, Colonel.

If it's agreeable, I desire the persons recommended in the within for Captains and subalterns may be appointed, in orders, to do duty in said stations, as recommended.

GENERAL ORDERS.

Head-Quarters, Harlem Heights, September 19, 1776.

(Parole, Hancock.)

(Countersign, Warren.)

The Companies from *Maryland*, under the command of Major *Price*, are to join Colonel *Smallwood's* Battalion and General *McDougall's* Brigade; and it is expected that the commanding officer of every corps will, together with all the officers therein, exert themselves in seeing good order and discipline observed. They are to consider that it is the duty of a good officer to see, or at least to know, that orders are executed, and not to content themselves with being the mere vehicles through which they are conveyed to the men. We are now arrived at an important crisis, which calls loudly for the zeal and activity of the best of officers. We see, we know, that the enemy are exerting every nerve, not only by the force of arms, but the practices of every art, to accomplish their purposes; and that among other pieces of policy, which is also founded on justice, we find them exceeding careful to restrain every kind of abuse of private property, whilst the abandoned and profligate part of our own army, countenanced by a few officers, who are lost to every sense of honour and virtue, as well as their country's good, are by rapine and plunder spreading ruin and terrour wherever they go; thereby making themselves infinitely more to be dreaded than the common enemy they are come to oppose; at the same time that it exposes men

who are strolling about after plunder, to be surprised and taken. The General, therefore, hopes it will be unnecessary on any future occasion, for him to repeat the orders of yesterday, with respect to this matter, as he is determined to show no favour to officer or soldier who shall offend herein, but punish without exception every person who shall be found guilty of this most abominable practice, which, if continued, must prove the destruction of any army on earth.

That the men may be acquainted with the orders relative to plundering as well as others, the neglect of which will incur blame or punishment, the General directs and positively orders, that every commanding officer of a corps takes special care that the orders are regularly read to the men every day.

General *Nixon*, with his brigade, is to remove over to the *Jersey*, and will receive his orders from General *Greene*, with respect to his encamping, &c. Such men of his brigade as are now on duty must be relieved.

The picket guards which are to occupy the outposts most advanced to the enemy, are to consist of eight hundred men, officered with two Colonels, two Lieutenant-Colonels, two Majors and Captains, and subalterns in proportion. They are to be furnished by detachment from the several brigades below *King's Bridge*, and so every day till further orders.

Head-Quarters, Harlem Heights, September 20, 1776.

(Parole, Spain.)

(Countersign, France.)

As many of the Regiments that came last from *New-York* have lost their tents and cooking utensils, (not from any default of their own, but want of teams and vessels to bring them off in time,) by which means one part of the army are greatly distressed, whilst the other part are comfortably supplied, the General earnestly advises and directs the Colonels and commanding officers of such corps as have not suffered, to store their men thicker in their tents, and lend all they can spare to their suffering fellow-soldiers, till such time as others can be provided. The tents, &c., are to be sent to General *Spencer's*, at Mr. *Kortright's* house, who will cause them to be delivered to the regiments standing most in need of them, which regiments are to be answerable for them when called for.

The General hopes that soldiers fighting in such a cause as ours, will not be discouraged by any difficulties that may offer; and informs them that the grounds he now possesses are to be defended at all events. Any officer or soldier, therefore, who, upon the approach or attack of the enemy's forces, by land or water, presumes to turn his back and flee, shall be instantly shot down, and all good officers are hereby authorized and required to see this done, that the brave and gallant part of the army may not fall a sacrifice to the base and cowardly part, or share their disgrace in a cowardly and unmanly retreat. The Heights we are now upon may be defended against double the force we have to contend with, and the whole Continent expects it of us. But that we may assist the natural strength of the ground as much as possible, and make our posts more secure, the General most earnestly recommends it to the commanding officers of every brigade and regiment to turn out every man they have off duty for fatigue, and apply to Colonel *Putnam* for tools and directions where and how to work. This measure is also earnestly recommended to the men, as it will tend greatly to their own security and ease, as the guards will be lessened in proportion as the grounds get strengthened.

General *Greene* is to appoint some careful officer at *Burdett's Ferry* to examine passengers, and see that none come over but such as have proper passes. General *Mifflin* is to do the same on this side, to prevent disaffected or suspected persons from passing. If Captain *Johnson* and the other gentlemen who were employed in this business at *New-York*, incline to engage in it again, they are to have the preference given them.

The Colonels or commanding officers of the Militia regiments now in the service, may make out their pay abstracts, in order to receive payment; they will be particularly attentive in doing it, as the disorderly manner in which many of those men have left the service, will require the utmost care to prevent impositions on the publick. And the Congress have resolved, that all Continental troops and the Militia going home from service, shall restore all Continental arms and other property, and also all ammunition remaining in their possession at the time of their being about to return, or to have the value of it deducted.

The guards will be relieved at four o'clock this afternoon, after which they are to be relieved constantly and regularly at nine o'clock every day.

The General desires that the Brigade Majors may attend him precisely at seven o'clock to-morrow morning, and account for the remissness in their several departments, as he is determined to put up with no more negligence in office. He expects the punctual attendance of the whole.

General *Wadsworth* must look out a good person to do the duty of his brigade.

Commanding and other officers of regiments, are to collect the horses straying about their encampments, and send them to the Quartermaster-General, or one of his deputies; the uses these horses may answer when properly employed, will be an inducement to every officer to exert himself.

The officers of the guard at *King's Bridge* to be careful that no soldiers take horses over the bridge, though such soldier should have a common pass. Every person riding without a saddle, is to be immediately taken up, and the horse sent to the Quartermaster, till released by further orders.

The scarcity of fodder makes it necessary that no horses should come into camp but what belong to the army. All

visitants, therefore, are to leave their horses beyond the bridge, unless they obtained a special order from some General officer, or commandant of a brigade.

General *Beall*, Brigadier of the day, to meet the guards at four o'clock, on the parade, and report immediately what Brigade Major fails of bringing his proportion of guards at the time.

GENERAL WASHINGTON TO GOVERNOUR TRUMBULL.

Head-Quarters, Heights of Harlem, September 20, 1776.

SIR: Having received authentick advice from *Long-Island* that the enemy are recruiting a great number of men with much success, and collecting large quantities of stock throughout the island, for their support, I have directed Brigadier-General *Clinton* forthwith to repair to *Fairfield*, to meet General *Lincoln* on his march hither, with a part of the troops lately voted by the *Massachusetts* State to reinforce this army, in order to concert with him an expedition to the island, to check and suppress, if possible, a practice so injurious and detrimental to our cause.

Those gentlemen will wait on you for your advice in the matter, if time and the situation of things will admit of it, and with a view of obtaining such aid as you and they may judge necessary to facilitate the enterprise. However, if it should not be in their power personally to attend you, I must take the liberty of requesting your good offices upon the occasion, and that you will afford them every assistance that you conveniently can, and which they require, either in men, vessels, &c., for carrying their scheme into execution.

It is absolutely necessary that the measures of the enemy should be effectually counteracted in this instance, or in a little time they will levy no inconsiderable army of our own people. The influence of their money and their artifices has already passed the *Sound*, and several have been detected of late, who had enlisted to serve under their banner, and the particular command of Major *Rogers*.

Being in haste, I have not time to add more than that I have the fullest confidence that your favour will not be wanting in this instance, and that I have the honour to be, with regard and esteem,

GO. WASHINGTON.

GENERAL WASHINGTON TO GENERAL SCHUYLER.

Head-Quarters, Colonel Roger Morris's, ten miles from }
New-York, September 20, 1776. }

SIR: I have your several favours of the 9th, 12th, and 16th instant, with their enclosures. I am particularly happy to find, by the copies of General *Arnold's* and Colonel *Dayton's* letters, that your apprehensions of an *Indian* war in your quarter have entirely vanished, and that you have disbanded the Militia in consequence.

I clearly see, and have severely felt, the ill effects of short enlistments, and have repeatedly given Congress my sentiments thereon. I believe they are by this time convinced that there is no opposing a standing, well-disciplined army but by one upon the same plan; and I hope, if this campaign does not put an end to this contest, they will put the army upon a different footing than what it has heretofore been. I shall take care to remind them that the terms for which *De Haas's*, *Maxwell's*, and *Winds's* regiments enlisted, expire the beginning of *October*; but if they have not already thought of taking some steps to secure them a while longer, it will be too late, except the officers will exert themselves in prevailing on the men to stay until their places can be supplied by some means or other. If the officers are spirited and well inclined, they may lead their men as they please.

I removed my quarters to this place on *Sunday* last, it having been previously determined, by a Council of General Officers, on the preceding *Thursday*, to evacuate *New-York*. The reasons that principally weighed with them were, that from every information, and every movement of the enemy, it was clear that their attack was not meditated against the city; their intent evidently was, to throw their whole army between part of ours in *New-York* and its environs, and the remainder about *King's Bridge*, and thereby cut off our communication with each other and with the country. Indeed, their operations on *Sunday* last, fully satisfied the opinion of the Council, and the steps

taken in consequence; for on that morning they began their landing at *Turtle Bay*, and continued to throw over great numbers of men from *Long-Island*, and from *Montresor's* and *Buchanan's* Islands, on which they had previously lodged them. As we had exerted ourselves in removing our sick and stores of every kind, after the measure of abandoning had been determined upon, very few things, and but three or four men, fell into the enemy's hands.

On *Monday* last, we had a pretty sharp skirmish between two battalions of *Light Infantry* and *Highlanders* and three companies of *Hessian* Riflemen, commanded by Brigadier *Leslie*, and detachments from our army, under the command of Lieutenant-Colonel *Knowlton*, of *Connecticut*, and Major *Leitch*, of *Virginia*. The Colonel received a mortal wound, and the Major three balls through his body, but he is likely to do well. Their parties behaved with great bravery, and being supported with fresh troops, beat the enemy fairly from the field. Our loss, except in that of Colonel *Knowlton*, a most valuable and gallant officer, is inconsiderable—that of the enemy, from accounts, between eighty and one hundred wounded, and fifteen or twenty killed. This little advantage has inspirited our troops prodigiously; they find that it only requires resolution and good officers to make an enemy (that they stood in too much dread of) give way.

The *British* army lies encamped about two miles below us; they are busy in bringing over their cannon and stores from *Long-Island*, and we are putting ourselves in the best posture of defence that time and circumstances will admit of.

I enclose you copies of several resolutions of Congress, respecting the Northern army, &c., not knowing whether they have yet been transmitted to you. I received Captain *Varick's* resignation, which shall be forwarded to Congress this day.

I am, sir, &c.,
Go. WASHINGTON.
To Major-General *Schuyler*, Northern Department.

COLONEL REED TO THE PRESIDENT OF CONGRESS.

Camp at King's Bridge, September 20, 1776.

SIR: The bearer, Mr. *Bartholomew Van Heer*, has been mentioned to the General as a person who may render the publick some service. He desires an opportunity of presenting himself and producing his certificates. I have his Excellency's directions to forward him to you for that purpose; and am, with the greatest respect, sir, your most obedient, and very humble servant,

JOS. REED.

To the Honourable President of Congress.

JOSEPH TRUMBULL TO GENERAL GATES.

King's Bridge, September 20, 1776.

MY DEAR GENERAL: This will be delivered you by Mr. *Yancey*, who I have appointed to Mr. *Avery's* place. He and Mr. *Avery* will apply to you, and show their warrants and orders, and I must beg your kind aid, assistance, and directions. And whatever cash Mr. *Yancey* wants, and you give him warrants for on the Paymaster, I shall hold myself accountable for the disposition of by him, for use of the army.

I find by a letter from Mr. *Gerry*, that General *Schuyler* is about to resign. I congratulate you and myself thereon. Also that Congress is about to raise eighty-eight full battalions, for next year, the officers to have gratuities in land, and the men who engage for the war twenty dollars and one hundred acres of land at the close, and same wages.

We have nothing since I wrote my brother, which he will receive and show you, before you receive this. I think we shall keep them at bay, now we are away from their ships.

I am, dear General, your most humble servant,

JOS. TRUMBULL.

To Major-General *Gates*.

NEW-YORK CONVENTION TO THE PRESIDENT OF CONGRESS.

[Read September 27, 1776.]

Fishkill, September 20, 1776.

SIR: I am directed by the Convention of the Represent-

FIFTH SERIES.—VOL. II.

atives of this State to enclose to Congress resolutions of the Convention, requesting the advance of a sum of money to enable them to pursue their exertions in the present exigencies of this State, and earnestly to request a speedy consideration thereof. From the papers attending the resolutions, it will appear that a large balance is due to this State from the Continent, which will no doubt have due weight at this distressing period.

I have the honour to be, most respectfully, sir, your most obedient, humble servant,

AB'M YATES, Jun., President.

To the Hon. *John Hancock*.

NEW-YORK CONVENTION TO THEIR DELEGATES IN CONGRESS.

Fishkill, September 20, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: The Convention have much at heart the subject of the enclosed resolutions, and have directed me to recommend them to your particular attention. They are persuaded that General *Schuyler's* resignation will not only be highly prejudicial to the common cause of *America*, by the loss of an able and vigilant officer, singularly qualified for the command he now fills, but will be productive of internal jealousy and discontent at a period when union and harmony are necessary for our preservation.

I have the honour to be, gentlemen, your most obedient, humble servant,

AB'M YATES, Jun., President.

To the Honourable the Delegates of the State of *New-York* in Congress, at *Philadelphia*.

P. S. I am directed to add that the Convention have received no answer to their last letter. They would wish to hear from you on the matter contained in that and this letter as soon as possible.

Resolutions enclosed in the Letter from the Convention of the State of NEW-YORK.

[Read September 27, 1776. Referred to Mr. McKean, Mr. Rutledge, Mr. Hooper.]

In Convention of the Representatives of the State of New-York, }
Fishkill, September 20, 1776. }

The Committee appointed to "examine into and report the present state of the Treasury, the progress which has been made in emitting £200,000 to supply the exigencies of the State agreeable to a resolution of the Convention passed on the 13th day of *August* last, the obstructions which have prevented the settlement of the publick accounts of this State against the Continent, and further means for the immediate supplying the Treasury with money," delivered in their report, which was read, and is in the words following, to wit:

Your Committee do report that they have according to order considered the several matters submitted to their examination; that the Treasury is exhausted, as appears by the account No. 1, being a general state of receipts and payments of the Treasury down to the 17th instant, and that the most speedy and effectual means ought to be adopted to supply the Treasury with money that the publick credit may be supported, and the heavy expenses to which this State must unavoidably be exposed in its present critical and dangerous situation be provided for; that by reason of the evacuation of the metropolis, the loss of the paper-mills, the dispersions of the printers, as well as the gentlemen entrusted to procure the plates, superintend the press, and sign the bills of credit directed to be emitted, there cannot be the least prospect of supplying the Treasury from the intended emission so as to answer the exigencies of the State; that the Committee have examined into the measures which have been pursued for adjusting the publick accounts of this State against the Continent, and for that purpose have been attended by the Deputy Treasurer, to whose state of facts, mentioned in the paper No. 2, they refer, and from which it appears that several of the persons named in the list delivered in by the Deputy Treasurer on the 17th instant, who have been entrusted with publick money have, though called upon, neglected to settle their accounts with the Auditor-General of this State, which putting it out of his power precisely to ascertain how much of the moneys have been applied for Continental services, and how much for the more immediate purposes of this State, hath hitherto proved an insurmountable obstruction to the adjustment of the publick

accounts of the State against the Continent; that nevertheless, from an estimate made by the Deputy Treasurer, contained in the paper No. 3, which is herewith presented, it appears, and your Committee are satisfied that upwards of sixty-two thousand dollars are due from the *United States* to the State of *New-York*: Whereupon your Committee have agreed to the following resolutions:

Resolved, 1st, That it is the opinion of this Committee, that the Auditor-General be directed to use all possible diligence in completing the settlement of the publick accounts of this State with the *United States*, and procuring the necessary vouchers, in order that the said accounts and vouchers may, without further delay, be transmitted to the Treasury office of the *United States* at *Philadelphia*, there to be finally settled and passed, and to remove the impediment which hath hitherto retarded the settlement of the said accounts.

Resolved, 2dly, That in the opinion of this Committee, such of the persons named in the said list who have been entrusted with the publick money and have neglected to produce their accounts and vouchers to the Auditor-General of this State be, and they hereby are, enjoined, on pain of incurring the displeasure of this Convention, to attend the said Auditor-General at the *Fishkills*, with the respective accounts and vouchers, as soon as possible after receiving notice for that purpose from the said Auditor-General.

Resolved, 3dly, That it is the opinion of this Committee, that the honourable Congress of the *United States* be requested to advance to this State one hundred thousand dollars in consideration of the vast expense to which we are exposed, and the impracticability, for the reasons herein set forth, of emitting bills of credit with a despatch suitable to the urgency of our publick affairs and the calamitous circumstances into which we are involved; that in case this requisition shall be complied with, the Convention do pledge this State to be accountable for the sum so to be advanced, declaring that the receipt of the Delegates of this State, or either of them, shall be a sufficient voucher for the same, and directing the said Delegates to forward the money as expeditiously as possible.

Resolved, 4thly, As the opinion of this Committee, that if it shall be inconvenient to the *United States* to advance to this State the sum specified in the before-mentioned requisition, that then the honourable Congress be, and are hereby, requested to advance to this State the sum of sixty thousand dollars on account of the balance due from the Continent to this State—this Committee being of opinion upon the best evidence they have been able to procure, that at least that sum must be due from the *United States* to this State.

The said Report being again read by paragraphs, was agreed to: Thereupon,

Resolved, unanimously, That this Convention agree with their Committee in the said Report.

Ordered, That a copy of the said Report be immediately transmitted by the President of this Convention to the President of the honourable Continental Congress, and that a copy be also transmitted to the Delegates of this State at the Continental Congress.

Extract from the Minutes:

ROBERT BENSON, *Secretary*.

[No. 1.]

The State of NEW-YORK in Account Current with P. V. B. LIVINGSTON, Treasurer:

DR.

To Cash paid sundry persons between the 31st day of *May*, 1775, and the 30th day of *April*, 1776, as per particular account, - - - - £159,865 15 0½
To ditto paid ditto between the 1st day of *May*, 1776, and the 17th day of *September* following, as per account of particulars drawn out and ready to be produced, - - - - 89,469 7 1½
To balance due the State, - - - - 29 10 11

£246,364 13 1

CR.

By sundry sums of money received for account of this State between the 31st day of *May*, 1775, and the 30th day

of *April*, 1776, as per account, - - £161,823 03 09
By ditto received between the 1st day of *May*, 1776, and the 17th day of *September* following, as per particular account, - - - - 84,541 09 04
£246,364 13 01

Errors excepted. For P. V. B. Livingston.
GERRARD BANCKER,

Fishkill, September 17, 1776.

[No. 2.]

On the 11th *March*, 1776, the Convention of this State appointed a Committee, viz: Mr. *Van Zandt*, Captain *Denning*, Mr. *Beekman*, Colonel *Brasher*, and Mr. *Sands*, to examine the Treasurer's accounts, and to point out what part of the charges therein were to be considered as Continental, and what Provincial. A fair copy of the Continental account as stated by them, was prepared by the Auditors' clerk.

In *May* last, the Auditors, viz: Messrs. *Van Zandt*, *Bancker*, *Beekman*, *Sands*, and *Denning*, continued this account down to the 30th of *April* last. It was afterwards examined by some of the *New-York* members of the Continental Congress, and then taken to the Convention of this State, where it underwent several alterations, in which state it is now fair copied. Many accounts being not then come in, the Auditors deferred sending it to *Philadelphia* till some of the principal ones could be procured, and many letters were wrote for that purpose.

Nothing more was done with the Continental account till the Auditor-General was appointed the latter end of *July* last, when he came to the Plains to endeavour to continue it down to that time, but the number of outstanding accounts was so increased by the great sums of money that had been paid out there by order of the Convention, on account of the services to be performed, as to induce him to defer the completion of it till they could be got in, several of which accounts he procured abroad, and left orders for writing to many persons who had neglected sending in theirs, which letters have accordingly been wrote, and copies of some of them sent, and though the number of outstanding accounts is greatly diminished, there are still many to be brought in, as per the annexed list, amounting to about forty thousand pounds.

G. BANCKER.

Fishkill, September 18, 1776.

[No. 3.]

The CONTINENTAL CONGRESS in Account Current with the State of NEW-YORK:

DR.

1776, *April* 30. To amount of an account as prepared by the Auditors up to this date, - £102,666 15 11½
To amount of expenses accrued in this State since that time, being £86,469, about three-fifths of which (according to the estimate of the Treasury) will be Continental, - - - - 51,881 8 0
£154,548 3 11½

CR.

1775, *August* 23. By cash received by Mr. *Joseph Hallet*, - - - - £70,000 0 0
1776, *January* 12. By cash received by Messrs. *Palmer*, &c., - - 20,000 0 0
March 8. By cash received by Mr. *Francis Lewis*, - - - - 18,800 0 0
July 12. By cash received on a warrant from his Excellency General *Washington*, - - - - 20,000 0 0
By balance due this State, - - - 25,748 3 11½
£154,548 3 11½

Fishkill, September 18, 1776.

GENERAL SCHUYLER TO GENERAL WASHINGTON.

Albany, September 20, 1776.

DEAR SIR: Since my last of yesterday, I have received sundry papers from General *Gates*, copies of all which I do

myself the honour to enclose. I have mentioned to Congress that I had sent them to your Excellency.

I am, dear sir, respectfully your Excellency's most obedient, humble servant,

PH. SCHUYLER.

To His Excellency General Washington.

GENERAL GATES TO MAJOR HOISINGTON.

Tyonderoga, September 20, 1776.

SIR: I received your letter of the 14th instant from *Newbury* by Captain *Wait*. Until you sent me the orders of the Convention of *New-York*, I was unacquainted with the nature of your engagement, and the services expected from the men placed under your command. You will now exactly observe the orders you have received from the Convention, sending a return once a fortnight of the companies raised, and the stations they are posted at. As to assisting Colonel *Barrett* upon the new road and in building the bridge over *Otter Creek*, I fancy that is sufficiently provided for, as I have sent a large detachment from hence to aid the Colonel in forwarding those works. In case of general alarm, you will hold all the companies under your command in readiness to march hither.

I am, sir, your most obedient humble servant,

HO. GATES.

To Major Hoisington.

COLONEL HARTLEY TO GENERAL GATES.

Crown-Point, September 20, 1776

HONoured SIR: I arrived here yesterday afternoon, found all my people in tolerably good spirits, but many of them unwell; those that will not be fit for duty in a month, I send on to *Fort George*.

Ludwick Potier, a *German*, who had been taken prisoner by the *Indians* and carried to *Montreal*, has given me the following intelligence, which perhaps may be of some consequence:

The *Indians* took him by the *Isle Noix* and *St. John's*. At the first place, he saw about three hundred Regulars and a dozen *Canadians*, with two pieces of artillery. The *Canadians* were employed in cleansing the ditches. When he arrived at *St. John's* he saw a sloop and schooner on the stocks, besides seven gondolas; he supposes there were about six hundred Regulars there. At *Montreal* he was confined. He can give no account from there. He left *St. John's* a month past. The sloop and schooners were not finished—two of the gondolas were. They came up with him to the *Isle Noix*; they carried a long twelve-pounder each. He saw about fifty batteaus at the *Isle Noix* and *St. John's*. He is clear that there were no other vessels building then on this side of *St. John's*, but some parties were cutting large timber between the two places. He understood the enemy were also busily engaged at *Chamblee*, but they could be building nothing more than batteaus there, as the rapids near *St. John's* prevent a larger vessel from coming up this time of year. Most of the timber in all the vessels and boats, seemed to be seasoned. I have treated *Potier* with the utmost civility. He will return home to-morrow. He seems a plain, honest man. What he says may be relied on, I believe. The enemy were making a good road from *Chamblee* to *St. John's*—they may have done much within this last month.

In order if possible to intercept the small party of *Indians* mentioned by the *Frenchman*, I sent a note to Major *Dunlop* from *Ticonderoga*, desiring him to despatch a batteau, a good officer and twenty-five woodsmen, if possible, to waylay them about four or five miles below *Gilliland's*. They set off this morning early. This, with a party sent to the fleet before, and the officers and men General *Arnold* detains (and means to do until the galleys come down, as he has informed by letter) as you will observe by my return, will reduce me very low. I should be glad some good company were sent here to assist in doing the duty of guards, till my other men arrive.

A good party returned from the westward yesterday evening. It had been upwards of fifteen or twenty miles off. No appearance of an enemy; the way was very rough and disagreeable; the men were much fatigued.

I have wrote to Major *Badlam* for a few things. I presume he will send them.

I am, sir, with great respect, your most humble servant,
THOS. HARTLEY.

To General Gates.

GOVERNOUR TRUMBULL TO GENERAL WASHINGTON.

Lebanon, September 20, 1776.

SIR: Since the receipt of your favour of the 9th instant, our nine regiments of Foot under command of Brigadier-General *Saltonstall*, and two regiments of horse under the command of Major *Backus* have begun their march, with orders to rendezvous at or near *West-Chester*, and there to attend your orders, and trust that many of them are arrived there as the rest will soon.

It gives me great concern to learn that so many of our Militia have refused to submit to proper discipline, and that such numbers have deserted as to reduce those that remain to about two thousand. 'Tis certain that by their absence they were great sufferers in point of interest, yet this is far from justifying their desertion, which ought not to pass unnoticed. I must therefore entreat your Excellency, as soon as it can be conveniently done, to order returns to be made of all such deserters, and communicate them to me, that proper measures may be taken with them, either by returning them to their corps, mulcting them of their wages, or otherwise. If the Militia may desert with impunity, there is an end of their usefulness.

To His Excellency General Washington.

CONNECTICUT COUNCIL OF SAFETY.

At a meeting of the Governour and Council of Safety of *Connecticut*, held in *Lebanon*, on the 20th day of *September*, 1776,

Present: His Honour the Governour, his Honour the Deputy Governour, *Eliphalet Dyer*, *Jabez Huntington*, *Titus Hosmer*, *Nathaniel Wales*, Jun., Esquires.

Voted, To allow Mr. *Elkanah Tisdale* for his service in procuring Hospitals for sick soldiers returning from *New-York*, six shillings per diem, with his expenses and horse hire.

Voted, That an Account now exhibited by *Noadiah Hubbard*, of *Middletown*, for carting a load of Clothing from *Middletown* to the Northern Army, amounting in the whole to £31 13s. 8d., be allowed, and that an order be drawn on the Pay-Table accordingly. (Order drawn and delivered *Chauncey Whittlesey*.)

Voted, That an Order be drawn on the Pay-Table to draw on the Treasurer, in favour of Mr. *Chauncey Whittlesey*, for the sum of £1,200, to enable him to pay for the goods he hath already purchased for Clothing for the Continental Army, and to enable him to continue his purchases for that purpose. (Order drawn and delivered Mr. *Whittlesey*.)

September 24, 1776.—Colonel *Jabez Huntington*, Colonel *Jedediah Elderkin*, *Titus Hosmer*, and *Nathaniel Wales*, Jun., Esquires, met and assisted his Honour the Governour on business of the publick.

September 26, 1776.—Colonel *Jabez Huntington*, Colonel *Jedediah Elderkin*, *Titus Hosmer*, and *Nathaniel Wales*, Jun., Esquires, met and assisted his Honour the Governour on business of the publick.

ALEXANDER EXUEN TO THE NEW-YORK CONGRESS.

New-London, September 20, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: I again take this opportunity to acquaint you of my safe arrival here from *Firy-Island*, where I was obliged to leave part of my cargo behind. To my great sorrow, I have lost my medicines, all excepting two boxes, my pepper, prunes and raisins; such as I could get off with my people I saved. The wagons being all pressed to carry the Regulars' baggage, if that the rascal *Wallace*, that had unloaded me, had not refused to take any thing off on board the brig, I should saved most part of my cargo, if not all. But the Tories mustering so strong and carrying such sway, I was obliged to leave, as I did to my sorrow. The privateer left the place forty-eight hours before I did myself.

I have stored the salt here, and wait your orders, by the orders of the Committee here, which I think is best, as it takes the vessels off of damage.

I am, gentlemen, your humble servant,
ALEX. EXUEN.

To the Provincial Congress of the State of *New-York*.

P. S. Be pleased to send your orders as soon as possible.

JOHN HURD TO COLONEL CHASE.

Exeter, September 20, 1776.

SIR: The bearer, Mr. *Moses Chase*, will inform you of the two additional ranging companies allowed by our Assembly to be raised for the defence of our frontiers, to serve till the first of *December* next, one of which is expected will be taken chiefly out of your regiment, the officers being so appointed—Mr. *Russell*, of *Plainfield*, for the Captain, by the recommendation of Mr. *Chase*—the said company to consist of fifty-five men including officers, and which you are desired to see mustered and properly equipped; for which purpose the money is now sent by Mr. *Chase*, viz, the bounty or blanket money of twelve shillings each, and half month's advance pay, which you'll please to receive of him and deliver out to officers and men, agreeable to the memorandum herewith. This company is to rendezvous and make their head-quarters at *Cohos*, and for their scouting marches to be under the direction of a Committee there—Colonel *Charles Johnstone*, Mr. *Jonathan Hale*, Mr. *James Bailey*, and myself; and as I am authorized to furnish them with provisions, I must desire you would in my behalf supply them when and while they are in your neighbourhood, for the amount of which I will either pay you the money or give an order on the Committee at *Exeter* for it. Mr. *Moses Chase* has also promised me to assist you in this business. I shall write you again from *Cohos*, when I return there, in about a fortnight from this, and shall be glad to hear also from you. In the mean while remain, with due respect, sir, your most humble servant,

JOHN HURD.

Money paid to Officers and Men.

Captain, half month's pay	- - - - -	£3 0 0
Lieutenant, - - - - -	- - - - -	- 2 0 0
Ensign, - - - - -	- - - - -	- 1 15 0
Four Sergeants, at 24s.	- - - - -	- 4 16 0
Four Corporals, at 22s.	- - - - -	- 4 8 0
One Drummer, at 22s.	- - - - -	- 1 2 0
Forty-three Privates, at 20s.	- - - - -	43 0 0
		£60 1 0
Fifty-Five Blankets, at 12s.	- - - - -	33 0 0
		93 1 0
Paid out, - - - - -	- - - - -	£93 15
Cash left in my hands, - - - - -	- - - - -	9 6
		£93 1 0

LETTER RECEIVED BY A MERCHANT IN LONDON FROM PARIS, DATED SEPTEMBER 21, 1776.

The *American* Plenipotentiary created great debates in the Cabinet. Lord *Stormont* exercised all his powers of intrigue and persuasion to gain a refusal to negotiate with them, and remonstrated with many of the Ministers, some of whom, who did not hesitate to deliver their real opinion, opposed the treaty, and spoke with great acrimony against the Colonies: among these was the Count *de St. Germain*, who endeavoured to impress in the minds of the other members a conviction of the justice of the measure. This statesman seemed to have the greatest weight; and had not the Queen interfered, it is thought Mr. *Silas Deane* would have returned a very different answer to the Congress. It is astonishing the interest this she-politician bears in matters of State; she can cajole and threaten into compliance the most popular Minister about the palace. The Count, however, dared to represent the inconvenience that might arise to the Kingdom upon taking an active part in the dispute. It was not *England* alone that could raise any fearful apprehensions in his breast, but it was the

resentment of her allies. He depicted the horrors of war in the most lively and emphatick strains of eloquence; upon the blessings of peace, he bestowed every eulogium that he thought might be the means of rendering it an object of cultivation; but all was in vain; the treaty was signed, which it is confidently reported will be attended with the disgrace of the Count. Certain it is that his parsimony has given universal disgust, and every means are trying to render him obnoxious to the King.

During Mr. *Deane's* stay here, he was frequently at Court, where he often met with Lord *Stormont*. All outward etiquette was preserved, and they often conversed together upon general topicks, so that strangers might easily mistake them for cordial friends. They never entered into political debate at the levee. His Lordship, however, observed him with a jealous eye, whenever he was in conversation with any of the members of the Cabinet. Notwithstanding the caution used, it came to the knowledge of his Lordship that Mr. *Deane* had private conferences at some of their houses. This underhand proceeding, procured, we may conjecture, by the most powerful and never-failing application, raised his Lordship's choler, and he upbraided them with it openly in the King's presence; the charge was positively denied, and as positively persisted in; the matter grew warm, the King interposed, and for the present the dispute subsided.

The good old Count *de St. Germain*, fruitless to frustrate the league, yielded at length to the torrent of opposition, and was apparently reconciled to the resolutions of the Cabinet. After giving his opinion as above related, he remained a silent spectator, and passively approved of the treaty. After it had undergone the Royal sanction, he issued immediate orders to the several ports to put the maritime department in the most formidable state. Various conjectures are formed, whether these preparations are made with an offensive or defensive view. There can be no doubt that a war will be the consequence of our support to *American* rebellion; but who will open the business, is the material question; your Court, if they have spirit, are furnished with a very justifiable pretext.

GENERAL GADSDEN TO JOHN LEWIS GERVAIS.

Sullivan's Island, September 21, 1776.

SIR: We are out of ruin, of which, for the work I am about, I am obliged to use a great deal. Pray send a hogshhead for this garrison as soon as possible, by Captain *Ham*, if you can.

I am, sir, your humble servant,

CHRIST. GADSDEN.

To John Lewis Gervais, Esq., Commissary-General, Charlestown.

COLONEL ROBERTS TO JOHN LEWIS GERVAIS.

Colonel *Roberts's* compliments to the Commissary, and informs him that it is not the season either for carrion or salt beef—both of which when he takes the trouble of sending to Fort *Johnson* for the Artillery he will order to be returned, &c.

Saturday, September 21, 1776.

[ENDORSED—Impertinent note of Colonel *Roberts*, 21 Sept., 1776, treated with contempt—not answered.]

DELAWARE CONVENTION TO THE BOARD OF WAR.

New-Castle, September 21, 1776.

SIR: In an answer to your letter, dated from the War Office, requesting a list of prisoners in this State, I am to inform you that none are within it at present; the few we had were ordered to *Philadelphia*, for the purpose of exchanging them for a Captain *Budden* and others, under a resolution of Congress. One Continental battalion only hath been raised in this State; and a complete list of the officers, their ranks, and dates of commissions, was transmitted to Mr. President *Hancock*, by the President of the Council of Safety of this State, and I must refer you to that list for the information you want.

I am your most obedient and very humble servant,

GEO. READ, President of Convention.

To Richard Peters, Esq.

DELAWARE CONVENTION TO THE PRESIDENT OF CONGRESS.

[Read September 23, 1776.]

New-Castle, September 21, 1776.

SIR: The Convention of this State, upon the receipt of your letter of the 3d of this instant, enclosing the resolution of Congress of the same date, requesting all the aid in our power to be sent to the army at *New-York*, immediately took the same into their consideration, and have at length ordered a battalion, to consist of four hundred and eighty men, including officers, to be forthwith raised and equipped, to reinforce the army of the *United States*, and to serve till the last day of *December* next. The want of arms, and the great extent of our frontiers on the river and bay of *Delaware*, must apologize for the smallness of this aid—it is the widow's mite. God grant that it may, in the least degree, contribute to the common safety, is the sincere wish of, sir, your most obedient and very humble servant,

GEO. READ, *President of Convention.*To the Hon. *John Hancock*, Esq.

COMMITTEE OF SECRET CORRESPONDENCE TO WILLIAM BINGHAM.

Philadelphia, September 21, 1776.

SIR: Your several letters of the 4th, 15th, and 26th *August*, to this Committee, have been duly received, with the several enclosures, and the whole have been laid before Congress. We can therefore communicate that satisfaction which we dare say it must afford you to know, that you have so far obtained the approbation of that august body.

It is not necessary that we should enter into minute replies to the contents of your letters; therefore, we shall only notice such parts as seem to require it.

Captain *Wickes's* behaviour meets the approbation of his country, and fortune seems to have had an eye to his merit when he conducted his three prizes safely in. You made a very proper use of his engagement by your question to the General, and it is extremely satisfactory that our prizes may be carried into and protected in the *French* ports; but hitherto the Congress have not thought proper to entrust blank commissions beyond seas, neither can their resolve for bringing prizes into some of these States for condemnation, be dispensed with. These matters are now under consideration of a committee, and should any alteration take place, you shall be informed of it.

We are bound to return thanks to his Excellency the General, for the information he authorized you to give us, as mentioned in your letter of the 4th, and particularly for his disposition to favour our commerce in port, and protect it at sea; and likewise, for that concern he expressed at not having it in his power to assist us with the arms and powder we requested. You will therefore signify to his Excellency, that this Committee entertain the warmest sentiments of esteem and respect for his person and character, and of gratitude for his favourable attention to the concerns of our much-injured country; that we request the continuance of his friendship, and hope during your residence at *Martinico*, there will be many opportunities of benefiting by his favourable disposition, particularly in countenancing you in the purchase and exportation of arms, ammunition, and clothing.

We are not surprised that Admiral *Young's* letter should have altered the General's sentiment respecting convoys; but we esteem much his spirited answer to the Admiral, which may probably be productive of some alteration.

We like well your proposal for a constant intercourse by packets; and the sloop *Independence*, Captain *John Young*, is now sent on that service, in which we hope she will be successful and continue; more of the like kind shall follow, and probably this may be found the best method of supporting our intercourse with *Europe*; and as these vessels are properly commissioned, we cannot see any impropriety in fitting out tenders, with copies of their commissions, provided the commanding officers of those tenders are really officers belonging to the vessel whose commission they bear; but the prizes must be sent to *America* for condemnation, unless the cargoes are perishable, and in such case, if properly certified, we suppose it might be best to make sale of them.

We thank you for Mr. *Price's* pamphlet, and wish you would write to Mr. *Deane* and Mr. *Morris* to contrive you a constant and ample supply of the *English, Irish*, and

French newspapers, political publications, &c. We send you by this opportunity the Journals of Congress, as far as published, and the newspapers to this time.

We received the arms and powder by the *Reprisal*. They come seasonably, and we wish there had been more of them. The Secret Committee will supply you with funds for the payments of these and more.

Since the arrival of Lord *Howe* and General *Howe* in the neighbourhood of *New-York*, with their forces, they have been rather too strong for our people to cope with, and consequently have succeeded in their enterprises; which, however, have not been of that importance that they will probably represent to the world. They have been ten or twelve weeks, with a powerful fleet and a numerous army, well provided and appointed with every thing necessary, and what have they done? They have got possession of three small islands on the coast of *America*. These were hardly disputed with them, and yet, if every acre of *American* territory is to cost them in the same proportion, the conquest would ruin all *Europe*. Our army are now collected to a point, and are strongly intrenched on *New-York* Island and at *King's Bridge*, so that in fact Mr. *Howe* is hemmed in, as he was at *Boston*, except that he has more elbow-room, and a powerful fleet, commanding an extensive inland navigation. Our Northern army are strongly posted at *Tyconderoga*, and expect they will be able to keep Mr. *Burgoyne* from crossing the Lakes this campaign.

We are worse off for woollen clothing for our army than any other matter, and you must exert your utmost industry to buy, and send us every thing of that kind you can meet with in *Martinico*, or any of the neighbouring Islands.

We have gone into this detail of our present situation, that you may have a just idea of it, and be able to make proper representations to the General and inhabitants of *Martinico*.

We recommended the *French* officers that came with Captain *Wickes* to Congress, and the Board of War have provided for them to their satisfaction. On this subject your remarks have been very proper; officers unacquainted with our language cannot be useful; therefore we do not wish to encourage such to come amongst us; at the same time, men of merit and abilities will always meet with suitable encouragement. You must therefore pursue the line you set out in; give general discouragement to those that apply, and recommend none but such as the General will pledge his word for, and you may even intimate to him, that if too many come over, the Congress will not know what to do with them.

We are now at the 1st of *October*, and have not heard from Mr. *Deane* after his arrival at *Bordeaux*. His last letter is dated 23d *June*, when he was just setting out for *Paris*. We have later intelligence than his; in consequence of which we desire you to inquire of the General and Governor, whether they have received any arms or ammunition from Monsieur *Hortalez*, with directions to deliver the same to any persons properly authorized by Congress to receive them. If they have, we hereby authorize you to receive the same, giving your receipts on behalf of the *United States of America*. If none such are arrived, inquire if they have any advice of such, and request they will make known to you when they do arrive. We desire you will make the like application to the Governor of *St. Eustatia*, but proceed cautiously in this business. We think you should go there yourself in a *French* vessel, or if that might be unsafe, or make a noise, get Mr. *Richard Harrison* or some person in whose prudence you can confide; let the first question be, whether his Excellency has received any advices from Monsieur *Hortalez*; if the answer be in the negative, tell him that he will receive letters from such a person, and that those advices have reference to you; therefore request the favour of being immediately made acquainted when they come to hand, and you will wait on him or send a proper person in your stead. If the answer be in the affirmative, then inquire if his Excellency had received any thing beside advice from Monsieur *Hortalez*, and if he has, inform him you are empowered to receive the same from him agreeable to the directions sent with the goods. We believe you had best proceed in the same cautious manner at *Martinico*, and open no more of this business than circumstances shall make absolutely necessary.

We also enjoin you to the strictest secrecy, and herewith

enclose you two separate letters as your proper authority for receiving any goods or money Monsieur *Hortalez*, our agent in *Europe*, may remit.

It was intended that Captain *Young* should deliver you this letter; but as we have some important despatches to send Mr. *Deane*, we have concluded to send Mr. *William Hodge*, junior, the bearer hereof, with the same, in order that he may deliver them with his own hands. You'll please to show Mr. *Hodge* proper attention, and assist him to the utmost of your power in procuring him a passage immediately from *Martinico* to *France*, in a good ship. If any men-of-war or packet should be going, make application to the General, to recommend Mr. *Hodge* to the commander; also, to the Governour, commander of the port where he goes to in *France*, to give him passport and assistance from thence to *Paris*, with the best despatch.

If Mr. *Hodge* should want money for his expenses, supply him, and transmit us his receipts for the same. You will serve your country by forwarding Mr. *Hodge* without delay; but you need not mention to the General how urgent we are on this point, unless you find it will promote his despatch.

We learn, from many quarters, that a fleet of twenty sail of the line are fitting at *Brest* and *Toulon*. Should they come out to the *West-Indies*, and be destined to commit hostilities against the *British* trade or territories, they have a fair opportunity to strike a capital stroke at *New-York*, where they have upwards of four hundred sail of ships, guarded only by two sixty-four-gun ships, two fifties, and six forties—the rest are all frigates, &c. Twenty sail of the line would take their whole fleet, with ease, and then we could as easily manage their army.

We had omitted above to desire that you should send back in the sloop *Independence*, Captain *Young*, a proportion of the arms, ammunition, money, or other stores you may receive either at *Martinico* or *St. Eustatia*, from Monsieur *Hortalez*, taking bills of lading for the same, deliverable to us, or our order; and if the quantity you receive should be considerable, you may send by Captain *Young* about the value of three or four thousand pounds sterling, observing that we want muskets and woollen clothing most immediately.

We shall send more armed vessels after Captain *Young*, to bring away the remainder of what you may receive or buy, and are, sir, your obedient, humble servants.

To *William Bingham*, Esq.

MARINE COMMITTEE TO THOMAS CUSHING.

September 21, 1776.

SIR: In consequence of a letter from the President of *Massachusetts-Bay*, dated the 13th instant, to the President of the Congress, which was by Congress referred to this Committee, we have determined to comply with the wishes of your Assembly by ordering the frigate commanded by Captain *McNeill*, and that by Captain *Thompson*, of *New-Hampshire*, to be fitted immediately and proceed on a cruise on your coast, in hopes of taking the *Millford* frigate, or driving her or any other enemy away from those seas. We therefore authorize you to accept the proffered assistance of the said Assembly, or any Committee they appoint to assist in fitting, equipping, arming and manning that frigate. You are also to accept their offer of twenty-four nine-pounders cannon, and to coöperate with them in getting the ship to sea with the utmost expedition; and we agree to reimburse the State of *Massachusetts-Bay* for all just and necessary expenses they incur in effecting this business.

We shall in due time cause their cannon to be returned, unless they think proper to make sale of them for the use of this ship, and in that case we would choose to purchase them, provided they are good guns, quite suitable for the service. You will please to purchase a proper number of swivel-guns, good muskets, blunderbusses, cutlasses, pikes, and other arms and instruments suitable for this ship. You will apply to the State for a proper quantity of powder, ball, musket shot, and other military stores, to be paid for or returned by the Congress; and in short as this ship will instantly go into danger, we hope nothing will be neglected that ought to be done in fitting and manning her.

If Mr. *Langdon* applies to you, Mr. *Bradford*, or to your State, for assistance in fitting out the frigate under his

care, we hope it will be granted, and we shall reimburse all just expenses and charges. The intended enterprise should be kept secret as possible.

We are sincerely, sir, your most obedient servants.

JOHN HANCOCK.

To the Hon. *Thomas Cushing*, Esq.

MARINE COMMITTEE TO JOHN BRADFORD.

September 21, 1776.

SIR: In consequence of some overtures from the Assembly of your State, we have determined to order the Continental frigate, commanded by *Hector McNeill*, Esq., to be immediately armed, manned, and fitted for the sea, and accordingly have this day written what we judged necessary to Mr. *Cushing* and the Captain on that subject. The present is to desire you will give them all the aid and assistance in your power in this business. You are to supply them with any Continental stores you may have in your possession that are wanted, and assist in procuring such. Similar orders are sent to *John Langdon*, Esq., of *New-Hampshire*, respecting the frigate there; and should he apply to you for any assistance, we pray it may be granted.

We are, sir, your humble servants.

To *John Bradford*, Esq.

MARINE COMMITTEE TO CAPTAIN THOMPSON.

September 21, 1776.

SIR: The Assembly of *New-Hampshire* and *Massachusetts* having offered their assistance in equipping, arming, and manning the frigate under your command, we have accepted their kind offers, and hope in consequence thereof you will soon be ready for sea. We expect the same will be the case with the frigate commanded by Captain *McNeill*, of *Massachusetts*; and our design is that you should join company soon as possible and cruise in concert. We are informed the *Millford* frigate now infests the coast of those States, and does much injury to their commerce. It is our duty to prevent the continuance of this soon as we can; and as the two frigates mentioned will be an overmatch for the *Millford*, or any single frigate of the enemy, you are to join Captain *McNeill* and go in search of that or any of the enemy's ships in those seas that you can cope with; and we hope in due time that you have taken, destroyed, or drove off the said enemy. The rank betwixt you and Captain *McNeill* is not yet established; you are therefore to act in concert, and consult each other in all things that relate to the good of the service, to the safety and preservation of your ships, or to the interests and honour of the *United States of America*.

The Continental agents in any State you put into, will supply provisions or any necessaries that may be wanted. To some of them you are to address your prizes, and you must advise the Committee of your proceedings as opportunities occur. You are also to furnish us, in due time, with copies of your log-book and journal, and advise us of any important intelligence that may come to your knowledge.

With the best wishes for your success, we are, sir, your humble servants.

To Captain *Thomas Thompson*.

MARINE COMMITTEE TO CAPTAIN M'NEILL.

September 21, 1776.

SIR: The Assembly of *Massachusetts* having offered their assistance in equipping, manning, and arming the frigate under your command, we have accepted the same, and therefore hope you will very soon be ready for the sea. We expect the same from the frigate in *New-Hampshire*, commanded by Captain *Thompson*, and our design is that you should join company as soon as possible and cruise in concert. We are informed that the *Millford* frigate now infests the coasts of these States, and does much injury to their trade. It is our duty to prevent this soon as we are able; and as the two frigates mentioned will be an overmatch for the *Millford*, or any single frigate of the enemy, and go in quest of that or any other of the enemy's ships in those seas, provided they be such as you are able to cope with; and we hope in due time that you have taken,

destroyed, or drove the enemy off the coast. The rank betwixt you and Captain *Thompson* is not yet established; you are therefore to act in concert, and consult each other in all things that relate for the good of the service, to the safety and preservation of your ships, or to the interest and honour of the *United States of America*.

The Continental agents in any State you put into, will supply provisions or any necessities that may be wanted. To some of them you are to address your prizes, and must advise this Committee of your proceedings as opportunities occur. You are also to furnish us in due time with a copy of your log-book and journal, and advise us of any important intelligence that may come to your knowledge.

With the best wishes for your success, we are, sir, your friends, &c., &c.

To Captain *Hector McNeill*.

MARINE COMMITTEE TO JOHN LANGDON.

September 21, 1776.

SIR: The Assembly of *Massachusetts-Bay* having represented the necessity and utility of fitting out, with all possible expedition, one of the frigates built in that State, and that under your direction, to cruise on your coasts, in order to take or drive off the enemy that now infest them, and having offered their assistance to equip and man these ships, and also handed us the copy of a note or resolve of your honourable Assembly, to the same purport, we have determined to comply with their wishes, so far as depends on us, and have this day given the necessary orders to Mr. *Cushing*, Captain *McNeill*, and Captain *Bradford*, for getting their ship ready. We are, therefore, to request that you will exert your utmost endeavours to have the frigate under your care completed immediately.

You will accept the assistance of your Assembly, or the Committee they appoint for that purpose. You may either purchase or borrow suitable cannon, swivels, blunderbusses, muskets, pistols, cutlasses, pikes, ball, shot, powder, &c., &c. You may apply to the State of *Massachusetts*, to the Honourable Mr. *Cushing*, or to any of the Continental agents in the neighbouring States, for materials or other assistance you stand in need of; and this Committee, on behalf of the *United States*, will pay all just and equitable charges that you or any of them incur in effecting this business: so that we hope Captain *Thompson* will soon be able to join Captain *McNeill* in this enterprise, which ought to be kept as secret as possible.

We are, sir, your friends, &c., &c.

To *John Langdon*, Esquire.

MARINE COMMITTEE TO CAPTAIN WICKES.

September 21, 1776.

SIR: This Committee being very desirous of sending the *Reprisal* under your command on immediate service, desire that you forward her outfit, take in provisions and stores for two months, and get ready for sea, with the utmost expedition; and all commanders and officers of the fleet now in this port, as well as all other persons in the Continental employ, are hereby desired to aid and assist you in getting your ship immediately fitted and manned.

We are, sir, &c., &c.

To *Lambert Wickes*, Esquire.

SAMUEL CHASE TO GENERAL GATES.

Philadelphia, September 21, 1776.

DEAR SIR: I came from *Annapolis* ten days ago, and have the pleasure to inform you that your lady was well, at *Frederickton*, a few days before, as Mr. *Beatty* informed me. I wrote to Mrs. *Gates*, and enclosed her your letter to me.

I readily make peace with you, and shall wait, with patience, till I see you, for a full explanation. I could not but be mortified at your censure, because I both respect and esteem you. I wish you would, by letter, inform me of your suspicions, and disclose the secret springs which you suppose have influenced men and measures in your department. It is not curiosity, but an earnest desire to hunt out the villain, and to drag him before the awful tribunal of the publick, that urges me to know the mystery.

Our affairs here wear a very unfavourable aspect. You have been, undoubtedly, informed of the battle on *Long-Island*. On this day week the enemy landed a body of forces at *Turtle Bay*, (after a severe cannonade from their ships in the *East River*, to scour the country, and to cover their landing.) Our troops, posted in lines thrown up to oppose their landing, abandoned them, at the first appearance of the enemy, with the utmost precipitation and confusion. Two brigades, commanded by Generals *Parsons* and *Fellows*, were ordered to support them. They also fled in every direction, without firing a single shot, notwithstanding the exertions of their Generals to form them, and, oh, disgraceful! on the appearance of only about sixty or seventy of the enemy. By this infamous conduct we lost a great part of our baggage and most of our heavy cannon which had been left at *New-York*. Our army retreated, and possessed themselves of the Heights of *Harlem*; our Head-Quarters at *Roger Morris's* house.

On *Monday* last the enemy appeared in the plains, two and a half miles from the Heights; about four hundred, under General *Leslie*. A skirmish began between them and a party of volunteers from several *New-England* regiments, commanded by Colonel *Knowlton*. Our people were supported by companies from a *Virginia* battalion and from two *Militia Maryland* regiments. The enemy were obliged to retreat, with the loss of about one hundred, killed and prisoners. Colonel *Knowlton*, a brave officer, was killed. Major *Leitch*, of *Maryland*, was wounded, and despaired of.

The enemy's main army is now encamped between seven and eight miles-tone; General *Howe's* Head-Quarters at one Mr. *Apthorp's*.

On the 19th, General *Washington* writes that he expects, from the movements of the enemy, a general attack. I greatly fear the event.

If General *Schuyler* is with you, make me most respectfully remembered to him; also to Generals *Arnold* and *St. Clair*. Adieu!

Your affectionate and obedient servant,

SAML. CHASE.

Congress have resolved to raise eighty-eight battalions of Regular forces, to be enlisted during the war. Would it had been done last year!

TO THE PEOPLE OF PENNSYLVANIA.

It has been said that many timid people begin to be very apprehensive for the fate of the Continental currency, and are vesting it with great expedition, in lands and certainties of various kinds; for, say they, "should the forces of *Great Britain* prevail over the Colony troops, the currency will be totally abolished by the conquerors, and the possessors will sink the whole." Surely those who thus reason, are but little acquainted with the movements of Government, neither are they aware of the injury they do their country; for by such conduct they immediately effect, in part, the evil they wish to avoid. When paper money circulates in the common course of trade, its value gradually rises and falls according to its quantity, when relatively considered with the value of the real effects of a country, such as houses, lands, provisions, gold, silver and merchandise of every kind; for though paper merely has not any significant value in itself, and has only such nominal value as we please to fix on it, a single dollar bill being as large as an eight dollar bill, yet as by general consent, we agree to receive and pass *this* as *one* and *that* as *eight*, so long as this mutual confidence and resolution continues, they are, to all intents and purposes, of as much real worth as so much actual gold and silver, which are, of themselves, of no other absolute value than what mankind have been pleased to fix on them. The *Mexican Indians* found iron of vastly greater use than gold, and freely exchanged one for the other, till they learned, by fatal experience, that the Eastern world preferred the gold at the risk of life, honour, and their boasted religion.

Paper bills are, with respect to the publick, what private bonds and notes of hand are amongst individuals—mere promissory notes; and so long as the grantor is good and sufficient, they will bear a very safe assignment; for he that receives an eight dollar bill in payment, does in fact only

receive an assignment of a Continental promissory note, which at some future day is to be paid off. It must be granted, that the issuing large sums will gradually decrease the value of the emission, in the same proportion as the introduction of an over-quantity of any article of merchandise would affect its price and sale; but as this decrease in value can never instantaneously take place, the trader, by keeping his money in a constant circulation, will gradually raise the price of his commodities in proportion to the decreased value of the money, and thereby always keep fairly and safely above water. A loss can only happen where long credits are given, or to such as keep large sums useless by them; therefore, it becomes, of course, their interest to throw such money immediately into trade; for the captures may happen in the course of their adventures, the prices of such goods as arrive safe must, in the end, amount to more than the losses; for whether insurance be made or not, the consumer must actually pay such advanced price as will be equal to the risk run, and leave a profit to the trader besides; otherwise, there must be a general bankruptcy amongst the merchants, a general cessation of exports, a stoppage to the raising of the several staples of *America*, and of course an almost total stagnation to the circulation of money; for, without trade, little money will serve us. But as the necessities of our unhappy contest still call for large and continued emissions of paper money, it becomes absolutely necessary for every cashholder to push it into trade; for though we are a people individually consisting of distinct fortunes, yet on the great scale we are one large trading company, and must sink or rise together.

If the whole Continent upon an extensive view of the matter, are unequal to the conflict, the suffering must be individually felt, and nothing will so effectually support us, as steadily and resolutely extending our trade to the utmost limits it will bear. It is a grand Continental experiment we are trying, and nothing but the experiment itself can determine the expediency; we are not to look on our present situation as a matter of choice, but necessity; we have got into a labyrinth, and must get out of it as well we can. If by giving a general credit to our money, and forcing a trade, we should weary out *Great Britain*, or involve her in a war with some of her *European* neighbours, we may then take our own time to pay off the debt we have been contracting, and every year will restore the currency nearer to its original value. To what extent a country may venture to run itself in debt, is a question beyond my abilities to solve; whether a community and an individual may with propriety be compared, I cannot pretend to determine; but if the comparison would hold, I should say, that as an individual has a right to spend or run into debt to the exact amount of what he is worth, without injury to his creditors, so may a community; if this be true, it may be easy to determine how much farther we may safely go. The present value of all the estates in *America* is about three million two hundred thousand dollars per annum, supposing the rated taxes to be, on an average, only one-sixth of the real annual value of the estates. Some may think that the rates bear a much greater proportion to the real value, yet it should be considered, that there are large estates in land as well as money, which are scarcely rated at all. If I am right in this estimate, the whole present worth of *America*, at twenty years' purchase, is sixty-four millions of dollars. Thus if the whole Continent belonged to one man, it would be very safe to trust him to the amount of sixty-four millions, and I presume the debt we have yet contracted, both continentally and provincially, does not amount to near half that sum; and besides, we should consider that land will annually increase in value, and that there will be large tracts to dispose of to foreigners, who may be tempted by a mild administration of equitable laws, to come amongst us. Here it is to be observed, I go upon the presumption, that we shall carry our point of independence; but supposing the worst that can happen, that we should be reduced to our former situation of allegiance to the Crown of *Great Britain*, it can never be the interest of *England* to abolish our paper currency, for many weighty reasons. She must certainly wish to renew her trade with us upon her former advantageous plan; but, if by a total reduction of our currency, she should ruin all the moneyed men upon the Continent, where should we find merchants to build ships and export

the produce of the country in exchange for *English* manufactures? Or where would she find customers to purchase the thousand useless articles which luxury had introduced amongst us? The rich would be no more, and it would take half a century to reinstate them; the poor, becoming industrious, would make a few necessities serve them, and the consumption of *English* goods would be amazingly diminished. But why should they wish to destroy our paper currency? To punish us, say some, for our misconduct, and to deter us in future from repeating it.

If punishment be their aim, it would certainly be more heavily felt by their leaving us in the full possession of our money; for as we should be under a necessity of paying an annual tax for a long series of years to come, in order to sink the money emitted during the war, we shall more sensibly feel the effects of the present dispute, than if the whole was to be at once annihilated; for such annihilation falling principally on the moneyed men, those of small or no fortunes, who form the majority in every country, would be thereby released from defraying any part of the expenses incurred, and would therefore have no memento of any past inconveniences of the moneyed kind, to deter them from renewing the attempt to cast off the slavish yoke which conquest might fix on them; and the *once rich*, becoming *now poor*, would be men of so little importance, either from numbers or influence, that no remembrance of their sufferings would retard the design, whenever there appeared a prospect of success. Like the distresses of an earthquake or shipwreck, the horrors would exist for a short period, and then be remembered no more; like extracting a tooth, it would give one violent twinge and then be forgotten; but, on the other hand, should perpetual rumblings and storms daily disturb our quiet, or continual grumbling pains deprive us of rest, we might be more doubtful of the propriety of renewing the experiment; in one case, every year's tax would bring the dispute fresh to our minds; in the other, not a trace would be left behind, except the wandering shades of departed fortunes, denouncing feeble but bitter execrations against the authors of their ruin. The punishment would be too partial to answer the designs of our inveterate enemies; for if the money remains to be sunk by taxes in the several Provinces, every man, who by success in trade or steady industry, increases his fortune, will pay additional taxes in proportion to this growing wealth, and of consequence will feel a proportionably greater part of the effects of the dispute, which would not be the case if a general dissolution of paper money should take place. We may depend on the determination of the King and Parliament to pursue that mode which would be the longest felt, and I should expect no favour from them but what arose from their own interest to grant; but as I am confident that a sudden suppression of our money would be but a temporary and partial suffering, they are too deep politicians to attempt it. It is to be observed, I here take up the argument as if *Great Britain* had made a complete conquest of *America*, which I by no means grant she is likely to accomplish; it is for argument sake that I admit it, in order to convince those who are fearful of losing by Continental money, that it cannot be the intention, because it is not the interest of *England* to destroy it; they would rather desire to leave us with a perpetual burthen on our shoulders, which, like their own national debt, may incline more to peace than war, and would wish us, like the wood-cutter in the fable (who thought all his toiling and sweating proceeded from the sins of his first parent) to cry with every stroke of the axe, "Oh, Adam!" But I trust we reside in a Paradise from which the powers of *Great Britain* can never expel us.

CONTI—

Philadelphia, September 21, 1776.

POSTSCRIPT TO THE PAPER ADDRESSED TO THE PEOPLE OF PENNSYLVANIA.

Looking over the calculations I had made in the piece published in the last *Evening Post*, I perceived a very gross error; and the discovery being too late to be corrected before the paper was struck off, I must request an insertion of the following remarks; and as the correction tends more fully to support my argument of the goodness and safety of

Continental money, I make no doubt but it will find a place in next paper.

I have said that "the present value of all the estates in *America* is three million two hundred thousand dollars per annum, supposing the rated taxes to be, on an average, only one-sixth of the real annual value of the estates;" and that, at this "estimate, the whole present worth of *America*, at twenty years purchase, is sixty-four millions of dollars." As this calculation was made from a series of figuring, it had escaped my notice, at first, that I was calculating upon the actual taxes paid, and not upon the rates from which those taxes arose. For instance, I supposed *Pennsylvania*, by an eighteen-penny tax, to bring in twenty-five thousand pounds per annum; and as our Province is generally ranked in the quotas at about one-eighth of the Continent, the whole income would be two hundred thousand pounds; and, taking for granted that this was not above one-sixth of the sum which would arise from a just and full valuation, I called the whole value one million two hundred thousand pounds—equal to three millions two hundred thousand dollars; and this, at twenty years' purchase, amounted to sixty-four millions: whereas I should have calculated upon twenty years purchase on the rates from which the eighteen-penny tax was drawn, which would make the whole value of the Continent just thirteen times and one third as much, viz: about eight hundred and fifty-three millions of dollars, of which we yet have expended but a small portion. I the more readily fell into the error, as this part of my essay was not the object I had in view, which was to persuade those who possess Continental money, that we have nothing to fear from *Great Britain*, and that it is our interest to force a trade, and give a brisk circulation to the money, which will necessarily prevent individuals from suffering by any gradual depreciation, which is by no means so great as some would infer from the extravagant height of bills of exchange. In our present circumstances, bills are by no means a proper touchstone to try the value of our money by. It is the small exports to *Europe* which occasion the scarcity of bills; and the great profits made by imports from foreign ports, has increased the proportion of bill buyers far beyond the bill sellers. Let us but send off our ships, and having the same open trade we formerly had, and I am confident, notwithstanding all our fears, that the value of Continental money will rise—that is, bills of exchange will soon fall to near their old standard.

CONTI—.

REMARKS ON THE PAPER ADDRESSED TO THE PEOPLE OF PENNSYLVANIA.

MR. TOWNE: My present purpose is not to investigate whether your correspondent means well or ill to the community, by his essay concerning the Continental currency in your *Saturday's* paper; but I mean to rectify a capital mistake, to prevent wrong and pernicious conclusions. This essayist supposes the annual value of all the estates in *America* to be three millions two hundred thousand dollars, and thence concludes the whole present worth of *America* to be sixty-four millions of dollars, at twenty years purchase.

Here we discover a gross error in the first outset, because it has been admitted, even by our enemies, that the annual exportation of *North America* to *Great Britain* only, is of value two millions of pounds sterling, to which we may safely add one million for the exportation to the other parts of *Europe* and the *West-Indies*. If this be right, then the value of the annual produce of *North America* is near fifteen millions of dollars, which estimated at twenty years purchase, the whole present worth of *North America*, is nigh three hundred millions of dollars, instead of sixty-four millions, which this writer values it at. These, however, are very inadequate modes of estimating the incomputable value, if I may be indulged the expression, of a vast Continent, filling fast with industrious freemen, and abounding in all the valuable products which the finest soils and climates are capable of producing.

Let it be our care to prevent the killing grasp of tyranny from destroying this our hopeful harvest and fair inheritance; we need not apprehend for the paltry debt the war may create, which the industrious hands of agriculture and commerce unrestrained, will quickly wipe away.

DORIA.

OBSERVATIONS OF FINANCE, BY PELATIAH WEBSTER.

The computations of the value of the free States of *America* by *Conti*—and *Doria* in the *Evening Post* of September 21, rather prove that value to be immense than reduce it to a certainty. Perhaps another method of computation might be admitted, viz: From the quantity of land within the present inhabited part of those States, which is at least two hundred millions of acres, and worth a dollar per acre I should think, at least, some say two or three dollars, and perhaps the personal estate may be computed at as much more, which I do not think is reckoning high, and will make the amount four hundred millions of dollars. All these computations prove with certainty enough that the funds on which the Continental money depends are sufficiently great to support a very much larger quantity than is already emitted. I would further observe, that the *American* States owe nothing to pay any body but themselves, and employ no ships, soldiers, &c., but their own, so that they contract no foreign debt; and I take it to be a clear maxim, that no State can be ruined, bankrupted, or indeed much endangered, by any debt due to itself only; nor can it be much impoverished by any war; and the people that are left at home can furnish the provisions, clothing, &c., necessary for themselves and the soldiery, together with all other necessary stores and implements of war.

There requires no more to preserve such a State in a war of any length of time than good economy in bringing the burthen equally on all, in proportion to their abilities; but then I think it very necessary that they should pay as they go as near as may be. The soldier renders his personal services down on the spot, the farmer his provisions, the tradesman his fabricks, and why should not the moneyed man pay his money down, too? Why should the soldier, tradesman, farmer, &c., be paid in promises, which are not as good as money if the fulfillment is at a distance? Payment in promises or bills of credit is a temporary expedient, and will always be dangerous where the quantity increases too much; at least it will always have the consequences of a medium increased beyond the necessities of trade; and whenever that happens a speedy remedy is necessary, or the ill effects will soon be alarming, and, if long neglected, will not be easily remedied. The remedy, or rather prevention, of this evil I take to be very easy at present. If the quantity of Continental currency is greater than is necessary for medium of trade, it will appear by a number of very perceptible effects, each of which point out and facilitate the remedy. One effect will be that people will choose to have their estates vested in any goods of intrinsic value rather than in money, and of course there will be a quick demand for every kind of goods, and consequently a high price for them; another effect will be discouragement of industry, for people will not work hard to procure goods for sale while the medium for which they must sell them is supposed to be worse than the goods; and of course another effect will be a discouragement of trade, for nobody will import goods and sell them when imported for a medium that is worse than the goods themselves, for in that case though the profits may be nominal the loss will be real; these effects all point out their only remedy, viz: lessening the quantity of the circulating medium, and this can be done but by three ways that I know of: First, the destruction of it by some casualty, as fire, shipwreck, &c.; or, secondly, exportation of it, which cannot happen in our case, because our medium has no currency abroad, and I think it very well for us that it has not, for in that case our debt would soon become due to people without ourselves, and of course less sensible, more difficult to be paid, and more dangerous; the third, and in my opinion the only practicable way of lessening the quantity, is by a tax, which never can be paid so easy as when money is more plenty than goods, and of course the very cause which makes a tax necessary facilitates the payment of it; the tax ought to be equal to the excess of the currency, so as to lessen the currency down to that quantity which is necessary for a medium of trade, and this, in my opinion, ought to be done in every State, whether money is immediately wanted in the publick Treasury or not, for it is better for any State to have their excess of money, if it is in bullion, hoarded in a publick Treasury or Bank than circulated among the people, for nothing can have worse effects on any State than an excess

of money. The poverty of the States of *Holland*, where nobody can have money who does not first earn it, has produced industry, frugality, economy, good habits of body and mind, and durable and well-established riches, whilst the excess of money has produced the contrary in *Spain*, *i. e.*, has ruined their industry and economy, and filled them with pride and poverty; and perhaps *England* owes much of her ruin to the same causes.

But there is, besides this general principle, a special reason in our case why we should pay a large part of our Continental debt by a present tax. The great consumption of our armies and stoppage of our imports, makes a great demand for the produce of our lands, the fabricks of our tradesmen, and the labour of our people, and of course raises the prices of all these much higher than usual, so that the husbandman, tradesman, and labourer, get money much faster and easier than they used to do; and it is a plain maxim that people should always pay their debts when they have a good run of business, and have money plenty. Many a man has been distressed for a debt when business and money were scarce, which he had neglected to pay when he could have done it with great ease to himself had he attended to it in its proper season; this applies to a community or State as well as to private persons. These last observations will apply with great exactness to these parts of the Continent, which lie nearest to the great scenes of the war, and have suffered most by it, and if they can bear the tax, I think those who lie at a distance from those horrors and have felt little more than a sympathy of the distress of their brethren, can have no reason to complain if they are called on for their share of the expense. The Continental money is to be considered as a debt fastened on the person and estate of every member of the *United States*; a debt of great honour and justice—of national honour and justice—not barely empty honour, but that essential honour and credit in which the safety of the State is comprised, and, therefore, by confession of every body, must be punctually and honourably paid in due time, otherwise all security arising from publick credit must be lost, all confidence of individuals in our publick councils must be destroyed, and great injustice must be done to every possessor of our publick currency to the detriment of all and ruin of many who have placed most confidence in our publick administration, and nothing but shame, scandal, and contempt can ensue, for which nothing but most inevitable necessity can be any excuse. And in this great agreement is every individual of our *United States* so deeply interested that I cannot conceive one sensible person can be persuaded to risk these consequences for the sake of a little delay of payment of that which must one day be paid, or must all be ruined together. The Continental debt is already a heavy one, and there is no way of sinking it but by paying it while we can; it is still increasing fast, and without a speedy tax, and a very sufficient one, it will grow upon us beyond any possibility of payment. If a man only suffers his rents, butcher's, and tradesman's bills, &c., to be unpaid a number of years, it will endanger his whole fortune. An expense account ought always to be paid up as it becomes due; these are accumulating sums, and it is dangerous to neglect them.

I have heard some people say, it is no matter for the present payment of the Continental debt; we are a country of rapid increase, and what is contracted by three millions of people will soon be paid by six. But how unfatherly and ungenerous is it to load posterity with an immense debt which we have an advantage in sinking a good part of it ourselves; besides, it will be a great discouragement to foreign emigrants to settle in this country to be told that the country is loaded with an immense debt, and their first title to an enfranchisement will be by beginning to pay it.

We are engaged in a cause, which, in all annals of time, has ever been deemed most honourable and glorious, and most characteristic of noble and generous minds, viz: spurning off slavery, and asserting our liberty. As things now stand, the most hardened, impudent Tory does not pretend, that if we fail of supporting our cause, we have any other chance but that of absolute submission and pardon; and even that pardon, doubtless, with numerous exceptions. Good God! who can bear the thought of absolute submission and pardon? Pardon, for the greatest virtue of a civil nature that the human mind is capable of! Who can think, without distraction, of coming under the domination of

Tories, suing to them for favour and intercessions? Tories, with standing armies at their heels; soldiers, with bayonets ready to enforce all the respect and submission they may claim. This dreadful apprehension intrudes, with great force, on my mind, another reason why we ought to sink, by a sufficient tax, as much as we can of the Continental debt, viz: That without this it is not possible to continue the war, and avoid absolute submission. I conceive the value of the currency of any State has a limit, a *ne plus ultra*, beyond which it cannot go; and if the nominal sum is extended beyond that limit, the value will not follow. No human wisdom or authority can be able to stretch the nominal currency beyond such real value. That the consequence of any attempt to extend such nominal addition, must depreciate the value of the whole, till it is reduced within said limit. I will explain my meaning thus: Suppose that thirty millions of dollars was the utmost limit of currency to which the *United States of America* could give real effectual value, and they should emit thirty millions more, I say the last thirty millions would add nothing to the value of the whole, but would sink the value of the whole sixty millions down to its limits, viz: thirty millions, *i. e.*, the whole sixty millions, in that case, would not purchase more real substantial goods than the thirty millions would have done before the other thirty millions were added to it. It follows from this, that any attempt to continue the war, by increasing the currency beyond the above-said limit, is vain, and must fail of the effect intended, and ruin all those who possess the currency already emitted. Whether the currency already emitted arises to the said limit, is a question of fact that may admit some doubt; but that it is not greatly within it, I think can be no doubt with people well acquainted with the nature and circumstances of this great subject; and be that as it may, I think every inconvenience arising from it is easily remedied by a sufficient tax. I do not apprehend we have yet suffered by a depreciation of the currency, because I cannot observe that the general prices of goods are more raised than the circumstances of the war will make necessary, were our money all gold and silver; and further extremities may produce further effects of the same kind, without depreciating the currency at all.

No kind of necessities have risen to the excess of price given last winter in *Boston*, for fresh provisions, though their currency was all gold and silver. Increase of risk must raise the price of all imported goods; scarcity of labourers must raise the price of labour, and of consequence, of every thing produced by labour; scarcity of tradesmen (many of whom are gone into the war) and demand for tradesmen's fabricks, must raise the price of them; besides, many raw materials used by the tradesmen, must be imported at great risk, and I do not see that the prices of most, or all these, are greater than they would be if every Continental dollar was a silver one; and should we admit that we are on the verge of depreciation, or that our currency hath suffered some little already in its value, two consequences will follow, which deserve great and immediate consideration: First. That a speedy remedy is immediately necessary, which shall operate effectually, and prevent the ruin of our currency; and the second is, that the remedy, by this very means, becomes more easy and practicable than otherwise it could be; because a tax will be paid much more easily in this case than it could be if money was in credit enough to be avariciously hoarded; and this holds, let the tax be of any nature, such as general assessment of polls and estates, excises, imposts, or duties on goods, lotteries, &c., &c.; in any or all these ways, our currency may be lessened much easier when its credit is a little doubted, than when it is at its highest. What contributes not a little to this facility is, that it may be done by general consent, without publick uneasiness and disturbance; for a depreciation of currency can be wished for by nobody but those who are deeply in debt, the weight or number of whom, I have reason to believe, is not great at present in these States. It is the mighty interest of all the rest of the inhabitants to prevent a depreciation, and I conceive every man of estate who has cash in hand, or due to him, would be willing to contribute his share to the lessening our currency, and so preserving its credit; yea, would eagerly choose this, rather than risk his own loss by a depreciation of the cash he has in hand, and in debts due.

In this time of distress, the publick has a right to every man's best thought. I have not the vanity to think I can exhaust the subject; but I have said so much on it, as I hope will set abler heads and pens on a thorough disquisition of it; for I think all will agree that the subject is a very important one, and deserves the most immediate and most serious attention.

A FINANCIER.

Philadelphia, October 4, 1776.

GEORGE PEACOCKE TO RICHARD PETERS.

Carlisle, September 21, 1776.

SIR: My bad state of health entreats you will be so good as to procure me leave to go to Philadelphia, in order that I may have proper advice, as my illness does not centre in one disorder. Would wish, if leave can be obtained, to have it sent before the warm weather is entirely over.

I am, sir, your very humble and obedient servant,

GEO. PEACOCKE, a Prisoner.

To Richard Peters, Secretary of War.

GENERAL SIR WILLIAM HOWE TO GENERAL WASHINGTON.

Head-Quarters, York Island, September 21, 1776.

SIR: I have the favour of your letters of the 6th and 19th current. In consequence of the latter, directions are given for Major-General Sullivan being conveyed to Elizabethtown on the earliest day; and I conclude Major-General Prescott will return in the same boat.

The exchange you propose of Brigadier-General Alexander, commonly called Lord Stirling, for Mr. McDonald, cannot take place, as he has only the rank of Major by my commission; but I shall readily send any Major in the enclosed list of prisoners that you will be pleased to name, in exchange for him; and that Lord Stirling may not be detained, I would propose to exchange him for Governour Montfort Browne, although the latter is no longer in the military line.

Enclosed you have a list of officers, belonging to the army under my command, who are your prisoners. It is not so correct as I could wish, having received no regular return of the officers of the Forty-Second and Seventy-First Regiments taken this year, but beg leave to refer you to Lieutenant-Colonel Campbell, of the Seventy-First, to rectify any omissions that may be; and am to desire that you will put opposite to their names such of your officers of equal rank as you would have in exchange for them.

The names of the non-commissioned and private prisoners with you are not sent, being unnecessary; but the return herewith enclosed specifies the number; and I shall redeem them by a like number of those in my possession; for which purpose I shall send Mr. Joshua Loring, my Commissary, to Elizabethtown, as a proper place for the exchange of prisoners, on any day you may appoint, wishing it to be an early one, wherein I presume you will concur, as it is proposed for the more speedy relief of the distressed.

As it may be some time before Mr. Lovell arrives here from Halifax, though I took the first opportunity of sending for him after your agreement to exchange him for Governour Skene, I am willing to believe, upon my assurances of Mr. Lovell's being sent to you immediately on his arrival, that you will not have any objections to granting the Governour his liberty without delay; and am induced to make the proposal for your compliance—neither of the persons being connected with military service.

General Carleton has sent from Canada a number of officers and privates, as per return enclosed, to whom he has given liberty upon their paroles; and in pursuance of his desire and their engagements to him, I shall send them to Elizabethtown on the earliest day. It is nevertheless the General's expectation that the exchange of prisoners, as settled by Captain Forster in Canada, will be duly complied with; and I presume you are sufficiently sensible of the sacred regard that is ever paid to engagements of this kind, not to suffer any infringement upon the plighted faith of Colonel Arnold.

It is with much concern that I cannot close this letter without representing the ill treatment which I am too well informed the King's officers now suffer in common gaols throughout the Province of New-England. I apply to your feelings alone for redress, having no idea of commit-

ting myself by an act of retaliation upon those in my power.

My Aid-de-Camp, charged with the delivery of this letter, will present to you a ball cut and fixed to the ends of a nail, taken from a number of the same kind found in the encampments quitted by your troops on the 15th instant. I do not make any comment upon such unwarrantable and malicious practices, being well assured the contrivance has not come to your knowledge.

I am, with due regard, sir, your most obedient servant,
W. HOWE.

To General George Washington, &c., &c.

Return of Officers, Non-Commissioned Officers, Drummers, Rank and File, Prisoners, of the following Corps
September 21, 1776.

CORPS.	Lieut. Colonel.	Major.	Captains.	Lieutenants.	Ensigns.	Sergeants.	Drummers.	Rank and File.
First Brigade Light Infantry, -	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
Second Brigade Light Infantry, -	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
Second Brigade Grenadiers, -	-	-	-	1	-	1	-	20
Fourth Brigade Grenadiers, -	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
Fourth Regiment, - - - -	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	10
Fifth Regiment, - - - -	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	3
Tenth Regiment, - - - -	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	11
Twenty-Second Regiment, -	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	2
Twenty-Third Regiment, -	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2
Thirty-Fifth Regiment, -	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2
Thirty-Eighth Regiment, -	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
Forty-Second Regiment, -	-	-	1	2	1	5	2	87
Forty-Fifth Regiment, -	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
Forty-Ninth Regiment, -	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
Fifty-Second Regiment, -	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2
Sixty-Third Regiment, -	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-
Seventy-First Regiment, -	1	-	5	12	3	20	10	500
Royal Highland Emigrants, -	-	1	5	2	1	5	2	74
Royal Artillery, - - - -	-	-	2	4	-	15	5	59
Hessians, - - - -	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2
Total, - - - -	1	2	13	22	5	49	1	780

Officers' Rank and Names.

SECOND BRIGADE GRENADIERS: Lieutenant Ragg.

FIFTH REGIMENT: Lieutenant Hill.

TWENTY-SECOND REGIMENT: Major French.

FORTY-SECOND REGIMENT: Captain Smith, (exchanged December 3, 1776;) Lieutenants Munro and Franklin, (exchanged December 3, 1776;) Ensign Campbell.

SEVENTY-FIRST REGIMENT: Lieutenant-Colonels Campbell, McKenzie, and Maxwell; Captains J. Campbell, L. R. Campbell, McLeod, (exchanged December 3, 1776,) C. Campbell, A. Campbell, Duncanson, Gordon, and Christie; Lieutenants Fraser, Balneavis, Colquhoun, McKenzie, H. Campbell, McLeod, (exchanged December 3, 1776,) and Campbells; Ensigns Murchison and Fraser.

FIRST BRIGADE ROYAL HIGHLAND EMIGRANTS: Captains Campbell, Robertson, and McDonald; Lieutenant Symes; Ensign McDonell.

SECOND BRIGADE ROYAL HIGHLAND EMIGRANTS: Major Donald McDonald, (exchanged December 3, 1776;) Captains Allen McDonald and Duncan McNicoll; Lieutenant Fraser.

ROYAL ARTILLERY: Captains Williams and Godwin; Lieutenants Schalch, Abbott, Smith, and Colleton.

Return of Prisoners sent by General GUY CARLETON from CANADA to NEW-YORK.

Fifty-one commissioned officers, three hundred and seventy-three non-commissioned and privates.

N. B. Two Majors, nine Captains, twenty subalterns, and four hundred men, were taken at the Cedars, by Captain Forster, and returned upon an agreement to send as many of our people taken at St. John's.

RICHARD MURRAY, Commissary of Prisoners.

EXTRACT OF A LETTER FROM HARLEM, SEPT. 21, 1776.

One of our cruisers to the eastward has carried a prize into *Cape Ann*, with three hundred and fifty hogsheads of sugar, one hundred and fifty pipes wine, one hundred hogsheads rum, and one hundred and fifty bales cotton.

Last night there was a dreadful fire at *New-York*; it burnt ten hours; what damage is done, we know not; but one of the steeples which we could see from hence, is missing.

COLONEL GRAYSON TO GENERAL HEATH.

Head-Quarters, Heights of Harlem, September 21, 1776.

SIR: In answer to your letter of this date, I am commanded by his Excellency to inform you that he thinks it expedient that an officer with about twenty men should be immediately sent to *Dobbs's Ferry*, and that the *Pennsylvania* troops under your command should be marched directly to this place; he is of opinion it is advisable they should be paid off here.

I am, sir, your most obedient servant,

WILLIAM GRAYSON, A. D. C.

To Major-General Heath, *King's Bridge*.

ORDERS TO MAJOR BACKUS.

King's Bridge, September 21, 1776.

SIR: You are to order one of the troops of Light-Horse under your command, to be posted at *Mareneck*, *New-Rochelle*, and *Eastchester*. The remainder (after six or seven troopers to his Excellency General *Washington's* quarters, and about the same number somewhere in this neighbourhood, if you can find quarters for them) are to be posted in parties from *Frog's Neck* to *Morrisania*. They are to act as videttes, and also to be ready in case the enemy should land, to harass them and their light troops. The videttes are to be very vigilant, and take always two together; on any new discovery or movement of the enemy, they are to give immediate notice to the officer of the guard, who will transmit it to Head-Quarters. The videttes are to be constantly mounted, whilst on guard, and relieved often during the night. As soon as they perceive any object moving towards them, one of the two must advance and challenge. If after having challenged three times he receives no answer, or a false watch-word, he must fire his piece and retire with his comrade towards the guard, in case the enemy advance; but if they move off, one of the videttes reports to the officer, and the other remains on his post. They are never to suffer a patrol to advance within twenty paces of their post, until they have received the watch-word. They are not to make any fire or smoke tobacco during the night, and are to be quite silent, as their chief dependence must be on their ears. They are as soon as possible to get well acquainted with all the roads, lanes, and by-paths in the vicinity of the camp, that they may be able to conduct the troops by the nearest and best roads. They are to preserve good order and regularity, both on guard and in quarters. They are also to have a watchful eye that none of the inhabitants correspond with the enemy, or supply them with any kind of provisions or stores.

Further orders and instructions will be given as occasion may require. An order of battle for the whole division will soon be given out, when the posts and duty of the Horse will be pointed out.

I am, sir, yours, affectionately,

W. HEATH, Major-General.

To Major Backus, Commander of the Light-Horse from the State of *Connecticut*.

RESOLUTIONS OF THE NEW-YORK CONVENTION.

In Convention of the Representatives of the State of New-York, }
Fishkill, September 21, 1776. }

Resolved, That the Secret Committee for obstructing the navigation of *Hudson's River*, be empowered and directed to purchase or impress for the service of this State, any number of Vessels not exceeding six, which they shall think best calculated for the purpose of completing the obstructions in *Hudson's River*, opposite to *Mount Washington*. That they cause an appraisement of the said Vessels to be

made by persons under oath, in the most equitable and expeditious manner possible, in order that satisfaction may hereafter be made by this Convention to the owners of such vessels. And it is recommended to the said Committee to request the services of Captain *Thomas Grenell* in ballasting, navigating, and delivering those vessels to Captain *Cooke*, at *Mount Washington*.

Resolved, That the said Committee be directed to send all the oak Plank which they have in their possession to *Mount Washington*, with the utmost despatch.

Resolved, That the superintendents for building the Continental Frigates at *Poughkeepsie*, be earnestly requested to send as much of their short oak Plank as they possibly can spare to *Fort Washington* with the utmost despatch; and this Convention do engage to justify their conduct in this particular to the Continental Congress.

Extract from the Minutes:

ROBERT BENSON, Secretary.

GENERAL ARNOLD TO GENERAL GATES.

Bay St. Amand, September 21, 1776.

DEAR GENERAL: My last was the 18th instant, by Lieutenant *Whitcomb*. The next day at noon weighed anchor with the whole fleet, which arrived here the same evening. This is a fine Bay and good anchorage, two leagues to the northward of *Cumberland-Head*, on the west shore. The *Liberty* was ordered to cruise off the *Isle-la-Motte* until two o'clock, and then join the fleet. On her return, opposite to the *Isle-la-Motte*, a *Frenchman* came down and desired to be taken on board; the Captain suspected him and went near the shore with his boat, stern in, swivels pointed, and match tiled; the *Frenchman* waded near a rod from the shore, but when he found he could decoy the boat no farther, he made a signal to the enemy, when three or four hundred *Indians*, *Canadians*, and Regulars, rose up and fired on the boat; they wounded three men. The boat returned the fire with their swivels and small-arms, and the schooner fired several broadsides of grape before they dispersed, though several were seen to fall. On their way down, they discovered a large party of savages on the western shore; they imagined two or three hundred. They have a large number of white birch canoes, with which they can pass us in the night, and in the day time secure them in the bushes. It will be dangerous sending down single boats. I have sent up the *Liberty* to guard the return boats and bring down the medicines, &c. The Surgeons can be of no use to us without. Captain *Hawley* is appointed to the *Royal Savage*.

I must renew my request for more seamen and gunners; there is a plenty of the former in the army, provided they have liberty of inlisting. Though it is a bad precedent, this emergency will justify the measure. I am greatly at a loss what could have retarded the galleys so long. I verily believe if we are attacked this fall by the enemy, it will be in the course of a week or ten days; the want of those galleys may decide the contest against us.

I am surprised our intelligence from *New-York* is so imperfect. I hope we shall soon have the particulars. The tobacco papers were delivered me. I will endeavour to send them soon. The articles I wrote for in my last, I hope will be sent, if possible. I have sent up Mr. *Dunn* to collect the shot and other articles I want, and bring them down.

We had an exceeding hard gale here the 20th, and a prodigious sea. The galleys rode it out beyond my expectation.

I have sent two boats to sound round the Island *Valcour*, who report that it is an exceeding fine and secure harbour. I am determined to go there the first fair wind, as the fleet will be secure, and we can discover the enemy, if they attempt to pass us up the East Bay on the back of *Grand Isle*. I make no doubt you will approve of this measure; if not, I will return to any of my former stations. We are as well prepared for the enemy as our circumstances will allow: they will never have it in their power to surprise us. The men are daily trained to the exercise of their guns, and if powder was plenty, I would wish to have them fire at a mark with their great guns often. At present we cannot afford it.

I wish the workmen could all be employed on one galley,

and finish her first, that something might be added to the fleet. I cannot help thinking that they are hindering each other; there was all the material sufficient for one when I came away. I hope they will not mount twelve-pounders, if eighteens or twenty-fours can be procured.

I am, with great respect and esteem, dear General, your affectionate, obedient, humble servant,

B. ARNOLD.

To Hon. Major-General Gates.

P. S. The drafts from the regiments at *Ticonderoga*, are a miserable set; indeed the men on board the fleet in general, are not equal to half their number of good men. B. A.

GOVERNOUR TRUMBULL TO PRESIDENT OF CONGRESS.

Lebanon, September 21, 1776.

SIR: Your letter of the 3d instant came the 9th. Knowing the circumstances of the army at *New-York*, and the difficulty which attends the Militia, from their impatience, want of discipline, and the suffering of their affairs and business at home, the Governour and Council of Safety had before ordered nine regiments in the eastern part of this State, likely three thousand men or more, under command of Brigadier-General *Saltonstall*, and two regiments, probably three hundred Light Horse, under command of Major *Backus*, to march to or near *Westchester*, in aid to the army, and, if possible, to give some relief to the Militia which was sent some time since from the westward part of this State. Sensible that the situation of our affairs at *New-York* required vigorous exertions, stimulated by the voice of liberty and the General Congress, no delay hath happened to forward our Militia; and I trust many of them have arrived before this time.

Assistance is, and hath been afforded to the sufferers in *Suffolk County*, on *Long-Island*. Many of the inhabitants, their furniture, their cattle and sheep, are transported to the main.

Just now received letters from the Northern army, that there are eight thousand five hundred fit for duty. The sickness is the fever and ague, with which part of the country is every year attended. The sick are bettering.

This State is in advance for clothing, &c., agreeable to a former request of Congress, near seven thousand pounds. More than double that sum will soon be wanted. I am not able to give any exact estimate.

It was answered in a former letter to you, that leather breeches could not be had here; since which I am told that three or four hundred pairs may be purchased if needed.

The time of the inlistment of our soldiery is beginning to expire. Congress will suffer me to ask, if it is not a matter worthy serious and speedy consideration, that measures should be adopted for their further inlistment? In which case, I think it of great moment that the engagement should be for longer time than has hitherto been. Would it not be well that recruiting orders be immediately issued to officers, who may inlist the old soldiers for a new time, even before the expiration of their present engagements? Men may be induced, while in service, to engage. If they are suffered to disperse and return to their homes, it will be very difficult again to collect them, without greater expense attending it than a small bounty to be given them now. The mode of supporting our army by Militia, I fear, is a measure not to be depended on. Men turning out for a short time and remaining only a few days, cannot be brought to know the duties of a camp, or attend to the discipline necessary in an army. They will be impatient of command, and uneasy to return home. We must have a durable army, or I fear the consequences will be fatal.

To Hon. President *Hancock*.

COUNCIL OF MASSACHUSETTS TO GENERAL GATES.

Watertown, September 21, 1776.

SIR: We have received a letter from *John Trumbull*, Esq., Deputy Adjutant-General, dated Head-Quarters, *Ticonderoga*, August 31, 1776, acquainting us that Lieutenant-Colonel *Reed*, of Colonel *Patterson's* regiment, has left the army without proper leave of absence, and requesting that we would make inquiry into the occasion of his stay in the country. Upon inquiry we find that Colonel *Reed's* ill state of health is the occasion of his absence from

the army, and that he obtained from General *Schuyler* leave of absence, till his health should be restored; copy of which we inclose. We have sent Colonel *Reed* a copy of Mr. *Trumbull's* letter, and expect that he will either return to his duty or resign his commission.

In the name and by order of Council.

I am, sir, with great esteem, your most humble servant,

JOHN AVERY, Deputy Secretary.

To Hon. *Horatio Gates*.

ELNATHAN BATES TO RICHARD DEVENS.

From Hull, September 21, 1776.

SIR: Colonel *Lovett* informed me that you had a number of small cannon to stock, and was ordering a letter to be wrote to me about them when he was there about the iron I sent for, and I have not received any letter about said cannon, but should be glad if you would send me one as soon as you can. I am laying the platforms for cannon at *Hull*, but hope to complete them soon, and shall then engage upon stocking the cannon above mentioned, if wanted. I received the half ton of iron from Colonel *Lovett*, and Dr. *Tufts* told me, when I was at home, he had fifteen pounds in cash for me from you. Pray, sir, send me a few lines as soon as you can, and in so doing you will oblige your humble servant,

ELNA'N BATES, of *Weymouth*.

To the Commissary-General Mr. *Richard Devens*.

COLONEL BABCOCK TO GOVERNOUR COOKE.

Westerly, September 21, 1776.

SIR: We arrived at *New-York* 13th current; in concert with *John Collins*, Esq., waited on General *Washington*, with the other General Officers. Just after dinner three frigates and a forty-gun ship (as if they meant to attack the city) sailed up the *East River*, under a gentle breeze, towards *Hell-Gate*, and kept up an incessant fire, assisted with the cannon at *Governour's Island*. The batteries from the city returned the ships the like salutation. Three men agape, idle spectators, had the misfortune of being killed by one cannon ball. The other mischief suffered on our side was inconsiderable, saving the making a few holes in some of the buildings. One shot struck within six foot of General *Washington*, as he was on horseback riding into the Fort.

We this day (being a very busy time with the officers of the army) were assured by the General should have an audience at six o'clock next morning. However, his Excellency came and breakfasted with us at General *Putnam's*, hard by the fort whereat we lodged. He further assured us he would attend us at General *Putnam's* an hour before dinner. He did so. A number of interrogatories were proposed to his Excellency, viz: 1, Whether it would be expedient to attempt, with all our force, to defend the town of *Newport* and Island of *Rhode-Island*? He answered, if it was defensible, it would; but, he added, he was incapable of judging of its defensibility, having never been there but once formerly and transiently; but the State must be the best judges of the propriety of the measure. His Excellency had ordered half the brigade to *New-York*, and the places to be supplied with like number from the *Massachusetts*. Was agreeably elated when we assured him that the General Assembly had voted the whole of the brigade and forty of the train to be sent off, even from that exposed Island, for the defence of such of our brethren as were immediate sufferers or in imminent danger, and the places of those troops to be supplied by a like number of each town's proportion, (by a certain estimate taken,) to be sent to *Newport*. 2d quere. Whether, in concert with the neighbouring States, it would be advisable to fortify any part of *Long-Island*? If so, where at? What number of troops to be raised on this occasion? What number and size of field-pieces should be sent, and whether he would recommend a General Officer to take the command, &c., &c. It was also requested to communicate to us in confidence a regular return of the troops, which he promised we should have. His Excellency's answer to the second quere was to this purpose, viz: That it would be prudential to send a committee on *Long-Island* and learn the sentiments of those towards the east end, and whether they would, i. e. the

bulk of the inhabitants of such part of the Island, coöperate with the neighbouring States in protecting or removing them and their stock; and this to be previously done before an attempt to defend, intrench, &c.

At parting with his Excellency, *Saturday* afternoon, 15th instant, he promised us a letter to your Excellency, with such answers to the interrogatories (a copy of which he requested and were given him) as he should be able to make. But the troops gathering fast from the landing of the enemy, under the thunder of their cannon, which was on *Sunday* morning, 16th, his Excellency, from his closest attention to his command then found it impracticable. This morning, Mr. *Collins* and we parted, he for *Philadelphia*, being fearful of being left in the city and captivated by our enemies. But Colonel *Knox*, we conjecture, procured him a passage to the *Jersey* side. The despatch we would make in our obstructed negotiations, has caused us to omit that on *Sunday* morning five more frigates sailed up the *East River*, anchored near the four former, which, with *Wallace*, who was there before, augmented their number to ten. At the same time three capital ships went up the *North River*, causing a most tremendous firing, assisted with the cannon on *Governour's Island*, discharging to no purpose against our batteries, though they made a few holes in some of the buildings; which firing was returned on our side as well as could be from the scantiness in and about the city of heavy cannon, the bulk having been carried to a hill about four and a half miles south of *King's Bridge*, whereat an impregnable fortress was begun and well-nigh perfected, and which could not be annoyed by the enemy's ships. For more minute particulars must refer your Excellency to Colonel *Stanton*, who will inform you of the interview we had with *Governour Trumbull*, who anxiously requested our return that way, but an accident prevented us; although at *New-London* we spent an hour or two with some of his Council.

I am, sir, with profound respect, your Excellency's most obedient and most humble servant,
JOSH. BABCOCK.
To His Excellency *Governour Cooke*.

London, November 1, 1776.

In letters from *Isle Madame*, were the following particulars: On the 21st of *September*, a number of armed men belonging to the sloop *Providence*, *Jones*, master, with fourteen guns, came in a shallop to *Arichat* from *Petit-de-Grats*, and took possession of the vessels and storehouses; that on the 24th they went off with the *Alexander*, *Luce*, having twenty-two hundred quintals of fish on board. On the 25th, they burnt the *Adventure*, and plundered the storehouses. This privateer took at *Petit-de-Grats*, the *Success*, *Balliene*, loaded with fish. The *Alexander*, *Luce*, and *Success*, *Balliene*, are supposed to be retaken by the *Millford*, man-of-war, and carried to *Halifax*, with the *Providence* privateer.

JOHN ADAMS TO MRS. ADAMS.

Philadelphia, September 22, 1776.

We have at last agreed upon a plan for forming a regular army. We have offered twenty dollars and a hundred acres of land to every man who will enlist during the war. And a new set of articles of war are agreed on. I will send you, if I can, a copy of these resolutions and regulations.

I am at a loss what to write. News we have not. Congress seems to be forgotten by the armies. We are most unfaithfully served in the Post Office, as well as many other offices, civil and military. Unfaithfulness in publick stations is deeply criminal. But there is no encouragement to be faithful. Neither profit, nor honour, nor applause is acquired by faithfulness. But I know by what. There is too much corruption even in this infant age of our Republick. Virtue is not in fashion; vice is not infamous.

COLONEL REED TO MRS. REED.

Harlem Heights, September 22, 1776.

I have just received yours of the 20th, by which I imagine one of mine, written the day after the engagement of the 17th, had not yet come to hand, wherein I gave you the particulars, which I was able to do better than almost any other person, as I happened to be in it when it began, and assisted in calling off our troops when they had pursued

the enemy as far as was thought proper. It hardly deserves the name of a battle; but as it was a scene so different from what had happened the day before, it elevated the spirits of our troops, and in that respect has been of great service. It would take up too much time and paper to go into a minute description of the whole affair. The substance of it is this: Just after I had sealed my letter to you, and sent it away, an account came that the enemy were advancing upon us in three large columns. We have so many false reports, that I desired the General to permit me to go and discover what truth there was in the account. I went down to our most advanced post, and while talking there with the officer of the guard, the enemy's advanced guard fired upon us at about fifty yards' distance. Our men behaved well, stood, and returned the fire, till overpowered by numbers, they were obliged to retreat. The enemy advanced upon us very fast. I had not quitted the house five minutes before they were in possession of it. Finding how things were, I went over to the General to get some support for the brave fellows who had behaved so well. By the time I got there the enemy appeared in open view, and sounded their bugles in a most insulting manner, as is usual after a fox-chase. I never felt such a sensation before. It seemed to crown our disgrace. The General was prevailed upon to order out a party to attack them; and, as I had been upon the ground, which no one else had, it fell to me to conduct them. They were *Virginia* troops, commanded by a brave officer, Major *Leitch*. I accordingly went with them, but was unhappily thwarted in my scheme by some persons calling to the troops and taking them out of the way I intended. In a few minutes our brave fellows mounted up the rocks, and attacked the enemy with great spirit; at the same time some of our troops, in another quarter, moved up towards the enemy, and the action began. Major *Leitch* fell near me, in a few minutes, with three balls through him; but he is likely to do well. Colonel *Knoulton*, a brave *Connecticut* officer, also fell, mortally wounded. I mounted him on my horse, and brought him off. In about ten minutes, our people pressed on with great ardour, the enemy gave way, and left us the ground, which was strewed pretty thick with dead, chiefly the enemy, though it since turns out our loss is also considerable. Our greatest loss is poor *Knoulton*, whose name and spirit ought to be immortal. I assisted him off, and when gasping in the agonies of death, all his inquiry was if we had driven in the enemy. The pursuit of a flying enemy was so new a scene, that it was with difficulty our men could be brought to retreat, which they did in very good order. We buried the dead, and brought off the wounded on both sides, as far as our troops had pursued. We have since learned that the main body of the enemy was hastily advancing, so that, in all probability, there would have been a reverse of things if the pursuit had not been given over.

You can hardly conceive the change it has made in our army. The men have recovered their spirits, and feel a confidence which before they had quite lost. I hope the effects will be quite lasting.

You will probably hear from other quarters of the double escape I had. My own horse not being at hand when the alarm was first given, I borrowed one from a young *Philadelphian*. He received a shot just behind his fore shoulder, which narrowly missed my leg. I am told he is since dead. But the greatest was from one of our own rascals, who was running away. Upon my driving him back, he presented his piece and snapped it at me, at about a rod distance. I seized a musket from another soldier, and snapped at him; he had the same good luck. He has since been tried, and is now under sentence of death; but I believe I must beg him off, as, after I found I could not get the gun off, I wounded him on the head, and cut off his thumb with my hanger. I suppose many persons will think it was rash and imprudent for officers of our rank to go into such an action. General *Putnam*, General *Greene*, many of the General's family, Mr. *Tilghman*, &c., were in it; but it was really to animate the troops, who were quite dispirited, and would not go into danger unless their officers led the way.

Our situation is very much the same as it was. We are fortifying ground naturally strong. The enemy lie about three miles from us. They have been very busy bringing over cannon, &c., from *Long-Island*, but we cannot learn what they intend.

The night before last there was a most dreadful fire in the city, but how it happened we are quite at a loss. There was a resolve in Congress against our injuring it; so that we neither set it on fire or made any preparations for the purpose; though I make no doubt it will be charged to us.

ROBERT H. HARRISON TO GENERAL HEATH.

Harlem Heights, September 22, 1776.

SIR: I am directed by his Excellency to inform you in answer to your's, that he has no objection to your making the attempt you propose, if you are of opinion that the intelligence given by the two lads is satisfactory and will warrant it, and of which he says you are as good a judge as he is. He requests that you will acquaint him in time of the resolution you come to in this affair, that he may know how to conduct himself with respect to our guards. If it is undertaken they certainly must be apprised of it, to prevent an alarm. I am, sir, your most obedient servant,

ROBERT H. HARRISON.

To Major-General Heath.

GENERAL WASHINGTON TO JOHN AUGUSTINE WASHINGTON.

Heights of Harlem, September 22, 1776.

DEAR BROTHER: My extreme hurry for some time past has rendered it utterly impossible for me to pay that attention to the letters of my friends, which inclination and natural affection always incline me to. I have no doubt, therefore, of meeting with their excuse. With respect to the attack and retreat from *Long-Island*, the publick papers would furnish you with accounts nearly true. I shall only add, that in the former we lost about eight hundred men, more than three-fourths of whom were taken prisoners. This misfortune happened in a great measure by two detachments of our people, who were posted in two roads leading through a wood, in order to intercept the enemy in their march, suffering a surprise, and making a precipitate retreat, which enabled the enemy to lead a great part of their force against the troops commanded by Lord *Stirling*, who formed a third detachment, and who behaved with great bravery and resolution.

As to the retreat from *Long-Island*, under the circumstances in which we then were, it became absolutely necessary, and was effected without loss of men, and with that of very little baggage. A few heavy cannon were left, not being moveable, on account of the ground being soft and miry, occasioned by the heavy and incessant rains which had fallen. The enemy's loss in killed we could never ascertain, but have many reasons to believe that it was considerable, and exceeded ours a good deal. Our retreat from thence, as I said before, was absolutely necessary, the enemy having landed the main body of their army to attack us in front, while their ships of war were to cut off all communication with the city, from whence our resources of men and provisions were to be drawn.

Having made this retreat, we not long after discovered, by the movements of the enemy and the information we received from deserters and others, that they declined attacking our lines in the city, and were forming a plan to get in our rear with their land army, by crossing the *Sound* above us, and thereby to cut off all intercourse with the country and every necessary supply. The ships of war were to coöperate, possess the *North River*, and prevent succour from the *Jerseys*. This plan appearing probable, and but too practicable in its execution, it became necessary to guard against the fatal consequences that must follow, if the scheme were effected; for which purpose I caused a removal of a part of our troops and stores from the city; and a Council of General Officers determined that it must be entirely abandoned, as we had, with an army weaker than theirs, a line of sixteen or eighteen miles to defend, to keep open our communication with the country, besides the defence of the city. We held out, however, every show of defence, till our sick and all our stores could be brought away. The evacuation being resolved upon, every exertion in our power was made to baffle their designs and effect our own. The sick were numerous, amounting to more than the fourth part of our whole army, and an object of great importance. Happily we got them away; but, before we could bring off all our stores, on *Sunday* morning six or seven ships of war,

which had gone up the *East River* some days before, began a most severe and heavy cannonade, to scour the grounds and effect a landing of their troops. Three ships of war also ran up the *North River* that morning above the city, to prevent our boats and small craft from carrying away our baggage.

I had gone the evening before to the main body of our army, which was posted about these Heights and Plains of *Harlem*, where it seemed probable, from the movements and disposition of the enemy, they meant to land and make an attack the next morning. However, the event did not happen. Immediately on hearing the cannonade, I rode with all possible expedition towards the place of landing, and where breastworks had been thrown up to secure our men; and, to my great surprise and mortification, I found the troops who had been posted there, and those ordered to their support, consisting of eight regiments, notwithstanding the exertions of their Generals to form them, running away in the most disgraceful manner. I used every possible effort to rally them, but to no purpose; and, on the appearance of a small part of the enemy, not more than sixty or seventy, they ran off without firing a single gun. Many of our heavy cannon would inevitably have fallen into the enemy's hands, as they landed so soon; but this scandalous conduct occasioned a loss of many tents, baggage, and camp equipage, which would have been easily secured, had they made the least opposition.

The retreat was made with the loss of a few men only. We encamped, and still remain, on the Heights of *Harlem*, which are well suited for defence against their approaches. On *Monday* morning, they advanced in sight in several large bodies, but attempted nothing of a general nature, though there were smart skirmishes between their advanced parties and some detachments from our lines, which I sent out. In these our troops behaved well, putting the enemy to flight in open ground, and forcing them from posts they had seized, two or three times. A sergeant, who deserted from them, says they had, as he was told, eighty or ninety wounded and missing, but other accounts make the number of wounded much greater. Our loss in killed and wounded was about sixty; but the greatest loss we sustained was in the death of Lieutenant-Colonel *Knowlton*, a brave and gallant officer. Major *Leitch*, of *Weedon's* regiment, had three balls through his side, and behaved exceedingly well. He is in a fair way of recovery. Nothing material has happened since this skirmish. The enemy, it is said, are bringing up their heavy cannon, so that we are to expect another attack soon, both by land and water, as we are upon the *Hudson*, at the place where we have attempted to stop the navigation by sinking obstructions in the river and erecting batteries.

The dependence which the Congress have placed upon the Militia has already greatly injured, and I fear will totally ruin our cause. Being subject to no control themselves, they introduce disorder among the troops whom we have attempted to discipline, while the change in their living brings on sickness, this causes an impatience to get home, which spreads universally, and introduces abominable desertions. In short, it is not in the power of words to describe the task I have to perform. Fifty thousand pounds would not induce me again to undergo what I have done. Our numbers, by sickness and desertion, are greatly reduced. I have been trying these four or five days to get a return, but have not yet succeeded. I am sure, however, we have not more than twelve or fourteen thousand men fit for duty, whilst the enemy, who it is said, are very healthy, cannot have less than near twenty-five thousand.

With sincere love to my sister and the family, and compliments to any inquiring friends, I am, &c.,

GO. WASHINGTON.

GENERAL WASHINGTON TO THE PRESIDENT OF CONGRESS.

[Read September 23, 1776]

Camp near King's Bridge, September 22, 1776.

SIR: I had flattered myself that the Congress would before this time have forwarded the amended articles for the government of the army; but as they have not, I think it my indispensable duty to lay before them the necessity, the absolute necessity, of forming an article against plundering, marauding, and burning of houses. Such a spirit has gone

forth in our army that neither publick or private property is secure. Every hour brings the most distressing complaints of the ravages of our own troops, who are become infinitely more formidable to the poor farmers and inhabitants than the common enemy. Horses are taken out of the Continental teams; the baggage of officers and the hospital stores; even the quarters of General Officers, are not exempt from rapine. Some severe and exemplary punishment, to be inflicted in a summary way, must be immediately administered, or the army will be totally ruined. I must beg the immediate attention of Congress to this matter, as of the utmost importance to our existence as an army.

I am, sir, with due respect, your most obedient and very humble servant,

GO. WASHINGTON.

To the Honourable the President of Congress.

GENERAL ORDERS.

Head-Quarters, Harlem Heights, September 21, 1776.

(Parole, Lisbon.)

(Countersign, Dover.)

If the Quartermaster-General has any sails or other covering, he is to deliver them to General *Spencer's* order, who will see that the regiments most in need of it now under his immediate command are first supplied.

The General earnestly exhorts the commanding officers of every regiment and corps to fall upon the best and most expeditious method of procuring clothes and necessaries for their men before the season gets too far advanced. For this purpose they are hereby authorized to send out one or more officers, as the nature of the case shall require, and the service will admit of, to purchase and provide them.

Generals *Putnam* and *Spencer*, together with the several Brigadiers on this side *King's Bridge*, are to look over the grounds within our lines and fix upon places to build barracks or huts for quartering the men in. No time should be lost in making the choice, that covering may be had as soon as possible for the ease and comfort of the men.

It is earnestly recommended to all Brigadiers and commanding officers of corps, to see or know that the orders relative to their respective brigades, &c., are complied with; and they, as well as commanding officers of regiments, &c., are requested to attend particularly to the state of the men's health; that those that are really sick may be supplied in the best manner our situation and circumstances will admit of, while such as feign themselves sick merely to get excused from duty meet with no kind of countenance or favour, as it only tends to throw the burden upon the spirited and willing men, who disdain such scandalous practices. The General would remind all officers of the indispensable necessity there is of each of them exerting himself in the department he acts; and that where this is the case, of the advantages resulting from it, as an army, let it be ever so large, then moves like clock-work; whereas without it, it is no better than an ungovernable machine, that serves only to perplex and distract those who attempt to conduct it.

The Brigadier-General and the Brigade-Major of the day are both to attend the parade at the hour of mounting guard; see them brought on and marched off, and so continue near the advanced lines till they are relieved the next day, in order that they may be ready in case of an attack to command at the lines. When they are relieved, they are to report extraordinaries to the Commander-in-Chief.

Head-Quarters, Harlem Heights, September 22, 1776.

(Parole, Hampton.)

(Countersign, Newark.)

The Court-Martial of which Colonel *Sage* was President, is dissolved. The Brigade-Majors to form a new one immediately, Colonel *Magaw* to preside, to meet to-morrow at Head-Quarters, nine o'clock. The Brigade-Majors to give notice to the officers of their respective brigades.

There is a shameful deficiency of officers at guard-mounting and other duty. The Brigade-Majors are to put in arrest any officer who, being warned, does not attend his duty, unless excused by the Brigadier-General.

The many complaints that are hourly made of plundering both publick and private property, induces the General to direct that every regiment be paraded at five o'clock this evening; the knapsacks and tents of the whole to be examined under the inspection of the Field-Officers, and all articles not the proper baggage and accoutrements of a soldier, set apart and kept by the Colonel or commanding officer

till inquiry can be made how they came possessed of them. A report is expected from the commanding officer of the regiment to Head-Quarters whether any articles are found or not, and the General depends upon the honour of the officers to inspect carefully and make a faithful report.

It is with particular pleasure that the General has it in his power to inform the officers and soldiers who have been wounded in their country's cause, and all others whose lot it may be to be disabled, that the Congress have come to the following resolution, viz:

"That officers and privates losing a limb in any engagement, or who shall be so disabled in the service of the *United States of America* as to render them incapable of getting a livelihood, shall receive half of their monthly pay during life or the continuance of their disability, from the time their pay ceases as officers or soldiers."

"Also such officers or soldiers as are wounded in any engagement and rendered incapable of service, though not totally disabled from getting a livelihood, shall receive monthly such sums towards their subsistence as the Assembly or representative body of the State they belong to, or reside in, judge adequate, they producing in the cases above mentioned to the committee or officer appointed to receive the same in the State where they reside or belong, or to the Assembly or legislative body of such State, a certificate, from the commanding officer who was in the engagement in which they were wounded, or, in case of his death, from some other officer of the same corps, and the Surgeon that attended them, of their names, office, rank, department, regiment, and company, the nature of their wounds, and in what action or engagement they were wounded."

The Brigadier of the day, where the guards mount at the lines, is to give strict charge to all the officers, not to suffer any person whatsoever to go beyond the out-sentries without an order in writing from himself. All the sentries are to be informed of this, and if any person whatever presume to disobey the orders, they are to fire upon in the same manner as they would do on a common enemy. Any persons coming in from the enemy's lines are to be carried to the Brigadier of the day immediately for examination, who is to take their information in writing and send it, with the person or persons, to the Commander-in-Chief. The Brigadier is to see that a chain of sentries extend from the *North River* to *Harlem River*, beyond which no stragglers are to pass.

The officer commanding the scouts is to attend at Head-Quarters at seven o'clock every morning, to know if there are any orders for these corps.

The commanding officers of the several regiments are to be particularly attentive in seeing that their men are supplied with ammunition, and that they account regularly for the cartridges delivered to them. They are not to suffer any pieces to be discharged at retreat-beating but such as will not fire in an engagement and cannot be drawn. The great waste of ammunition is such that unless the officers will exert themselves to see justice done to the publick, a sufficiency cannot be kept upon hand to supply them.

Mr. *Josiah Adams* is appointed Paymaster to Colonel *Little's* Regiment, and Mr. *Elisha Humphrys* to Colonel *Webb's* Regiment.

The Court-Martial whereof Colonel *Sage* was President, having found *Ebenezer Liffenwell*, of Captain *Clift's* company and Colonel *Durkee's* Regiment, guilty of "cowardice and misbehaviour before the enemy on *Monday last*," and also "of presenting his firelock at his superiour officer when turning him back a second time," which, by the 27th article of the Rules and Regulations of the Army, is death, he is accordingly adjudged to suffer death.

The General approves the sentence, and orders that he be shot at the head of the army on the grand parade, near *Kortright's* house, to-morrow morning at eleven o'clock. The men of the several regiments below *King's Bridge*, not upon fatigue or guard, are to march down at that hour; the Provost-Marshal to attend. Major *Henley*, acting Deputy Adjutant-General, will order twelve men out of the guards paraded for duty to-morrow, to execute the sentence.

The same Court-Martial having found Ensign *McCumber*, of Captain *Barns's* company and Colonel *Sargent's* Regiment, guilty of the infamous crime of "plundering the inhabitants of *Harlem*," ordered him to be cashiered.

The General approves the sentence, and orders him to be turned out of the army immediately as an officer.

General Return of the Army in the service of the UNITED STATES OF AMERICA, at KING'S BRIDGE and its Dependencies commanded by His Excellency GEORGE WASHINGTON, Esq., General and Commander-in-Chief. Sept. 21, 1776.

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ROBERT H. HARRISON TO GENERAL HEATH.
September 22, 1776.

SIR: His Excellency wishes success to the expedition that is to be attempted, and requests that no houses or private property may be destroyed by burning or otherwise, unless there shall be an absolute necessity.

I am, sir, your humble servant,
ROBERT H. HARRISON.
To the Hon. Major-General Heath.

ORDERS TO COLONEL JACKSON.
King's Bridge, September 22, 1776.

SIR: It being determined to make an attempt to dislodge the enemy from Montresor's Island this night, you are to take the command of the party designed for that purpose, who are to parade at the new bridge at eleven o'clock. You will then, without delay, embark them on board the flat-bottomed boats, and fall down with the tide to Morrisania, where you are to remain very silent until the flood

makes sufficiently to enable you to proceed to the Island, where you are immediately to land, leaving a party with your boats, and surround the enemy, killing or taking them prisoners, as occasion may require. You are not to allow any abuse to the prisoners, should you take any. You are not to burn the buildings, but, according to your best discretion, effect the enterprise. Silence, secrecy, and despatch are all necessary.

I am, sir, yours, &c.,

W. HEATH.

To Lieutenant-Colonel *Jackson*, of the Sixteenth Regiment.

JOSEPH TRUMBULL TO PRESIDENT OF CONGRESS.

[Read September 27, 1776.]

King's Bridge, September 22, 1776.

SIR: I received your favour of the 16th instant, enclosing Congress resolutions respecting Commissary matters in the Northern district. I have taken the necessary steps to put matters on a proper footing there, and doubt not I shall succeed.

Congress may depend that while I remain in the department, my utmost abilities shall be exerted to have the duties of the office well executed, in every part, and as far as possible, to acceptance.

I am, most respectfully, sir, your most humble servant,

JOS. TRUMBULL.

To the Hon. *John Hancock*, Esq.

WILLIAM DUER TO GENERAL WASHINGTON.

Fishkill, September 22, 1776.

SIR: The Convention of this State have established a Committee of Correspondence for the purpose of facilitating the intercourse of intelligence betwixt this place and Headquarters. I am directed by that Committee (of which I have the honour of being a member) to order their express to wait on your Excellency daily, to know your commands, and to receive such accounts of the operations of our army as your Excellency's leisure will admit you to inform us of.

Captain *Cooke*, who has been employed in sinking the vessels opposite to *Mount Washington*, informed me in his way to *Poughkeepsie* that he is apprehensive the chevaux-de-frise which are sunk in the river may not be sufficient for stopping the enemy's ships; and he is of opinion that it would tend much to render the obstructions effectual to sink five or six vessels to the northward of the chevaux-de-frise.

In consequence of this information, the Convention of this State, ever solicitous to exert themselves in effecting so important an object as the obstruction of the navigation of the river, have entered into the enclosed resolutions, which I have the honour to transmit to your Excellency.

They have likewise given the necessary directions for supplying you with a quantity of oak plank, agreeable to General *Clinton's* request in a late letter.

I have the honour to be, with the greatest respect, your Excellency's most obedient, humble servant,

WM. DUER.

To His Excellency General *Washington*, Commander-in-Chief of the *American Army*, *King's Bridge*.

WALTER LIVINGSTON TO GENERAL GATES.

Albany, September 22, 1776.

SIR: I received your order to furnish the officers of the army and the sick with *Madeira* wine, coffee, chocolate, loaf-sugar, and butter, or such articles as Mr. *Avery*, Deputy Commissary-General, may order me. I shall not remain here to obey the Deputy Commissary-General's orders. In compliance with yours, I have sent seven hundred pounds to *Kingston*, to purchase wine, and ordered a sloop to be hired to bring it up. When it arrives, I will send it all forward myself, unless you order part thereof to be detained for the other garrisons. I have sent three tierces of loaf-sugar and a barrel of coffee. Chocolate and butter I cannot procure. Whatever necessaries you may think proper to order, I will with pleasure furnish, whether within the line of my duty or not.

I am, sir, your most obedient, humble servant,

WALTER LIVINGSTON.

To Major-General *Gates*.

EXTRACT FROM A LETTER DATED TICONDEROGA, SEPTEMBER 22, 1776.

The fleet is well. Lieutenant *Whitcomb* is this moment arrived from *St. John's*, with an officer and Corporal, prisoners. They are out of humour. We shall gain some intelligence from them, I expect, but have not examined them yet. The army is in good spirits; the season almost too far advanced to expect an attack.

"INCOGNITO" TO GOVERNOUR TRUMBULL.

Easthampton, September 22, 1776.

SIR: When of late I have wrote your Honour, it has been seized and stopped by the way; nor have I been able to devise a method of conveyance till this day. Countless reports have from time to time been ventilated and spread, with much assurance, that your Honour had given positive orders for the removal of the people from the east end of this Island, with all their effects, and those who obeyed not must be judged inimical to the general good of *America*, and expect to be utterly laid waste and destroyed. But relying upon your Honour's wisdom and benevolence, I have told the people that your Honour and the Government of *Connecticut*, they might depend, would never pursue measures oppressive to the oppressed, whatever individuals might design. By converse this day with some gentlemen your Honour hath sent over here, people are convinced that no more has been proposed to be taken from them, by orders given by your Honour, than an overplus of what they have not present necessity for, and which, perhaps, would soon be demanded by General *Howe*. Last week a vessel load of cattle and a boat load of calves were taken from *Montauk*, and carried to *Groton*, or thereabouts, supposed entirely without orders. Some orders given at Headquarters, at *Saybrook*, and executed, whereby the people of *Southampton* and *Bridgehampton* have thousands of sheep, and even all their flocks, taken from them, poor and lean sheep as well as fat, and are utterly destitute, hath extremely distressed poor people, and alarmed their fears, so that they know not what sufferings they shall soon share in. As to the orders your Honour hath given, the people think not strange, who were expecting them in consequence of war and their present unhappy situation. But to have the whole species and kind indiscriminately and entirely taken from them, and vessel loads of stock taken away, without orders given properly, and without any account taken, this they judge oppressive, and effective of their utter ruin in the issue. In this, their distressed situation, the people have their waiting eyes lifted up to your Honour, requesting and supplicating that, if possible, a stop may be put to these last-mentioned oppressive methods of procedure. They look upon themselves as a people given up by the Continent, and know they must obey the orders which are given them, or abide the infinitely shocking consequences of a refusal. They wish, too, and presume they will be looked upon in a proper point of view. Notwithstanding emigration, there are now at least a thousand people in the town of *Easthampton*. 'Tis impossible for them all to remove to the Continent with their effects. Many families would be ruined as to worldly substance in so doing. The people, in their present distressed and perplexed situation, would yet hope that they may not be as a torch on fire at both ends, which must necessarily have a quick consumption.

Considering the times in which we are fallen, your Honour will please to excuse me, if I only add, your Honour's, &c., &c., &c.,

INCOGNITO.

To Hon. *Jona. Trumbull*, Esq., Governour of *Connecticut*, in *New-England*.

COMMODORE HOPKINS TO THE MARINE COMMITTEE.

Providence, September 22, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: Since my last I have been to see Governour *Trumbull* on the business of his letter to me, a copy of which you have enclosed. From there I went to *New-London*, which place I left the 19th instant. Captain *Hacker* is there with the *Hampden*; he has proved her, and she will be ready for sea in a few days, but not full manned. Have ordered her round to *Newport*, there to join the *Alfred*, who I expect will be cleaned and ready for the sea in a week. The two frigates here will be ready for sea in a

week or ten days, but it will be very difficult to man any of them, without you will make the chance of prize money as good as they get in the privateers, which is one half, and large sums advanced to the people before they go to sea.

I expect Governour *Hopkins* every day; hope he will bring with him the commissions for the officers of the new ships. The *Alfred* and the *Hampden* shall send as soon as possible on the station you ordered, and if Governour *Hopkins* brings no other orders for the new frigates, I think it will be the best use they can be put to, to attempt to clear the *Sound* with them, as Governour *Trumbull* advises, as that, if effected, will give great ease to supplying our army near *New-York*.

Since I wrote you there have arrived here seven or eight valuable prizes, sent in by the privateers out of this place, and a brig (Captain *Biddle's* prize) was taken by the *Cerberus*; a few days ago the people got on shore in their boats, and are set out for *Philadelphia*. There is a report that a prize brig, taken by the *Columbus*, was spoke with a few days ago.

Enclosed you have a list of the privateers out of this place; them that are called letters of marque, expected to get manned in the *French Islands*. You likewise have a list of the prizes brought in here.

I am, with great respect, gentlemen, your most humble servant,

ESEK HOPKINS.

To the Hon. *John Hancock*, Esq., President of the Marine Committee at *Philadelphia*.

COMMODORE HOPKINS TO GOVERNOUR TRUMBULL.

Providence, September 22, 1776.

SIR: When I left you I went to *New-London*, and saw your ship, and come from there here, and I am of opinion that the two frigates here will be ready for the sea by the time your ship will be ready, if it is possible to man them. If I receive no orders to the contrary from the Marine Committee, by my brother, who I expect every hour, shall be ready to follow any orders or advice you may think best to give me respecting their operation.

I am, with great respect, sir, your most humble servant,

ESEK HOPKINS.

To the Hon. *Jonathan Trumbull*, Esquire, Governour of *Connecticut*, at *Lebanon*.

ARTHUR LEE TO C. W. F. DUMAS.

London, September 23, 1776.

DEAR SIR: My absence from town till now prevented my answering your two last favours of *September 3d*.

By our latest and best accounts from *America* the die is now cast, and we may every day expect to hear of a decisive action at *New-York*; decisive I mean as to the fate of *General Howe* and *New-York*, but not of *America*, which depends very little upon the event of *New-York* being taken or saved.

There is a publick torpor here, which, without being superstitious, one may regard as a visitation from heaven. The people in general think the declaration of independence as a thing of course, and do not seem to feel themselves at all interested in the vast consequences which that event must inevitably draw after it. The Ministry have by certain manœuvres contrived to keep up the demand for, and price of manufactures; and while trade and manufactures apparently prosper, the people are so deaf, that wisdom may cry out in the streets and not be heard. But the course of the seasons is not more fixed, than it is certain that these ministerial arts must be temporary in their operation and fatal in their issue; because the more men are flattered, the more desperate they are when the calamity comes upon them. Already the *West-India* Islands begin to cry out, as you will have seen in the address from the Island of *Barbadoes*. The great number of captures lately made of *West-India* ships by the *Americans*, have already had very visible effects upon the Royal Exchange. *Holland* taking the alarm, which the least movement on the part of *France* would produce, must shake our stocks to the foundation, and give an equal shock to a deluded prince and a deluded people.

The characters you desire me to touch upon are such as

seldom occur in the same period. Lord *Sandwich* has been noted through a long life for every thing in word and deed, directly opposite to honesty and virtue. With moderate abilities, and little real application, he maintains an appearance of both by impositions and professions, which at a time so averse to inquiry as the present, pass for facts. Lord *George Germain*, though cradled in *England*, has all the principles of a *Scotchman*; subtle, proud, tyrannical and false. In consequence of his patronising the *Scots* they have always been his panegyrist and his advocates and as they are a people indefatigable in all interested pursuits, they have procured him a character for ability which he very little deserves. Dissimulation and craft in worldly occurrences too often pass for real wisdom; and, in this sense, Lord *George* is a wise man. Such a man could no long pass unnoticed and unpatronised by a Court which searches with lyncean eyes for the basest hearts, and is actuated by *Scotch* principles and *Scotch* counsels. Lord *Suffolk* is a peer of sullen pride and arbitrary principles. He listed in the publick cause with Mr. *Wedderburne*, under the banner of *George Grenville*; and while his life gave the hope of success in getting preferment, they were the loudest in opposition; but immediately upon his death, they made their terms, and have been ever since the most devoted tools of the Court. Lord *Suffolk* recommends himself very much to the King, by an indefatigable attention to the little detail business of his department, and an obsequiousness that knows no bounds. Lord *Rochford* is by birth a *Tory*, and is linked with Lord *Mansfield*; but his fears have made him withdraw himself upon an ample pension, for he is persuaded that *France* will soon strike a blow which will endanger the heads of those who conduct these measures.

I have been apprised by *Hortalez*, that the business for which I recommended him to you is to be transacted through *France*, which is the reason of your not seeing him.

I do not conceive you need be under any alarm about intercepted letters, as the Ministry have too much upon their thoughts, and too many more immediately dangerous and known opponents at home, to suffer them to look abroad for victims. Their success must be certain and decisive before they will venture to attack the friends of *America* in *Europe*, and provoke retaliation. I flatter myself with being as much within the eye of their enmity as any man can be. But I think that the enmity of bad men is the most desirable testimony of virtuous merit. Adieu.

ARTHUR LEE.

MARYLAND COUNCIL OF SAFETY TO COLONEL RUMSEY.

[No. 186.]

Annapolis, September 23, 1776.

SIR: We received your letter by the post, and observe what is said about the expenditure of the three hundred pounds formerly sent the Committee of *Harford*. We say nothing in answer to that at present, nor to what you say about the Committee of Observation refusing to act with regard to arms and blankets in *Harford*. We are willing that the company which is first ready in your County should have them. We expect it will be from your battalion; but if otherwise, the first ready must have them, for their encouragement. We have given Mr. *Steel* the bounty money and one month's pay for a company to be raised according to your letter of recommendation on *Saturday* last. We shall hereafter advance for another company when we receive the recommendations.

We have heretofore wrote you about attending the Council of Safety, to which you have given no answer from whence we conclude you have not received it. The Convention would not proceed to any new appointments only in the room of Mr. *Hands*, who declined. Pray let us have your personal attendance here for two or three weeks, as soon as you can; at furthest by the first of next week. We are, &c.

To Colonel *Benjamin Rumsey*.

N. B. Get linen for tents, if you can procure any upon reasonable terms; you are as good a judge of the price as we are.

MARYLAND COUNCIL OF SAFETY TO COLONEL HALL.

[No. 187.]

Annapolis, September 23, 1776.

SIR: We send you the bounty and advance money for

Captain *Francis Holland's* company. Colonel *Rumsey* wrote this day about the guns and blankets collected in your County for the publick. Our answer was, that the company first ready must have them, by way of encouragement to exert themselves. Mr. *Ray's* order on the Treasury was for the sum of four hundred and twenty-nine pounds currency. We are, &c.

To Colonel *Aquila Hall*.

MARYLAND COUNCIL OF SAFETY TO THOMAS RINGGOLD.
[No. 188.] Annapolis, September 23, 1776.

SIR: Be pleased to bring with you when you come over to the Convention the Continental money which is in your possession, belonging to this State. We are, &c.

To *Thomas Ringgold, Esq.*

In Committee, Baltimore, September 23, 1776.

Upon motion, *Resolved, n. c. d.*, That Lieutenant *Ezekiel Tousin* be recommended to the honourable Council of Safety as a proper person to command the guard to be stationed at the magazine at *Armstrong's* tavern.

Extract from the Minutes:

GEO. LUX, Clerk.

N. B. The house will be completed in about a fortnight.

TORIES WHO BROKE GAOL AT FREDERICK-TOWN ON THE NIGHT OF THE 23D OF SEPTEMBER, 1776.

Aaron Verdue, an *Englishman*, about six feet high, a very strong, well-made man, ruddy complexion, chestnut brown curled hair; had on an old brown broadcloth coat and jacket, a pair of leather breeches, stockings, shoes, and an old hat.

Alexander McCraw, a *Scotchman*, a well-made man, about five feet nine inches high; had on a coarse hunting-shirt and leather breeches, a pair of striped trowsers, and a pair blue stockings, yarn, a pair of shoes and *Scotch* bonnet.

Kennith Stewart, a *Scotchman*, well-made, about five feet nine inches high; wears a long hunting-shirt with pockets in the sides of it, a pair of leather breeches, white stockings, a brown surtout coat and *Scotch* bonnet; pretends to have some knowledge in physick.

Robertson York, a *Pennsylvanian*, about five feet seven or eight inches high, slender-made man, red hair, curled on his neck, remarkable large lips, and bad teeth; is a very chattering fellow; had on a short brown coat, mixed coloured cloth jacket, and leather breeches, shoes and stockings.

Robert Turner, an *Englishman*, about five feet eleven inches high, well-made, strong man, short brown hair; had on a light-coloured surtout coat, made in the *Quaker* manner, a country cloth close brown coat, blue cloth jacket, pieced in the back with pale blue cloth, a pair of grey cloth and a pair of fustian breeches, several pairs of ribbed yarn stockings, shoes, and hat.

Thomas Branford, an *Englishman*, about five feet six inches high, a slim made man, and very pale countenance, short black hair; an old grey cloth coat, striped cotton jacket, leather breeches, worsted stockings, shoes and hat.

Stephen Lysney, a *Pennsylvanian*, five feet five inches high; a well-proportioned man, has a dimple in his chin, short, dark brown hair; a hunting-shirt, a brown shalloon jacket, leather breeches, and a pair of trowsers, stockings, shoes, and a large hat.

Whoever takes up and secures the above persons, so that they may be brought back to their place of confinement, shall have at the rate of eight dollars for each, or fifty-six dollars for all of them. Per order.

COLONEL SIM TO MARYLAND COUNCIL OF SAFETY.

Upper Marlborough, September 23, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: I received by Captain *Covington* two hundred and twenty-two pounds of bounty money for the company to be raised in this County, which I have this day paid to Messrs. *Levin Covington*, *R. Wooton*, *R. Crable*, and *Thomas Hands*, gentlemen recommended by the Field Officers of this County to recruit said company. As there are no Field Officers belonging to the Eleventh Battalion

except myself, the gentlemen appointed by Convention having resigned and returned their commissions, and are unwilling to act again, it's very troublesome and disagreeable to me to continue. I have therefore now returned you my commission also, and beg a new appointment may be made of Field Officers. And I am, gentlemen, your most obedient servant,

JOSEPH SIM.

To the Honourable Council of Safety, *Annapolis*.

DOCTOR WEISENTHALL TO MARYLAND COUNCIL OF SAFETY.
Baltimore town, September 23, 1776.

SIR: I received a letter from Dr. *Tootell* which I take the liberty to communicate to you, as it refers to a verbal order of the Council of Safety to deliver to him all the medicines, shop-furniture, instruments, &c., belonging to the Province, now under my care.

As the reason for it is, because the hospital in *Annapolis* is crowded with patients, and medicines are much in request, I will take the liberty to observe, that the whole shop cannot be so easily removed without manifest loss and great trouble; every thing must be taken out of boxes, drawers, &c., and packed up singly, then packed into chests or barrels; the shop furniture likewise must suffer, besides we being burthened with several useless articles in bulky furniture, as well as medicines, and the expenses made in putting them in order, would be likewise thrown away. If I add to this, that our hospital is perhaps crowded equally to that in *Annapolis*, and wants medicines, and considering that this may be deemed the safest place for the repository, if at any time any disturbance should happen in the Province. The *Defence* and *Resolution*, as well as the frigate, have been from time to time supplied with medicines, which is another reason I must give.

Dr. *Tootell*, at his first accession to his majority, gave me an invoice of medicines he wanted; but as we had not the fourth part of them, neither in quantity nor at all, I furnished him with what we had; and when in *Philadelphia* I made inquiry, the whole city could not have furnished the half. I assorted our shop as well as the scarcity would admit of. I have not received any order from the Doctor since for a supply, which is about ten days ago. I got a little supply; should have furnished him if he would return his prescriptions to the present situation of affairs. I shall, however, deliver every thing according to order of the Council, whenever it is so desired, along with the patients.

Chirurgical instruments are not in my possession except a few lancets, a bullet forceps, and some needles, as well as three small catheters, having hitherto made use of my own instruments. The capital instruments are on board the *Defence*, and in *Annapolis*.

I beg to excuse my intruding on your patience, and am, with due respect, your most obedient, humble servant,

C. WEISENTHALL.

To *Charles Carroll, Esq.*, Barrister, *Mount Clare*.

CAPTAIN COOKE TO MARYLAND COUNCIL OF SAFETY.

Potowmack, Ship Defence, September 23, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: I have thought it best to send the tender up, as her mainmast head is sprung, and am under the necessity of keeping Mr. *Middleton* as a pilot, to carry the ship down the bay. I have endeavoured to get one at *Smith's Creek*, but could not. I am informed by Commodore *Boucher* that he was chased by the *Fowey* off the capes. I shall use every proper method in my power for the safety of our ship. I have the pleasure to inform you that the greatest harmony subsists amongst the whole ship's crew, and all in high spirits and good health. I shall inform you fully of our state by the return of Mr. *Middleton*.

I have the honour to be, gentlemen, your most obedient, humble servant,

GEORGE COOKE.

To the Honourable Council of Safety.

N. B. Commodore *Boucher* was chased the 14th instant.
G. C.

BALTIMORE COMMITTEE.

At a meeting of the Committee, September 23, 1776,
Present: *William Aisquith*, Chairman, P. D.; *Andrew*

Buchanan, W. Buchanan, W. Wilkinson, C. Ridgely of William, D. Lux, J. Smith, J. Boyd, T. Rutter, J. Cockey, D. Shaw, J. Standeford, and E. Talbot.

The fine of Mr. *George Counsellman* is reduced from six pounds to three pounds.

The fine of ten pounds assessed on Mr. *Aquila Gallo-way*, as a non-enroller, is remitted, it appearing from a certificate from Dr. *Weisenthal* that he is non-effective.

The fine of five pounds imposed on *Joseph Hilton*, as a non-enroller, is reduced to three pounds.

Mr. *Charles Rogers* is hereby directed to delay distressing the effects of *Sater Stevenson* and *Nathan Perigo* till further orders from this Committee.

Fifty-five shillings was given to Mr. *Edward Talbot* for a gun, and fifty shillings to Mr. *Michael Craner* for a gun, and an order for payment given to Mr. *Samuel Purviance*, Chairman of Committee.

Upon motion,

Resolved, n. c. d., That Mr. *Ezekiel Towson* be recommended to the honourable Council of Safety as a proper person to command the guard to be placed at the magazine at *Armstrong's*.

Attest: GEO. LUX, Secretary.

ROBERT MORRIS TO JOHN JAY.

Philadelphia, September 23, 1776.

DEAR SIR: Although your express delivered me your favour last *Wednesday* or *Thursday*, yet I did not receive the letter from Mr. *Deane* until this day, and shall now send after the express, that he may convey this safe to your hands; should he be gone, I must find some other safe conveyance. You will find enclosed both Mr. *Deane's* letters, as you desired, and I shall thank you for the copy of the invisible part. He had communicated so much of this secret to me before his departure, as to let me know he had fixed with you a mode of writing that would be invisible to the rest of the world; he also promised to ask you to make a full communication to me, but in this use your pleasure; the secret, so far as I do or shall know it, will remain so to all other persons. It appears clear to me, that we may very soon involve all *Europe* in a war, by managing properly the apparent forwardness of the Court of *France*. It is a horrid consideration that our own safety should call on us to involve other nations in the calamities of war. Can this be morally right, or have morality and policy nothing to do with each other? Perhaps it may not be good policy to investigate the question at this time. I will therefore only ask you whether General *Howe* will give us time to cause a diversion favourable to us in *Europe*? I confess, as things now appear to me, the prospect is gloomy indeed. Therefore, if you can administer comfort, do it. Why are we so long deprived of your abilities in Congress? Perhaps they are more usefully exerted where you are: that may be the case; but such men as you, in times like these, should be every where.

I am, with true sentiments of respect and esteem, dear sir, your obedient and humble servant,

ROBERT MORRIS.

To *John Jay*.

JOSIAH BARTLETT TO JOHN LANGDON.

Philadelphia, September 23, 1776.

DEAR SIR: Yours, by Captain *Manly*, I have received, and should have been glad of affording him any assistance in my power, but unluckily they (the Marine Committee) commonly meet in the evening, when I am not able to attend them on account of my health. The latter end of last week Captain *Roche* called on me, and told me Captain *Manly* was taken very sick. I have not heard from him since, so hope he is better.

I hope Colonel *Whipple* and your successor as a Delegate are now setting off for this city to relieve me. I am very anxious to have them here, as some very important affairs are before the Congress, and my health will not permit my constant attendance; and I am loth to be absent, as you know the voice of a single Colony is often very important. I shall not write to Colonel *Whipple*, as I think he must be on his journey before this reaches you.

I am sorry our affairs at *New-York* have succeeded so badly. We want a regular, well-disciplined army, and

more experienced Generals. A regular standing army we must have, at all events, against another year. You will see the plan the Congress has laid for effecting it. The conduct of some of the *New-England* soldiers this year has afforded me great pain, though I believe some of the disaffected this way have represented their conduct worse than it deserved, yet the affair at the *Cedars*, and of some at *New-York*, are not to be excused.

I have this moment received Colonel *Whipple's* letter of the 10th instant, wherein he recommends *Hopley Yeaton* for a Lieutenant of your ship, in the room of Mr. *Wheel-right*, and some other marine affairs, which I shall lay before the Marine Committee, and try to procure the orders he mentions, though at present I cannot meet with them in the evening, as I am at present troubled with a fever-fit every evening; however, I will do the best I can in the affair. Colonel *Whipple* informs me the Colony had not then appointed another Delegate in your stead. I hope the Colonel has set off without him, and the other may be appointed and follow after as soon as convenient.

I hope you will soon have the *Raleigh* fit for sea. I will try to procure orders for her and one of the *Newbury* ships to take the *Millford* frigate, which it seems is a great plague to the Northern States. Prepare her as soon as possible for the business.

I am, dear sir, your sincere friend,

JOSIAH BARTLETT.

To Mr. *John Langdon*.

JOSEPH CARY AND JONATHAN PIERSON TO RICHARD PETERS.

Philadelphia, September 23, 1776.

SIR: This being the second time of troubling you, hope you will not take it amiss our sending this epistle to inform you that we should think ourselves very happy in having a hearing before you, or who is proper to examine us. This being the first time of our being in confinement, and that without a cause, as we never were employed, or any other way meddled or made, but on the contrary were endeavouring to get out of the country towards the *West-Indies*, where we might be quiet, we hope you will take our matter into consideration; and as we are strangers here, and not acquainted with any one, our request is that we may have either the liberty of a parole or leave to depart from this Continent.

We are your most obedient, &c.,

JOSEPH CARY,
JONATHAN PIERSON.

EXTRACT FROM A JOURNAL KEPT BY THE CHAPLAIN OF COLONEL DURKEE'S REGIMENT.

Powle's Hook, September 15, 1776. After *Long-Island* was evacuated, it was judged impossible to hold the city of *New-York*, and for several days the artillery and stores of every kind had been removing, and last night the sick were ordered to *Newark*, in the *Jerseys*; but most of them could be got no farther than this place and *Hoebuck*, and as there is but one house at each of those places, many were obliged to lie in the open air till this morning, whose distress when I walked out at day-break gave me a livelier idea of the horrors of war than any thing I ever met with before. The commandant ordered them every thing for their comfort that the place afforded, and immediately forwarded them to the place appointed and prepared for them.

About eight this morning three large ships came to sail and made up towards the *Hook*. The garrison, consisting of the Twentieth Continental Regiment, (Colonel *Durkee's*,) and a regiment of *Jersey* Militia, (Colonel *Duyckinck's*,) were ordered into our works. Soon after they had taken their posts, the ships came up near *Jersey* shore to avoid our shot from the grand battery, (the removal of the cannon from which they were ignorant of,) and as they passed up the *North River* kept up an incessant fire upon us; their shot (a great part of which was grape) raked the whole *Hook*, but providentially one horse was all the loss we sustained by it. The fire was briskly returned from our battery by Captain *Dana*, who commanded a company of the train on this station. It gave me great pleasure to see the spirit of the troops around me, who were evidently animated by the whistling of the enemy's shot, which often struck so near them as to cover them with dust.

About eleven o'clock a furious cannonade was heard a little above *New-York*, and before night numbers came over from the city and informed that it was evacuated by our troops, and about sunset we saw the tyrant's flag flying on *Fort George*.

Having received intelligence that a number of our troops were in the city, and the enemy spread across the Island above it, two small parties were ordered to assist them in making their escape. Two Captains, with about forty men, two brass howitzers, and about two tons of military stores, were brought off by one of them; the other party, consisting of five men only, were fired upon by the enemy, (supposed the Tories, who have committed a number of robberies on the friends of *America*.) when one *Jesse Squire*, of *Norwich*, was wounded, who, together with another, fell into their hands.

16th. About two o'clock this morning an attempt was made to burn the ships that passed up the *North River* yesterday and anchored about three miles above us; one of them (the *Renown*, of fifty guns) was grappled, but broke her grappling and came down by us again. Another cannonade ensued, but no damage was received on our side.

The brave Colonel *Duyckinck*, who did all he could to retain his men, could now keep his regiment no longer, but was obliged to retreat to *Bergen*, from which time Colonel *Durkee* was left on the *Hook* with only a part of his regiment, consisting of about three hundred effective men.

17th. An express arrived with information that Colonel *Williams*, from *Connecticut*, was ordered to reinforce us, and might be expected the next day, but was not able to join us till our retreat to *Bergen*, the 23d. This day a large quantity of lead musket-ball and buckshot was discovered in a suspected house, about a mile and a half above us, and brought down to this place and properly secured for the *United States*. Towards night the *Renown* returned back to her station up the *North River*, but kept near the eastern shore to avoid the shot from our battery, which, however, kept up a brisk fire upon her as long as she was within reach.

18th. Nothing material happened here. Just at evening, intelligence was received that the brave Lieutenant-Colonel *Knowlton*, of our regiment, was killed in the action that happened a little below *King's Bridge* on *Monday*, as he was fighting with undaunted courage at the head of a body of Rangers, the command of which was assigned him. The joy the success of that action would have occasioned was greatly lessened in this department by the loss of an officer so greatly respected and beloved.

20th. The *Renown* returned back again to the fleet, and though she passed close in with *New-York* shore, yet as there was very little wind about forty shot from our battery were fired at her, many of which took effect. She lay all next day upon a careen to repair.

21st. At two this morning we were waked up by the guards, who informed us that *New-York* was on fire. As the fire began at the southeast end of the city, a little east of the grand battery, it was spread by a strong south wind, first on the *East River*, and then northward across the *Broadway*, opposite to the old *English Church*, (if I mistake not the name;) from thence it consumed all before it between *Broadway* and the *North River*, near to the College, laying about one third part of the city in ashes (in the opinion of those best acquainted with it;) and had not the wind as it veered to the west, died away, the remainder of that nest of vipers would have been destroyed.

This evening a seaman, who said he belonged to *Providence*, that he was taken and obliged to fight against his countrymen on board the *Roebuck*, made his escape by swimming from *New-York* to this place. He informed that the men on board the *Roebuck* were very sickly, that they had lost one hundred since they left the Capes of *Virginia*. He also gave notice that preparation had been made to attack this post; that a number of large ships were to come up and endeavour to silence our batteries, while a large body of the troops in boats (which we discovered on the opposite shore above us this afternoon) were to make a descent above us and endeavour to cut off our retreat; that it was to have been executed this morning, but the fire prevented.

22d. As no reinforcement could be sent us, we received orders this morning to remove our artillery, stores, and bag-

gage, and hold ourselves in readiness to retreat; and before night most of them were removed.

About nine, A. M., we saw the enemy embarking in flat-bottomed boats, about two miles above us, who appeared in large numbers on the shore after their boats (about thirty) were full. Four ships at the same time came to sail below, and stood up towards us, but they soon came to anchor again, and the boats which had pushed off returned back. Had they come at this time, we must either have retired and left them large quantities of artillery stores, or fought their army and navy at the same time with our small detachment, and that under every disadvantage; but they saw fit to retire to get more strength, as appeared afterwards, though they could not be ignorant of our weakness, as our men were paraded every day in full view of them.

23d. At one o'clock, P. M., having removed every thing of value, we were ordered to retreat from the *Hook*. As soon as we began our march, four ships came up and anchored near the shore around the *Hook*; at the same time a number of boats and floating-batteries came down from just above *New-York*; the latter run up into the cove opposite the causeway that leads to *Bergen*. After taking a considerable time to see that there was nobody to hurt them, they began a most furious cannonade on our empty works, which continued until they had wearied themselves. In a word, they dared to come much nearer, and displayed the boasted *British* valour in much brighter colours than ever they had while there remained a single man to oppose them. Meanwhile our little battalion retreated, with drums beating and colours flying, to *Bergen*; and before night the brave *Britons* ventured on shore and took possession of our evacuated works, where they have taken every precaution to prevent our formidable detachment from returning and driving them from a post which, with so great a display of heroism, they have got possession of.

The post we now possess covers the *Jerseys*. Here we are reinforced by a number of regiments; more are daily coming in; the sick are recovering; the troops in high spirits, and we have no fear but we shall be able to maintain our ground against all the banditti of *George* the Third.

Newark, September 28, 1776.

In our last we informed our readers that the city of *New-York* was in flames on *Saturday* morning, the 21st instant; since which we have many and different reports concerning that melancholy affair, the most authentick of which, we believe, is as follows, viz: That the fire originated at or near *Whitehall*, soon extended to the Exchange, took its course up the west side of *Broad* street, as far as *Verlattenberg Hill*, consuming all the blocks from the *Whitehall* up. The flames extended across the *Broadway* from the house of Mr. *David Johnston* to *Beaver* lane, or *Fincher's* alley, on the west, and carried all before it, a few buildings excepted, to the house at the corner of *Barclay* street, wherein the late Mr. *Adam Vandenberg* lived, sweeping all the crossed streets in the way. The buildings left standing on the west side of the *Broadway* are supposed to be Captain *Thomas Randall's*, Captain *Kennedy's*, Doctor *Mallet's*, Mr. *John Cortlandt's* sugar-house and dwelling-house, Dr. *Jones's*, *Hull's* tavern, *St. Paul's*, Mr. *Axtell's*, and Mr. *Rutherford's*. The cause of the fire is not known. We imagine a sixth part of the whole city is destroyed, and many families have lost their all.

SIR WILLIAM HOWE TO LORD GEORGE GERMAIN.

York-Island, September 23, 1776.

MY LORD: Between the 20th and 21st instant, at midnight, a most horrid attempt was made by a number of wretches to burn the town of *New-York*, in which they succeeded too well, having set it on fire in several places with matches and combustibles that had been prepared with great art and ingenuity. Many were detected in the fact, and some killed upon the spot by the enraged troops in garrison; and had it not been for the exertions of Major-General *Robertson*, the officers under his command in the town, and the brigade of Guards detached from the camp, the whole must infallibly have been consumed, as the night was extremely windy.

The destruction is computed to be about one-quarter of

the town; and we have reason to suspect there are villains still lurking there, ready to finish the work they had begun, one person, escaping the pursuit of a sentinel the following night, having declared that he would again set fire to the town the first opportunity. The strictest search is making after these incendiaries, and the most effectual measures taken to guard against the perpetration of their villainous and wicked designs.

I have the honour to be, &c.,

W. HOWE.

EXTRACT OF A LETTER FROM NEW-YORK TO A GENTLEMAN
IN LONDON, DATED SEPTEMBER 23, 1776.

The day after the city was taken I repaired to it, and found it a most dirty, desolate, and wretched place. My house had been plundered by the Rebels of almost every thing I had left behind. However, our late success, and the pleasing prospect before us, especially as the city was not destroyed, made me forget this loss. I thought little about it.

I flattered myself that the city would soon be peopled again, and that matters would speedily be restored to their former state; but the authors of our calamities were determined to frustrate this expectation. The destruction of the city was resolved on by some villains who were concealed in the city. Accordingly on *Thursday* night following, when every thing was very dry, and a brisk southerly wind blew, some of them set fire to the houses near *Whitehall*. The fire instantly spread and raged with inconceivable violence. There were few citizens in town; the fire-engines and pumps were out of order. Two regiments of soldiers were immediately ordered into town, and many boats full of men were sent from the fleet. To these, under Providence, it is owing that the whole city was not reduced to ashes. The destruction was very great. Between a third and fourth of the city is burnt. All that is west of the new Exchange, along *Broad* street to the *North River*, as high as the City-Hall, and from thence along the *Broadway* and *North River* to *King's* College, is in ruins. *St. Paul's* Church and the College were saved with the utmost difficulty. *Trinity* Church, the *Lutheran* Church, the parsonage, and charity-school are destroyed. Between a thousand and fifteen hundred houses are burnt, and we are under the most dismal apprehensions that there are some more of these villains concealed in town to burn what is yet left. Our distresses were great before, but this calamity has increased them ten-fold. Thousands are hereby reduced to beggary. This scheme was executed to prevent the King's troops from having any benefit by the city.

The clergy of this Province and *New-Jersey* have shut up their churches, as they refused to comply with the orders of the Congress. In *Connecticut* the clergy met and opened their churches; but they omit the service, and only read the lessons and a sermon. Before sermon, they use the accustomed collect and Lord's prayer.

We got in *New-York* several thousand barrels of flour. The storehouses were full of provisions of all sorts, and we have every eatable in plenty.

GENERAL WASHINGTON TO THE PRESIDENT OF CONGRESS.

Head-Quarters, Heights of Harlem, September 23, 1776.

SIR: I have nothing in particular to communicate to Congress respecting the situation of our affairs. It is much the same as when I had the honour of addressing you last.

On *Friday* night, about eleven or twelve o'clock, a fire broke out in the city of *New-York*, near the new or *St. Paul's* Church, as it is said, which continued to burn pretty rapidly till after sunrise the next morning. I have not been informed how the accident happened, nor received any certain account of the damage. Report says many of the houses between the *Broadway* and the river were consumed.

I have the honour to be, with great esteem, sir, your most obedient servant,

GO. WASHINGTON.

GENERAL WASHINGTON TO GENERAL MERCER.

Head-Quarters, Harlem Heights, September 23, 1776.

SIR: General *Howe*, by letter yesterday evening, having concurred in the proposition for the exchange of General

Sullivan for General *Prescott*, and informed me that the former would be sent in a boat to-day to *Elizabethtown*, in order that it may be effected, you will be pleased to have General *Prescott* in readiness at the point, that he may return without delay in the boat that brings General *Sullivan*.

In respect to Mr. *McDonald*, General *Howe* does not allow him the rank of a Brigadier, and refuses to execute the exchange proposed between him and Lord *Stirling*. Under these circumstances you will direct his return to *Philadelphia*, with the escort that is with him, where Congress will give their direction concerning him.

I am, &c.,

GO. WASHINGTON.

To Brigadier-General *Mercer*, or officer commanding at *Elizabethtown*.

P. S. You will please to deliver the enclosed letter to General *Prescott*.

GENERAL WASHINGTON TO GENERAL HOWE.

Head-Quarters, Heights of Harlem, Sept. 23, 1776.

SIR: I yesterday evening received the favour of your letter of the 21st, by your Aid-de-Camp, Captain *Montresor*, in consequence of which I this morning despatched an express to *Elizabethtown*, with orders that Major-General *Prescott* should be permitted to return in the boat that carried General *Sullivan* over to that place.

I most readily concur in the proposition you are pleased to make for the exchange of Brigadier-General Lord *Stirling* for Governour *Montfort Browne*, and have sent for him accordingly. I should hope that Lord *Stirling* will be immediately set at liberty, on my promise that Governour *Browne* shall be sent to you as soon as he arrives.

I had no doubt but Mr. *McDonald's* title would have been acknowledged, having understood that he received his commission from the hands of Governour *Martin*; nor can I consent to rank him as a Major till I have proper authority from Congress, to whom I shall state the matter, upon your representation.

Agreeable to your request, I shall transmit to Lieutenant-Colonel *Campbell* a copy of the list of officers of the Forty-Second and Seventy-First Regiments, taken by us last Spring, that it may be rectified in the instances in which it may be wrong; and will then place opposite to their names the officers I would wish in return for them.

The exchange of privates I shall take the earliest opportunity in my power to carry into execution; but they being greatly dispersed through the *New-England* Governments, in order to their better accommodation, will prevent it for some time.

Having the fullest confidence in your assurance that Mr. *Lovell* will be released when he arrives from *Hakifaz*, I have wrote for Governour *Skene* to come to Head-Quarters, that he may proceed immediately to you.

As to the exchange of prisoners settled between Captain *Forster* and General *Arnold*, I beg leave to inform you that it was a transaction in which I had not the smallest concern; nor have I authority to give directions, in any degree, respecting the matter.

The information you have received concerning the ill treatment of your officers, I would fain hope is not generally well founded. The letters from them, which have passed through my hands, hold forth a different language. In particular instances, it is true, there are some who have been restrained to a closer confinement and severer treatment than they otherwise would have been, for breaking or refusing to give their paroles. Such (I am confident) will not be countenanced by your Excellency; and I am persuaded, by a closer investigation of the inquiry you will discover that there have been no other persons whatever who have experienced the smallest harshness from us. I shall, however, obtain all the information on the subject in my power, that every ground of complaint (if any exists) may be entirely removed, it being my most earnest wish that, during this unhappy contest, there be every exercise of humanity which the nature of the case will possibly admit of.

Your Aid-de-Camp delivered me the ball you mention, which was the first of the kind I ever saw or heard of. You may depend the contrivance is highly abhorred by me,

and every measure shall be taken to prevent so wicked and infamous a practice being adopted in this army.

I have the honour to be, with due regard, your most obedient servant,

GO. WASHINGTON.

To Lieutenant-General Howe.

GENERAL WASHINGTON TO GOVERNOUR TRUMBULL.

Head-Quarters, Heights of Harlem, Sept. 23, 1776.

SIR: General Howe, in a letter received from him yesterday evening, by a flag, having offered to exchange Brigadier-General Lord Stirling for Governour Montfort Browne, and also requested that Governour Skene may be granted his liberty without delay, assuring me that Mr. Lovell shall be immediately enlarged on his arrival from Halifax, and whose exchange for Governour Skene has been agreed upon, I must take the liberty of requesting the favour of your notice to these two gentlemen, and that you will provide them with a proper escort to repair to Head-Quarters as soon as they can, with their baggage, that the proposed exchange for Lord Stirling may be effected, and General Howe's request be complied with respecting Governour Skene's being returned. The gentlemen are to consider themselves under parole till such time as they are sent from Head-Quarters to General Howe.

I must beg your excuse for not having wrote you of late upon the situation of our affairs and such events as have cast up in the military line. I shall only add that the important concerns which have commanded my closest attention have been the cause, and I am fully persuaded, will furnish me with a sufficient apology.

Of the evacuation of the city of New-York on Sunday se'nnight, and the retreat to this place, you will have heard before now, and of the manner in which it was conducted. I am certain a minute relation of them would only increase the uneasiness which would naturally arise upon hearing the events, and therefore, as I have not time, I shall not enter upon it.

The enemy, by their movements, having unfolded their plan of operations, and discovered that they declined making a direct attack upon the town, and that their designs were to land in our rear, and to cut off all intercourse with the country, at the same time to prevent any communication with the Jersey, and States south of the North River, by means of their ships of war, it became necessary to adopt such measures as seemed best calculated to baffle their schemes and promote the common interests. To these ends, a Council of Officers determined the evacuation of the city absolutely necessary; and I have only to wish that it had been made in a way more honourable, and with less loss of baggage; which might have been the case had the troops that remained there for the defence of the lines not betaken themselves to a most precipitate and disgraceful flight, contrary to the exertions of their General Officers and every effort in my power to prevent and form them, having gone from hence, as soon as the ships began their cannonade, and whither I had come the night before, to the main body of our army, in expectation of an attack that night or the next morning, as the parade of the enemy and the unusual stir amongst them strongly indicated one. The next morning several large columns of them appeared on the plains, at the distance of about two miles and a half below us; and some smart skirmishes ensued between their advanced parties, composed of the Second Battalion of Infantry, a regiment of Royal Highlanders, and three companies of the Hessian Chasseurs or Riflemen, and the detachments which I sent out to oppose them. Upon this occasion our men behaved with great spirit and intrepidity, putting the enemy to flight, and forcing them from their posts two or three times. Our people buried sixteen or eighteen of their dead, as they say; and a Sergeant who has since deserted, reports they had eighty-nine missing and wounded. Our loss in number was inconsiderable, but must be considered as great in the fall of Lieutenant-Colonel Knowlton, of your State, who commanded a party of Rangers, composed of volunteers from the several New-England regiments, and who was a brave and good officer. Every honour was paid to his merit, in his interment, that the situation of things would admit of.

FIFTH SERIES.—VOL. II.

The enemy have formed a large encampment in the plains, or rather heights, below us, extending across, as it were, from the East to the North River; but have attempted nothing, as yet, of a general nature. We are making every disposition in our power for defence; and I should hope, from the ground we are on, if they make an attack, and our men behave with tolerable resolution and firmness, that they will meet with a repulse, or, at least, any advantage they gain will be attended with sorrow and a considerable loss. Major Leitch, who led on a detachment of the Virginia regiment in the affair of Monday, received three balls through one side. He still retains his spirits, and seems as if he would recover.

On Friday night, about eleven or twelve o'clock, a fire broke out in the city of New-York, which, burning rapidly till after sunrise next morning, destroyed a great number of houses. By what means it happened we do not know; but the gentleman who brought the letter from General Howe last night, and who was one of his Aids-de-Camp, informed Colonel Reed that several of our countrymen had been punished with various deaths on account of it, some by hanging, others by burning, &c.; alleging that they were apprehended when committing the fact.

I have, &c.,

GO. WASHINGTON.

To Governour Trumbull, Connecticut.

P. S. I would choose that Governours Browne and Skene should be stopped when they come within ten or twelve miles, and detained till one of the escort can inform me of their coming, and receive my directions respecting them.

GENERAL WASHINGTON TO NEW-YORK CONVENTION.

Head-Quarters at the Heights of Harlem, }
September 23, 1776. }

SIR: Your favour of the 21st instant, enclosing the resolution of the Representatives of the State of New-York, has come duly to hand and will be properly attended to. I am exceedingly obliged by the readiness you declare you will pay to any commands which you may receive from me, respecting the great cause in which we are engaged.

The manœuvres of the enemy before their landing on Sunday last, were various and perplexing; however, about eight o'clock in the morning they became extremely plain and obvious. At that time they began their operations, by sending three ships of war up the North River, as high as Bloomingdale, which put a stop to the removal of our stores by water, and about eleven of those in the East River began a constant and heavy cannonade, for the purpose of securing the grounds and covering the landing of their troops, where breastworks had been thrown up to oppose them. As soon as I heard the firing I immediately repaired to the place of landing, when, to my extreme astonishment, I discovered the troops who were posted in the lines retreating in the greatest disorder, and Parsons's and Fellows's brigades, who were directed to support them, retreating in the greatest confusion, and without making the slightest opposition, although only a small party of the enemy appeared in view. As I perceived no dependence could be reposed in these troops, and apprehending another impression might be made on Harlem Plains, by which means our retreat to this place might be cut off, I directed the Heights to be secured, and our retreat was effected with little or no loss of men, though of a considerable part of the baggage. Some of our heavy cannon, and a part of our stores and provisions, which we were about removing, were unavoidably left in the city, though every means (after it had been determined in Council to abandon the post) had been used to prevent it.

On Monday morning last, several parties of the enemy appeared on the high grounds opposite to our Heights, and some skirmishing had happened between our troops and those of the enemy. On reconnoitering their situation, I formed the design of cutting off such of them as had or might advance to the extremity of the wood; I accordingly ordered three companies of Virginia Riflemen, under the command of Major Leitch, and Colonel Knowlton with his Rangers, to endeavour to get in their rear, while an apparent disposition was making as if to attack them in front. The enemy ran down the hill with great eagerness to attack the party

in front; but unluckily, from some mistake or misapprehension, the parties under Major *Leitch* and Colonel *Knowlton* began the fire on their flank, instead of their rear. The Major was soon brought off the field wounded, and Colonel *Knowlton* soon received a wound of which he is since dead. Their men, however, behaved with the greatest resolution. Finding that they wanted assistance, I advanced part of Colonel *Griffith's* and Colonel *Richardson's Maryland* regiments, with some detachments of Eastern troops, who charged the enemy and drove them from the wood to the plain, and were still pursuing, when I judged it prudent to withdraw them, fearing the enemy might be sending a large reinforcement to the troops which were engaged, which was the case as I have since understood. A Sergeant who deserted from the enemy has informed me their party was greater than I imagined, as it consisted of the Second Battalion of Light Infantry, a battalion of Royal *Highlanders*, and three companies of *Hessian* Riflemen, under the command of General *Leslie*. Their loss by his report amounted to eighty-nine wounded and missing, and eight killed; in the latter his account is altogether imperfect, as our people discovered and buried double that number. I am in hopes this little success will be productive of salutary consequences, as our army seems to be greatly inspirited by it.

I am, sir, your most obedient servant,

GO. WASHINGTON.

To the Hon. *Abraham Yates*, Jun., President of the Convention of the State of *New-York*.

Proceedings of a General Court-Martial of the Line held on the Heights of HARLEM, by order of His Excellency GEORGE WASHINGTON, Esq., General and Commander-in-Chief of the Forces of the UNITED STATES OF AMERICA, for the trial of all Prisoners to be brought before them. SEPTEMBER 23, 1776.

Colonel *MAGAW*, President.

Lieut. Colonel <i>Chandler</i> ,	Captain <i>Brown</i> ,
Lieut. Colonel <i>Russell</i> ,	Captain <i>Chamberlain</i> ,
Captain <i>Ledyard</i> ,	Captain <i>Prentice</i> ,
Captain <i>Greaton</i> ,	Captain <i>Rogers</i> ,
Captain <i>Wiley</i> ,	Captain <i>Foster</i> ,
Captain <i>Hindman</i> ,	Captain <i>Stanley</i> .
Captain <i>Scott</i> ,	

William Tudor, Judge-Advocate.

The Court being duly sworn, proceeded to the trial of Lieutenant *Stewart*, of Captain *Thomas's* Independent Company, under the command of Colonel *Smallwood*, brought prisoner before the Court, and accused of "striking Sergeant *Phelps*, of Colonel *Silliman's* regiment, and of threatening the life of Colonel *Silliman*, for arresting him, Lieutenant *Stewart*."

The prisoner being arraigned on the said charge, pleads, "Not guilty."

Captain *HUBBEL*. Last *Wednesday* morning Lieutenant *Stewart* came to my hut and inquired for Ensign *Phelps*, calling him a damned coward. I sent for the man, who is a Sergeant in my company; he came up, and Lieutenant *Stewart* told him he wanted to know his name to report him for a coward, for he had behaved like a damned coward the day before, and told him he was not fit for an Ensign; on which *Phelps* replied, he was as fit for an Ensign as he (*Stewart*) was for a Lieutenant. Upon which Lieutenant *Stewart* immediately struck him in the face with the flat of his hand. I went off and complained to Colonel *Silliman*, and Lieutenant *Stewart* came up with the Adjutant of our regiment, when Colonel *Silliman* very mildly talked with Lieutenant *Stewart*, and told him he ought to have taken another course; Lieutenant *Stewart* grew warm, when Colonel *Silliman* ordered him under an arrest. On this, Lieutenant *Stewart* took his hat and flung it on the ground, and said, "I'll go to my tent—all you can do is to take my commission, but I am a gentleman, and will put it out of your power, for I will resign it, and in less than two hours will be revenged on you, God damn you." He soon went off. He damned Colonel *Silliman* several times.

Sergeant *Bass* confirms Captain *Hubbel's* testimony throughout.

JOSEPH *PHELPS* confirms Captain *Hubbel's* testimony.

Lieutenant STEWART's Defence.

Mr. *CHESLEY*. Was present when Lieutenant *Stewart* and Sergeant *Phelps* were talking. The deponent says, Lieutenant *Stewart* said *Phelps*, who he supposed was an Ensign, had behaved cowardly the day before, and that he meant to report him for a coward. *Phelps* replied, he was no more a coward than *Stewart* was—some more words ensued, when *Phelps* said something which looked like giving *Stewart* the lie, when Mr. *Stewart* struck him in the face.

Lieutenant-Colonel *WARE*. Was present at the conversation between Lieutenant *Stewart* and Colonel *Silliman*, and did not hear Lieutenant *Stewart* damn Colonel *Silliman*.

Captain *SMITH*. I went up with Lieutenant *Stewart* to Colonel *Silliman*, and Lieutenant *Stewart* showed the utmost complaisance to the Colonel, and begged to be heard; the Colonel refused to hear him, and ordered him under an arrest. Lieutenant *Stewart* grew warm, and made use of some hasty expressions.

The Court after mature consideration, are of opinion, that Lieutenant *Stewart* is guilty of striking Sergeant *Phelps*, but the Court are of opinion that Lieutenant *Stewart* was provoked to do so; and the Court are of opinion, that Lieutenant *Stewart* is not guilty of threatening the life of Colonel *Silliman*.
ROBERT *MAGAW*, President.

The Court proceeded to the trial of Lieutenant *Daniel Pelton*, of Captain *Riker's* Company, in Colonel *Ritzema's* Regiment, brought prisoner before the Court, and accused of "leaving camp and being absent two days without leave from his commanding officer."

The prisoner being arraigned on the above complaint, pleads guilty, and acknowledges "that he left camp on *Monday* morning without leave of absence, and went three or four miles beyond *King's Bridge*, and returned on *Wednesday* afternoon following."

The Court are of opinion, that the prisoner is guilty of a breach of the nineteenth article of the rules and regulations for the government of the Continental troops, and sentence the said Lieutenant *Pelton* to be mulcted of one month's pay for said offence.

ROBERT *MAGAW*, President.

The Court proceeded to the trial of Sergeant *William Phelps*, of Captain *Hubbel's* Company, in Colonel *Silliman's* Regiment, brought prisoner before the Court, and accused of "cowardice and deserting his party when out on a scout" on *Tuesday*, *September 17*.

The prisoner being arraigned on the above charge, pleads, "Not guilty."

Lieutenant *STEWART* deposes. That he was on a scouting party on *Tuesday*, 17th of *September*, and met Captain *Northrop* with another party, of which the prisoner was one, and we agreed to endeavour taking the enemy's advanced guard. We were prevented doing it, but got down to a fence, where we exchanged some shot with the enemy. Both parties were together. In about ten minutes the prisoner and three or four others ran off to a fence a hundred yards. The prisoner had a large pewter dish under his arm; I ordered him to lay down his dish and go back, or I would shoot him. I was so intent on the motions of the enemy, I did not observe him afterwards; it was immediately after a shot from the enemy that the prisoner ran away.

JOSEPH *MILLER* confirms Lieutenant *Stewart's* deposition.

NATHANIEL *THOMAS* confirms Lieutenant *Stewart's* deposition, and adds, that the prisoner ran two hundred and fifty yards and lay behind a fence, and did not join the party again, as he saw.

Prisoner's Defence.

JOSEPH *BASS*. After Lieutenant *Stewart* had threatened to shoot Sergeant *Phelps*, and *Phelps* found that the party was not going to the fence, he asked Captain *Northrop* if he should go back, who told him yes, and he accordingly joined Captain *Northrop*, and came off with him when the party retreated.

Captain *NORTHROP*. After Lieutenant *Stewart* ordered

Phelps back, he came back in a minute and a half and joined me, and we came off together. The prisoner was of my party, and I saw nothing of cowardice in him, and would take him again as soon as any man I know upon a scouting party.

The Court are of opinion, that the prisoner is not guilty of the charge against him.

ROBERT MAGAW, *President*.

COLONEL PAWLING TO NEW-YORK CONVENTION.

King's Bridge, September 23, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: I am laid under the disagreeable necessity to inform your Honours that I have not had a Surgeon appointed to my regiment agreeable to the resolve of your honourable House, passed the 16th *July* last. On my arrival at this place, (which was the 12th ultimo,) found many inconveniences, which were all surmounted without difficulty, except the non-appointment of a Surgeon, which I had reason to expect had been done, in compliance to said resolve; but as it was not done, I attended your honourable Board at *Harlem*, and got Dr. *Gregur* appointed temporary until another should be appointed. This gentleman gave all the attendance in his power; he at length told me it was not in his power to attend any longer, and at the same time recommended Mr. *Joseph Crane*; accordingly Mr. *Crane* was wrote for; he came, and has attended the sick of my regiment since the 1st of this instant, and with general satisfaction. I therefore desire that this gentleman may be appointed Surgeon to my regiment, and also that he may receive proper directions concerning medicines.

Your Honour's compliance will much oblige your very humble servant,

LEVI PAWLING.

To the Honourable the Convention of the State of *New-York*, now at the *Fishkill*.

JOSEPH TRUMBULL, COMMISSARY-GENERAL, TO THE NEW-YORK CONVENTION.

King's Bridge, September 23, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: Your letter and resolutions in consequence of my application for your assistance in procuring immediately a supply of flour, is received. I most sincerely thank you for your ready compliance therewith. I doubt not that the kind assistance of the gentlemen appointed by you will secure me success. I paid Mr. *Banker* twelve thousand five hundred dollars, on account of the pork. When the vouchers are procured and the price is settled, the remainder will be paid on demand.

I am, with greatest respect and gratitude, gentlemen, your obliged, humble servant,

JOS. TRUMBULL.

To the Honourable Convention of the State of *New-York*.

GENERAL SCHUYLER TO GENERAL WASHINGTON.

Albany, September 23, 1776.

DEAR SIR: General *Gates* has requested me to send up twenty casks of shingle nails. He says "the carpenters are unable to proceed with the publick works for the want of them." I have wrote to Congress on the 8th instant, begging that a quantity might be sent up; but if your Excellency can spare any, I wish to have them sent with all possible despatch, as we cannot procure any here, and those from *Philadelphia* may probably not arrive in time, if at all.

The Committee of the town of *Schenectady* have requested me that barracks should be built there for the accommodation of any troops that may be quartered there, or pass through it. I do not conceive myself authorized to take such a step without your Excellency's consent, or that of Congress.

I am, with the greatest respect and esteem, your Excellency's obedient, humble servant,

PH. SCHUYLER.

To His Excellency General *Washington*, &c., &c.

GENERAL SCHUYLER TO GENERAL GATES.

Albany, September 23, 1776.

DEAR GENERAL: I am extremely sorry that it is not in my power to furnish you with shingle nails. Not a pound

is to be had in this country. I shall try to get some made. On the 8th instant I wrote to Congress, and entreated them to send up nails. It is possible they may order some to be forwarded to this place; as soon as any arrive, they will be expedited to you.

I wish I could give a confirmation of the account of last week's transactions on *York-Island*, as you will have received it by Major *Pierce*. It is partly contradicted by Captain *Lucas*, who left *King's Bridge* on *Thursday* last.

It will undoubtedly be necessary to build barracks for a strong garrison, both at *Tyonderoga* and on *Mount Independence*. And I beg you to make every preparation for it in your power, and also effectually to repair the old fort, as soon as you shall be in a condition to do it.

The cordage from *Poughkeepsie* arrived last night, except the cables, which were not finished, and for which I shall send express.

If potatoes and turnips cannot be procured in sufficient quantity for the army nearer than *Saratoga*, and if Mr. *Avery* wants any, he may send to my overseer. I suppose a thousand bushels may be spared.

Not less than one hundred and sixty thousand boards are wanted at *King's Bridge*. I greatly fear we shall not be able to procure them.

If you can possibly spare any men, a considerable number should be employed in cutting fire-wood, and bringing it to *Tyonderoga*. If it is long delayed, it will be difficult to procure a stock sufficient for the winter's consumption.

I am just now informed by a letter from Mr. *Trumbull*, the Commissary-General, that Mr. *Avery* is appointed to act as Commissary in this department, in the room of Mr. *Livingston*, Deputy Commissary-General, resigned; and that he has ordered him to repair to this place. You will therefore please to send him down.

I am, dear General, your most obedient, humble servant,
PH. SCHUYLER.

To the Hon. General *Gates*.

GENERAL GATES TO THE PRESIDENT OF CONGRESS.

[Read October 2, 1776.]

Ticonderoga, September 23, 1776.

SIR: As the freedom and welfare of the *United States* depend in a great measure upon the speedy establishment of the new army, I cannot suffer another day to pass over without sending my sentiments upon a concern so highly important to your Excellency.

The War-Office returns, which go by this conveyance, will show exactly the term for which each particular corps is engaged to serve under the present establishment; the future, therefore, is to be attended to with the utmost wisdom and speed. With the most respectful submission to the commands of Congress, I take the liberty to propose the following plan for recruiting the new army in this department:

Let every regiment, and every officer in each regiment, now upon the Continental establishment, be continued in the new; such officers who shall decline all further service in this, may be replaced by the best men who are desirous to serve on that establishment. Let twenty-three dollars, or the following bounty in clothing, be given to every soldier who will enlist to serve during — years, or the war:

	Value in Dollars.
1st. One black leather cap with a turned-up cape,	\$1 $\frac{1}{2}$
2d. One blanket coat, - - - - -	4
3d. One thick-set waistcoat with sleeves, - - -	2 $\frac{1}{2}$
4th. Two shirts, - - - - -	5
5th. Two pairs of shoes, - - - - -	3
6th. Two pairs of yarn hose, - - - - -	2
7th. One hunting-shirt, - - - - -	2 $\frac{3}{4}$
8th. One pair of baize or duffil leggins, - - -	2 $\frac{1}{4}$
	<hr/> \$23

Let a contract be made for supplying five thousand of each of these articles, and delivering them at *Albany*, by the first day of *January*. This is intended for a magazine, to supply those who shall have taken dollars for their bounty, and will afterwards want clothing. If some soldiers prefer to take dollars, let them have dollars; their pay must afterwards be stopped for their clothing, which makes it a matter of indifference to Congress. Most of the Eastern men will take the

clothing; there the largest number must be supplied. The Congress should immediately contract for five thousand of the articles here mentioned; one half of which must be at *Ticonderoga* by the first day of *November*. In the mean time, (that is as soon as the resolve of Congress shall be sent to me,) proclamations may be made to the army of the bounty intended to be given, and such as choose dollars may be paid as fast as they incline to take them; those who choose the clothing, may be assured of receiving it upon a certain day, to be named. Two thousand five hundred men and officers will be enough to guard this post from *November* till *April*, and the like number at *Albany*, *Fort Stanwix*, and the posts upon the communications leading to that fort and *Ticonderoga*. If Congress approve this mode of recruiting their Northern army, they will find their troops will be all warmly and suitably clothed for the climate they are to serve in, and there will be no hurry or confusion in the Spring in preparing them for the field.

As the time is so short that a further application to Congress can be of no efficacy before this or some other plan be carried into execution for recruiting the new army, for this reason, if the Congress have no objection, it may be proper to invest the Commanding General in this department with a discretionary power to do what shall seem best to him to be done in the present emergency. At all events, it would be prudent to have a body of men, not less than two thousand, ready to march for *Ticonderoga*, so as to be certain of their arriving there by the 20th of *December*. These are to be discharged the instant the like number can be recruited for the service. The enemy have by this time undoubtedly been made thoroughly sensible of the very great opportunity they lost at *Boston* last year, and will certainly endeavour to avail themselves of our inattention should we be again unguarded. This is perhaps their most sanguine hope. If, upon the attempt to recruit, it be found practicable to raise that number out of the regiments now here, then the General in this department will of course stop the march of the two thousand men above-mentioned. Your Excellency, and the Congress, will see clearly the propriety of a military oath being administered to every officer and soldier of the army, especially now that the *United States of America* are wisely declared independent; and we ought, by every method in our power, to persuade our friends, as well our enemies, that we will support and render permanent the noble establishment of our independence. The commission to each officer should also correspond with the oath, and be made subordinate to the supreme power of the Congress, under the new system; an inconsistency which the multiplicity of business alone must have occasioned, may turn to the prejudice of those whom the fate of war may put into the hands of the enemy, and expose us to the just censure of the impartial.

I depend upon General *Schuyler's* sending your Excellency by this conveyance the letter and report I received last night from Brigadier-General *Arnold*, which I now transmit to General *Schuyler* by this express.

With great respect I am, sir, your Excellency's most obedient, humble servant,

HORATIO GATES.

To the President of Congress.

GENERAL ORDERS.

Head-Quarters, September 3, 1776.

(Parole, New-York.)

(Countersign, Washington.)

The General sees with concern the shameful dilatoriness with which the publick works are carried on on *Mount Independence*, at a time when our friends and countrymen are hotly engaged with the enemy, and every moment bleeding in the cause of liberty and their country. Is it not shameful that there should any where be a body of the troops of the *United States* who are so wanting in spirit and love of their country as not to exert every nerve for her defence? Let no man at this time murmur or complain, or for an ague-fit give up the service he owes to himself, his family, and his posterity. The same heats and colds that affect us affect our enemies. They probably, as they are at present more unwholesomely situated, feel more the miseries of disease than we; and shall *Americans*, whose all is at stake, want that firmness to animate them to arms which is necessary to defeat the unprincipled mercenaries of an unrelenting tyrant? As

nothing is more necessary to purify the air than fire, the best physicians always recommend large fires to be made in new ground or damp situations. The General, therefore, desires the commanding officers of the regiments upon *Mount Independence* to order a small fatigue party every morning and evening to turn up heaps of brush around their several encampments.

The main guard upon *Mount Independence* being found not to answer the intention of the General in securing the rear of the camp effectually, the General directs that for the future two guards, each consisting of one Captain, three Subs, four Sergeants, four Corporals, two Drums, sixty Privates, be mounted in lieu of the above main guard; one at the present post of said guard, the other on an eminence in the rear of Colonel *Paterson's* Regiment. One Field-Officer of the day to superintend the whole guard of that camp; one third of the men in each guard are constantly to be on sentry, or on scouting parties.

Head-Quarters, September 4, 1776.

(Parole, Lee.)

(Countersign, Putnam.)

All the spare arms belonging to the First *Jersey* Regiment are to be immediately valued, and then delivered to Colonel *Wayne*, commanding the Fourth Battalion of the *Pennsylvanians*, for the use of that regiment, which valuation shall be paid to such person as may be authorized to receive it, or the arms again returned to the *Jersey* Regiment, at such time and place as will be directed in general orders.

Major *Payne*, of Colonel *Wheelock's* Regiment, and Lieutenant *Archibald Dallas*, of Colonel *Winds's* Regiment, and Ensign *William Parrott*, of Colonel *Maxwell's* Regiment, are appointed Assistant Engineers, under the Chief Engineer, Colonel *Baldwin*.

Brigade-Major *Wilkinson* is to do duty in the Fourth Brigade, commanded by General *St. Clair*.

Captain *Howell*, of the Second *Jersey* Battalion, is appointed Major of Brigade to the Third, commanded by Colonel *Stark*.

At a late General Court-Martial of the Third Brigade, of which Lieutenant-Colonel *McDuffee* was President, Captain *Woodbury*, of Colonel *Stark's* Regiment, was tried for keeping a soldier out of his pay, and denying that he had drawn it. The Court having considered the evidences, do adjudge Captain *Woodbury* is not guilty, and therefore acquit him with honour.

Captain *William Harper*, of Colonel *Wyman's* Regiment, tried by the same General Court-Martial, for inlisting one *James Marston*, knowing him to be a deserter from Colonel *Poor's* Regiment, and for detaining him at *Number Four*, to screen him from punishment. The Court having considered the evidences, do unanimously adjudge that Captain *Harper* is guilty of the charges alleged against him, and that he incurs the penalty of the fiftieth article of war, and has behaved unbecomingly the character of an officer and gentleman, and sentence him to be dismissed the service.

The General approves these sentences of the Court, and orders them to take place immediately.

Thirty-three men from Colonel *Whitcomb's* Regiment, to parade to-morrow morning, at six o'clock, at Head-Quarters, to serve as Marines on board the fleet. The same number of seamen from Colonel *Brewer's* Regiment, will parade at the same time and place, to serve on board the fleet. They will proceed directly and join General *Arnold*, under the command of Lieutenant *Calderwood*, of Marines. Colonel *Phinney's* Regiment is to join the Second Brigade.

Head-Quarters, September 5, 1776.

(Parole, Sullivan.)

(Countersign, Stirling.)

The following Resolve of the most honourable the General Congress of the *United States of America*, was made 17th June, 1776:

"Resolved, That no Officer suttle or sell to the Soldiers, on penalty of being fined one month's pay, and dismissed the service with infamy, on conviction before a Court-Martial."

The General earnestly hopes that no officer, high or low, will be guilty of a breach of the above resolve. When an officer descends to be mean enough to turn a huckster to his men, he cannot expect any due obedience from them. Soldiers will forever esteem a man of honour as much as they will despise a contrary character.

Lieutenant *James Matthews*, of Colonel *Poor's* Regiment, tried by the late General Court-Martial of which Lieutenant-Colonel *McDuffee* was President, for often appearing on parade disguised with liquor, selling liquor to private soldiers in his own tent, and associating with persons below the character of an officer. The Court having duly considered the evidence, do adjudge that Lieutenant *Matthews* is guilty of the several charges alleged against him; that he has behaved in a manner unbecoming an officer and a gentleman, and sentence him to be dismissed the service.

The General highly approves this sentence of the General Court-Martial, and orders Mr. *Matthews* to leave the camp immediately.

Isaac Alaby, of Captain *Lowry's* Company, in Colonel *Maxwell's* Regiment, tried by the same General Court-Martial for leaving the main guard without permission. Plead guilty, and is sentenced to receive thirty-nine lashes on his bare back.

The General approves the sentence, and orders the execution of it at such time and place as Colonel *Maxwell* shall direct.

The following promotions are ordered to take place in Colonel *De Haas's* Regiment:

Second Lieutenant *John Ellis*, a First Lieutenant, vice Lieutenant *Hubbley*, promoted.

John Patterson, Second Lieutenant, vice Lieutenant *Ellis*, promoted.

In Colonel *Wigglesworth's* Regiment:

Major *Roberts*, Lieutenant-Colonel, vice Lieutenant-Colonel *Fuller*, deceased.

Captain *Rogers*, Major, vice *Roberts*.

Lieutenant *French*, Captain, vice *Rogers*.

Thomas Smart, Adjutant, vice Adjutant *Clark*, discharged.

In Colonel *Maxwell's* Regiment:

Ensign *Henry*, Second Lieutenant, vice Lieutenant *Ashmore*, deceased.

Mr. *Andrew Bankson*, Ensign, vice *Henry*, promoted.

Head-Quarters, September 6, 1776.

(Parole, *Thompson*.)

(Countersign, *Armstrong*.)

A return of all the spades, axes, shovels, pick-axes, bill-hooks, and hoes, now remaining in store, to be delivered to the Quartermaster-General at six o'clock this evening.

The commanding officers of regiments will take notice that the falling-axes lately delivered to their respective corps, are to be ready to be returned when called for; and such as are deficient must be paid for by a stoppage out of the regimental abstract.

As a considerable body of troops will join the army this week, the Chief Engineer must take care to provide intrenching tools sufficient to employ all the working parties.

At a General Court-Martial held on *Mount Independence*, of which Colonel *Maxwell* was President, Colonel *Wyman* was tried on an accusation of receiving and clandestinely carrying off the ration money of Colonel *Stark* and his officers at *Cambridge*, the last campaign, and for not settling his mess bill. The Court having heard the evidences and defence, do adjudge that Colonel *Wyman* is not guilty, and therefore do acquit him with honour.

The General approves the sentence, and orders Colonel *Wyman* to be released from his arrest immediately.

Nathaniel Chace, a soldier of Colonel *Stark's* Regiment, tried by the same General Court-Martial for deserting three several times. Pleads guilty, and is sentenced to be whipped thirty-nine lashes on his bare back, and pay all the costs that have arisen from his desertions.

Moses Crommit, of Captain *Bill's* Company, in Colonel *Poor's* Regiment, tried by the same General Court-Martial for desertion, and inlisting into another regiment. The Court having examined the evidences, do adjudge him guilty, and sentence him to be whipped fifteen lashes, and return to his duty in Colonel *Poor's* Regiment.

Daniel Reading, of Captain *Howel's*, in Colonel *Maxwell's* Regiment, tried by the same General Court-Martial for declaring his intention to desert as soon as convenient, and persuaded many others to desert. The Court are of opinion that the prisoner is guilty of the second part of the charge only, and sentence him to be tied naked to the

post for five minutes, and to be severely reprimanded by the Colonel of the Regiment.

The General approves the above sentences, and orders them to be put in execution to-morrow morning, at guard-mounting, in front of their respective regiments to which the prisoners belong.

The following promotions are to take place in Colonel *Poor's* Regiment:

Lieutenant *Benjamin Kimball* to be Captain, in place of Captain *Shortridge*, deceased.

Lieutenant *James Carr* to be First Lieutenant, in place of Lieutenant *Carr*, advanced.

Lieutenant *William Rowel* to be First Lieutenant, in place of Lieutenant *Kimball*, advanced.

Ensign *Enoch Chase* to be Second Lieutenant, in place of Lieutenant *Heard*, advanced.

Ensign *Charles Gliden* to be Second Lieutenant, in place of Lieutenant *Rowel*, advanced.

Wm. Bell Ensign, in place of Ensign *Gliden*, advanced.

Noah Robinson Ensign, in place of Ensign *Chase*, advanced.

After-Orders.—As a very sharp cannonading has been heard all this morning, by the report of the commanding officer at *Crown Point*, supposed to be between our fleet and that of the enemy, the General hopes and expects every officer and soldier under his command, will, to the utmost of his abilities, prepare himself to repel the attacks of the enemy. Our fleet is only our advanced guard; that defeated, the defence of the *United States* and the support of *American* freedom falls upon this army. The General has the greatest confidence in their firmness and fidelity, and is convinced that every officer and soldier will show himself determined to save his country, his posterity, and himself, from falling into the shackles which tyrants have ever prepared for conquered slaves.

Head-Quarters, September 7, 1776.

(Parole, *Mifflin*.)

(Countersign, *Arnold*.)

The Surgeons of the Regiments on *Mount Independence* to attend Doctor *Potts*, the Director of the Hospital, at Head-Quarters, as soon as possible, with a particular return of their sick, and a supply of medicines will be immediately furnished to such as are in want.

The following promotions to take place in Colonel *Phinney's* Regiment, viz:

Lieutenant *Cara McClallan*, First Lieutenant, in place of *William McClannan*, deserted.

Ensign *David Watts*, Second Lieutenant, in place of Lieutenant *McClallan*, advanced.

Sergeant *James Mains*, Ensign, in place of Ensign *Watts*, advanced.

Head-Quarters, September 8, 1776.

(Parole, *Roberdeau*.)

(Countersign, *Mercer*.)

Colonel *Phinney's* Regiment to prepare to embark for *Fort George* as soon as the weather is fair. The Colonel will come to Head-Quarters, to receive the General's orders, as soon as possible.

Mr. *Edward Raymond* is appointed Wagonmaster to the division of this army stationed upon the west side of the Lake, opposite *Mount Independence*.

Mr. *William Battersbee* is appointed Storekeeper and Issuer of Stores in the department under the Deputy Quartermaster-General.

The batteau guard is to be increased to an Officer, two Sergeants, two Corporals, and twenty-one men.

One Captain, two Subalterns, two Sergeants, one Drum, and fifty rank and file, to parade at sunrise to-morrow morning, to begin to cut the road from the east side of *Mount Independence* towards the bridge now building across *Otter Creek*. Mr. *Benjamin Hicock* and Mr. *David Remington*, who have marked the road, will constantly attend, to direct the party. The party to be taken from Colonel *Wingate's* *New-Hampshire* Regiment, and to take their arms, ammunition, and packs with them; the Captain to Head-Quarters at six o'clock this afternoon.

A General Court-Martial, from the two Brigades of Generals *St. Clair* and *Bricket*, to sit to-morrow morning, at nine o'clock, in the President's tent: President, a Field Officer; Members, Captains. They are to try all such prisoners as shall be brought before them.

The General Court-Martial, of which Colonel *Maxwell* was President, is dissolved.

Head-Quarters, September 9, 1776.

(Parole, Middleton.)

(Countersign, Elliott.)

The General has reason to believe that the enemy have spies in and about our camps. It is the duty, and it will be the care, of every officer to endeavour to discover such person or persons, if any there be amongst us.

The General is surprised at the negligence and carelessness of the guards on *Mount Independence*. Had the troops never served till this month, there might be some excuse for the countersign not being demanded or passengers challenged. The officers commanding guards will be answerable in future for every neglect of this kind.

The fatigue parties from the Militia of *New-Hampshire* are to turn out at half-past five o'clock, and work (as all the troops are ordered) till twelve o'clock, and from two till sunset. The officers will answer for every neglect.

Colonel *Maxwell* is to take the command of the First Brigade during the illness of Colonel *Greaton*.

Head-Quarters, September 10, 1776.

(Parole, Putnam.)

(Countersign, Lee.)

The Commanding Officers of corps are to furnish Lieutenant *Bowman*, of the smiths, with such workmen, for carrying on the iron work of the galleys and cannon carriages, as he may require.

No boats are to be sent down the Lake in future without permission from Head-Quarters.

The Commissioners appointed by Congress to audit the publick accounts being arrived at *Albany*, every officer and other person who may have advanced moneys on account of the publick, and whose accounts remain unsettled, are immediately to make out and transmit them to *Jonathan Trumbull, Jun., Esq.*, at *Albany*, Deputy Paymaster-General of this army, that the same may be adjusted.

Head-Quarters, September 11, 1776.

(Parole, Sydney.)

(Countersign, Warren.)

The General is sorry he is again under the necessity of taking notice of the shameful neglect of the publick works upon *Mount Independence*. He makes great allowance for sickness, feebleness, &c., but is yet convinced, from the returns, that much more might be done for our defence than is at present attempted. The Field Officers of Colonel *Wingate's* and Colonel *Wyman's* Regiments are desired to see those under their immediate command exert themselves in a spirited manner to save themselves and serve their country. A short time will determine whether we are to be freemen or slaves. Let us not lose the precious moments, but, by perseverance and a manly firmness, show we are determined to conquer and be free.

At a General Court-Martial, of which Lieutenant-Colonel *Brown* is President, Captain *Jonathan Danforth*, of Colonel *Whitcomb's* Regiment, was tried for disobedience of orders, neglect of duty, and not joining his regiment upon the march from *Boston* to *Number-Four*, and also for keeping some privates, belonging to the regiment, with him, without leave from the commanding officer. The Court, having considered the evidences, are of opinion that the prisoner, Captain *Danforth*, is not guilty, and therefore acquit him with honour.

John Donnelly, soldier in Captain *Whiting's* Company, and Colonel *Whitcomb's* Regiment, tried by the same General Court-Martial, for deserting and inlisting in another company. The Court, on an examination of the evidences, are of opinion the prisoner is guilty of two crimes, and sentence him to receive thirty-nine lashes for deserting, and thirty-nine lashes for inlisting in another company, and to return to the company he first inlisted in.

Arthur Clark, a soldier of Captain *Bullard's* Company, Colonel *Whitcomb's* Regiment, was tried, by the same General Court-Martial, for threatening and insulting the officers of the regiment. The Court, on examination of the evidences, adjudge the prisoner not guilty.

The General approves the above sentences, and orders them to take place immediately.

No non-commissioned officer or soldier will, in future, be discharged the service until a receipt is signed by him, on the back of the certificate, acknowledging he is paid all the pay and arrears due to him from the publick for his service in the army.

Those Regiments which have not received their ammu-

munition may apply at Head-Quarters for an order on the Commissary of Stores for that purpose.

Head-Quarters, September 12, 1776.

(Parole, Wythe.)

(Countersign, Henry.)

Mr. *Alexander Orr*, of Colonel *Whitcomb's* Regiment, is appointed an Ensign in said regiment, in place of Ensign *Barber*, cashiered.

Lieutenant *William Augustus Paterson*, of Colonel *Paterson's* Regiment, is appointed a Captain in place of Captain *Nobles*, deceased. *Samuel Martin*, Second Lieutenant, is appointed First Lieutenant, in place of Lieutenant *Paterson*, promoted. Ensign *Mathew Hall* is appointed a Second Lieutenant, in place of Lieutenant *Martin* promoted. And Sergeant *Eb. Williams* an Ensign, in place of Ensign *Hall*, promoted. And Sergeant *Jesse Hollister* is appointed an Ensign in Captain *Bliss's* Company, in place of Ensign *Arnold*, deserted.

Head-Quarters, September 13, 1776.

(Parole, Quebeck.)

(Countersign, Wolfe.)

The Independent company of *Indians* from *Stockbridge*, under the command of Captain *Ezra Whittlesey*, are posted with two regiments at the Saw-Mills, under the command of Colonel *Brewer*. The Colonel will give proper orders, and they are severally to wear a blue and red cap, as a distinguishing mark from the enemy's *Indians*. Of this all officers and soldiers in this army are to take particular notice, to the end that we may not, by mistake, kill our friends instead of our enemies.

Mr. *Silas Miriam* is appointed Surgeon to the regiment commanded by Lieutenant-Colonel *Wait*.

The following promotions are to take place in Colonel *Wayne's* Battalion, viz: Ensign *Job Vernon* to be a Second Lieutenant, vice Lieutenant *Moulder*, resigned; Sergeant *Alexander Martin* to be an Ensign, vice Ensign *Vernon*, advanced.

Head-Quarters, September 14, 1776.

(Parole, Belhaven.)

(Countersign, Mason.)

Mr. *Jonathan F. Morris* is appointed an Ensign in Captain *Morris's* Company, of Colonel *Winds's* Regiment, in place of Mr. *Hälstead*, deserted.

At a General Court-Martial, of which Lieut. Colonel *Brown* is President, *Alexander Watson*, an inhabitant, was brought before the Court, charged with retailing spirituous liquors to the soldiers, contrary to general orders. No evidences appearing, the Court ordered him to be set at liberty.

Richard Morrison, a soldier in Captain *Bullard's* Company, in Colonel *Whitcomb's* Regiment, tried by the same General Court-Martial, for deserting and inlisting in another company. The Court, on examination, find that the prisoner came and joined his proper company (Captain *Bullard's*) of his own accord, and from the nature of the offences, are of opinion that the prisoner's leaving one company and joining another, was more the effect of ignorance than design, and therefore order the thirty-three dollars paid him as bounty, to be stopped from his pay by his proper Captain, and paid into the hands of Captain *Drew*, who inlisted him the second time, and by him to be refunded to the State of *New-Hampshire*, from whom the bounty was received. The prisoner to be set at liberty.

The General confirms the above sentences, and orders them to take place immediately.

The General Court-Martial, of which Lieutenant-Colonel *Brown* was President, is dissolved.

Head-Quarters, September 15, 1776.

(Parole, Williamsburg.)

(Countersign, Virginia.)

A General Court-Martial to sit to-morrow morning, in the First Brigade, for the trial of such prisoners as may be brought before them. A Captain, President; Subalterns, Members.

Captain *Stevens*, of the Artillery, with his company, are to encamp in the *French* lines to-morrow with General *St. Clair's* Brigade, and is to take the command of all the Artillery on the west side of the Lake.

Head-Quarters, September 16, 1776.

(Parole, Connecticut.)

(Countersign, Trumbull.)

So much counterfeit money being of late brought into this camp from the Eastern parts of the Continent, the

General forbids any money passing or being received but Continental money.

Head-Quarters, September 17, 1776.

(Parole, Providence.)

(Countersign, Cooke.)

Whereas a quantity of *Russia* sheeting and osnaburg shirts are come to the Continental store, also a number of pair of trowsers, such regiments as are in immediate want thereof will send to-morrow morning, at eleven o'clock, an order signed by the commanding officer of each corps for the quantity of each sort of goods they demand.

At a General Court-Martial in the First Brigade, of which Captain *Goold* was President, *John Hicks*, *Benjamin Robinson*, *John Holt*, and *John Van Gilder*, all of Colonel *Porter's* Regiment, were tried for desertion, and plead guilty. The Court are unanimously of opinion that *John Hicks*, *Benjamin Robinson*, and *John Holt*, shall receive each thirty-nine lashes, and *John Van Gilder* thirty lashes, on the bare back.

The General approves the above sentences, and orders them to take place immediately.

The above General Court-Martial is dissolved.

A General Court-Martial, taken from the two Brigades commanded by Generals *St. Clair* and *Bricket*, to sit to-morrow morning, at nine o'clock, in the President's tent, to try such prisoners as may be brought before them. Lieutenant-Colonel *Johnson* is President. Members: Two Field Officers and ten Captains.

Mr. *Michael Ryan*, Adjutant of Colonel *Wayne's* Battalion, is to do the duty of Major of Brigade to General *St. Clair's* Brigade, until the return of Major *Wilkinson*.

Head-Quarters, September 18, 1776.

(Parole, Ward.)

(Countersign, Boston.)

His Excellency Governour *Trumbull* having sent from the State of *Connecticut* a quantity of shirts, shoes, stockings, and other necessary articles for clothing the troops, such regiments as are in immediate want of any of the above articles, may have them delivered by Mr. *Laraby*, Paymaster to Colonel *Mott's* Regiment, upon the commanding officer of such regiment giving an order upon the credit of the regiment for the payment of the sum charged for the costs of the said goods.

Leonard Chapin is appointed Quartermaster of Colonel *Winds's* Regiment; Second Lieutenant *Voorhees* is appointed First Lieutenant in Captain *Conway's* Company, in place of Lieutenant *Costigan*, deserted; Ensign *Robinson* is appointed Second Lieutenant of the same company, in place of Lieutenant *Voorhees*, advanced.

Mr. *James Gardner* is appointed Deputy Commissary of Artillery.

Mr. *Cyrus De Hart* is appointed an Ensign in Captain *Pratt's* Company, in place of Ensign *Robinson*, advanced.

Head-Quarters, September 19, 1776.

(Parole, Lincoln.)

(Countersign, Salem.)

The Regiments are to prepare their abstracts, ready to be delivered in the last day of this month, for all the pay due to them to the 30th *September*, (this instant.)

The following promotions are to take place in Colonel *Burrell's* Regiment:

First Lieutenant *Jesse Kimball*, Captain, vice Captain *Swift*, dead.

Second Lieutenant *Mat. Patterson*, First Lieutenant, vice Lieutenant *Kimball*, advanced.

Ensign *Nat. Swift*, Second Lieutenant, vice Lieutenant *Patterson*, advanced.

Sergeant *David Rees*, Ensign, vice Ensign *Swift*, advanced.

Second Lieutenant *John Reilly*, First Lieutenant, vice First Lieutenant *Moore*, dead.

Ensign *Baza Wells*, Second Lieutenant, vice Lieutenant *Reilly*, advanced.

Sergeant *Josiah Whitney*, Ensign, vice Ensign *Wells*, advanced.

Ensign *Joseph Fox*, Second Lieutenant, vice Lieutenant *Hurd*, dead.

Sergeant *John Tiffany*, Ensign, vice Ensign *Fox*, advanced.

Sergeant *Seth Spencer*, Ensign, vice Ensign *Steel*, cashiered.

Head-Quarters, September 20, 1776.

(Parole, Warren.)

(Countersign, Otis.)

General *St. Clair's* and General *Bricket's* Brigades are to mount the following guards to-morrow morning, at the usual time of guard mounting, viz:

In the *French* lines, one Captain, three Subs, three Sergeants, three Corporals, two Drums, sixty Privates. Of this guard a Subaltern, Sergeant, Corporal, and twenty men, are to be posted on the road advanced of the lines.

For the Redoubt next the *French* lines, one Sub, one Sergeant, one Corporal, one Drum, twenty-one Privates.

For the Semi-circular Redoubt, one Sub, one Sergeant, one Corporal, one Drum, twenty-one Privates.

For the *Jersey* Redoubt, one Captain, two Subs, two Sergeants, two Corporals, two Drums, forty Privates.

For the Redoubt to the east of the *Jersey* Redoubt, one Sub, one Sergeant, one Corporal, one Drum, twenty-one Privates.

For the old *French* Redoubt, one Sergeant, one Corporal, twelve Privates.

Tents are to be provided by the two Brigades, until proper guard-rooms can be built for the guards above mentioned.

General *St. Clair* and General *Bricket*, attended by the Deputy Adjutant-General, will see these guards and the sentries from each properly posted, giving all the necessary orders to the officers. A Field-Officer for the day is likewise to mount daily, who is to go the grand rounds and visiting rounds, and see that the guards are under arms, every morning, half an hour before day, in the redoubts to which they are appointed. A Major of Brigade of the day is likewise to mount with the Field-Officer, who is to parade the guards, and see them marched to their several posts, and afterwards attend the General at Head-Quarters for his orders.

Colonel *Brewer* will mount an advanced picket guard in the front of his encampment, at sunset, every evening. He is to be very careful in sending out his evening and morning scouts, and having his and Colonel *Willard's* Regiment under arms every morn before day.

Field-Officer of the day to-morrow, Colonel *De Haas*; Brigade-Major of the day to-morrow, *Brown*.

The persons to whom counterfeit money has been passed lately, are to attend the General Court-Martial at Colonel *Johnston's* tent, to-morrow morning, at nine o'clock, when the offenders are to be tried.

The sentries at the bridge, and on the west side of the *French* lines, are not to suffer any of the *Stockbridge Indians*, of Captain *Whittlesey's* Company, to pass into this encampment without a written pass from Colonel *Brewer*.

The following promotions are to take place in the Second *Pennsylvania* Battalion:

Ensign *George McCully*, Second Lieutenant, vice Lieutenant *Chambers*, discharged.

Daniel St. Clair, Ensign, vice *McCully*, promoted.

Sergeant *Nath. McMullen*, Ensign, vice *Parke*, discharged.

Sergeant *Inglis*, Ensign, vice *Evans*, deceased.

Head-Quarters, September 21, 1776.

(Parole, Adams.)

(Countersign, Lynch.)

In consideration of the troops having been constantly employed in the publick works every day without intermission ever since their arrival at this camp, the General orders all work but that for the equipment of the vessels, gun-carriage makers, and blacksmiths, to cease to-morrow—those shall be indulged hereafter. Divine service to be performed in every brigade at eleven o'clock in the forenoon, when the whole are to attend with their arms and accoutrements in good order.

The following promotions are ordered to take place in Colonel *Wigglesworth's* Regiment:

Ensign *Adams*, First Lieutenant, in place of Lieutenant *French*, advanced.

Adjutant *Swart*, Second Lieutenant, in place of Second Lieutenant *Clark*, discharged.

Sergeant *Perkins*, Ensign, in place of Ensign *Adams*, advanced.

William Badlam is appointed Quartermaster of the Corps of Artillery in place of Mr. *Gardner*, advanced.

Field-Officer of the day to-morrow, Colonel *Wayne*; Brigade-Major of the day, *Ryan*.

GENERAL GATES TO GENERAL SCHUYLER.

September 23, 1776.

DEAR GENERAL: Enclosed I send you General Arnold's letter of the 18th, together with the examination of Sergeant Stiles. The General makes no doubt the enemy will soon pay him a visit. I hope not before we get the row-galleys to his assistance. Then succeed or fail, we have done our best. It is a lamentable case that our galleys must wait for cordage and for gun-carriages to be completed. So long ago as the middle of July, I acquainted the Congress that we were necessitated to make all the carriages upon the spot. Surely a supply might have been sent us before this day. To provide against the worst, it will be proper to send all the troops that are below to Lake George and Skenesborough, and to direct the Militia to be every where in readiness to march to us upon the first alarm. The powder, lead, and flints, I wrote for so long ago, is not yet even in part arrived. Pray hurry it up. The moments are precious, and not one of them should be lost. I have said much to Major Livingston, but my hands are too full to write more.

I am, dear General, your affectionate, humble servant,
HORATIO GATES.

To General Schuyler.

Isle-la-Motte, September 18, 1776.

DEAR GENERAL: My last was on the 16th instant by Ensign Botsford. The next morning Lieutenant Whitcomb and his party returned from St. John's with two prisoners, Ensign Saunders and a Corporal of the Twenty-Ninth Regiment, who were taken between St. John's and La Prairie. The Ensign says there is a ship on the stocks at St. John's designed to mount twenty guns, nine and twelve pounders, several schooners and small craft, but seems ignorant as to their size and numbers. He says there was talk of their crossing the Lake soon, but in general it was not thought they would cross this fall. Both him and the Corporal seem cautious of giving any information. A Sergeant who was sent with Ensign McCoy, returned the 16th, and says he parted with the Ensign that morning; soon after, he found a canoe on shore, and when paddling off was fired upon by a party of Indians. He apprehends the Ensign has fallen into their hands. Enclosed is his examination.

I am inclined to think, on comparing all accounts, that the enemy will soon have a considerable naval force; the ship, the Ensign says, will be completed in a fortnight, and is to be manned from the navy in the river. I make no doubt of their soon paying us a visit, and I intend first fair wind to come up as high as Isle Valceur, where is a good harbour, and where we shall have the advantage of attacking the enemy in the open Lake, where the row-galleys, as their motion is quick, will give us a great advantage over the enemy; and if they are too many for us we can retire. I believe their army in crossing the Lake depend entirely on the advice they may receive from New-York. I beg that at least one hundred good seamen may be sent me as soon as possible. We have a wretched motley crew in the fleet; the marines the refuse of every regiment, and the seamen few of them ever wet with salt water. We are upwards of one hundred men short of our complement.

Ensign Bush arrived here last night, and brought four beeves, which is all the fresh provision we have received. By him I send up Lieutenant Whitcomb and his prisoners. I could wish to have a six or eight inch howitz, mounted in two or three of the galleys, if they are arrived. They will be of infinitely more service than guns, especially to attack a large vessel. If the grape and chain shot is arrived, I beg it may be sent, with some good slow matches, and three cables and anchors; we have not a spare one in the fleet, and the blowing season is now coming on. There is a small brass royal at Ty, which, with a hundred shells and a gunner, may be very useful to us. I am anxiously waiting to hear the particulars of the affair at New-York; we are told our troops have evacuated Long-Island. This I cannot credit.

I am, with sentiments of respect and esteem, dear General, your affectionate, humble servant,

B. ARNOLD.

To General Gates.

FIFTH SERIES.—VOL. II.

Examination of Sergeant STILES, sent from the Fleet with Ensign McCoy, to reconnoitre, SEPTEMBER 6, 1776.

September 16. Says that on the 9th instant he saw all the tents on Isle-aux-Noix and counted them, about one hundred, and believes there is about one thousand men there. The 12th arrived opposite St. John's, where were a large number tents, which could not well be counted; he imagines about three hundred; when there, he counted thirty-four large birch canoes paddle by him towards Isle-aux-Noix; supposed they contained about six hundred Indians and one regular officer. Saw a schooner at St. John's mounting twelve iron guns, supposes six-pounders. Another schooner lay at the wharf with a foresail bent, which supposed was not completed, and believes she mounts not more than twelve guns; one other vessel on the stocks was planked to the wales; she appeared built in the common form, and something larger than the other two. Two small gondolas were at the wharf, but saw nothing of any rideaux or floating batteries, and believes there was none. Their batteaus appeared twice as large as ours, and carried fifty or sixty men, one of which rowed near by him. Left St. John's the 12th, in company with Ensign McCoy, and parted with him on the 15th, at ten A. M., opposite Hospital Island, where are about twenty tents.

ELI STILES.

Lieutenant WHITCOMB's Journal on his scout.

August 20, 1776. Set out from Ticonderoga with my party and arrived at Crown-Point that day, where I showed my orders to General Arnold, who advised me to wait for the fleet, which was to sail the next day. I staid according to orders, and sent over the river to buy some sauce. My party found a man at one of the inhabitants' houses who they suspected to be an enemy to the cause. Upon their return and information they gave of the person, I went over the next day and brought him to General Arnold. He could give no account of himself, only came up to work. General Arnold told him he would send him to General Gates, and that night set him at liberty. I never knew what became of him since. The winds being contrary, was detained until the 25th, when we set sail and only made two miles. The 26th made Gilliland's Creek; 27th, the winds being high, the gondolas could not lay there, moved off to Button-Mould Bay. I remained there till the 31st; on the same day I went to my party to Gilliland's Creek, and had orders to take two Tories and examine them, which I did, with Captain Alexander, and found them not guilty; 2d September, at evening, left Captain Alexander, and set out with two canoes, and the wind being against us put up on an island near Cumberland Bay; my Ensign was took sick with the ague, so that we could not move him; left two men to take care of him. The fleet passed us while on the island. 4th, at evening, I set out with Wright in a canoe, when we lost our way, the night being dark, and got into a bay; we could not find our way back, but was obliged to stay till morning. Early in the morning we set out, and came in sight of the vessels, when we were at the lower end of the Isle-au-Motte. The wind being so high, we could make way till about ten o'clock. Arrived that day about two o'clock with General Arnold. I took two men out of the vessels and went on shore, where we encamped that night. On the 7th September, early in the morning, set out and arrived opposite the Isle-aux-Noix. The day being wet, and I was taken with the ague, durst not venture to wade the water. On the 8th, was something better; waded over to the bank of the river, and made a discovery of near one thousand men, as I judged, on the Island, but not a vessel or batteau to be seen. Then returned across the water and travelled five miles towards St. John's. I sent one man back to General Arnold, to inform him of it. The 9th, went above two miles, and was then seized with the ague. 10th, only made one mile, the ague being so violent. 11th, travelled seven miles and came to the road, when the ague seized me again. 12th, saw one of the enemy, but being sick, durst not venture to make an attack upon him. The day before I saw three hundred and nineteen Regulars and a small number of Indians, with their baggage pass by to St. John's. 13th, saw seventy-two Indians, armed, returning from St. John's for Montreal. Before they were out of my sight, I saw two persons coming

after them; when they came against me, I found them to be the enemy; I immediately stepped out and told them they were my prisoners, and must immediately go to *Ticonderoga* and see General *Gates*. They asked me whether I was not a *Canadian*, as they were sure I was no soldier. I told them soldier or not, they must go with me; and I immediately ordered them to march out of the road; and they then offered me sums of money to let them go. I told them I would not for all the money King *George* was worth. We marched that night about eight miles. The 14th, marched about twelve miles; 15th, came to the place where the vessels lay when I left them, and found them gone, which surprised the prisoners very much, as we were just out of provisions, and we were greatly afraid of starving. I told them their fleet had most certainly taken ours or drove them off, with an intent to try them. They asked me the strength of our fleet; I told them; they said it was impossible for them to drive us, that our fleet had not gone far. We marched about six miles, and came in sight of a fleet, to a river which we could not pass. The *Indians* frequently came there to view our vessels, and the ground being so wet in other places we were obliged to lie there that night, and sent off a man to the vessels, who arrived next day about ten o'clock with a batteau—he crossed the river on a small raft. 16th, we immediately went on board the batteau, and in about two hours got to the vessels. 17th, about two o'clock left the vessels in a batteau commanded by one of Colonel *Hartley's* subs, and went about twenty miles that night. 18th, early in the morning we set off and made *Gilliland's Creek*; the officer having business there, we remained until the 19th, at twelve o'clock; then set out; the wind being against us, made only twelve miles. 20th, late in the morning we set out and got to *Crown Point* about three o'clock. 21st, arrived at *Ticonderoga*.

BENJ. WHITCOMB, Lieutenant.

Abstract of Lieutenant BENJAMIN WHITCOMB's Report.

Lieutenant *Whitcomb* departed from the fleet, then stationed at *Isle-la-Motte* on the 7th of *September*, and reached the *Isle-aux-Noix* that day, when he was seized with the fever and ague, several fits of which were very troublesome to him during his scout. He observed about one thousand men encamped on *Isle-aux-Noix*, but neither a vessel nor a batteau; and he sent one of his men to inform General *Arnold* of that circumstance. On the 13th, being concealed near the road between *St. John's* and *La Prairie*, he saw seventy-two armed *Indians* going from *St. John's* to *Montreal*; and before they were out of sight, two men coming after them. He then sallied out, told these they were his prisoners, that they must go to *Ticonderoga* and see General *Gates*. Lieutenant *Whitcomb* and two men he had with him, being designedly dressed in such manner that they could not be supposed military men, one of the prisoners (who afterwards declared himself to be Ensign *Saunders*, of the Twenty-Ninth Regiment) asked him whether he were not a *Canadian*, as he was assured he (the Lieutenant) was not a soldier. The Lieutenant answered him, "soldier or no soldier, you must go with me," and immediately ordered the Ensign and his companion, a Corporal of the same regiment, to march out of the road. They then offered him a sum of money to let them go; but he told them he "would not for all the money King *George* was worth." They all marched on, and the Lieutenant, notwithstanding the ague, as well as the scouting parties of the enemy to intercept ours and apprehend their deserters, safely brought his two prisoners to the place where he left the fleet, which he could not see; at which, with an intent to try his prisoners, who were extremely reserved, he feigned to be much alarmed. As the Lieutenant had no more provisions left, the prisoners who were already much fatigued and tired of sharing with the Lieutenant the allowance of a small bit of biscuit and raw pork, and lying in swamps, were exceedingly afraid of being compelled to undergo a tedious march through the woods, and be exposed to the danger of starving. On his telling the prisoners that the enemy must certainly have taken our fleet or driven them off, they answered it was impossible, encouraged Mr. *Whitcomb* to go on and look for our fleet, which they assured could not be far off. And indeed, it was so, as the Lieutenant himself had judged, no uncommon firing having been heard by him or his party. The fleet was not above six miles off, and he saw several

Indians come near to them to view our vessels, and observe their motions. He sent off to General *Arnold* one of his men, who having returned on the next day morning, with a batteau, favoured them with an opportunity to join the fleet on the 17th, after having crossed the river on a small raft.

GENERAL GATES TO GENERAL ARNOLD.

Tyonderoga, September 23, 1776.

DEAR GENERAL: Yesterday evening I received your letter of the 18th instant, from *Isle-la-Motte*, with the examination of Sergeant *Stiles* enclosed. Lieutenant *Whitcomb* and his prisoners also arrived at the same time. This morning I despatched your letter, the examination, and the prisoners, to General *Schuyler*, under the care of Major *Livingston*, his aid-de-camp, who came *Friday* from *Albany*. I also wrote to the General, pressing him in the most earnest manner, to forward every necessary succour, both of men and materials.

Believe me, dear sir, no man alive could be more anxious for the welfare of you and your fleet, than General *Waterbury* and myself: we are, early and late, labouring to get the galleys to your assistance; one will sail *Thursday* at farthest, and the two others, we hope, on *Saturday*. It is the blacksmith's work that has delayed us so much, notwithstanding we have got more forges, and although, with different gangs of men, they are worked night and day.

Enclosed are the two latest newspapers that have come to hand. Major *Livingston* brought us word that Lord *Howe* had requested a meeting with a Committee from Congress at *Amboy*, in the *Jerseys*, and that in consequence, Messrs. *Franklin*, *J. Adams*, and *Rutledge*, were commissioned to attend his Lordship there. Not one syllable more of news transpires from *New-York*. This goes by a Sergeant, whom General *Waterbury* sends with some provisions and the things you demanded.

I am, &c.,

HO. GATES.

To General *Arnold*.

M. CHRISTOPHER PELISSIER, ENGINEER, TO GEN. GATES.

Tyonderoga, 7bre 23, 1776.

MONSIEUR: Ayant été informé ce matin, par Mons. *Clayon*, que vous désireriez connoître ma façon de penser au sujet des partis que l'on pourroit tirer des fortifications nouvellement faites icy, et des travaux les plus essentiels que l'on pourroit y ajouter en huit ou dix jours, ayant égard aux tems et aux circonstances: mon opinion seroit d'établir, à quatre-vingt toises de distance des lignes des *Français*, un glacis, et de remplir l'intervalle qu'il y a entre luy et le fossé d'un plus grand nombre des branches qu'il n'y en a. Avec une telle disposition, l'ennemi ne pourroit point attaquer les lignes avec du canon, à moins qu'il n'en fût le siege, ce qui prendroit du tems. Si l'on donnoit dix-huit pieds de large au banquette, on pourroit, au moyen de cinq ou six coulisses portalire, battre avec du canon par-dessus le parapet, et enfler les colonnes par tout où elles se presenteroient. Une fascine d'épine qui borderoit le bord extérieur du parapet, ne seroit pas inutile.

Il seroit bon aussi qu'il y eût un chemin couvert, pour communiquer, sac l'aile droite d'une redoute à l'autre, celle du General *Briquet* non comprise.

J'ay l'honneur d'être très respectueusement, Monsieur, votre très humble et très obeissant serviteur,

PELISSIER.

EXTRACT OF A LETTER FROM TICONDEROGA, DATED SEPTEMBER 23, 1776.

Our sick decrease fast, and the army is in high spirits, but whether we shall have the pleasure of giving *Burgoyne* a rap upon his knuckles is uncertain, as at present he does not seem disposed to come this way. A Sergeant, who deserted from the *British* army at *Point-aux-Trembles*, between *Montreal* and *Sorel*, the 31st of *August* last, says, that Colonel *Maclean's* regiment was quartered at *Point-aux-Trembles*. Twelve hundred foreigners are at *Quebeck*; all the Thirty-Fourth at *Montreal*, except two companies with Colonel *Johnson* and his *Indians* at *Le Chien*. That

he heard the officers compute their army at seven thousand, in which were the Ninth, Twentieth, Twenty-First, Twenty-Fourth, Twenty-Ninth, Thirty-First, Thirty-Fourth, and Forty-Ninth, and the *Germans*. There are none of the *Canadians* in the King of *England's* service; but they are in a worse situation than the children of *Israel* in *Egypt*, for the Regulars have robbed them of every necessary of life, and now compel them to work without any prospect of reward. They universally wish we were in possession of their country again, declaring their eyes are now fully opened. That *Burgoyne* had a few gondolas, two sloops, and a floating battery, building at *St. John's*. That he frequently heard it said, they were to cross the Lake to *Crown-Point*, as soon as their naval preparations were perfected. That the troops in general were very sickly, the foreigners in particular being afflicted with the fever and flux. And that fifty of the soldiers had signed an agreement to desert together; but being betrayed by one of their accomplices, some of them were condemned to be sent to *Senegal*, and there to serve during life.

Hartford, Connecticut, September 23, 1776.

Persons held up to publick view as enemies to their country:

<i>Jonathan Hill, Egramont,</i>	- -	<i>Massachusetts-Bay.</i>
<i>Deodat Ingersoll, Alford,</i>	- - -	ditto.
<i>David Vaughn, Jericho,</i>	- - -	ditto.
<i>John Bancroft, Westfield,</i>	- - -	ditto.
<i>William Eastman, Granby,</i>	- - -	ditto.
<i>Benjamin Killborn, Litchfield,</i>	-	<i>Connecticut.</i>
<i>Roger Marsh, Litchfield,</i>	- - -	ditto.
<i>Daniel Griswold, Litchfield,</i>	- - -	ditto.
<i>Mark Prindle, Harwinton,</i>	- - -	ditto.
<i>John Birdsey, Middletown,</i>	- - -	ditto.
<i>Gershom Birdsey, Middletown,</i>	- - -	ditto.
<i>Benjamin Griffith, Killingsworth,</i>	-	ditto.
<i>John Clark, Orford,</i>	- - -	<i>New-Hampshire.</i>
<i>Alexander Brink, Hartford,</i>	-	<i>New-York.</i>

(Confession, one dollar.)

Fairfield County, September 2, 1776.

MR. WATSON: You have for a long time published a number in your paper as enemies to the publick. Their obstinacy is a demonstration of the insignificance of such a mode of punishment, or that their neighbours are greatly to blame in not breaking off connection with them agreeable to the resolves of Congress. I never had, indeed, a very exalted opinion of the efficacy of such publications—they might answer in early times, and be sufficient to reclaim such as were honestly under a delusion; but the Tories at this day require other means of conviction, or rather, they sin with their eyes open, and don't mean to be convinced. The application of the halter and the gibbet, I conceive, is the only remedy that can with safety be relied on at present. *Newgate*, indeed, under proper regulations, might be a proper receptacle for such, if there be any such as have not merited the gallows. But, be that as it may, it is a pity, Mr. Printer, that your paper should be eternally polluted with the hateful names of this stinking race.

JUSTICE.

The Printer returns his thanks to the above writer for the hints he has given, and shall leave out of his paper the names of this sort of gentry for the future.

WILLIAM BRADFORD TO GENERAL WASHINGTON.

State of Rhode-Island, &c., Bristol, }
September 23, 1776. }

SIR: Having seen in the publick papers that your Excellency and the *British* Admiral have agreed upon an exchange of prisoners in the naval department, I beg leave to apply to you in behalf of a mate of a vessel and four seamen, all belonging to *Warwick*, in this State, some of whom are connected with very reputable families. They were all taken in the merchant's service, and are prisoners on board one of the ships of war now in the *Sound*. We have a mate of a merchant ship, and four seamen, who were taken in a transport with part of one of the *Highland* regiments, to give for them.

I request your Excellency's directions as soon as may be, whether we shall send the prisoners directly to you, or how I shall proceed to procure the exchange, which will very much oblige many worthy people here.

I am, with great esteem and respect, your Excellency's most obedient and most humble servant,

WILLIAM BRADFORD, *Deputy Governour.*

To His Excellency *George Washington*, Esq., General and Commander-in-Chief of the Forces of the *United States of America*, *New-York*.

Newport, September 23, 1776.

Last *Monday* a ship and a brig, taken by the *Montgomery*, went up the east passage. On *Wednesday* a large ship, taken by the *General Greene*, and a *Baltimore* schooner and a brig, taken by the *Revenge*, got safe into a neighbouring port. On *Friday* another ship, taken by Captain *Munro*, went up the bay; and the same night another brig, taken by the *Revenge*, passed the east passage. All the above are valuable prizes. That taken by the *General Greene*, &c., is three hundred and ten tons, loaded with three hundred and seventy-two hogsheads of sugar, eighty-two puncheons of rum, thirty-six pipes and four hogsheads of *Madeira* wine, and eighteen hundred weight of copper.

Newport, September 23, 1776.

Last *Thursday* arrived here Mr. *Joseph Kinyon* and Mr. *William Clarke*, who were two of the men made prisoners at the attack on *Quebeck*. On the 16th of *June*, they, with eight more, were taken out of prison to go on a fishing voyage to *Gaspee*, which place *Kinyon* and *Clarke*, with four others, left in a boat the 5th of *August*, and got to *Casco Bay*, from whence they travelled by land. As they came along they lodged at *Newburyport*, where they were informed that a number of prisoners who had been taken in prizes, had been paid their wages, &c., and allowed a vessel to go home in, but went immediately to *Halifax*, and that another set were then about purchasing another vessel for the same purpose.

It is reported that General *Arnold* has lately destroyed most of the enemy's boats at the north end of *Lake Champlain*, and made prisoners six hundred *English*, *Scotch*, and *Hessian* soldiers, on a small island in the Lake.

JAMES BOWDOIN TO THE PRESIDENT OF CONGRESS.

[Read October 5. Referred to the Marine Committee.]

Boston, September 23, 1776.

SIR: I have the honour to transmit to Congress the enclosed resolve of the General Court, passed the 18th instant, relative to the fitting for the sea the Continental frigate *Hancock*, of thirty-two guns, now at *Newburyport*.

If this frigate, with the other at the same port, could be expeditiously fitted out, it is very probable several of the enemy cruisers, which have much infested our coast, would be soon brought in and made a valuable addition to the naval strength of the *United States*.

You will please to lay the said resolve before the honourable Congress, whose speedy determination corresponding with the resolve may be attended with many happy consequences. In the mean time every aid in our power will be given to the Continental agent for getting the said frigates in readiness with the utmost expedition.

In the name of the Council of the State of *Massachusetts-Bay*, I am, with great respect, sir, your most obedient, humble servant,

JAMES BOWDOIN.

To the honourable the President of Congress.

P. S. Agreeable to the resolve of our General Court, copy of which has been sent to you, one-fifth part of our Militia, under the command of Major-General *Lincoln*, are getting ready to march with all possible expedition. By a return from the County of *Worcester*, near one thousand men, in two regiments, are now on their march from that County.

We should be glad to have some particular and authenticated account of the late actions at *Long-Island* and *New-York*. If any such has been collected, be so good as to favour us with it.

In the House of Representatives, September 18, 1776.

Resolved, That this State will furnish the agent for building the Continental ships at *Newburyport* with a sufficient number of guns, provided they can be obtained by purchase or otherways, for the Continental frigate called the *Hancock*, *John Manley* Commander, and which ship is built to carry thirty-two guns, and will afford him every other assistance possible for fitting out and manning said ship. And the Honourable *Richard Derby, Esq.*, is appointed agent in behalf of this Colony for the purposes aforesaid, provided leave can be obtained from the honourable Congress for said vessel to cruise on this coast for the protection of the trade thereof; the said Continental agents engaging to reimburse all the expenses this State shall incur in fitting out and manning said ship; and return said guns whenever said ship shall be otherways employed, it being of great importance that there should be a sufficient number of armed vessels fixed for sea, effectually to free this coast from the enemy's armed vessels now infesting of it.

In Council, September 18, 1776. Sent up for concurrence.

J. WARREN, *Speaker*,

SAMUEL ADAMS, *Secretary*.

Consented to by the major part of the Council.

A true copy.

Attest: JOHN AVERY, *Deputy Secretary*.

GENERAL WARREN TO MASSACHUSETTS COUNCIL.

Plymouth, September 23, 1776

SIR: Captain *Samson*, the bearer of this, waits on the honourable Council for their orders for his next cruise. I beg leave to mention to them that the confining the vessels belonging to this State to such narrow limits is very discouraging to all employed in service, and occasions them to wish themselves at liberty to enter into private service. They see these successful, taking many prizes, while they, by this confinement, have not a bare chance of meeting with any, and such only as uncommon accidents of wind and weather may put out of their way, and force into the limits you have assigned these vessels. I don't pretend to judge of the policy of this measure; but it seems to me it must produce bad effects in the end. It not only prevents the State from receiving great emoluments from captures, but will soon make it the least eligible of any service, and we shall find it very difficult to man them, or to keep the men when obtained.

Captain *Samson*, in his last cruise, took one *Gideon White*, Jun., who is now in the gaol here, by order of the Committee of this town. Since this a privateer, Captain *Paine* commander, has brought in *Benjamin Marston, Esq.*, of *Marblehead*, taken in a schooner from the *West-Indies*, bound to *Halifax*. These were both refugees to *Boston*, and, I conceive, very dangerous men. Both have friends here, very subtle and very inimical. I think, therefore, they cannot be so secure here as they ought to be, and that it would be best to order them to some internal country, there to be properly secured.

I hope the Council will excuse these suggestions, as I really think them calculated to promote the publick good; and am, with great respect, your most obedient, humble servant,

J. WARREN.

To Hon. *James Bowdoin, Esq.*

CAPTAIN COOKE TO MARYLAND COUNCIL OF SAFETY.

Off Point Look-Out, September 24, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: I honoured myself by writing you by the *Amelia* tender. At that time was in hopes of having a fine night and good run down the bay. At ten, p. m., the wind came round to the eastward; the night had all the appearance of a gale rising. I thought it prudent to have the ship brought to anchor under *Point Look-Out*. And this morning early, when hove 'bout, the small bower cable parted near the anchor. We got the pilot-boat to the buoy rope, when a strain bore on it, parted the buoy rope at the crown of the anchor. The wind blowing a fresh gale at northwest puts it out of our power to get the anchor at this time. We have left a watch buoy at the place, and set several places for finding it some other time. Mr. *Middleton* will have the marks, and know the place where the anchor lies.

At ten, a. m., I purpose going down to *Gwynn's Island*, as I'm informed, by some gentlemen on board, of sundry anchors being there, and propose getting one.

I have the honour to be, gentlemen, your most obedient and humble servant,

GEORGE COOKE.

To the honourable Council of Safety, *Annapolis*.

CAPTAIN COOKE TO COMMODORE BOUCHER.

Ship Defence, September 24, 1776.

SIR: Unluckily, this morning, our small bower cable parted near the anchor. I endeavoured to weigh it by the buoy rope; that also parted at the crown of the anchor. I have left a watch buoy near the place. I am afraid it will intrude on you too far to ask your kindness. Should it be calm, will you please suffer some of your boats to endeavour to get the anchor, for the good of the service? It will so far suffice, that on seeing the buoy that is to show where our anchor lies.

I am, sir, with esteem, your most humble servant,

GEORGE COOKE.

To Commodore *Boucher*, of the *Congress*; or Captain *Brook*, of the *Liberty*.

CAPTAIN COOKE TO MARYLAND COUNCIL OF SAFETY.

Abreast New Point Comfort, September 24, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: I wrote you this morning, favoured by Commodore *Boucher*, acquainting you of the loss of our small bower, and my intention of going to *Gwynn's Island*, to get an anchor. We hauled up for the place, but the gale at northeast increasing, the pilot thought we could not fetch into smooth water. I then bore away, and hope to be at sea by ten o'clock at night, where I make no doubt but to provide the ship with as good an anchor as the one lost.

Our ship's company is all in high spirits; and am in hopes we shall be able to let you hear from us often, by prize from time to time.

I am, gentlemen, your most obedient servant,

GEORGE COOKE.

To the honourable Council of Safety.

THE PRESIDENT OF CONGRESS TO GENERAL WASHINGTON.

Philadelphia, September 24, 1776.

SIR: You will perceive by the enclosed resolves of Congress, which I have the honour to forward, that they have come to the determination to augment our army, and to engage the troops to serve during the continuance of the war. As an inducement to enlist on these terms, the Congress have agreed to give, besides a bounty of twenty dollars, a hundred acres of land to each soldier; and in case he should lose his life in battle, they have resolved that his children, or other representatives, shall succeed to such grant.

It is unnecessary to repeat to you the numberless ill consequences resulting from the limited enlistment of troops. The untimely death of General *Montgomery*, alone, independent of other arguments, is a striking proof of the danger and impropriety of sending troops into the field under any restriction as to the time of their service. The noblest enterprise may be left unfinished by soldiers in such a predicament, or abandoned the very moment success must have crowned the attempt. Your own experience has long since convinced you that, without a well-disciplined army, we cannot rationally expect success against veteran troops, and that it is totally impossible we should ever have a well-disciplined army, unless our troops are engaged to serve during the war. The Congress, therefore, impressed with these and other reasons, and fully convinced that our Militia is inadequate to the duty expected of them, have adopted the enclosed resolves, which, I am persuaded, will afford you pleasure, as the only means left to defend our country in its present critical situation.

I have wrote to all the States, and forwarded a copy of the printed resolves herewith transmitted, and urged them, in the most pressing language, to comply, in the fullest manner, with the requisition of Congress.

As the troops now in service belonging to the several

States will be considered as part of their quota in the *American* army, it will be necessary to ascertain what number of the troops, as well as what officers, will engage to serve during the war. For this purpose I have wrote to the States, and forwarded blank commissions for all such officers and others whom they shall appoint agreeably to the enclosed resolves.

The articles of war, as first adopted by Congress, being exploded, I send you sundry copies of those which they have instituted in their room. I enclose you, also, sundry other resolves, to which I beg leave to request your attention.

As the Committee of Congress will confer with you on the state of the army, to them I beg leave to refer you; and am, with every sentiment of esteem and respect, sir, your most obedient and very humble servant,

JOHN HANCOCK, *President*.

To His Excellency General *Washington*.

PRESIDENT OF CONGRESS TO THE ASSEMBLIES OF THE SEVERAL STATES.

Philadelphia, September 24, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: You will perceive by the enclosed resolves, which I have the honour to forward in obedience to the commands of Congress, that they have come to a determination to augment our army, and to engage the troops to serve during the continuance of the war. As an inducement to enlist on these terms, the Congress have agreed to give, besides a bounty of twenty dollars, a hundred acres of land to each soldier; and in case he should fall in battle, they have resolved that his children, or other representatives, shall succeed to such land.

The many ill consequences arising from a short and limited enlistment of troops, are too obvious to be mentioned. In general, give me leave to observe, that to make men well acquainted with the duties of a soldier, requires time; and to bring them under proper subordination and discipline, not only requires time, but has always been a work of much difficulty. We have had frequent experience that men of a few days' standing will not look forward, but as the time of their discharge approaches grow careless of their arms, ammunition, &c., and impatient of all restraint; the consequence of which is, the latter part of the time for which the soldier was engaged is spent in undoing what the greatest pains had been taken to inculcate at first. Need I add to this, that the fall of the late General *Montgomery* before *Quebeck*, is undoubtedly to be ascribed to the limited time for which the troops were engaged, whose impatience to return home compelled him to make the attack contrary to the conviction of his own judgment? This fact alone furnishes a striking argument of the danger and impropriety of sending troops into the field under any restriction as to the time of their enlistment. The noblest enterprise may be left unfinished by troops in such a predicament, or abandoned at the very moment success would have crowned the attempt.

The heavy and enormous expense consequent upon calling forth the Militia, the delay attending their motions, and the difficulty of keeping them in camp, render it extremely improper to place our whole dependence upon them. Experience hath uniformly convinced us of this, some of the Militia having deserted the camp at the very moment their services were most wanted. In the mean time, the strength of the *British* army, which is great, is rendered much more formidable by the superiour order and regularity which prevail in it. Under these circumstances, and in the situation of our affairs, it is evident that the only means left us of preserving our liberties is the measure which the Congress have now adopted, and which I am ordered most earnestly to recommend to you to carry into immediate effect. Without a well-disciplined army, we can never expect success against veteran troops; and it is totally impossible we should ever have a well-disciplined army without our troops are engaged to serve during the war. To attain, therefore, this most desirable end, I am to request you will at once, and without a moment's delay, bend all your attention to raise your quota of the *American* army.

The times call for the greatest despatch and vigour of conduct. When the bloody standard of tyranny is erected

in a land of liberty, no good man, no friend to his country, can possibly remain an inactive spectator of her fall. Display, therefore, I most ardently entreat you, that virtue which can alone save her on this occasion. Let us convince our enemies that as we entered into the present contest for the defence of our liberties, so we are resolved, with the firmest reliance on Heaven for the justice of our cause, never to relinquish it, but rather to perish in the ruins of it. If we do but remain firm, if we are not dismayed at the little shocks of fortune, and are determined at all hazards that we will be free, I am persuaded, under the gracious smiles of Providence, assisted by our own most strenuous endeavours, we shall finally succeed agreeably to our wishes, and thereby establish the independence, the happiness, and the glory of the *United States of America*.

As the troops now in service belonging to the several States will be considered as part of their quota in the *American* army, you will please to take such steps as you judge necessary to ascertain what number of the troops, as well as what officers, will engage to serve during the war. I send by this express blank commissions, to be filled with such as you shall please to appoint. I also forward a number of the rules and articles of war, as altered by Congress and just published.

I have the honour to be, gentlemen, your most obedient and very humble servant,

JOHN HANCOCK, *President*.

To the Honourable Assembly of *New-Hampshire*.

[Same to *Massachusetts-Bay*, *Rhode-Island*, *Connecticut* Assemblies, *New-York* Convention, *New-Jersey* Assembly, *Pennsylvania* Convention, *Delaware* Government, *Maryland* Convention, *Virginia* Assembly, *North-Carolina* Convention, *South-Carolina* Assembly, *Georgia* Convention.]

BENJAMIN MARSHALL AND BROTHERS TO THE PRESIDENT OF CONGRESS.

[Read September 24, 1776. Referred to the Marine Committee, to take into consideration on Wednesday, October 25, 1776.]

Philadelphia, September 24, 1776.

In *January*, 1775, the subscribers, by orders from *London*, exported a cargo of flour, wax, staves, &c., to *Terceira*, one of the *Western Islands*. The vessel in which they were shipped belonged to us, was purchased at the island aforesaid, and payment made in bills of exchange on *London*, one of which, to the value of £800 currency, was returned protested for non-payment in *March* last; since which, have had no opportunity to send it for recovery; therefore, are under the necessity, as the only probable means of saving it, to purchase a small vessel. But lest any thing should prevent our recovering it, the expenses of the voyage would be considerable, and as pipe-staves are an article in demand there and small value here, and less detrimental to the state of the Colonies than flour, should she be unhappily taken by our enemy, induces us to request the honourable Continental Congress to grant us liberty to export pipe-staves, any quantity not exceeding twenty thousand, which indulgence will be esteemed as a favour conferred on your friends,

BENJ. MARSHALL & BROTHERS.

To the Hon. *John Hancock*, Esquire.

BENJAMIN FISHBOURN TO RICHARD PETERS.

Philadelphia, September 24, 1776.

SIR: I understand a Paymaster is wanted for Colonel *Wood's* battalion, (late Colonel *St. Clair's*.) now at *Ticonderoga*. If the honourable Board of War will please to favour me with that appointment, they may depend I will exert myself to discharge the trust with care and fidelity.

I have the honour to be, with great respect, sir, your obedient servant,

BENJ. FISHBOURN.

To *Richard Peters*, Esq., Secretary at War.

LANCASTER, PENNSYLVANIA, COMMITTEE.

At a meeting of the Committee of Observation and Inspection at the house of *Adam Reigart*, the 24th September, 1776,

Present: *William Atlee*, *Edward Shippen*, *Adam Reigart*, *Jacob Klatz*, *Christopher Graffort*, *George Moore*, *Henry Dehuff*. *William Atlee* in the chair.

A Letter from the Council of Safety, dated the 18th instant, was read in Committee, mentioning that the Board of War some time since sent them a Resolve, requesting an exact account of the number of State Prisoners confined in the State of *Pennsylvania*, with their rank or station in the Army, the time of their being taken, and the particular circumstances attending their situation, &c.; and therefore requesting this Committee immediately to furnish them with a particular account of all the Prisoners in this County, that they may be enabled to furnish the Board of War with the said account, agreeable to their resolves.

The Committee, taking the said Letter into consideration, direct that the Sergeant-Majors of the Seventh and Twenty-Sixth Regiments be immediately sent for, and directed to furnish this Committee with lists of the Prisoners of their respective Regiments, who have from time to time been brought to this place.

Mr. *Hugh* appears in Committee, and requests that the Accounts which he left with the Committee against the Officers who made their escape from *Lebanon*, may be delivered up to him, as he says he has a prospect of getting his Moneys; and it is ordered that Mr. *Atlee* deliver them to him, taking his receipt for them.

Ann Brown having been convicted of stealing sundry goods at Mr. *Slough's* Mill, and the goods being returned to the owner, and the said *Ann Brown* being far gone with child, and the gaoler being apprehensive of her being soon delivered there, it is the sentiments of the Committee that she be discharged and sent out of town.

Rebecca Williams having been confined on suspicion of stealing goods from ———, being also in the same situation, and the winter approaching, it is also the sentiments of the Committee that she be discharged and sent out of town.

ADDRESS OF NEW-JERSEY ASSEMBLY TO THE GOVERNOUR.

To His Excellency WILLIAM LIVINGSTON, Esq., Governour, Captain-General, and Commander-in-Chief in and over the State of NEW-JERSEY and Territories thereunto belonging, Chancellor and Ordinary in the same:

The Address of the Assembly of the said State.

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR EXCELLENCY: Whilst we anticipate the blessings of a Government founded on freedom, having for its sole object the happiness of the people, it affords the most pleasing reflection that all our measures for attaining that great end are strongly marked with deliberation and firmness, and will bear the strictest scrutiny of reason and conscience. To those disposed to trace the hand of approving Heaven in our deliverance from the galling yoke of slavery, the unparalleled unanimity of the *American* States in resisting the encroachments of despotism, and refusing the insidious offers of precarious peace—the rejection of our petitions, though fraught with unrefuted reasoning and clear demonstration, joined to the infatuated policy of our enemy and the success of our arms, afford the most unequivocal marks of Providential agency; whilst our willingness even to relinquish some of our indubitable rights for the sake of peace—our patience under repeated injuries and insults—the declaration of our rights and consequent independence, long delayed—plainly evince to the impartial world our aversion to shedding human blood. But compelled by the insatiate plunderers of the East to assert our freedom, we have burst the bands of political slavery, and arisen into a life of liberty. Thus situate, we cannot evince more fully to the world the purity of our intentions and our sense of the value of our purchase, than by placing in the most conspicuous points of view those gentlemen who have taken an early and decisive part in our glorious struggle for freedom.

Our conviction of the rectitude of your Excellency's intentions stands confessed by your appointment to the office of Chief Magistrate of this free State. But, whilst we feel our own inadequacy to the business assigned us by our country, we must acknowledge, with your Excellency, that your task is arduous indeed, and entreat you to look up with us to the indulgent Parent of the universe, who, when the end proposed is stamped with his approbation, can make the abilities keep pace with the will.

Convinced, with your Excellency, of the necessity of a well-regulated Militia for the defence of a free State, and of

their being duly paid for their service, our earliest attention shall be given to that most important business; and permit us, sir, to assure you, that, whilst we have aught to bestow, the voice of murmuring for services unpaid, or merit unrewarded, shall not be heard in this State.

If, in fixing the seat of Government according to the local circumstances and convenience of the various parts of this State, we should appoint a place agreeable to your Excellency, it will double our satisfaction. The law mentioned, and such other salutary regulations as may occur to your Excellency during this session, when communicated to us, shall meet with all due attention.

Your obliging mention of the importance of the station in which the uncorrupted voice of our constituents hath placed us, demands our acknowledgments, and will, we hope, spirit us to such exertions in our duty, as may redound to the benefit of the State. And we assure you, with sincerity, that, laying aside all private attachments and resentment, it shall be our study to cultivate that harmony between the branches of the Legislature, that spirit of economy, industry, and patriotism, so justly recommended, and so essential to the publick welfare; and that whilst our Heaven-directed Generals and Soldiers, with an ardour peculiar to freemen, brave the dangers of well-fought fields against the lawless sons of rapine and plunder, ours shall be the important task, in conjunction with your Excellency and the honourable Council, to give our cool deliberations and useful resolves the most unambiguous marks of that spirit which ought to animate a Senate of freemen.

We hope that no situation in life can make us lose sight of that evident truth, so loudly proclaimed in the historic page, that dissoluteness of manners and political corruption are inseparable companions in the destruction of kingdoms, whilst the concurring testimony of the inspired penman will enforce on the most obdurate heart, that "Righteousness exalteth a nation, but that sin is a reproach to any people." Determined to employ the talents given, in procuring and transmitting inviolate to posterity the fair inheritance of civil and religious liberty, though bought at the price of life, we will look for the permanency and stability of our new government to Him who bringeth Princes to nothing, and teacheth Senators wisdom.

By order of the House: JOHN HART, Speaker.

House of Assembly, September 24, 1776.

To which His Excellency was pleased to make the following Reply:

GENTLEMEN: Your kind and affectionate address deserves my cordial thanks; and I feel myself most agreeably affected with your obliging assurances of paying all due attention to the laws and regulations recommended to your consideration.

I heartily participate with you in the pleasure of tracing that conspicuous Providential agency which has hitherto frustrated the sanguinary purposes of our enemies; and which, that is not more generally and devoutly acknowledged, is greatly to be deplored. But while with pious gratitude we survey the frequent interpositions of Heaven in our behalf, we ought to remember that as the disbelief of an overruling Providence is atheism, so an absolute confidence of having our deliverance wrought out by the more immediate hand of God, without our own exertions, is the most culpable presumption. Let us, therefore, inflexibly persevere in exerting our most strenuous efforts in an humble and rational dependence on the great Governour of the world, and we have the fairest prospect of surmounting all our difficulties, and of seeing our merciless oppressors involved in that destruction which they have so long been meditating for others.

SIR WILLIAM HOWE TO LORD GEORGE GERMAIN.

Head-Quarters, York-Island, September 24, 1776.

MY LORD: After waiting two days for a favourable wind to move the ships of war up to the batteries upon *Paulus Hook*, it was effected yesterday at noon, and the troops landed and took possession of the works without the least resistance, the enemy having abandoned their batteries and redoubts upon the approach of his Majesty's ship *Roebuck*, and two frigates.

I have the honour to be, &c.,

W. HOWE.

RETURN OF ORDNANCE AND STORES TAKEN IN THE CITY OF NEW-YORK, AND IN THE ADJACENT BATTERIES AND REDOUBTS, AFTER THE RETREAT OF THE REBELS, SEPTEMBER 15, 1776.

Taken in the field.—Ordnance, light brass, mounted on travelling carriages with limbers—1 six-pounder; 1 five-inch and half howitzer.

In the New-York and the adjacent Redoubts.

Iron Ordnance, mounted on garrison carriages—15 thirty-two pounders; 7 twelve-pounders; 9 nine-pounders; 1 six-pounder; 6 four-pounders; 2 three-pounders. On a travelling carriage, 1 three-pounder. Dismounted, 26.

Shot, round loose—965 thirty-two pounders; 9,300 twenty-four pounders; 276 eighteen-pounders; 1,342 twelve-pounders; 32 six-pounders; 41 three-pounders. Double-headed—747 thirty-two pounders; 460 twelve-pounders; 12 nine-pounders; 29 six-pounders. Double-headed with sliding bars—100 thirty-two-pounders; 170 twelve-pounders; 7 nine-pounders. Grape quilted—71 thirty-two-pounders; 69 twelve-pounders. Case-fixed with powder—32 nine-pounders; 12 three-pounders.

Shells, empty—54 thirteen-inch; 944 ten-inch; 395 eight-inch; 738 five-inch and half; 17,871 four-inch two-fifths. Filled with fusees drove—5 thirteen-inch; 12 ten-inch; 30 eight-inch; 53 five-inch and half; 45 four-inch and two-fifths.

Powder—whole barrel 1; iron crows 6; mantelets 52; chevaux-de-frise complete, 81; tar barrels 42; breast-plates for Engineer's armour, 35; wagons covered, 4.

SAMUEL CLEVELAND,

Brigadier-General commanding Royal Artillery.

GOVERNOUR TRYON TO LORD GEORGE GERMAIN.

New-York, September 24, 1776.

MY LORD: On the 21st instant, Lieutenant-Governour Colden departed this life at *Flushing*. This makes a vacancy in the Council. The following is the present state of the remaining eleven: Mr. Chief-Justice *Horsemanden*, very old and feeble; Mr. *Oliver De Lancey*, Mr. *Charles Ward Apthorp*, Mr. *Axtell*, and Mr. *Henry Cruger*, at liberty to attend the summons of Government. Mr. *William Smith* withdrawn to his plantation up the *North River*, and not been heard of these five months; Mr. *Hugh Wallace* and Mr. *James Jauncey*, prisoners with the Rebels; Mr. *John Watts*, Colonel *Morris*, and Mr. *Henry White*, in *England*.

By this state, your Lordship will observe I have but five Councillors I can summons, and Judge *Horsemanden's* infirmities will probably prevent his attendance; therefore your Lordship will view the necessity I shall be under of appointing other Councillors, if the gentlemen in *England* do not return to take a share in the reestablishment of Government, or that those in captivity are released.

Mr. *Thomas Jones*, one of the Judges of the Supreme Court, and Mr. *David Matthews*, Mayor of the City of *New-York*, with many other gentlemen of the country, are in the hands of the Rebels.

I am, with all possible respect, my Lord, your Lordship's most obedient, humble servant,
WM. TRYON.

To Lord *George Germain*.

GOVERNOUR TRYON TO LORD GEORGE GERMAIN.

New-York, September 24, 1776.

MY LORD: At the same time that I have the happiness to acquaint your Lordship that on the 15th instant, General *Howe*, with the forces under his command, by admirable skill, spirit, and conduct, made himself master of the City of *New-York*, and one-half of the Island, it grieves me to inform you that on the 21st, about two in the morning, the western part of the town was set on fire by a number of incendiaries, and which raged with such violence as destroyed, it is thought, one-fourth part of the city, before the flames could be extinguished. Many of the incendiaries are now in confinement, and two or three were killed as they were detected in their hellish design. Many circumstances lead to conjecture that Mr. *Washington* was privy to this villainous act, as he sent all the bells of the churches out of town, under pretence of casting them into cannon; whereas, it is much more probable to prevent the alarm being given by ringing of the bells before the fire

should get ahead beyond the reach of engines and buckets; besides, some officers of his army were found concealed in the city, supposed for this devilish purpose. The town was thought to be saved more by a sudden change in the wind (which blew strong) and pulling down intermediate houses, than by water. It is afflicting to view the wretched and miserable inhabitants who have lost their all, and numbers of reputable shop-keepers that are reduced to beggary, and many in want for their families of the necessaries of life. The fire broke out in sundry places nearly at the same time, but was first discovered at *Whitehall* stairs, and has burnt the whole body of the buildings that lies between *George* street and *Broad* street, as high up as the City Hall, and all the buildings on the north of *Fort George*, lying between the *North River* and *Great George* street, as far up as *King's College*, excepting a few houses and *St. Paul's Church*; and almost all the houses on the church estate, with *Trinity Church*, are totally consumed. It really seems the conflagration was directed against the interest of the church. The ship-docks, warehouses, and the commercial part of the city is as yet safe, and every measure pursued by General *Robertson*, commanding officer in *New-York*, assisted by myself, to establish such regulations and police as may ensure its future security. I was at *Flatbush*, at Mr. *Axtell's*, four miles from the city, for the recovery of my health and strength, when this dreadful event befell this devoted city.

As this country is in the present period too much convulsed for the civil Government to act with any good effect, it is the opinion of both his Majesty's Commissioners for restoring peace to the Colonies, that I should postpone any executive acts of Government, until the Province is more liberated from the control of the Rebels. I therefore have kept the executive powers of civil Government dormant, leaving every thing to the direction of the military; never ceasing, however, to throw every information I can procure to the General and Admiral, as it may concern them, and to exhort and recommend to the inhabitants the proper line for their duty and interest.

General *Oliver De Lancey*, under General *Howe's* orders, is endeavouring to raise a brigade of fifteen hundred men for the defence of *Long-Island*, and Major *Rogers* a corps of Provincials for the war generally.

The two *New-York* companies, under the Captains *Campbell* and *Grant*, have acquitted themselves in action so honourably as to obtain the General's thanks, transmitted to them in publick orders.

I am, with all possible respect, my Lord, your Lordship's most obedient and most humble servant,

WM. TRYON.

To Lord *George Germain*.

GENERAL WASHINGTON TO THE PRESIDENT OF CONGRESS.

[Read September 25, 1776.]

Head-Quarters, Heights of Harlem, September 24, 1776.

SIR: The post being about to depart, I have only time to add that no event of importance has taken place on this side *Hudson's River* since my last, of the 22d instant.

The enclosed letter received last night from General *Greene*, who now commands in the *Jerseys*, will give Congress all the information I have respecting the evacuation of *Powles Hook*, and the landing of the enemy to possess it.

I this minute obtained a copy of the general return of our force, the first I have been able to procure for some time past, which I do myself the honour of transmitting for the satisfaction of Congress.

I am, sir, with the greatest respect, your most obedient servant,

GO. WASHINGTON.

P. S. The thirteen Militia regiments from *Connecticut* being reduced to a little more than seven hundred men rank and file fit for duty, I have thought proper to discharge the whole, to save the States the immense charge that would arise for officers' pay. There are, too, many Militia that have just come in, and on their way from that State, none of which are provided with a tent or a single camp utensil. This distresses me beyond measure.

Camp Fort Constitution, September 23, 1776.

DEAR SIR: The enemy are landed at *Powley's Hook*;

they came up this afternoon and began a cannonade on the batteries, and after cannonading for half an hour or a little more, they landed a party from the ships. General Mercer had ordered off from the Hook all the troops except a small guard, who had orders to evacuate the place from the first approach of the enemy. General Mercer mentions no troops but those landed from the ships; but Colonel Bull, and many others that were along the river upon the heights, saw twenty boats go over from York to Powley's Hook. This movement must have happened since General Mercer wrote. I purpose to visit Bergen to-night, as General Mercer thinks of going to his post at Amboy to-morrow. I purpose to detain him one day longer.

I am, with due respect, your Excellency's obedient servant,
N. GREENE.

To His Excellency General Washington.

GENERAL WASHINGTON TO THE PRESIDENT OF CONGRESS.

[Read 27th. Referred to Mr. Wythe, Mr. Hopkins, Mr. Rutledge, Mr. J. Adams, and Mr. Stone.]

Colonel Morris's, on the Heights of Harlem, }
September 24, 1776. }

SIR: From the hours allotted to sleep I will borrow a few moments to convey my thoughts on sundry important matters to Congress. I shall offer them with that sincerity which ought to characterize a man of candour, and with the freedom which may be used in giving useful information without incurring the imputation of presumption.

We are now, as it were, upon the eve of another dissolution of our army. The remembrance of the difficulties which happened upon that occasion last year, the consequences which might have followed the change if proper advantages had been taken by the enemy, added to a knowledge of the present temper and situation of the troops, reflect but a very gloomy prospect upon the appearance of things now, and satisfy me beyond the possibility of a doubt, that unless some speedy and effectual measures are adopted by Congress our cause will be lost.

It is in vain to expect, that any or more than a trifling part of this army will again engage in the service on the encouragement offered by Congress. When men find that their townsmen and companions are receiving twenty, thirty, and more dollars for a few months' service, which is truly the case, it cannot be expected, without using compulsion; and to force them into the service would answer no valuable purpose. When men are irritated, and their passions inflamed, they fly hastily and cheerfully to arms; but after the first emotions are over, to expect among such people as compose the bulk of an army, that they are influenced by any other principles than those of interest, is to look for what never did, and I fear never will happen; the Congress will deceive themselves, therefore, if they expect it. A soldier, reasoned with upon the goodness of the cause he is engaged in, and the inestimable rights he is contending for, hears you with patience, and acknowledges the truth of your observations, but adds that it is of no more importance to him than others. The officer makes you the same reply, with this further remark, that his pay will not support him, and he cannot ruin himself and family to serve his country, when every member of the community is equally interested, and benefited by his labours. The few, therefore, who act upon principles of disinterestedness are, comparatively speaking, no more than a drop in the ocean. It becomes evidently clear then, that, as this contest is not likely to be the work of a day, as the war must be carried on systematically, and to do it you must have good officers, there are in my judgment no other possible means to obtain them but by establishing your army upon a permanent footing, and giving your officers good pay. This will induce gentlemen and men of character to engage; and till the bulk of your officers are composed of such persons as are actuated by principles of honour and a spirit of enterprise, you have little to expect from them. They ought to have such allowances as will enable them to live like and support the characters of gentlemen, and not be driven by a scanty pittance to the low and dirty arts which many of them practise to filch the publick of more than the difference of pay would amount to upon an ample allowance. Besides, something is due to the man who puts his life in his hand, hazards his health, and forsakes the sweets of domestick enjoyments. Why a Captain in the Continental service

should receive no more than five shillings currency per day for performing the same duties that an officer of the same rank in the *British* service receives ten shillings sterling for, I never could conceive, especially when the latter is provided with every necessary he requires upon the best terms, and the former can scarce procure them at any rate. There is nothing that gives a man consequence, or renders him fit for command, like a support that renders him independent of every body but the State he serves.

With respect to the men, nothing but a good bounty can obtain them upon a permanent establishment; and for no shorter time than the continuance of the war ought they to be engaged; as facts incontestibly prove that the difficulty and cost of enlistments increase with time. When the army was first raised at Cambridge, I am persuaded the men might have been got without a bounty for the war. After this they began to see that the contest was not likely to end so speedily as was imagined, and to feel their consequence by remarking, that to get the Militia in, in the course of last year, many towns were induced to give them a bounty. Foreseeing the evils resulting from this, and the destructive consequences which unavoidably would follow short enlistments, I took the liberty in a long letter written by myself, (date not now recollected as my letter book is not here,) to recommend the enlistments for and during the war, assigning such reasons for it as experience has since convinced me were well founded. At that time twenty dollars would, I am persuaded, have engaged the men for this term. But it will not do to look back; and if the present opportunity is slipped, I am persuaded that twelve months more will increase our difficulties fourfold. I shall, therefore, take the freedom of giving it as my opinion, that a good bounty be immediately offered, aided by the proffer of at least one hundred or one hundred and fifty acres of land and a suit of clothes and blanket to each non-commissioned officer and soldier, as I have good authority for saying, that however high the men's pay may appear, it is barely sufficient, in the present scarcity and dearth of all kinds of goods, to keep them in clothes, much less afford support to their families.

If this encouragement, then, is given to the men, and such pay allowed the officers as will induce gentlemen of character and liberal sentiments to engage, and proper care and precaution used in the nomination, having more regard to the characters of persons than the number of men they can enlist, we should in a little time have an army able to cope with any that can be opposed to it, as there are excellent materials to form one out of. But while the only merit an officer possesses is his ability to raise men, while those men consider and treat him as an equal, and, in the character of an officer, regard him no more than a broomstick, being mixed together as one common herd, no order nor no discipline can prevail; nor will the officer ever meet with that respect which is essentially necessary to due subordination.

To place any dependence upon Militia is assuredly resting upon a broken staff. Men just dragged from the tender scenes of domestic life, unaccustomed to the din of arms, totally unacquainted with every kind of military skill, which, being followed by a want of confidence in themselves when opposed to troops regularly trained, disciplined, and appointed, superiour in knowledge and superiour in arms, makes them timid and ready to fly from their own shadows. Besides, the sudden change in their manner of living, (particularly in their lodging,) brings on sickness in many, impatience in all, and such an unconquerable desire of returning to their respective homes, that it not only produces shameful and scandalous desertions among themselves but infuses the like spirit in others. Again, men accustomed to unbounded freedom and no control, cannot brook the restraint which is indispensably necessary to the good order and government of an army, without which licentiousness and every kind of disorder triumphantly reign. To bring men to a proper degree of subordination is not the work of a day, a month, or even a year; and unhappily for us and the cause we are engaged in, the little discipline I have been labouring to establish in the army under my immediate command, is in a manner done away, by having such a mixture of troops as have been called together within these few months.

Relaxed and as unfit as our rules and regulations of war are for the government of an army, the Militia (those prop-

erly so called, for of these we have two sorts, the six months' men, and those sent in as a temporary aid) do not think themselves subject to 'em, and therefore take liberties which the soldier is punished for. This creates jealousy; jealousy begets dissatisfaction; and these by degrees ripen into mutiny, keeping the whole army in a confused and disordered state, rendering the time of those who wish to see regularity and good order prevail more unhappy than words can describe. Besides this, such repeated changes take place that all arrangement is set at nought, and the constant fluctuation of things deranges every plan as fast as adopted.

These, sir, Congress may be assured, are but a small part of the inconveniences which might be enumerated and attributed to Militia; but there is one, that merits particular attention, and that is the expense. Certain I am that it would be cheaper to keep fifty or one hundred thousand men in constant pay, than to depend upon half the number and supply the other half occasionally by Militia. The time the latter are in pay before and after they are in camp, assembling and marching, the waste of ammunition, the consumption of stores, which, in spite of every resolution and requisition of Congress, they must be furnished with, or sent home, added to other incidental expenses consequent upon their coming and conduct in camp, surpasses all idea, and destroys every kind of regularity and economy which you could establish among fixed and settled troops, and will, in my opinion, prove, if the scheme is adhered to, the ruin of our cause.

The jealousies of a standing army, and the evils to be apprehended from one, are remote, and in my judgment, situated and circumstanced as we are, not at all to be dreaded; but the consequence of wanting one, according to my ideas, formed from the present view of things, is certain and inevitable ruin. For, if I was called upon to declare upon oath, whether the Militia have been most serviceable or hurtful upon the whole, I should subscribe to the latter. I do not mean by this, however, to arraign the conduct of Congress; in so doing I should equally condemn my own measures, if I did not my judgment; but experience, which is the best criterion to work by, so fully, clearly, and decisively reprobates the practice of trusting to Militia, that no man who regards order, regularity, or economy, or who has any regard for his own honour, character, or peace of mind, will risk them upon this issue.

No less attention should be paid to the choice of Surgeons than other officers of the army; they should undergo a regular examination, and if not appointed by the Director-General and Surgeons of the hospital, they ought to be subordinate to and governed by his directions. The regimental Surgeons I am speaking of, many of whom are very great rascals, countenancing the men in sham complaints to exempt them from duty, and often receiving bribes to certify indispositions, with a view to procure discharges or furloughs. But independent of these practices, while they are considered as unconnected with the general hospital, there will be nothing but continual complaints of each other—the Director of the hospital charging them with enormity in their drafts for the sick, and they him for denying such things as are necessary. In short, there is a constant bickering among them, which tends greatly to the injury of the sick, and will always subsist till the regimental Surgeons are made to look up to the Director-General of the hospital as a superior. Whether this is the case in regular armies or not, I cannot undertake to say; but certain I am, there is a necessity for it in this, or the sick will suffer. The regimental Surgeons are aiming, I am persuaded, to break up the general hospital, and have in numberless instances drawn for medicines, stores, &c., in the most profuse and extravagant manner for private purposes.

Another matter highly worthy of attention is, that other rules and regulations may be adopted for the government of the army, than those now in existence; otherwise the army, but for the name, might as well be disbanded. For the most atrocious offences, one or two instances only excepted, a man receives no more than thirty-nine lashes, and these, perhaps, through the collusion of the officer who is to see it inflicted, are given in such a manner as to become rather a matter of sport than punishment; but, when inflicted as they ought, many hardened fellows who have been the sub-

jects, have declared that for a bottle of rum they would undergo a second operation. It is evident, therefore, that the punishment is inadequate to many crimes it is assigned to. As a proof of it, thirty and forty soldiers will desert at a time, and of late a practice prevails (as you will see by the letter of the 22d) of the most alarming nature, and which will, if it cannot be checked, prove fatal both to the country and army; I mean the infamous practice of plundering. For, under the idea of Tory property, or property which may fall into the hands of the enemy, no man is secure in his effects, and scarcely in his person; for, in order to get at them, we have several instances of people being frightened out of their houses, under pretence of those houses being ordered to be burnt, and this is done with a view of seizing the goods; nay, in order that the villany may be the more effectually concealed, some houses have actually been burnt to cover the theft. I have, with some others, used my utmost endeavours to stop this horrid practice; but under the present lust after plunder, and want of laws to punish offenders, I might almost as well attempt to remove *Mount Atlas*. I have ordered instant corporal punishment upon every man who passes our lines, or is seen with plunder, that the offender might be punished for disobedience of orders; and enclose you the proceedings of a Court-Martial held upon an officer, who, with a party of men, had robbed a house a little beyond our lines of a number of valuable goods, among which (to show that nothing escapes) were four large pier looking-glasses, women's clothes, and other articles, which, one would think, could be of no earthly use to him. He was met by a Major of Brigade, who ordered him to return the goods, as taken contrary to general orders; which he not only peremptorily refused to do, but drew up his party, and swore he would defend them at the hazard of his life; on which I ordered him to be arrested and tried for plundering, disobedience of orders, and mutiny. For the result I refer to the proceedings of the court, whose judgment appeared so exceedingly extraordinary that I ordered a reconsideration of the matter, upon which, and with the assistance of a fresh evidence, they made shift to cashier him.

I adduce this instance to give some idea to Congress of the current sentiment and general run of the officers, which compose the present army; and to show how exceedingly necessary it is to be careful in the choice of the new set, even if it should take double the time to complete the levies. An army formed of good officers moves like clockwork; but there is no situation upon earth less enviable, nor more distressing, than that person's who is at the head of troops who are regardless of order and discipline, and who are unprovided with almost every necessary. In a word, the difficulties which have forever surrounded me since I have been in the service, and kept my mind constantly upon the stretch; the wounds which my feelings as an officer have received by a thousand things which have happened contrary to my expectation and wishes; the effect of my own conduct, and the present appearance of things, so little pleasing to myself as to render it a matter of no surprise (to me) if I should stand capitally censured by Congress; added to a consciousness of my inability to govern an army composed of such discordant parts, and under such a variety of intricate and perplexing circumstances, induces not only a belief, but a thorough conviction in my mind, that it will be impossible, unless there is a thorough change in our military system, for me to conduct matters in such a manner as to give satisfaction to the publick, which is all the recompense I aim at, or ever wished for.

Before I conclude, I must apologize for the liberties taken in this letter, and for the blots and scratchings therein, not having time to give it more correctly. With truth I can add, that with every sentiment of respect and esteem, I am yours and the Congress's most obedient and most humble servant,

GO. WASHINGTON.

To the Hon. John Hancock, President of Congress.

Proceedings of a General Court-Martial of the Line, held on the Heights of HARLEM, by order of his Excellency GEORGE WASHINGTON, Esq., General and Commander-in-Chief of the Forces of the UNITED STATES OF AMER-

ICA, for the trial of all Prisoners to be brought before them, SEPTEMBER 19, 1776.

Colonel SAGE, President.

Lieut. Col. <i>Brearly</i> ,	Captain <i>Good</i> ,
Major <i>Howell</i> ,	Lieutenant <i>Bleeker</i> ,
Captain <i>Smith</i> ,	Lieutenant <i>Skelton</i> ,
Captain <i>Bond</i> ,	Lieutenant <i>De Witt</i> ,
Captain <i>Burke</i> ,	Lieutenant <i>Humphreys</i> ,
Captain <i>Higgins</i> ,	Lieutenant <i>Blackman</i> ,
Captain <i>Brown</i> ,	Lieutenant <i>Case</i> .
Captain <i>Chamberlain</i> ,	

WILLIAM TUDOR, Judge-Advocate.

The Court being duly sworn, proceeded to the trial of Ensign *Matthew Macumber*, of Captain *Barnes's* Company, in Colonel *Sargent's* Regiment, brought prisoner before the Court-Martial and accused of plundering and robbery, and also of mutiny.

The prisoner being arraigned on the above charge, plead "Not guilty."

Major *Box*. Last *Tuesday*, about two o'clock, I saw a number of people plundering down on *Harlem* Plain. I took a party and went down on the Plain, and met Ensign *Macumber*, with a party of upwards of twenty, all loaded with plunder, such as house furniture, table linen, and kitchen utensils, China and delf ware. I ordered him to lay it down, or carry it back to the place he took it from. He said he had his Colonel's order for what he had done, and that he would defend the plunder as long as he had life. I asked him if he knew me, and told him who I was, and told him how express the General's orders were about plundering. I told him if he did not deliver up the plunder, I should fire upon him, and jumped over a fence, and my little party followed. On this the prisoner and his party surrounded me, and the prisoner gave orders for the party to make ready; they did so, and told me they would die by the plunder, and *Macumber*, the prisoner, declared the same. When I found I could do nothing, I left them and went up and got a party, and went down. The prisoner seeing me coming, left his party and put off across the fields, loaded with something. I disarmed the party, and made them prisoners. The prisoner ordered his party to make ready, before I jumped over the fence.

Sergeant *THAYER*. I was one of the party with Major *Box*, on *Tuesday*, and met Ensign *Macumber*, as has been related. Major *Box* told the prisoner's party to lay down their plunder; they all refused, and the prisoner said that he had obeyed the Colonel's orders, and that he would carry the plunder to his Colonel. On Major *Box* presenting his pistol at the Ensign, he ordered the men to form themselves. The men were clamorous, and the Ensign was quieting them. He said he had orders from his Colonel, and had obeyed them, and would obey them to the spilling his blood; which I took to mean that he would defend his party and the plunder. The Major went off, and we returned soon after; but I know nothing more of the prisoner. There was women's clothing among other articles of plunder.

WILLIAM THOMAS. Says he was one of the party, and confirmed Sergeant *Thayer's* testimony.

SAMUEL BROWN. Confirmed Sergeant *Thayer's* testimony, and adds that the prisoner told Major *Box*, after he had ordered his men to form, that he would see which had the strongest party, or that the ground should drink his blood. Several of his men said they would blow out Major *Box's* brains, if he cocked his pistol again.

WILLIAM CORNISH. Confirms *Brown's* testimony, and adds, that from every appearance, he doubts not the prisoner's party would have fired upon them had they attempted to have rescued the plunder out of their hands.

Prisoner's Defence.

JOHN PETTY. Just before we entered the town of *Harlem*, Ensign *Macumber* stopped the party and expressly ordered us not to plunder. I was posted as a sentry, and know nothing of the party plundering. I was one who drove the cattle off, and did not join the party who had the plunder.

GORDON SPENCER. After we got into *Harlem*, Ensign *Macumber* took some of the party and went off with them. After he was gone, some of the men broke into the house. I went and found the Ensign, and told him of it. He said

it was against his orders, and bid me go and tell them to leave the house. Before we met Major *Box*, Ensign *Macumber* had told the men they should carry all the plunder to Colonel *Sargent*.

The Court being cleared, after mature consideration are of opinion, that the prisoner is not guilty of plundering or of robbery, nor of mutiny, but that he is guilty of offering violence to and disobeying Major *Box*, his superiour officer. And the Court sentence and adjudge that the prisoner ask pardon of Major *Box*, and receive a severe reprimand from the commanding officer at the head of the regiment he belongs to.

COMFORT SAGE, President.

Note by General WASHINGTON.—It is to be observed that the men who were to share the plunder, became the evidence for the prisoner.

G. W.

The Court proceeded to the trial of *Ebenezer Leffingwell*, of Captain *Cleft's* Company, in Colonel *Durkee's* Regiment, brought prisoner before the Court, and accused "of cowardice and misbehaviour before the enemy, and of presenting and snapping a musket at Colonel *Reed*, the Adjutant-General."

The prisoner being arraigned on the above charge, pleads "Not guilty."

Colonel REED deposes. On *Monday* forenoon I left Colonel *Knowlton*, with a design to send him a reinforcement. I had accordingly ordered up Major *Leitch*, and was going up to where the firing was, when I met the prisoner running away from where the firing was, with every mark of trepidation and fear. I followed him, and ordered him back after striking him; he promised to return, and went on into the bushes. A little after, I saw him running off again, and pursued him with a determination to mark him; and came up to him and struck him with my hanger, and wounded him in the head and hand. He bid me keep off, or he would shoot me; he presented his piece, and I think snapped his piece at me. I found him after this lying in a ditch; on his seeing me he fell to bellowing out, and I should have shot him, could I have got my gun off. He has since confessed to me that he was running away at the time I met him.

Lieutenant SHIPMAN, evidence for the prisoner. The prisoner was one of the party with Colonel *Knowlton*, on *Monday*, and behaved well in the first of the skirmish; he was after in a small flank guard with me, and stood his ground till we were ordered to retreat. In the second attack, I know nothing of the prisoner, or where he was.

The Court being cleared, are of opinion, that the prisoner is guilty of "misbehaving before the enemy, and of presenting his musket at Colonel *Reed*," and of a breach of the twenty-seventh article of the rules and regulations for the government of the Continental forces, and the Court sentence him to suffer death for said crime.

COMFORT SAGE, President.

The Court adjourns to *Saturday* morning, 21st of *September*, at nine o'clock.

Proceedings of a Court-Martial on Ensign MACUMBER, SEPTEMBER 21, 1776.

The Court met according to adjournment, when the Judge Advocate laid before the Court the proceedings of yesterday, respecting Ensign *Macumber*, with the order of his Excellency the Commander-in-Chief (hereto annexed) for a reconsideration of the sentence against the said Ensign *Macumber*; which being read, the Court proceeded to a reconsideration of the judgment in the case of the aforesaid. Present, all the members as yesterday, except Lieutenant-Colonel *Brearly* and Captain *Bond*.

Captain RAMSAY being sworn, deposes. Last *Tuesday*, in the beginning of the afternoon, I was crossing *Harlem* Plains; I saw a number of men loaded with plunder. I went up to them and told them they had been acting exceeding wrong, and would have to answer for their conduct; they said they had acted in obedience of their officers' orders. Presently Ensign *Macumber* came up, and I renewed the conversation with him; he told me he had gone out by orders of his officer, and that he had a right to take any thing outside of our lines. Ensign *Macumber* had at this time a knapsack full on his shoulder, out of which stuck two waxen toys, which I took hold of, and jested with him on his having such a pretty sort of plunder; he made me no

reply, but ordered them to proceed with what things they had; they had a large chair full, consisting of poultry and some house furniture; some were loaded with kettles and kitchen furniture. Just upon this, Major *Box* came up, and spoke to the foremost of the party, who told him they had got the plunder at *Harlem*; on which the Major, with a pistol in his hand, ordered the man to lay it down; the man hesitated and looked round on his party; upon this, Major *Box* ordered the whole party to lay down their plunder, or he would shoot the first man that refused; immediately on this, Ensign *Macumber* called out to his men, "my lads, stand to your arms and form," and said to Major *Box*, "we'll see who has the strongest party," or words to this effect; the men instantly formed; on this, Major *Box* asked the Ensign if he knew him; the Ensign replied, yes, that he knew him to be Major *Box*. The Major replied that he was so, and that he came with express orders from his Excellency to act as he did, and to prevent plundering; the Ensign told him that he had acted by orders of a superior officer. Major *Box* said, I must put you under an arrest, and ordered a man to take his arms. *Macumber* said he would not be disarmed, but would go with them and his plunder to his General, who might act with them as he pleased, and that he would spill his blood before he would give them up there. At this time his men were exceeding mutinous; several of them cocked their pieces and brought them nearly to a present at Major *Box*. The Major asked for the Ensign's name, and went off. The men were exceeding abusive to the Major, and Ensign *Macumber* ordered them to be quiet. I have no doubt but if any attempt had been made to disarm the prisoner, his party would have fired; and I was so apprehensive of this, that I stood on my guard.

Ensign *Macumber* offers no evidence.

The Court after a thorough reconsideration of the evidence for and against the prisoner, and after the maturest consideration of the further evidence which has been produced, are of opinion, that the prisoner is guilty of plundering and of mutiny, and the Court annul the sentence of yesterday, and are of opinion that the prisoner be cashiered for said offence; and he is accordingly cashiered.

COMFORT SAGE, *President*.

GENERAL ORDERS.

Head-Quarters, Harlem Heights, September 23, 1776.

(Parole, Stamford.)

(Countersign, Norwalk.)

Ebenezer Leffingwell, being convicted of offering violence to his superior officer, of cowardice, and misbehaviour before the enemy, was ordered to suffer death this day. The General, from his former good character, and upon the intercession of the Adjutant-General, against whom he presented his firelock, is pleased to pardon him; but declares that the next offender shall suffer death, without mercy.

Sergeant-Major *Hutton* is appointed Adjutant to Colonel *Mead's* Regiment, Colonel *Silliman's* Brigade.

Mr. *Charles Knowles* is appointed Paymaster to Colonel *Knox's* Regiment of Artillery.

Colonel *Douglass's* Brigade-Major being ordered in arrest for "neglect of duty, in not giving the parole and countersign to the guards," Colonel *Douglass* is to appoint another to do the duty.

Colonels and Commanding Officers of Regiments have neglected to make reports of the examination of their regiments after plunder. They are now reminded of it, and will be mentioned in orders if they neglect it.

A report is to be made at Head-Quarters, as soon as possible, of the several officers under arrest, that they may be tried; Colonels and Commanding Officers of Regiments to attend to it.

Head-Quarters, Harlem Heights, September 24, 1776.

(Parole, Bristol.)

(Countersign, Salem.)

The Quartermaster-General and the Chief Engineer are to mark the grounds, to-morrow, on which the barracks and huts are to be built this side *King's Bridge*. They are to call upon the General, previous to their setting out upon this business, for directions. When the ground is marked out, the Quartermaster-General is to cause the materials for building to be laid thereon as quick as possible.

The General is informed, that in consequence of his

recommendation of the 20th instant, many regiments have turned out very cheerfully to work, when others have sent few or no men on fatigue. The first he thanks for their conduct, whilst the others are to be informed that their conduct will be marked. The General would have them recollect that it is for their own safety and self-defence these works are constructing, and the sooner they are finished, the sooner they will be able to erect warm and comfortable barracks or huts for themselves to lodge in.

The Militia which came to the assistance of this Army, under the command of General *Wolcott*, are to hold themselves in readiness to return home. Before they go, they are to return into the publick stores every thing they drew from thence, such as ammunition, camp-kettles, &c.

Joseph Jackson appointed Paymaster to Colonel *Hutchinson's* Regiment.

Major *Henly*, Aid-de-Camp to General *Heath*, whose activity and attention to duty, courage, and every other quality which can distinguish a brave and gallant soldier, and must endear him to every lover of his country, having fallen in a late skirmish on *Montresor's Island*, while bravely leading a party on, his remains will be interred this afternoon, at five o'clock, from the quarters of Major *David Henly*, acting Adjutant-General, below the hill where the redoubt is thrown up on the road.

The General thanks the Colonels and Commanding Officers of Regiments, for their care in examining the tents and knapsacks of the soldiers, after plunder. He directs that what has been found be sent to the house on the road side, below Head-Quarters; and that Regimental Courts Martial immediately sit, to try every one who cannot prove that he came honestly by what is found in his possession. The offenders to be punished as soon as the sentence is approved by the Colonel or Commanding Officer. As a little wholesome severity now may put a stop to such ruinous practices in future, the General hopes a very strict inquiry will be made, and no favour shown. The General does not admit of any pretence for plundering. Whether it is Tory property taken beyond the lines or not, it is equally a breach of orders, and to be punished in the officer who gives orders, or the soldier who goes without. Such Colonels or Commanding Officers of Regiments as have not reported, will be mentioned by name in to-morrow's orders, if reports are not made before.

A working party, of one thousand men, properly officered, to parade to-morrow, opposite Head-Quarters, at seven o'clock. The parade will be attended by some General Officers, who will put in arrest any officer found delinquent in bringing his men in time.

A Field Officer of the Regiment posted at *Mount Washington* is to visit the guards there carefully, the distance from the lines not admitting the General Officer of the day to go up.

BENJAMIN DEPUY TO NEW-YORK CONVENTION.

Mamacoting Precinct, Westchester County, New-York, }
September 24, 1776. }

Whereas Captain *Tyler*, from *Cosechton*, arrived here as an express, the 22d instant, at night, with an account that all the neighbourhood there and farther up the *Delaware*, were greatly alarmed, so that several of the inhabitants up that way intended to move down into the more populous settlements. The occasion of said alarm was a letter sent by one Mr. *Johnson*, from *Tunadilla*, down the *Delaware*, an extract of which Captain *Tyler* brought here, which we send per bearer, *Thomas Kyte*, to lay before your Honours.

We, concluding that the *Cosechton* people were in great confusion and terrour, persuaded Captain *Tyler* for to return and pacify the people, which he consented to do, upon our sending this express to your Honours; and he will send another express here this week, to receive your Honours' answer and directions how to behave in this affair, hoping you are better acquainted with the cause of this alarm than either they or we are. As for other particulars, the bearer can inform you, who is a person you may rely on and confide in, as faithful and zealous in the cause.

From your Honours' friends and humble servants.

Per order of the Committee:

BENJAMIN DEPUY, *Chairman*.

To the Hon. Congress held for the State of *New-York*.

P. S. If there should happen to be an attack made on

our frontier by disaffected persons or *Indians*, we are in a poor state of defence at present, our companies being so weakened by the different drafts out of them, but especially by the volunteers that entered into the service under Captain *De Witt*, who are at present under no command, not being mustered.

JOHN SLOSS HOBART TO NEW-YORK CONVENTION.

Camp at King's Bridge, September 25, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: In pursuance of your orders I called at the Fort in the Highlands, and found things in as good a state as could be expected, considering the number of men in garrison. I have mentioned to General *Washington* your request that a reinforcement might be sent from hence; his answer was, that from the state of the army it was impossible to be complied with. I saw him yesterday evening, but as he was much indisposed, and crowded with business, I avoided pressing him upon the subject. I have not waited on him to-day, as I suppose him engaged with a Committee of Congress, who arrived as I left Headquarters last evening, but intend to urge, if I should see him as I propose to-morrow, that at least Colonel *Livingston* with his detachment may be sent there.

When I showed him your resolve respecting the exchange of General *Woodhull*, he asked me who we had to propose. I mentioned Mr. *Matthews*, as the only person they would probably think of as an equivalent. He doubted the propriety of such an offer; as Mr. *Matthews* was not in the military line, he could not, perhaps, be accepted; and besides, the exchanging a person charged with treasonable practices against the *United States*, for a gentleman taken in arms, might probably be thought not altogether so proper by some people. These were doubts which, I confess, it was not in my power to obviate; however, I shall introduce the subject again to-morrow, and endeavour to have the General's sentiments explicitly upon it. He told me if I would draw up any proposal he would send it over by the first flag. I was in hopes he would have offered some one of the persons he took up and sent to *Connecticut*; but as he did not mention it, I thought such a proposal would come with a very bad grace from me, as we had neglected to take the precaution of securing the Crown officers and disaffected persons amongst us. However, that I may leave no stone unturned for the relief of our worthy President, I shall consult Mr. *Lewis*, who is one of the Committee of Congress, and, if possible, draw from the General an offer of one of those men. Should I fail of success, shall set out with a heavy heart for *Fairfield*, in order to comply with your directions about *Ketchum*, who, I am informed by Captain *Rogers*, is there in gaol.

While I am writing, General *Clinton* has picked up a letter from Mr. *Duer*, requesting to know the particulars of the conflagration of *New-York*, and what measures are taking to exchange General *Sullivan* and Lord *Stirling*. The city is burnt from the *Bowling-Green*, on the west side of the *Broadway*, to the College, except the buildings of Mr. *J. Cortlandt* and Mr. *Rutherford's* houses; and on the east side to within two doors of the house lately occupied by General *McDougall*, and the west side of *Broad* street from the Exchange to *Vervatenburgh* street. General *Howe* disclaims any knowledge of the matter till the city was in flames; and in order to evince his sincerity, we are told he threw several persons, suspected of being concerned, into the flames; several others were hung up by the heels, and afterwards had their throats cut. This, we suppose, has been done in order to take the odium of such a crime from the army. The most rational conjecture we can make for the cause of the fire is, that the army, having been promised the plunder of the town in case of conquest, and finding from their late repulse that such an event is rather too far distant for their impatience, have set fire to the town in order to facilitate their views. As to the exchange, General *Prescott* is on his way to relieve General *Sullivan*. The matter of Lord *Stirling* is not settled, as General *Howe* excepts to his being exchanged for *McDonald*, who, he says, only bears the rank of a Major in his army. Our *Canada* prisoners are at the *Hook*, and are to be sent on shore on their parole.

This will be handed you by Captain *Rogers*, who will give a full account of his cruise and success, from which

you will be able to judge of the expediency of retaining or selling the *Montgomery*. Should the latter be your determination, beg I may have the refusal of her, as I will take her with her cannon and stores at the appraisal of any two indifferent persons. Shall be glad to know how I shall dispose of the three hundred and twenty pounds of publick money I left at *Fairfield*.

A letter in answer, by Captain *Rogers*, will much oblige your most obedient servant,

J. S. HOBART.

To the Honourable the Convention of *New-York*.

COLONEL HARTLEY TO GENERAL GATES.

Crown-Point, September 24, 1776.

HONOURED SIR: I received yours of this morning, and shall carefully attend to your directions.

You will understand by Captain *Duer* that there is a probability of some *Canadians* and *Indians*, with some Regulars, paying us a visit at this place. They look upon it as an easy acquisition for a few hours, and are convinced they can destroy the small party here. I differ with them in the fact. A thousand men, without artillery, can do us no injury, or, at least, we shall be able to kill more of them than they will of us. It is very practicable to cut off the retreat of any party that may enter upon the project. I shall give you timely notice to send a party to cut off their retreat, should they make an attempt with any thing less than the main body.

The canister shot has not been sent, but I expect to receive it as soon as the canisters can be made. In the present situation of the fleet, it is practicable for small craft to pass it; but I am yet under no apprehension. My men are recovering within these few days very fast.

I am, honoured sir, your most humble servant,

THOS. HARTLEY.

To General *Gates*.

COLONEL HENRY B. LIVINGSTON TO GENERAL WASHINGTON.

Saybrook, September 24, 1776.

SIR: Since my last I have made a little excursion upon *Long-Island*, and brought off three thousand one hundred and twenty-nine sheep, and four hundred head of horned cattle, from *Shemcock's Plains*, about thirty miles from *Sag-Harbour*. There hearing a Mr. *Richard Miller* and some others were raising companies to aid and assist General *Howe*, I despatched Captain *Roe*, with about thirty men, to seize their leaders and hinder the people from collecting. At the time of Captain *Roe's* arrival at *Satucket*, he found that Mr. *Miller* had enlisted about forty men, and was on his way to head his company, when he fell in with Captain *Roe* and his party, who lay in wait for him, in hopes to make him their prisoner. He was hailed several times, and ordered to stop; but attempting to make his escape, was shot through the body. I have thought proper to be thus particular with regard to this transaction, lest it should be misrepresented, as the young gentleman has many friends. He is said to have been recommended to the notice of Lord *Howe* by Judge *Ludlow*.

Oliver De Lancey is a Brigadier-General under Lord *Howe*, as your Excellency may see by the enclosed copies of orders sent to Colonel *Phineas Fanning*. I was permitted a sight of the originals, on condition they should be again returned. A reward of five hundred pounds is offered for my head by General *De Lancey*, I am told. I am in great hopes of being even with him soon, if your Excellency pleases to continue me on this station. If it was possible for me to obtain a few more men, I believe it would be in my power to make their quarters very warm for them at *Jamaica*, as I am informed most of their army have crossed the *East River*. However, should this not be a fact, it is certain that Lord *Howe* has ordered all grain, hay, &c., to be valued and reserved for the use of the *British* army; the defending or destroying this would be advantageous, I should imagine. The *New-England* people are very backward in supplying vessels to carry off stock, otherwise I should have removed treble the quantity. Most of those I have, have been pressed for that purpose, and I have given them certificates on the Convention of *New-York* in payment for the time they were employed.

Any directions your Excellency will be pleased to honour me with shall be strictly complied with.

I remain your Excellency's most obedient, humble servant,

HENRY B. LIVINGSTON.

To His Excellency General Washington.

Jamaica, September 1, 1776.

SIR: I am ordered by his Excellency the Honourable William Howe, Esq., General and Commander-in-Chief of all his Majesty's forces in North America, from Nova-Scotia to the Floridas, on the application of the County of Suffolk, by Nathaniel Woodhull and Samuel Phillips, who have signified to him that the inhabitants of said County are desirous to lay down their arms and again become legal and obedient subjects, that for the peace, and ease, and security of the inhabitants, he is willing to accept of their submission, and promise them protection on the King's Colonels or other inferiours of Militia, respectively making and causing the men through the country to lay down their arms, take the oath of allegiance, and sign the said roll of submission, disclaiming and rejecting the orders of Congress and Committees, and totally refusing obedience to them, and to obey the legal authority of Government, and in all places of worship in future to pray for the King and Royal family, as was usual before the present unprovoked rebellion.

OLIVER DE LANCEY,

Major-General of Militia in the Southern District of the Colony of New-York.

To Colonel Conkling.

A true copy:

HENRY B. LIVINGSTON.

Huntington, September 2, 1776.

SIR: You are hereby ordered and directed to give orders to all the King's Captains, or next Commanding officers of the Militia in the Third Battalion in Suffolk County, to call their several companies together, at the usual places, immediately, and to order all them that have taken up arms against the King to lay down their arms, and to take the oath of allegiance to the King, and to sign a roll of submission, disclaiming and rejecting the orders of Congress or Committees, and to obey the legal authority of Government.

I hereby enclose a true copy of the writing sent me from General Howe. This by order of General Howe, by direction of

OLIVER DE LANCEY.

To Colonel Phineas Fanning, or the next Commanding Officer.

A true copy from the original:

HENRY B. LIVINGSTON.

Jamaica, Queen's County, September 5, 1776.

His Excellency the Honourable William Howe, General and Commander-in-Chief of all his Majesty's forces within the Colonies lying on the Atlantick Ocean from Nova-Scotia to West-Florida inclusive, &c., &c., &c., having authorized me to raise a brigade of Provincials, solely for the defence of this island, and to reestablish order and government within the same, to apprehend or drive all concealed Rebels from among his Majesty's well affected subjects, and other purposes:

I do hereby for the encouragement of the inlisting men in the County of Suffolk, give notice, that upon any persons of good recommended character raising a company of twenty men, they shall have commissions for one Captain, one Lieutenant, and one Ensign, and shall be paid and subsisted as the officers and soldiers are in the British pay; and it is hoped that the inhabitants of the County will cheerfully raise the men wanted for this service, as it will prevent the disagreeable business of detaching them, which I shall be under the necessity of doing, if the companies cannot be raised without it.

Given under my hand the date above.

OLIVER DE LANCEY, Brigadier-General.

A true copy:

HENRY B. LIVINGSTON.

Jamaica, September 11, 1776.

I am ordered by his Excellency General Howe to write to you, and order all the fat cattle and sheep in Suffolk

County to be immediately drove down to Jamaica, where proper persons will be appointed to ascertain the weight of them, give certificates of the value of them, that the owners may be paid for them, keeping a distinct account of those cattle, &c., that belong to people who are in actual rebellion, whose cattle must be forced down for the refreshment of the King's troops. This order must be speedily obeyed, as the County will otherwise feel the resentment of the King's troops.

Given under my hand the above date. Reserving only as many cattle as is necessary for their own subsistence.

OLIVER DE LANCEY, Brigadier-General.

To Colonel Phineas Fanning, at Southold.

DANIEL ROE TO EBENEZER WATSON.

Saybrook, September 24, 1776.

MR. WATSON: Enclosed I send you an account of our proceedings at Brook Haven, on Long-Island, which you will please to insert in your next, and oblige many of your readers, as well as your humble servant,

DANIEL ROE.

Last Friday, a party from Lieutenant-Colonel C. Livingston's detachment was put under the command of Captain Daniel Roe, to go from Saybrook to Brook Haven, on Long-Island, for the purpose of bringing off said Captain Roe's family and a number of others. On Saturday night, at twelve o'clock, Captain Roe left the sloop at Brook Haven, taking fourteen men with him to assist in bringing down the family, (leaving on board fourteen men to guard the vessel, under the command of Lieutenant George Smith.) He proceeded to his house, pressing teams as he went, to bring down the goods, not being able to procure them by any other means. At nine o'clock in the morning, just as he was in readiness to return with his family and effects, he was informed by one of his guards, that Mr. Richard Miller, of Brook Haven, a young gentleman of family and fortune, but a notorious enemy to his country, was passing his house; upon which Captain Roe ordered his men to hail him, and if he refused to stop, to fire upon him. He was accordingly hailed three times, upon which he stopped, and five men, with their pieces presented, told him they would instantly kill him if he attempted to stir; he stood and viewed them about half a minute, then discharged a pistol at them, and rode off with the utmost expedition, upon which he was ordered to stop several times; but he still refusing, five guns were separately fired at him, from the last of which a ball was shot through his body, upon which he dismounted, and was carried into Captain Roe's house, where he was left in the care of a number of the inhabitants. Captain Roe being informed that one Jacob Smith, who was in conjunction with Miller, and not far distant when he was taken, had collected a party, and were endeavouring to surround and take him and his men prisoners, he thought it prudent to retreat on board his vessel, where he had but just time to arrive with his wife and family, being obliged to leave the whole of his effects behind him.

The above named Richard Miller and Jacob Smith, had received commissions under the King of Great Britain, and had been raising men for the Ministerial service, and pressing horses and wagons, together with persons to drive them, to assist General Howe in removing his baggage. They had likewise taken fat cattle from the inhabitants, and obliged them to drive them to the Ministerial army.

MASSACHUSETTS COUNCIL TO GENERAL WASHINGTON.

Watertown, September 24, 1776.

SIR: The Board have received your favour of the 19th instant, and we are much obliged to your Excellency for the particular account you have favoured us with, relative to the attack and retreat of the Continental troops from Long-Island, as also of their evacuating the city of New-York. We are glad to hear the retreat was effected with the loss of but three or four men. We should have been well pleased to have heard, that in the late action on the 15th instant, the troops had made a bold and resolute stand against the enemy, instead of being informed that some of them deserted their posts in so shameful and disgraceful manner, as you represented, notwithstanding the exertions of their Generals and the attempts your Excellency made

to rally them. At the time we informed you that this State had resolved to draft one-fifth part of their Militia, to reinforce the army at *New-York*, there had been no appointment of a General Officer to command these troops. We have now to inform you that since our last, the Hon. *Benjamin Lincoln*, Esq., Major-General of the Militia of this State, has been appointed to this command, who will soon be able to give you the necessary information with respect to the officers who are to command the respective regiments of which this reinforcement will consist.

To His Excellency *George Washington*, Esq.

JOHN TORREY TO MASSACHUSETTS COUNCIL.

Plimouth, September 24, 1776.

SIR: The Committee of Correspondence, &c., of this town beg leave to represent to the honourable Council, that there are two persons, viz: *Benjamin Marston*, Esq., of *Marblehead*, and one *Gideon White*, of this town, taken and brought in here, who are refugees to the town of *Boston*, and from thence to *Nova-Scotia*. The character and conduct of these men have been so well known to us, and the danger of their going at large so apparent, that we conceived it our duty to confine them. We have accordingly ordered them to the gaol in this town, 'till your Honours' pleasure can be known. We would further inform you, that we conceive the gaol here is not a proper place to confine them in. They have many connexions here, especially the last of them, of the same character of themselves, by whose assistance they may make an escape, and get off with some vessel, to the injury of this town and the common cause. We would therefore beg leave to suggest to your Honours the propriety of sending them to some gaol in the internal parts of this State.

We wait your further directions, and are with the greatest respect, your most obedient, humble servants, the Committee of Correspondence and Safety for the town of *Plimouth*.

Per order,

JOHN TORREY, *Chairman*.

MASSACHUSETTS COUNCIL TO GOVERNOUR TRUMBULL.

Council Chamber, Watertown, September 24, 1776.

SIR: Upon the receipt of your Honour's favour of the 9th instant, the General Court of this State appointed a committee to purchase sixty whale-boats, and a suitable number of oars for them, and have ordered the battalion of Militia destined for the State of *Rhode-Island*, to proceed with the boats to their place of destination, with all possible despatch, and deliver the boats to Governour *Cooke*. The mode of removing them from thence to *Connecticut*, will be settled between your Honour and him. We hope that they will arrive safe, and that the valuable and important purposes for which they are designed be fully answered, our enemies disappointed, our friends relieved and supported. General *Lincoln*, who is appointed to command the Militia from this State, to reinforce the army at *New-York*, will wait on your Honour, from whom you will learn what further steps have been taken.

To Governour *Trumbull*.

NEW-HAMPSHIRE COMMITTEE OF SAFETY TO THE PRESIDENT OF CONGRESS.

[Read October 5, 1776.]

State of New-Hampshire, in Committee of Safety, }
At Exeter, September 24, 1776. }

SIR: The resolve of Congress, accompanied by your letter, requesting aid to be sent to the army under General *Washington*, at *New-York*, came to *Exeter*, the 14th instant. The General Court then sitting, immediately resolved to raise one thousand men for that purpose, and issued orders accordingly. By returns, and information from the different parts of the State, we find the whole number hath voluntarily inlisted, are now just beginning their march, and we expect in two or three days from this time all of them will be on the road. They are formed into two regiments of equal numbers.

I am your most obedient, humble servant,

NATHANIEL FOLSOM, *Chairman pro tem*.

To Hon. *John Hancock*, Esq.

NEW-HAMPSHIRE COMMITTEE OF SAFETY TO GENERAL WASHINGTON.

State of New-Hampshire, in Committee of Safety, }
Exeter, September 24, 1776. }

SIR: In pursuance of a requisition from the honourable Continental Congress, received the 14th instant, this State hath raised one thousand men, who are just beginning their march for *New-York*. They are formed into two regiments, of five hundred men each, under Colonel *Thomas Task* and Colonel *Nahum Baldwin*, who are ordered to march their regiments forward with all possible speed, and put themselves under your direction at *New-York*, and continue so until the first of *December* next.

That your Excellency and the troops under your command, may be guided by unerring wisdom, save your country, and defeat the cruel purposes of our inveterate enemies, none more fervently wishes, than your most obedient, humble servant,

NATHANIEL FOLSOM, *Chairman pro tem*.

To His Excellency General *Washington*.

NEW-HAMPSHIRE COMMITTEE OF SAFETY TO GENERAL WARD.

State of New-Hampshire, in Committee of Safety, }
Exeter, September 24, 1776. }

SIR: One thousand men, raised by this State to recruit the army under General *Washington*, at *New-York*, are now just beginning to march, and, we expect, will all be on the road in two or three days.

As no direction was sent us about ammunition, in the hurry of raising the men that matter was overlooked until now; and whether there is a necessity of any being carried from hence, we are not enough acquainted with the state of the magazines at *New-York* to determine. Therefore, we thought it necessary to send the bearer express to *Boston*; and if you suppose it prudent for the men to be supplied with any before they reach *New-York*, we request you will send forward to *Hartford*, in *Connecticut*, where our troops are to rendezvous, such a quantity of powder and balls as you judge necessary for one thousand men, out of the Continental stock in your care. We request this more particularly as our stock is small for our own internal defence.

By order of the Committee. I am, &c.

To Hon. Major-General *Ward*.

PETITION OF HERCULES MOONEY AND OTHERS.

To the Honourable the Committee of Safety for the State of NEW-HAMPSHIRE, humbly shows:

The subscribers, officers in the Continental service under the command of Colonel *Pierce Long*, that, before the promotion of Major *Hodgdon*, he, as Captain of a company in said battalion, with his subaltern officers, had inlisted sixty men for said service, forty of whom have passed muster; that as said company, by reason of said promotion, is now without a Captain, it would be very agreeable to them, as well as to most of the officers of the said battalion, if the command of the said company should be conferred on Mr. *Abraham Perkins*, the First Lieutenant of said company, who is an able, expert officer, and one who has always been ready and willing to discharge the duty of his station, and to whom, we imagine, the said command naturally falls. Wherefore, we pray your Honours to appoint him Captain of the said company, as we conceive you will thereby give content to the soldiers belonging to the said company, and contribute to the increase of the harmony subsisting among the officers of said battalion. And, as in duty bound, shall pray, &c.

HERCULES MOONEY,	TITUS SALTER,
CALEB HODGDON,	SHACKFORD SEAWARD,
ELIPHALET DANIELS,	WILLIAM COOPER,
MENDON JARVIN,	MESACH BELL,
EBENEZER DEARING,	TOBIAS LAUGHTON,
THOMAS BOWLER,	JOHN CALFE.

September 24, 1776.

COLONEL BAYLEY TO COLONEL HURD.

Newbury, September 24, 1776.

By Sergeant *Daniel Booth*, of Colonel *Hitchcock's* regi-

ment, and Captain *Tappan's* company, taken at *Quebeck*, in General *Montgomery's* defeat, and inlisted, *May* last, into the Royal Emigrants, deserted from them from *Point-aux-Trembles* twenty-three days since, we learn that Colonel *Maclean* is gone to *London*; that there are thirteen regiments in *Canada*, about four hundred and fifty men in each; that they are stationed in different parts of *Canada*; that Sir *John Johnson* has about one thousand *Indians* eighteen miles above *Montreal*; that in *Canada* the regiments are as follow, viz: the Ninth, Twentieth, Twenty-First, Twenty-Fourth, Twenty-Ninth, Thirty-First, Thirty-Fourth, Forty-Seventh, Fifty-Third, and Seventy-Second, Royal Emigrants, Sir *John Johnson's* five companies of the *French*, one hundred and fifty Marines, and two regiments of *Hessians*, one of Horse, the other Foot. Great preparations for crossing the Lake; and two vessels of force, &c.

I should have wrote more particular, but am now setting out for *New-York*.

Am, sir, your humble servant, JACOB BAYLEY.
To *John Hurd*, Esq., *Exeter*.

M. CHAMPIGNY TO THE CONGRESS.

Nantz, September 25, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: The desire I have always had of being serviceable to you has induced me to seek for every means of being so. I imagined I would not succeed better than by engaging workmen capable of supplying your troops in *America* with arms and ammunition; in consequence of which, I have considered of ways to collect a number of artificers, sufficient to establish a manufactory of arms, in which may be made two thousand guns a month. This, I think, may easily be effected. I have also looked out for a man to cast brass cannon, and have found one well skilled; but he demands a handsome establishment. I have also found a person to cast iron cannon, a refiner of saltpetre, a director of powder mills. All these workmen amount to the number of five hundred. If their service is agreeable to you, you can send vessels here, to take them in; and, in the mean while, provide, on the side of some small rivers, where the works are to be established, wood, stone, and bricks, necessary for building the houses and furnaces. You must also provide good copper, tin, and *German* steel, if possible. I believe I ought to inform that every man will cost you, one with another, a thousand *French* crowns. But each will be provided with a fusil and a brace of pistols.

If you have occasion for any other workmen, you have only to inform me, and you may rest assured I will use my utmost endeavours to procure them.

I have, for this twelve months past, laboured to gain an acquaintance with these men, and to establish the general proportions for cannon, mortars, and howitzers.

I ought also to inform you that if you want to send for powder, I can procure it for you from the King's magazines at *Raison*, at the rate of twenty sols a pound.

If you have any orders for me, you will send them addressed to M. *Paul*, tenant le *Café des Quatre Nations à Nantz*, (keeper of the Coffee House of Four Nations at *Nantz*;) where all the Captains call who come from *New-England*. He will forward them to me, and I will execute them with all possible zeal.

I expect, gentlemen, the favour of an answer, that I may not keep the workmen in suspense; and am, gentlemen, with all possible zeal and attachment for you, gentlemen, and *New-England*, your most humble and faithful servant,

GUESLARDDE CHAMPIGNY,
Formerly an Officer of the Infantry; at
present, of the Order of St. LAZARRE.

MARYLAND COUNCIL OF SAFETY TO CAPTAIN NICHOLSON.

[No. 189.]

Annapolis, September 25, 1776.

SIR: We wish to avoid being thought troublesome, but, conceiving it to be indispensably our duty to have all accounts with this Board adjusted as speedily as possible, are obliged again to repeat our request that you will immediately render us a complete account of all pecuniary matters which you have had the transaction of, relative to the ship *Defence*, since you took the command of her. The sooner this matter is brought to a conclusion the better, as our Convention, as well as this Board, are anxious to have those

accounts adjusted, and your attention to the frigate may render it more inconvenient to you some time hence.

We are, &c.

To Captain *James Nicholson*.

MARYLAND COUNCIL OF SAFETY TO MESSRS. WILLING AND MORRIS.

[No. 192.]

Annapolis, September 25, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: Eight battalions are to be raised in *Maryland* by order of Congress. Small-arms will be much wanted; permit us, therefore, to remind you of your engagement with our State for the supplying of arms and gunpowder. We hope that it is, or soon will be, in your power to complete your contract. We are, &c.

To Messrs. *Willing and Morris & Co*.

MARYLAND COUNCIL OF SAFETY TO THE SECRET COMMITTEE OF CONGRESS.

[No. 193.]

Annapolis, September 25, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: Your favour of the 13th we only received the 23d instant; the delay was occasioned by the letter's being delivered to a member of our Board who resides on the Eastern Shore, which, through hurry of business for some time, escaped his memory.

We have ordered our Commissary of Stores at *Baltimore Town* to deliver one ton of powder to Messrs. *Lux*, *Purviance*, and *Stewart*, for proving the cannon intended for the frigate; and the further quantity that you desire for the use of her shall be supplied when she is ready, should it not, in the mean time, be convenient for you to send it from *Philadelphia*. It is true that we have a considerable quantity of powder at *Baltimore Town*; but as we have and are equipping sixteen armed vessels of one sort or other, we shall in all probability have use for all the powder we have by us, and indeed more.

Upon all occasions, we have furnished the honourable Congress, and our neighbours, with whatever has been requested of us; and we wish the same measure had been dealt out to us; if it had, we should not have been denied fourteen pieces of canvass, which we were in the greatest want of, to complete the sails for some armed vessels that we were fitting out; and for want of it, we have been obliged to substitute oznaburgs. Had we christened our own child first, we could not have let Congress and our friends of *Virginia* have had two hundred and forty pieces sail-duck, nor yet the cannon, muskets, &c., that we supplied for the *Hornet* and *Wasp*.

You will be pleased to excuse our reminding your Board of these things; for we are exceedingly hurt by its refusing us so trifling a quantity of canvass, at a time when we were informed that not less than two thousand bolts were imported to *Philadelphia* by Congress in one vessel.

We are, &c.

To the honourable Secret Committee of Congress.

Baltimore, September 25, 1776.

One of the prize ships, taken by the *Harlequin*, Captain *Woolsey*, of this port, is arrived at *Chinquetague*, and most of her cargo safely landed.

On *Monday* night, the 23d instant, arrived here from *Philadelphia*, on her way to *Virginia*, the lady of his Excellency General *Washington*, accompanied by *Thomas Nelson*, Jun., Esquire, (a Delegate from *Virginia*;) and his lady, *John Custis*, *George Washington Lewis*, *Nathaniel Nelson*, and *Robert Gates*, Esquires, of *Virginia*; and this morning they proceeded for *Alexandria*.

CÆSAR RODNEY TO THOMAS RODNEY.

Philadelphia, September 25, 1776.

SIR: That the *New-England* men placed to defend the landing-place, behaved in a most dastardly, cowardly, scandalous manner, is most certain; but that courage is not always to be found the same, even in the same person, is equally true, and verified in the very same men; for some of them the day following were in the other engagement, and behaved with great bravery, as did the whole body engaged. You have some account of the skirmish in the

papers; therefore I shall refer you to them and a letter I wrote by *Wilds* and *Bickley*. I saw *Carson*, but not till this morning, when he told me that some person by the name of *Jones*, from *Mifflin's Cross-Roads*, had set out from below since he did, and having got here before him, with subscription papers signed by some people below, went to the several printing offices before he did and engaged the packets to carry down as a post in the place of *Parke*. After I saw *Bradford* the last, and telling him what accounts I had from below, and what *Carson* himself had said, they said they would let *Carson* have the papers for the gentlemen of *Dover* and elsewhere, except those who subscribed to the other. I suppose the subscribers will settle the matter between them when they go down. I doubt whether you will get any powder and shot. The schooner is not arrived as I know of; and you have made no mention of the sloop, but sent the schooner before you heard what my opinion was about selling her. I wrote you concerning them both by the *Bickley*. My pen is confounded bad, and I am too blind to mend it, and Captain *Papley*, who mends and makes them for me, is gone out; therefore must bid you farewell.

CESAR RODNEY.

To *Thomas Rodney*, Esquire.

P. S. The Convention is dissolved; made a plan of Government it seems, and ordered an election at a short day. Quere: Do their late opponents intend calmly to submit, or try again to rally? I am sorry for Mr. *Killon's* illness.

JONATHAN SMITH TO THE PRESIDENT OF CONGRESS.

September 25, 1776.

HONOURED SIR: I was honoured by the Congress with a commission of Deputy Mustermaster-General for the Flying-Camp and Militia; and being happy of every opportunity of rendering any service to the *United States*, I have been engaged in the trust reposed in me. I am fully impressed with a grateful sense of the honour of being called to bear a part in so great a cause, and under so respectable a guidance; yet, although my chief ambition is to be found in the line of duty to my country, reasons of publick as well as of private consideration have reduced me to the necessity, at this time, of asking permission from the honourable Congress to resign the said commission.

With the greatest respect, I have the honour to be, honoured sir, your most obedient, humble servant,

JONATHAN SMITH.

To the Hon. *John Hancock*.

COLONEL SHEE TO THE PRESIDENT OF CONGRESS.

Claremont, September 25, 1776.

SIR: The love I ever bore my country, induced me, contrary to the wishes of my nearest connexions, to accept the honour done me by Congress in appointing me to a regiment. Time and my unwearied endeavours, I flattered myself, would have taken off from the poignancy of those feelings which but too sensibly affected my family, and left me at liberty to pursue a line dictated by duty. With this expectation I quitted my home, and have long combatted the most powerful solicitations, nor would I, till convinced that the entire ruin of those dearer to me than life, depended on my further perseverance, be induced to take the present resolution of resigning that commission with which I was entrusted, and which I now reluctantly enclose you. Let me request you will put the most favourable construction on this conduct, think me, as my uniform conduct has shown, one of the warmest friends of my country, nor blame too rigidly that want of fortitude which the fondest attachment to my family has obliged on this occasion to discover.

I am, with the greatest respect, sir, your obedient, humble servant,

JONATHAN SHEE.

To the Hon. *John Hancock*.

COMMISSIONERS FOR INDIAN AFFAIRS TO COMMITTEE OF CONGRESS.

Pittsburgh, September 25, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: We did ourselves the honour of writing to you on the 31st ultimo by express, since that time we have

taken some measures, which it is incumbent on us to account for and explain to you the grounds on which we acted.

We received advice that a body of *Chippawas* and *Ottawas*, fifteen hundred in number, intended to rendezvous shortly at *Tuscarawas*, and that a smaller party of *Putawatomaws* had set off in order to attack the settlements in this neighbourhood.

The *Mingo*, *Wiandot*, and *Cockanawaga* warriors, assembled at the *Kispapoo* town, we knew were unfriendly to us. The chiefest part of them consist of a banditti formed out of the *Six Nations*, headed by one *Pluggy*, an inveterate enemy of *America*. Though frequently sent for by the Chiefs of that confederacy, to return to their several nations, they have long refused obedience to their orders, or to hearken to their advice. We had heard that these *Mingoes* had already taken some prisoners on the *Kentuckie*, and the latest intelligence we have received from Mr. *Anderson*, whom we sent down to reside at *Coochocking*, in the *Delaware* country, confirms us in our opinions of the intentions of these outlaws. The *White Mingo* and *Keyashuta*, two of the *Seneca* Chiefs, repeatedly represented to us in private council, that the hearts of the *Chippewas* were black and ill affected towards us; and that four of them, who had just arrived, were come as spies, and with a design of doing mischief, they themselves afraid some danger from the *Chippewas'* visit. Urged by these considerations, we thought no time was to be lost. The importance of this place demanded our immediate attention. We wrote, therefore, to the Colonels *Carnahan* and *Proctor*, of *Westmoreland* County, to order detachments of one hundred discreet good marksmen, and equipped chiefly with rifle, out of each of the battalions, to march here as soon as possible. We also requested three hundred men of the Militia of *West-Augusta*, by our letter to *Dorsey Penticost*, Esq., Lieutenant of that County.

We used at the same time every precaution in our power not to affright the country by our procedure, and intimated to the committees and commanding officers of the Counties of *Westmoreland* and *West-Augusta*, that the intelligence should be communicated to the inhabitants, in the most prudent and discreet manner, that they might be put on their guard, but not too much alarmed. We likewise took care to insinuate to the *Indians* amongst us, that our young men too had been ordered here with no ill designs, but on account of some news we had received of the intention of some foolish people of their tribes, and of the avowed purposes of the commanders of *Niagara* and *Detroit*. In pursuance of the plan we had adopted, we appointed a proper Commissary to purchase provision through the country. Flour was both then, and is now, very scarce here, owing to the great wetness of the season; our Commissary would naturally serve the purposes of delivering out the rations regularly to the Militia, and at the same time prevent any impositions which might be practised on us by the *Indians*. We also recommended to Colonel *Mackay* to lay in provisions at the *Kittaning*, for his battalions for three months on the most frugal terms.

In execution of the powers vested in us by the late resolve of Congress, on the 2d, 3d, and 4th instant, we held councils with the few *Chippawas* who had arrived, and some of the *Senecas*. The former, we at length had reason to believe, did not come as spies, but with a friendly intention towards us. The chief object of their visit seemed to arise from a desire of coming to an explanation with the *Senecas* concerning some murders committed by them on the *Chippawa* nation. We were told by the Interpreter that they had brought the bloody belt to the *Senecas*, but it was not thought proper by them to deliver it. In the course of our conferences, we observed a good deal of difference and altercation between the two nations; but were obliged to check the flame for the present. This conduct, in some measure, accounted for the sentiments of the *Seneca* Chiefs; and their own dissensions relieved us from any great fears on account of the *Chippawas*. The party at the *Kispapoo* town not having committed any fresh outrages, added to our satisfaction; and *Onondageone*, of the head *Seneca* warriors, offering himself to go down and use his influence with *Pluggy* and his banditti, in order to recall them from our settlements, made us still more easy. We rewarded him properly, and he set off seemingly desirous to accomplish a

peace. The white *Mingo* likewise proffered his service to us to go to the *Wyandot* towns, and give us intelligence of the operations of our enemies. The four *Chippawas* in a few days became anxious to return home to quiet the minds of their friends, who, it was said, were very uneasy; but we prevailed on them to stay, and *Wassoung*, the king of that nation, coming here shortly after, with three more of his people, they all agreed to continue amongst us until the treaty was over. Influenced by these events, we determined on retaining only a small part of the Militia we had ordered. We soon experienced the difficulty of procuring provisions, unless at a most enormous price, and could readily anticipate the disputes and disorders which would probably take place amongst the inhabitants and *Indians*, if a large number of both were collected; add to this, it would naturally calm the fears of the country, and prevent a general flight, if a large number of the Militia were directed to return home by the Commissioners. We thought it prudent, however, to keep a few to prepossess the *Indians* with an idea that we were not defenceless or unprepared in case of an attack.

On the 8th instant, we were informed that the detachments from Colonel *Carnahan's* battalion were rendezvousing at the *Bullock Pens*, seven miles from hence. We accordingly rode there the next day, and found near one hundred and fifty volunteers collected. We thanked them for their alacrity and despatch, and having explained to them the principles on which we had ordered their march, we dismissed them all except forty. We likewise wrote to Colonel *Proctor*, ordering back his detachments (of which three hundred and fifty were on their march hither,) except the like number of forty. The Militia of *West-Augusta* having arrived here from all parts of the County, on the 14th instant, we expressed to them our sense of their spirited conduct, and kept only one hundred of their number. The garrison here now consists of two hundred men, including the *Augusta* Militia, who are lodged in the Fort, and do regular duty, and the Militia in this town, including the inhabitants who have associated, amount to about one hundred and forty men. It gives us singular satisfaction when we reflect on the cheerfulness with which the Militia turned out on our call. Their behaviour merits our warmest encomiums; and we trust, should the savages be prevailed on to take up the hatchet against us by our merciless enemies, they will find a race of hardy, experienced woodsmen, whom it will be no easy task to overcome. We have not the least doubt but the wise counsels of the honourable Congress will enable such men to exert themselves to the utmost against a perfidious foe. In case an *Indian* war breaks out, which is by no means improbable, the back inhabitants, properly supported, would form an effectual barrier against the *Indian* depredations.

Thus, gentlemen, have we endeavoured to point out the grounds on which we first formed our resolutions, and the principles on which we deviated from them afterwards. If we have in some degree pursued a path out of the line of our duty, we humbly hope the circumstances of the country will render our conduct not wholly unpardonable. Conscious of the most fervent zeal for the true interests and honour of the *United States of America*, we have sought only the security of the frontiers against the horrors of *Indian* cruelty, and to inspire that confidence into the minds of the inhabitants, which is so essentially necessary for their safety and preservation. We cheerfully submit the steps we have taken to the candid opinion of your Committee and Congress.

We herewith transmit to you some intelligence given to us by a *Seneca* Indian. It was imparted to us under the strongest injunctions of privacy, and we thought proper to engage to him, that upon the settlements being attacked he should be received amongst us and protected. We also send you the information given to us by two spies whom we sent to *Guyahoga* to discover the intentions of the savages, and watch their motions.

We are, gentlemen, with great truth and regard, your very obedient and humble servants,

THOMAS WALKER,
JOHN HARVEY,
JOHN MONTGOMERY,
J. YEATS.

[NOTE. The papers said to be enclosed were not in the letter.]
FIFTH SERIES.—VOL. II.

REPORT OF WILLIAM WILSON TO THE COMMISSIONERS FOR
INDIAN AFFAIRS.

Pittsburgh, September 26, 1776.

Some time in *June* last, 1776, I was sent by Mr. *George Morgan*, agent for *Indian* affairs in the Middle Department, to the *Shawanees*, to prevent their going to *Detroit* to a treaty, until he arrived there and spoke to them. Upon my reaching the towns, I found them ready to set off for *Detroit*; but on my delivering Mr. *Morgan's* message, they agreed to stay until he came to their towns. When Mr. *Morgan* came and spoke to them, they referred him to the *Wyandots* to fix the time of holding the treaty, as they had great influence over the western tribes. I continued in the *Shawaneese* town with Mr. *Morgan* whilst he stayed. Some time in *July* I left the towns in company with the *Cornstalk*, the *Hardman*, and several others, in order to go to the *Wyandot* towns with a message from Mr. *Morgan*, inviting them to a treaty to be held at *Pittsburgh* the last of *August*; but Mr. *Morgan* directed me to settle some other time for holding the treaty, if I should find it was not convenient for them to attend then.

We proceeded to a small *Shawaneese* town, about ten miles from the principal towns, the first day, and continued there ten days, waiting for some of the chief warriors to join us. I grew impatient, and prevailed on the *Cornstalk* to set off with me. The *Hardman* and the others promised to follow the next day. The following morning, a couple of runners were sent to us to inform us that the *Hardman* had heard the *Shade* was at *Pittsburgh*, on his way from *Niagara*, and that he would wait four days for him to hear the news from the treaty held there. We then proceeded to *Pluggy's* town. There were very few people in the town, and we agreed to encamp there that night. We were detained the next day by an *Indian*, who said he had some news which he wanted to inform us of. It turned out to be nothing more than that he had understood the *Shade* was arrived at the *Shawaneese* towns, and that we might expect the *Hardman*, and others which we left behind, to overtake us in a few days.

That evening we were alarmed by an *Indian* who came in with the alarm halloo, from the *Shawaneese* towns. The *Cornstalk* went to him immediately, to hear the news. He soon returned, and informed me that the white people over the big river had fired on a party of *Shawanees* and *Cherokees*; that one of the party had got into the towns, who said that one of the *Shawaneese* was certainly killed, and he did not know but more of them were, for there were a great many guns fired at them. I told the *Cornstalk* that I imagined the white people had sufficient reasons, or they would not have fired on them. He said he was of the same opinion; and on hearing the news, he told the *Mingoes* it was they who had killed his young men and not the white people; that the mischief was done in consequence of the prisoners they took from *Kentucky*.

Some time afterward, the *Mingoes* assembled together at a house belonging to a *French* smith, and began to counsel. The *Frenchman* overheard them, and told me that they had determined to take *Joseph Nicholson* and myself prisoners to *Detroit* the next day; that perhaps they might attempt to amuse us by speaking in a friendly manner, but he advised us to pay no regard to them, but to make our escape that night. Some time after night the *Mingoes* came to where we were encamped, and said they wanted to speak to us. They produced a string, and spoke to the following effect: they desired the *Shawanees* and *Delawares* not to be displeased at their laying hold of their two white brothers and detaining them for two days; that they had sent messengers to the *Wyandot* chiefs, and that within that time they and all the neighbouring chiefs were expected to assemble there, and that all the speeches were to be told over. I told them that as they desired me to continue with them for two days I would do so, on which they went off seemingly satisfied.

I advised with the *Cornstalk* and *Delawares* what was the most prudent step for me to take, and what they thought of the before-mentioned speech. The *Cornstalk* said they only wanted to deceive me, and he and the *Delawares* recommended to us to make our escape that night, and endeavour to get to *Coochocking*, a *Delaware* town. We did so, after engaging a *Delaware* man to go to the *Shaw-*

anese towns to hear the news which the before-mentioned person brought, and to discover the temper they were in. I thought it expedient to continue at *Coochocking* until the return of the messenger I had sent to the *Shawanees*. He returned in four days, and informed that the party of *Shawanees* and *Cherokees* before mentioned had killed two men and taken a woman prisoner, on the *Kentucky*; that the white people pursued them, came up with them the next day, and killed two of the *Shawanees*, and rescued the prisoner; that the *Cherokees* had sent a tomahawk-belt with two scalps tied to it, to the *Shawanees*, informing them that they had struck the white people, and it was his opinion that the *Shawanees* would join, provided the other nations did. He further said that the *Hardman* intended to proceed to the *Wyandots* with the messages from Mr. *Morgan*, and would meet me at *Sandusky*.

I thought it advisable to engage some of the *Delaware* chiefs to go with me to the *Wyandot* towns. I therefore assembled the *Delawares* and desired they would appoint some persons for that purpose. They pitched upon Captain *Killbuck* and two young men, to accompany me. After I had made the necessary preparations for my journey, King *Newcomer* spoke to me and said, he thought it was dangerous for me to pursue my intended journey, as it was probable the *Mingoes* might waylay the road and kill me; that he would send a message of his own to the *Wyandots*, with Mr. *Morgan's*, and advised me to continue at *Coochocking*, and let Captain *Killbuck* proceed with the messages, and to send *Joseph Nicholson* to Mr. *Morgan* to inform what I had done. I took his advice. *Killbuck* returned in eleven days, with the messages sent by him, and a message from the *Wyandots* to me, signifying that those who lived on this side of the Lake were not able to give an answer without consulting their chiefs on the other side; that I must come with my message myself; that I need not apprehend any danger from them; that if my heart was good towards them I would come, if it was not I would stay away.

On receiving this message, I determined to go, and *Killbuck* and two young men were again appointed to accompany me. We travelled about ten miles from *Coochocking*, when *Killbuck* was taken sick, which obliged us to return. I then applied to Captain *White-Eyes* to go with me, who very readily consented. At *Winganous* town, about six miles from *Coochocking*, I met with *John Montour*, whom I employed to go with me, and a *Wyandot* man, who told me that he imagined that *Cornstalk* and other *Shawanees*, and the *Wyandot* chiefs, had left *Sandusky*, and that he would pilot me a nearer way to where the chiefs were. Nothing material happened until we arrived at a *Wyandot* village opposite to *Detroit*, where the chiefs were assembled. They received me in a very kind and friendly manner, and thanked me for coming among them in consequence of their invitation. They said they had heard many bad reports from the *Big-Knife*, but my coming among them was a convincing proof that they were false. One of the *Wyandots* refused to shake hands with me. On the others asking the reason, he said he would not do it, for he did not love the *Big-Knife*. I asked them if all the chiefs were then present, and if they chose to hear my message at that time. They said they were all present, and were willing to hear me immediately. I first spoke to them on a string, telling them that in consequence of the message sent to me from *Sandusky*, I had visited them; that I put myself under their protection, and that they should determine how long I should continue among them. I then produced the belt and speech sent me by Mr. *Morgan*. The purport of it was to ask their assistance in brightening and strengthening the chain of friendship with all the western tribes of *Indians*, and inviting them to a treaty to be held at *Pittsburgh* in twenty-five days from that time, which was the 2d of *September*.

Captain *White-Eyes* then spoke to them and said, that as the path to their towns appeared to be somewhat dim, he had accompanied me, that I might not lose myself. He assured them that the *Big-Knife* desired nothing more than to live in peace and friendship with all the *Indians*. They answered that they were convinced the *Indians* desired to be in friendship with the white people, and as far as their influence extended, they would endeavour to promote the good work of peace. They then withdrew to consider of

my speech. After some time, they returned and told me they were glad their brother, the *Big-Knife*, thought so much of them as to ask their assistance in brightening the chain of friendship. They assured me they would use all their influence with the other tribes to preserve peace; and desired that I would remain with them two days, to hear them explain my speech to the other nations who were assembled at *Detroit*.

Next morning they sent to the Governour of *Detroit*, informing that I was in their town, and if he desired to speak to me in a friendly manner, he might have an opportunity of doing so. They made me acquainted with this message. On the return of their messenger, they delivered back the belt they received from me, and said they thought it best I should deliver it in publick in *Detroit*, to which I agreed. I imagine they were directed by the Governour to return the belt. Captain *White-Eyes*, *John Montour*, myself, and the *Wyandot* chiefs, went to the Council-house at *Detroit* together. After the *Indians* and the Governour met, one of the *Wyandot* chiefs got up and informed the other nations that they had met with one of their brothers, the *Big-Knife*, which might delay the business they were upon. Then addressing himself to the Governour, he said, he thought that he, as their father, was the proper person to inquire of me the business I came upon.

The Governour then asked from whence I came, and what business I was upon. I told him I came from *Pittsburgh*, with a message from Mr. *Morgan*, agent for the Colonies, to the *Wyandots*; and told him of the message I had received from the *Wyandots* from *Sandusky*, and that in consequence of that message, I had come to the *Wyandot* village. He then asked if I had my message in writing. I told him I had. He desired to see it, and I delivered it to him. After perusing the speech, he addressed himself to the *Indians*, and said that after the message was explained to them they should consider of a proper answer to make to it, and that he would join them in their answer. The speech was then interpreted to the *Indians* present, and I delivered the belt to a *Wyandot* chief. He gave it to the Governour, telling him that he was their father, and knew best what to do with it.

The Governour then spoke to the *Indians* as follows:

"CHILDREN: I am your father, and you are my children. I have always your good at heart. I am sent here to represent the great King over the waters, and to take care of you. Those people from whom you received this message, are enemies and traitors to my King; and before I would take one of them by the hand, I would suffer my right hand to be cut off. When the great King is pleased to make peace with his rebellious children in this big island I will then give my assistance in making peace between them and the *Indians*, and not before."

With that he tore the speech and cut the belt to pieces, and contemptuously strewed it about the Council-house. He then told the *Indians* it was not customary with the *English* to detain or injure a publick messenger, and that, therefore, I must be suffered to return unmolested; at which the *Indians* seemed to be greatly pleased. He then asked me if I had any thing more to say to the *Indians*; that if I had, to speak out. I told him I had nothing further to say to them. He then ordered me to leave the place immediately, and said he would order us ten days' provisions to take us home. I told him I came in a canoe belonging to a *Wyandot* man, and could not go until he was ready. He said he would furnish me with a canoe. I then told him that my blankets and shirts were at the *Wyandot* village, and that I must go over for them. He said he would furnish me with blankets and shirts likewise. However, at last, he suffered me to go to the village.

While I was in the Council-house the Governour spoke on a tomahawk belt to the *Wyandots*; but as he delivered the speech in *French* to the interpreter, I did not know what he said upon it. The *Wyandot* chief delivered the belt to the *Cornstalk*. The Governour asked him if he knew what the belt meant. The *Cornstalk* answered he did not. He said he would tell him in a few words. He then informed him that that belt was put into the hands of the *Wyandots* last *March*, desiring them to request the nations who lived next the river, from *Presque-Isle* downwards, to be watchful, and if they discovered any army attempting to cross the

river, to let him know it; but that it now had a greater meaning, and referred him to the *Wyandots* for an explanation of it, and told the interpreter to tell the *Cornstalk* to show that belt to the *Cherokees*, for they had joined the *English* in the general cause. He then asked the nations present if any of them had any thing to say at that time.

The *Mingoes* then produced a black belt, telling the other nations that the Spring before last they received that belt of *Guy Johnson*, informing them that he was going over the big water—that they must hold themselves in readiness against his return, and, until then, to sit still and listen to no one. They said they thought he was approaching near them, for they perceived the waters to shake. They then produced a white belt, which was sent by the *Mingoes* at *Niagara*, with the *Shade*, (a *Shawanee*) to the *Shawaneese* towns, telling them they intended to have sent a messenger with it to them, but as they had met with one of their brothers at *Niagara*, they thought proper to send it by him. They told them they had their words among them, (meaning the tomahawk,) and desired them to take them up and send them among all their friends. These speeches were explained to me by *John Montour*.

The Governour then spoke to the *Indians*, and said he was extremely pleased with the belts produced by the *Mingoes*.

While we were in the Council, the Governour told me he had inquired no news of me, nor did he want to hear any. "For your part," says he to *Montour*, "I knew your father well. He was a good man. I don't know how you came to join with those people. If you should come this way again, (though not upon the same errand,) I will give you something." He told *White-Eyes* he knew his character well, and so did all the nations present. He ordered him to leave *Detroit* before the sun-set as he regarded his head; that he would lose the last drop of his blood before he would suffer any nation to come there and destroy the union which was brought about by so many nations.

White-Eyes made no reply at that time, but after we had left the place, he said the Governour was a fool; that he did not know what he scolded him for; that he had never done him any injury, nor any other white man, since he had made peace with them—nor never would, unless they injured him; that if he had a mind to join the *Buckskins*, he would soon make him tremble for his head; and if he joined either side, it would be the *Buckskins*.

After we left the Council-house, the Governour came up to me and said he would be glad if I would inform the people on my return of what I had seen; that all the *Indians* I saw there at the treaty were of the same way of thinking; and that he would be glad if the people would consider the dreadful consequences of going to war with so terrible an enemy, and accept the King's pardon while it could be obtained. He then informed me that an army of twenty thousand men were landed in *Canada*, and had driven the *Rebels* entirely out of that Government, and were pursuing them to the southward; that twenty-thousand more were landed in *New-York*, and the same number to the southward, with the completest train of artillery that ever came out of *Europe* on any occasion; and that the King must be sure of success, or he would not have sent so large an army against the *Americans*. He then ordered *William Tucker*, one of his interpreters, with whom I had a small acquaintance, to go with me and get provisions for me.

On our way I asked *Tucker* his opinion of the dispositions of the *Indians* at *Detroit*, and if he thought they would strike soon. He hesitated for some time, but at last told me, that without matters took a very sudden turn, it was his opinion they would.

On receiving my provision, I left *Detroit*, in company with the *Hardman* and others, on our way to the *Wyandot* village. I told the *Hardman* that Governour *Hamilton* had informed me that all the *Indians* who were at *Detroit* were of the same way of thinking, and that I expected they would all strike the white people very soon. He said he did not doubt the Governour wished them to be of the same way of thinking, but it was not in his power to make them so, unless they chose it; that, for his part, he came there in search of good, and he should not put evil in his heart; and desired me to tell all his white brothers that his heart was good towards them.

I wanted to leave the village that evening, but the *Wy-*

andots insisted on my staying longer with them. They said they would consider my message, for as yet I had seen nothing that was good. That night they all got drunk. The next morning *White-Eyes* and myself grew impatient to get off, but the head chief of the *Wyandots* still insisted on our staying, and gave us the strongest assurances that no injury should be done to us. He and some others, in company with *White-Eyes*, went over to *Detroit* and returned in the evening. He told *White-Eyes* that his errand was to obtain the Governour's leave for us to stay a few days among them, but that he would not suffer it; so that we must leave the village directly. The Governour saw *White-Eyes*, and threatened to put him in irons and send him to *Niagara*, if he did not leave *Detroit* immediately.

We left the *Wyandot* village in company with a *Wyandot* man, and proceeded that evening as far as his house. The next day one *Isaac Zane* came to see me. In the course of conversation he told me that in talking with the half-king of the *Wyandots*, he asked him if the Governour had not delivered him a tomahawk belt. He said he had. That the *Big-Knife* had threatened them for some time past, so that they could not mind their hunting, and that now they would threaten them. I asked him if it was his opinion that the *Wyandots* would join generally. He said it was almost certain that one half of them would not.

The next day *Zane* and a *Wyandot* man came to where we were. We conversed a good deal on the subject of the quarrel between *Great Britain* and the Colonies. I asked the chief what the *Indians* promised themselves by joining the King's troops? I told him, that perhaps, while the contest continued, they might be furnished with clothes and such like, but when it was over they must return to their former way of living; that if the *Americans* should be successful, they would be so incensed against the *Indians* who fought against them, that they would march an army into their country, destroy them, and take their lands from them. He said it was very true. "There," said he, "is my tomahawk. I will never lift it, nor shall any of my family fight against the *Big-Knife*, if I can help it, unless they come into my own house."

John Montour, and the *Wyandot* man who piloted me to *Detroit*, came up with us. *Montour* continued at *Detroit* two days after I left it. He told me, that after I came away he was drinking in company with the half-king of the *Wyandots*, and that when he got a little in liquor, he told him that the *Big-Knife* need never expect him to be friends with them again; and that, for his part, he should follow nothing but breaking their heads, wherever he met with them.

We set out for *Coochocking*. Nothing material happened on our journey. *White-Eyes* appeared to be a good deal chagrined, as well at the reception he met with from the Governour as from the more western tribes of *Indians*. He said the *Delawares*, he thought, were equally as liable to be struck by the western tribes as the *Big-Knife* was; that they kept every thing secret from them; and that, as soon as they found they were determined for war, he would collect all his people together, and would apply to his *American* brothers to send men to him, and erect a strong fort; that then he should not regard them, for the western tribes were but very indifferent warriors, and if they struck he would soon return the blows. "Then," said he, "the Governour of *Detroit* will need to take care of his head; and the people of the great falls of *Niagara* shall tremble, too." It was his opinion, if that should be the case, a number of the *Shawanees* would join him; for that one of their chiefs told him, at *Detroit*, that his sentiments were the same as his, respecting *Great Britain* and the Colonies.

SIR WILLIAM HOWE TO LORD GEORGE GERMAIN.

New-York Island, September 25, 1776.

MY LORD: Upon the present appearance of things, I look upon the further progress of this army for the campaign, to be rather precarious, an attack upon *Rhode-Island* excepted, which I would willingly defer for a short time, in case it should be thought advisable to employ our whole force together. The duration of the campaign must be short, and the second division of *Hessians* not arrived; nor have I any dependence upon General *Carleton's* approach, to act with influence this year, upon the main Rebel

army, opposed to us, though it is reported to-day by the deserters, that General *Burgoyne*, with a large corps of troops and *Indians*, is advancing fast to *Albany*, by way of the *Mohawk* River. If he gets possession of *Albany*, it will no doubt, facilitate General *Carleton's* movement to that place, and will be attended with favourable consequences. But in my situation, I presume, I must not risk, as a check at this time would be of infinite detriment to us.

The enemy is too strongly posted to be attacked in front, and innumerable difficulties are in my way of turning him on either side, though his army is much dispirited, from the late success of his Majesty's arms; yet have I not the smallest prospect of finishing the contest this campaign, not until the Rebels see preparations in the Spring, that may preclude all thoughts of further resistance. To this end, I would propose eight or ten line-of-battle ships, to be with us in *February*, with a number of supernumerary seamen for manning boats, having fully experienced the want of them in every movement we have made. We must also have recruits from *Europe*, not finding the *Americans* disposed to serve with arms, notwithstanding the hopes held out to me upon my arrival at this port.

Finding the *Hessians* averse to having their accounts methodized, in the manner observed by the *British* regiments, I have given them money on account, taking care, that the sums advanced are sufficiently within the whole pay due to them by treaty, to answer for their stoppages of provisions.

An exchange of prisoners has taken place, and Major-General *Prescott*, in consequence of it, is with me, being exchanged for Major-General *Sullivan*, of the Rebel army; Governour *Montfort Brown* is to be returned for Lord *Stirling*, and Governour *Skene* for an inhabitant of *Boston* taken into custody by General *Gage*.

I am, my Lord, &c.,

W. HOWE.

EXTRACT OF A LETTER RECEIVED IN LONDON FROM MR. JAMES DREWITT, ON BOARD THE MERCURY FRIGATE, AT NEW-YORK, DATED THE 25TH SEPTEMBER, 1776.

Our army has met with great success; we just arrived from *Halifax*, when they made their landing on *Long-Island*, and saw the battles fought between our troops and the Rebels—the latter being drove out, leaving behind them their provisions, camp equipage, intrenching tools, &c. The *Mercury* was ordered abreast the place where they first engaged, to cover the boats sent to bring off the wounded, but, thank God, there were only three hundred killed, a few wounded, and a Lieutenant and thirty marines taken prisoners.

One of the fellows who set fire to this town cut a poor woman's arm off, for attempting to extinguish the fire in her own house, but a party of soldiers coming up run their bayonets through him, and some of the seamen hoisted him up by the heels to a sign-post. There are upwards of six hundred suspected persons taken up and imprisoned in the town. On the 22d, we hung a man who was sent as a spy by General *Washington*.

The *Indians* in the back settlements of *Virginia*, commit great cruelties among the inhabitants by burning their houses, scalping men, women and children. The *Virginians* had drove all their cattle to the back parts of the country, to prevent the troops from getting them, which the *Indians* have taken.

We hear General *Burgoyne* has an army of twenty thousand men, besides *Indians*, and has boats made to pass *Lake Champlain*, and expects he will soon approach near *New-York*. He has sent from *Quebeck* a number of prisoners, and a General *Thompson*. It is strongly reported *Washington* wants to throw up his commission, as the Rebels will not stand to their works; but they say, as he has brought them into a scrape, he shall continue, or get them out of it. The Rebels are now very strongly fortified at *King's Bridge*, about sixteen miles from *New-York*.

GENERAL WASHINGTON TO THE PRESIDENT OF CONGRESS.
[Read 27th. Referred to Mr. Wythe, Mr. Hopkinson, Mr. Rutledge, Mr. J. Adams, and Mr. Stone.]

Head-Quarters, Harlem Heights, September 25, 1776.

SIR: Having wrote you fully on sundry important subjects this morning, as you will perceive by the letter which

accompanies this, I mean principally now to enclose a copy of a letter received from General *Howe*, on *Sunday* morning, with the list of the prisoners in his hands, of those in our possession belonging to the army immediately under his command, and of my answer, which were omitted to be put in the other.

His letter will discover to Congress his refusal to exchange Lord *Stirling* for Mr. *McDonald*, considering the latter only as a Major. They will be pleased to determine how he is to be ranked in future.

The number of prisoners, according to the returns, is greater than what we expected. However, I am inclined to believe, that among those in the list from *Long-Island*, are several Militia of General *Woodhull's* party, who were never arranged in this army. As to those taken on the 15th, they greatly exceeded the number that I supposed fell into their hands in the retreat from the city. At the time that I transmitted an account of that affair, I had not obtained returns, and took the matter upon the officers' reports. They are difficult to get with certainty at any time. In the skirmish of *Monday* se'nnight, they could not have taken but very few.

Before I conclude, I shall take occasion to mention, that those returns made with such precision, and the difficulty that will attend the proposed exchange on account of the dispersed and scattered state of the prisoners in our hands, will clearly evince the necessity of appointing Commissaries and proper persons to superintend and conduct in such instances. This I took the liberty of urging more than once, as well on account of the propriety of the measure, and the saving that would have resulted from it, as that the prisoners might be treated with humanity, and have their wants particularly attended to.

I would also observe, as I esteem it my duty, that this army is in want of almost every necessary—tents, camp-kettles, blankets, and clothes of all kinds; but what is to be done with respect to the two last articles, I know not, as the term of enlistment will be nearly expired by the time they can be provided. This may be exhibited as a further proof of the disadvantages attending the levying of an army upon such a footing as never to know how to keep them without injuring the publick, or incommoding the men. I have directed the Colonel or commanding officer of each corps, to use his endeavours to procure such clothing as are absolutely necessary; but at the same time I confess, that I do not know how they are to be got.

I have the honour to be, with great respect, sir, your most obedient servant,
Go. WASHINGTON.

Increased Pay of the Officers, proposed by the General; enclosed in his Letter of the 25th SEPTEMBER, 1776.

	Present Pay.	Supposed intended.	Difference.
	£ s.	£ s.	£ s.
1 Colonel, - - -	15 0	25 0	10 0
1 Lieut. Colonel, -	12 0	20 0	8 0
1 Major, - - -	10 0	15 0	5 0
8 Captains, at £8 0,	64 0	£10 0, 80 0	16 0
16 Lieutenants, £5 8,	86 8	£ 7 10, 120 0	33 12
8 Ensigns, £4 0,	32 0	£ 6 0, 48 0	16 0
1 Chaplain, - - -	10 0	15 0	5 0
1 Adjutant, - - -	5 10	10 0	4 10
1 Quartermaster, -	5 10	10 0	4 10
1 Surgeon, - - -	10 0	15 0	5 0
Mate, - - -	4 0	7 10	3 10
			£111 2

Head-Quarters, York-Island, September 21, 1776.

SIR: I have the favour of your letters of the 6th and 19th current. In consequence of the latter, directions are given for Major-General *Sullivan* being conveyed to *Elizabethtown* on the earliest day, and I conclude Major-General *Prescott* will return in the same boat.

The exchange you propose of Brigadier-General *Alexander*, commonly called Lord *Stirling*, for Mr. *McDonald*, cannot take place, as he has only the rank of majority by my commission; but I shall readily send any Major in the enclosed lists of prisoners, that you will be pleased to name, in exchange for him; and that Lord *Stirling* may not be detained, I would propose to exchange him for Governour

Montfort Brown, although the latter is no longer in the military line.

Enclosed you have a list of officers belonging to the army under my command, who are your prisoners. It is not so correct as I could wish, having received no regular return of the officers of the Forty-Second and Seventy-First Regiments, taken this year, but beg leave to refer you to Lieutenant-Colonel *Campbell*, of the Seventy-First, to rectify any omissions that may be; and I am to desire you will put opposite to their names such of your officers of equal rank as you would have in exchange for them. The names of the non-commissioned and privates, prisoners with you, are not sent, being unnecessary; but the return herewith enclosed specifies the number, and I shall redeem them by a like number of those in my possession; for which purpose I shall send Mr. *Joshua Loring*, my Commissary, to *Elizabethtown*, as a proper place for the exchange of prisoners, on any day you may appoint, wishing it to be an early one, wherein I presume you will concur, as it is proposed for the more speedy relief of the distressed.

As it may be some time before Mr. *Lovell* arrives here from *Halifax*, though I took the first opportunity of sending for him after your agreement to exchange him for Governour *Skene*, I am willing to believe upon my assurances of Mr. *Lovell's* being sent to you immediately on his arrival, that you will not have any objections to granting the Governour his liberty without delay, and am induced to make the proposal for your compliance, neither of the persons being connected with military service.

General *Carleton* has sent from *Canada* a number of officers and privates, as per return enclosed, to whom he has given liberty upon their paroles; and in pursuance of his desire, and their engagements to him, I shall send them to *Elizabethtown* on the earliest day.

It is nevertheless the General's expectation, that the exchange of prisoners, as settled by Captain *Forster*, in *Canada*, will be duly complied with, and I presume you are sufficiently sensible of the sacred regard that is ever paid to engagements of this kind, not to suffer any infringement upon the plighted faith of Colonel *Arnold*.

It is with much concern that I cannot close this letter without representing the ill treatment, which I am too well informed the King's officers now suffer in common gaols throughout the Province of *New-England*. I apply to your feelings alone for redress, having no idea of committing myself by an act of retaliation upon those in my power.

My Aid-de-Camp, charged with the delivery of this letter, will present to you a ball cut and fixed to the ends of a nail, taken from a number of the same kind found in the encampments quitted by your troops on the 15th instant. I do not make any comment upon such unwarrantable practices, being well assured the contrivance has not come to your knowledge.

I am, with due regard, sir, your most obedient servant,
W. HOWE.
To General *George Washington*, &c., &c., &c.

Head-Quarters, Heights of Harlem, September 23, 1776.

SIR: I yesterday evening received the favour of your letter of the 21st, by your Aid-de-Camp, Captain *Montresor*, in consequence of which I this morning despatched an express to *Elizabethtown*, with order that Major-General *Prescott* should be permitted to return in the boat that carried General *Sullivan* over to that place.

I most readily concur in the proposition you are pleased to make for the exchange of Brigadier-General Lord *Stirling* for Governour *Montfort Brown*, and have sent for him accordingly. I should hope that Lord *Stirling* will be immediately set at liberty, on my promise that Governour *Brown* shall be sent to you as soon as he arrives. I had no doubt but Mr. *McDonald's* title would have been acknowledged, having understood that he received his commission from the hands of Governour *Martin*; nor can I consent to rank him as a Major till I have proper authority from Congress, to whom I shall state the matter upon your representation.

Agreeable to your request, I shall transmit to Lieutenant-Colonel *Campbell* a copy of the list of officers of the Forty-Second and Seventy-First Regiments, taken by us last Spring, that it may be rectified in the instances in which it may be wrong, and will there place opposite to their names

the officers I would wish in return for them. The exchange of privates I shall take the earliest opportunity in my power to carry into execution; but they being greatly dispersed through the *New-England* Governments in order to their better accommodation, will prevent it for some time.

Having the fullest confidence in your assurance that Mr. *Lovell* will be released when he arrives from *Halifax*, I have wrote for Governour *Skene* to come to Head-Quarters, that he may proceed immediately to you.

As to the exchange of prisoners settled between Captain *Forster* and General *Arnold*, I beg leave to inform you that it was a transaction in which I had not the smallest concern, nor have I authority to give directions in any degree respecting the matter.

The information you have received concerning the ill treatment of your officers, I would fain hope is not generally well founded. The letters from them which have passed through my hands, hold forth a different language. In particular instances, 'tis true, there are some who have been restricted to a closer confinement and severer treatment than they otherwise would have been, for breaking or refusing to give their paroles. Such, I am confident, will not be countenanced by your Excellency; and I am persuaded, by a closer investigation of the inquiry you will discover that there have been no other persons whatever who have experienced the smallest hardship from us. I shall, however, obtain all the information on the subject in my power, that every ground of complaint, if any exists, may be entirely removed, it being my most earnest wish that during this unhappy contest there be every exercise of humanity which the nature of the case will possibly admit of.

Your Aid-de-Camp delivered me the ball you mention, which was the first of the kind I ever saw or heard of. You may depend the contrivance is highly abhorred by me, and every measure shall be taken to prevent so wicked and infamous a practice being adopted in this army.

I have the honour to be, with due regard, sir, your most obedient servant,
GO. WASHINGTON.

To His Excellency General *Howe*.

Return of Prisoners taken on the Island of NEW-YORK, 15th and 16th of SEPTEMBER, 1776.

	Colonel.	Lieut. Colonels	Majors.	Captains.	Lieutenants.	Ensigns.	Privates.
First Battalion New-Yorkers, - -	-	-	-	1	-	-	-
Second Battalion New-Yorkers, -	-	-	-	1	-	-	-
New Levies, - - - - -	1	1	2	1	2	-	-
Connecticut Militia, - - - - -	-	1	-	-	3	-	-
Third Cont'l Pennsylvania Reg't, -	-	-	-	1	-	-	-
Long-Island Militia, - - - - -	-	-	-	1	1	-	-
Tenth Continental Regiment, - -	-	-	-	-	1	-	-
Total, - - - - -	1	2	2	5	7	-	260

Jos. LORING, Commissary of Prisoners.
Officers' Names and Rank.
FIRST BATTALION NEW-YORK: Captain *Van Dyck*.
SECOND BATTALION NEW-YORK: Captain *De Witt*.
NEW LEVIES: Colonel *Samuel Seldon*, Lieutenant-Colonel *Hart*, Major *Porter*, Major *Willis*, Captain *Wells*, Lieutenant *Benjamin Brewster*, Lieutenant *Thomas Catlin*.
CONNECTICUT MILITIA: Lieutenant-Colonel *Moulton*, Lieutenant *James Clark*, Lieutenant *John Trowbridge*, Lieutenant *Joseph Moore*.
THIRD CONTINENTAL PENNSYLVANIA REGIMENT: Captain *Davenport*.
LONG-ISLAND MILITIA: Captain *John Titus* and Lieutenant *Jacob Bloom*.
TENTH CONTINENTAL REGIMENT: Lieutenant *William Cleveland*.

Return of Prisoners sent by General GUY CARLETON from CANADA to NEW-YORK.
51 Commissioned Officers.
373 Non-Commissioned and Privates.
N. B. 2 Majors, 9 Captains, 20 Subalterns, and 400 men

were taken at the *Cedars* by Captain *Forster*, and returned upon an agreement to send as many of our people taken at *St. John's*.

RICHARD MURRAY, Commissary of Prisoners.

TENCH TILGHMAN TO WILLIAM DUER.

Head-Quarters, Harlem Heights, September 25, 1776.

DEAR SIR: I am to give you an account of the evacuation of the post at *Powle's Hook*, as I promised in mine of yesterday. General *Greene* informs that General *Mercer*, seeing the enemy were determined to possess themselves by a stronger force of ships and men than we could oppose, removed all the stores and useful cannon, so that nothing fell into the enemy's hands but the guns that had been rendered unfit for further service.

Our army is posted at the town of *Bergen*, and our advanced party has possession of the mill just back of *Powle's Hook*.

What the next move of the enemy will be, I don't know. They have been quiet on this side since the affair of the 16th. They are throwing up some works in the front of their encampment on the plain, between the seven and eight mile stone.

We were unlucky in the miscarriage of a small enterprise, the night before last, which was intended to surprise the guard on *Montresor's Island*, and bring off what tents and baggage remained there. The party consisted of three hundred, in six boats. The headmost boat, in which were Colonel *Jackson*, Major *Hatfield*, and Major *Henly*, Aid-de-Camp to General *Heath*, pushed to the shore, landed, and drove off the guard at the water side, with ease. The other boats rowed back as soon as the firing began, though they were repeatedly called after. This damped the spirit of the first boat's crew, who could not be prevailed upon to stay. In the retreat, Colonel *Jackson* was wounded, Major *Henly* killed, and Major *Hatfield* is missing. A very strict scrutiny is making into the conduct of the officers who thus shamefully deserted their leader, and it is expected they will meet the fate their cowardice deserves.*

His Excellency begs your Board would immediately order down what powder is ready at *Wisner's* and *Livingston's* Mills.

A Committee of Continental Congress are now here, inspecting the present state of the army, and endeavouring to form some new regulations for the better government in future. One principal step will be, enlistment during the war.

I am, with due respect, sir, your most obedient servant,

TENCH TILGHMAN.

To William Duer, Esq.

* September 22, 1776.—Two seamen, belonging to the *La Brune*, a British ship of war, which lay near *Montresor's Island*, deserted, and came to General *Heath's* quarters, and informed him, upon examination, that the British had then but a few men on the Island, stating the number; that the piece of cannon which had been put on the Island was taken back again, on board the *La Brune*; that there were a number of officers at the house, in which there was a considerable quantity of baggage deposited, &c. General *Heath* supposed that these troops might be easily taken; and, having called the General Officers of his division together, took their opinion, who all coincided with him in sentiment. He then communicated his intention to the Commander-in-Chief, who gave it his approbation. Two hundred and forty men were destined for this enterprise. The command was given to Lieutenant-Colonel *Michael Jackson*, of the *Massachusetts* Line, with Majors *Logan* and ———, whose name cannot be recollected, of the *New-York* troops. They were to embark on board three flat-boats, covered by a fourth with a detachment of Artillery, with a light three-pounder, in case it should be found necessary in retreating from the Island. The mode of attack was settled, and every circumstance secured to promise success. They were to fall down to *Harlem Creek* with the ebb. The time was so calculated that the young flood was to be so much made, at the break of day, as to cover the flats at the Island sufficiently for the boats to float. Matters being thus settled, General *Heath* ordered the two sailors to be brought in. He then told them that, in consequence of their information, an enterprise against the British troops on *Montresor's Island* was to take place that night; that he had ordered them to be kept in safe custody until the next morning, when, if their declarations respecting the state of the British on the Island proved to be true, he would give them a passport to the back country, whither they wished to go; but, in case their information was false, he would order them hanged immediately, as spies; that he gave them the opportunity, if they had made a wrong statement to him, then to correct it. They both answered, with perfect composure, that they would cheerfully submit to the condition.

Major *Thomas Henly* was now one of our General's Aids-de-Camp. He importuned that he might go with the detachment. He was refused, and told that he had no business there; that he could exercise no command. He grew quite impatient, returned again to the General's room, and addressed him, "Pray, sir, consent to my going with the party. Let me have the pleasure of introducing the prisoners to you to-morrow." All his friends present advised him not to go. The General finally consented.

EXTRACT OF A LETTER FROM AN OFFICER AT HARLEM, DATED SEPTEMBER 25, 1776.

I last night paid the last tribute to the remains of a gallant young officer, Major *Henly*, Aid-de-Camp to General *Heath*. He fell unsupported and unrevenged, owing to the backwardness of the rest of the party, consisting of one hundred and forty, who intended to have surprised a guard of the enemy, consisting (as was supposed) of about fifty, on *Montresor's Island*, which lies in the *East River*, on the mouth of the little river *Harlem*. This party went in four boats: Major *Henly*, Lieutenant-Colonel *Jackson*, Majors *Hatfield* and *Hubbart*, were in the first boat, and landed and at first drove the enemy; but neither of the other boats coming to their assistance, they were obliged to retreat, but not till every one of these gallant officers were either killed or wounded, and with the loss of half their men.

By the best accounts, we learn, that about a quarter part of the city of *York* is burnt, and that it was purposely fired by some private persons. Since this fire, the enemy have practised some inhuman cruelties on the unfortunate wretches they have in their power, under pretence of their being concerned in the plot. They have hanged numbers by the feet, and then cut their throats! The *Hessians* are continually plundering, and are countenanced by their General; and General *Howe* dares not punish them for fear of producing a general mutiny.

CAPTAIN DUMOND TO JOHN M'KESSON.

Kingston, September 25, 1776.

SIR: When I was last at *Fishkill*, the Convention made an order to render an account of the flour, bought agreeable to an order delivered to me last summer, to be sent to *Ticonderoga* for the use of the army, which I herewith enclose. Beg you to deliver the same to Mr. *Banker*, as I have made no charge for any expenses, and not being acquainted what is customary to charge commissions, beg you will do it, or desire Mr. *Banker* to do it for me. Mr. *Van Vleet* promised me to pay into your hands the sum of seventy pounds, which said money was left in his hands to pay this account since last fall; as I have laid out the other part of the cash that remains, for powder and other charges. The County Convention long disputed who was the Treasurer. Could not get the accounts audited to draw the money due to me from the Treasury. As soon as the County Convention meets, shall settle the whole, as the Convention of the State of *New-York* has settled that point about the Treasury. Must beg the favour of you to send me a few lines by our post, as I expect to be at *Fishkill* soon, the latter end of next week, if the County Committee meets. I was this morning at Mr. *Clinton's*; your sister and all the family are well. I am with part of Col-

The troops, at the hour assigned, embarked. General *Heath* informed them that he, with others, would be spectators of the scene from a certain point near *Haarlem Creek*. Notice had been given to the guards and pickets on the *York-Island* side, not to hail the party as they went down. Unfortunately, the lower sentinel had not been so instructed. He was nearly opposite to the point where General *Heath* was to be; and just at the instant when he arrived, had challenged the boats, and ordered them to come to the shore. From the boats they answered, "Lo! we are friends." The challenge was repeated. The answer was, "We tell you we are friends; hold your tongue." A bounce into the water was heard, and instantly Major *Henly* came wading to the shore, stepped up to our General, caught him by the hand, and said, "Sir, will it do?" General *Heath*, holding him by the hand, replied, "I see nothing to the contrary." To which *Henly* concluded by saying, "Then it shall do." He waded back to his boat, and got in. The sentinel called again, "If you don't come to the shore, I tell you I'll fire." A voice from some one in the boats was, "Pull away!" The boats went on, and the sentinel fired his piece. The boats reached the Island almost at the moment intended, just as the glimmer of the dawn was discoverable. The three Field Officers were in the first boat. Their intention, on the moment of landing, was, for the two seconds in command to spring, the one to the right, and the other to the left, and lead on the troops from the other two boats, which were to land on each side of the first boat. The Field Officers landed, and the men from their boat. The enemy's guard charged them, but were instantly driven back. The men in the other two boats, instead of landing, lay upon their oars. The British, seeing this, returned warmly to the charge. The Americans, finding themselves deserted, returned to their boat; but not until Lieutenant-Colonel *Jackson* received a musket ball in his leg, and Major *Henly*, as he was getting into the boat, one through his heart, which put an instant end to his life. The boat joined the others, and they all returned, having, in the whole, about fourteen killed, wounded, and missing. Major *Henly* deeply regretted. Had only one of the other boats landed her men, the success would have been very probable; but the two would have insured an execution of the whole plan, in the opinion of all concerned. The delinquents in the other boats were arrested, and tried by Court-Martial, and one of the Captains cashiered.—*Heath*.

onel *Snyder's* regiment, now going to the forts; shall return in two or three days.

I am, sir, your friend and humble servant,
Excuse haste. EGBERT DUMOND.

GENERAL SCHUYLER TO THE PRESIDENT OF CONGRESS.

[Read October 4, 1776.]

Albany, September 25, 1776.

SIR: Yesterday I was honoured with a letter from his Excellency General *Washington*, of the 20th instant, covering sundry resolutions of Congress.

I thank Congress with a sincerity equal to the attention they have evinced in their resolution of the 14th of *September*, whereby I am made acquainted that my letter "of the 16th of *August* was duly received, and referred to the committee appointed to inquire into the causes of the miscarriages in *Canada*." Permit me to entreat the favour of a further resolution, that I may be permitted to defend my conduct, and if possible point out other causes of the miscarriages in *Canada*, besides those taken notice of in the resolutions of the 30th *July*—causes which are so obvious, that I could not but wonder that they passed unnoticed.

I must also beg the indulgence of Congress to order some answer to be given to such parts of my several letters of the 20th *July*, 16th, 18th, 25th, and 29th *August*, and 2d, 8th, and 9th *September*, as are yet unanswered, and one or other of which, I humbly conceive contain matters of some moment to the weal of the *American* States. Congress will pardon me, if I presume to hint, that there appears to me a little impropriety in resolving that the powder, &c., "be immediately sent to General *Gates* for the use of the army in the Northern department," as I believe my resignation had not reached Congress on the day that resolution was made. It might perhaps have been as well, if it had been sent to me, as I then could have ordered part of it to *Fort Stanwix*, and such other places where it is wanted. Should it, however, come to hand, whilst I continue in the command, I shall take the liberty of ordering some into *Tryon* County. General *Gates* has begged me to send him twenty casks of shingle nails; not a pound is to be had here, except such as the blacksmiths make, and they cannot complete them as fast as they are wanted for the works now in hand. It will, therefore, be very difficult to build the necessary barracks, until a supply comes up. I believe I applied for nails in one of the letters referred to.

Indians are daily applying for clothing. If some provision is not made to enable your Commissioners to supply them, it may be attended with the most fatal consequences.

I shall transmit a copy of the resolutions to General *Gates*, with a request to publish such as are necessary so to be.

I do not know the occasion of the resolution respecting the Commissary-General's department. If it is in consequence of any intervention of mine in that branch, I must advise Congress that I have acted in such a manner as not to leave the least occasion to repent of what I have done; returns must and shall be made me, through the proper channel, or I will punish the offender, whilst I am in command, and I will always interfere in every department under my command, when it becomes necessary for the good of the service; and if I had not held this kind of conduct, perhaps things would be in a much worse condition than they are.

I am, sir, very sincerely, and very respectfully your obedient, humble servant,
PH. SCHUYLER.
To the Hon. *John Hancock*.

GENERAL SCHUYLER TO GENERAL WASHINGTON.

Albany, September 25, 1776.

DEAR SIR: I am honoured with your Excellency's favour of the 20th instant. Your situation at *New-York* has been truly alarming; and it is probable, that had you not so judiciously retreated, and with such good order and despatch, you would have been involved in almost inextricable difficulties. I hope the enemy have got all they will get this campaign, and that we shall be better able to cope with them in another.

I thank your Excellency for the copy of the resolves of Congress enclosed in yours. They had not been trans-

mitted me from *Philadelphia*. Indeed, I have not been honoured with a line from Congress for a very long time past, a neglect which I do not think I have deserved, and which I, therefore, feel the more sensibly.

I shall hope that one of their resolutions of the 14th instant, was not meant to insult me. It was certainly improper to resolve that the military stores should be immediately sent to General *Gates*, "for the use of the Northern department," as Congress had not then received my resignation.

I have taken measures to have all the boards in the country brought to this place, and to the banks of *Hudson's River*, below it, and shall have them forwarded to you as fast as they arrive; and, give me leave to assure, that although I shall soon be out of the army, I shall with as great cheerfulness obey any commands that you may honour me with when I am a private citizen, as I have always done those which I received from you as my superiour officer.

I am, dear sir, with every sentiment of esteem and affection, your Excellency's most obedient, humble servant,
PH. SCHUYLER.

To His Excellency General *Washington*.

NEW-HAMPSHIRE GRANTS.

Cephas Kent's, Dorset, September 25, 1776.

At a General Convention of the several Delegates from the Towns on the west side of the range of *Green Mountains*, the 24th day of *July* last, consisting of fifty-one Members, representing thirty-five Towns, and holden this day by adjournment, by the Representatives on the west and east side of the *Green Mountains*; the following Members being present at the opening of the meeting, viz:

Captain JOSEPH BOWER in the Chair. Dr. JONAS FAY, Clerk.

DOWNALL: Captain *Samuel Wright*, Dr. *Obadiah Dunham*.

BENNINGTON: Mr. *Sim. Hatheway*, Dr. *Jonas Fay*, Captain *John Burnham*, *Nathan Clarke*, Esq., Major *Samuel Safford*, Colonel *Moses Robinson*.

SHAFTSBURY: Major *Jeremiah Clark*, *John Burnham*, Sen.

SUNDERLAND: Lieutenant *Joseph Bradley*, Colonel *Timothy Brownson*.

MANCHESTER: Colonel *William Marsh*, Lieutenant *Martin Powell*, Lieutenant *Gideon Ormsby*.

DORSET: Mr. *John Manley*, Mr. *Abraham Underhill*.

RUPERT: Mr. *Reuben Harmon*, Mr. *Amos Curtis*.

PAWLET: Captain *William Fitch*, Major *Roger Rose*.

WELLS: *Zaccheus Mallery*, *Ogden Mallery*.

POULTNEY: Mr. *Nehemiah How*, Mr. *William Ward*.

CASTLETON: Captain *Joseph Woodward*.

BRIDPORT: Mr. *Samuel Benton*.

ADDISON: Mr. *David Vallance*.

STANFORD: Mr. *Thomas Morgan*.

WILLISTON: Colonel *Thomas Chittenden*.

COLCHESTER: Lieutenant *Ira Allen*.

MIDDLEBURY: Mr. *Gamaliel Painter*.

BURLINGTON: Mr. *Lemuel Bradley*.

NESHOBE: Capt. *Timothy Barker*, Mr. *Thomas Tuttle*.

RUTLAND: Captain *Joseph Bowker*, Col. *James Mead*.

WALLINGFORD: Mr. *Abraham Ives*.

TINMOUTH: Capt. *Eben. Allen*, Major *Thomas Rice*.

DANBY: Captain *Micah Veal*, Mr. *William Gage*.

PANTON: Mr. *John Gale*.

BROMLEY: Captain *William Utley*.

Colonel *Seth Warner* and Capt. *Heman Allen*, present.

Members from the East side of the GREEN MOUNTAINS:

MARLBOROUGH: Captain *F. Whittemore*.

GUILFORD: Colonel *Benjamin Carpenter*, Major *John Shepherdson*.

WINDSOR: Mr. *Eben. Hoisington*.

KENT: Mr. *Edward Aikens*, Colonel *James Rogers*.

ROCKINGHAM: Dr. *Reuben Jones*.

DUMMERSTON: Mr. *Joseph Hildrick*, Lieutenant *Leonard Spalding*.

WESTMINSTER: Mr. *Joshua Webb*, *Nathan Robinson*, Esq.

HALIFAX: Colonel *Benjamin Carpenter*.

Wilmington and *Cumberland* were represented by letters from some of the principal inhabitants.

At a General Convention of forty-six Delegates on the *New-Hampshire Grants*, on the east and west the range of *Green Mountains*, representing thirty-six Towns on said Grants, held at *Dorset*, the 25th day *September*, 1776, by adjournment:

Whereas this Convention have for a series of years had under their particular consideration the disingenuous conduct of the former Colony, now State of *New-York*, towards the inhabitants of that district of land commonly called and known by the name of the *New-Hampshire Grants*; the several illegal, unjustifiable and unwarrantable measures they have taken to deprive by fraud, violence, and oppression, those inhabitants of their property, and in particular their landed interest; and as this Convention have reason to expect a continuance of the same kind of disingenuity, unless some measures effectual be taken to form the said district a separate and distinct one from *New-York*:

And whereas it at present appears to this Convention, that for the foregoing reasons, together with the distance of road which lies between this district and *New-York*, that it will be very inconvenient for those inhabitants to associate or connect with them, for the time being, directly or indirectly:

Therefore, this Convention, being fully convinced that it is necessary that every individual in the *United States of America* should exert themselves to their utmost ability in the defence of the liberties thereof, and that this Convention may the better satisfy the publick of their punctual attachment to the said common cause, at present as well as heretofore, we do make and subscribe the following, viz: We, the subscribers, inhabitants of that district of land commonly called and known by the name of the *New-Hampshire Grants*, being legally delegated and authorized to transact the publick and political affairs of the aforesaid district of land, for ourselves and constituents, do solemnly covenant and engage that for the time being we will strictly and religiously adhere to the several resolves passed in this or a future Convention, constituted on said district, by the free voice of the friends to *American* liberties, that shall not be repugnant to the resolves of the honourable Continental Congress, relative to the general cause of *America*.

David Vallance,	John Gale,	Michael Dunning,
Samuel Benton,	Gideon Ormsby,	Moses Robinson,
Ira Allen,	James Mead,	Nathaniel Robinson,
John Manley,	Jonas Fay,	Reuben Jones,
Abraham Underhill,	Edward Aikin,	Seth Warner,
William Gage,	Joseph Bradley,	Michael Veal,
Martin Powell,	Elisha Clark,	Jeremiah Clark,
Reuben Harmon,	Zaccheus Mallery,	Lemuel Bradley,
Nathan Clark,	John Burnham, Jun.	Abner Sealy,
Benjamin Carpenter,	Nehemiah How,	Obadiah Dunham,
Timothy Bronson,	Francis Whitmore,	Ebenezer Allen,
William Ward,	Joseph Woodward,	Samuel Safford,
Thomas Tuttle,	Leonard Spaulding,	William Fitch,
Ebenezer Hoisington,	Amos Custice,	Timothy Barker,
Abraham Ives,	Samuel Write,	Heman Allen.

In General Convention, *New-Hampshire Grants*,
Dorset, September 25, 1776. }

Whereas the difference which has for a number of years last past subsisted between the State of *New-York* and the inhabitants of the said *New-Hampshire Grants*, relative to the title of the lands on said district, has not as yet subsided,

Resolved, therefore, by this Convention, That no law or laws, direction or directions, from the State of *New-York*, should be accepted; neither will they hold themselves bound thereby.

Extract from the Minutes: JONAS FAY, Clerk.

In Convention of Fifty-Six Representatives from the several Counties and Towns of the *NEW-HAMPSHIRE GRANTS*, holden at *DORSET*, 25th of *SEPTEMBER*, 1776, by adjournment.*

For a Colonel refusing or neglecting to comply with any orders from this Convention, to pay a fine of thirty-three

*Extracts of Minutes of the General Convention, *NEW-HAMPSHIRE GRANTS*, 25th of *SEPTEMBER*, 1776.

Resolved, That the Committee of War are hereby invested with sufficient power to hear and determine any complaint brought by a commissioned officer of the Militia on said Grants for neglect of duty, and to proceed against them, or either of them, to collect by warrant or execution from under the hand of the Chairman of said Committee, such fine and fines as heretofore appointed by the Convention, and the Field-Officers of Militia in like manner to hear and determine any complaint against any the other commissioned officers of their respective regiments, and to award execution in manner and form as before prescribed; and in like manner the Captains and subaltern officers of each regiment to

dollars; for a Lieutenant-Colonel neglecting to obey his commanding officer, twenty-five dollars; Major, twenty dollars; Captain, fourteen dollars; Lieutenant or Adjutant, nine dollars; Ensign or Quartermaster, seven dollars; Sergeant or Clerk, two dollars; Corporal, Drummer, or Fifer, one and a half dollars; Sentinel, one dollar. If a Soldier drafted in any particular service, and absconding, shall be subject to pay a fine of twenty-five dollars, and an Officer in proportion as above.

That the Committee of War have full power to hear any complaint against any Field-Officers for neglect of their duty, and to proceed against them, or either of them, to collect by warrant or execution from under their hands such fine or fines as appointed by this Convention. In like manner the above-said Field-Officers to try all the commissioned officers in their respective regiments for the time being; said warrants to be directed to some suitable person to collect the same. And in like manner two commissioned officers of each company try all non-commissioned officers and soldiers, to award in the same manner as above; said fines to be used or applied to furnish themselves with arms and ammunition that are not able to furnish themselves with arms and other accoutrements as required; and that each non-commissioned officer and private provide himself with a suitable gun, and one pound of powder, four pounds of bullets fit for his gun, six flints, powder-horn, cartouch-box, or bullet-pouch, a sword, bayonet, or tomahawk; and for the want of a gun, to pay a fine of two dollars on each time so requested to appear under arms, and for want of each other accoutrement the sum of a dollar, when required as aforesaid.

Fines for each day's neglect.—A Colonel, £1 16s.; Lieutenant-Colonel, £1 10s.; Major, 18s.; Captain, 16s.; Lieutenant, 14s.; Adjutant or Ensign, 12s.; Quartermaster, 10s.; Sergeant or Clerk, 8s.; Corporal, 6s.; Drummer and Fifer, 4s.; Sentinel, 3s. 6d.

That the Committee of War be, and are hereby, empowered to issue their warrants in the name and by the authority of this Convention, to the several Field-Officers in the Militia on the district of the *New-Hampshire Grants*. That on any sufficient notice received from the General or Commander-in-Chief of any of the Armies of the *United States of America*, or the honourable Continental Congress, requesting the assistance of the Militia, to march immediately to the relief of such part of the Continent as they may be requested to; and in case any person legally warned or notified justly belonging to any or either of the Company or Companies of the Militia on said district, shall refuse on such notification to attend and perform the duty enjoined on him or them by the officers of the Regiments to which he or they do or may belong, that they be fined, unless sufficient excuse be rendered to the said Committee of War.

Extract from the Minutes:

IRA ALLEN, Assistant Clerk.

Extracts of the Votes and Proceedings of General Convention, held at *DORSET*, on the *NEW-HAMPSHIRE GRANTS*, by adjournment, the 25th, 26th, and 27th days of *SEPTEMBER*, in 1776.

2. Voted that the Records of the Proceedings of this Convention, held at this place, from the 16th of *January*

try all non-commissioned officers and soldiers in their respective regiments, said fines to be applied to furnish those soldiers in said regiment with arms, ammunition, and accoutrements, &c., as are not able to furnish themselves.

Resolved, That each non-commissioned officer and soldier immediately furnish himself with a good gun, with a bayonet, sword, or tomahawk, one pound powder, four pounds of bullets suitable for his gun, six flints, powder-horn, cartouch-box, or bullet-pouch; and for want of a gun, to pay a fine of two dollars on each day required to appear under arms, and for want of each other accoutrement the sum of half a dollar.

Resolved, That the Committee of War be, and they are hereby, empowered to issue their warrants to the several Field-Officers of Militia on the district of the *New-Hampshire Grants*, on any sufficient notice received from the General or other Commander-in-Chief of any of the Armies of the *United States of America*, or from the honourable the Continental Congress, requiring the assistance of the Militia, commanding the several officers and soldiers of such regiment immediately to collect, with such necessities as the route may require, and repair forthwith to such part of the *United States* as they may be required; and in case any commissioned, non-commissioned officer or soldier who shall be legally warned, justly belonging to any the Company or Companies of such Militia, shall refuse or neglect on such notification to attend and perform the duty or duties enjoined on him by the officers of the Regiment to which he or they do or may belong, that the officer, non-commissioned officer, or soldier, so refusing or neglecting to do and perform the duty or duties so required, be subject to the payment of such fine respectively as shall be laid on him or them at the discretion of the said Committee of War.

last to this time, be read, to give light to those gentlemen Delegates from the east side of the *Green Mountains* in particular, and the whole in general.

6. Voted to make a general list of the names of those of the several Towns on the *New-Hampshire Grants*, who have signed the General Association voted by the last Convention to be signed.

7. Voted that no Member of this Convention be permitted to speak more than three times to one cause, at one sitting, without leave of the Board.

8. Voted that the Association originally signed be returned to the Clerk of this Convention, at their next sitting at *Westminster*, the last *Wednesday* of *October* next.

9. Voted to submit the Vote relative to making application to the Continental Congress for a new State, to those gentlemen delegated from the east side of the Mountains, for their consideration, which they report, or have reported, their acquiescence therein.

10. Voted to show our minds, whether we will take every suitable or proper step to obtain to be a separate or distinct State by ourselves; and it passed in the affirmative, not one dissenting vote.

11. Voted to choose seven persons for a Committee to form a plan for future proceedings, and report to this Convention.

12. Choose Colonel *William Marsh*, Doctor *Jonas Fay*, Doctor *Reuben Jones*, Captain *Ira Allen*, Colonel *Thomas Chittenden*, Colonel *Benjamin Carpenter*, and Colonel *James Rogers*, a Committee for the above purpose.

14. Voted that a compact or covenant be made and subscribed by the Members of this Convention, for themselves and constituents, for the security of their common liberties and properties, in conjunction with the free and independent States of *America*.

15. Voted that the above covenant be made and subscribed at this meeting; and that the several Counties on the *New-Hampshire Grants* be furnished with a copy, to be signed by the several individuals to be returned to this Convention.

16. Voted that some covenant or compact be entered into by this Convention.

17. Voted that Colonel *William Marsh*, Colonel *Moses Robinson*, Mr. *Ebenezer Hoisington*, Doctor *Reuben Jones*, Colonel *Thomas Chittenden*, and Doctor *Abijah Durham*, be and are a Committee to form the said covenant, and report the same to this Convention to-morrow morning.

The foregoing Committee reported to Convention, in the morning, as follows:

19. Voted that suitable provisions be made that the whole of the inhabitants of said *New-Hampshire Grants*, on each side of the Mountains, be notified, and have proper opportunity to join and coincide with the measures taken, and to be taken hereafter, for the benefit of forming said District into a separate body or State.

20. Voted that Colonel *Jacob Bayley*, Captain *Abner Sely*, and Colonel *Jacob Kent*, be a Joint Committee to exhibit the Proceedings of this Convention to the inhabitants of the County of *Gloucester*, and request them to join the Association left with them at their County Convention, held at *Hetford*, the 13th day of *August* last; and return the same by the Delegate or Delegates chosen, or to be hereafter chosen, to meet and join this Convention at their next sitting.

21. Voted that it be and is hereby recommended to the several Chairmen of the several Committees of the several Towns on the west side the range of *Green Mountains*, on the *New-Hampshire Grants*, faithfully see to it, that the Association made at the last sitting of this Committee be forthwith signed by every individual male inhabitant of each Town, from sixteen years old and upwards, and that, for the future, each person subscribe his own name or mark; that said Association thus signed be returned to *Jonas Fay*, the Clerk of this Convention, at or before the next sitting of this Convention, on the last *Wednesday* of *October* next, to be held at *Westminster*; as also the names and reasons of those who refuse to sign said Association.

22. Choose Colonel *William Marsh* and Captain *Ira Allen* to go over the east side of the Mountain, to assist in collecting their minds and signing of Association in the Counties of *Cumberland* and *Gloucester*.

23. Choose Doctor *Jonas Fay*, Doctor *Reuben Jones*,

and Colonel *William Marsh*, a Committee to draw a remonstrance or petition to send to the Continental Congress, and report to this Convention as soon as may be.

24. Voted that Doctor *Jonas Fay* write an answer to Doctor *John Wheelock's* letter.

25. Voted that the Committees of Safety for the several Towns on the *New-Hampshire Grants* be legally invested with the same power as other Committees of Safety for other Towns in any of the free States in *America*.

26. Voted that a sufficient Gaol be made on the west side of the range of *Green Mountains*, at such place as shall hereafter be agreed on, for securing Tories, &c.

27. Voted that *Nathan Clark*, Esq., Captain *Michael Veal*, Captain *Samuel Benton*, Major *Jeremiah Clark*, and Colonel *James Mead*, be and are hereby appointed a Committee to assign the place for erecting a Gaol as above, and prescribe some method for effecting the same as soon as may; and report to this Convention as soon as they conveniently can.

28. Voted that every Colonel issue his orders, immediately, to his several Captains, to muster their Companies, and to take the number of men gone in the service, and what service, and how many at home, and their arms and ammunition; and the Colonels to make their returns to the Committee of War, and they to this Convention.

34. That Doctor *Reuben Jones* and Lieutenant *Spaulding* wait, and take the Proceedings of this Convention, and deliver to their constituents.

35. That thirteen Members from this Convention to the Convention on the other side.

36. It's recommended for every Town to send one Member.

38. Voted that *Jonas Fay*, Colonel *William Marsh*, and Doctor *Jones*, be a Committee to prepare a Petition to the honourable Continental Congress.

46. That as it appears that the Town of *Arlington* are principally Tories, yet the friends of liberty are ordered to warn a meeting, and choose a Committee of Safety, and conduct as other Towns. If they meet with opposition, to make application to the Committees of Safety of the neighbouring Towns for assistance.

47. That Colonel *Benjamin Carpenter*, of *Guilford*, notify *Hinsdale*, *Halifax*, and *Guilford*; Captain *Francis Whitmore*, of *New-Marlborough*, notify *New-Marlborough*, *Brattleborough*, and *Draper*; Lieutenant *Leonard Spaulding* and Captain *Samuel Fletcher* notify *Putney* and *New-Fain*, *Townsend*, and *Dummerston*, for the purpose of the within Resolves.

49. That this Convention be adjourned to *Wednesday*, the 30th day of *October* next, to be held at the Court House at *Westminster*, at ten o'clock in the forenoon.

A true copy from the original. Attest:

JONAS FAY, Clerk of said Convention.

GENERAL GATES TO GENERAL SCHUYLER.

Ticonderoga, September 22, 1776.

DEAR GENERAL: Your favours of the 14th, 16th, and 17th instant, are now before me. In return, I have the pleasure to send you, enclosed, General *Arnold's* letters to me of the 15th and 16th, together with the examination of Sergeant *Day*, a deserter from Colonel *Maclean's* Regiment, formerly a Sergeant in Captain *Lamb's* company of artillery; also, the examination of *Antoine Girard*, a *Canadian*. The men themselves will be with you soon, as they set out this day for *Albany*. The Sergeant has the appearance of an open, honest fellow, well attached. The old *Canadian*, General *Arnold* has in his letter given reasons for suspecting, which are strongly increased by what you will find enclosed from my Secretary.

I am convinced you have done every thing in your power to procure the cordage, &c., wanted for the row-galleys, as I must gratefully acknowledge you have constantly done, to send every supply demanded for the troops here.

As the command you mention is going to devolve upon me, is totally unsought for and unsolicited, I must in truth and sincerity assure you, that it is an honour from the possession of which I cannot receive the smallest satisfaction, unless you will suffer me to hope that you will continue to give every aid which your experience, interest, and authority, so preëminently supply. The business of this campaign,

with the climate, &c., &c., has so worn me down, that I believe all honour or command will be to me no more than the last blaze of the candle. I devoted myself to the service when I entered it, and will, while I am able, continue to serve. If we finish triumphantly, our posterity will be happy, and in process of time, I hope, all mankind free. These are objects of higher import than a million of lives such as mine.

I am, dear General, your affectionate and most obedient, humble servant,
Ho. GATES.

Isle la Motte, September 15, 1776.

DEAR GENERAL: Your favour of the 12th instant was delivered me last night, by Ensign *Botsford*, who narrowly escaped being lost in his passage down, and was obliged to throw overboard the barrels of provision, to lighten his batteau. I am happy to find you approve of my returning from the *Isle-aux-Têtes*. Our present situation is five miles to the southward of *Point-au-Fer*, and two miles to the southward of the north end of *Isle la Motte*, at a part of the island, where that Lake is one and a half to two miles over. To the southward of us there is no part of the Lake less than two miles over, and entirely out of the reach of any batteries that can possibly be erected by the enemy, of whose naval force I have been able to procure no other intelligence than from a deserter, *Thomas Day*, whom I have sent you by Ensign *Botsford*, with his examination, which is enclosed. I have heard nothing from Lieutenant *Whitcomb*, or Ensign *McCoy*, since they left the *Isle-aux-Noix*, from which a man returned from each party, who agree that there is about one thousand men encamped there. They saw no water craft except batteaus.

I have despatched a *Frenchman* to *St. John's* for intelligence, whom I found in the bay of *Missisqui*; he has promised to return in four days with intelligence. If I hear nothing from *St. John's* soon, I design making a remove to the Island *Valcour*, until joined by the three galleys. There is a good harbour, and if the enemy venture up the Lake, it will be impossible for them to take advantage of our situation. If we should succeed on our attack on them, it will be impossible for any of them to escape; if we are worsted, our retreat is open and free; in case of wind, which generally blows fresh at this season, our craft will make good weather when their batteaus cannot keep the Lake.

I am glad to hear General *Waterbury* has taken charge of the galleys. I make no doubt they will soon be completed. My best pilot I sent up by Major *Greer*.

I requested General *Schuyler* to send for four Captains of the galleys, since which I have appointed only two. At that time three galleys were nearly finished, and four others ordered to be put on the stocks, which still left a vacancy for one Captain. Captain *Warner* is one of the four which was requested; one of the others, I wish sent for the *Royal Savage*, the third for the galley on the stocks, and the fourth for one of the others ordered to be built, which ought to be put on the stocks long ere this. The greatest part of the timber was cut for the four last galleys before I left *Skeensborough*; and as the carpenters and materials are procured, will it not be prudence and economy to have them completed?

In my last I wrote you we were victualled to the 20th instant. In that calculation I computed ten barrels of pork and twenty of flour, left at *Crown-Point*, which I ordered to be sent down in the gondola. The order was neglected and the provision left behind, so that the supply sent now will victual us no longer than the 26th instant, unless supplied by the inhabitants on the Lake, of which there is little prospect. Cannot a *Frenchman* or two, who is acquainted in *Canada*, and can be depended upon, be sent me with the tobacco?

I keep the two small schooners continually cruising above and below us. The countersign is never given until four o'clock. Two guard-boats are posted every night two miles below us, at a proper distance, to discover the approach of the enemy; another boat goes the rounds every two hours all night; every ship keeps half their men constantly on deck under arms and matches lighted. It will be impossible for the enemy to surprise us.

I am greatly obliged to you for the friendly notice you have taken of me in your publick letter, which, I make no doubt, will have the desired effect.

I am surprised you have received no particular accounts of the battle on *Long-Island*. The severe check the enemy have met with will doubtless dispirit them greatly, and will, I hope, prove a happy prelude to future success. I hope you will soon have the particulars of the affair. The Act of Independence I will send, agreeable to your directions.

I am, with sentiments of respect and esteem, dear General, your affectionate, humble servant,

B. ARNOLD.

Isle la Motte, September 16, 1776.

DEAR GENERAL: The hard gale of yesterday prevented my sending back Ensign *Botsford*. This morning at one o'clock, *Antoine Geroure*, whom I mentioned to have sent to *St. John's*, returned, and gives the following account, viz: That at *Isle-aux-Noix* there are three thousand troops encamped, and forty pieces of cannon mounted on their lines. At *St. John's* are three thousand men, one hundred and fifty batteaus; and he was told by a *Frenchman* two hundred batteaus were at *Chamblee*, and a party of men sent down to fetch them up; that two schooners were completed and manned, one mounting twelve and the other fourteen brass twelve-pounders; the small vessels on the stocks to carry three guns each; one gondola taken from us and three new ones built there, to mount three guns each; a number of flat-bottomed boats and batteaus, to carry one gun each, and a floating battery with two masts, nearly done, to carry twenty-four eighteen-pounders and two mortars. He imagines the whole will be completed in a fortnight. He has brought a pass from the *Isle-aux-Noix*, from which and the distance he had to go, the bad weather and time he has been gone, I believe he has been no farther than the *Isle-aux-Noix*, and that he has been enjoined by the officer there to give the foregoing account. Had not they been convinced he was in their interest, I don't imagine they would have suffered him to return. He formerly lived with *Metcalf*, whom he says is gone to *St. John's*, now remains at a *French* house opposite the *Isle-aux-Motte*, where Sergeant *Day* says a number of deserters were lately taken, betrayed to the *Indians* by the *Frenchman*. I have every reason to think him placed as a spy on us. I have therefore sent him to you, to be disposed of as you may think proper. I had promised him fifty dollars, provided he procured an exact account of the strength of the enemy. Agreeable to the accounts I received from others, from the accounts of the two men who have viewed the *Isle-aux-Noix*, one of whom I now send, the accounts of this *Frenchman* must be false, and a story formed for him by one of the *English* officers.

I have heard nothing of Lieutenant *Whitcomb*, or Ensign *McCoy*, and am very apprehensive for their safety, as the woods are full of *Indians*.

I am, respectfully, dear General, your obedient, humble servant,

B. ARNOLD.

To Hon. Major-General *Gates*.

Examination of Sergeant *THOMAS DAY*, of Colonel *MACLEAN'S* Regiment, late of Captain *LAMB'S* Company, who deserted from *POINT-AUX-TREMBLES*, between *MONTREAL* and *SORREL*, with two others, the 31st AUGUST.

Says: That the whole of his Regiment were quartered at *Point-aux-Trembles*; that there are at *Quebeck* twelve hundred of the foreign troops; the Thirty-Fourth Regiment are at *Trois Rivières* and *Sorrel*; three Companies of the Twenty-Ninth Regiment at *Montreal*, two Companies, with Colonel *Johnston* and his *Indians*, at *Lachine*. The remainder of the army at *St. John's*, *Chamblee*, and the *Isle-aux-Noix*. The whole army in *Canada* he says he has heard the officers compute at seven thousand men, including foreigners. The Ninth, Twentieth, Twenty-First, Twenty-Fourth, Twenty-Ninth, Thirty-First, Thirty-Fourth, and Forty-Seventh Regiments are included in the above. That there are no *Canadians* in the King's service; that they are much oppressed and robbed of every thing by the Regulars, obliged to work without being paid for it, and universally wish we were in possession of the country again. That he heard there were two schooners taken to pieces and brought up to *St. John's*, to carry six pounders and ten swivels each. That he understood there were two or three more sloops and schooners, with some gondolas and floating

batteries, building at *St. John's*. That he frequently heard for a fortnight before he deserted, that the army were in a few days to cross the Lake for *Crown-Point*. That the troops at *Quebeck* were very sickly and many died, as well as at *Chamblee*, *St. John's*, and the *Isle-aux-Noix*, in particular the foreigners at the latter places; they were attacked with the fever and flux. That fifty men had signed an agreement to desert together, but were betrayed by one of the company, when part of them were condemned to be sent to *Senegal* during life. That two men deserted with him, whom he parted with the day before.

B. ARNOLD.

On board the *Royal Savage*, September 12, 1776.

Examination of ANTOINE GIRARD, a CANADIAN, and a tenant of Mr. SIMON METCALF, on MISSISQUI BAY, sent to TICONDEROGA by General ARNOLD, and interrogated in the FRENCH language in the presence and by the order of the Honourable Major-General GATES; with some circumstances which may assist the Honourable Major-General SCHUYLER in forming a right judgment of this prisoner.

Antoine Girard was brought to *Ticonderoga* about the latter end of *July*, from *Crown-Point*, having been taken when coming from *St. John's*, by a scouting party detached by Lieutenant-Colonel *Hartley*, the commanding officer at *Crown-Point*. *Girard*, who appeared a harmless, unintelligent man, was detained here some weeks, and afterwards sent back, upon Mr. *Metcalf's* clerk answering for his good behaviour.

He says that about the latter end of *August*, Mr. *Metcalf* having heard a great cannonade, which continued a considerable time, and was judged to be about *Isle-aux-Noix*, he was anxious concerning the cause and event, and to obtain information, went towards the Lake, but was taken by a party of *Indians*, at the carrying place, from *Missiski Bay* to *Isle-aux-Noix*, and carried to *St. John's*, as he, *Girard*, was afterwards informed of by General *Frazer*.

On the 10th of *September*, Mrs. *Metcalf* being exceedingly uneasy at Mr. *Metcalf's* not coming back, sent *Girard* to inquire what was the cause of her husband's delay. *Girard* proceeded to the house of one *Thomas*, a *Frenchman*, who lives between *Missiski* and the Lake, about four miles from that part of *Isle la Motte*, where he found our fleet.

He pretends he did not know before he came to *Thomas's*, that General *Arnold* was stationed there, and that he went to the fleet in order to know whether our troops had not taken Mr. *Metcalf*, who General *Arnold* told him had not been made a prisoner by any of his officers, and if taken, must have been carried off by the *English* troops.

Girard says that General *Arnold* proposed to him to go to *St. John's* on the pretence of inquiring about Mr. *Metcalf*, and considering him as a trusty man, promised him fifty dollars should he bring good intelligence, but forbade him to mention to the enemy that he had seen our fleet. *Girard* confesses that as he perceived nobody on board the fleet seemed to know he had been lately suspected of acting as a spy for the enemy, and brought to *Ticonderoga* as such, he concealed that circumstance from General *Arnold*, and proceeded on the 12th instant as a spy in our service to *Isle-aux-Noix*, where he saw next day General *Frazer*, who knew him long before, and let him go to *St. John's*.

Girard says he was informed there were three thousand men at *Isle-aux-Noix*, but does not believe it. He saw at a distance two vessels at *St. John's*, one of which he believes mounts fourteen eight or twelve-pounders; another, supposed a gondola, rigged in a very odd manner, which would carry, some said, twenty-two heavy guns, and be ready within a fortnight. The enemy have three galleys, and a great number of batteaus, besides one floating battery. There is no General officer, but a Colonel at *St. John's*. Two hundred *Canadians* and fifty *Regulars* are near *River à-la-Colle*, and a guard of fifty men daily relieved there, at one *Stout's*, a tailor. He likewise says that nine *Indians*, with a *Canadian* interpreter, were sent off as a scouting party the 10th instant, to carry off some prisoners from this camp, and were to land about six miles below *Crown-Point*, whence they were to march along the mountains to the skirts of our encampment, and wait for an opportunity to execute their design.

Ticonderoga, September 20, 1776.

I have faithfully interpreted and related in the preceding writing, the particulars reported by *Antoine Girard* as therein mentioned.

WM. CLAJON,

Secretary to Major-General *Gates*.

H. GLEN TO GENERAL SCHUYLER.

Schenectady, September 25, 1776.

DEAR SIR: I find by a good many charges that I have been at, by transporting the baggage of two regiments up this river, and by forwarding some provisions to *Johnstown* in wagons, which could not be done by boats, that I shall have occasion for some more money. I would be glad to know if I could get a warrant for the same.

I am very sorry to learn that you are going to resign your commission, though the reason is best known to yourself.

I can assure you with pleasure, that every thing to the westward is in good order. There is a good stock of provisions at *Fort Stanwix*, *German Flats*, and *Johnstown*.

The bearer hereof is Mr. *Haramanus V. Slyck*, who has signed the Association, and is a friend of the cause. I recommend him to you for a pass for himself and two more to go with necessaries for the army to *Ticonderoga*. In giving him a pass, will be acknowledged a favour done to, dear sir, your most obedient servant,

H. GLEN.

To Major-General *Schuyler*.

UDNEY HAY TO CAPTAIN RAYMOND.

September 25, 1776.

SIR: You will please ride out to the party who have been employed in making a road from *Mount Independence* to *Otter Creek*. The entrance to the road you will be shown by any of the soldiers on *Mount Independence*. You will please observe if the road is properly made, if the stumps are cut sufficiently low, and the necessary bridges made over such gullies or miry places as cattle would not be able to pass over when the rainy season comes on. You will follow Mr. *Avery's* directions with respect to the method necessary to furnish the party with provisions. There is a Colonel *Barrett*, who is making a bridge over *Otter Creek*, to whom you will be directed the highest road by the first party you go to. Acquaint Colonel *Barrett* that the General desires an exact account of what he has been doing, at the same time make such a survey of it yourself, as will enable you to form an opinion whether the party has been sufficiently diligent. Wishing you a good ride, am, sir, yours, &c.,

UDNEY HAY,

A. D. Quartermaster-General.

To Captain *Edward Raymond*.

EDWARD RAYMOND TO COLONEL HAY.

September 27, 1776.

In obedience to your order of the 25th instant, I proceeded to *Mount Independence*, entered the new road, and passed on about eight miles; surveyed the road as I passed, found it cleared about one rod wide, with bridges where wanting. Gave the officer of the party Mr. *Avery's* directions as to provisions; then proceeded by marked trees about twelve miles to the old road leading to *Crown-Point*—found the land broken and ridgy, bad to clear. 26th, I passed on to *Otter Creek*, which I judge to be twelve or fourteen miles, where I found Colonel *Barrett* with a party building a bridge over said creek; the abutments laid; one pair trestles raised; the others, with the whole of the bridge, appeared to me to be near ready to raise. 27th, returned back.

EDWARD RAYMOND, W. Master.

To Colonel *Hay*.

COLONEL HARTLEY TO GENERAL ST. CLAIR.

Mount Hartley, *Crown-Point*, September 25, 1776.

DEAR GENERAL: You will think it odd that I should be troubling you when I have nothing material to communicate.

Ensign *Saunders* mentions that the *English* employ no savages, yet we every day are informed that hundreds of them watch our fleets and take every opportunity in com-

pany with the Regulars to annoy us. They charge us with barbarism, when they every day practise it. They are certainly put to shifts when they call on such scandalous allies.

I find there is weight in what you said about the enemy's approaching this fall. They will certainly attempt, I believe; but if the galleys get down in time they will be disappointed. Should the fleet come up to *Split-Rock*, which perhaps would be very proper, the *Indians* on the Lake will pursue it. They will, doubtless, if they have any strength, pay us a visit here. Should they, I believe we will sweat them, especially if we can give you timely notice, so as to assist us in cutting off their retreat. I find the enemy have a very despicable opinion of us; this may, perhaps, lead them into a scrape some day or other, which may not be far off.

Since my return from Head-Quarters, my people have been employed in making huts, &c., and will soon be comfortable. If we had some more of the bark we would do well. Such as are in health are really in good spirits.

I have just now sent off two scouts to the westward, with three days' provision, to see if they can discover any thing of an enemy. They are two expert men; they will stand no great chance of being taken should an enemy be in the way, and will be very likely to bring us intelligence. My parties down the Lake made no discoveries lately.

Should any thing material happen at any time in this quarter, I shall immediately communicate it to Head-Quarters. If there is any thing new from *New-York*, I would be glad to hear by the bearer. I do not expect you to answer every letter I trouble you with, as your department will not, perhaps, grant you as much leisure as my situation does me.

I am, dear General, with best respects to Colonels *Wayne*, *De Haas*, and *Johnston*, your most humble and respectful servant,

THOS. HARTLEY.

To General *St. Clair*.

P. S. I hope to see you here this week in one of the galleys.

State of CONNECTICUT—By the GOVERNOUR:

All persons in this State who have any demands for services, or disbursements for publick service, in the Northern department, are directed to prepare well-authenticated accounts of the same, and exhibit or procure them to be exhibited to the honourable Commissioners of the Continental Congress, now sitting at *Albany*, in the State of *New-York*, for adjustment and payment. And the several printers in this State are required to insert this notice in their newspapers as soon as may be.

Given under my hand in *Lebanon*, the 25th day of *September*, Anno Domini 1776.

JONATHAN TRUMBULL.

GOVERNOUR TRUMBULL TO GENERAL SCHUYLER.

Lebanon, September 25, 1776.

SIR: I am honoured with your favour of the 15th instant, and thank you for the *Indian* treaty. I have taken copies and returned the originals by my son.

That you have sent Congress a resignation of your command—that you are obliged to vindicate your character by publishing a narrative of your conduct, are matters I cannot hear of but with deep concern. I make no doubt of your ability to justify yourself, yet fear the consequences of such an appeal, at this time especially. I wish to see your character stand as fair with the world as it does with me, but cannot wish that Congress should accept your resignation, that your ability and zeal should be lost to your country, when she most needs them, or that matters of so much delicacy and importance as those which have passed through your hands, and have been under your direction, should be laid open to the world, when our enemies may derive such advantages from the discovery, and our friends be discouraged and disheartened. May I prevail with you to suspend your publication a little while? Perhaps your character may be vindicated from the aspersions you conceive it to labour under, from another quarter, and in a manner more honourable to you and less unhappy for our country. Your resolution to continue to love and serve your country to the utmost

of your power, in a private station, does you much honour, and corresponds with the idea I have entertained of your patriotism; but I flatter myself I shall yet continue to see you fill and adorn a sphere of greater extent and usefulness.

I am at a loss to conceive how troops at *Skeensborough* came to be in want of salt, vinegar, &c., when such supplies were at *Fort George*; or if they were supplied, how I could be informed they were destitute. Perhaps some want of attention in the Commissaries may have given occasion for it.

In behalf of this State, I sincerely thank you for your attention, both formerly and now, to provide for the relief of the unhappy sick in that army. I hope it will in event prove as happy and effectual for them as it is honourable to you.

I shall publish to all persons in this State to repair to *Albany* to adjust their accounts with the Commissioners of Congress; and advise General *Wooster* according to your request.

I am, sir, with great truth and regard, your obedient, humble servant,

JONTH. TRUMBULL.

To General *Schuyler*.

GOVERNOUR TRUMBULL TO GENERAL GATES.

Lebanon, September 25, 1776.

SIR: Your favour of the 16th instant I had the honour to receive the 21st, by the return of our post-rider.

I am glad to hear there is so near a prospect of our troops being relieved, by the approaching season, from the predominant plague of the Lake, which it seems is inevitable and must be endured, with this only gleam of comfort, that our enemy's end of the ship will sink first.

That our troops should be officered with persons of authority, and sense to exert it properly, is doubtless just. We should be happy always to know how to distinguish and select such men; but they cannot well be known until they are tried, and their true and just character in service is not always attained. It would be of service to the States, and happy for the future army, might such officers, as upon trial are found to fall within your description, be pointed out and known at home; for the rest, we must make the best choice in our power, and trust the event. Indeed, it seems but just that such as serve with ability and honour should have the credit of it; such as fail, as it will often happen without their fault, cannot justly consider the applause given to others as a censure upon themselves. They are willing to serve their country, but unhappily have not the requisite capacity.

The late movements and skirmishes at *New-York*, I presume you are better informed of than I am. I hope it will be in the General's power to make an effectual stand on the ground he has now taken possession of.

It is expected that a new army will soon be formed, and enlistments for that purpose will take place with you. We shall be happy to be furnished with such intelligence as will enable us in the best manner to serve the army and promote the publick service.

I am, sir, with great respect and esteem, your obedient, humble servant,

JONTH. TRUMBULL.

To the Hon. Major-General *Gates*.

GOVERNOUR TRUMBULL TO JOHN TRUMBULL.

Lebanon, September 25, 1776.

DEAR SON: I have before me yours of the 16th, per *Brown*. When I wrote last I had nothing new to write you from *New-York*. Since that time I have from Colonel *Williams* the account from Congress relative to their sending Dr. *Franklin*, *J. Adams*, and *E. Rutledge*, Commissioners to treat with Lord *Howe* and General *Howe*. That you may see the whole affair in the light he sends it me, I have enclosed the principal materials he sends me. It seems the conference with Lord *Howe* came to nothing. He has no powers but to pardon.

The Rebels who need pardon from the King of *Britain* are not yet discovered. We disclaim the name, and judge that our rights and privileges have been injuriously invaded. Our sins against God, the supreme director of all events,

call us to repentance and reformation, and to look to him for pardon, and humbly to trust in him for his salvation and deliverance from our destroyers.

You will probably receive accounts from your friends near *New-York*, of the late action on *Monday* se'nnight near that city, more full than I am able to give. Our acquaintance with it is very various. The best I have is from your brother, by his letter dated Colonel *Cortlandt's*, near *King's Bridge*, 18th *September*. Copy of his intelligence is enclosed. It is probable his may not be so complete, and the number killed, wounded, taken of our enemies, so many as they really are; because letters from several who were in the action mention much greater numbers, and that our party took from the enemy three or four field-pieces, with the cartridges prepared for them, and turned them upon the enemy. Surely we shall both have more certain intelligence. Your brother *Jonathan* hath been with me for more than one week, and Colonel *Jedediah Huntington* returned here from camp more than a fortnight since. He is finally recovered. His fever and night-sweats left him his spirits better restored than his flesh and strength. Yesterday morning he and *Jonathan* both set out for the army near *New-York*. From the latter you'll have a fuller account from thence than can at present be sent from hence.

I am rejoiced to find the Northern army in so much better condition than they have been. Have you any views of attacking the enemy at *St. John's*, if they don't think proper to meddle with you? I knew not the affair between *Arnold* and *Wynkoop* before I received your information. Your brother at *Albany* did not know it fully. I shall expect the return made out for me. I wish to be fully acquainted with your circumstances and wants, that no relief from hence may be wanted. The old guns, which want considerable repairs, I think had best be sent hither.

Your mother, brother *David*, sister *Williams*, and all our connexions, are in usual health; send their love to you, with their best wishes for your health, safety, and happiness. *David* is very busy in supplying cattle for the army. Captain *Walter Hyde* went into the service with a company of volunteers, to *New-York*. He was seized with the dysentery, returned as far as *Horse-Neck*, and died. *Gamble* went with him; anxious to get home when sick increased his disorder, and died on the last Lord's day.

Nine of our Eastern regiments, consisting likely of three thousand men, commanded by Brigadier-General *Saltonstall*, and three hundred Light-Horse, under the command of Major *Backus*, are gone to the aid of General *Washington's* army.

You will always remember that the business of religion ought to be the daily concern of our lives. Virtue ought to be the object of all government, and especially of that of ourselves. Profaneness is a fashionable vice in the army. It is one of the most foolish and unaccountable sort.

THADDEUS BURR TO GENERAL WASHINGTON.

Fairfield, September 25, 1776.

SIR: Agreeable to your directions, through your Secretary, we have disposed of the prisoners of war sent us per General *Heath*, in the following manner, viz: Lieutenant *John Ragg*, and his servant *Benjamin Jones*, we have sent to the Committee of *Middletown*; Sergeant *David Wallace*, Corporal *Thomas Pike*, *Edward Gibbon*, *William Smith*, *Isaac Hughes*, *Thomas Harriman*, *John Woodward*, *Edward Cavil*, *William Williams*, *William Cootney*, *Stephen Webber*, *John Smith*, *Samuel Morsel*, *Thomas Sorrel*, *Jos. Destant*, *William Jones*, *William Pearce*, *John Hopkins*, *Henry Weston*, *Evan Evans*, and *John Morton*, privates, we sent to the Committee of *Wallingford*, where they are placed in the parishes in the interior part of the country, agreeable to rules of Congress. We should have sent them to *Litchfield*, but upon inquiry found that they already had a number there. We hope the disposition will be satisfactory to your Excellency. As we could find no rule of Congress how the charges of marching them were to be defrayed, we took a guard of a Sergeant and six from our battery, and advanced them a penny a mile for their support. Whether we have done right or not we do not know. The men, we are sensible, could not be marched without support. We should, therefore, take it as a favour if your Excellency would direct us to whom we are to look for

their billeting for eleven days, and the advanced money for marching them to the places of their destination.

We are, with the highest esteem and respect, your Excellency's most obedient, humble servants.

Signed per order: THADDEUS BURR, Chairman.

To His Excellency General *Washington*.

P. S. Enclosed is the account as we have made it out.

DEPOSITION OF ELISHA COLE.

Elisha Cole, master of the schooner *Triton*, bound from *Kennebeck* to *Cape François*, testify and declare, that on the 20th day of *July* last I was taken by the *Millford*, man-of-war, *John Burr* commander, who took from me my bed, bedding, sea-clothes, and every thing else, except what I had in my chest. When I got on board Captain *Burr*, he asked me, after taking my papers, where my money was. I answered that I had not any. Then he ordered his clerk to search me, and I was searched accordingly. He then took away my watch, but returned it. Next morning the Captain called for me, and demanded the key of my chest, and when opened took every thing out of it to search for money; finding none, they gave me the chest, and ordered me to carry it to my berth. On the 25th of *July* we discovered a ship, which he took near *Newbury* bar. Captain *Burr* then ordered me to the fourth gun, and the opposite forward, and compelled me to go, which I was obliged to do after a long dispute; and my mate and all my men were put on the ship's books, and compelled to do duty, and obliged to fight against their *American* brethren, as are all the prisoners they take, which I often heard the officers of the *Millford* declare. I left *Halifax* the 11th day of *August*, leaving my mate and men all on board the *Millford*. I told Captain *Burr* our people gave the masters, mates, &c., their adventures, and it was very hard to have my all taken from me. He replied he could not do it; his people would not allow it; and swore by God he would not give me any thing. The *Yankee Hero* men, by the information of the steward and others belonging to the *Millford*, had but three-quarters of the common allowance of provisions to seamen for their support, and no allowance of clothing.

ELISHA COLE.

Boston, September 25, 1776.

Suffolk, ss:

Elisha Cole made oath to the truth of the above Deposition, by him subscribed.

Before me: JOSEPH GREENLEAF, Justice Peace.

CAPTAIN JACKSON TO JOHN AVERY.

Newburyport, September 25, 1776.

SIR: There are eight swivel guns in this town that were brought in here the last year by one Captain *Johnson*, who was from the *West-Indies*, in the service of this Colony. Our company would be glad to purchase them of the State, if they may be sold, or to borrow them, if to be lent—or part of them, if any are engaged already. Your making this application for us to the honourable Board, will much oblige me, and your sending me their determination per the first opportunity, will add to the obligations. There is Captain *Roberts* (whom I expect to be the bearer of this) will be at *Watertown* this week, and returning, by whom please to write.

I am, sir, your very obedient servant,

JONA. JACKSON.

MASSACHUSETTS COUNCIL TO GOVERNOUR COOKE.

Council Chamber, Watertown, September 25, 1776.

SIR: In consequence of a request from the honourable the *American* Congress, this State have directed one battalion of their Militia to your State, to supply the place of a regiment in the pay of the Continent, lately ordered to reinforce the army at *New-York*. Your Honour may expect them soon.

The General Court have, at the request of Governour *Trumbull*, ordered sixty whale-boats to be procured for the service mentioned in his letter of the 9th instant, a copy of which is enclosed. They will be forwarded to *Rhode-Island*, from which place they are to be sent to some conve-

nient port in *Connecticut*; the mode of sending them will be settled by you and Governour *Trumbull*. For further particulars, we beg leave to refer you to General *Lincoln*, who will wait on you in his way to *New-York*.

To *Nicholas Cooke, Esq., Providence*.

ALEXANDER COFFIN TO MASSACHUSETTS COUNCIL.

Boston, September 25, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: Agreeable to your desire, I have collected the particulars of my voyage from *Nantucket* to *London*, and from thence to the *West-Indies* and *Nantucket*, and is as follows: I sailed in the ship *Somerset* from *Nantucket*, the 27th of *August*, 1775, with a load of oil, and arrived in *London* the 2d *October* following. There I disposed of my ship and cargo, and endeavoured to procure a passage back to *Nantucket* or some part of *America*, but by the embarrassments arising from acts of Parliament restraining and cutting off all trade and communication with the *Americans*, I could find no opportunity of a passage back to *Nantucket*, and was obliged, in conjunction with Captains *Folger, Jenkins* and *Gardner*, to purchase a brig for that purpose; and in order to prevent being liable to be seized or stopped in our intended return to *America* by any of the King's ships, or by any of the officers of the King's customs in *London*, we were obliged to conceal our intentions, and by advice of our *American* friends there, (who entrusted us with letters of the utmost importance to Messrs. *Hancock, Adams, Franklin*, and *Lee*,) we put a small cargo on board the brig, that it might appear we intended a trading voyage, and got her made an *English* bottom to cover our intention, which otherwise we could not have executed. We sailed from *London* the 23d of *May*, 1776, and in the *Downs* we took on board Mr. *Morris*, who was a Major in the *British* service; but he disapproving of their diabolical proceedings against this country, sold his commission and secured his effects in *London*, and took the resolution of proceeding to *America* to enter into their service, and it was recommended to him, by the friends of *America*, as the most speedy and safe way to get there. We arrived at the *West-Indies* the 2d of *July*, there disposed of our cargo, and took a small quantity of rum, sugar, and molasses, and cleared out for *Halifax*, but intended for the Continent. On the 20th of *July*, in latitude 32°, was taken by the Congress privateer, Captain *Craigie*, from *Philadelphia*, who told us that he belonged to Lord *Dunmore's* fleet, which caused us to destroy the bill of sale of our vessel, and many papers which might have been of service to this country. Afterwards he acknowledged himself to be a Provincial privateer, which put us in such confusion that we did not know how to act upon the occasion, and we determined not to open our minds to him, but to abide by the consequence, for as he had deceived us in one instance, we did not choose to give him the opportunity of another, we still believing him to be one of Lord *Dunmore's* fleet, and meant to trapan us; and we were not convinced that he was not one of them till ten days after, when we came up with a *Frenchman* loaded with powder, bound to the Continent, whom he dismissed, which convinced us that he belonged to the Continent; we then opened our minds more freely to him, and let him know that we belonged to the same, and entrusted with the above-mentioned letters, which were concealed in the brig, and begged of him to let some of us go in the *French* vessel, as no one knew where they were concealed except ourselves, which he utterly refused to do. He also refused to let any one of us belonging to the brig proceed in her to *Egg Harbour*, but he took every person belonging to her on board his privateer, with a professed intention to carry us as far from the Continent as would answer his design of preventing our arriving in season (as some of his officers told us) to claim our right, and recovering our property. He also took all our money, being in gold, with him, to a very considerable amount, and proceeded with it on a cruise. The letters we were charged with to the members of the honourable Congress, &c., were of such importance and nature as required us to act with the utmost care and caution; had they been discovered we hazarded our necks and the necks of the best and sincerest friends of *America*. We were further charged with some verbal intelligence, such as was judged to be too interesting, and in its consequences too important and dangerous to be entrusted

in a letter. We also brought off and concealed the aforementioned Major *Morris*, which if discovered would be as fatal to us as to him, all which we readily took charge of, as we heartily wished for and interested ourselves in every measure that might contribute to the information or success of the *American* cause, although, as above, we hazarded our lives in the attempt. The privateer being short of water was obliged to put into *Abico*, one of the *Bahama Islands*, where he put us on board a *Nantucket* vessel, who was there after a load of salt; and he also detained five vessels belonging to *New-Providence*, while he refitted and took the mast out of one of the vessels, and made a prize of another loaded with salt, and sent her to the Continent; also, out of the five vessels he took twenty negroes, and on the 19th of *August* he set sail for *Philadelphia*, and we at the same time for *Nantucket*, where we arrived the 5th instant.

The Captains *Folger* and *Jenkins*, in company with Major *Morris*, are gone to *Philadelphia*, in order to get and deliver the above-mentioned letters to Messrs. *Hancock, Adams, Franklin*, and *Lee*, and to petition the honourable Congress that their property may be restored, and reparation made them for their detention and suffering, without which they and their families will be very great sufferers, as that of, gentlemen, your most humble servant,

ALEXANDER COFFIN.

To the honourable Council of the State of *Massachusetts-Bay*.

Nantz, September 26, 1776.

There are here no less than twelve or fourteen ships, brigs, and schooners, &c., belonging to different ports in *America*, loading with military stores, &c. They bring wheat and flour in exchange. A large ship left this port yesterday bound to *America*, called the *Hancock and Adams*, commanded by one *Smith*. The day before he sailed he was examined by order of the Commandant, when a quantity of contraband stores was found on board, which he was obliged to reland; but the same night they were all reshipped again, with a great deal more, particularly two thousand stand of arms, many barrels of gunpowder, and several barrels of saltpetre. A schooner and a sloop have almost completed their cargoes, and will sail in a few days. Our commandant takes little or no notice of their proceedings, only now and then inspecting a vessel to keep up appearances.

ADVICES FROM THE SOUTHWEST FRONTIER.

On *Thursday*, the 26th of *September*, a soldier belonging to Captain *Gilmore's* company was killed and scalped near the main camp of our army. About the same time one of the inhabitants was killed and another taken prisoner. On *Sunday*, the 29th, our spies came in and informed that they had discovered the tracks of a large party of the enemy making towards the settlements; upon which, that very same evening, Colonel *Christian* went in quest of them with about five hundred men, who, after marching part of the night and most of the next day, found that the enemy had tacked about suddenly, and made off towards their towns. On *Tuesday* and *Thursday*, the 1st and 3d instant, our whole army, consisting of about two thousand men, healthy, well-equipped, and in high spirits, crossed the river, together with pack-horses and bullocks; and Colonel *Christian* expected to be at *Broad River* in eight or ten days, within forty miles of the enemy's towns, where he had information they intended to fight him. Advice had been received that General *Rutherford*, with the *North-Carolina* troops, had penetrated as far as the *Cherokee* middle settlements, and that the savages were flying precipitately before him.

BENJAMIN HARRISON, JUN., TO THE PRESIDENT OF CONGRESS.

Williamsburg, September 26, 1776.

HONOURABLE SIR: I do myself the honour to transmit you an account of the state of the money now in my office, by which you will see that there is only £10,143 14s. 1d. on hand. The arrears due to the Seventh Battalion now on Continental pay, and the two Minute battalions taken into Continental service in the room of the Regulars removed from hence, will take all that money immediately, so that

the office will be left without any, and the service suffer in case of any immediate demand.

I have the honour to be, sir, your very obedient servant,

BENJ. HARRISON, JR.,

Deputy Paymaster-General.

To the Hon. *John Hancock*, Esquire.

MARYLAND COUNCIL OF SAFETY TO BALTIMORE COMMITTEE.

[No. 190.]

Annapolis, September 26, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: We approve your choice of Mr. *Ezekiel Towson* to command the guard at the Magazine, and request that he would hire twelve men to keep guard alternately, according to orders he may give them. The highest price we have allowed for privates at other magazines is forty-five shillings; some are got for forty. We leave it to Lieutenant *Towson* to hire the men upon the best terms he can, not exceeding forty-five shillings per month, the publick to find them rations.

We are, &c.

To the Committee of Observation for *Baltimore County*.

MARYLAND COUNCIL OF SAFETY TO DELEGATES IN CONGRESS.

[No. 191.]

Annapolis, September 26, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: We received yours of the 24th relative to Captain *Watkins*, but have not seen him since you wrote. We have heretofore furnished him and his company with every thing in our power. Just before he left the Province he had near one thousand pounds currency for pay and subsistence, agreeable to his own account. Blankets we had not to give; we wrote to a gentleman at the *Head-of-Elk*, who we expected would have furnished his company with some. He had linen from us for hunting-shirts, &c., and we frequently intimated to himself, and others who applied on his behalf, that if he would buy woollens to clothe his company we would pay for the stuff and making, the common course of business with all the other Captains of independent companies. He talked of taking money in lieu of clothing; we offered him four pounds per man for that article. He sometimes assented, at others made excuses, and appeared undetermined; and to say the truth, we firmly believe that he renders himself incapable of taking proper care of his company, by drinking to excess. His distance from us was considerable; 'tis but lately we know any thing of him. He was represented to us as a brave man; how it has happened that he and his company have quarrelled, we know not. The men, we doubt not, have suffered from the inattention of their Captain; his removal, perhaps, would be the best method of promoting the publick service.

As to Surgeons, we have sent forward Mr. *Stone's* letter to Dr. *Brown*. We know Captain *Thomas* wrote to some gentlemen of the Convention, and Surgeons have been appointed, of which we send you a list enclosed; if they are all gone up, there can be no just cause of complaint. We have not appointed Dr. *Wallace* chief Surgeon to Colonel *Smallwood's* battalion, because Dr. *Weisenthal* represented to us that he had been up and settled all things to the satisfaction of those concerned. We should be glad to hear whether an appointment be necessary to that battalion; if so, we propose to raise Dr. *Weisenthal* and his present mate, and send up a second mate.

We are obliged to you for the care of the powder, and request you would order it by the stages to *Baltimore Town*, to the care of *Gerard Hopkins*, our Deputy Commissary. The freight we desire you will be pleased to pay; must leave the quantum to yourselves. *Harrison & Vanbibber* say nothing to us what sum ought to be paid for freight; ten per cent. on the value here is what we have charged to others, and paid when charged; we take it for granted 'tis the customary freight. The bill of lading, however, ought to be adverted to; and if the freight be therein specified, no more ought in our opinion to be granted. We have a duplicate of the bill of lading, which ascertains the freight at forty-six pounds five shillings, in dollars at seven shillings and six pence. Enclosed you have an order of the late session of Convention, which *T. Smyth* was to have forwarded; but we are uncertain whether he transmitted it or not.

We are, &c.

To the Deputies for *Maryland* in Congress.

COLONEL HOLLINGSWORTH TO THE MARYLAND COUNCIL OF SAFETY.

Cecil County, September 26, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: Agreeable to the resolves of Convention, we have endeavoured to have a company raised, under Captain *Samuel Evans*, Lieutenant *Henry Dobson*, Second Lieutenant *Thomas Ramsey*, Ensign *William Stuart*, which hope you will commission, they having raised sixty-six men, which Lieutenant *Dobson* will return you lists of, and expect the company will be full in a few days. Colonel *Hollingsworth* will furnish them with twenty guns, well fitted, and we will buy, out of the Militia, twenty-five more, which is all can engage for, as the battalion has furnished most of her best pieces before. Major *Parker* can furnish us with as much linen as will make ten tents, which beg you will give orders to have made in *Philadelphia*, as the Captain has raised a number of his neighbours that would not go into the service, unless they had them, at this advanced season; or would he receive his commission without them? Blankets may be had, but very high. We can purchase cartouch-boxes, if ordered. Knapsacks, wire, and brushes, with canteens, the residue of arms, we expect to be furnished with. The company is now on rations, as it is impossible to keep them otherwise. A drum and fife we can furnish, if ordered.

I have received three hundred and thirty-three pounds ten shillings, which will not be near sufficient. Therefore hope you will furnish us with at least five hundred more, by the bearer, Mr. *Henry Dobson*; and don't doubt but every thing will be had, so as the company may march by *Monday* come week.

We are, gentlemen, your obedient servants,

CHARLES RUMSEY,

EDWD. PARKER,

H. HOLLINGSWORTH.

To the honourable Council of Safety.

PENNSYLVANIA ASSEMBLY.

Monday, September 23, 1776.

Mr. Speaker, with twenty-three Members, met, pursuant to adjournment; and a quorum not appearing, they adjourned to to-morrow, at four o'clock in the afternoon.

Tuesday, September 24, 1776.

Mr. Speaker, with twenty-eight Members, met, pursuant to adjournment.

The Committee appointed, at the last sitting, to examine the accounts of the incidental expenses of the past year, made their Report.

Upon consideration of which, the following question was called for, and put by the Speaker: "Whether the sum of one thousand Pounds shall be allowed to the Governour, for his support during the present year?" Carried in the affirmative.

Yeas.

Mr. Gray,
Mr. Howell,
Mr. A. Allen,
Mr. Wilcocks,
Mr. Rodman,
Mr. Haney,
Mr. Foulke,
Mr. Chapman,

Yeas.

Mr. Brown,
Mr. Jenks,
Mr. Humphreys,
Mr. Pennock,
Mr. Pyle,
Mr. Rankin,
Mr. Chreist,
Mr. James Allen.

Nays.

Mr. Hillegas,
Mr. Parker,
Mr. Bartholomew,
Mr. Gibbons,
Mr. Pearson,
Mr. Jacobs,
Mr. Porter,
Mr. Galbreath,
Mr. Hoge,
Mr. Whitehill,
Mr. Arndt,
Mr. Smith.

The House having made some progress in the said Report of incidental expenses, adjourned to to-morrow, at three o'clock in the afternoon.

Wednesday, September 25, 1776.

Mr. Speaker, with twenty-five Members, met, pursuant to adjournment.

The Committee appointed to audit and settle the Publick Accounts, reported a general state of the same, in writing.

The House resumed the consideration of the incidental expenses; and, having made some further progress in examining the same, adjourned to nine o'clock to-morrow morning.

Thursday, September 26, 1776.

Mr. Speaker, with twenty-one Members, met, pursuant to adjournment.

The House proceeded to read the Report of the Committee on the Publick Accounts; which being in part gone through, they adjourned to three o'clock in the afternoon.

Mr. Speaker, with twenty-three Members, met, pursuant to adjournment.

The House proceeded in reading the Report of the Committee on the Publick Accounts: which being gone through and carefully examined, follows in these words, viz:

The Committee appointed to strike the sum of Eighty-Five Thousand Pounds in Bills of Credit, directed by the Resolves of the House of the 6th of *April* last, produced to the Chair a receipt from *Michael Hillegas*, Esq., Provincial Treasurer, for the said sum of Eighty-Five Thousand Pounds, in the said Bills of Credit to him paid, agreeable to the directions of the said Resolves.

The said Committee also produced five extra sheets, unsigned, which had been printed to supply any loss or deficiency happening in the said Bills during the signing and numbering the same; which five extra sheets were burned, by order of the House, in the presence of the Members.

The Committee appointed the 29th of *March* last, to confer with the Tenants on the Province Island, and to report what allowance they should think would be reasonable for the House to make for the losses they had sustained by the storm in *September*, 1775, reported, "that they had conferred with the Tenants, and, upon viewing the Island and the repairs made after the storm, are of opinion that this House make an allowance to *Samuel Penrose*, the tenant of the said Island, in behalf of the under-tenants, in consideration of the losses and damages by them sustained and repairs by them made, the sum of three hundred and sixty Pounds;" which being read by order, was agreed to by the House.

Ordered, That the Provincial Treasurer allow to *Samuel Penrose*, Tenant, the sum of three hundred and sixty Pounds, out of the rent due from him to this Province.

Upon motion, *Resolved*, That *Mr. Parker*, *Mr. Howell*, *Mr. Rodman*, *Mr. Brown*, and *Mr. Pearson*, be a Committee to settle the Accounts of the Commanding Officers in the different Battalions of Military Associators in this Province, for the wages of Adjutants, Sergeant-Majors, Fife-Majors, Drum-Majors, Fifers, and Drummers, agreeable to the Resolutions of Assembly of the 5th of *April* last; and to draw orders for such sums of money as they may find due to the said Commanding Officers, on the Provincial Treasurer, to be paid out of the twenty-two thousand Pounds issued by an Act of Assembly, passed the 30th day of *September*, 1775; and that the said Committee report their proceedings to the next Assembly.

Resolved, That *Michael Hillegas*, Esquire, Provincial Treasurer, pay such orders as may be drawn upon him by the said Committee, out of the said twenty-two thousand Pounds.

A Member read in his place, and presented at the table, some Resolutions for the consideration of the House, which being again read by the Clerk, were taken into immediate consideration, and after some debate, the previous question was called for and put, whether a question shall be now put on the said Resolutions?

Carried in the affirmative.

The said Resolutions, being accordingly put to the question, were agreed to, and follow in these words, viz:

"*Resolved*, by a majority of the Members present, That it is the sacred right of Freemen to give and grant their own Money; and that all Taxes levied without their consent, are arbitrary and oppressive: and that no Freeman can be constitutionally restrained of his liberty, or be sentenced to any penalties or punishment whatsoever, but by the judgment of his peers, and a trial had by a jury of his country.

"*Resolved*, That the Convention have derived no authority from the good people of *Pennsylvania* to levy Taxes and dispose of their property: and therefore, that the late Ordinance, imposing a rate of twenty Shillings per month, and four Shillings in the Pound on the Estates of Non-Associators, is illegal, and the said sums ought not to be paid.

"*Resolved*, That the late Ordinance of the Convention, empowering two or more Justices of the Peace to imprison, for an indefinite time, at their discretion, all persons whom

they shall judge to be guilty of the offences therein specified, is, in the opinion of this House, a dangerous attack on the liberties of the good people of *Pennsylvania*, and a violation of their most sacred rights; and therefore ought not to be considered as obligatory."

The House resumed the consideration of the list of Incidental Expenses, reported by the Committee, and the Accounts therein referred to being allowed, Mr. Speaker in the Chair signed the several Certificates and Orders for payment of the Wages of the Members and Committees, together with the Salaries of Publick Officers and other Contingent Charges of the past year.

Resolved, by the Members present, That *Michael Hillegas*, Esquire, Provincial Treasurer, pay all such Certificates and Orders as have been heretofore drawn by the Assembly for the Salaries of Publick Officers, and services done the publick, out of the twenty-two thousand Pounds issued by an act of Assembly passed the 30th of *September* last.

The House then rose.

Incidental Expenses for the year 1776.

To the Hon. <i>John Penn</i> , Esq., Governour,	£1,000	0	0
To <i>Benjamin Chew</i> , Esq., Chief Justice of this Province,	- - - - -	400	0 0
To <i>John Lawrence</i> , Esq., one of the Assistant Judges,	- - - - -	200	0 0
To <i>Thomas Willing</i> , Esq., ditto of ditto,	- - - - -	200	0 0
To <i>John Morton</i> , Esq., ditto of ditto,	- - - - -	200	0 0
To <i>Andrew Allen</i> , Esq., his salary as Attorney-General,	- - - - -	75	0 0
To <i>George Gray</i> , Esq., for his services on the Committee of Publick Accounts, thirty-one days, at 10s. per diem,	- - - - -	15	10 0
To <i>Michael Hillegas</i> , Esq., for ditto on ditto, two days, at ditto,	- - - - -	1	0 0
To <i>Samuel Howell</i> , Esq., for ditto on ditto, twenty days, at ditto,	- - - - -	11	0 0
To <i>Samuel Miles</i> , Esq., one day on ditto, at ditto,	- - - - -	0	10 0
To <i>Alexander Wilcocks</i> , Esq., for ditto on ditto, twenty days, at ditto,	- - - - -	10	0 0
To <i>Benjamin Chapman</i> , Esq., for ditto on ditto, thirty days, at ditto,	- - - - -	15	0 0
To <i>Isaac Pearson</i> , Esq., for ditto on ditto, thirty-four days, at ditto,	- - - - -	17	0 0
To <i>Charles Moore</i> , Esq., for his attendance as Clerk of the House, and for transcribing and engrossing bills, messages, &c.,	- - - - -	176	3 6
To <i>Abel Evans</i> , for his services as Clerk of the House, &c., &c.,	- - - - -	60	0 0
To <i>Joseph Shippen</i> , Esq., for his salary as Clerk of the Council,	- - - - -	30	0 0
To ditto, for his account of postage of publick letters, proclamations, &c.,	- - - - -	10	6 0
To <i>David Rittenhouse</i> , Esq., for his care of the State-House clock,	- - - - -	20	0 0
To <i>Joseph Fox</i> , Esq., his salary as Barrack-master at <i>Philadelphia</i> , to the 15th of <i>February</i> last, and his account of disbursements,	- - - - -	211	17 6
To <i>Mr. Lewis Nichola</i> , his salary as Barrack-master at ditto, from the 20th of <i>March</i> last,	- - - - -	50	0 0
To <i>Mr. William Bowsman</i> , as Barrack-master at <i>Lancaster</i> ,	- - - - -	30	0 0
To <i>Edmund Physic</i> , Esq., for affixing the great seal to laws,	- - - - -	5	17 0
To <i>William Parr</i> , Esq., Master of the Rolls Office, as per account,	- - - - -	50	7 5½
To ditto for extraordinary services in attending the committee appointed to revise and publish the laws, and packing the records,	- - - - -	5	0 0
To Messrs. <i>Hall & Sellers</i> , for printing the laws, proclamations, &c., as per account,	- - - - -	429	4 3
To the estate of <i>David Hall</i> , deceased, for stationery, as per account,	- - - - -	3	7 4
To <i>Mr. William Sheed</i> , as Sergeant-at-Arms to the House,	- - - - -	10	0 0
To ditto, as Doorkeeper to the Council, twenty meetings, at 2s. 6d.,	- - - - -	2	10 0

To Mr. <i>Andrew McNair</i> , as Doorkeeper to the House, and for disbursements, as per account, - - - - -	£26	19	8
To Mr. <i>Henry Miller</i> , for printing votes, &c., &c., as per account, - - - - -	243	10	0
To Mr. <i>John Dean</i> , for binding laws, as per account, - - - - -	190	9	0
To Mr. <i>John Marshall</i> , as a premium for a twisting machine, - - - - -	40	0	0
To Mr. <i>Christopher Tully</i> , as a premium for a spinning machine, - - - - -	15	0	0
To Mr. <i>Joseph Hagey</i> , ditto, for ditto, - - - - -	15	0	0
To Mr. <i>William Sheaff</i> , for filling up commissions, &c., as per account, - - - - -	14	19	8
To <i>Isaac Pearson</i> , Esq., for revising the laws, six days, at 10s. per diem, - - - - -	3	0	0
To <i>John Morton</i> , Esq., on the committee for adjusting the accounts of the Military Associators, sixteen days, at 10s. per diem, - - - - -	8	0	0
To Mr. <i>William Rodman</i> , Esq., on ditto, eighteen days, at ditto, - - - - -	9	0	0
To <i>John Brown</i> , Esq., on ditto, four days at ditto, - - - - -	2	0	0
To <i>Joseph Parker</i> , Esq., on ditto, eighteen days, at ditto, - - - - -	9	0	0
To <i>John Jacobs</i> , Esq., on ditto, twelve days, at ditto, - - - - -	6	0	0
To <i>Isaac Pearson</i> , Esq., on ditto, eighteen days, at ditto, - - - - -	9	0	0
To <i>Abel Evans</i> , attending as clerk to the committee, sixteen days, at ditto, - - - - -	8	0	0
To <i>John Dickinson</i> , Esq., for his attendance as a Delegate in Congress, to November 4, 1775, - - - - -	107	0	0
To <i>George Ross</i> , Esq., for ditto, to ditto, - - - - -	34	0	0
To <i>John Morton</i> , Esq., for ditto, to June 14, 1776, - - - - -	80	0	0
To <i>John Dickinson</i> , Esq., for ditto, to ditto, - - - - -	81	0	0
To <i>Thomas Willing</i> , Esq., for ditto, to ditto, - - - - -	197	0	0
To <i>Robert Morris</i> , Esq., for ditto, to ditto, - - - - -	168	0	0
To <i>Andrew Allen</i> , Esq., for ditto, to ditto, - - - - -	140	0	0
To <i>Benj. Franklin</i> , Esq., for ditto, to ditto, - - - - -	166	0	0
To <i>Charles Humphreys</i> , Esq., for ditto, to ditto, - - - - -	172	0	0
To <i>James Wilson</i> , Esq., for ditto, to ditto, - - - - -	381	5	0
To <i>John Morton</i> , Esq., for ditto, sixteen days, to July 20, 1776, at 20s. per diem, - - - - -	16	0	0
To <i>Charles Humphreys</i> , Esq., for ditto, nineteen days, to ditto, at ditto, - - - - -	19	0	0
To <i>Thomas Willing</i> , Esq., for ditto, nineteen days, to ditto, at ditto, - - - - -	19	0	0
To <i>Robert Morris</i> , Esq., for ditto, thirty days, to ditto, at ditto, - - - - -	30	0	0
To <i>Benjamin Franklin</i> , Esq., for ditto, thirty days, at ditto, - - - - -	30	0	0
To <i>James Wilson</i> , Esq., for ditto, thirty-eight days, at 25s. per diem, - - - - -	47	10	0
To Mr. <i>Peter Dehaven</i> , for his services at the saltpetre works, - - - - -	30	0	0
To <i>John Fulton</i> and <i>James Kelly</i> , for apprehending <i>Fleming Elliot</i> , - - - - -	60	0	0
To Mr. <i>Lewis Nichola</i> , Barrack-master, for disbursements, - - - - -	10	12	6
To Mr. <i>Andrew McNair</i> , for Indian expenses, - - - - -	46	16	11
To the Managers of the House of Employment, for the maintenance and clothing of <i>Catharine Smith</i> , - - - - -	27	10	0
To Mr. <i>Peter Dehaven</i> , for his disbursements at the saltpetre works, and which he received from the Treasurer and the sale of saltpetre; excepting the sum of £9 17s. 6d., now remaining in his hands, - - - - -	453	17	6
To <i>Abel Evans</i> , for transcribing and copying the publick accounts, - - - - -	8	0	0
To <i>Joseph Galloway</i> , Esq., for his services on the committee for revising and publishing the laws, - - - - -	40	0	0
To <i>Samuel Rhoads</i> , Esq., for his services on the committee for revising and publishing the laws, - - - - -	10	0	0

To the estate of <i>John Ross</i> , Esq., deceased, for his services on ditto, - - - - -	£6	0	0
To <i>Michael Hillegas</i> , Esq., for ditto, - - - - -	20	0	0
To <i>Petapanihila</i> , (alias <i>George Allen</i> ,) an Indian, for his fidelity to this Province, - - - - -	100	0	0
To Mr. <i>Andrew McNair</i> , for expenses, per account, - - - - -	1	13	0
To <i>Michael Hillegas</i> , Esq., his account for repairs at the Province Island and <i>Deep Water</i> Island, sundry Indian expenses, fire wood for the Assembly, orders of the Committee of Safety, and orders of Assembly for drums, colours, &c., - - - - -	4,654	11	11
	£11,001	9	2½

We, the Committee for Incidental Expenses, have examined the several Accounts herein referred to, and find them charged as above.

JOSEPH PARKER,
WILLIAM RODMAN,
CHARLES HUMPHREYS,
JONATHAN ROBERTS.

Philadelphia, September 26, 1776.

LANCASTER, PENNSYLVANIA, COMMITTEE.

At a meeting of the Committee of Observation and Inspection, at the house of *Adam Reigart*, the 26th September, 1776,

Present: *William Atlee*, *Lodwick Lowman*, *William Bowsman*, *John Miller*, *Christopher Crawford*, *Henry Dehuff*, *George Moore*. *William Atlee* in the Chair.

The Committee, to enable them the better to comply with the request of the Council of Safety, in returning to them an account of the State Prisoners in this County, having required of the Sergeant Major of the Seventh and Twenty-Sixth to make returns to the Committee of the number of names and times when the Prisoners of those Regiments arrived here, with an account of the present station of such of them as have left *Lancaster*, the said Sergeants now make returns, and Sergeants *Taylor* and *J. Wilkinson*, in accounting for the men, having the impudence to set down in writing, signed by them, that some of the men are enlisted with the Rebels,—the Committee look upon the conduct of those Sergeants as insulting and designed to affront them; and therefore

Order, that they be immediately sent to gaol, and be kept there on bread and water.

Christian Kuntz, *John Willson*, *Joseph Nagle*, *John Muscatuns*, *Frederick Widely*, *Martin Frey*, *Lodwick Roch*, *Frederick Keller*, *John Epple*, *Frederick Mellinger*, *Joseph Seemer*, *Frederick Segmiller*, *Frederick Hartoffle*, *John Wentzell*, of Captain *Dehuff's* Company, in Colonel *Atlee's* Battalion, appear in Committee and agree to march off to join the Battalion at three o'clock this afternoon, and be under the direction of Lieutenant *George Brickman* from hence to *Philadelphia*, by whom the Chairman is requested to write to the Council of Safety respecting them, and Mr. *Beckham* will give certificates for their rations on the road.

Mr. *Henry Huttenstein* mentions in Committee, that his servant-man, *John Reed*, went from hence with his consent, with Captain *Boyd's* Company of Militia, of Colonel *Ross's* Battalion, to the camp in the *Jerseys*. That the officers of the company promised if in their power, to bring him back with them, and that the said servant entered into the flying camp; and Captain *Boyd* also mentioning these facts in Committee; the Committee beg leave to certify the same to the commanding officers of the Battalion in which the said *John Reed* serves, and if he can be discharged with propriety and sent to his master, recommends to his consideration to do therein as he shall judge right.

Abraham Holmes tent in £400 to the State of *Pennsylvania*, for the good behaviour of his Negro man, *Nambo*, to all the subjects and inhabitants of this State, and particularly to *John Clendeman* and his family and estate; and for his appearance before any court of record of this State, where his attendance shall be required. Acknowledged in Committee the 26th September, 1776.

Matthew Kinch, of the Twenty-Sixth Regiment, is permitted to go to *Yorktown* as servant to Lieutenant *Dulhanty*, and a pass to be granted him.

GENERAL MERCER TO THE BOARD OF WAR.

Amboy, September 26, 1776.

SIR: I received the favour of your letter of the 20th just now, and shall, in compliance with the requisition of the Board of War, send off every article of camp necessities, that can be spared from this post. We have for some days past been forwarding tents, camp kettles, and such other furniture as the army in *New-York* stood in need of. Colonel *Biddle* has been several days at *Fort Constitution*, giving every assistance in his power towards the supplies of that post, and our army opposite to it.

I am, sir, your most obedient servant,

HUGH MERCER.

To *Richard Peters*, Esq., Secretary to the Board of War.

HENRY REMSEN TO NEW-YORK CONVENTION.

Morristown, September 26, 1776.

SIR: The day after my return home from *Connecticut*, which was the 21st instant, I received a letter from Major *G. Abeel*, advising that the honourable Convention had appointed me, with himself and Major *Van Zandt*, a Committee of Safety and Correspondence below the Highlands. I should immediately, with pleasure, have attended on that or any other business that the Convention appointed me to, did the situation of my family admit of my absence. On my return from *Connecticut*, I found two of my sons unwell, and they continue very ill of fevers, which the Doctor calls nervous and remitting, so as to be confined to their beds; and Mrs. *Remsen* is at present in a situation that I cannot with propriety leave her; she is without any of her relations, among strangers, and near a perilous hour which she expects soon. I have also some commercial matters of a publick and private concern to attend to; besides I have my house to new-cover; in its present situation it is untenable by the leakings of the roof. The carpenters promised to finish it above six weeks ago; I have hopes they will begin their work in seven or eight days. I shall (God willing) attend my duty as soon as possible, and I hope in a few weeks in person to report to Convention my proceeding in regard to the merchandise imported by Messrs. *Van Zandt*, *Pintard*, and self, by order of a former Congress.

Governour *Cooke*, of *Rhode-Island*, has not acted politely nor friendly to our State. He thought proper to detain part of our goods some weeks, as a security for a debt due from one private person in our State to another in their State, and through my agency the money was sent and our goods liberated; for particulars I beg leave to refer you to Captain *John Harrison*, who went the voyage. I have desired him to attend the transportation of the goods by land to the *Fishkills*, and to deliver them to the order of Convention, and for that purpose advanced him a sum of money, but I believe not sufficient to pay for the whole transportation. Captain *Harrison* will also give information of his having shipped from prudential motives seventy barrels of gunpowder on board of our armed vessel, from *St. Eustatia* to *Charlestown*, *South-Carolina*, to be delivered to the Committee or Council of Safety there. I shall write a line to Mr. *P. Livingston*, at *Philadelphia*, and request him by means of the Delegates in Congress for that State, to have a like quantity (viz: three tons and an half) delivered to our Convention, or, if used there, money sufficient to purchase as much.

Enclosed you have Mr. *Joseph Hallet's* account of the freight for his sloop, stated exactly as we agreed with him for the voyage; and as he has applied for the money, shall be glad if Convention will order payment to Mr. *Jacobus Van Zandt*, or his order, who will transmit the same to Mr. *Hallet*.

I beg the favour of Convention to spare to my family's use one piece of the finest blue broadcloth, and two pieces of the finest linen. On reëxamining my stock of linen, find I was robbed of more than I at first apprehended. I will allow the price, be it more or less, and I believe Mr. *Gerard Banker* will take the trouble to lay it by for use.

I am very respectfully, sir, your and the Convention's obedient and very humble servant,

HENRY REMSEN.

To the President of the Convention for the State of *New-York*, convened at *Fishkills*.Messrs. JACOBUS VAN ZANDT, LEWIS PINTARD, and HENRY REMSEN, in behalf of the Provincial Congress of *New-York*,Dr. to *Joseph Hallet*.

For freight of the sloop *Nancy*, *John Harrison* master, from *New-York*, in *October*, 1775, to *Bordeaux*, in *France*, per agreement entered into with them for Provincial Congress, - - - - - sterling £550 0 0
For demurrage, (twenty-six days at 40s. sterling per day,) - - - - - 52 0 0
Sterling £602 0 0

Exchange at 100 per cent., being the lowest exchange when the cargo arrived and since that time, - - - - - 602 0 0
New-York currency £1204 0 0

This serves to certify that the above account is stated exactly as our agreement was with Mr. *Hallet*, and the exchange, to the best of our remembrance, has not been lower than one hundred per cent. for the last six months.

We have seen Captain *Harrison's* certificate books, and other vouchers, by which it appears he arrived at the Castle on river of *Bordeaux* the 23d *November*, 1775, and sailed from thence the 9th of *February*, 1776, which period includes the forty working days per agreement—eleven *Sundays* and twenty-six days on demurrage.

HENRY REMSEN,
JACOBUS VAN ZANDT.

New-Jersey, September 26, 1776.

To the President of the Convention for the State of *New-York*, convened at *Fishkills*.

EXTRACT OF A LETTER FROM HARLEM, (NEW-YORK,) SEPTEMBER 26, 1776.

Friday last was discovered a vast cloud of smoke arising from the north part of the city, which continued till *Saturday* evening. The consequence was that the *Broadway*, from the new City-Hall down to *Whitehall*, is laid in ashes. Our friends were immediately suspected, and according to the report of a flag of truce who came to our lines soon after, those that were found on or near the spot were pitched into the conflagration, some hanged by the heels, and others by their necks, with their throats cut. Inhuman barbarity! One *Hale* in *New-York*, on suspicion of being a spy, was taken up and dragged without ceremony to the execution post, and hung up. General *Washington* has since sent in a flag, supposed to be on that account.

The 22d instant was tried for cowardice, disobedience of orders, and daring to present his firelock at a superiour officer in time of the late skirmish, one *Leffingwell*, of *Norwich*, for which he was condemned to be shot; accordingly all preparations were made, himself brought to the field, was fixed on his knees, and while the guards were marching to execute the decree, the General sent a pardon, declaring never to forgive another.

GENERAL WASHINGTON TO GENERAL MERCER.

Colonel Morris's, at Harlem, September 26, 1776.

DEAR SIR: If the troops at this post can be prevailed upon to defend it as they should do, it must cost General *Howe* a great many men to carry it, if he succeeds at all. If this should happen to be his opinion, there is scarce a doubt but that he will turn his thoughts another way, as inactivity is not to be expected from him. Whither his operations may be directed is uncertain—perhaps an irruption into the *Jerseys*. Possibly he may bend his course towards *Philadelphia*, (for I conceive that two thousand men, with the assistance of their shipping, will effectually preserve *New-York* against our whole strength,) or, which in my judgment is exceedingly probable, knowing that the troops are drawn off from the Southern Colonies, he may detach a part of the army to the southward, for a winter's campaign, as was recommended to him last fall by Lord *Dunmore*.

In either of these cases it behooves us to keep the best look-out, and to obtain the earliest intelligence possible of the enemy's motions; and as it is now the current opinion that the shipping are greatly thinned, I earnestly recommend to you the necessity of having sensible and judicious persons in different places to observe the movements of

the shipping, among others at the *Neversinks*; for if they should send out a fleet without our giving notice of it to Congress, we shall be thought exceedingly remiss. In short, I entreat you to exert your best endeavours to obtain every useful intelligence you possibly can of the enemy's motions by sea and land. In doing this, money may be required, and do not spare it. Communicate every thing of importance to me with despatch, and be assured that I am, dear sir, your most obedient servant,

Go. WASHINGTON.

To Brigadier-General *Mercer*, *New-Jersey*.

GENERAL WASHINGTON TO GOVERNOUR TRUMBULL.

Harlem Heights, September 26, 1776.

SIR: Your favour of the 20th instant is duly received. The several Regiments and Militia from *Connecticut*, lately commanded by General *Wolcott*, being reduced to almost nothing, one having returned under twenty, and another short of thirty collective men, they were yesterday discharged. I am full in opinion with you that some severe examples ought to be made of the late deserters. For a return of their names, I must refer you to the several commanding officers of the different regiments. I hope those under Brigadier *Saltonstall* may show a better spirit.

A proposal for an immediate exchange of prisoners has been made by General *Howe*, agreeable to the resolves of Congress. I am to request a return as soon as possible of all those in *Connecticut*, mentioning the names and ranks of all commissioned officers, and distinguishing particularly between those of the army and navy, as well privates as officers. It appears to me their being marched to some convenient post, and coming by water, will be much the most convenient; at least it will save expense, and will prevent their having a view of the different towns and their situations on the sea-coast. Your sentiments on the subject, together with the return of the prisoners as early as possible, will much oblige me.

I am, with esteem, sir, your most obedient and very humble servant,

Go. WASHINGTON.

To Governour *Trumbull*, *Connecticut*.

COLONEL RUFUS PUTNAM TO GENERAL WASHINGTON.

September 26, 1776.

SIR: I hope the importance of the subject will be a sufficient apology for the freedom I take in addressing your Excellency at this time. I have long wondered that no corps of Engineers was yet established. The number of works to be executed, the necessity of despatch in them, the impossibility for common hands to be made at once to comprehend what they ought to do, without a corps of Engineers is established, the works never will be properly executed, nor done in a reasonable time; and I cannot give my ideas of such a corps, and their duty, better than in the words of Mr. *Maignets*. Speaking of their subordinate discipline, he says: "The first part of this discipline consists of the division of one corps into several, and the subdivision of the latter into still less." Again: "In the construction of places, that corps of workmen are divided into several others, who are called bands, the officers of each of those companies should be Engineers; and 'tis a leading circumstance to the success of any action, that the soldiers and their officers should be acquainted with each other beforehand; and 'tis from the Engineers that the former are to receive orders for the works of attack, defence, and construction of plans; 'tis evident that the latter ought to be charged with the conduct and command of them. Engineers are the natural officers of workmen; ancient and constant usage has confirmed the practice." Again: "If teachers were appointed to each of these principal corps, such a number of hopeful youth might be formed as would be a great benefit to the service. These workmen are, properly speaking, soldiers, or, rather, both one and t'other—their business being either fighting or working, as occasion requires. The first exercise to be taught them is the use of their arms; the next is to keep them to their business; the third kind of exercise is the instructing them in the several forms, dimensions, and properties of works." Again: "All workmen employed in buildings of any kind may serve very

well for works of fortifications." Again: "By this means you may have good miners and sappers in abundance, who, in time of sieges, may ease the Engineers, and even supply the want of them upon occasion."

Two years' experience has fully convinced me, sir, that till the Engineers are rendered independent of any other department for their artificers, till they have miners and sappers, or persons separate from the common fatigue men, to take care of sinking the ditch properly, laying the turf well, and to build the parapet with its proper talus—I say, till this is done, the Engineer will not be able to execute his works well, nor do them in a reasonable time. The service has already suffered much, and will continue to do so, till some such corps as what I have mentioned is established. And to convince your Excellency that I have no interested motives but the common good in this address, I beg leave to quit the department, since the army are or may be so well supplied with regular-bred Engineers.

I am, sir, your Excellency's most obedient, devoted, humble servant,

RUFUS PUTNAM.

To His Excellency General *Washington*.

COURTS-MARTIAL.

Proceedings of a General Court-Martial of the Line, held on the Heights of HAARLEM, by order of His Excellency GEORGE WASHINGTON, Esq., General and Commander-in-Chief of the Forces of the UNITED STATES OF AMERICA, for the trial of all Prisoners to be brought before them. SEPTEMBER 26, 1776.

Colonel EWING, President.

Lieut. Col. <i>Chandler</i> ,	Captain <i>Lucas</i> ,
Lieut. Col. <i>Russel</i> ,	Captain <i>Brown</i> ,
Captain <i>Ledyard</i> ,	Captain <i>Chamberlain</i> ,
Captain <i>Graydon</i> ,	Captain <i>Rogers</i> ,
Captain <i>Wiley</i> ,	Captain <i>Foster</i> ,
Captain <i>Hindman</i> ,	Captain <i>Stanley</i> .

WILLIAM TUDOR, Judge-Advocate.

The Court proceeded to the trial of Lieutenant *Henry Drake*, of Captain *Houghton's* Company, in the Regiment commanded by Lieutenant-Colonel *Philips*, brought prisoner before the Court, and accused of "leaving the regiment without permission from his commanding officer, and being absent for twenty days."

The prisoner being arraigned, acknowledges that he left the regiment without leave, but that he was only a volunteer; that he has no commission, and that when he came into the service he publicly declared that he would serve only for two months; that he has never received, but refused to accept, either pay or rations; and that he has tarried his two months, and now considers himself at liberty to return home.

Clum, Adjutant, deposes: That Lieutenant *Drake* has justly stated the circumstances of his entering the service; and that the prisoner has never received either pay or ration money, but refused both.

The Court are of opinion that the prisoner is not culpable for leaving Lieutenant-Colonel *Philips's* Regiment, as he could never be justly considered as an officer in that corps, having no commission.

THOS. EWING, President.

At a General Court-Martial held at *King's Bridge*, on the 26th day of *September*, A. D. 1776:

Colonel LASHER, President.

Lieut. Col. <i>Prentice</i> ,	Captain <i>Dana</i> ,
Major <i>Austin</i> ,	Captain <i>Dixon</i> ,
Captain <i>Sill</i> ,	Captain <i>Brazier</i> ,
Captain <i>Barns</i> ,	Captain <i>Townshend</i> ,
Captain <i>Wyley</i> ,	Captain <i>Platt</i> ,
Captain <i>Allen</i> ,	Lieut. <i>Durstin</i> .

WILLIAM WILLCOCKS, Judge-Advocate.

Ensign *Benjamin Snow*, of the Sixteenth Regiment, brought before the Court, said to be charged with "leaving his guard and absenting himself from the camp and duty without leave;" but no written accusation or accuser appearing against the prisoner, the Court order that he be discharged from his arrest. [Arrested again.]

James McCormick, of Captain *Farrington's* Company, Colonel *Sargent's* Regiment, charged with mutiny, attempting to desert, and firing on his own party.

Captain *Keith*, of the same regiment, being duly sworn, deposeth: That on the day of the retreat from *Horn's Hook*, he, the deponent, was left to cover it; that he saw a person go from one of the flanking parties to the prisoner, who was marching towards the enemy; that he stopped him, and high words ensued; that he saw the prisoner lift up his tomahawk; that the person kept him there till Ensign *Fish* came up, who ordered him to go back; he swore he would not; that he would go and see his wife. He was told the enemy was near by; he, notwithstanding, insisted upon going. He was ordered to go and join the regiment, which he appeared to do, but when the Captain was retreating, they met him again returning towards the enemy. A file of men was ordered to take him up; he swore he would not go back; he was answered that he should; he then swore he would be the death of some one of the regiment, and swore he would as leave be among the Regulars.

Ensign *Fish*, in addition to the above, testifies that the prisoner had no wife; that he was very turbulent.

Lieutenant *Brown*, of Captain *Perry's* Company, and the same regiment, proves that the prisoner attempted to desert twice before this on the same day; that at one time he had gone above twenty rods from the regiment, but the Colonel by presenting his piece at him brought him back; that he heard him often say he would be the death of some one in the regiment, and that he wished for a battle.

The charge of firing upon his party is not sufficiently supported.

The Court adjudge the prisoner guilty of desertion on the eighth article of war, and of mutiny on the fifth article of war.

The prisoner is sentenced by the Court to die.

JOHN LASHER, President.

Referred to the Commander-in-Chief.

The above sentence, respecting the condemnation of *James McCormick*, is approved of, and General *Heath* may appoint the time and place for execution, that a warrant may be issued accordingly.

GO. WASHINGTON.

At a General Court-Martial held at the same place, on the 27th day of *September*, Anno Domini, 1776:

Captains *Keith* and *Hardenburgh* in the places of Captain *Wyley* and Lieutenant *Durstin*.

Prisoner *Charles Bowen*, of Captain *Brenton Parris's* Company, charged with robbery.

The prisoner on his arraignment, pleads guilty; but offers in excuse drunkenness.

Witness.—Captain *Bowen* for the prisoner, testifies, that he is a man of courage, and a very good soldier.

The Court find the prisoner guilty of robbery and drunkenness.

The prisoner sentenced to receive thirty-nine lashes for robbery, and twenty lashes for drunkenness. (Sentence approved.)

Christopher Keil and *Daniel Connell*, of Captain *Townshend's* Company, Col. *Thomas's* Regiment, charged with desertion.

Keil pleads in excuse his going to see his wife; *Connell*, his going to get clean clothes.

William Brown, of the same company, testifies, that he was sent to take the prisoners; that *Keil* was reluctant, and acknowledged that he did not intend to return again.

Lieutenant *Woodward*, of Captain *Townshend's* Company, testifies: That he found *Connell* in a barn; that he would not answer to his name for some time. That he was reluctant; said he went for his clothes. The witness does not believe he had any there.

The Court find the prisoners guilty. *Keil* sentenced to receive thirty-nine lashes. (Sentence approved.)

Connell sentenced to receive thirty-nine lashes and be discharged from the service. (Whipping approved; discharge disapproved.)

JOHN LASHER, President.

EXTRACT OF A LETTER FROM MOUNT WASHINGTON, DATED SEPTEMBER 26, 1776.

In a skirmish on *Montresor's Island*, on the morning of the 23d of *September*, was killed, Major *Thomas Henly*, Aid-de-Camp to Major-General *Heath*. This young hero was a native of *Charlestown*, near *Boston*, of an ancient and reputable family. He was in *England* when the news of the battle of *Lexington* arrived there. He instantly flew to the assistance of his country, and immediately entered into the Continental service, in the regiment commanded by Colonel *Varnum*, from which he was transferred to the corps of Artillery, commanded by Colonel *Knox*, as Lieutenant and Adjutant. In this active situation he was beloved and respected by the officers, of not only his own corps, but the whole army, and his reputation as a good officer was such, that, a few days before his death, he was promoted to be first Aid-de-Camp to Major-General *Heath*. It was proposed to surprise a guard of the enemy's, on *Montresor's Island*, and as he was impatient for enterprise, he solicited to be of the party, and was in the first and only boat that landed. The other boats appointed to support the party, failed in their duty, by which those who had first landed, after having first obliged the enemy to retreat, were in their turn under the necessity to retire; at this moment, Major *Henly* received the fatal ball through the heart. Lieutenant-Colonel *Jackson* was wounded, and Captain *Hubbart*, Paymaster of Colonel *Sargent's* regiment, killed. The genius of *America* starts as from a trance, at her neglect to guard the lives of a *Knowlton* and a *Henly*; and then absorbed in melancholy, sighs, "it was a mistake, they were not to have fallen, only upon the decision of the fate of an empire."

AARON BURR TO MRS. EDWARDS.

King's Bridge, September 26, 1776.

MY DEAR AUNT: I fear, madam, you give yourself needless anxiety about the situation of publick affairs. It has been always held a maxim, that our island and seaport towns were at the discretion of the tyrant of *Great Britain*. Reasons for the retreat from *Long-Island* are well known; the evacuation of *New-York* was a necessary consequence. The manner of conducting these made present advantages but trifling to the enemy. The loss to us is of still less importance; and indeed some happy consequences resulting from the manœuvres appear to be worthy of notice.

We have hitherto opposed them with less than half their number, and exposed to all their advantages of shipping. Our force is now more united, theirs more divided. Our present situation renders their navy of less service to them, and less formidable to us; a circumstance of vast importance, and to which I attribute all that has heretofore appeared in their favour. Add to these, besides confirming our internal union, the effect that every appearance of success on the part of the enemy has upon our leading men. It arouses them from the lethargy which began to prevail; convinces them that their measures are unequal to their grand designs; that the present is the important moment, and that every nerve must now be exerted.

This is not altogether fanciful. It has been actually the case. More effectual measures than were ever before thought of are now taking for levying a new army. A Committee of Congress are on the spot with us to know all our wants, and report them properly, that they may be speedily provided for. I do not intend by this, my dear aunt, to deceive you into an opinion that every thing is already entirely secure; that we are now actually relieved from every degree of danger; but to remove your apprehensions concerning the important events which depend on our military exertions. I hope, madam, you will continue, with your usual philosophy and resolution, prepared for the uncertain events of war, not anticipating improbable calamities.

Various have been the reports concerning the barbarities committed by the *Hessians*, most of them incredible and false. They are fonder of plunder than blood, and are more the engines than the authors of cruelty. But their behaviour has been in some instances savage, and might excite a fear, if reckoned among usual calamities; but these should be viewed on a larger scale than that of common complaisance. It should be remembered we are engaged in a civil war, and effecting the most important revolution that ever took place. How little of the horrors of either

have we known! Fire or the sword have scarce left a trace among us. We may be truly called a favoured people.

I have been not so engaged as common for a short time past, and have liberty of remaining, for three or four days, about two miles from camp, from whence I now write you a little more at leisure; but I am now within drum-call.

Your nephew,
To Mrs. Edwards.

A. BURR.

JOHN SLOSS HOBART TO NEW-YORK CONVENTION.

Head-Quarters, September 26, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: I wrote to you last night by Captain Rogers, since which have conversed with General Washington, who has ordered Lieutenant-Colonel Livingston to repair to the forts in the Highlands, with his detachment. If this reinforcement should arrive it cannot be sufficient; therefore I hope no pains will be spared to bring the Militia already ordered to those posts.

With respect to the exchange of General Woodhull, I have agreed to furnish Mr. Lewis, a man here, with a copy of the resolution of Convention respecting that subject, and to solicit his interposition with Congress, that the General may be exchanged as soon as possible. This being done, I propose to proceed to Connecticut to-morrow, and there wait an answer to mine of yesterday by Captain Rogers, who, I suppose, will return immediately.

I am extremely sorry to say, that I can hear no intelligence of the Committee of Safety you ordered to sit below the Highlands.

I have been this morning upon the lines, and observe that the enemy are erecting works to annoy our advanced posts. God send them disappointment.

In haste I remain your most obedient servant,
JOHN SLOSS HOBART.

To New-York Convention.

CAPTAIN CREGIER TO NEW-YORK CONVENTION.

Fishkill, September 26, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: I have done myself the honour in waiting upon your honourable House in order to lay before you the state and condition of the schooner *General Putnam*, under my command; and finding there can be no Convention, by reason that some of the members are absent and it being uncertain when those gentlemen will return, I, to avoid the expenses which myself and horse being at, think it prudent to return to my house at the *King's Bridge*, where I shall remain at my own expense until I receive further instructions from your honourable House.

Gentlemen, I must, in the first place, acquaint you that my provisions being expended, having not more on board than will support the company about fifteen days; in the next place, my vessel being very small and low in the water, my greatest ordnance being twelve swivel-guns, the shrouds very old and not trustworthy, my best bower cable being very poor, the vessel very weak and leaky, which weakness proceeded from her lying on a bar and heavy surf breaking over her when I was run on shore by a man-of-war, the people much exposed when under sail, or even in hard rains the water pouring into their cabins, which prevents them of lying into their beds, (diligent search has been made in order to stop the leaks, but all to no purpose,) daily complaints being made by my people in regard to the vessel's condition, and the season of the year advancing towards cold and stormy weather; this, gentlemen, is certainly the condition of the vessel; the people almost naked, having no shoes nor stockings, and the most part of them not the second shirt to their backs; no money has been advanced to them but from my own private purse; no fresh meat allowed, although I have applied for it; no rum allowed them, which has occasioned much disturbance on board; they have demanded an allowance of half pint of rum per day, which is allowed the men in the Continental fleet, and insist upon it that the Provincial Congress gives that allowance. A riot was made just before I left the vessel in regard to their allowance of rum, in which affair I was obliged to make use of my authority amongst some of the principal ringleaders, upon which some of them have undertaken to complain of my conduct to your Honours by letter. I never heard that the conduct of a commander was to be taken notice of by a report made by a common Boatswain, Carpenter, or Gunner, and

men who sacrifice every thing that is dear to them for a single can of grog; men whom I have picked up and put in office on purpose to have the vessel manned, and as the vessel is but very small I was glad to pick up any trash. I am very clear you will not find any principal officers' names in that complaint; they are men of good families and characters, hearty in the cause of liberty; if such men were to complain of my conduct, I confess I ought to stand corrected. Perhaps the names of my chief officers you would be glad to know: my chief Lieutenant is *Thomas Quigley*, *David Walker* is my Second Lieutenant, *Eliakim Little* is the Master, and *Cornelius French* is my Mate, and upon the whole I would recommend it to your honourable House to give directions to lay the vessel up as unfit for any further service this season, as I look upon keeping her any longer in commission will only be a great expense, without the gleam of any profit or service. As for my part, I am determined not to enjoy a commission unless I can be of service to my country; for I should, on that part of the coast, where the vessel is, only be picking the public's pocket, as nothing is to be met with there but frigates, sloops of war, and large tenders, which we are not able to engage. I am determined to serve in the present cause, and will spend my last moments in serving my country, and fix myself at the seat of war, and whenever I am called on will cheerfully join heart and hand with my staunch countrymen. The accounts of the vessel should be settled and the people paid off, which matter I leave to be determined by your Honours, and shall wait your command with due respect; and am your most obedient, humble

THOMAS CREGIER.

To the honourable gentlemen of the Convention of the State of New-York.

MEMORIAL OF JOHN MACAMLY AND NATHANIEL FINCH.

To the Honourable Convention of the State of New-York, now convened at FISHKILL, &c.

This memorial humbly sheweth, that on Tuesday, the 21th of this instant, a number of persons assembled together at Florida, in Orange County, in order to procure salt by some means, as there was none exposed for sale; they were at a loss what method to take, and had agreed to go, and if such places as they found quantities of salt deposited in, was not at their request exposed to sale at a reasonable price, allowing a sufficient profit to the owner, they were determined to break open such places and to proceed to sell the same to such persons as were in want of that article, according to their present necessity; observing still that the owners were made good the prime cost and reasonable profits, and to leave them what might be thought their proportion of the same according to their circumstances. But as this method was not thought prudent, they were prevailed upon to desist the putting the same into execution until the advice of this honourable Convention could be had in this difficulty, and further your memorialists saith not.

September 26, 1776.

JOHN MACAMLY,
NATHANIEL FINCH.

JOHANNES SLEGHT TO JOHN M'KESSON.

Kingston, September 26, 1776.

DEAR SIR: Since the time that the printing offices have stopped, the intelligence which we get is so confused that we can hardly ever come to the truth of any thing we hear. The Committee of this town, with the advice of many true friends and well-wishers to our cause, have therefore thought good to hire a man to go twice a week to the Convention of this State, or to *King's Bridge*, if occasion should require, to get the certainty at least of such things of consequence as are a secret to no man. We have sent the bearer, *Moses Yeoman*, who we can recommend as a person fit to be trusted with any thing belonging to that business, and as we don't doubt but this post will be of service to the publick in general, we have the more reason to hope to be furnished with this weekly intelligence from your honoured Board, which if you will oblige us with, shall ever be thankfully acknowledged by your obedient, humble servants,

By order of the Committee:

JOHANNES SLEGHT, Chairman.

To Mr. John McKesson, Secretary to the Convention of the State of New-York.

GENERAL SCHUYLER TO THE PRESIDENT OF CONGRESS.

[Read October 4, 1776.]

Albany, September 26, 1776.

SIR: Yesterday I received sundry papers and letters from General Gates and General Arnold, copies whereof I have transmitted to the Commander-in-Chief, and which his Excellency will probably forward to Congress by this conveyance.

I did myself the honour to address Congress in a letter of this date, in which I forgot to remind them of the very great distress our troops are in for want of clothing of every kind, but more especially shoes and stockings, and that none are to be had here. I must entreat Congress to pardon me if I observe, that unless a very speedy supply is sent, the most fatal consequences must inevitably ensue.

I am, sir, with great respect, your most obedient, humble servant,

PH. SCHUYLER.

To the Hon. John Hancock.

GENERAL SCHUYLER TO GENERAL GATES.

Albany, September 26, 1776.

DEAR GENERAL: Your favours of the 22d and 23d instant I had the pleasure to receive on the 25th, with the papers they enclosed, copies of which I have transmitted to Congress.

I have not yet seen Antoine Girard, the Canadian, mentioned in your letter.

I can readily conceive, my dear sir, that you have neither sought nor solicited the command in this department, but it must devolve of course on you, as I have sent my resignation—a step which Congress drove me to by what I conceive a most unjustifiable want of attention to the most reasonable requests repeatedly made. But although I feel a resentment for ill usage, I can never forget my duty to my country, and whoever you shall appoint to command in this place will, if he chooses to accept of it, experience every assistance in my power to give.

I hope you have before this received the first parcel of cordage you wrote for. I have sent boats express for what was mentioned in the list enclosed in your last letter.

What few troops are here cannot be spared. They are hardly sufficient for the indispensably necessary duty of the place. The Militia, I doubt not, will march with the utmost expedition as soon as they shall be called upon. It will be necessary, as soon as you want their aid, not only to let me know it, but also to send expresses to the New-England States, by the way of Skenesborough.

I enclose you sundry resolutions of Congress, transmitted me by General Washington, by which you will perceive that Congress have resolved to send you the ammunition wrote for; but when it was to leave Philadelphia, I do not know, as I am not honoured with a line from thence. It will be forwarded from hence without any delay, and under the best escort I can afford.

Mr. Livingston has sent to Esopus and Poughkeepsie for wine; not a gallon is to be had in this place.

Dr. Stringer, in a letter of the 19th instant, from Boston, advises me that he is likely to succeed in procuring a very considerable quantity of such medicines as we stand most in need of, and that he will hasten up with them. Dr. Lyn is out on the same errand.

You will please to publish in orders such of the resolutions of Congress as are necessary so to be. For God's sake, try to keep the Pennsylvania and New-Jersey regiments in service until every possibility of the enemy's crossing the Lake this campaign disappears. They may, as you imagine, soon make the attempt. I rather wish they would, than delay it five or six weeks longer, as I fear too many of our troops will leave you by that time.

Adieu, my dear General, and believe me, with every friendly wish, your obedient, humble servant,

PH. SCHUYLER.

To Hon. General Gates.

GENERAL GATES TO GENERAL ARNOLD.

September 26, 1776.

DEAR GENERAL: Yesterday I received your letter of the 21st instant. I hope your little schooner had ample satisfaction for the injury her people suffered in the batteau.

This will be delivered you by Captain Warner, of the Trumbull row-galley. She carries you a fine reinforcement of seamen, and besides, is herself a considerable addition to your squadron. The schooner and the two other galleys will follow Sunday or Monday, at farthest; but the cordage is not yet arrived, and General Waterbury assures me that if your estimate was as large as you mention it to have been, not more than a third of it can have been sent, as more than twenty coils of rigging are now wanted for the galleys already built. The powder wrote for so long ago, is not even in part received at Tyonderoga; so economy is the word. You cannot be more anxious to have all the galleys with you, than we are to send them. Be satisfied more cannot be done than is done to despatch them.

Colonel Trumbull writes you an account, or rather rumour, of an action that happened last Sunday, near Turtle Bay. When any thing to be depended upon arrives, I will send it you without delay. Enclosed is Dr. Potts's letter to me, which I received last night. My affectionate compliments to Colonel Wigglesworth.

I am, dear General,

Ho. GATES.

To Brigadier-General Arnold.

COLONEL HARTLEY TO GENERAL GATES.

Crown-Point, 10 o'clock A. M., September 26, 1776.

HONOURED SIR: A surgeon and a boatswain of the fleet which were last sent down with provision, in a batteau, just now arrived here. They were as far as Split-Rock, when yesterday morning about ten o'clock, they heard a firing of about fifty cannon, near the Isle la Motte, as they supposed. They thought it sounded like the noise of vessels engaged. The wind being unfavourable they could only distinguish it now and then, and then afterwards during the day. About ten o'clock at night they heard it again—about fifty guns more. Also, this morning. What firing it was, is uncertain. I take the earliest opportunity of mentioning it to you. It may have been only a firing of our fleet upon some Indians.

The fellows who returned say they came back here in order to know of me whether it was proper to proceed. I send them to the fleet just now with a reprimand for their timidity. I just now also send off a boat with a Sergeant and eight men towards the fleet to know what has been the matter. The galleys are wanted below. I send you the account as I have it. The enemy will doubtless pay us a visit if they can.

I am in great want of the forty canisters of grape-shot for four-pounders. They may be delivered to the bearer. I have directed him to return this evening with any returns you may have for me. You will please to give directions for a boat and some men to assist in bringing him back. The wind is so unfavourable I must send him by land.

I am, dear General, your most humble servant,

THOS. HARTLEY.

P. S. I would be glad that a couple of thousand cartridges for muskets could be sent in a few days, or by the bearer. Yours, &c.,

THOS. HARTLEY.

I ordered a young man to copy my letter. He has done it incorrectly and signed my name. You will excuse it on this occasion. I hope the Albany Militia may not be alarmed till I can send you further intelligence, as I hope all may yet be well. I am your most humble servant,

11 o'clock A. M.

THOS. HARTLEY.

CAPTAIN FASSETT TO GENERAL GATES.

Williston, September 26, 1776.

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR HONOUR: Yesterday the enemy was discovered in sundry places near my post. I had three parties out, one of which discovered a number of the enemy, at which time a party of Indians came to an advance party and fired on the party of men, and took three of them and pursued some more which they could not overtake; the party by the best account, in the whole, is large.

The party under my command, seeing our circumstances, could not be persuaded to stay on the other side of the river, and have removed one mile across the river, contrary to orders. I do all that I can to keep them. They say they had as good die one way as the other. Our road to the

Lake is stopped. We have not more than three days' provisions with us. I would be willing to stay and do the best I could, if my men would stay; but they will not, more than five or six of them, stay. Every thing lies in my power I will do; I can do no more.

The event of the siege I cannot tell. My command at this place is gone. Flattery is all I can do. Some of the inhabitants choose to stay, which gives them hard thoughts of their conduct. I cannot write the whole; must subscribe myself your humble servant,

JONATHAN FASSETT, *Captain.*

In haste to the Hon. H. Gates, Major-General.

COLONEL BARRETT TO GENERAL GATES.

Rutland, September 26, 1776.

SIR: I wrote to your Honour the 19th ultimo by Mr. Swain, the return of your Honour's orders to Major Hoisington. Have now the honour of a visit of Captain Rament from your Honour to inspect the work, who will inform your Honour how matters are prosecuted. I would inform your Honour that I am prosecuting your Honour's instructions as vigorously as possible, with the small party I have, both on the road and bridge; as to the great bridge, we have got it in a good way—part raised, and raising the remainder, and hope to finish it by the middle of next week, if weather permits. One party is steadily at work on the road, and I expect to get through with this part of the new road the week after next. I should be extremely glad if I could have some spades and hoes, which would be very serviceable; and I am, sir, your Honour's most obedient, humble servant,

JOHN BARRETT, *Superintendent.*

To the Hon. General Gates.

JOHN BROOM TO ABRAHAM YATES.

New-Haven, September 26, 1776.

SIR: I was yesterday served with an order of Convention of the 14th instant, directing my attendance as a member forthwith. Mr. L'Hommedieu and myself had agreed to set out last week for Fishkills; but he did not come here according to appointment, and indeed if he had, it would not have been in my power to have left home, as three of my family were taken sick near about that time; they are now on the recovery, and hope soon to have the pleasure of attending. Meantime I am your and the Convention's humble servant,

JOHN BROOM.

To the Hon. Abraham Yates, Esq., President of the Convention at Fishkills.

CONNECTICUT COUNCIL OF SAFETY.

At a meeting of the Governour and Council of Safety of Connecticut, September 26, 1776,

Present: His Honour the Governour, *Eliphalet Dyer*, *Jabez Huntington*, *Richard Law*, *William Hillhouse*, *Nathaniel Wales*, Jun., *Titus Hosmer*, *Benjamin Huntington*, Esqs.

Voted, That an order be drawn on the Pay-Table, in favour of Captain *William Coit*, commander of the ship *Oliver Cromwell*, for six hundred pounds lawful money, for the Colony use. (Order, September 26, 1776.)

Voted, That an order be drawn on the Pay-Table, in favour of Captain *Ephraim Bell*, for three hundred pounds lawful money, to be on account of ship *Oliver Cromwell*. (Order drawn September 26, 1776.)

Voted, To draw an order on Messrs. *Elderkin & Wales*, for ten pounds of Powder, to be delivered to Mr. *Simeon Tucker*, of the State of *Rhode-Island*, he paying five shillings four pence per pound for the same. (Order drawn September 26, 1776; delivered Mr. *Wales*.)

Mr. *Benjamin Henshaw*, of *Middletown*, exhibited his account of a journey of himself and expenses to *Salisbury*, and transporting five tons of Guns from thence to *Middletown*, amounting to £31 6s. 10½d.; which is allowed, and voted an order on the Pay-Table for the same. (Order drawn September 26, and delivered Mr. *Hosmer*.)

Voted, To draw on the Pay-Table for five hundred pounds, in favour of Colonel *Joshua Porter*, to enable him to carry on the publick works of the Furnace at *Salisbury*,

and to be in account. (Order drawn September 26, 1776; delivered *Hez. Fitch*, Esq.)

Voted, That the overseers of the Furnace be directed to cast six and four Pounders until the sitting of the Assembly, or until further orders from the Assembly or this Council.

Voted, That Messrs. *John Hudson & Co.*, from *Long-Island*, be encouraged to depend on purchasing four four-pound Cannon and four Swivels from this State, as soon as they can be cast and finished; and the overseers of the Furnace at *Salisbury* are hereby directed to deliver the same to them accordingly, they paying the customary therefor.

Voted, That Messrs. *Lyon & Co.*, at *East Haddam*, be encouraged to depend on purchasing two six-pounders and eight four-pounders of Cannon from this State, as soon as they can be cast, for their Privateer; and the overseers of the Furnace are directed to deliver them accordingly, at the price given by others for Cannon of the same size.

Voted, That Captain *Jabez Perkins* be encouraged to depend on purchasing two four-pounders of Cannon from this State, as soon as they can be cast, for the use of his Privateer or Letter-of-Marque; and the overseers of the Furnace are directed to deliver the same accordingly, at the customary price.

DAVID MATTHEWS TO ABRAHAM YATES.

Litchfield, September 26, 1776.

SIR: I received your letter yesterday, dated the 28th August; and should be glad, if I am to appear before you, that it might be soon; for if it is delayed a few weeks longer, I shall appear before you as *Adam* did to himself after he had eaten the forbidden fruit, for I only brought here a few summer clothes, and there are none to be bought here, if I had ever so much money; and you will perceive, from my letter to Mrs. *Matthews*, what effect my letter of credit had. I can get nothing from home, for I have never heard a word from my wife and children since the King's troops landed on *Long-Island*, so that I can't tell whether they are in the land of the living or not; and if living now, it seems very probable that they will starve before next Spring, as they have no one to provide the least article for them.

I had one jaunt to *Hartford*, and was sent back here. I expect every day to be ordered to some other part of the Province; for there are some people at work to make my life as uneasy as possible, as you will see by this enclosed copy of a letter from Captain *Seymour* to the Governour. The Committee here have been compelled to write to Governour *Trumbull* for my removal, in order to pacify some people who are set on by some designing man. They insist that I can blow up this town, if I set myself about it. They make me out to be a worker of miracles. O that I could! I would soon leave them on the town to themselves. The Sheriff has given orders that I shall not approach the gaol, lest the doors fly open and the prisoners escape. I really could never have thought myself of so much consequence, until I came here, where I find, by report, that I have an army of ten thousand men, and can do more than any of the ancient knights-errant could boast of. This mighty consequence, I am afraid, will, nevertheless, be the means of my being both hungry and naked very soon.

I should not have returned to this cold wilderness, had not the Sheriff at *Hartford* declared that he must, if I was delivered to him, by virtue of Governour *Trumbull's* warrant, lock me up in gaol, where I had no bed nor any thing to rest on. However, as it seems it must come to it soon, I hope my end may come at the same time, and that, I hope, will satisfy all my enemies.

I am, sir, your most obedient servant,

D. MATTHEWS.

To Abraham Yates, Esq.

Litchfield, September 20, 1776.

SIR: I am extremely sorry to trouble your Honour, when matters of the greatest importance are constantly employing your attention, but being drove to the necessity, by some very troublesome people, of applying to your Honour for the justification of my conduct, I make no doubt your Honour will excuse the trouble I may give you, in a matter

in which some people are pleased to say my character is concerned.

When I did myself the honour of waiting on you at *Lebanon*, I delivered to you a letter from Mr. *Matthews*, the contents of which I understood to be a request from him to your Honour, that he might be either put under the care of the Committee at *Hartford*, or be returned to *Litchfield*, under my care. Mr. *Matthews*, before he wrote that letter, had put the question to me, whether, if he obtained your leave to return to *Litchfield*, I would consent to take him to my house? I told him if he would be accommodated at *Hartford*, it would do better, but that if your Honour should order him back, I would do every thing in my power to make his stay as comfortable as possible, especially as I was informed, by some of the Committee, that they had no objections to his stay at *Litchfield*, and that the only difficulty was with some few people, who insisted that I had nothing to show for my keeping him.

Your Honour was pleased, as I conceive, in consequence of Mr. *Matthews*'s request in his letter, to order him back to this place, under my custody, where every thing remained quiet until yesterday, when about a dozen people, without alleging the least cause of complaint against Mr. *Matthews*'s conduct or mine, except in bringing him back, waited on our Committee, and insisted that I should be called before them, in order to show why I brought Mr. *Matthews* back. I accordingly waited on the Committee, and produced your Honour's order. They have insisted that such order would not have been granted only at my particular request, or some other gentleman's; which has induced me thus to appeal to your Honour, although my principles and character are too well known and established to be hurt by such people. I should, nevertheless, be extremely obliged to your Honour for a few lines, by way of information, whether Mr. *Matthews*'s return here was not solely in consequence of his letter and the information that the Committee had no objections to his stay; for I believe your Honour will remember that I mentioned that if Mr. *Matthews* could be accommodated at *Hartford*, it would be full as agreeable to me, as he would be better supplied there than at *Litchfield*. This, I believe, will put a stop to any further uneasiness, as they give out that it was solely through my measures, or some of the Committee, that Mr. *Matthews* was sent back here.

I can safely say that my conduct through this whole business, has been governed by those principles which are dictated by humanity, and will always induce me to treat a person well who behaves well. If Mr. *Matthews* was to busy himself with politicks, or endeavoured to persuade people from the cause of their country, there is no man that would sooner turn him from his house than myself. But I believe there is no person here knows, from his conduct, what his political creed is, for he avoids talking on politicks. However, if your Honour should order him away, I have no objection.

I am, sir, your most obedient servant,

MOSES SEYMOUR.

To Governour *Trumbull*.

DANIEL TILLINGHAST TO GENERAL WASHINGTON.

Providence, September 26, 1776.

SIR: Agreeable to a resolve of Congress, I now forward your Excellency seventy-two tents, via *New-London*, to the care of *Nathaniel Shaw*, Esq., agent there. I shall forward a number more as soon as finished.

I am, with great respect, your Excellency's most obedient servant,

DANL. TILLINGHAST, Agent.

To His Excellency General *Washington*, Commander-in-Chief of the *American Army*.

GENERAL WARD TO NEW-HAMPSHIRE COMMITTEE OF SAFETY.

Boston, September 26, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: Your letter of the 24th instant, I received last evening; and agreeable to your request I have ordered five hundred pound of powder and one thousand pound of ball out of the Continental store, to be forwarded this morning with the utmost expedition for *Hartford*, and there to be delivered to the Committee of Correspondence, who will

deliver it to the commanding officers of your regiments as soon as they arrive there.

I am, gentlemen, your obedient, humble servant,
ARTEMUS WARD.

To the Committee of Safety in *New-Hampshire*.

AARON HOBART TO RICHARD DEVENS.

Abington, September 26, 1776.

SIR: For want of cash, I have sold all the cannon I have by me, so you can't have them. I have waited for another blast, but can't have none at present for want of pig iron. Please to send me all your old iron.

AARON HOBART.

To *Richard Devens*, Esq.

[Per favour of Captain *Weston*.]

Boston, September 26, 1776.

The privateer *General Greene*, of *East-Greenwich*, and the privateer *Harlequin*, of *Baltimore*, have taken a *Jamaica* ship of three hundred and ten tons, and sent her into a safe port. Her cargo consists of three hundred and twelve hogsheads of sugar, eighty-two puncheons of rum, thirty-six pipes and four hogsheads of *Madeira* wine, eighteen hundred pounds weight of copper, &c. This ship, we hear, sailed in company with a large fleet, convoyed by two men-of-war, one of which was soon to leave them; the other, said to be a dull sailer, was to proceed with them to *Europe*.

Last *Sunday*, was sent into *Providence* by Captain *Munro*, the prize-ship *Blaze-Castle*, from *Barbadoes*, bound for *London*, having on board one hundred pipes *Madeira* wine, one hundred and twenty hogsheads of sugar, eighteen hundred weight whalebone, one hundred and twenty barrels of oil, &c.

Last *Monday*, was sent into this harbour by the *Eagle*, Captain *Paine*, a ship of one hundred and sixty tons, from *Grenada*, bound to *London*, having on board one hundred and fifty puncheons of rum, one hundred and nine hogsheads of sugar, some cotton, &c.

Yesterday morning, a sloop, laden with dry fish, was carried into *Salem* by Captain *Waters*, in the schooner *Dolphin*, mounting only six swivels.

MAJOR DRIVER AND COLONEL STANTON TO MARYLAND CONVENTION.

Caroline County, September 27, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: Agreeable to the resolve of the Convention, we have had a meeting of the two battalions in this County, in order to see who would step forth as officers for the company to be raised in this County, when the gentlemen offered themselves as follows:

Captain *William Haslett*, Captain *Nehemiah Andrew*, Lieutenant *William Rich*, Mr. *James White*, as Captains; Mr. *Ambrose Mitchel*, Mr. *John Milboun Walls*, as Lieutenants; Mr. *William Chipley* as Ensign.

And we are of opinion that the proper officers to be commissioned of the above-mentioned persons are, Mr. *William Haslett*, as Captain; Mr. *Ambrose Mitchel*, as First Lieutenant; Mr. *John Milboun Walls*, Second Lieutenant, and Mr. *William Chipley*, Ensign.

We are, gentlemen, your most obedient servants,

MATTHEW DRIVER, Major and Commander
of the 14th Battalion of Militia.

BENSON STANTON, Lieutenant-Colonel of
the 20th Battalion of Militia.

To the Honourable the Convention of *Maryland*, or in their recess, the Council of Safety, *Annapolis*.

PRESIDENT OF CONGRESS TO GENERAL SCHUYLER.

Philadelphia, September 27, 1776.

SIR: I have the honour to enclose you sundry resolves, which are so explicit that I need only request your attention to them.

You will perceive that Congress have come to a determination to augment our army to eighty-eight battalions, and to engage the troops to serve during the continuance of the war, being thoroughly convinced by repeated instances that

the short and limited enlistment of troops has been the source of much mischief to the service.

In order that these troops may be better disciplined, the Congress have abolished the system of rules and articles for the government of the army which they at first instituted, and have adopted a new one, sundry copies of which I enclose you.

It is also their determination that the strictest discipline should be kept up in the army, that the soldiers should be daily trained and practised in their different manœuvres. An attention to these things, you will observe by the enclosed resolves, will be the likeliest way to obtain promotion, and will be the surest recommendation to their notice.

The Committee of Congress to confer with you on the state of the army, &c., will set out to-morrow or next day for *Tyconderoga*. To them I beg leave to refer you; and am, with every sentiment of esteem and regard, sir, your most obedient and very humble servant,

JOHN HANCOCK, *President*.

To General *Schuyler*, *Albany*.

P. S. The attention of Congress has been so much taken up by our affairs at *New-York*, that I have not time to reply to your several letters, but hope I shall have leisure to do it by the next conveyance, and that Congress will soon determine on the subject of them. They are now in the hands of a special committee.

In Congress, September 25, 1776.

Resolved, That Mr. *Mease* be directed to send immediately to General *Gates* all the white Shirts, Shoes and Stockings he now has in his possession, and which are unappropriated, for the use of the Northern Army; and that he use the utmost diligence in buying, collecting and getting made immediately as many more of those articles as possible, making weekly reports to Congress of what he obtains.

That General *Schuyler* or the commanding officer at *Albany*, be desired to employ proper persons immediately, to make up into Soldiers' Clothes the woollens mentioned by General *Schuyler*, and transmit the same without delay to the General commanding the Northern Army, for the use of such of the troops in that army as have enlisted for three years, or will enlist during the war.

That *Richard Varick*, (late Captain in Colonel *McDougall's* Regiment, which office he has resigned,) Secretary to the Honourable Major-General *Schuyler*, be appointed Deputy Master-General to the Northern Army, and that Major *Henry Brockholst Livingston*, Aid-de-Camp to General *Schuyler*, be provided for by Congress in a station equal to his merit when a proper vacancy happens, he being recommended by the General as a very deserving officer.

Mr. *Stockton* and Mr. *Clymer*, appointed a Committee to proceed to *Tyconderoga*, to confer with General *Gates* with respect to the Army under his command, agreeable to instructions given said Committee, by Congress.

By order of Congress: JOHN HANCOCK, *President*.

PRESIDENT OF CONGRESS TO GENERAL GATES.

Philadelphia, September 27, 1776.

SIR: I have the honour to enclose you sundry resolves of Congress, to which I must refer your attention. They relate to a variety of subjects, as you will perceive, and are extremely necessary for your information and the direction of your future conduct.

The Congress having resolved to raise eighty-eight battalions of Continental troops, are anxious to promote discipline and subordination in their army as much as possible. For this purpose they have repealed the system of military law they at first adopted, and instituted in its room a more severe and rigorous one, as better calculated to introduce obedience and regularity among the troops. It is also the determination of Congress that an attention to these things will be the best method of obtaining promotion, and will be the most effectual means of recommending the officers in the army of the *United States* to their notice.

Without a well-disciplined army it is impossible to expect success against veteran troops. You will therefore give orders to all the officers under your command to have

the troops daily trained, and to enure them to the most exemplary discipline.

The Congress having appointed a Committee to repair to *Tyconderoga*, and to devise ways and means of providing the Northern army with provisions, medicines, and other necessaries, have chosen Mr. *Stockton* and Mr. *Clymer*, who will begin their journey on *Monday* next. To them, therefore, I beg leave to refer you for further particulars on this subject; and am, with great respect and esteem, sir, your most obedient and very humble servant,

JOHN HANCOCK, *President*.

To General *Gates*.

P. S. The attention of Congress has been so much taken up by our affairs at *New-York*, that I have not had time to reply particularly to your letters, but hope I shall have leisure to do it by the next conveyance, and that Congress will soon determine on the subject of them.

RICHARD PETERS TO JASPER YEATES.

Philadelphia, September 27, 1776.

DEAR SIR: A Captain *Hesketh's* baggage is at *Lancaster*, under the care of his servant and Sergeant *Cooper*, prisoners of war. He wants it much at *Philadelphia*, and does not know how to get it. Do be so good as to take the pains of inquiring after it, and send it down, directed to my care. If it be in the custody of the Committee, this letter will, I fancy, be a justification for their delivery of it. He is a *British* officer, a prisoner of war, and a very good, but a very helpless man, therefore requires assistance in this matter. I will pay any expense attending the baggage. The reason of troubling you is, that the chests are broke open, and require either new locks or to be corded and sealed, and sent in the care of some trusty person. As the baggage is under these circumstances, I know it is disagreeable to have any thing to do with it. But he knows this, and though he believes the people who have them honest, he must run the risk.

I am your affectionate, humble servant,

RICHARD PETERS.

To *Jasper Yeates*, Esq.

EXTRACT OF A LETTER DATED NEW-YORK, SEPTEMBER 27, 1776.

TO THE PRINTER OF THE LONDON CHRONICLE:

SIR: For the comfort of some of your late correspondents, who seem to be much distressed with apprehensions that the King's Commissioners in *America* are sacrificing the honour of Old *England*, in pitiful negotiations, be so good as to insert in your paper the following extract from a letter dated *New-York*, September 27. The writer of the letter is a gentleman of observation and integrity, a great sufferer by the rebellion, and inflexibly attached to the honour and interest of Government.

I am very easy as to the Commissioners, their powers, and their conduct as such, since their arrival. Many and very ridiculous have been the alarms concerning the frequent flags of truce that have passed between them and the Rebels, both before the army landed, and after the action of the 27th ultimo; and these alarms, which have arisen from idle apprehensions that matters were going to be patched and juggled up, were so frequent, that many sensible but oversanguine people began to be affected. The whole matter was, that it was thought advisable and proper, during the interval of preparation for the moving of the army, to draw up a kind of Declaration, expressing the powers of the Commissioners, and the terms his Majesty was inclined to grant to such as would lay down their arms and return to their duty, which was certainly right. Two flags, one to *Amboy*, and the other to *Washington*, were despatched by Lord *Howe*. The former delivered letters to the Rebel commanding officer there, (at *Amboy*,) directed to several members of the grand Congress, at *Philadelphia*, enclosing those Declarations, which were politely received and forwarded: The other, to *Washington*, being addressed to *George Washington*, &c., &c.; he immediately returned unopened, telling the officer he (*Washington*) knew no such person. There is a fellow for you! I suppose you do not wonder that he did not know himself.

A day or two after, the General sent Colonel *Patterson* with a flag to *Washington*, as I was credibly informed, relative to an exchange of the Twenty-Sixth Regiment, and

others, that had been taken by *Montgomery*, at *Chambly* and *St. John's*, for six hundred men that had been taken by Captain *Forster* from *Arnold*, in *Canada*, agreeable to a treaty that had been entered into between *Forster* and *Arnold*, which the Congress had formed artifices and pretences to evade, and which solemn treaty they still refuse to fulfill, notwithstanding delivered his own son, and eight or nine of his principal officers, as hostages.

Soon after came down a flag from *Washington*, by a certain *Joseph Reed*, formerly a lawyer, but now *Washington's* Secretary, and a Major. Being introduced to Lord *Howe*, he began a long and laboured harangue, on the oppressions of the Ministry and Parliament, and the long-sufferings of injured *America*. His Lordship heard him for a while, and then asked him very coolly to explain the nature of the business he was sent upon. He answered, "He was sent by the army of *America* to know what terms *Great Britain* had to offer." To which his Lordship replied, "None at all, unless they would lay down their arms, and return to their duty; that he and his brother were sent to compel them to terms; and that if they liked fighting better than a dutiful obedience, he might assure the persons who sent him they should very speedily have enough of it."

I told you General *Sullivan* was taken in the action of the 27th; I should have rather said he was caught creeping out of a swamp on his hands and knees, the 28th, in the morning, when he was carried to Head-Quarters. He endeavoured to persuade the General and Admiral that there was nothing the Rebel army desired so much as peace, if they could but have any tolerable terms; and begged the brothers would suffer him to go to *New-York* on his parole, to try what he could do, which was agreed to; and away he went to *New-York* and *Philadelphia*, and returned on board the Admiral in eight days. What report he made to the Admiral I have not yet learned; but in three or four days came down a flag of truce, asking his Lordship for a safe conduct for three Delegates of the grand Congress, viz: *Adams*, *Franklin*, and *Rutledge*; which being granted them, they came on board the *Eagle*, when his Lordship asked them, "How they expected to be treated?" *Adams* said, "As Delegates from the free and independent States of *America*." His Lordship made them no reply, but turned upon his heel with a sneer, and ordered the *American* ambassadors away immediately. Since which there have been no more flags of truce, the officers of the army having, one and all, openly assured the General, that they wish to have no cartel or treaty of any kind with Rebels as to exchanges, because they now look upon it as dishonourable to his Majesty's army; and that therefore they will very freely take their chance in all engagements that may in future happen between the army and the Rebels.

These little anecdotes you may depend on as true; they have served to convince us, and indeed I am convinced more and more every day, of the happy and judicious choice his Majesty and his Ministers have made, in these two brave and worthy men; every one of whose actions is the pure result of wisdom, prudence, and humanity.

I am quite charmed with Lord *Howe's* behaviour on the 27th; nothing could exceed his anxiety and vigilance. About nine o'clock in the morning the brigades of the left wing had made a halt on the hills at the edge of the woods behind *Brooklyn*, waiting partly for the front, and partly for want of ammunition; which his Lordship understanding, he immediately collected together what he could in a boat, and went himself with it, sending the boat's crew with it upon their backs up the hill from *Yellow-Hook*, until wagons could be got for a sufficient supply from the store-ships. When things go on with such unanimity and cordiality, a man must be incorrigible in scepticism who can doubt of the happy issue. Little delays may vex the sanguine and impatient growler; but even those delays have had their use, independent of the necessary and immediate causes of them. They have greatly disappointed the Rebel faction and their leaders, who fondly imagined the troops would always rush on headlong to their works, as in the *Bunker's Hill* affair; whilst the impenetrable secrecy observed by the two noble brothers has totally disconcerted and confounded them to a degree that will ensure a glorious triumph to his Majesty over this hellish *American* sedition, its ringleaders, and abettors.

EXTRACT OF A LETTER TO ENGLAND FROM THE MASTER OF THE DOROTHY TRANSPORT, AT NEW-YORK, DATED SEPTEMBER 27, 1776.

When the *American* army landed on *Long-Island*, they compelled every seventh man to bear arms; three days after that, one out of every four; and the next day, one out of every two, from twelve to sixty-four years of age; whom they forced away with them to *New-York*. The majority of those are since returned to their allegiance and habitations in that island. The Congress have been endeavouring to remove from *Philadelphia*, but the inhabitants have prevented them, declaring they should remain to share the same fate with themselves.

We have got part of the *Jerseys*, and plenty of provisions; good beef, veal, and mutton, at 3½d. per pound, bread as cheap as in *London*, apples and peaches for gathering, and cabbages and potatoes in abundance. Some little time before we took *New-York*, a sermon was preached there from *Isaiah* xxi. 15, to animate and inflame the minds of the Rebels, and depreciate the *Britons*.

EXTRACT OF A LETTER TO ENGLAND, DATED NEW-YORK, SEPTEMBER 27, 1776, RECEIVED BY THE EARL OF HALIFAX PACKET-BOAT, CAPTAIN BOULDERSON.

A general exchange of prisoners, in the army and navy departments, is soon to take place; but, I am sorry to add, it is not to include the many loyal subjects who are now, and have long been, imprisoned in different parts of the country. General *Howe* had sent Mr. *Sullivan* to the Congress with the Declaration of *Great Britain* to the Colonies; this produced an interview on *Staten-Island* between the two *Howes*, on behalf of the Crown, and Dr. *Franklin*, Mr. *Edward Rutledge*, and Mr. *John Adams*, who, previous to any conference, required to be acknowledged as ambassadors from the free and independent States of *America*, were answered that it was inadmissible; and consequently they separated *re infecta*. I forgot to mention that Mr. *Washington*, presently after the landing on *New-York* Island, narrowly escaped being made prisoner. He left Mr. *Apthorp's* house, at *Bloomingdale*, a few minutes only before the *British Light Infantry* entered it.

From *Canada* we are informed that the beginning of *September* a belt had been sent to *Detroit* from the *Shawanese* and *Delaware* nation of *Indians*, with a declaration in favour of Government, and that they were going to attack the Provincials on the back settlements of *Pennsylvania*, *Maryland*, and *Virginia*. That the whole force intended to embark on *Lake Champlain* was on board on the 24th of *September*, and getting under weigh.

COPY OF A PAPER SENT THROUGH THE COUNTY OF SUFFOLK, NEW-YORK, BY ORDER OF GOVERNOUR TRYON.

The Governour of the Province recommends to the inhabitants of *Suffolk* County, the following measures, as the best means for those who have been active in the rebellion, to preserve their lives and save their estates, viz:

That all offensive arms, indiscriminately, be forthwith collected in each respective Manor, Township, and Precinct, as soon as possible, to deliver up at Head-Quarters, to the Commander-in-Chief of the King's troops.

That those who have been active in the rebellion, if fit to bear arms, forthwith to wait on the General and enlist in the regular service, for the term of the present war; if not fit to bear arms, to send one of their sons to enlist in their stead; if no sons, to perform some unasked signal service that may merit the protection of Government.

The inhabitants of each Town to associate to prevent any person going to the main, and secure those coming from thence; and to secure and deliver up all persons known to be active enemies to the rights of the Constitution.

And the several Townships to furnish as many men as possible fit to bear arms, to invite those back who have fled from the County, to enlist in General *De Lancey's* brigade. And lastly, the inhabitants to send all their wood, forage, and provisions they can spare, to *New-York* market, or to such place as the General shall order.

Circular orders have been sent to the Justices on *Long-Island*, directing them to summon the farmers in their several districts to attend them at some convenient place, and

demand of each of them what grass and straw they can spare. As to hay, they demand the whole. All Rebels that are in arms, the whole of their grass and forage they are to seize for the use of the King. And all who had removed from the Island are deemed Rebels, and are to be dealt with as such.

—
New-York, September 27, 1776.

SIR: You are to desire the Justices of the Peace to summon the farmers of their districts to attend at some central place, to demand of each what grain and straw he can spare. As to hay, we must have the whole, for which you'll give them proper certificates for me to pay them by. The whole of the grain and forage of Rebels in arms, is to be seized for the King's use. All persons removed off are to be deemed Rebels, and dealt with accordingly.

JOHN MORRISON,
Commissary of Forage.

To Mr. E. Punderson.

—
Blank Order left with the Inhabitants of SUFFOLK County,
LONG-ISLAND, SEPTEMBER, 1776.

You are hereby ordered to preserve for the King's use — loads of hay, — bushels of wheat, — of oats, — of rye, — of barley, — of Indian corn, and all your wheat and rye straw, and not to dispose of the same but to my order in writing, as you will answer the contrary at your peril.

JOHN MORRISON,
Major and Commissary of Forage.

—
GENERAL WASHINGTON TO THE PRESIDENT OF CONGRESS.

[Read September 30, 1776.]

Head-Quarters, Heights of Harlem, September 27, 1776.

SIR: I have nothing in particular to communicate to Congress by this day's post, as our situation is the same as when I last wrote.

We are now sitting on the business the Committee came upon, which it is probable will be finished this evening. The result they will duly report upon their return.

I received yesterday the enclosed Declaration by a gentleman from *Elizabethtown*, who told me many copies were found in the possession of the soldiers from *Canada*, that were landed there a day or two ago by General *Howe's* permission. I shall not comment upon it. It seems to be founded on the plan that has been artfully pursued for some time past.

I have the honour to be, sir, your most obedient servant,
GO. WASHINGTON.

P. S. The account of the troops, &c., in *Canada* comes from a person who is among the prisoners sent from *Canada*. It was anonymous, nor do I know the intelligencer; according to him the enemy in that quarter are stronger than we supposed, and their naval force much greater on the Lakes than we had any idea of. I trust he has taken the matter up on the enemy's report.

—
By RICHARD VISCOUNT HOWE, of the Kingdom of IRELAND, and WILLIAM HOWE, Esq., General of his Majesty's Forces in AMERICA, the King's Commissioners for restoring peace to his Majesty's Colonies and Plantations in NORTH AMERICA, &c., &c., &c.:

DECLARATION.

Although the Congress whom the misguided *Americans* suffer to direct their opposition to a reestablishment of the constitutional Government of these Provinces, have disavowed every purpose of reconciliation not consonant with their extravagant and inadmissible claim of Independency, the King's Commissioners think fit to declare that they are equally desirous to confer with his Majesty's well-affected subjects, upon the means of restoring the publick tranquillity, and establishing a permanent Union with every Colony, as a part of the *British Empire*.

The King being most graciously disposed to direct a revision of such of his Royal instructions as may be construed to lay an improper restraint upon the freedom of legislation, in any of his Colonies, and to concur in the revision of all acts by which his subjects there may think themselves aggrieved, it is recommended to the inhabitants at

large to reflect seriously upon their present condition and expectations, and to judge for themselves, whether it be more consistent with their honour and happiness to offer up their lives as a sacrifice to the unjust and precarious cause in which they are engaged, or to return to their allegiance, accept the blessings of peace, and be secured in a free enjoyment of their liberty and properties, upon the true principles of the Constitution.

Given at New-York, the 19th day of September, 1776.

HOWE.

W. HOWE.

By command of their Excellencies: HEN. STRACHEY.

—
The force of the enemy in *Canada* and on the Lake is from the best intelligence, as follows:

Ten thousand men landed in *Canada* from *Europe*, &c. Eight thousand of which, with many *Canadians*, are to go against *Ticonderoga*, &c.; all effective men, and in good order and appearance. It is without doubt General *Carleton* intends to command in person, with *Burgoyne*, *Fraser*, and *Nesbit*, &c.

Their naval force is: A ship built in *England*, taken to pieces and brought out on board the fleet; she is put up at *St. John's*, and launched there, has eighteen guns, twenty-four pounders, swivels, &c.

Two brigs, about ten guns each. } swivels, &c.
Three schooners, about eight ditto. }

Twenty gondolas, two guns each, from nine to twelve pounders.

Two hundred and fifty batteaus, all with swivels, and many of them with guns in their bows.

A very fine train of Artillery, of six companies, and at least one hundred pieces of cannon, thought to be the finest ever sent from *England*. A General officer commands it, General *Phillips*.

Every sailor and marine that could possibly be spared is sent to man their fleet.

Their determined intention is, if possible, to form a junction of their army with General *Howe*, in which case General *Carleton* will command the whole.

Sir *John Johnson* is gone round by *Oswego* with near eight hundred *Indians*, *Maclean's* Emigrants, and some *Canadians* of *Scotch* volunteers. There is some doubt he may come in by *Fort George*, and cut off our communication with *Ticonderoga*. He is sanguine in his expectation of taking *Fort George* and getting the command of the Lake.

GENERAL ORDERS.

Head-Quarters, Harlem Heights, September 25, 1776.

(Parole, Cumberland.)

(Countersign, Pitt.)

Colonel *Sargent* is to send to the Provost-Guard the soldiers who were with Ensign *Macumber*, and charged with plundering at *Harlem*.

The Brigadiers who are in want of tents for their brigades, are to meet at the Quartermaster-General's this afternoon, four o'clock, and divide such as are on hand among them.

Such regiments of Militia, as have returned to the Quartermaster-General the articles belonging to the publick they have received, and to their respective Brigadiers the ammunition they have drawn, of which they are first to produce certificates, are discharged, and may return home as soon as they think proper.

The General hopes the commanding officers, and all others of those regiments, will take care that no other men mix with them when going off; and that particular care be taken, that no horses be carried away by the men but what are certainly and properly employed in that service.

—
Head-Quarters, Harlem Heights, September 26, 1776.

(Parole, Halifax.)

(Countersign, Georgia.)

The Court-Martial of which Colonel *Magaw* is President, having found that Lieutenant *Stewart* struck Sergeant *Philips*, but that he was provoked so to do by the latter, and acquitted him of "threatening the life of Colonel *Silliman*," the General approves the sentence, and orders Lieutenant *Stewart* to be discharged from his arrest.

The same Court-Martial having tried and convicted Lieutenant *Daniel Pelton*, of Colonel *Ritzema's* Regiment, of

I do not apprehend I have any power to give directions in the case, nor do I mean to do it. You had better mention the matter to Congress, and have their opinion and determination upon it.

A paper, of which the enclosed is a copy, came to my hands yesterday morning. This account makes the enemy's force in *Canada* greater than what we supposed it to be; their naval force on the lakes to surpass any thing we had an idea of. The person who communicated it is not known; he, however, I believe, is among those sent from *Canada* by General *Carleton*, and who have lately arrived at *New-York*. I am in hopes it is a good deal exaggerated.

I am, dear sir, your most obedient servant,

GO. WASHINGTON.

To Hon. Major-General *Schuyler*, Northern Department.

COLONEL REED TO GENERAL HEATH.

September 27, 1776.

SIR: You will please to give direction that Colonel *Tyler* be put under arrest for cowardice and misbehaviour before the enemy on *Sunday*, the 15th instant.

By order of the General.

Sir, your humble servant,

JOS. REED, *Adjutant-General*.

To Major-General *Heath*.

Proceedings of a General Court-Martial of the Line, held on the Heights of HAARLEM, by order of His Excellency GEORGE WASHINGTON, Esq., General and Commander-in-Chief of the Forces of the UNITED AMERICAN STATES, for the trial of all Prisoners to be brought before them, SEPTEMBER 27, 1776.

Colonel WEEDON, President.

Lieut. Colonel <i>Chandler</i> ,	Captain <i>Brown</i> ,
Lieut. Colonel <i>Russell</i> ,	Captain <i>Prentice</i> ,
Captain <i>Ledyard</i> ,	Captain <i>Chamberlain</i> ,
Captain <i>Graydon</i> ,	Captain <i>Rogers</i> ,
Captain <i>Wiley</i> ,	Captain <i>Foster</i> ,
Captain <i>Scott</i> ,	Captain <i>Stanley</i> .

WM. TUDOR, Judge-Advocate.

The Court proceeded to the trial of *William Higgins*, of Captain *Hamilton's* Company of the Artillery, brought prisoner before the Court, and accused of "breaking open a chest and stealing a number of articles out of it, in the room of the Provost Guard."

The prisoner being arraigned, pleads, "Not guilty."

Robert Wilson says: A person came into a room where I was, and told me that some men up in the Provost Room had broke open a chest and were plundering it. I went up and found the prisoner, *Higgins*, with another, tucking a gown and cloak into his bosom. I took them away from him. He said that others were concerned as well as him, and denied that he broke open the chest.

Peter Lynch confirms *Wilson's* testimony.

The Court are of opinion that the prisoner is guilty of the charge against him, and sentence him to be whipped thirty-nine lashes on his bare back for said offence.

G. WEEDON, President.

TENCH TILGHMAN TO COMMITTEE OF NEW-YORK CONVENTION.

Head-Quarters, Harlem Heights, September 27, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: The enemy have made no move upon our quarter since mine of yesterday. We heard a firing this morning towards *Bergen*, but as we have had no express from the commanding officer at that post, I imagine it has been upon some trifling occasion.

General *Sullivan* arrived at Head-Quarters this day. He informs that General *Howe* was much chagrined and disappointed at the escape of our army from *New-York*. He landed thirteen thousand men on the 15th, and looked upon us as good as if in his hands. He says our motions are very extraordinary, and *Sullivan* imagines not a little perplexing to *Howe*. I think if the passage of the *North River* can be so obstructed that the ships of war cannot get above us, our lines will keep them from making any progress in front. General *Sullivan* adds, that from some hints he heard dropped, provisions are not over-plenty in the fleet

and army. You may depend on my keeping you fully advised of any material occurrences.

I am, most respectfully, gentlemen, your most obedient servant,

TENCH TILGHMAN.

To the Hon. *William Allair*, *R. R. Livingston*, *Henry Wisner*, and *William Duer*, Esq., at *Fishkills*.

COLONEL PATTERSON TO CÆSAR RODNEY.

Head-Quarters, Amboy, September 27, 1776.

SIR: Agreeable to promise to write you, now in part, have sat down, having this opportunity by way of a journalizing.

I arrived here last *Monday* morning, with six companies, my battalion. Both have been exceeding polite to me since here, and admire our battalion much. This has added much to my pride; also the General has chosen our Light-Infantry for his body guard.

The evening before last I was officer of the day. About sun-down a boat of *Hessians* came over to our shore, opposite a large marsh above the mill guard, and stuck stakes there, with a number of bills, which were taken down. Enclosed is a copy of each sort. The General had the rest delivered him.

This morning a flag was sent over to the Island, with Captain *Hamilton* and a lady, *Mrs. McMonty's* daughter and child, opposite my door. They ordered them not to come near, which our people not beating the parley by drum so soon, they, *Hessians*, were near firing over our flag for want. They sent a boat off; would not let ours land. Since I have been here they have been fortifying opposite to us by batteries and small lines, all masked with bushes, as also the same done to their tents, which were open here when I came. It is the opinion here they are afraid of us. I hope we shall make them so on trial. The battalion is kept busy on duty. About twenty-seven sick, owing principally to the water, but are somewhat mending. I suppose about four thousand men here. I am happy in my situation, and hope to continue here if I can. Fine quarters, great plenty of oyster, fish, &c.; no ladies, to be sure. God help us; I hope for better times soon. Please to let Mr. *Read* know I am well, and any part of this; and, for God's sake, don't let the people choose the officers in Colonel *West's* battalion—if so, a poor figure.

I am, sir, your most obedient, humble servant,

SAMUEL PATTERSON.

COLONEL MOYLAN TO THE PRESIDENT OF CONGRESS.

[Read October 2, 1776.]

Harlem Heights, September 27, 1776.

SIR: The Field Deputies from Congress conferred with me this day on the business of the Quartermaster-General's department. They told me they found a dissatisfaction prevail in the army by its not being supplied sufficiently with the necessaries in that department; that it was their wish to reconcile a body of men so very necessary for the defence of the glorious cause we are all engaged in, and proposed that General *Mifflin* should resume that department, as it appears to them an effectual method of giving satisfaction to the army, and bringing the department into more regularity, which I must own there has of late been great need of, owing to causes which I shall take the liberty of pointing out to you, and through you, sir, to Congress, before I close this.

These gentlemen urged the necessity of this plan, which they had adopted, so forcibly, and at the same time in so delicate a manner, that I did not hesitate in telling them, that, as a servant to the publick, I would very willingly resign my office, as it appeared to them to be for the publick good. I placed my honour in their hands, and I shall be very much mistaken in them if they do not treat it with tenderness. They were pleased to tell me I might have the command of a battalion, which, though I hold to be a most honourable post, for the following reasons I have declined:

First: As the Quartermaster-General is at the head of the staff, I conceive that he takes rank of all Colonels in the army, it being generally the custom in most nations to give the rank of Colonel to the Assistant Quartermaster-General at the end of one or two campaigns. I therefore

think that it would be going back in the army rather than advancing, which is what I cannot reconcile to my feelings, especially as there is a precedent which differs.

Secondly: Though I have employed my spare time in studying the art of war, and for fifteen months past have seen a great deal of its practice, my views were turned to the grand and extended parts thereof more than the minute. I do not, therefore, think myself capable of teaching a new regiment the necessary duties. These, sir, are the reasons by which I am actuated. At the same time I can assure the Congress that I am very willing to sacrifice my life when called upon, in the glorious cause which, from the noblest principles, I have voluntarily engaged in. I shall settle my accounts with the Commissioners as soon as possible, and serve a volunteer in this army until Congress is pleased to point out some other line of duty for me.

I will now, sir, beg leave to mention the principal causes which have given rise to the dissatisfaction in the army with my department. When I had the honour of being appointed to the office, the navigation of the *North and East Rivers* was ours: every thing wanting was carried to us by these channels; every thing went on smooth, easy, well. The few wagons and horses we had, though almost wore down in the service, with a few more added by me, were sufficient for the exigencies of the army. It was a long time after the arrival of the enemy before there was any just cause for complaint. A large part of our army was detached to *Long-Island*. Wagons, carts, and horses, were necessary to be sent over; many were sent thither. Perhaps there does not occur in history a sudden retreat so well concerted, so well executed, than was made from that island; but our wagons, carts, and horses, could not be brought over. The navigation of both rivers was stopped; of course we were deprived of our usual supplies, and then complaints began. We wanted wagons to do that duty which boats were accustomed to do. I used every endeavour in my power to remedy the evil. It was too sudden, and not in the power of man to provide, time enough for the emergency.

The cooking utensils of many regiments left on the Island, the fluctuating state of the Militia, coming in destitute of every necessary, drained our stores, and it must take up time to get fresh supplies; to this I may add, demands upon the Quartermaster-General, before unheard of in any army, which not being complied with, gave cause of complaint.

The removing of the stores from *New-York* very soon commenced. All our own, and all the teams that could be pressed or hired, were employed in that important service. The Commissary-Generals, the Director-General of the Hospital, the Commissary of Artillery, and what stores remained in my department, must be sent off, and that suddenly. This movement naturally alarmed the army in and about the city; they wanted teams to move their baggage, &c., and none could be spared; this caused great clamour, and the Quartermaster-General must be to blame. The stores of the different departments were crowded promiscuously on board of every vessel and boat we could procure, no store-houses to put them in provided; of course confusion in the extreme did ensue. I may be asked, why store-houses were not provided? The manœuvre was unexpected, no time allowed to build, and very few houses or barns in this part of the Island.

We were just emerging from this chaos when the Field Deputies arrived; but the clamours of the army had not time to subside. The loss of baggage, which was loaded on wagons, all falling into the enemy's hands, irritated them, and I do suppose the representation of many was strong against me, though themselves were chiefly to blame for leaving their baggage in their great hurry. The Deputies from Congress were alarmed at the many complaints, and proposed the remedy, which I cheerfully acquiesced in, as it was their opinion that it would be for the good of the service. General *Mifflin's* abilities were tried in this department; they are great, and I sincerely hope he will reconcile all matters. The provision I have made will assist him greatly. Timber, plank, boards, nails, brick, and lime, are engaged in sufficient quantities to build barracks for the army. I have contracted for ten thousand camp kettles, which are daily coming in; fifty wagons, with four horses to each, are now purchasing in *Pennsylvania*. There are between this and *Norwich*, coming to camp, fourteen thousand canteens,

and a large quantity of pails, with many other articles, which would take up too much of your time to enumerate. I must beg pardon of you, sir, and the Congress, for taking up so much of it as I have done, but justice to my own character, will, I dare say, with gentlemen of your liberal minds, plead my excuse. I will therefore add no more, than assuring you and them, that I am, with the greatest respect, sir, your most obliged and very humble servant,

STEPHEN MOYLAN.

ELBRIDGE GERRY TO GENERAL GATES.

King's Bridge, September 27, 1776.

MY DEAR SIR: Being here with a Committee of Congress, for inquiring into the state of the army, I take the opportunity of informing you, by Mr. *Trumbull*, that we are endeavouring to new-model the army in every respect, where necessary. Congress have resolved to establish eighty-eight full battalions for the war, and the Assemblies are to appoint the regimental officers; in doing which, if some extra measures are not adopted, we shall have such a corps of officers as the army have been hitherto encumbered with. I have desired General *Washington* to furnish the Committee with a list of such officers in the army here as he is desirous of having again engaged in the service, with the States to which they belong; and the General thinks it will be necessary to obtain the same from the Northern army. The use we intend to make of this is, to send it with a member of Congress to the Assembly of each respective State, who is to be ordered to impress the necessity of appointing gentlemen of education to military offices, as a measure absolutely necessary for saving the country, and to urge the Assemblies to apportion the men on the towns, and raise them by recruiting or drafting, in readiness for reinforcing or forming the camps by the 1st *December* next. We have obtained Colonel *Moylan's* resignation, and General *Mifflin* comes again into the office of Quartermaster-General. Many other measures will be reported, which I think will put things on a good footing. I suppose you will hear of the retreat from *New-York* ere this is at hand, and the fire which has consumed about one quarter of the city; and remain, sir, in great haste, your assured friend, and very humble servant,

E. GERRY.

To Major-General *Gates*.

P. S. Pray direct the list to me at *Philadelphia*, without delay. The men are to have a bounty of twenty dollars, and one hundred acres land each, at the end of the war—the officers land in proportion.

CAPTAIN CREGIER TO PETER R. LIVINGSTON.

Fishkill, September 27, 1776.

MOST WORTHY SIR: Your honourable House has been pleased to give me liberty to return to my house at *King's Bridge*, where I shall wait the commands of your Honours, and will be glad to have your directions how I am to apply for the money to pay off my people. I will take it a singular favour if you will be pleased to direct my letter, or instructions which you may be pleased to send me, under cover to Colonel *Lasher*, at the *King's Bridge*, who is noted by every one, as he diets and breakfasts at my house.

I am, with due respect, sir, your humble servant,

THOMAS CREGIER.

To *Peter R. Livingston*, President of the honourable Convention, at *Fishkill*.

ROBERT YATES TO GENERAL WASHINGTON.

Poughkeepsie, September 27, 1776.

SIR: The Committee which the Convention of this State appointed for devising ways and means to obstruct the navigation on *Hudson's River*, have lately received directions from the Convention to purchase vessels to be sunk near *Fort Washington*. To effect this, we immediately proceeded up to this place, with Captain *Grennal*, whose assistance, by reason of his naval experience, the Convention conceived might be useful to the Committee.

The Committee upon their arrival here, sent down an old sloop which we had purchased some time before, and directed that another sloop lying in the Highlands should also be sent

down; both are intended to be sunk, and we make no doubt but by this time they are at the bridge, as also the fire-ship charged by Captain *Hazelwood*, he having charged but one here for want of materials.

The Committee have also impressed, and now send down two large ships and two brigs, and in order to ascertain their respective values, have appointed persons of unexceptionable characters and great experience to appraise the same on oath, for the purpose that the owners thereof may receive from the publick a recompense.

The said appraisements stand as follows:

The brig of <i>Lowthrop</i> and others, - - -	£ 400 0 0
The brig of <i>Malcom</i> and others, - - -	760 0 0
The new ship of <i>John Franklin</i> , - - -	3,429 0 0
The new ship of <i>Samuel Franklin</i> , - - -	2,800 0 0
	£7,389 0 0

The fire-sloop was purchased for	£200 0 0
The sloop sent from <i>Poughkeepsie</i> ,	125 0 0
The sloop in the <i>Highlands</i> , - - -	130 0 0
	455 0 0

Total amount, - - - - - £7,844 0 0

We found in the brig owned by Mr. *Lowthrop* a quantity of boards, and knowing that they were much wanted at the bridge, we concluded to send her down, and have requested Captain *North* to deliver them to such officer as may be appointed to receive and purchase the same, and at the price usually paid, with power to receive the money.

The two ships have never been out to sea, and by the report of masters of vessels and ship carpenters, they are exceedingly well built, and of the very best materials. It would, therefore, become a matter of concern to sink those vessels, if the interest of the publick should not render the measure absolutely necessary and unavoidable.

In order to afford Captain *Cook* all proper assistance in procuring plank, we directed Captain *Casewell*, of the sloop of war *Cambden*, equipped by this State, to carry down all the spare plank in the ship-yards here. We have also purchased upwards of six thousand feet, and sent them down by Captain *Donaldson*; and as those sloops proceeded down with a fair wind on *Tuesday* last, we make no doubt but they are safely arrived.

We have the honour to be, with great respect, your Excellency's most obedient and very humble servants,

By order of the Committee:

ROBERT YATES, *Chairman*.

To His Excellency *George Washington*, Head-Quarters.

COLONEL CORTLANDT TO GENERAL GATES.

Skeensborough, September 27, 1776.

DEAR GENERAL: The bearer hereof, *William Foster*, a soldier in Colonel *Wynkoop's* regiment, having lately buried his wife, and has with him now at this place five small children, and no way to provide provision for them unless he can be discharged to go to a small farm he has some distance from here, and begs of me to write in his favour to procure his discharge. He is of little worth in the army, and therefore I think it would be as well to let him go.

I have discharged several sick carpenters, following General *Waterbury's* example, (who had orders for that purpose.) Hope I have not committed an error by so doing, as I have had no particular directions about it, but thought it best for the good of the service. But have not discharged any soldier.

Not knowing what to do with a company of *Dutch* carpenters, as there was no work for them at the galley, I set them at getting timber for barracks, ninety-six feet long and sixteen feet wide, to have six rooms on one floor and as many above. Shall be glad to have some direction about this matter, and whether I have acted right or no.

The ill state of health prevailing in the regiment, has prevented me doing any thing at the fort.

Colonel *Mott* is preparing to embark for *Ticonderoga*. He has sent some men to *Fort Ann* for boards. He will leave this as soon as a sufficient number of batteaus arrive to take him off. The boats which were sent up not being more than were wanted for the troops of Colonel *Willard's* regiment, who is arrived, the last of which will leave this tomorrow. The galley will be off next *Thursday*, being as far finished as the others were that we sent off already.

I have heard nothing of Colonel *Wynkoop* since my last. I am, dear General, your most affectionate

PH. CORTLANDT.

To General *Gates*.

DOCTOR WIGGLESWORTH TO NEW-HAMPSHIRE COMMITTEE OF SAFETY.

Mount Independence, opposite *Ticonderoga*, }
September 27, 1776. }

GENTLEMEN: When I waited upon you to receive a commission for Doctor *Movers*, if I am not mistaken, Colonel *Thornton* informed me that there would be a supply of medicines proper for the campaign without fail. In hopes that it would be so, I appeased the troops at *Number-Four*, but alas! how have we found ourselves mistaken. Gentlemen, I wish you could transport yourselves to this place for a moment, to see the distressed situation of these troops, and no medicines. Near half of this regiment is entirely incapable of any service, some dying almost every day. Colonel *Wyman's* regiment in the same unhappy situation. There are no medicines of any avail in the Continental chest; such as are there are in their native state, unprepared; no emetic nor cathartic; no mercurial or antimonial remedy; no opiate or elixir tincture, nor even any capital medicine. It would make a heart of stone melt to hear the moans and see the distresses of the sick and dying. I scarce pass a tent but I hear men solemnly declaring that they will never engage another campaign without being assured of a better supply of medicines.

The above, gentlemen, is this real state of this army. Now, sirs, think how much more unhappy and distressed the condition of these troops must be, should the enemy attack our lines. Numbers of wounded, which is the never-failing consequence of obstinate battles, and nothing suitable wherewith to dress their wounds.

Gentlemen, you will excuse the freedom I have used in transmitting to you the state of this army in the above respect, and thought it my duty to acquaint you therewith.

I am, gentlemen, with great respect, your humble servant,
SAMUEL WIGGLESWORTH.

To the Committee of Safety of the State of *New-Hampshire*.

P. S. I have before wrote you on this subject, but fearing it should not come to hand, I have once more attempted it, and send by a person of fidelity and trust.

GOVERNOUR TRUMBULL TO GENERAL WASHINGTON.

Lebanon, September 27, 1776.

SIR: I am now to acknowledge the receipt of your favour of the 23d instant.

I have given orders that Governour *Skeene* be set at liberty, and that he and Governour *Browne* set out on *Tuesday* next for Head-Quarters, under an escort of ten men, commanded by Captain *John Skinner*, who has orders to detain them ten or twelve miles on this side Head-Quarters, and send one of the escort to receive your directions concerning them.

I have likewise given notice to them, agreeable to your request, and appointed as early a day for them to begin their journey as the necessary preparation for it will admit of.

I am, sir, with the greatest respect and esteem, your obedient, humble servant,

JONTH. TRUMBULL.

To His Excellency General *Washington*.

GOVERNOUR TRUMBULL TO GENERAL WASHINGTON.

Lebanon, September 27, 1776.

SIR: I have your favour of the 23d instant, and have given the necessary orders respecting the Governours *Browne* and *Skeene*.

The evacuation of *New-York*, in the situation you were, appears to me a very prudent and necessary measure, however we could wish the post had been tenable. The panic and flight of our troops, and confusion of the retreat, I have heard from many persons with concern and anxiety. I flatter myself they will be sensible of the danger and dishonour of such conduct, and avoid it in future, and would consider their spirited and brave conduct on *Monday* as a prelude that their future behaviour will atone for the past.

Can your Excellency spare our row-galleys from further Continental service? The men and their arms may be used to great advantage on board our ship and brigantine in the enterprise formerly mentioned to you, in which I have the promise of Admiral *Hopkins's* concurrence. Your advice on this head is wanted, as we are not so well acquainted what alteration your present situation may make in regard to it. An early answer will be necessary if the galleys can be spared, and the intended naval expedition is yet prudent and practicable.

I am, sir, with great truth and esteem, your obedient, humble servant,

JONTH. TRUMBULL.

To His Excellency General *Washington*.

P. S. If the galleys cannot be conveniently spared, or some, cannot a part of the men and arms, especially pistols and cutlasses?

CONNECTICUT COUNCIL OF SAFETY.

At a meeting of the Governour and Council of Safety, of *Connecticut*, September 27, 1776,

Present: His Honour the Governour, *Eliphalet Dyer*, *Jabez Huntington*, *Richard Law*, *Titus Hosmer*, *William Hillhouse*, *Benjamin Huntington*, *Nathaniel Wales*, Jun., *Jedediah Elderkin*, Esqrs.

Voted, That the overseers of the Furnace at *Salisbury* be, and they are hereby directed to deliver to the agents for building the Continental ship, at *Chatham*, twenty-four twelve-pounders, and six six or four-pounders, of Cannon, they receiving the same at said Furnace, and paying at the rate of £3 10s. per hundred weight, for the twelve-pounders, and £4 per hundred for the smaller Cannon. (Order delivered Mr. *Dean*, September 27, 1776.)

Voted, To draw on the Pay-Table for £30, to enable him to go to on General *Washington* with Governours *Brown* and *Skeene*, to deliver them to the care of the General, and to render his account. (Order drawn September 27th, and enclosed in a letter to Mr. *Hosmer*.)

Upon the Memorial of *Isaac Doolittle* and others, inhabitants of the Town of *New-Haven*, setting forth the fears and apprehensions they are under on account of sundry persons suspected to be inimical to the liberties of *America*, praying this Board to take the matter up, and order and decree such suspected persons to be removed, &c., as per Memorial, dated September 17, 1776:

Voted, That the consideration of said Memorial, and the matters therein contained, be referred to the honourable General Assembly, to be holden at *New-Haven*, on the second *Thursday* of *October* next, and that in the mean time a citation go forth thereon, to cite said suspected persons therein complained of to appear before said Assembly, to make answer thereto, and that the Civil Authority, Selectmen, and Committee of Inspection, for said town, be directed to make inquiry, and collect the evidence relating thereto, and lay the same before said Assembly, that justice may be done thereon.

Voted, To draw on the Pay-Table for £10, in favour of Lieutenant *Thomas Bill*, to enable him to take up Deserters from Colonel *Burrell's* Battalion, and return them to their duty, and render his account. (Order drawn September 27th, delivered Lieutenant *Bill*.)

Voted, That Lieutenant *Thomas Bill* be directed and empowered to take up all Deserters from Colonel *Burrell's* Regiment, which may be found in this State, and return them to their corps; and all persons are hereby required to afford him such assistance as shall be needful in effecting the same.

Voted, That Dr. *Joshua Elderkin*, of *Windham*, be empowered and directed to provide a sufficient quantity of Tow-cloth for one hundred and forty Hammocks for the Ship *Oliver Cromwell*, and that he forward what Tow-cloth he has on hand, and purchase a further quantity if to be had soon for said use, to the amount of four hundred yards in the whole, and forward the same to Captain *Bill*, for said purpose.

THADDEUS BURR TO NEW-YORK CONVENTION.

Fairfield, September 27, 1776.

SIR: This is to inform you that at the request of *Thomas Tredwell*, and other gentlemen of *Long-Island*, I have

received into my gaol *Isaac Ketchum* and *Samuel Skidmore*, who are now held by no legal process; I therefore should be glad of some directions from the Convention. I shall hold them until I hear from you.

I am, in great haste, sir, your very humble servant,
THADDEUS BURR, *Sheriff of Fairfield County*.

To the President of the Convention of the State of *New-York*.

DANIEL TILLINGHAST TO GENERAL WASHINGTON.

Providence, September 27, 1776.

SIR: I had the honour of addressing your Excellency 25th, by which opportunity I forwarded to the care of *Nathaniel Shaw*, Jun., Esq., at *New-London*, seventy-two tents, agreeable to a resolve of Congress. By this opportunity I send nine *marqués* and ninety-seven tents, to the care of *Nathaniel Shaw*, Jun., Esq., who, I trust, will immediately forward the same to your Excellency.

I shall forward a number more as soon as finished; and am, with the greatest respect, your Excellency's most obedient and very humble servant,

DANL. TILLINGHAST, *Agent*.

To His Excellency General *Washington*, Commander-in-Chief of the *American Army*.

COUNCIL OF MASSACHUSETTS TO PRESIDENT OF CONGRESS.

Council Chamber, Watertown, September 27, 1776.

SIR: We now enclose you a representation made to the Board by Captain *Alexander Coffin*, late owner, in company with Captains *Jenkins*, *Folger*, and *Gardner*, of a brigantine lately taken, on her passage from *London* and the *West-Indies* to this Continent, by the Congress privateer, Captain *Craigie* commander, from *Philadelphia*. We would humbly submit it to the consideration of the honourable Congress, whether it would not be for the interest of the *American States* to take some order to prevent vessels, under similar circumstances with the brig above referred to, from being detained by any of the privateers fitted out from any of the States of *America*, as in case this practice should be continued, all intelligence from those who are desired from time to time to afford us any, with respect to the measures the Administration in *Great Britain* are taking against these States, will be prevented, and thereby great detriment may accrue to this Continent. We would, also, recommend the case of Captain *Coffin* to the consideration of Congress.

The bonds, commissions, and instructions for the commanders of private ships of war, which were sent to us from Congress some time since, are mostly disposed of. As we have daily applications for papers of this sort, we desire your Honour would furnish us with a further supply.

I am, with great respect, in the name and behalf of the Council, your most humble servant,

WALTER SPOONER, *President*.

To the Hon. *John Hancock*, Esquire.

Newburyport, September 27, 1776.

Last *Tuesday* was brought in here by the *Washington* privateer, a bark bound to the *West-Indies*, to fetch soldiers for the enemy; she had on board a quantity of provisions, and a few pieces of cannon.

Yesterday was carried into *Portsmouth* a ship of between two and three hundred tons, laden with about two hundred and fifty hogsheads of sugar, fifty of rum, and some of wine. We also hear that a schooner of about ninety tons, laden with salt, linen, and household furniture, was carried into *Ipswich* about two days ago.

In Town-Meeting, *Petersham*, September 27, 1776.

The question being put, whether this Town will consent that the present General Court shall form a Constitution of Government agreeable to their resolve of the 17th instant, and it passed in the negative, unanimously. Also unanimously voted, that the following draft be lodged in the Secretary's office, as the sense of this Town respecting that matter, agreeable to the resolve aforesaid.

The inhabitants, in order to express their mind respecting the forming a Constitution of Government for this State,

would humbly show, that it is their opinion that it will be of little avail for this people to shed their blood and spend their treasure in opposing foreign tyranny, if, after all, we should fix a basis of Government partial, unsafe, and not fit for the enjoyment of free and virtuous men. We think that God, in his providence, has now opened a door, possibly the only one that this State will ever have, for the laying a foundation for its prosperity, peace, and glory. A Constitution of Government, one levied on the laws of the people, cannot easily be altered, (especially for the better,) as the craftiness of designing men, if any errors are suffered to be fixed in its foundation in their favour, it will be next to impossible to remove them; therefore, in so momentous and important a matter, we would be willing to set out fair, and on the most likely ground to obtain the prize. If we may be allowed to speak our minds freely, we apprehend that the present General Court of this State are not in a situation most likely to effect this great work to advantage, nor do we believe that when all the towns who have not sent a member, may have sent as many as the late law will allow them, that they will be in a proper situation for so great and important a business; for while the mercantile towns swarm with Representatives, the freehold interest of the country (in which we presume there is the most safety) have neglected to choose such a number as the late regulation entitles them; and the late resolve of Court does not empower any town who have a right to choose a number and have elected but one, to make any addition; and further, a late General Court having taken it upon them in a thin House, uninstructed and without consulting the people, materially to alter the fundamental principles of representation, and as we apprehend much for the worse, most sensibly affects us.

That it is unsafe and for the worse, we would give the following reasons, viz:

The mercantile interest being put on a par with the freehold, cannot be safe, more especially in a community where the balance of trade is against us, and likely so to continue for a considerable time yet to come; which must be where raw materials are exported, and manufactured ones imported. In such case the merchant's interest will lead him to keep the people dependent on the channel of his trade, and of consequence use every means to discourage manufactures among us, as trade will lessen in proportion to their being carried on, and must very near come to a stand at the time when our manufactures are sufficient for our own consumption; and until such time as we change the situation of our exports and imports to our advantage, as is the case of *England*, the merchant's interest must ever operate against the prosperity of his country. Besides, the late alteration of Representation must enlarge the House to so enormous a size that it must be very unwieldy. We therefore think that, to have remained in our ancient mode of representation until a more equitable one, if possible, could have been adopted by the general voice of the people, would have been much better, than to have pushed the late alteration through at the close of a long session, in a very thin House, without any knowledge of the people at large. Neither can we give our consent that the Council should have any hand in forming the Constitution for this State.

If it has been thought unsafe for that branch to originate, or even alter, any money-bill, much more for them jointly with the House to originate a Constitution of Government, which may be of vastly more importance to this State than all their present money and interest put together, and for the Representative body to choose a number of men less in number than themselves, and invest them with a power to tie their own hands, seems to us a giving up that trust, and exposing that confidence which the people have placed in them, and is only the remains of the feudal system, and a species of tyranny we hoped to have been rid of with the rest of the King's evil; our voice therefore is, that the law entitled "for a more equal representation" be repealed; that writs be issued according to our ancient mode, for a new House, who may be chosen for the purpose of forming a Constitution; that they assemble and hand forth such a Constitution of Government to the people, that the people have sufficient time to examine the same, and report their approbation to such House, and if the major voice of the people is in favour thereof, that it be ratified, confirmed, and continued, until after generations, by being more virtuous,

FIFTH SERIES.—VOL. II.

may alter it for the better; or by being more vicious, may alter it for the worse. But if the people do not approve of such a Constitution as may be thus formed, in such case the then House issue writs for a new House for the same purpose, and dissolve themselves as a representative body. And may God, of his infinite mercy, assist this people with wisdom, that they may be able to lay such a foundation as may render this land the glory of all lands.

And also voted, that a copy of the foregoing be transmitted to the Printers, that if they see cause it may be made publick.

A true extract from the minutes:

EPHRAIM DOOLITTLE, *Moderator*.

MARYLAND COUNCIL OF SAFETY TO COLONEL READ.

[No. 195.]

Annapolis, September 24, 1776.

SIR: We do not address this letter to Colonel *Barnes*, because we expect he will be at the Convention. We request you would assist Mr. *Middleton* in getting a nine-pounder on board his boat, and also in getting up a small anchor lost by the *Defence*. We are, &c.

To Colonel *John Hatton Read*, of *St. Mary's* County.

MARYLAND COUNCIL OF SAFETY TO BALTIMORE COMMITTEE.

[No. 196.]

Annapolis, September 28, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: We wrote you the 5th of *June*, requesting you would render a particular account of the expenditures of the £1,000 sent the 8th *March* to defray the expenses of the Militia on the alarm occasioned by the *Otter* sloop-of-war, and also to supply us with your vouchers for the general charges in the account of moneys expended on the fortifications at *Whetstone Point*, but have not as yet been furnished with them. We again repeat that request, and as we are anxious to have all our accounts settled, to lay before the Convention, hope to have the above immediately transmitted to us. We are, &c.

To the Committee of Observation for *Baltimore* County.

MARYLAND COUNCIL OF SAFETY TO COLONEL RUMSEY AND OTHERS.

[No. 197.]

Annapolis, September 28, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: We have sent you the money you requested, viz: £700 for Colonel *Hollingsworth*, also £500 for the Flying-Camp service. Be pleased to apply for linen for tents to Major *Parker*, and get them made where you can; perhaps they may be got ready-made at *Baltimore Town*, where we would have you apply for cartouch-boxes, camp-kettles, canteens, also knapsacks and havresacks. *Gerard Hopkins*, our Commissary, will furnish you if there be any ready made. Flints we are not to furnish, unless it be sufficient for the company's guns. We want much to see and converse with Colonel *Hollingsworth*, and therefore write no answer to his letter. We are, &c.

To Colonels *Rumsey*, *Hollingsworth*, and Major *Parker*.

JUDGE HALL TO MATTHEW TILGHMAN.

[Baltimore, September 28, 1776.]

SIR: Since my appointment of Judge of the Admiralty, I have had the honour of being chosen one of the Delegates for *Anne Arundel* County. I have received no commission, nor acted in any manner under the appointment, and am determined to decline acting in that department of Judge Admiral. Be pleased to signify this to the honourable Convention, with my thanks for their favour in appointing me.

I am your most obedient servant,

J. HALL.

To Hon. *Matthew Tilghman*, Esq., President of the Convention.

CAPTAIN NICHOLSON TO MARYLAND COUNCIL OF SAFETY.

Baltimore, September 28, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: I received yours desiring my attendance to adjust the *Defence's* accounts. I was under the necessity immediately upon my return here of sending the Clerk and Purser down to the Eastern Shore after men of the frigate,

and expect their return in five or six days, when I certainly will attend with them for that purpose, let my business with the frigate be ever so pressing.

I am, gentlemen, your most obliged, humble servant,
JAMES NICHOLSON.

To the Honourable Council of Safety of *Maryland*.

SAMUEL CALWELL TO MARYLAND COUNCIL OF SAFETY.

Harford County, September 28, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: Enclosed you have my commission. The reason of my laying it down is, that on the 16th of the month our battalion was called together to signalize themselves, but from the cowardice of the greatest part of the company that I had the command of, I think I can't head them with honour to the cause, for I have the interest of my country at heart as much as ever and am still willing and ready to act in a private capacity with gentlemen that have distinguished themselves as men of courage. I beg leave to return you thanks and the gentlemen that recommended me to that honour, for the good opinion they had of me.

I am, gentlemen, your most obedient servant,
SAM'L CALWELL.

To the Honourable Convention of *Maryland*.

COL. HOLLINGSWORTH TO MARYLAND COUNCIL OF SAFETY.

Head of Elk, September 28, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: The troops having principally passed on, I have for this few days past been collecting the accounts, in order to lay them before your Honours; for which purpose I intended setting out this day for *Annapolis*, but yesterday had letters from Colonels *Parker* and *Aylet*, of the *Virginia* forces, requesting that I would procure provisions, wagons, &c., for the Fourth and Fifth Regiments of *Virginia*, and that they would leave *Williamsburgh* on last *Sunday*, has retarded my setting out; and as I am in great want of cash, am emboldened to draw on your Honours for seven hundred pounds. The accounts I have collected, paid and assumed for, amount to one thousand and fifty-odd pounds. I have received of your Honours, by Mr. *Joseph Gilpin*, three hundred pounds. Mr. *Gilpin* informs me there was an order sent me on the *Eastern Shore* Treasurer, for three hundred more, but I have not received the order or money. If the order should come to hand, shall return it, as all the money now drawn for is due.

I submit it to your Honours whether it would not be conducive to the service, to lodge a sum of money in this County, in some gentleman's hands who your Honours can confide in, who I might apply to, as my advancing as much as I have done heretofore (this is supposing the troops that are now raising to go forward) may be rather prejudicial to my other concerns. The quantity of musket-barrels and bayonets, that I have made, amounts to about the sum received on that account, the accounts of which I shall bring down with me as soon as in my power, together with the accounts for forwarding and arming the troops. It appears to me that I have a quantity of barrels and bayonets now by me that Mr. *E. Winter* will not want, as I sent him seventy barrels and ninety bayonets the other day. I shall therefore send them by first opportunity to your Honours, as I have not locks, (or I would have had them fitted.)

I have now begun in earnest with the large barrels. I tried it some time since, with some of the best workmen I had, and found that without stone coal, we should spoil many barrels, which would make the others come high. As soon as the passage was safe, I sent a vessel for a load to *Virginia*, which has returned with five hundred bushels coal, which answers well. I shall make six a week, as I shall keep one forge with three hands forging those barrels, and they can forge one each day, some of which I shall send down for your inspection, first opportunity. If locks could be had, as Mr. *Thomas Johnson* informed me he thought might at *Frederick*, I could have muskets finished here, (as I think to advantage,) as they would be ready for the troops as they pass along to the northward or southward; and if locks could be made of proper size at *Frederick*, for the large pieces, and sent by way of *Baltimore* to this place, I would have them fitted also at your Honour's pleasure. As the size and weight of them will make the carriage of them troublesome and expensive, this with the

whole, I with much diffidence, submit to your Honours; and am, with much esteem, gentlemen, your most obedient and most humble servant,

H. HOLLINGSWORTH.

To the Honourable Council of Safety of *Maryland*.

P. S. Pray, gentlemen, excuse the freedom I have taken with your Honours, as 'tis meant to promote and forward the service.

MEMORIAL OF GUNNING BEDFORD, MUSTERMASTER GENERAL.

[Read 28th September. Ordered to lie on the table.]

To the Honourable the Congress of the UNITED STATES OF AMERICA:

The Memorial of *Gunning Bedford*, Mustermaster General, sheweth:

That your memorialist delivered an account to the President of the Treasury Board, with a request that when the account came to be examined, if there were any objections made to any of the articles contained therein, that your memorialist might have an opportunity of answering them. That your memorialist never heard any thing of the account till yesterday, when he was informed there was an order passed for his money. This morning he went to the Treasury Office, and was astonished to find every article in the account erased, except one, that respected his pay. Your memorialist humbly apprehends he was not treated so generous by the Treasury Board as he had reason to expect, for he could not suppose that the Commissioners of the Treasury would have proceeded to examine and reject an account without giving him an opportunity of being heard and answering any objections that were made against it. Your memorialist feels himself particularly unhappy on this occasion, as he thinks a rejection of his account is such a reflection on his conduct as he by no means deserves. To overcharge the Continent, or to attempt to receive publick money without rendering adequate services, is a conduct unworthy of any gentleman in your service, and such as this honourable House, I am convinced, would not suppose without the fullest evidence.

Your memorialist begs leave to observe to this honourable House, that those articles of his account which are crossed, were all erased. As to the first and second, respecting travelling expenses, it is well known to many of the members when your memorialist first received his appointment as Deputy Mustermaster, it was mentioned that a daily allowance should be made for travelling expenses, which was never done; but the honourable the President, and many other members, desired him to keep an account of his travelling and other necessary expenses attending the office, which he did, and they were allowed on every occasion while he was Deputy, without any objections either by the Committee of Claims or Treasury Board.

The third and fourth articles are for your memorialist's own and servant's board, and servant's wages. While he was Deputy, whenever he was from home and stationed any time at one place, he charged his own board and lodgings, and it was always allowed as Mustermaster. Your memorialist is not entitled to rations, nor indeed could he, from the nature of his department, receive them with any degree of regularity. It is a provision for the military, which he has nothing to do with. While Deputy, he was a few weeks at home, and then as he did charge board, the Committee of Claims allowed him five rations per day. While your memorialist was Deputy, he never charged for a servant; but being promoted to Mustermaster General, he thought himself entitled to one, especially when he considered that every officer in the service (even down to the lowest subaltern) has one, with this distinction, that they take them out of the ranks at fifty shillings per month, pay and rations, and your memorialist found it more convenient to take his own servant at forty shillings per month and board.

As to the fifth article of wages, which was allowed, your memorialist would beg leave to suggest to this honourable House that it is much too low for the duty and trouble of the office. The honourable House remember that it is no more than he had while Deputy, and what every Deputy in the smallest department in the States receives. The difference in pay between principal and deputy in other departments is as two to one. The duty, trouble and care of the office has much increased on his hands by promotion: he has not only the care of the grand army, which is equal

to the duty in any three departments, but he has likewise to receive returns from the Deputies in all the departments, and see that those returns are regularly entered and filed.

As to the sixth article, that of a clerk's pay, your memorialist must conceive it a great hardship on him if it is not allowed. While he was Deputy this honourable House were pleased to indulge him with an assistant Deputy. The Deputy for the Flying Camp, (an army much inferior in number to that your memorialist has the care of,) is allowed two assistant Deputies, each of them, if I am not misinformed, receiving the same pay with your memorialist, whose charge is but for a clerk with twenty dollars per month, and no allowance for subsistence.

The seventh and last charge is for a horse. This honourable House gave your memorialist one horse. On his last tour of duty, confined as the army were to a small spot of ground, in comparison to what they now occupy, or are likely to do this some time to come, that one horse was so wore down, that he was frequently obliged to be indebted to the Quartermaster-General for one of the common hack publick horses. And he was the more emboldened to make the charge, as he is informed from good authority that the Deputy in the *Virginia* department is allowed three horses.

Thus has your memorialist stated his account, with his reasons for making the charges. The Commissioners of the Treasury have been pleased to allow him in recompense for the charges for travelling, board, &c., which they have erased, four rations. The Committee of Claims on a former occasion, and when he was but a Deputy, allowed me five rations. This honourable House, on a view of your memorialist's case, must plainly see in how much better a situation your memorialist was when Deputy, than he is at present, and in how much better situation every Deputy in this department through the States is, than the principal.

Your memorialist being apprehensive that he may not stand so fair before this honourable House as he could wish, he therefore hopes the honourable House will indulge him while he trespasses on their patience to add a few words in vindication of his conduct. On the 17th *June* last, your memorialist was appointed Mustermaster-General; he repaired immediately to Head-Quarters, and continued there until the army were in such a situation, occasioned by their retreating from *New-York*, &c., that it was impossible for him to do any thing more in his department. Before our retreat from *Long-Island* his Excellency General *Washington* thought it impracticable to muster the troops in their confused situation, numbers being constantly employed on fatigue, and every regiment ought to be kept two days off duty when they are mustered. Notwithstanding these difficulties, the whole army were mustered, except one regiment, which came from *Boston*, and went on *Long-Island* just before the battle there.

The honourable House will be pleased to observe, the office of your memorialist is entirely civil, and has nothing to do with the military, save only as a check, and to prevent any frauds being committed by them.

Your memorialist has full confidence that any reflections cast on him, must have proceeded from a want of a due knowledge of the nature of his duty. Musters are taken so often in the year as the situation of the army will permit. After they are finished, the Mustermaster-General has nothing more to do with the army; he makes up his returns and sends them to the proper offices. His attendance on the army is not required, and can be of no kind of service. It would therefore be extremely hard if your memorialist, after being in the line of his duty until the situation of affairs rendered it impossible for him to do more, and after having finished the business of his department, should not be allowed to devote a few weeks to his family and friends, without the mortifying and ungenerous reflections of "eating the publick bread and neglecting his duty."

Your memorialist therefore begs, that the honourable House would take the premises into their consideration, and do therein what to them shall seem just.

ADDRESS OF PENNSYLVANIA CONVENTION.

In Convention for the State of Pennsylvania, }
September 28, 1776. }

Resolved, That Mr. Cannon, Mr. Rittenhouse, and Colonel Matlack, be a Committee to draw up an Address,

setting forth the reasons which induced the Convention to make the several Ordinances and Resolves which they have passed in the course of the sitting of this Convention.

To the Freemen of the Commonwealth of PENNSYLVANIA.

GENTLEMEN: The honourable the Convention holding themselves accountable to their constituents, and believing it the duty of every representative body to lay the reasons of their conduct before those who appointed them, for their satisfaction, have directed us to unfold to you the causes of such parts of their proceedings as may appear at first sight out of the line of their appointment. Sensible that the purpose for which they were chosen, and the subject on which they assembled, had many enemies, and those of the first consequence among us; that a Government under the authority of the people only, and deriving its powers from them alone, would meet with warm opposition, and that no means would remain unessayed to defeat your arduous struggle in defence of your liberty and independence, (because the establishing your rights is the downfall of their power,) the Convention early considered it as a matter of vast moment, and not altogether out of the line of their duty, to have some legal principles established whereby avowed enemies to their country might be brought to punishment in that way which, while it destroys the power of the wicked to do mischief, preserves the decorum of civil society. A spirit of licentiousness, when roused, is not easily allayed, and the minds of the people ought to be as calm and composed as possible at the introduction of a new Government. To preserve this calmness, and prevent a spirit of licentiousness growing upon the people, while the course of justice was stopped in the society, the Convention passed some temporary ordinances which to them appeared essentially necessary on the occasion. Others were passed for the same purpose; but the aspect of those looked towards our enemies, to deter them from attempting any thing against us during the interval which, of necessity, came in between the suppression of the old and establishing of the new Government, through hopes of impunity.

The necessity of those ordinances will strongly appear, when you consider how many underhanded attempts are made to excite a confusion in the minds of the people by anonymous publications of divers complexions, but all tending to make you averse to receive a Government founded on your own authority, and absolutely under your control. Such a Government by no means suits the designs of your enemies. It has too much regard to the rights of the people to answer their purposes, and their only way to defeat its operation is by using every effort in their power to bring the Convention which framed it into discredit.

The first ordinance which appears on the minutes of Convention, respects the disarming the Non-Associators. Previous to the Convention's passing that ordinance, it was moved that a resolution might be entered into, declaring that as the Convention had met by a special appointment, and for a particular purpose, no ordinance should pass except such as the exigency of the time would render indispensably necessary; and as no other representative body at that time existed in the State, the urgency of the case would justify the measure.

On considering this motion, it was generally agreed that it would answer a much better purpose to introduce each ordinance with a short preamble, expressing the reasons which induced the Convention to pass it; as then every one who should see the ordinance would at the same time be possessed of the reasons for passing it, but might not be in possession of the resolution moved for. The preambles to the several ordinances passed by the Convention will, therefore, lead the publick into the reasons for passing them. These, with the additional ones advanced at the time of their passing, we make little doubt, will fully satisfy every friend to our country, and justify the Convention. The preamble to the first is as follows:

"Whereas the Non-Associators in this State have either refused or neglected to deliver up their arms, according to the resolves of the honourable Continental Congress and the Assembly of *Pennsylvania*, and effectual measures have not been taken to carry the said resolves into execution: Be it ordained," &c.

In addition to these reasons, which sufficiently express the necessity of the measure, may be added the folly and

danger of leaving arms in the hands of Non-Associators, when the Associators were absent in the service, and the great demand for the best arms we could procure to put into the hands of the Militia from the country, who were ready and willing to march to the camp, but had no arms to take with them, weighed greatly with the Convention in passing this ordinance; and the good effects of it were suddenly perceived, for the Militia were furnished with several hundred stand of good arms in consequence thereof.

The next ordinance is that which was passed for the release of Colonel *James Easton*, a man who had merited well of his country, and who was unjustly detained in the jail of this city on an action for debt. The publick, we doubt not, will justify the Convention in this ordinance, when it is known that he was the commander at the taking of *Ticonderoga*, was committed by some gentlemen belonging to *New-York* not deemed very friendly to our cause, when attending Congress to settle his accounts, whereby he could have been enabled to pay the debt, though they had good security to a much greater amount than the debt came to.

An ordinance for the relief of the prisoners in the several jails of this State, is next in order, and introduced with these reasons for its passing:

"Whereas at this time the courts of justice within this State are surceased, and all process and proceedings by which suits can be legally commenced, proceeded in, or determined, are by the authority of the people justly and totally suppressed; and whereas the detaining in custody debtors under executions who are willing to deliver up their estates for the use of their creditors, or debtors confined under mesne process, who have no mode of entering bail in order to free their persons from imprisonment, is not only oppressive, but can be of no real benefit or advantage to the creditors: and whereas, a total change of Government, by the assistance of Divine Providence, has been effected within the *United States*, and acts of grace to criminals sometimes are granted on events of such importance: Be it ordained," &c.

An ordinance against counterfeiting the Continental currency comes next, preceded by the following preamble:

"Whereas great mischiefs may arise to the *United States of America*, and the property of the good people, inhabitants thereof, rendered precarious and insecure by wicked and designing persons counterfeiting the paper bills of credit issued by the honourable the Continental Congress, or by any of the *United States of America*, for remedy whereof: Be it ordained," &c.

Nothing, perhaps, shows the necessity of the ordinances passed by Convention in a stronger point of light, than the difficulty we are under at this time, arising from not having a section in this ordinance for the more effectual punishment of those who refuse the Continental bills of credit. No one of the ordinances but has prevented as great an evil as the forementioned; and had this appeared before the rising of the Convention, it would have been provided against.

Great licentiousness having arisen about that time, for remedy thereof the ordinance for appointing temporary Magistrates to preserve the publick peace and tranquillity, and to hold persons to bail who should incline to take undue advantages of the times to defraud their creditors, passed the Convention. The preamble, though short, will show the necessity of such an appointment; and the absence of the Associators, who were then generally at camp, will justify the nomination of them by the Convention, as an election would have fallen principally into the hands of Non-Associators and Tories, and the consequence of vesting civil authority in such men would have soon appeared, had it not been prevented by the said nomination. The ordinance is thus introduced:

"Whereas it is necessary that proper officers of justice be appointed under the authority of the people only, and deriving no power whatever from the late Constitution: Be it ordained," &c.

The ordinance for compelling debtors, in certain cases, to give security, being nearly connected with the foregoing, we beg leave to introduce its preamble next:

"Whereas, at this time, when courts of justice in this State are shut, it is absolutely necessary that honest creditors should be made secure, when it shall appear that other-

wise they might, by dishonest debtors taking advantage of the times, run the risk of losing their just debts: Be it ordained," &c.

The ordinances against treason and advisedly speaking and writing against the cause of *America*, are introduced, respectively, in the following words:

"Whereas Government ought, at all times, to take the most effectual measures for the safety and security of the State: Be it ordained," &c.; and

"Whereas evil-disposed persons may, by speaking and writing, endeavour to influence the minds of weak or unwary persons, and thereby impede the present virtuous opposition made by the free *United States of America* against the wicked and tyrannical measures pursued by the King and Parliament of *Great Britain*: for prevention whereof, be it ordained," &c.

The powers given to Magistrates in these ordinances arose from the impossibility of erecting regular courts of justice before the new Government should take place; and yet they contain a temporary habeas corpus act, as will appear to every one who will examine them with candour; so far was the Convention from attempting to act arbitrarily, notwithstanding the scurrility with which they are treated. But men who have nothing rational to advance, must use what is in their power.

The ordinance for rendering the burdens of Associators and Non-Associators, in the defence of this State, as nearly equal as possible, is thus introduced:

"Whereas the Associators of this State have bestowed much of their time and been at considerable expense in qualifying themselves for the defence of their country, and are now gone forth into actual service, to the great prejudice of their private concerns; while others, by not associating, have exempted themselves from those difficulties, and pursued their business to advantage; and whereas no effectual measures have hitherto been taken to render the burden of defence, which is a common benefit, as nearly equal as possible: Be it ordained," &c.

However vain it may appear, at this time, to justify this ordinance as it stands, and which is condemned with such severity by those who are the subjects of it, it is no more than common justice, due to the Convention, to recall the publick attention to our situation at that time. A powerful army of the enemy landed on *Staten-Island*, from whence they might make an excursion into the *Jerseys*, or even to this city; whilst their fleet, by taking possession of the *North River*, had it in their power to prevent General *Washington* from giving us the least assistance. *Amboy*, *Elizabethtown*, and *Newark*, exposed to immediate destruction. At this time no resource was to be found but in our Militia—that Militia which had so frequently complained of the unequal burdens they had already borne, and by repeated petitions demanded redress of the late Assembly. In a conference of a Committee of Congress, the Committee of Safety of this State, the Field Officers of the City battalions, and the Committee of Inspection, it was resolved to call forth the whole Militia of this State, so far as they could be armed. Almost insuperable difficulties appeared in opposition to this measure: amongst others, that of saving the approaching harvest was not the least. The Militia nevertheless turned out with amazing alacrity in some counties; in others, where the Tory interest prevailed, they were more tardy. The Convention thought it a duty they owed their country, to give them all proper encouragement, and, early in the sitting, passed and published a resolve that they meant to do justice to the Associators; and here the matter rested.

The Council of Safety, in the mean time, exerted themselves, with incredible diligence, to put the Militia into a condition to serve their country with effect.

The Associators were obliged to leave their homes at the most busy and important season to farmers, and harassed with long marches to the camp in *New-Jersey*, in expectation of facing a hostile army; while many of the Non-Associators not only forebore to touch the burden of the day with a single finger, but expressed the diabolical pleasure they enjoyed in beholding the distress of the friends of liberty.*

* Though some of them are highly to be commended for their care and concern for the affairs of their neighbours who were out in the service.

The Convention was often informed of these circumstances, perhaps with great aggravation, and reminded of their promise to the Militia; but the difficulty of fulfilling it stared them full in the face, and perhaps contributed as much as any thing to its delay. However, a Committee was appointed, the ordinance was brought in, debated, committed, and recommitted. A spirit of generosity and moderation was, perhaps, never more warmly displayed than on one side of the House on this occasion; but the minds of many were agitated with the situation of our affairs; their passions inflamed with the part which the Non-Associators in general have acted, and the advantages they have taken of the times; so the ordinance passed the Convention as it now stands, though not with the majority that might be expected from a body so universally attached to the cause, and so sensible of the reasons which the Associators had to complain.

No one who heard the debates in Convention on the subject could doubt that impartial justice was aimed at on both sides. How far they have failed of accomplishing it, is not for the Convention to determine. This they are persuaded of, that when the loss of time and other expenses attending the learning the military exercise, are added to the disadvantages the Associators have laboured under in the late call, and the profits which Non-Associators derive to themselves in consequence thereof, the balance is not much in favour of the Associators. Tradesmen have left their business, to face the enemy in the hour of danger; and the very men whose property they were protecting at the risk of their lives, have stepped into their custom. Farmers left their harvest-fields to be reaped by Non-Associators, and paid them from five shillings to a dollar per day, in some parts, for their labour; whilst themselves were guarding the coasts of a neighbouring State, to preserve it from the incursions of the enemy. Some men have given one half of their crops to get the other secured. Thus, while the Associator was absent upon the most important publick duty, the Non-Associator earned, in extraordinary advantages derived from that single circumstance, much more than the fine to be levied upon him.

The Non-Associators, in many parts of the country, had reason to apprehend that the Associators, as soon as they returned, would undertake it themselves, if the Convention did nothing to make the burden equal between them; and the Convention was greatly misinformed, if those among them who were actuated by no worse principles than scruples of conscience against war, were not very well satisfied that the fines were equitable. It is not for us to pretend to judge of the motives of those who complain; neither was it the mind of the Convention to say any thing in justification of their conduct. They meant only to lay the reasons of it before their constituents. Nevertheless, it may not be improper to observe on which side they stand who have ever been enemies to our cause, and to express a desire that those who are not privy to such men's designs may not be deceived by them.

The Convention considered the interval which of necessity took place between the suppression of all power derived from the Crown, and the erecting of the same on the authority of the people, as a period pregnant with important events, and meant to supply it with such a temporary constitution as might preserve us from ruin. This caused the ordinances to pass, and though some of them as they now stand met with considerable opposition, yet not one passed the Convention but such as appeared absolutely necessary for the safety of the State. Under this idea they passed the Convention, and nothing has yet appeared to convince of the contrary. The Associators long and justly complained of partiality and injustice, and however altered in their minds with regard to the powers of the Convention, they once thought otherwise, and had high expectation that the Convention would consider their case, and leave the Non-Associators no room to triumph over them. The Convention accordingly has done them all the justice they could; but if they, now that they have it in their power to forgive, have changed their minds and are desirous of letting the Non-Associators escape, they can do it, and that without giving great offence to the Convention. But they will thereby preclude all future complaints, and future Legislatures must not be blamed for their lenity.

The pressing necessity of the times, and the urgent ap-

plication of publick bodies and men in publick stations, induced the Convention to enter into certain resolves, as will appear to every one who examines their minutes, which were published weekly; for they wished to conceal nothing from their constituents. The propriety of these resolves will fully appear to every one who recollects the then state of our affairs, and wishes to see us maintain our freedom; and nothing further need be said on the subject, were it not that some wicked designing people have endeavoured not only to ruin the credit of the Convention but the great cause itself, by infusing hard thoughts into their minds, in consequence of a resolve which they passed about the middle of *August*.

Repeated and pressing letters were continually arriving from the camp, informing the Convention that some ill-disposed persons who had crept into the Association to cover their unfriendly principles from the publick eye, were exceedingly industrious in sowing the seeds of sedition in the minds of the Militia, and under the show of great patriotism and attachment to the true principles of liberty, persuaded them to believe that they were decoyed and entrapped by their officers, who artfully carried them out with a design to form them into a flying camp, and that unless they rose up in a mutinous manner and forced their way home, they would be converted into mercenaries and obliged to march to *Canada*, or any other place where their services might be wanted. This report being industriously propagated, desertions were the immediate consequence; and they who had the virtue and patriotism to withstand their insinuations, were in danger of being offered up a sacrifice to the enemy, and the coast of being deserted before the Militia from the country could arrive.

In the distressing exigence the Convention passed a resolve offering a reward of three pounds for taking up every deserter, at the same time assuring the Militia that it was not their intention to keep them out longer than six weeks, having furnished their quota of the Flying-Camp. This step, so necessary for the safety of every Militia-man who had the virtue to stay, and which would affect no man who would wish to preserve the name of a soldier, is by artful enemies represented as treating the Associators like beasts. To prevent and discourage desertion is with them a mark of opprobrium; and thus every law which supposes bad men to exist is to be considered as an insult on the good. Can confidence be placed in men who, wearing a military dress, are offended with a publick body for offering a reward for apprehending deserters? Are they soldiers, or do they mean to do the duty of soldiers, who are dissatisfied with this? Will any man be offended at offering a reward for apprehending highwaymen, but he who is one himself, or has a violent propensity to become such? A man who wishes to stand his ground in the day of danger, will ever be solicitous to have every obstacle laid in the way of deserters, that he may be sure of support in the hour of necessity. Can any thing account for such men's behaviour but that they wished to see us defeated, while they were willing to appear hearty friends to our cause? We mean not this as a general reflection. We know many things happened to alarm the jealousies and excite the resentments of the best-hearted of the Militia, and that in the heat of passion it was easy to inflame them yet more; they are little if in any degree culpable. The men who took the occasion of this state of their minds to sow the seeds of discord and confusion, and who went secretly from battalion to battalion, and from company to company, are the men now in our eye; and we are persuaded that had no such lurking enemies been in the Militia, nothing of the kind would ever have happened.

Lord *Howe* is near at hand, and your enemies know that if they ever do any thing to ingratiate themselves with him and secure their estates, it must be at this time. They know nothing can be effected by a fair and open opposition; but by dividing and distracting you, they may possibly succeed. They are, therefore, intent on this only, because that debility and weakness must be the inevitable consequence. "A house divided against itself cannot stand," and therefore if you listen to their artful suggestions, and remain disunited, you must fall. To the officer they speak disrespectfully of the private, and to the private they censure the conduct of his officer. To one they condemn this part of the proceedings of the Convention, and to another that, according

as they find it suits the person they converse with. What can be the reason of all this? Why, by the one they destroy the Association, and by the other they defeat the endeavour to establish a Government under your authority, and by both they ruin the general cause, defeat the measures of the Continent, prepare the way for a submission to the enemy, and offer up every friend to his country and associator to the gallows, and their estates to confiscation; and yet to men who harbour such designs in their hearts against us, have we the infatuation to listen.

With regard to the resolves and ordinances of the Convention, they are all temporary and intended as such. Magistrates to preserve the peace of the society until the Government could fairly take place, &c. If any one will show candidly and fairly that the present state of our affairs does not justify every ordinance passed, and render it necessary, they will do a kindness to the Convention in so doing; for they mean to defend no measure which the state of the times will not.

The Convention, with the best motives and from the most urgent necessity, stepped so far out of the direct line of their appointment, if it can be thought out of that line, to take every measure necessary to secure success which prudence and a love of the cause and the people could inspire; and they have in this address set an example of that responsibility which they think due from representatives to their constituents. Having received power from you, they employ it solely in your service, and framed a government, wherein the supreme power is lodged in your own hands, and only so far delegated as to act solely for your interest. This has raised a terrible outcry among those who either have heretofore, or now wish to rule, but not by your authority. Thus having finished their work in the best manner in their power, they dissolved themselves, leaving the further success of your measures and Constitution to the mercy of Him who loves mankind, and gives the enjoyment of liberty to those only who are willing to defend it, and your own virtue, on which you must ultimately depend for success, if you will free yourselves from the tyrannical yoke you have heretofore groaned under, and the aristocratical one which is at this time preparing for you.

ADDRESS OF THE COUNCIL OF NEW-JERSEY.

To His Excellency WILLIAM LIVINGSTON, Esq., Governour, Captain-General, and Commander-in-Chief in and over the State of New-Jersey and Territories thereunto be longing, Chancellor and Ordinary in the same:
The Address of the Council of said State.

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR EXCELLENCY: We, the Council of the State of New-Jersey, beg leave to congratulate your Excellency on your appointment to the Government, and to return you our most cordial thanks for your truly patriotic speech.

The impartial and disinterested part of the world will agree with your Excellency, that the separation of America from Great Britain is fully justifiable before God and man: a separation at once expedient, inevitable, and essentially necessary to our very existence as freemen. America, indeed, was compelled to break off all union with a nation which, contaminated with luxury and insatiate with plunder, had concerted a system of despotism for her ruin. All America regrets the necessity, at the same time that all America applauds the rectitude and spirit of the measure. The British nation, too, if not totally immersed in venality and corruption, must applaud an action which accords so eminently with the true spirit of their own Constitution; an action that owes its birth to the same principle which was so signally displayed in the memorable revolution. What, however, is peculiarly worthy of remark in the progress of the present contest is, that wonderful preparation of circumstances and singular combination of causes which gradually brought on the separation, and disposed the minds of men for an event so truly important.

The Constitution framed by the late Convention, although not entirely perfect, has, however, equitably and justly decided on most of the principal points whereon the happiness of this society depends, and therefore hath met with general approbation. Upon so respectable and honourable a bottom, the present Legislature is founded, which, in the most unbiased manner, hath chosen your Excellency to

preside over the State, and by that choice hath, at this perilous period, clearly shown how much they admire your virtues, and what confidence they repose in your abilities.

The several important matters recommended by your Excellency, merit our serious and deliberate consideration, and in conjunction with the General Assembly we shall take such steps, and pass such laws as may appear most conducive to the publick weal. We join your Excellency in sentiment as to the disinterestedness and integrity so indispensably requisite in all our proceedings. Certainly as publick men, we are to know neither friend nor favourite, fear nor resentment. Sensible that, especially in the infancy of our civil institution, much depends upon the selection of proper persons to occupy the various departments in the State, your Excellency may be assured that we shall be particularly cautious in our choice. Stationed as we are, the guardians and protectors of the State, the general good should be the sole object of attention, and of course in the appointment of officers, intrinsic merit should be the sole rule of promotion. These, sir, were the considerations which influenced us in the appointment of such officers as have been already elected, and we trust will continue to be the rule of our conduct. No time ever required more economy, industry, patriotism, purity of manners, and true devotion, than the present, and the experience of all ages, with the recent example of Great Britain, hath effectually taught us how essentially necessary it is to the weal of the State, to inculcate these excellent qualifications both by precept and example.

By order of the House:

JNO. STEVENS, V. P.

Princeton, September 28, 1776.

GOVERNOUR'S REPLY.

GENTLEMEN: I am greatly obliged to you for your kind congratulation on my appointment to the Government, and for the favourable sentiments you are pleased to express concerning me. As every office is only honourable in proportion to the publick good it enables the person sustaining it to do, and the officer himself in proportion to the good he actually does, I can assure you that the reflection of having promoted the true interest of this State to the extent of my wishes and of your expectation, will afford me more solid satisfaction than can result from any external splendour or the most illustrious titles.

WIL. LIVINGSTON.

Newark, New-Jersey, September 28, 1776.

Tuesday evening last, arrived at Elizabethtown, from Quebec, in four transports, about four hundred and twenty of our people, that had been taken prisoners at different times in Canada. The names of most of the officers are as follow, viz:

General Thompson, Colonel Irvine, Lieutenant Correy, Lieutenant Bird, Dr. McKinney, Rev. Mr. McCalla, Lieutenant McDougall.

These following were taken the 31st of December last, and all (except Major Lamb) went from Boston with Colonel Arnold, through the wilderness:

Captain Henry Dearborn, Lieutenant Ammi Andrews, Lieutenant Nath. Hutchins, Lieutenant Joseph Thomas, from New-Hampshire.

Major Timothy Bigelow, Captain William Goodrich, Captain Jonas Hubbard, (died of his wound,) Lieutenant John Compton, Lieutenant Samuel Brown, Lieutenant James Tisdale, Lieutenant John Clark, from Massachusetts.

Major Return Jonathan Meiggs, Captain Samuel Lockwood, Capt. Eleazer Osgood, (volunteer,) Captain Oliver Hanchett, Lieutenant Abijah Savage, Quartermaster Benjamin Chatten, from Connecticut.

Lieutenant-Colonel Christopher Green, Captain John Toppan, Captain Simeon Thayer, Captain Samuel Ward, Lieutenant William Humphrey, Lieutenant James Webb, Lieutenant Edward Slocum, Lieutenant Sylvanus Shaw, from Rhode-Island.

Major John Lamb, from New-York.

Lieutenant Francis Nichols, Adjutant Archibald Steel, from Pennsylvania.

Captain Daniel Morgan, Lieutenant William Heath, Lieutenant Peter O'Brien Bruen, John McGuire, (volunteer,) Charles Potterfield, (volunteer,) from Virginia.

Adj't Christian Febiger, from the Kingdom of Denmark.

GENERAL WASHINGTON TO THE PRESIDENT OF CONGRESS.

[Read September 30, 1776.]

Head-Quarters, Heights of Harlem, September 28, 1776.

SIR: Being about to cross the *North River* this morning, in order to view the post opposite, and the grounds between that and *Powles Hook*, I shall not add much more than that I have been honoured with your favour of the 24th, and its several enclosures, and that since my letter of yesterday no important event has taken place.

As Colonel *Hugh Stephenson*, of the Rifle Regiment, ordered lately to be raised, is dead, according to the information I have received, I would beg leave to recommend to the particular notice of Congress Captain *Daniel Morgan*, just returned among the prisoners from *Canada*, as a fit and proper person to succeed to the vacancy occasioned by his death. The present field officers of the regiment cannot claim any right in preference to him, because he ranked above them, and as a Captain, when he first entered the service. His conduct as an officer on the expedition with General *Arnold* last fall, his intrepid behaviour in the assault upon *Quebeck* when the brave *Montgomery* fell, the inflexible attachment he professed to our cause during his imprisonment, and which he perseveres in, added to these his residence in the place Colonel *Stephenson* came from, and his interest and influence in the same circle, and with such men as are to compose such a regiment, all, in my opinion, entitle him to the favour of Congress, and lead me to believe that in his promotion the States will gain a good and valuable officer for the sort of troops he is particularly recommended to command.

Should Congress be pleased to appoint Captain *Morgan* in the instance I have mentioned, I would still beg leave to suggest the propriety and necessity of keeping the matter close, and not suffering it to transpire until he is exonerated from the parole he is under. His acceptance of a commission under his present circumstances might be construed a violation of his engagement, and, if not, the difficulty attending his exchange might be increased. The enemy, perhaps, would consider him as a Field Officer, of which we have but very few in our hands, and none that I recollect of that rank.

I have the honour to be, with great esteem, sir, your most obedient servant,

GO. WASHINGTON.

Proceedings of a General Court-Martial of the Line, held on the Heights of HAARLEM, by order of His Excellency GEORGE WASHINGTON, General and Commander-in-Chief of the Forces of the UNITED STATES OF AMERICA, for the trial of all Prisoners to be brought before them; SEPTEMBER 28th, 1776.

Colonel WEEDON, President.

Lieut. Colonel <i>Chandler</i> ,	Captain <i>Brown</i> ,
Lieut. Colonel <i>Russell</i> ,	Captain <i>Chamberlain</i> ,
Captain <i>Ledyard</i> ,	Captain <i>Prentice</i> ,
Captain <i>Graydon</i> ,	Captain <i>Rogers</i> ,
Captain <i>Wiley</i> ,	Captain <i>Foster</i> ,
Captain <i>Hindman</i> ,	Captain <i>Stanley</i> .
Captain <i>Scott</i> ,	

WM. TUDOR, Judge-Advocate.

The Court proceeded to the trial of Ensign *Thomas Fosdick* and Ensign *Benoni Shipman*, both of Colonel *Webb's* Regiment, at present in the detachment of Rangers, under the command of Lieutenant *Holmes*, brought prisoners before the Court, and accused of "abusive language to their officers, of disobedience of orders, and of mutiny."

The prisoners being severally arraigned on the above charge, severally plead, "Not guilty."

Lieutenant *Cleveland* deposes: Last *Thursday* night I went home to the house where all of us who are officers in the Ranging service quarter, and, sitting at supper, a dispute soon arose between some of the officers, when Ensigns *Fosdick* and *Chipman* were very abusive to Lieutenant *Holmes*, and *Chipman* damned them, told them they would not obey their commands, and said they would turn out their company against the rest of the party, and immediately went in, and came out of their room with their guns. We disarmed them and confined them to their room.

Lieutenant *Holmes*. The prisoners being very abusive on *Thursday* night, damning the officers, I ordered them to

be quiet, but they utterly refused. *Fosdick* said he was as good as any of us, and would not be commanded by any of us. *Fosdick* said he could turn out a company equal to all the rest of the detachment. He was in a great fury, and got his gun, which we disarmed him of, and I ordered him under an arrest. *Chipman* was extremely abusive in his language. There was no one more than another who had the command of the detachment.

Lieutenant *Breed* says: After the prisoners were under an arrest on *Thursday* evening, I went to the house, and saw the prisoner *Chipman*, who was extremely abusive to the other officers, and disorderly, damning them.

Lieutenant *Bacon*. *Thursday* evening, observing several persons eating with Ensigns *Shipman* and *Fosdick*, I observed that we must draw more rations; when they both came up and damned me, and abused me very much. After some altercation, we agreed to refer it to the determination of Drs. *Holmes* and *Pope*. However, they (the prisoners) soon disagreed, damned them both, and refused to have any thing to do with them. Finding the disorders increase, I went away.

Ensign *Cleveland*. Upon some occasion, the other night, the prisoners were very disorderly, and Lieutenant *Holmes* was ordering them under an arrest. *Fosdick* said he would not go under arrest unless he pleased. I went away immediately.

The prisoners produce no evidence.

The Court are of opinion that the prisoners are guilty of abusive language to Lieutenant *Holmes* and *Pope*, and that the prisoners be reprimanded for this conduct before the officers of Colonel *Webb's* Regiment, by the commanding officer of the Regiment.

G. WEEDON, President.

At a General Court-Martial held at *King's Bridge*, by adjournment on the 28th day of *September*, Anno Domini 1776:

Colonel LASHER, President.

Lieut. Col. <i>Prentice</i> ,	Captain <i>Dana</i> ,
Major <i>Austin</i> ,	Captain <i>Dixon</i> ,
Captain <i>Sill</i> ,	Captain <i>Brazier</i> ,
Captain <i>Barns</i> ,	Captain <i>Townshend</i> ,
Captain <i>Keith</i> ,	Captain <i>Platt</i> ,
Captain <i>Allen</i> ,	Captain <i>Hardenburgh</i> .

WILLIAM WILLCOCKS, Judge-Advocate.

John Carter and *John Barry*, of Captain *King's* Company, Colonel *Ward's* Regiment, charged with desertion.

The prisoners on their arraignment, severally plead, "Guilty." Sentenced to receive thirty-nine lashes each. (Approved.)

Richard Halloway, of Captain *Wool's* Company, Colonel *Malcom's* Regiment, charged with absenting himself from the Regiment without leave.

The prisoner on his arraignment plead, "Not guilty." The Court adjudged the prisoner not guilty. (Set at liberty.)

Jos. Wadder, alias *Veder*, and *Peter Vanvreedeburgh*, of Captain *Steenborough's* Company, Colonel *Graham's* Regiment, and *Richard Lawson*, of Captain *Swarthout's* Company, Colonel *Swarthout's* Regiment, charged with desertion.

The prisoners all plead excuses.

Henry Mott, of Captain *Swarthout's* Company, testifies that the prisoner, *Lawson*, went away without leave; that being sent after him he met his father, and told him his son had better deliver himself up, which he did. The Court adjudge the prisoners guilty of desertion.

The prisoners sentenced to receive thirty-nine lashes each. (Approved.)

Lieutenant *Thomas Youngman*, of Colonel *Haller's* Regiment, charged by Colonel *Haller* with absenting himself from the regiment without leave.

Pleads, "A pass."

Lieutenant *Conrad Just*, of Captain *Henster's* Company, Colonel *Haller's* Regiment, being duly sworn, deposes: That being on his return home he met the prisoner, with two others, between *Woodbridge* and *Newark, New-Jersey*; asked him where he was going? he answered, "Home; and that one of the company had a pass for the three," and so

said the others; that he is acquainted with them, and believes they spoke the truth.

The Court adjudge the prisoner guilty on the eighth article of war. The Court sentence the prisoner to be cashiered.

Lieutenant *Oliver Mildeberger*, of Captain *Leonard's* Company, Colonel *Lasher's* Regiment, charged with leaving the Regiment without permission.

The prisoner on his arraignment plead, "Guilty."

The Court sentence the prisoner to be cashiered, and mulcted one month's pay, on the eighth article of war.

W. M. WILLCOCKS, *Advocate*.

GENERAL HEATH TO GENERAL SALTONSTALL.

King's Bridge, September 28, 1776.

DEAR SIR: You will as soon as possible order three of the regiments of Militia under your command to march forward and encamp on the ground lately occupied by the Militia of the regiments commanded by Major *Newbury*, Lieutenant-Colonel *Baldwin*, Major *Strong*, and Major *Terry*.

I am, dear sir, yours affectionately, W. HEATH.
To Brigadier-General *Saltonstall*.

GENERAL HEATH TO GENERAL PARSONS.

King's Bridge, September 28, 1776.

DEAR SIR: The last night I received the following:

"SIR: You will please to give direction that Colonel *Tyler* be put under arrest for cowardice and misbehaviour before the enemy, on *Sunday*, the 15th instant.

"By order of the General.

"Sir, your humble servant,

"JOS. REED, *Adjutant-General*.

"September 27, 1776."

You will, therefore, upon receipt hereof, immediately order Colonel *Tyler* under arrest.

I am, dear sir, yours affectionately, W. HEATH.
To General *Parsons*.

ISAAC PIERCE TO DOCTOR POTTS.

Ticonderoga, September 28, 1776.

SIR: Complaints having been made to the General of many abuses respecting the discharge of soldiers at the Hospital, he expects that an immediate stop be put to it. Therefore you will give proper directions to all the Surgeons under you, that the General's orders may be obeyed. And he desires you should repair to Head-Quarters as soon as possible.

I am, sir, by order of the General, your most obedient, humble servant,

ISAAC PIERCE, *Aid-de-Camp*.

To Doctor *Potts*.

GENERAL ARNOLD TO GENERAL GATES.

Isle Valcour, September 28, 1776.

DEAR GENERAL: My last was from the bay of *St. Amont*, the 22d instant, by Captain *Dunn*, which make no doubt you have received. The next day the fleet arrived safe at this place, (which is an excellent harbour.) We are moored in a small bay on the west side the island, as near together as possible, and in such a form that few vessels can attack us at the same time, and those will be exposed to the fire of the whole fleet.

The 25th I despatched into *Canada* a *German*, who was a mate of the *Revenge*, and a *New-England* man, who speaks *French* well. Both are sensible fellows and may be depended on. They are extremely well acquainted with the country, go in character of deserters, and have proper instructions and credentials (sixteen of each sort) sewed up between the soles of their shoes. As they run a great risk, I have promised them, in case they succeed, five hundred dollars between them. As soon as they know the success of their embassy, they are to return. One of them was a Ranger with *Rogers* all last war; has since lived in *Canada*, and knows the woods perfectly. Two men are stationed on the *Isle la Motte* to watch the motions of the enemy.

Early yesterday morning, Sergeant *Strickland*, with

twelve men, in a provision batteau, passed this place and went as far as *Point-aux-Fers*, but not finding the fleet, returned. The *Revenge* (on a cruise) picked them up at six o'clock last night. The Sergeant took the schooner for an enemy, and stupidly destroyed all his letters and papers, when she was at a distance from him, which was very mortifying, as I am deprived of the pleasure of your letter, and have a long time anxiously waited for the particulars of the affair at *New-York*. This fellow can give me no manner of intelligence respecting the galleys or any thing else. I expect them every minute, as the time is elapsed in which you wrote they would be ready.

Enclosed is the deposition of *Thomas Day*, which I took at *Crown-Point* when I came down. I have since examined a *Frenchman* and his wife who live opposite the *Isle la Motte*, who says that *Ned Watson* and *Wykes* came to his house and there met Captain *Frazier* who was in pursuit of some deserters; they told *Frazier* they were sent down by *Gilliland* and *Watson*, and acquainted him of Captain *Wilson's* and his party being on the Lake, in consequence of which he was taken. The *Frenchman* also says that about a fortnight past, two men whom he knew to be *Gilliland's* tenants, came to his house, said they were sent down by *Gilliland* with intelligence; that they appeared in a great hurry, and offered him five dollars to set them over *Missisquoi Bay*, as their canoe was leaky, which he did. This is partly confirmed by Mr. *Hay*, who lives opposite this island, and says that one *Cross* and *Scarr* came to his house about a fortnight past, and supposes they went to *St. John's*. *Scarr* was a servant to *MacCawley*, who with *Cross*, were tenants to *Gilliland*. I am fully of opinion that *Gilliland*, *John Watson*, and *MacCawley* have, from time to time, sent expresses to the enemy, and given them all the intelligence in their power, and no persons have known our affairs better. I make no doubt that the enemy have often been harboured at the houses of the first and last. I have therefore ordered to take them prisoners to *Ticonderoga*, that you may examine and dispose of them as you think proper. I don't think it is prudent to let them remain on their farms, unless we choose the enemy should know all our measures. *Gilliland* is a most plausible and artful villain. Enclosed is a letter of complaint which he wrote me after the fleet passed his settlement, not one syllable of which is true. One Mr. *Duyuit*, a tenant of his, who had left his place, went up with the fleet, and offered me some vegetables, which he said would be lost if I did not accept them. I sent some boats on shore under the direction of Captain *Dunn*. The whole stuff that was brought off was not worth forty shillings. No other boats from the fleet were on shore. As we returned to *Button-Mould Bay* the next morning, and on our going down the Lake the second time, only one boat was on shore, and the few vegetables taken were from farms deserted, of which I believe *Gilliland* has no right. His complaint appears more groundless than that about his cattle, for which he was paid two or three times, and carried them home at last.

Colonel *Hartley* writes me that one galley was expected at *Crown-Point* the 26th, and that the others would be there the 27th. There is a fine wind for the enemy to come down; if they appear too strong for us, I will retire until I meet the galleys.

Adieu, dear General, and believe me your affectionate friend and humble servant,

B. ARNOLD.

To the Hon. Major-General *Gates*.

The testimony of *THOMAS DAY*, examined on oath before *ROBERT LEWIS*, one of the Justices of *CHARLOTTE County*, in the Province of *NEW-YORK*:

Who saith that sometime in the beginning of *July* last, being in company with *William Gilliland*, Esq., and *William Wykes*, he heard said *Wykes* say that he was not afraid to go to *St. John's*, to the Regulars; and that it appeared to him from their intimacy and being frequently together, and from sundry expressions of *Gilliland's*, that he contrived the plan of *Wykes* and *Ned Watson's* going off. That he heard *Gilliland* say the army acted like a parcel of damned robbers. That several of *Gilliland's* tenants, in particular one *Nathaniel Blood*, bought sundry tents, axes, guns, &c., from the soldiers of the *American* army, for a mere trifle of rum, which said *Blood* had from said *Gilliland*, and he

believes said *Gilliland* was concerned with said *Blood*. He, the deponent, observed to *Gilliland*, that he thought it very wrong to buy those articles of the soldiers, as it was defrauding the country; to which *Gilliland* answered, it was no matter how much they got out of the country: the more the better; and that being at *Gilliland's* when the army was going to *Canada* this spring, several officers passed by the window, *Gilliland* said there comes a company of damned buggers. He was also in company with *John Watson* since the late retreat; he heard said *Watson* say that he was not afraid of the Regulars if they came, for that he had several officers for relations among them, and as for the *American* army they had acted like a parcel of damned robbers.

THOMAS DAY.

ROBERT LEWIS.

GOVERNOUR TRUMBULL TO GENERAL WASHINGTON.

Lebanon, September 23, 1776.

SIR: The 25th instant the enclosed petition was delivered me by two of the subscribers, Messrs. *Kissam* and *Nicoll*. The principal matter they plead is contained in the second paragraph. It was observed to them the events therein intended is not over; although *Long-Island* is evacuated by our troops, yet the reason of their being sent here continues; that their desire to return is an evidence of their inimical character, for they are sensible, if they return, they must take an oath of allegiance to King *George III.*, and submit to such orders as General *Howe* pleases to give. Moreover, they having been in this State, puts it in their power to give important intelligence to the enemy.

They answered that nothing had ever appeared wherefore they should be sent from their families; that Adjutant-General *Reed* gave them encouragement that they should return as soon as that affair was determined. If never before, doth not their motion to return to the island show them to be really inimical? I told them I was not privy to Adjutant-General *Reed's* discourse; but if they were desirous of it, I would transmit their petition to your Excellency for your consideration and advice, which is my only apology for this trouble.

Pray God to give you wisdom to guide your councils, and to crown your arduous labours with success.

I am, with great esteem and respect, sir, your most obedient, humble servant,

JONTH. TRUMBULL.

To His Excellency General *Washington*.

To the Honourable JONATHAN TRUMBULL, Esquire, Governour, Captain-General, and Commander-in-Chief in and over the State of CONNECTICUT, in AMERICA, The Petition of the subscribers, inhabitants and freeholders of LONG-ISLAND, in the State of NEW-YORK, humbly sheweth:

That your petitioners having been supposed unfriendly to the States of *America*, and their residence on *Long-Island* at the time of the landing of the *British* forces conceived to be dangerous, were, by an order from his Excellency General *Washington*, removed from *Long-Island* to *Norwich*, in *Connecticut*, until such time as the situation and state of affairs there should admit of their return to their respective families again.

Conscious of no crime, and solicitous of knowing the charge against them, they were informed by Adjutant-General *Joseph Reed* that there were no particular matters with which they stood charged; but that the only occasion of their being removed was, that an attack on *Long-Island* was hourly expected, and that it was thought expedient to remove them from the place of action until that event was over. They therefore flattered themselves that as soon as that affair was determined, they should have been discharged.

That they humbly conceive as their being removed from thence could not have been intended as a punishment for their demerits, and as no mischief can possibly arise from their being suffered to return to their families, to detain them longer would subject your petitioners to the greatest misery and distress, especially as they are entirely unacquainted with the state of their families, and by no means prepared for a longer stay.

Your petitioners therefore humbly pray that your Honour

FIFTH SERIES.—VOL. II.

would be pleased to take the matter into your serious consideration and grant them such relief as to your Honour shall seem meet and convenient; and your petitioners as in duty bound, shall ever pray, &c.

CHARLES NICOLL,
DAVID BROOKS,
JOHN CHACE,
JOSEPH GRESWOLD,
BENJAMIN HEWLETT,
DAVID BATTY,
WHITEHEAD CORNWELL,
CHARLES HICKS,

THOMAS JONES,
JOHN WILLETT,
ISAAC SMITH,
JOHN RAPALJE,
DANIEL KISSAM, Jun.,
WILLIAM THORNE,
A. SEABURY,
AUG'T V. HORNE.

Norwich, September 17, 1776.

PAROLE OF JAMES BABBIGE.

I, *James Babbige*, Esq., of the Island of *New-Providence*, being a prisoner of war of the *United States of America*, and being permitted by the Honourable *Jonathan Trumbull*, Esq., Governour of the State of *Connecticut*, to return to my family upon my parole, do pledge my faith and word of honour to said Governour *Trumbull*, that I will not bear arms against the *United States of America* during the present war, and that I will not say or do any thing to the prejudice of the interest of said States or any of them, and also that I will return to such place in said States as shall be appointed by the most honourable the Continental Congress, the General or Commander-in-Chief of the army of said States, or by the General Assembly, or Governour and Commander-in-Chief of the State of *Connecticut*.

Given under my hand at *Middletown* the 28th day of *September*, in the year of our Lord one thousand seven hundred and seventy-six.

JAS. BABBIGE.

WALTER SPOONER TO GENERAL WASHINGTON.

Watertown, Council Chamber, September 28, 1776.

SIR: Your Excellency, in your letter of the 19th instant, to the General Assembly of this State, having mentioned that the army under your command were much in want of camp utensils, and that you knew not how to procure a sufficiency, the Council have directed the Commissary-General of this State to forward to your Excellency two loads of iron pots, which he had in his store, for the use of the Continental army, which we hope will be agreeable to your Excellency. In case you should have occasion for any more, if you please to signify it, we will endeavour to procure and forward them. We should have sent tin kettles, but tin was not to be obtained.

I am, with great respect, in the name and behalf of the Council, your most humble servant,

WALTER SPOONER.

To His Excellency General *Washington*.

WALTER SPOONER TO RICHARD DEVENS.

Watertown, September 28, 1776.

SIR: Since I saw you, I have moved the affair of the rice again; and the Board have thought fit to give you orders to move said rice, in such a way and manner as you think fit.

I expect to return home some time next week; and if you are desirous of my taking any care about it, and will inform me by a letter, I will make the best provision I can to send it to you.

I am, sir, your humble servant,

W. SPOONER.

To *Richard Devens*, Esquire.

NATHANIEL GUILD TO RICHARD DEVENS.

MR. DEVENS: Sir, these lines may inform you that the fire is in the furnace, and I will make the wheels as soon as possible.

Sir, as to the double-headed shot, I must depend upon you for the bar-iron. Please to inquire of Colonel *Gridley* or Major *Burbanks* as to the quantity and size, and send it to me as soon as possible, with the account of the same.

Sir, yours to serve,

NATHANIEL GUILD.

To *Richard Devens*.

Portsmouth, September 28, 1776.

On *Thursday* last, arrived here the prize ship *Royal Exchange*, *Lawrence Bowden*, late master. She was taken by the Continental ship *Columbus*, *Abraham Whipple*, Esquire, commander, on the 29th ult., on her passage from *Grenada* to *London*, having on board a valuable cargo, consisting of two hundred and eighty-four hogsheads and two tierces of sugar, fifty-five hogsheads of rum, eleven hogsheads coffee, two bales cotton, and some *Madeira* wine.

The prize-master, Mr. *Olney*, informs of two other prizes being taken by the *Columbus*, just before this, on their passage to *Europe* from the *West-Indies*; and in his passage hither, spoke with the *Providence* brigantine, belonging to the *United States*, who informed him of her taking two valuable prizes, and sent into *Providence*.

EXTRACT OF A LETTER TO A GENTLEMAN IN ANNAPOLIS,
DATED PHILADELPHIA, SEPTEMBER 29, 1776.

By a list of prisoners taken on *Long-Island*, and sent up by General *Howe* to General *Washington*, it appears that of the *Maryland* troops there are one Captain, eight Lieutenants, and two Ensigns in the enemy's possession, to wit: Captain *Daniel Bowie*, wounded; Lieutenants *William Steret*, *William Ridgley*, *Hatch Dent*, *Walter Muse*, *Samuel Wright*, *Joseph Butler*, (wounded,) *Edward Praul*, *Edward De Curcy*; Ensigns *James Fernandes*, *William Courts*.

Congress have taken measures for the redemption of the prisoners taken on *Long-Island*, and it is expected that an exchange will take place in a few weeks.

REV. JAMES CALDWELL TO WILLIAM PATERSON.

Elizabethtown, September 29, 1776.

DEAR SIR: Permit me to use the freedom of introducing to your notice Mr. *Hacket*, who offers himself for the service of his country in this important crisis. I am fond of introducing, to the defence of the cause, our young natives of property and good connexions. This is his case; and I believe his military talents are as good as any of our untried youth. He carries letters to the Governour and some other gentlemen, and I don't doubt will meet with what assistance you can reasonably give him; for which you will oblige, dear sir, your most obedient, humble servant,

JAMES CALDWELL.

To Hon. *William Paterson*.

GENERAL WASHINGTON TO THE DEPUTY GOVERNOUR OF
RHODE-ISLAND.

Head-Quarters, Heights of Harlem, September 29, 1776.

SIR: I have been honoured with your two favours of the 14th and 23d instant, and am to return you my thanks for the measures you have taken to forward the two Continental battalions from your State.

In respect to the exchange of the persons you mention, I apprehend it cannot be effected till a general one takes place. This I am trying to carry into execution as well in the naval as the land service. And therefore must request the favour of your State, to make out and transmit me a return as soon as possible, of all Continental prisoners in their hands, distinguishing the names and ranks of the commissioned and staff officers, and the corps to which they belong, and the number of non-commissioned and privates; observing the same rule in regard to those in the sea service. It will be well to have the whole collected at one or two commercial places, in order that they may be sent forward as soon as the plan is properly digested, of which I shall advise you as soon as I obtain the return.

I have wrote to the other Eastern States upon the same subject, and to me it appears that the prisoners with you had better join those in *Connecticut*, that they may come together. I would recommend your writing to Governour *Trumbull* for information where their prisoners are to be assembled, and for his sentiments in this instance. It also seems advisable that they should come by water rather than by land; but of this you will have due notice, as I mean to settle upon some regular mode with the Admiral and General *Howe* against the time I am furnished with the returns by the States.

I have the honour to be, with great respect, sir, your most obedient servant,

Go. WASHINGTON.

To the Hon. *William Bradford*, Deputy Governour of *Rhode-Island*.

GENERAL WASHINGTON TO THE MASSACHUSETTS ASSEMBLY.

Head-Quarters, Harlem Heights, September 29, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: General *Howe* having signified to me a desire of making a general exchange of prisoners, both officers and privates, it becomes necessary to have an exact return of the numbers in our possession. You will, therefore be pleased to have all the Continental prisoners of war, belonging to the land service, in the different towns in your State, collected and brought together to some convenient place, from whence they may be removed hither, when a cartel is fully settled. When they are collected, you will please to have made out, and transmit to me, an exact return of the names of the commissioned and staff officers, their ranks, and the corps to which they belong. The names of the non-commissioned and privates need not be mentioned; their numbers will be sufficient. As it will be more convenient to send them by water than by land, which may always be safely effected by means of a flag, I think you had better order the prisoners to some place contiguous to a port, there to remain till you hear further from me. As I apprehend the number of prisoners in the State of *New-Hampshire* to be too small to make up a freight for a vessel, I have directed, if that should be the case, that they would be sent to your State, that they may come forward with your prisoners.

You will be pleased to forward the enclosed to Lieutenant-Colonel *Campbell*, of the Seventy-First Regiment. I am not certain where he is stationed, but think it is at *Reading*.

I have the honour to be, gentlemen, your most obedient servant,

Go. WASHINGTON.

To the Hon. *Jeremiah Powell*, Esq., President, &c.

P. S. Be pleased also to make a return of the prisoners belonging to the *British* navy, with the names and rank of the officers.

Enclosed you have a letter from Captain *Campbell*, of the Seventy-First Regiment, to me. As he seems to acknowledge his error, and promises a more circumspect behaviour in future, I could wish you would consider his case, and, if you think proper, admit him to his parole again.

GENERAL WASHINGTON TO COLONEL CAMPBELL.

Head-Quarters, Heights of Harlem, September 29, 1776.

SIR: I have been favoured with a letter from his Excellency General *Howe*, of the 21st instant, on the subject of an exchange of prisoners, both officers and privates. To carry this into execution, it is necessary that the numbers on both sides should be exactly ascertained. In order to determine this, General *Howe* sent me a list of the officers and privates of the Forty-Second and Seventy-First Regiments, of which the enclosed is a copy; but adds "it is not so correct as I could wish, having received no regular returns of the Forty-Second and Seventy-First Regiments, taken this year, but beg leave to refer you to Lieutenant-Colonel *Campbell*, of the Seventy-First, to rectify any omissions that may be." I have, therefore, to desire, that you would as soon as possible make the proper additions or alterations, and return the same to me.

I am, sir, your most obedient servant,

Go. WASHINGTON.

To Lieutenant-Colonel *Campbell*, Seventy-First Regiment.

FRANCIS MENTGES TO THE PRESIDENT OF CONGRESS.

In Camp at Head-Quarters, September 29, 1776.

HONOURABLE SIR: I beg leave by these few lines to renew my former application to the honourable Congress for the place of Major in the Army of the *United States of America*. I hope such recommendations as I have heretofore produced, which no doubt your Honour will remember, will induce the honourable Congress to grant my request, and hope I shall with fidelity discharge my duty, and with advantage to the service. I would further beg leave to

refer you to General *Mercer's* letter to Doctor *Franklin*, in my favour.

I am, honourable sir, with great respect, your and the honourable Congress's most obedient, humble servant,

FRANCIS MENTGES, *Adjutant in the*
Pennsylvania Battalion Musqueteers.

To the Hon. *John Hancock, Esq.*

COLONEL REED TO GENERAL HEATH.

SIR: Colonel *Drake* has just sent me intelligence that there are some movements among the enemy which indicate an early attack. The General desires you would have your division ready to march to support the troops here if necessary, as they will in the like case do with respect to you. The account says that troops have been coming in boats to *Manhattan Island* all day.

I am, sir, your obedient, humble servant,

JOS. REED, *Adjutant-General.*

To Major-General *Heath.*

COLONEL NICOLL TO JOHN M'KESSON.

King's Bridge, September 29, 1776.

DEAR SIR: I returned last night from *Moriscany*, which place I have been at for three days last on command. I had a good deal of conversation with some of the *Highland* Regulars, one in particular, who told me it was disagreeable to him to take up arms against us, as he had a number of friends amongst us and wished heartily for a reconciliation. I asked him how many of the *Highlanders* got killed in the skirmish the other night. He told me there were four killed and one missing, which he expected we had taken prisoner. His account of Major *Hatfield* was that he was wounded just above the eye, and he thought was in danger of losing his eye. I don't think that there is above fifty Regulars kept on *Montorzor's Island*. They mount but twelve sentinels in the day, and double them in the night. There is kept, I suppose, above five hundred on the island next to *Montorzor's*, according to their tents and movements.

Captain *Lamb* and about four hundred of our prisoners, taken at *Quebeck*, have got to *Elizabethtown*. They were sent away upon the parole of honour, to return when demanded, and not take up arms without a change of prisoners.

Mr. *Taylor* has come from the lines to-day, who acts as Brigade-Major to General *McDougall*, and says our people surprised a party of Regulars in a house near their lines, and got a chest of medicines.

I know of no movements in our army nor our enemy's. We have got our lines well fortified—our people chiefly under cover, so as to be comfortable. Two large mortars, from *Boston*, of solid metal, were day before yesterday carried to *Fort Washington*.

I am, sir, your sincere friend and humble servant,

ISAAC NICOLL.

To *John McKesson*, Secretary.

EXAMINATION OF PRISONERS, SEPTEMBER 29, 1776.

David Pinkney, of *East-Chester*, in *West-Chester* County, is a native of that town, and utterly denies that he ever thought to join the enemy, and declares that he knows of no person who had any such design; nor does he know of any plan to give any assistance or intelligence to the enemy; nor is he acquainted with either of the persons who have been apprehended. He says he is about twenty-three years old, and is a single man.

John Davenport is an *Englishman*, born in *Cheshire*. Has lived seven years in *America*, and for six years has lived principally on and near *Cortlandt's Manor*; came to *America* a soldier in the Twenty-Sixth Regiment, and deserted from it. At *Philip's Manor* he met *Marsh*, *Thorn*, and *Frost*, who told him they were going to *Long-Island*, but did not tell the examinant with what design, nor ask him to go with them; nor has he any knowledge of their plan, if they had one; neither of them had any arms to the informant's knowledge.

James Thorn is a native of *Long-Island*. Has lived at *Cortlandt's Manor* these ten years, and has a wife there;

has relations on *Long-Island*, about *Oyster Bay*. Came from *Cortlandt's Manor* with a design to go to *Long-Island* to see his friends, who he has not visited these six months. *Frost*, *Marsh*, and two *Lamorexs*, were of the party. *Marsh* told the examinant that he went to escape being obliged to bear arms, and that made him go to *Long-Island*. That he was inlisted as a Minute-man, and was in that service four months last winter, at *York*. That last Wednesday he met one *Palmer*, who belongs to *Cortlandt's Manor*, who told *Frost* and him that he had been over to *Long-Island*, where it was all peace and quietness, and asked the examinant if he would inlist into the regular service. That the examinant refused. That *Palmer* told him he was going up to *Cortlandt's Manor* to inlist some men into the regular service, and left him. *Davenport* told *Thorn* he was going to *Long-Island*.

N. B. This man is rather averse to giving answers to the questions put to him.

Moses Reed is a native of *West-Chester*, and has lived on *Cortlandt's Manor* these twenty years, and was going down to *East-Chester* to see his friends. That he came down with *Thorn* and *Frost*, who were going to *Long-Island* to see their friends, as they told *Reed*, and asked him to go with them, but he refused. The examinant says one *Palmer*, who lives on *Cortlandt's Manor*, has often asked him to inlist into the regular service, but that he has always refused, and never had any thoughts of going to *Long-Island*, or in any way assisting the Regulars. That he knows of no plan to assist the enemy either by information or otherwise.

John Marsh, of *Philip's Patent*, in *West-Chester* County, aged twenty years, says he was taken by a guard commanded by Captain *Duet*, of *East-Chester*, in company with *George Frost*, *James Chatterton*, *Moses Reed*, *James Thorn*, *John Davenport*, and *David Pinkney*, on Wednesday night last, the 25th day of September last. That about a month ago, one *Smith*, a transient person, came to him, and frequently persuaded him to inlist in the service of the enemy, and told him he should have ten pounds bounty, three and sixpence a day till he passed muster, and two shillings and sixpence after; but the examinant made no engagement to inlist with *Smith*. That about a fortnight ago, one *Miller*, who the examinant believes came from *Long-Island*, applied to him and made him the same offer, in case he would inlist in the service of the enemy, in a company to be commanded by one *Jacob Frost*; upon which he engaged to inlist accordingly, and *Miller* returned in a day or two after to *Long-Island*, as the examinant, from what he said, has reason to believe. That in a few days after *Miller* left the examinant, he set out for *Long-Island*, and, according to appointment, met in a field near one *Philip Smith's*, in *Cortlandt's Manor*, the above mentioned *Joseph Frost*, *James Chatterton*, *Moses Reed*, *James Thorn*, *Abraham Fleetingburgh*, and *Jacob Fleetingburgh*, of the Manor of *Cortlandt*, *Joseph Michiel*, and *John Dobbs*, of *Collebergh*. That the above-named persons severally informed this examinant they were also inlisted in the said company, to be commanded by Captain *Frost*, and set out with him on Saturday a week ago from that place to join said company on *Long-Island*; that having travelled about ten miles on their journey, they met with one *Edward Palmer*, of *Long-Island*, who upon some conversation told them that he was on his way to inlist men for the same service; and the examinant believes he is now at the *Nine-Partners*, on that business, and is to command a company if he can raise one. That having parted with *Palmer*, they proceeded to within about six miles of *East-Chester*, at which place they were to cross to *Long-Island*. That they laid there one night in the bushes. That night *Davenport* came to them and told them he belonged to the same company, and that there was an opportunity of crossing over to *Long-Island* from *Pills-Neck*. *Davenport* continued with them all night; in the morning he left them to prepare matters for their crossing the River or Sound. They continued there till the next night, when they set out for the place they were to cross, and having travelled about three miles, *Davenport* and *Pinkney* met them in a field and proceeded with them, *Davenport* heading them with a drawn sword in his hand, and *Joseph Michiel* with a gun. That having marched two miles towards the Sound or River, the examinant, with the six persons first mentioned, were attacked and taken by Cap-

tain *Duet's* guard as aforesaid, the others having fled and escaped. And the examinant further says, that every man of their company, at the time of their being taken, well knew the business they were upon, and that they were severally inlisted in the same company and service, it having been frequently publicly mentioned and talked over among them; and further saith not.

In witness to the premises, I have hereunto set my hand, this 3d day of *October*, 1776.

JOHN MARSH.

JOHN TAYLOR TO GENERAL GATES.

Skeenaborough, September 29, 1776.

HONOURED SIR: The bearer, *Thomas Lesley*, I have known to be a soldier in Captain *Hendrix's* company, who was taken prisoner at the storm of *Quebeck*. He informs me that he listed with the Regulars, and the regiment he belonged to was stationed near *Montreal*, and on the 31st ultimo he, with two other soldiers, deserted. I send him to you that he may inform you what he may know concerning the Regulars.

I have the honour to be, sir, your obedient, humble servant,

JOHN TAYLOR.

To Hon. Major-General *Gates*.

MRS. ADAMS TO JOHN ADAMS.

September 29, 1776.

Not since the 6th of *September* have I had one line from you, which makes me very uneasy. Are you all this time conferring with his Lordship? Is there no communication? or, are the post-riders all dismissed? Let the cause be what it will, not hearing from you has given me much uneasiness.

We seem to be kept in total ignorance of affairs at *York*. I hope you at Congress are more enlightened. Who fell, who are wounded, who prisoners, or their number, is as undetermined as it was the day after the battle. If our army is in ever so critical a state, I wish to know it, and the worst of it. If all *America* is to be ruined and undone by a pack of cowards and knaves, I wish to know it. Pitiably is the lot of their commander. *Cæsar's* tenth legion never was forgiven. We are told for truth that a regiment of *Yorkers* refused to quit the city; and that another regiment behaved like a pack of cowardly villains, by quitting their posts. If they are unjustly censured, it is for want of proper intelligence.

I am sorry to see a spirit so venal prevailing every where. When our men were drawn out for *Canada* a very large bounty was given them, and now another call is made upon us no one will go without a large bounty, though only for two months, and each town seems to think its honour engaged in out-bidding the others. The Province pay is forty shillings. In addition to that, this town voted to make it up six pounds. They then drew out the persons most unlikely to go, and they are obliged to give three pounds to hire a man. Some pay the whole fine, ten pounds. Forty men are now drafted from this town. More than one half, from sixteen to fifty, are now in the service. This method of conducting will create a general uneasiness in the Continental army. I hardly think you can be sensible how much we are thinned in this Province.

The rage for privateering is as great here as any where. Vast numbers are employed in that way. If it is necessary to make any more drafts upon us, the women must reap the harvests. I am willing to do my part. I believe I could gather corn and husk it, but I should make a poor figure at digging potatoes.

There has been a report that a fleet was seen in our bay yesterday. I cannot conceive from whence, nor do I believe the story.

'Tis said you have been upon *Staten-Island* to hold your conference. 'Tis a little odd that I have never received the least intimation of it from you. Did you think I should be alarmed? Don't you know me better than to think me a coward? I hope you will write me every thing concerning this affair. I have a great curiosity to know the result.

As to government, nothing is yet done about it. The church is opened here every *Sunday*, and the King prayed for as usual, in open defiance of Congress.

If the next post does not bring me a letter, I think I

will leave off writing; for I shall not believe you get mine. Adieu. Yours.

P. S. Master *John* has become post-rider from *Boston* to *Braintree*.

GENERAL WARD TO GENERAL WASHINGTON.

Boston, September 29, 1776.

SIR: Having been informed that the army was in great want of cooking utensils, and there being fifty-five copper camp-kettles and twenty-nine iron pots and kettles in the store here, I have this day sent them forward, with directions to the wagoner to make the utmost expedition in going to the army, and to deliver them to your order as soon as he arrives.

I am your Excellency's obedient, humble servant,

ARTEMAS WARD.

To General *Washington*.

EXTRACT OF A LETTER TO A MEMBER OF THE MASSACHUSETTS ASSEMBLY, DATED SALEM, SEPTEMBER 29, 1776.

SIR: It is not merely a matter of speculation, but of general complaint, that the ships of war, ordered more than seven months since to be built at *Newbury* and *Portsmouth*, are not in readiness to this day for service on our coasts. Those who have knowledge in business of this kind are free and open in their declarations, that those vessels might easily have been built and fitted for the sea so long ago as to have taken the transports with *Highlanders*, who were sailing a fortnight backwards and forwards in our bay; and to have prevented the retaking of several valuable prizes, and other vessels, to the amount, perhaps, of much more than the whole cost of our ships, that lay in harbour unfitted for service. This long delay has occasioned great uneasiness in the minds of many, and they are unable to account for it upon any other considerations than either negligence, the want of skill and vigorous application, or necessary interruption by other employments, in those to whom the chief direction in building and preparing those vessels for the sea was committed. To whatever cause this delay may be attributed, it has been unspeakably detrimental to the publick interest. And may it not, sir, be highly proper that it should be made a matter of strict inquiry by that court of which you are a member? and would it not be an instance of true patriotism in you to motion such an inquiry at the coming session of the General Court? If persons unskilled or inactive are employed in such an interesting affair, or if their attention to it is taken off by a multiplicity of other employments, ought they not to be restrained within due limits, that the publick may not suffer by their having too much upon their heads and hands?

LORD GEORGE GERMAIN TO GENERAL HOWE.

Whitehall, September 30, 1776.

SIR: I am favoured with your letters from the Headquarters upon *Staten-Island*, dated 6th and 15th *August*, in the latter of which you acknowledge the receipt of my despatches of the 11th and 12th *June*, and also of the camp equipage which had been sent to you from *Europe*.

The safe arrival of the two fleets under convoy of Commodore *Hotham* and the *Repulse*, was a very welcome piece of intelligence; and I have had the pleasure of receiving a confirmation of the report which you mention, relative to the healthy state of the Guards and *Hessians*.

I am too well convinced of your zeal and alertness to suppose that there will be any unnecessary delays in your operations; and I most sincerely wish you all the success during the campaign, which the justness of the cause in which you are engaged so amply deserves, and which, I flatter myself, the known bravery of the troops employed in this service will not fail to ensure.

It is very unfortunate that so great a part of the Forty-Second and Seventy-First Regiments should have fallen into the Rebels' hands. The loss of Major *Menzies* is much to be lamented, but I trust you will soon have it in your power to procure the release of Lieutenant-Colonel *Campbell*, and the other prisoners, as I observe with particular satisfaction, that you have agreed with Mr. *Washington* that the prisoners should be exchanged. I am, &c.,

GEO. GERMAIN.

SILAS DEANE TO ROBERT MORRIS.

Paris, September 30, 1776.

SIR: Yours of the 5th of *June* came to hand on the 25th instant. Mr. *Delap* will inform you of the state of remittances in his hands. Messrs. *Cliffords & Teysett*, and Mr. *Hodgson*, of *Amsterdam*, have received next to nothing, about two hundred pounds by the last accounts; from which you will perceive that not one-third of the sum proposed has come to hand, and even out of that my private expenses and those for promoting the other parts of my mission must take something, let me be ever so prudent and cautious.

To solicit arms, clothing, and tents for thirty thousand men, two hundred brass cannon, mortars, and other stores in proportion, and to be destitute of one shilling of ready money, exclusive of the fund of forty thousand pounds originally designed for other affairs, (which you know by the protests in *London* was my case,) has left me in a critical situation. To let slip such an opportunity for want of ready money would be unpardonable, and yet that was taking out of a fund before deficient. I hope, however, to execute both, though not in the season I could have wished. I have, as you see, had but a few days since the receiving of yours, in which I have discoursed with some of the persons to whom I had before proposed such a scheme, and think it will take well, but as men of property will be engaged in it, the remittances should be made very punctual.

The insurance I am sensible had better be in *Europe*, but it cannot be had at present unless in *Holland*, where I am told there are often disputes with the underwriters. On the whole it must be done in *America*. I can, I believe, engage for one hundred thousand pounds sterling during the winter. I shall write to you further in a few days.

You have mentioned to me a loan. I choose to speak of this in a letter of business particularly by itself, which I will endeavour to do by a young gentleman going on *Sunday*, to which opportunity I also refer what I have further to say on this subject. Pray forward the trifles I am sending to my little deserted family as soon as received.

Tobacco is rising very fast, being now seven stivers in *Holland*. The scheme of the Farmers-General here is very artful; they grow anxious. They held high terms on my first application. I turned off, and they are now applying to me, as are also some people farther northward.

God bless and prosper *America* is the prayer of every one here, to which I say Amen and Amen. I am, &c.

SILAS DEANE.

BALTIMORE COMMITTEE.

At a meeting of the Committee, *September 30, 1776*, Present: *William Aisquith*, Chairman *pro tem.*, *T. Rutter*, *J. Cockey*, *E. Talbot*, *T. Sollers*, *D. Shaw*, *A. Buchanan*, *W. Buchanan*, *W. Wilkinson*, *C. Ridgely of Wm.*, *B. Nicholson*.

Messrs. *Andrew Buchanan* and *William Wilkinson* are appointed members of the Committee for licensing Suits, in the room of Messrs. *Walter Tolley*, Jun., (deceased,) and *James Calhoun*, who declines acting any longer as a Committee man.

Mr. *Samuel Baxter*, (miller,) is appointed Collector of Fines for *Middle River*, *Lower Hundred*, in the room of Mr. *Abraham Cole*, who declined acting.

A Letter from the Council of Safety, mentioning that Mr. *Towson* is empowered to hire twelve men for a Guard, for not more than forty-five shillings per month, was received.

Three pounds is given to *Moses McClean* for a Gun, and an order given to Mr. *Purviance* to pay him. Also another, for which fifty shillings was given him.

A permission is granted to Mr. *George Woolsey* to load the brig *Rogers* with Flour, Bread, Iron, Tobacco, and some Lumber, for some foreign *West-India* Island.

Attest:

GEO. LUX, Secretary.

THOMAS STONE TO MARYLAND COUNCIL OF SAFETY.

Philadelphia, September 30, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: Your letter of the 29th, to the delegates of *Maryland*, was delivered to me yesterday. Captain *Watkins* did not leave this city so soon as I expected he would do. I fear nothing will do with him but dismissal. I

have procured clothes for his company, and have directed Lieutenant *Grace*, who at present commands, to have every thing got ready for them as soon as possible.

Every thing here is over-dear; but I thought it better to pay high than keep the soldiers doing nothing, or send them naked to camp. I have heard nothing of the powder you mention. My colleagues, I presume, attended to that matter. Messrs. *Chase* and *Paca* left this on *Sunday*, and I shall set out on *Thursday*, if my state of body will permit, though this I much doubt, being at present much indisposed.

The two adverse armies remain *in statu quo*. General *Miffin*, who is in town, says our army is getting into better order, and he hopes will be able to sustain any attack the enemy may make. Doctor *Brown* arrived here the day after my letter to him was sent; but has been very ill ever since. Surgeons are much wanted in camp; but where proper ones will be procured, I know not.

I am with great esteem, gentlemen, your most obedient servant,

T. STONE.

To the honourable Council of Safety of *Maryland*, *Annapolis*.

JOSIAH BARTLETT TO JOHN LANGDON.

Philadelphia, September 30, 1776.

DEAR SIR: Last *Saturday* I received yours of the 14th instant, and am very sorry for your bad success in procuring guns for the frigate. You say you have mentioned the affair to the President, and I hope some order will be taken about it, but what, I know not. I have not been able to attend either the Marine or Secret Committee for some time past, and Congress but little. It is now above five weeks since I have been troubled with a severe cough, slow fever, profuse sweats, and loss of appetite, except for light food. By the advice of my friends and physicians, I design to leave this city in a few days, and try to move homeward, in hopes a change of air, moderate exercise, and a recess from business, may assist in restoring my health. Mr. *Hancock* has offered me a seat in his carriage, which I shall accept, as it is impossible for me to return on horseback in my present state of health. I received Colonel *Whipple's* letter of the 15th, where he informs me he expects to set out for this place about the 10th of *October*. I hope he will set off before that time, when he comes to be informed by my letters of my bad state of health, and the necessity there is of a Delegate here. There is no news here, more than you will see in the publick prints.

I am your friend,

JOSIAH BARTLETT.

GENERAL THOMPSON TO RICHARD PETERS.

Philadelphia, September 30, 1776.

SIR: A number of officers and privates have arrived in this city from *Canada*, who are generally in a distressed situation for want of clothing and almost every other necessary. There are some from every regiment in this State, but most of Colonel *Irvine's*. I request you will take the necessary steps to get the whole some months' pay. Pay rolls shall be made out as soon as possible.

I am, sir, your most humble servant,

WM. THOMPSON.

To *Richard Peters*, Esq., Secretary at War.

EXTRACT OF A LETTER FROM PHILADELPHIA, DATED SEPTEMBER 30, 1776.

In the late attack of the enemy on our posts it is certain they had at least four hundred men killed and wounded, besides the disgrace of a repulse, which has raised the spirits of our army, and checked the career of the enemy. The *Hessians*, is seems, carry it with a high hand, and greatly disgust the *British* troops, who are obliged to truckle and submit to great preferences given, and indeed taken, by the former. These foreigners say they will plunder every thing before them, and have even insisted on transports to carry over their stolen cattle and other plunder to their families.

Abundance of blankets and other woollens, with most other dry goods, are now to be had in the *French* Islands, in great abundance, and more are daily expected. That the *French* and *Sponiards* are on the eve of a war with *Great*

Britain, seems to be incontestible, and our best accounts from the *British West-Indies*, describe them in the greatest distress imaginable. We understand that *Carleton* and *Burgoyne* are extremely industrious in fitting out vessels to dispute the mastery of *Lake Champlain* with us, but I think they are not likely to succeed this campaign.

A few members, factious men, of the old *Pennsylvania* Assembly, met lately under pretence of settling some unfinished accounts, and though not enough to do business by law, they, by a majority of one vote, came to a parcel of resolves, respecting the propriety of the Convention of that State levying taxes on the Non-Associators; after which they dissolved themselves and departed.

PROCLAMATION.

Whereas there are many Deserters from his Majesty's service now in arms in *America*, against their rightful Sovereign, and engaged with the declared enemies of *Great Britain*, in a most cruel and unnatural rebellion, to shake off all obedience to the constitutional authority of the State: And whereas the heinousness of their crime, not admitting any palliative considerations, will necessarily exclude them from the smallest claim to mercy, if they should fall into the hands of his Majesty's troops: The Commander-in-chief being anxiously desirous to warn them of their danger, to withdraw them from their present desperate and criminal situation, whereby they may escape the ignominious death of Traitors to their King and country, hereby offers a full pardon to all Deserters, who shall surrender themselves at the Head-Quarters, or to any division of the King's army, on or before the 31st day of *October*, 1776.

Given at the Head-Quarters on *York-Island*, the 30th day of *September*, 1776.

By his Excellency's command: Wm. Howe.

ROBERT MCKENZIE, Secretary.

GENERAL WASHINGTON TO THE BOARD OF WAR.

Head-Quarters, Heights of Harlem, September 30, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: Having considered the enclosed memorial, which you were pleased to transmit for my advice thereon, I beg leave to inform you, that in my opinion the service will be most advanced in general cases, by directing promotions in a regimental line. However, I should think this had better be practiced than resolved on, always exercising a right of promotion, on account of extraordinary merit, or preventing a succession to office where it is wanting, and the person claiming unfit for it.

I have the honour to be, with greatest respect, gentlemen, your most obedient servant,

Go. WASHINGTON.

To the Honourable the Board of War.

GENERAL WASHINGTON TO THE PRESIDENT OF CONGRESS.

[Read October 2; referred to the Board of War.]

Head-Quarters, Heights of Harlem, September 30, 1776.

SIR: Since I had the honour of addressing you last, nothing of importance has transpired, though, from some movements yesterday on the part of the enemy, it would seem as if something was intended.

The enclosed memorial from Lieutenant-Colonel *Shepard*, of the Fourth Regiment, I beg leave to submit to the consideration of Congress; and shall only add that I could wish they would promote him to the command of the regiment, and send him a commission, being a good and valuable officer, and especially as the vacancy is of a pretty long standing; and I have had, nor has he, any intelligence from Colonel *Learned*, and himself, who had the command, and who obtained a discharge on account of his indisposition, of his designs to return.

I have also enclosed a letter from Captain *Ballard*, which Congress will please to determine on, the subject being new and not within my authority.

I have the honour to be, sir, your most obedient servant,

Go. WASHINGTON.

P. S. A commission was sent for Colonel *Learned*, which is now in my hands, having received no application or heard from him since it came.

To His Excellency GEORGE WASHINGTON, Esq., General and Commander-in-Chief of all the Forces in the thirteen free and UNITED STATES OF AMERICA, the Petition of WILLIAM SHEPARD, now Lieutenant-Colonel in the Third Regiment in the Continental Army, humbly sheweth:

That he, in early life, was called forth to war in defence of his country; that he cheerfully stepped forth, and for six years successively served in the late war, in various capacities, from that of a private to a Captain, in which station he served three years; during the whole of said term he was led to believe that he served with good reputation in said capacities; that early in the unhappy controversy between *Great Britain* and the now free States of *America*, he was again called to the field, and his mind being impressed with the importance of the cause in which he was engaged, and the duty that he owed to God and his country, he thought himself under the strongest obligations to draw his sword against the unnatural enemies of this oppressed country, to defend its sacred rights and liberties; which considerations alone induced him to enter the present service in the station he now holds.

Your petitioner further begs leave to observe that when he entered the service he expected the same advantages, with regard to preferment, with other officers of his rank in the army; but when he views the regiment to which he belongs, which has been destitute of a chief Colonel for almost six months, and not filled, and other regiments vacant but a few hours before they are filled by advancements from their own corps, your petitioner is convinced that he is judged, by the wise and prudent rulers of the States, (whom he will honour and esteem,) not to be an officer worthy of promotion, or the most flagrant injustice is done him. This being the case, your petitioner thinks himself compelled, by every principle of justice to himself and to all his brethren who may continue in the service of their country, (which has his best wishes, and which service he has no desire to leave, so long as the cause of his country shall require his assistance, on any other principle than those before noted, there being but little expected from a degraded officer,) to beg your Excellency to grant him liberty to resign his command.

And your Excellency's petitioner, as in duty bound, shall ever pray, &c.

WILLIAM SHEPARD, Lieutenant-Colonel.

Bergen, September 28, 1776.

Fort Constitution, September 26, 1776.

SIR: I informed you yesterday that Colonel *Read* would certify to you his willingness for Lieutenant *John Petties* to purchase my commission and rank of Captaincy in the First Regiment of *Virginia* forces; but Colonel *Read* being so indisposed that he cannot sit up to write, but has promised to do so as soon as he can sit up, I humbly beg the favour of General *Washington* to receive my reasons for selling my commission, assuring his Excellency that it is not from any dislike to the service, or for want of zeal to the glorious cause, but, from experience, find that I cannot afford to stay in the service, being naturally of an extravagant turn, and not fortune sufficient to support that dignity that is observed in our camp.

I have served as a volunteer and Captain since the first of the raising of troops in *Virginia*, in which places I have exerted my abilities for the good of the service, and am still determined to be active.

I have the refusal of a Captaincy of Marines, in an armed vessel that is now fitting out in *Virginia*. I am desirous of accepting the same. Was I a man of fortune, not any consideration should induce me to dispose of my commission; but as I am not, I hope to be indulged, having spent a considerable sum more than my pay. I therefore humbly request your favours in writing to the Congress respecting the matter, provided your Excellency will not suffer Mr. *Petties* to purchase without the approbation of Congress.

I must beg leave to trouble you with one other circumstance—that of Mr. *Petties* being very popular in the County he came from; and as my company is not near complete, had he the command, he could very soon make up the deficiency.

I am, with all respect, sir, your most obedient, humble servant,

ROBERT BALLARD.

To His Excellency General *Washington*.

GENERAL ORDERS.

Head-Quarters, Harlem Heights, September 28, 1776.

(Parole, Stamford.)

(Countersign, Rye.)

Mr. *Finn Wadsworth* is appointed Major of Brigade to General *Wadsworth*.

William Higgins, of Captain *Hamilton's* Company of the Artillery, convicted by a General Court-Martial, whereof Colonel *Weedon* is President, of "plundering and stealing," ordered to be whipped thirty-nine lashes.

The General approves the sentence, and orders it to be executed to-morrow morning, at the usual time and place.

A number of the new rules and regulations of the Army having come to hand, the several Brigades Major are to receive their proportion and deliver them to commanding officers of the several regiments, who are immediately to cause them to be read to their regiments, and made known to both officers and men, so that there may be no pretence of ignorance.

It is with great concern the General finds that so many excuses are made by Field-Officers and others, when ordered on duty, especially on picket. By this means active and willing officers are discouraged. He hopes trifling reasons and slight complaints will not be urged to avoid duty, when the utmost vigilance and care is necessary.

The General has also, in riding through the camps, observed a shameful waste of provision—large pieces of fine beef not only thrown away, but left above ground to putrefy. While such practices continue, troops will be sickly. The Colonels or commanding officers of regiments, who have not done it, are immediately to appoint camp-colour men; and officers who have spirit and zeal will see that all such nuisances are removed. Some of the camps nearest to Head-Quarters are very faulty in this respect, and will be pointed out in General Orders if there is not a reformation.

Stephen Moylan, Esq., having resigned his office of Quartermaster-General, Brigadier-General *Mifflin* is appointed thereto till the pleasure of Congress is known.

The Quartermaster-General will deliver to General *Spencer's* order such tents as are wanting for the regiments in *Wadsworth's* and *Fellows's* Brigades.

That the approach of the enemy to the front of our lines may be communicated as speedily as possible, two field-pieces are to be fired, by order of the Brigadier of the day, at the redoubt on the road by Colonel *Moylan's*; this to be repeated by two others at Head-Quarters, and the like number at *Mount Washington*.

Colonel *Shee* is to take charge of General *Mifflin's* Brigade till further orders.

General *Saltonstall* is to order in four of the Militia regiments under his command, who are to encamp on the hill opposite to *Fort Washington*, towards the point opposite to the encampment, on the other side *Harlem River*.

The General desires that the several works in which we are now engaged may be advanced as fast as possible, as it is essentially necessary.

In future, when an officer is ordered on duty, and through illness or any other private reason cannot attend, he is to procure one of equal rank to do the duty for him, unless some extraordinary reason should occasion an application to Head-Quarters. Otherwise a regular roster can never be kept.

The Brigade-Majors are to furnish the Chief Engineer with a detail of the men from their respective brigades ordered for fatigue. This is to be left at his office near Head-Quarters, and when any alteration is made they are to give him a new detail.

Major *Bicker* is ordered to attend the works, and be excused from other duty.

Any soldier detected in cutting any abatts without orders from the Chief Engineer, is to be sent to the Provost-Guard and tried by a General Court-Martial. Officers are desired to put a stop to so dangerous a practice immediately.

Fatigue men are to breakfast before they go to parade; no man to be allowed to return hereafter to his tent or quarters on this account.

The building up tents with boards is a practice peculiar to this army, and in our present situation cannot be indulged without the greatest injury to the service. The boards

brought into camp are for floors to the tents, and officers will do well immediately to prevent their being applied to any other use.

Head-Quarters, Harlem Heights, September 29, 1776.

(Parole, Fairfield.)

(Countersign, Leyden.)

Ensigns *Fosdick* and *Chipman*, of Colonel *Webb's* Regiment, but lately in a detachment of Rangers under Captain *Holmes*, having been tried by a General Court-Martial, whereof Colonel *Weedon* was President, for "abusive language to their officers, mutiny, and disobedience of orders," they are convicted of giving abusive language to their officers, and ordered to be reprimanded for their conduct before the officers of Colonel *Webb's* Regiment.

The General approves the sentence, and orders them to join their regiment, that it may be carried into execution.

As there is the greatest appearance of bad weather, the General directs and begs that the officers would have a special care of the arms and ammunition; wherever there is a convenient cover for either bell-tents or painted tents, to have the arms and ammunition put into them.

He also directs that the several brigades, as soon as the weather admits, be marched down to their alarm posts, as fixed in the orders of the 26th, that the troops may know how to repair to them, and defend them to the best advantage; and that this be repeated until both officers and men are well acquainted with the ground and the posts.

From some discoveries made yesterday, there is reason to think the enemy meditate a speedy and general attack; it is, therefore, of great consequence that we should be well prepared in all respects to meet it.

A Court-Martial, consisting of the following members, are to meet to-morrow at ten o'clock at the White-House near Head-Quarters, for the trial of Captain *Weisner* and Captain *Scott*, for "cowardice and misbehaviour in the attack made upon *Montresor's Island*, on the morning of the 23d instant." Brigadier-General *BELL*, President; Colonel *Maggaw*, Colonel *Newcomb*, Lieutenant-Colonel *Brodhead*, Major *Putnam*, Major *Mott*, Captain *Winship*, Colonel *Holman*, Lieutenant-Colonel *Cadwallader*, Lieutenant-Colonel *Russell*, Major *Hopewell*, Captain *Beatty*, Captain *Gillet*.

All evidences are directed to be punctual in their attendance.

Head-Quarters, Harlem Heights, September 30, 1776.

(Parole, Norfolk.)

(Countersign, York.)

The movements of the enemy indicating a speedy attack, the officers of the several regiments, of all ranks, are to be very attentive to the state of the arms and ammunition of their respective regiments, and to be particularly alert in case of alarm.

The order of yesterday with respect to the troops marching to their alarm-posts and making themselves acquainted with the ground, is to be carried into execution immediately.

Ammunition boxes in each regiment, not having ammunition in them, are to be collected, that they may be filled. Commanding officers of regiments will send them to their respective Brigadiers' quarters immediately.

All the troops are every morning to be under arms a little before break of day and continue till sunrise, when they may be dismissed. As the preservation of our country may depend very much on a strict obedience to this order, it is hoped that commanding officers of brigades and regiments will pay a special attention to it.

A working party of twelve hundred men, exclusive of those at *Mount Washington*, to parade at the usual place, at seven o'clock in the morning, properly officered for the Engineers' department. *Fellows's* and *Wadsworth's* brigades to take their tools at Quartermaster *Stone's* quarters, nigh to General *Spencer's* quarters. Major *Clift* and Captain *Parsons* will attend them. Colonel *Weedon's* Regiment will take their orders from Lieutenant-Colonel *Marshall*. The overseers of the works will attend at the Engineer's office every morning to receive their orders and parties. The number of fatigue men not to be lessened till further orders. The Engineer must have a list of the several brigades and the number of men they furnish for the works, or he never can proportion the men to the works in a proper manner.

Return of Brigades under the more immediate command of His Excellency GEORGE WASHINGTON, Commander-in-Chief of the Army in the service of the UNITED STATES OF AMERICA. HARLEM HEIGHTS, Head-Quarters, September 30, 1776.

BRIGADES.	OFFICERS PRESENT.															RANK AND FILE.					Wanting to complete.	Alterations since last Return.						
	Commissioned.					Staff.				Non-Com'd.																		
	Colonels.	Lieut. Colonels.	Majors.	Captains.	First Lieutenants.	Second Lieut'nts.	Ensigns.	Chaplains.	Adjutants.	Quartermasters.	Paymaster.	Surgeons.	Mates.	Sergeants.	Drums and Fifes	Present, fit for duty.	Sick, present.	Sick, absent.	On command.	On furlough.	Total.	Sergeants.	Drums and Fifes.	Rank and File.	Initiated.	Dead.	Discharged.	Deserted.
General Parsons's	3	1	3	14	21	22	18	3	4	5	-	2	2	87	51	883	191	538	648	6	2266	17	7	929	2	12	4	3
General Clinton's	5	4	5	38	33	32	-	-	1	5	5	-	1	116	69	1130	272	60	104	14	1580	-	6	562	-	3	1	9
General Scott's	3	4	3	31	32	31	-	-	1	3	4	-	4	90	19	608	162	216	80	7	1079	16	51	1267	36	1	1	5
Commandant Sargent's	2	1	2	14	10	7	14	1	2	2	-	2	2	40	27	559	155	98	120	-	932	6	2	378	4	-	-	-
Commandant Hands's	3	2	-	13	22	22	15	1	3	2	-	2	2	74	32	915	102	54	27	15	1113	11	7	603	22	2	4	17
General Nixon's	3	5	4	26	31	23	26	1	4	3	-	4	3	106	58	1067	386	204	439	-	2096	1	2	1103	-	8	-	-
General Wadsworth's	4	5	5	39	41	42	47	5	6	6	-	5	4	185	92	1469	406	629	357	3	2868	7	6	1102	3	1	4	2
General McDougall's	2	2	3	18	20	24	19	2	3	3	1	3	4	89	42	1052	249	407	441	5	2152	23	25	924	1	7	4	26
General Heard's	4	4	4	29	32	28	31	5	5	5	-	5	3	122	39	983	195	342	32	8	1559	12	30	1048	15	1	1	4
Commandant Glover's	2	3	4	20	19	25	26	2	4	4	-	4	2	100	54	864	394	51	534	1	1845	2	4	715	2	3	-	-
General Fellows's	3	3	3	26	25	25	22	2	3	3	-	3	3	99	49	892	378	210	211	-	1691	4	2	172	-	1	-	3
General Beall's	2	3	4	29	29	30	28	4	4	3	-	3	3	117	43	1573	536	57	4	3	2183	5	12	179	-	4	1	3
General Miffin's	3	5	5	37	31	39	39	3	6	6	-	5	3	146	55	1631	334	398	232	9	2615	25	43	1544	1	2	1	8
Reed's, Weedon's & Chester's Reg'ts.	3	2	2	25	23	24	23	1	3	3	-	4	4	102	44	1011	394	76	231	51	1663	1	1	118	-	6	3	-
Light Horse.....	-	-	1	7	7	5	5	-	1	1	-	-	-	29	6	122	15	4	19	-	160	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Total.	42	44	48	361	376	379	313	28	56	55	1	51	38	1502	680	14,759	4175	3344	3479	122	25,802	130	198	10,641	86	51	24	80

Return of ten Companies in the Regiment of Artillery, and one Colony Company, in the service of the UNITED STATES OF AMERICA, commanded by HENRY KNOX, Esquire. MOUNT WASHINGTON, September 28, 1776.

	Colonel.	Lieut. Colonel.	Major.	Captains.	Capt. Lieut'n's.	First Lieut'n's.	Second Lieut.	Chaplain.	Adjutant.	Quartermaster.	Surgeon.	Mate.	Cadets.	Sergeants.	Corporals.	Bombardiers.	Gunners.	Drums & Fifes.	Matrosses.	Total.
Present, fit for duty	1	-	-	4	8	3	15	-	1	-	1	1	-	24	23	38	38	16	172	345
Sick, present	-	-	-	4	-	1	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	1	4	5	-	17	36
Sick, absent	-	1	1	1	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	1	3	5	6	3	35	55
On command	-	-	-	1	3	5	4	-	-	1	-	-	-	1	5	9	12	1	46	93
On furlough	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	2	2
Total	1	1	1	10	11	9	21	1	1	1	1	1	-	31	32	56	61	20	272	531
Included in the above, though not affixed to any particular Company, Captains Lieutenants Wool, appointed August 1; Randall, promoted August 10, present, fit for duty; Briant, promoted August 10, on command; Second Lieutenant Geno, appointed September 14, present, fit for duty. Those on command are in the Jerseys, at Fort Montgomery, and on the heights beyond King's Bridge.																				
HENRY KNOX, Colonel of Artillery.																				

Return of Troops in General GREENE's Division, ENGLISH NEIGHBOURHOOD, September 29, 1776.

BRIGADES.	OFFICERS PRESENT.															RANK AND FILE.					Wanting to complete.	Alterations since last Return.					
	Commissioned.					Staff.				Non-Com'd.																	
	Colonels.	Lieut. Colonels.	Majors.	Captains.	First Lieutenants.	Second Lieut'n's.	Ensigns.	Chaplains.	Adjutants.	Quartermasters.	Surgeons.	Mates.	Sergeants.	Drums and Fifes.	Present, fit for duty.	Sick, present.	Sick, absent.	Sick, Hospital.	On command.	Total.	Sergeants.	Drums and Fifes.	Rank and File.	Initiated.	Dead.	Discharged.	Deserted.
General Nixon's.....	3	5	4	26	31	23	26	1	4	3	4	3	106	58	1067	386	158	46	439	2096	1	2	1103	-	8	-	-
General Clinton's.....	2	3	3	42	20	19	25	2	4	4	4	2	100	54	864	394	51	-	534	1845	2	4	715	1	3	-	-
General Ewing's.....	3	3	3	42	51	-	22	-	2	4	2	1	91	28	993	153	15	-	31	1192	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Colonel P. B. Bradley's	1	1	1	7	8	8	8	1	1	1	1	1	32	15	499	31	35	-	9	574	-	1	72	-	1	-	-
Colonel Dey's Militia.....	-	-	1	3	3	-	1	-	1	1	1	-	10	2	108	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Total.....	9	12	14	80	112	56	83	4	12	13	12	7	339	157	3531	964	259	46	1013	5707	3	7	1890	1	12	-	-

One on furlough in General Clinton's Brigade; 3 ditto in General Ewing's Brigade; 1 ditto in Colonel Bradley's Regiment. N. B. Read's, Shepherd's, and Bradley's, Regiments at Bergen; Nixon's Regiment on York Island.

NATHANAEL GREENE, Major-General.

Endorsed—Major-General Greene's Return of Brigadiers-General Nixon's, James Clinton's, and Ewing's Brigades, and Colonels Bradley's and Dey's Regiments, September 29, 1776.

GENERAL WASHINGTON TO GENERAL GEORGE CLINTON.
SIR: Take with you Lieutenant-Colonel Hurlbut, and proceed immediately to Fairfield, and there, in consultation with General Lincoln, of the Massachusetts-Bay, Mr. Hobart, of this State, and Lieutenant-Colonel Livingston, if you can meet with him, concert an expedition to Long-

Island, for the purpose of aiding the inhabitants in removing or destroying the stock, grain, &c., which must otherwise fall into the hands of the enemy.
This expedition is to be performed under the command of such officers as General Lincoln and yourself may fix upon, and by the troops from Massachusetts-Bay, aided by

the three Continental companies, commanded by Colonel *Livingston*.

If there is a possibility of your seeing Governour *Trumbull* without too great a delay of time, I shall much approve of your consulting him upon this occasion previous to your concerting any plan; but if this cannot be done conveniently, you will forward my letter, with your reasons for not doing so, and a request of such assistance from the State of *Connecticut* as you shall find necessary to apply for.

Despatch is essentially necessary to the success of such an enterprise, and secrecy in obtaining craft for the transportation of the troops across the *Sound* will contribute not a little towards it. Circumstances and information must direct you to the number of men necessary for such an expedition as this, and therefore I shall not bias your judgment by any order or opinion of mine upon the occasion, but leave this matter wholly to yourselves, with earnest and best wishes for success.

Given under my hand, at Head-Quarters, on *Harlem Heights*, Colonel *Morris's*, this 30th day of *September*, 1776.

GO. WASHINGTON.

To Brigadier-General *George Clinton*, *New-York Militia*.

GENERAL WASHINGTON TO GENERAL SCHUYLER.

Head-Quarters, September 30, 1776.

DEAR SIR: Your favours of the 20th and 25th, with their several enclosures, I received this morning. The letters for Congress, with the rest of the papers, I shall transmit them by the earliest opportunity. I cannot conceive that their resolution of the 14th was calculated or designed in the smallest degree to give you offence. The application for stores had been made as a requisition from General *Gates*, which, I presume, occasioned the resolve ordering 'em to be sent to him. Also the words "for the use of the Northern army," nothing is to be inferred from them. Whenever stores are sent to any department, it is said always for the use of the army there.

I am greatly obliged by the measures you have taken to provide us with boards, as they are so material and so difficult to procure. Your assurances to execute any commands I may have occasion to impose upon you, when out of the military line, call for a return of my warmest acknowledgements; these I tender you, and of these I beg your acceptance.

Since my letter of the 27th, nothing of importance has occurred. Things remain nearly in the situation they then were. Yesterday there were some small movements on the part of the enemy; but as yet they have attempted nothing, nor have I been able to find out their design. A little time I suppose must show what plans they mean to pursue for the remainder of the campaign.

I am, &c.,

GO. WASHINGTON.

To Major-General *Schuyler*, Northern Department.

GENERAL WASHINGTON TO GENERAL LINCOLN.

Head-Quarters, Heights of *Harlem*, September 30, 1776.

SIR: Your letter of the 28th instant, noticing me the forwardness of the troops under your command, was this day handed me by Major *Turner*. On receipt of this, you'll please to halt your men till a conference with General *Clinton*, who waits on to advise with you, and determine on a secret expedition to *Long-Island*, which, if properly conducted, I have no doubt will be attended with success, and be exceedingly beneficial to the *United States*. To carry into execution the proposed plan, I must request a sufficient number of the Militia from your State, making choice of (both officers and men) those which may be depended on.

I am, wishing success, sir, yours, &c.,

GO. WASHINGTON.

To Major-General *Benj. Lincoln*, *Massachusetts Militia*, at *Stamford* or *Fairfield*.

P. S. You'll be pleased to return to *Fairfield* with General *Clinton*, to consult on the above subject.

GENERAL WASHINGTON TO GOVERNOUR TRUMBULL.

Head-Quarters, Heights of *Harlem*, September 30, 1776.

SIR: Having received authentick advices from *Long-FIFTH SERIES.—VOL. II.*

Island that the enemy are recruiting a great number of men with much success, and collecting large quantities of stock throughout the island for their support, I have directed Brigadier-General *Clinton* forthwith to repair to *Fairfield*, to meet General *Lincoln*, on his march thither with a part of the troops lately voted by the *Massachusetts State* to reinforce this army, in order to concert with him an expedition to the island, to check and suppress, if possible, a practice so injurious and detrimental to our cause. These gentlemen will wait on you for your advice in the matter, if time and the situation of things will admit of it; and with a view of obtaining such aid as you and they may judge necessary to facilitate the enterprise. However, if it should not be in their power personally to attend you, I must take the liberty of requesting your good offices upon this occasion, and that you will afford them every assistance that you conveniently can, and they may require, either in men, vessels, &c., for carrying their scheme into execution.

It is absolutely necessary that the measures of the enemy should be effectually counteracted in this instance, or in a little time they will levy no inconsiderable army of our own people. The influence of their money and their artifices has already passed the *Sound*, and several have been detected of late who had enlisted to serve under their banner, and the particular command of Major *Rogers*.

Being in haste, and having the fullest confidence that your favours will not be wanting in this instance, I have only time to add, that I have the honour to be, &c.,

GO. WASHINGTON.

To Governour *Trumbull*, *Connecticut*.

COLONEL HARRISON TO GENERAL HEATH.

September 30, 1776.

SIR: His Excellency desires that such of General *Saltonstoll's* Militia as remain after the two regiments ordered to the heights opposite to *Mount Washington*, and after those have joined or are to join Colonel *Chester*, in the room of the Militia lately gone home, may be directed and sent to encamp on the grounds on the *Morisania* side of *Harlem*, opposite Head-Quarters, which his Excellency, you, and others, were viewing some days ago, and that they be enjoined to use their utmost industry in covering themselves as soon as possible by building huts with straw, rails, and sod. His Excellency would have some person whom you can rely upon sent to show them the place, and who will inform them that they are to build their huts on this side the heights facing *Harlem River*, that they may not be in the way of such works and lines as may be judged necessary to be thrown upon them.

I am, sir, your humble servant,

ROB. H. HARRISON.

To Major-General *Heath*.

Proceedings of a General Court-Martial of the Line, held on the Heights of HAARLEM, by order of His Excellency GEORGE WASHINGTON, Esq., General and Commander-in-Chief of the Forces of the UNITED STATES OF AMERICA, for the trial of the Captains WISNER and SCOTT, in the service of said States. September 30, 1776.

Brigadier-General *Beall*, President.

Colonel <i>Magaw</i> ,	Major <i>Mott</i> ,
Colonel <i>Newcomb</i> ,	Captain <i>Winship</i> ,
Lieut. Col. <i>Cadwallader</i> ,	Captain <i>Stewart</i> ,
Lieut. Col. <i>Russell</i> ,	Captain <i>Beatty</i> ,
Major <i>Putnam</i> ,	Captain <i>Graydon</i> ,
Major <i>Hopewell</i> ,	Captain <i>Weitzell</i> .

WILLIAM TUDOR, Judge-Advocate.

The Court being duly sworn, proceeded to the trial of Captain *John Wisner*, of Colonel *Nicoll's* Regiment of the *New-York Levies*, brought prisoner before the Court, and accused of "cowardice and misbehaviour before the enemy, and of speaking words inducing others to misbehave."

The prisoner being arraigned on the aforesaid charge, pleads, "Not guilty."

George Marsdin, Adjutant of Colonel *Prescott's* Regiment, was sworn, and deposes: I was one of a party ordered for an attack on *Montessor's Island*, on Sunday night, 22d

September. I went on board one of the boats prepared for us, with a Sergeant and twelve men. There was near fifty men on board the boat when we put off. The boat getting aground, I was obliged to go forward to the head of the boat, where I saw a man sitting down in the bottom of the boat. I trod upon him, and gave him a kick or two, when he got up and set upon the fore-thwart. After some time I discovered the badge of a Captain in his hat, and on asking him what officer he was, he told me he was a Captain. This was the prisoner. We had got about a mile from the place we set off at, when Captain *Wisner* observed that he was certain, from information, that there was five times the number of the enemy on the island that we thought for, and that we were led into a plaguy scrape; that a ship lay near the island which would rake us with grape shot. Some of the men heard this, and it was soon known throughout the boat. Soon after this we observed the privateer in the river, which hailed a boat ahead of us. On this the prisoner cried out there was the man-of-war, and called out to stop rowing, or we should all be cut off with grape shot or taken. On this speech, the men all stopped rowing. I contradicted him, and encouraged the men to put on. We soon passed the privateer, and a little below it the boats ran afoul of each other. We cleared each other and kept down the river, when our sentries on *Haarlem* side fired at the boat; on which the prisoner got off the thwart and kneeled down in the bottom of the boat. Captain *Eldridge*, who had come on board our boat just before, called out to him, and bid him get up. He refused, and said he did not choose to be in the way of those plaguy balls. As we kept along the prisoner saw the shade of some trees in the water, and cried out there was the man-of-war. Some of the men said so too. Presently after this a scattering fire began from the enemy, on which the prisoner immediately squatted down in the bottom of the boat; the firing increasing, the prisoner said the enemy had a number of boats, and that we should be cut off, and begged for God's sake that we would land on a point of land on *Morisania* side. This was said loud, and must have been heard by the men. The boats soon run foul of each other, and so much confusion ensued that we were obliged to land at *Morisania*. As every effort I could make I could not prevail on the men to go on, Captain *Eldridge* and I went on shore, where we found General *Scott*, who told us it was too late, and we had better go back. Before the boats run foul of each other Colonel *Jackson's* boat had got out of sight, and we could not determine whether the Colonel's boat had landed or not. The prisoner used no speeches of an encouraging kind during the whole course down the river, but rather discouraged the enterprise and disheartened the men. We had a man killed in the boat, which seemed to dishearten the men, when I turned it off by saying the man was asleep, and bid them row on.

Captain *Eldridge* deposes: About a mile from *Montresor's Island*, the boats stopping, I went on board the boat in which Adjutant *Marsdin* and the prisoner were. Soon after I had got on board, our sentries from *Haarlem* side fired upon us, when the prisoner squatted down in the bottom of the boat. I begged him to get up. He said something about bullets—I don't remember what. He told me that he had some men down as sentries at *Morisania*, who had told him the enemy was five times as strong as what we thought, and that we were led into a scrape, and that the ships would fire grape shot. He said this loud enough for the men to hear. I told him that such talk was discouraging to the men, and that the story could not be true. Presently after this some trees, which made a shade in the water, were observed by some one (I think it was the prisoner) to be the enemy's tenders. We kept along till the enemy's fire began, when the prisoner instantly squatted down in the bottom of the boat. I begged him to get up; told him such conduct discouraged the men, and gave him several kicks with my foot, which he did not attend to. The firing increased, when the prisoner cried out, "for God's sake retreat, or we shall all be cut off." A number of the men joined the cry; confusion ensued; the men laid down in the boat, and were not to be governed. I attribute the cowardice of the men to be more owing to the behaviour of the prisoner than to the enemy's fire. I doubt not, had the prisoner been out of the boat, I should have got the men on. The prisoner showed every sign of cowardice a man well could.

Sergeant *Weymouth*. After the men got into confusion Captain *Eldridge* and Adjutant *Marsdin* exerted themselves to quiet the men and get them on. The prisoner did nothing to encourage us. After the enemy began to fire upon us, somebody, I can't tell who, in the bow of the boat, cried out, "let us retreat, or the enemy will surround and cut us off."

John *Kilburn*, Corporal, confirms the substance of Adjutant *Marsdin's* testimony, and says the prisoner's conduct was very discouraging. That *Marsdin* and *Eldridge* did every thing in their power to encourage the men, but the confusion was so great they did not succeed. The deponent was on the second seat from that on which the prisoner sat.

The Court adjourned till to-morrow, 1st of October, at nine o'clock.

The Court met according to adjournment, and proceeded on the trial adjourned from yesterday.

Jotham *Baker*. Heard the prisoner tell Adjutant *Marsdin* that they had got into a scrape; that there was five times the number of the enemy we thought for, and that the ship would fire grape-shot upon us. When the sentries fired upon us, the prisoner laid down on the boat. Captain *Eldridge* bid him get up, for he discouraged the men. The prisoner replied he would not be in the way of the balls. He several times, in going down, talked of the danger of the ship firing grape-shot. He never said any thing but what was discouraging. When the enemy fired, he lay down in the boat. Captain *Eldridge* and *Marsdin* begged him to get up, and damned him. All the reply he made was, "For God's sake, retreat! We shall all be cut off." I was within four feet of the prisoner all the time we were going down. Several of us observed what the prisoner said. A number of the men were for retreating also. Adjutant *Marsdin* and Captain *Eldridge* did every thing to get the men on, but after the enemy began firing, the confusion was so great they were not minded.

Fortune *Baker* deposes: That he rowed one of the bow oars, and that the prisoner sat a little before him; that soon after the boat set off, the prisoner observed to the deponent that there was a great number of the enemy on the island, and that the party would certainly be cut off. The deponent confirms the last witness's testimony; and adds that the whole of the prisoner's conduct down the river was disheartening and cowardly. The deponent says he stood close to the prisoner the whole time, and observed every thing that passed.

The Prisoner's Defence.

Increase *Wyman* deposes: Was in the boat, and stood close to the prisoner going down the river. The prisoner took no command; and the deponent did not hear the prisoner say or do any thing that was either encouraging or not.

Daniel *Shaw* deposes: When the boats ran foul of one another, I jumped out of one boat, and got into that in which Captain *Weisner* was. At this time the enemy's fire was very brisk. Captain *Weisner* said, "Clap to your oars, boys, and go ashore; for we are safer there than we are here. The Colonel and Major's boat are landed." On this Mr. *Marsdin* said that the Colonel's boat had retreated, and immediately ordered the boats to retreat. Captain *Weisner* asked *Marsdin* if he was sure the Colonel's boat had retreated. Mr. *Marsdin* said yes. I belong to Captain *Weisner's* Company.

William *Davis*. When the sentries fired, I saw Captain *Weisner* dodge down his head. Whilst the enemy fired briskly, I heard an officer say, in the bow of the boat, "Clap to your oars, my boys; we shall be safer on there than here." From the voice, I took this to be said by Captain *Eldridge*, and the shore meant to be where the enemy was. When the man was killed in our boat, I heard Captain *Weisner* say, "it was a joke; the man was only asleep." I don't know of Captain *Weisner* saying any thing discouraging to the men.

Alexander *Meers*. I am one of Captain *Weisner's* Company. In the midst of the enemy's fire, the boat I was in was within two rods of Captain *Weisner's*. I heard Captain *Weisner* cry out, "Boys, we must land, for our officers are in the midst of the fire; and there we must land, for

we are safer there than here." I did not see Captain *Weisner*, but know it was him by the voice, which I am well acquainted with.

Nathan Cary. Was in the same boat with *Meers*, and confirms his testimony. The deponent is one of Captain *Weisner's* Company.

Joel Cross. Was in the same boat with *Meers*, and confirms his testimony. The deponent is a private in Captain *Weisner's* Company.

James Armstrong. The boats had retreated some way back, when I heard Captain *Weisner* say, "For God's sake let us go back where the Colonel and Major are fighting, and die with them!" I was not in Captain *Weisner's* boat, but within half a rod of it, when I saw Captain *Weisner*, and heard him say this. I know nothing more of him.

The Court being cleared, after mature consideration, are of opinion that the prisoner was guilty of misconduct and cowardly behaviour, when on command in an enterprise ordered against *Montresor's Island*, on the night of the 22d September; and the Court unanimously sentence the prisoner to be cashiered, and rendered incapable of ever holding a commission in the service of the *United States*; and the prisoner is hereby cashiered, and rendered incapable of holding a commission; and the Court adjudge that the crime, name, place of abode, and judgment against the delinquent, be published in and about the camp and of the State of *New-York*, as ordered by the seventeenth article of the rules and regulations for the government of the Continental troops.

REZIN BEALL, *President*.

At a General Court-Martial held at the same place, by adjournment, on the 30th day of September, A. D. 1776:

Colonel LASHER, *President*.

WILLIAM WILLCOCKS, Judge-Advocate.

Lieut. Col. <i>Prentice</i> ,	Captain <i>Keith</i> ,
Lieut. Col. <i>Johnston</i> ,	Captain <i>Dixon</i> ,
Captain <i>Sill</i> ,	Captain <i>Brazier</i> ,
Captain <i>Barns</i> ,	Captain <i>Townshend</i> ,
Captain <i>Allen</i> ,	Captain <i>Platt</i> ,
Captain <i>Dana</i> ,	Captain <i>Hardenburgh</i> .

Benjamin Allen and *Joseph Chesher*, of Captain *Michel's* Company, Colonel *Malcom's* Regiment, charged with desertion by Captain *Brenton Paine*. The prisoners plead guilty, with evasive excuses. Judged guilty. Sentenced to receive twenty lashes each.

John Decker, *Elijah Stanbury*, and *Jonathan Tomkins*, of Captain *Blair's* Company, Colonel *Nicoll's* Regiment, charged with desertion. Plead, "Intention to return." Judged guilty. Sentenced to receive twenty lashes each.

JOHN LASHER, *President*.

MAJOR ADAMS TO MARYLAND CONVENTION.

Camp, Morris's Heights, September 30, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: Being informed you are raising troops for the service of the *United States of America*, beg leave to address myself to your Honours on that particular head.

I flatter myself, since I have been in your service, I have discharged that duty and trust your Honours were pleased to repose in me as a soldier. Still being desirous of serving my country in so glorious a cause as I have already embarked in, hope your Honours will consider me in the election of officers in your State. From my ability, I can't flatter myself with any particular post in your service, but will leave that to your superiour abilities, hoping, at the same time, you will not give me lower rank than I bear at present in the army.

I have the honour to subscribe myself, gentlemen, your most obedient and most humble servant,

DANL. J. ADAMS.

To the honourable the Convention of *Maryland*.

A. DE WITT TO MATTHEW CANTINE.

Kingston, September 30, 1776.

DEAR SIR: You will see, by the letter from myself, *Wynkoop*, and *Fink*, and the enclosed letter to the Convention of the State of *New-York*, that the inhabitants of *Papaconk* are in great fear of a rupture of the *Indians*.

The man who has brought me the letter rode all night. Came to my house *Saturday* afternoon. *Sunday* morning early, I rode off to *Kingston*, to *Peck* and *Wynkoop's*. He tells me that an old squaw, on whom they depended all summer for a friendly warning, came to some of the inhabitants last week, weeping much, desiring them to move off this week, to get out of danger, as she would not see them in a great while. The inhabitants from *Shohawkan* were moved. He also told me that there were yet at *Papaconk* nine families, amounting to the number of between sixty and seventy children, and that they would move away in short, if they could get no assistance. They have a considerable quantity of grain and stock. I would leave it to your consideration if it would not be proper, if they must come away, to send a guard to assist them to bring off as much of their effects as possible. You know, in case of a rupture of the *Indians*, our case will be bad, as our frontiers will be drained of able-bodied men, and consequently necessary that we should be assisted with men, to preserve our lives and property, and that early, before the people suffer; for I conceive the first murder is committed will occasion a great consternation, and cause a number of people to evacuate their places, the effect whereof you know. I doubt not but you will do what is in your power for the best; and would be glad to receive a few lines from you, in answer, and news, if there be any certain.

I am, with esteem, your humble servant, &c.,

A. DE WITT.

To *Matthew Cantine* and *Charles De Witt*, Esq., *Fishkill*.

GENERAL SCHUYLER TO GENERAL WASHINGTON.

Albany, September 30, 1776.

DEAR SIR: I have the honour to acknowledge your Excellency's favour of the 27th instant, with the paper enclosed, which I shall immediately transmit to General *Gates*.

The resolution of Congress of the 14th instant, received since I wrote your Excellency on the subject of barracks, has empowered the commander in this department to build barracks where he may think proper; but no nails can as yet be procured.

Major *William Edmenston*, of the *British* Forty-Eighth Regiment, who is now a prisoner sent down by the Committee of *Tryon* County, has requested my leave to wait on you, in order to get exchanged, which I have refused until I should receive your orders thereon.

We have intelligence from *Oswego* since the 20th instant. No enemy then there.

I am, dear sir, with great respect, your Excellency's most obedient, humble servant,

PH. SCHUYLER.

To His Excellency General *Washington*, &c., &c.

TO THE PUBLICK.

The Commissioners appointed by Congress to examine and liquidate the Publick Accounts for the Northern District, give this publick notice that they have opened their office in this city, where constant attendance will be given from nine o'clock to two every day in the week, (*Sundays* excepted,) and all persons, civil or military, who have been employed in the service of the *United States*, whose accounts are not settled, are required to deliver them in to this office on or before the 31st day of *October* next.

JAMES MILLIGAN,
JOHN CARTER,
JOHN WELLES,
Commissioners.

Albany, September 30, 1776.

GENERAL GATES TO THE PRESIDENT OF CONGRESS.

Ticonderoga, September 30, 1776.

SIR: I am much disappointed at not having it in my power to own the receipt of any letter from your Excellency since that of the 8th of *July*, nor a single line from either the Secretary of the Congress or the Secretary at War, of any date whatsoever. Knowing how precious your time must be, I never trouble your Excellency with any letter that is not immediately upon business, or that does not contain some demand which I am indispensably obliged to make. Would it not, therefore, be proper, that the demands

contained in my letters to your Excellency, should be extracted and sent to the War Office, and that Board directed to acquaint me how far they can, and will, comply with my requisitions?

I hope my letters to your Excellency of the 16th and 29th of July, 6th and 23d of August, 2d and 23d of September, are all received, and particularly the last, by Colonel *Hausager*, as it contained a plan for establishing the new army, than which nothing can be of greater importance. Enclosed is a copy of my last letter to Major-General *Schuyler*, which, as it contains an account of the state of affairs here, I thought proper to transmit to your Excellency. Colonel *Hausager* carried the returns of this army to the War Office: I conclude they have been laid before Congress. The news of the great events that have passed, and are daily passing, in the neighbourhood of *New-York*, come to this army so broken, imperfect, and mutilated, that the emissaries of our enemies, taking advantage of our want of an account published by authority, grossly misrepresent these transactions to the troops here. In some critical moment, it might injure the publick cause. Would it not, sir, be proper, upon any great event taking place, to have a gazette published by order of Congress immediately despatched to the different States, and their armies upon the Continent?

I must again remind your Excellency of the total want of a train of field artillery in this department. Such a one as that I requested, in my letter of the 6th of August last, would be no more than what is absolutely necessary: there is not a single howitzer, or mortar of any kind, upon this ground. Had not some reason, which remains to be explained, prevented the approach of the enemy, we must have suffered exceedingly, perhaps been entirely ruined, by this deficiency; and to act offensively against the enemy in *Canada* is utterly impossible without a field train. The ammunition wanted in this department is particularly mentioned in my letter to General *Schuyler* of the 5th of September, a copy of which I enclosed your Excellency in my packet of the

Your Excellency will find in the packet an extract of Lieutenant *Whitcomb's* journal of his last scout to *St. John's*. I have taken Ensign and Quartermaster *Saunders's* parole, and ordered him and his servant, the Corporal, to *Lancaster, in Pennsylvania*. I must now beg leave to recommend Lieutenant *Whitcomb* as a very proper person to have the command of two independent companies of fifty men each, to be recruited by himself, and the officers to be commissioned agreeable to his recommendation. I never knew any man more capable of doing good service, in the ranging or scouting way, than Lieutenant *Whitcomb*; and his sobriety, honour, and truth, illustrate his military talents. I must also do justice to the merit and long service of Colonel *Philip De Haas*, by recommending him to Congress as deserving promotion. Colonel *Enoch Poor*, of *New Hampshire*, and Colonel *John Paterson*, of *Massachusetts*, are also deserving officers, worthy the notice of Congress. As numbers of field and other officers have died in the course of this campaign, I wish, if Congress think proper, that blank commissions were sent to me, to fill up in the manner the most beneficial for the publick service: you may be assured, sir, that is the only end I ever will have in view, in obeying their commands.

October 3.—My apprehensions for our fleet in the late storm were perfectly quieted by a letter I received last night from General *Arnold*, dated off *Isle Valcour*, the 1st instant. I find he had happily stationed the fleet in a situation where he rode out the gale in safety. One row-galley had joined the General. The two others, under General *Waterbury's* command, sailed yesterday, and must have reached the fleet this forenoon, as the wind has been fair ever since. The fourth row-galley arrived here last night from *Skeensborough*, and will be ready to sail in five or six days at farthest, for *Isle Valcour*. When this galley gets down the Lake, we have exerted all our possibilities to oppose the enemy in their approach by water.

This will be delivered to your Excellency by Lieutenant *John Lucas*, of Colonel *Greaton's* Regiment: he was principally employed last year at *Cambridge*, in the Continental store, under General *Mifflin*. I send him to *Philadelphia*, to forward up to *Albany* the clothing it may be the pleasure of Congress to order to be sent for this army; or to

procure such a quantity of woollens, linens, and particularly shoes, as can be supplied from thence. Our troops are wretchedly in want of shoes.

I am your Excellency's most obedient, humble servant,
HORATIO GATES.

To His Excellency *John Hancock*, Esq.

Head-Quarters, September 24, 1776.

(Parole, *Horne's Hook*.)

(Countersign, *Hamilton*.)

Captain *Craig* of the Second Battalion of *Pennsylvanians*, is appointed Lieutenant-Colonel, in the place of Colonel *Wood*, preferred.

Captain *Butler* is appointed Major of the same Battalion.

Captain *P. Frazier*, of the Fourth Battalion of *Pennsylvanians*, is appointed Major of the same, in place of Colonel *Hausager*, promoted.

Officer of the day to-morrow, Colonel *Wheelock*. Brigade-Major of the day, *Brown*.

Ephraim Carter is appointed an Ensign in the late Colonel *Bedel's* Regiment, in the room of Ensign *F. Bayley*, discharged.

After General Orders.—General *St. Clair's* Brigade to furnish daily at Head-Quarters, one Captain, two Subs, two Sergeants, two Corporals, one Drum, and forty-eight Privates, to serve as a fatigue party under the orders of the Deputy Quartermaster-General.

Head-Quarters, September 25, 1776.

(Parole, *Ward*.)

(Countersign, *Boston*.)

Various frauds, impositions, and abuses being every day committed by traders and hucksters coming to this camp, the Quartermaster-General and his assistant are immediately to regulate the prices to be paid for the several commodities brought to sell, particularly garden stuff, venison, cheese, butter, and all manner of eatables. For the future, all persons bringing any of the above articles immediately for sale, are to carry them to the foot of the glacis of the old fort, where the market is constantly to be held. Should any person or persons be detected monopolizing or forestalling the market, they will be punished by a Court-Martial, and have all their goods seized for the sick of the hospital. The market is to be opened every morning at eight o'clock, and to be allowed to continue till sunset.

Field officer of the day to-morrow, Lieutenant-Colonel *Irvine*. Brigade-Major of the day, *Ryan*.

After General Orders.—The Surgeons and Surgeons' Mates of all the Regiments to attend at the medicinal store to-morrow morning, between eight and ten o'clock, in order to receive their proportion of old linen, which is to be converted into lint, and returned to the store.

Head-Quarters, September 26, 1776.

(Parole, *King's Bridge*.)

(Countersign, *Mifflin*.)

Officer of the day for to-morrow, Lieutenant-Colonel *Ogden*. Brigade-Major of the day, *Brown*.

After General Orders.—Lieutenant-Colonel *Johnson*, President of the General Court-Martial being sick, Colonel *Wayne* is appointed President in his place. The Court to meet at nine o'clock to-morrow.

Head-Quarters, September 27, 1776.

(Parole, *Jersey*.)

(Countersign, *Mercer*.)

The Commissary will issue three sheep to each Regiment, and two to the corps of Artillery, to-morrow morning at ten o'clock.

The commanding officers of Regiments will see that the sick and weak soldiers are supplied with this refreshment. The Commissary is to reckon the sheep in the allowance of the Regiment, at their estimated weight.

Field officer of the day to-morrow, Lieutenant-Colonel *Abijah Brown*. Major of Brigade of the day, *Ryan*.

Head-Quarters, September 28, 1776.

(Parole, *Augustine*.)

(Countersign, *Georgia*.)

The following promotions are ordered to take place in Colonel *Reed's* Regiment, viz:

Ensign *Burton* to be Second Lieutenant, vice Lieutenant *Thompson*, promoted.

Sergeant *Johnson* to be Ensign, vice Ensign *Burton*, promoted.

Ensign *Cook* to be Second Lieutenant, vice Lieutenant *Pratt*, deceased.

Sergeant *Green* to be Ensign, vice Ensign *Cook*, advanced.
In Colonel *Porter's* Regiment: Quartermaster *P. Bishop* to be First Lieutenant, vice Lieutenant *Pool*, dead.

There was an omission in the orders of the 24th instant. It should have been expressed, that Lieutenant-Colonel *Craig* and Major *Butler* were appointed by the most honourable the Continental Congress, and Major *Frazer* nominated by the General until the pleasure of Congress is known.

Mr. *Christopher Joseph Delezeune* is appointed an assistant Engineer under Col. *Baldwin*. He is to be obeyed as such.

Whereas, either led by curiosity, or from some sinister design, many persons intermix with this army, continue therewith as long as they find convenient, and again depart without having any certificate from the Committee of Safety of the place where they belong, or a pass from Head-Quarters here, the General orders that any person not properly belonging to this army, who shall be found to have been within the limits of this encampment above the space of one hour, without having given in his name and business, either at Head-Quarters, or to a field officer of some of the regiments, and obtained a proper certificate thereof, shall be confined, tried by a General Court-Martial, and punished as the nature of the offence shall seem to deserve. The General expects all officers will be careful in discovering such delinquents.

Field officer of the day to-morrow, Lieutenant-Colonel *Leonard*. Brigade-Major of the day, *Brown*.

Head-Quarters, September 29, 1776.

(Parole, *Deane*.)

(Countersign, *Hartford*.)

The Regiments will deliver in their pay-abstracts to-morrow at orderly time, agreeable to the General Orders of the 19th instant.

Mr. Commissary *Avery* has orders to send directly from *Saratoga* one thousand bushels of turnips and potatoes, which will be served out to the troops in due proportion, upon their arrival at the provision store.

The two hundred bushels of onions just brought to the carrying-place at *Lake George*, are to be one half of them sold at the market upon the glacis of the old Fort, and the other half at the market place in the front of Colonel *Patterson's* Regiment, upon *Mount Independence*.

Lieutenant-Colonel *Benjamin Brown* Field officer of the day to-morrow. Brigade-Major of the day, *Ryan*.

Head-Quarters, September 30, 1776.

(Parole, *France*.)

(Countersign, *Jefferson*.)

The Commissary is immediately to issue one-half gill of rum to every non-commissioned officer and soldier now in camp.

It appearing upon a candid examination that the onions brought from *Weathersfield*, by *Connecticut*, have cost Mr. *Sedgwick* upwards of ninety-five pounds lawful money, transporting from thence, he is therefore permitted to sell the said onions at twenty shillings, *New-York* currency, per bushel, and no more.

No Field officer, nor any officer subordinate to them, is to presume to confine any of the Issuing Commissaries; when the Commissaries are guilty of any breach of order or duty, complaint is to be made in writing to the Commanding General, or the Deputy Quartermaster-General who will immediately take proper measures to bring the offenders to justice.

Lost last *Friday*, a silver watch, nigh the store at the head of the wharf; whoever has found the same and will return it to Lieutenant *Smith*, in Colonel *Whitcomb's* Regiment, shall have four dollars reward.

Field officer of the day to-morrow, Lieutenant-Colonel *Craig*; Brigade-Major of the day, *Brown*.

General Return of the Forces of the UNITED STATES OF AMERICA, serving in the Northern Department, under the command of Honourable Major-General GATES. TICONDEROGA, September 29, 1776.

	OFFICERS PRESENT.												EFFECTIVE RANK AND FILE.					Wanting to complete.	Alterations since last Return.								
	Commissioned.					Staff.			Non-Com'd.	FILE.					Sergeants.	Rank and File.			Initiated.	Dead.	Discharged.	Deserted.	Joined.				
	Colonels.	Lieut. Colonels.	Majors.	Captains.	First Lieutenants.	Second Lieut 'nts.	Ensigns.	Chaplains.		Adjutants.	Quartermasters.	Surgeons.	Mates.	Sergeants.		Drums and Fifes.	Present, fit for duty.							Sick, present.	Sick, absent.	On command.	On furlough.	Total.	Drums and Fifes.	Rank and File.
Greaton.....	-	-	-	3	6	4	4	-	1	-	1	1	18	10	91	81	14	127	-	313	-	327	-	1	-	-	-
Late Bond.....	-	-	-	4	2	5	4	-	1	1	1	-	20	4	40	194	29	77	-	340	3	5	300	-	3	2	-
Burrell.....	-	-	-	1	4	7	1	2	1	1	-	-	1	17	10	75	83	38	125	25	346	4	4	280	-	2	-
Porter.....	-	-	-	1	5	3	4	4	1	1	-	1	20	7	41	160	2	95	18	316	2	5	244	-	5	-	
Late Reed.....	-	-	-	1	5	5	5	4	1	1	1	1	27	12	88	176	12	43	9	328	2	3	312	-	3	1	
Patterson.....	1	-	-	1	4	5	5	7	-	1	1	-	1	19	7	159	81	57	44	33	374	3	3	266	-	1	4
Late Bedel.....	-	-	-	3	3	5	5	1	1	1	1	-	26	5	123	102	22	59	97	403	-	6	234	-	3	1	
Wyman.....	1	1	1	5	6	7	6	-	1	1	-	-	1	32	12	164	268	2	159	-	593	-	3	170	-	-	-
Stark.....	1	-	-	8	6	7	7	-	1	1	-	-	1	25	9	153	124	28	28	1	334	2	6	306	-	3	2
Poor.....	1	1	1	6	5	8	6	-	1	1	1	1	27	12	117	205	39	87	2	450	-	4	190	-	3	-	
Maxwell.....	1	1	1	8	6	7	5	-	1	1	-	-	1	28	10	180	122	63	19	-	384	3	6	256	-	1	1
Wingate.....	1	1	1	8	5	8	7	1	1	1	-	-	29	9	159	246	6	198	-	609	-	7	147	-	2	4	
Woods.....	-	-	-	1	6	6	6	-	1	1	1	-	27	10	228	70	86	30	-	414	2	4	226	-	3	1	
De Haas.....	1	1	1	7	8	8	7	-	1	1	1	1	22	6	220	39	147	26	-	432	4	10	208	-	4	-	
Nelson Independent.....	-	-	-	1	1	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	3	-	51	4	2	-	-	57	-	1	17	-	-	-	
Wynd.....	1	1	1	8	7	8	7	-	1	1	-	-	30	13	217	72	53	38	-	380	-	3	260	-	3	1	
Wayne.....	1	1	1	6	7	8	6	1	1	1	1	1	32	14	342	123	17	21	-	503	-	2	137	-	2	-	
Whitcomb.....	-	-	-	7	4	4	7	-	1	1	1	1	18	10	187	110	51	96	2	446	-	2	194	-	-	-	
Reed.....	-	-	-	1	7	8	6	8	-	1	1	1	32	16	219	271	9	120	-	619	-	-	5	-	-	-	
Wheelock.....	1	1	1	7	8	8	8	-	1	1	1	1	10	8	147	234	4	244	2	631	-	-	3	-	-	-	
Wigglesworth.....	1	1	1	8	6	6	5	1	1	1	1	1	17	8	160	145	10	156	-	471	-	-	3	-	-	-	
Woodbridge.....	1	1	1	8	6	8	8	-	1	1	1	1	30	16	285	192	9	84	1	571	-	-	40	4	-	-	
Brewer.....	1	1	1	10	9	10	9	1	1	1	1	1	38	20	386	137	16	116	-	655	-	-	2	2	322	-	
Willard.....	-	-	-	1	8	8	6	7	-	-	-	-	1	30	11	269	78	5	116	-	468	-	-	-	-	-	
Swift.....	1	1	-	2	4	2	1	1	1	-	-	-	12	13	130	201	111	66	2	510	1	1	52	1	1	3	
Part Mott.....	-	-	-	1	3	2	1	2	-	1	1	-	10	6	111	65	19	38	-	233	-	-	7	1	-	-	
Total.....	14	15	20	151	143	148	144	8	23	20	18	18	599	258	4342	3583	851	2212	192	11,180	26	75	4133	41	47	29	922
Irvine.....	-	1	1	4	5	3	5	-	1	1	1	1	17	15	194	165	20	91	16	486	2	1	152	-	1	1	
Van Schaick.....	-	1	-	3	3	5	2	-	1	1	-	-	16	11	156	50	3	57	1	267	2	1	192	-	-	6	
Van Dyke.....	-	1	-	3	3	2	-	-	1	-	1	-	10	4	75	30	21	61	-	187	-	-	-	-	235	-	
Wynkoop.....	-	1	-	1	1	1	1	-	-	1	-	-	3	2	20	87	1	26	-	134	-	1	96	-	-	-	
Part Mott.....	1	1	-	2	2	2	1	-	-	1	1	4	3	73	103	3	26	1	206	-	-	-	14	-	5	-	
Artificers.....	-	-	-	3	1	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	5	2	57	28	3	15	-	103	-	-	-	1	18	-	
Total.....	1	5	1	16	15	14	10	-	3	3	3	2	55	37	575	463	51	276	18	1383	4	3	440	-	16	27	41

HORATIO GATES.

By the above General Return, it will appear the numbers that were necessary for the defence of *Ticonderoga* last year. It should be observed that this was the exact state of the Army about twelve days before General *Carleton* landed at *Crown Point*. H. G.

N. B. *Dayton's*, (not in this Return,) *Van Schaick's*, *Van Dyck's*, *Wynkoop's*, and half *Mott's*, were upon the *Mohawk* and *Hudson* Rivers; *Irvine's* at *Crown Point*, but, upon the enemy's approach, withdrawn.

Return of the Corps of Artillery commanded by Major BADLAM.

Commissioned.					Staff.				Non-Commissioned.					Matrosses.					
Major.	Captains.	Capt. Lieut'nants.	First Lieutenants.	Second Lieut'nts.	Chaplains.	Surgeon.	Quartermaster.	Conductor.	Sergeants.	Corporals.	Bombardiers.	Gunners.	Drums and Fifes.	Present, fit for duty.	Sick, present.	Sick, absent.	On command.	On furlough.	Total.
1	2	2	1	2		1	1	1	11	5	7	12	4	42	26	14	10		92

GENERAL GATES TO GENERAL SCHUYLER.

Tyonderoga, September 30, 1776.

SIR: Your letter of the 23d instant is now before me. The want of shingle-nails distresses us greatly, as we can not cover our guard rooms, &c., without them, and the season grows colder and colder ever day. Spikes, we have too many. Some barrels came yesterday, ten I think. Colonel Lewis tells me they were not more than two-thirds full. Is this owing to theft, or are they sent in that manner? It is quite unnecessary to send any more of that article. Iron we also abound with. I cannot think we can use the half of what we have this winter. The barracks you mention have been preparing a long time; three are already completely finished. There will be no want of good shelter for a large and strong garrison, provided the shingle-nails are forwarded in due season. What in the name of honesty is doing with the boards that must be sawed at *Cheshire's*? We get none of them here. I wish you would send an officer you can depend upon, to superintend that business.

Now I mention *Cheshire's*, is it not astonishing that the road is not yet finished from thence, for the only five miles there was to do in *July* last, when you and I rode that way? And we are to this moment obliged to supply the troops and artificers, at *Skeensborough*, with provisions from here. I always thought the large store built at *Cheshire's* was intended to supply the troops this way. That is a much cheaper and better communication than this by *Lake George*. I wish you would order up all the men of the *York* regiments you have to spare, to finish the road to *Cheshire's*, that the proper use may be made of that communication. The *New-England* Militia will not work properly on that road. Could not a number of the *Canadians*, now at *Albany*, be employed in this business? They are excellent fellows at labour.

Commissary *Avery* has my orders to purchase all the turnips and potatoes you will supply us with from *Saratoga*. The cordage you mention is arrived, but General *Waterbury* is greatly disappointed in not receiving the cables. The galleys must sail with such as are to be had here. Better shall be sent them the moment they come to my hands. We are industrious in repairing the old fort, the stone redoubt at the east point of *Tyonderoga*, and constructing the outline of a strong fort upon *Mount Independence*. Preparations are also making to place the fleet in security for the winter; these are works which keep us all employed, the sick and maligners excepted, and they many more than they ought to be.

Messrs. *Rensselaer & Taylor* have sent shirts, &c., for the troops here, without naming the price, which causes murmuring, and prevents the officers and men from taking goods. I desire you will order Mr. *Taylor* to send without delay the price he charges for each particular article he has sent here.

The powder, lead, flints, and musket cartridge-paper wrote for so long ago, are not even in part arrived. The large demand supplied to the fleet, reduces our magazine so much, that should the fleet, after expending their ammunition, be obliged to retire, we shall not have any thing like sufficient to make a proper defence here. This should be seriously attended to, and not a moment more lost in furnishing the quantity demanded in my letter to you of the 5th of this instant.

Lieutenant-Colonel *Buel* must have imposed exceedingly upon your friendship, or you would never have granted him a furlough. Colonel *Burrell* has for some weeks been sent home in a very bad state of health, and his regiment in the utmost want of a Field officer to command it. Colonel *Buel* boasted here he had served nine campaigns without ever being in action, having always had the address to get

employed in some publick work remote from danger. Such a subject deserves for once to be made to do his duty.

I am informed the fourth row-galley is ready to be launched, the whole of the different gangs of ship-carpenters being consolidated into one body to finish her. Is it not the intention of Congress to continue to increase our fleet with the utmost expedition? If it is, more carpenters should be forthwith engaged, and that work carried with all the spirit and industry you are capable of. The *agua* has so worn down the carpenters sent by order of Congress, that more cannot be expected from them this season; therefore, to continue this important work, more must be supplied.

I earnestly wish the Commissioners for settling the publick accounts, who are now at *Albany*, might be sent here immediately, as there are demands upon the *United States*, and several officers in publick stations here whose accounts cannot be too soon adjusted.

You will consider of the covering that will be necessary for the officers and soldiers to be quartered in *Albany* and *Schenectady* for the winter, and if any more is wanted than can at present be provided, you will give orders accordingly. As there can be no serious attack upon this side of the *Mohawk* river before next summer, you will as soon as possible order Colonel *Dayton's* regiment to this post, they being enlisted to serve until next *March*, and being almost a complete regiment. They are the properest to make a part of the winter garrison here. The *New-York* regiments and the Militia of the *Mohawk* river, must be more than sufficient to guard the western frontier.

Enclosed is a copy of General *Arnold's* letter to me of the 21st instant. His demands are complied with as far as in my power, by the *Trumbull* galley, Captain *Warner*, which sailed last *Thursday* evening to join the fleet. General *Waterbury* sails with the two other galleys to-morrow morning early, and the schooner *Liberty* will immediately after proceed to the fleet. The heavy storm last night would fill me with great anxiety had not General *Arnold*, as you will see in his letter, assured me that he had a safe harbour within his reach.

HORATIO GATES.

To Major-General *Schuyler*.

GENERAL GATES TO GOVERNOUR TRUMBULL.

Ticonderoga, September 30, 1776.

SIR: I am just now honoured by the receipt of your Excellency's letter of the 25th instant, from *Lebanon*. I am happy to find your Excellency agree with me in sentiment in respect to the officers who ought to have commanded in the Continental Regiments, intended in future to compose the army of the *United States*. It shall not be my fault if your Excellency is not acquainted in time with the merits and demerits of those from the State of *Connecticut*, who have served under my command this campaign. If the worthy are not regarded, and the unworthy disregarded, the consequences are evident.

I am exceedingly ignorant of what has passed at *New-York*, having never received a line from General *Washington*, since fighting took place there. And although Congress pays some attention to my demands, I have not received a line from the President since that of the 8th of *July*.

The plan for raising the new army is not yet come to my hands. That is a business of the last importance. I sent Mr. *Hancock* some time ago a scheme of mine for the establishment thereof.

General *Waterbury* sails to-morrow morning with the two remaining row-galleys. Captain *Warner*, in the *Trumbull*, must have joined our fleet off *Isle Valcour* on *Saturday*. We had a violent storm last night; but as General *Arnold*

told me in his letter of the 21st instant, that he had a secure harbour within his reach, I am not very apprehensive for the safety of the fleet.

I have ordered a bridge to be built over *Otter Creek*, at *Rutland*, and a good road to be cut from the east side of *Mount Independence*, to join the road at *Castleton*. The bridge is almost finished, and the road will in about a week be completed thither. Your State and that of *Massachusetts* will do themselves and the publick great service, in making the roads that lead westward to *Rutland* as good as possible. For further particulars, I must refer your Excellency to Colonel *Trumbull*, who writes by this conveyance.

With great respect, I am, sir, your Excellency's most obedient, humble servant,

HORATIO GATES.

To Governour *Trumbull*.

COLONEL HARTLEY TO GENERAL GATES.

Crown-Point, September 30, 1776.

HONOURED SIR: I mentioned to you in my last, that I had sent the boat and crew back towards the fleet, who had got frightened at the firing of guns and returned. The men just now arrived here. My boat is not yet come. The vessels of our fleet were firing at a mark, and the enemy were rejoicing, or cleaning their artillery, at the *Isle Noix*, on the day that the firing was heard. The Sergeant can inform you of the rest.

Nothing remarkable has happened here since my last. I promised myself the pleasure of seeing you here to-day, but was disappointed. We had some good venison provided.

I am, sir, with the greatest regard and respect, your most humble servant,

THOS. HARTLEY.

To General *Gates*.

P. S. I would be exceedingly glad to hear what has happened at *New-York*.

CAPTAIN FASSETT TO GENERAL GATES.

Monkton, September 30, 1776.

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR HONOUR: On the 25th instant, a party of *Indians* came within one mile of Deacon *Rude's*, and took a man and his two sons prisoners. About the same time in the day, was discovered another party of *Indians*, seven or eight miles distant, by a party of our men. We were then building and preparing in the best manner for our defence. Our men seeing the situation they were in, paraded themselves and determined to leave the ground at all events. We tried all that lay in our power to keep them on the ground, till we could send word to your Honour, but could not prevail with them. They said they were willing to guard the frontiers; but, they said, your Honour did not know our situation; they said they had as good die one way as another. They marched in the night from the ground to *Williston*, across the river, one mile and a half, where we desired they would stay a few days, which they did. We sent out scouts, sent your Honour an express, and sent another down on the *Grants*, &c.

On the 28th instant, the men paraded themselves again, and resolved as is in the within writing.

We have marched with the families and some of their effects to this place, have no provisions valuable; and what to do we know not. But we know there are evil, designing men, which we understand are gone to see your Honour. Perhaps they may give a false representation of our case; but hope your Honour will wait patiently till there is a true representation given of the case.

The bearer, Lieutenant *Lyon*, can give a true representation, as he is knowing to the whole affair, which we hope will give your Honour satisfaction.

We are your Honour's most obedient, and very humble servants,

JOHN FASSETT, { Captains.
JONA. FASSETT, }

To the Hon. *Horatio Gates*, Major-General and Commander of the Northern Department.

At a Council of War holden at *Williston*, at the house of Colonel *Chittenden*, September 28, 1776, Members present: Captain *Jonathan Fassett*, President; Captain

John Fassett, Lieutenant *Rufus Perry*, Lieutenant *Jonathan Wright*, Lieutenant *Mathew Lyon*, Clerk.

It was motioned by the President, that the soldiers that should have been under the command of those officers have paraded themselves this morning, and make the following proposals to the officers, viz:

Firstly, That the officers take their command in their proper stations on the following terms, viz: That they will immediately march the men off *Onion River*, to the southward to some place on *Otter Creek*, in order to defend the frontiers of the *New-Hampshire Grants*, which was, as they supposed, the extent of their being raised, and the General's being requested to encourage the raising them.

Secondly, That they will resign the command on no other terms.

Thirdly, That the officers may have half an hour to consider of those proposals.

Fourthly, That in case the officers shall refuse those proposals, that each soldier will immediately march to his respective home.

Resolved first, That we will accept of those proposals offered by the soldiery, in our present poor situation, on condition they resign to justice the leaders of the mutiny which has taken the command out of the officers' hands, at Head-Quarters, at Deacon *Rude's* house, at *Jerico*.

Resolved, second, That we choose Captain *John Fassett* to treat with the soldiery on the foregoing subject.

Captain *John Fassett* after making application to the soldiery paraded, he makes the following return, viz: That the soldiery will not at the risk of their lives deliver up their leaders, as it was a unanimous thing.

Having taken into consideration the poor, weak situation we are in—officers without soldiers, and soldiers without officers in an enemy's land—savages all round us:

Resolved, thirdly, That we will take the command on the terms proposed by the soldiery.

The above is a true copy. Test:

MATHEW LYON, Clerk.

COLONEL LIVINGSTON TO GOVERNOUR TRUMBULL.

Saybrook, September 30, 1776.

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR HONOUR: I had this day determined to embark, with my little detachment, for *Long-Island*; but the desertion of several of my men, who are supposed to be gone for *New-London*, in order to engage on board the privateer fitting out for that place, has prevented me. I am informed some of the officers intended for those vessels have given our men encouragement to desert, having asserted at this place that they would protect them from the resentment of their officers in case they would leave them and engage in the sea service. I have transmitted General *Washington* a copy of this letter, with an account of this matter, that he may, if my detachment is broken to pieces by this means, be acquainted that it is not owing to my negligence. I send this by Lieutenant *Smith*, who has my orders to apprehend those deserters wherever they shall be found. It would be an addition to the many obligations conferred upon me, if it should please your Honour to grant a warrant to search those vessels for the persons we are in quest of.

I should have no objection to any number of men being drafted from the detachment for that service or any other, provided it was thought necessary by General *Washington*; but cannot help thinking it a great imposition, after having by his order inlisted and with pains disciplined them, to have them, just when they are needed to carry into execution his orders, taken from me by such methods as these. I would not for a moment continue in the land service was this allowed of. I have entered it merely to serve my country, but see plainly that it will be impossible for me to carry into execution my resolution with effect if the officers of the navy are suffered to spirit our men away by such low artifices as these. I should not much mind the desertion of a few worthless fellows, was it not for the influence their bad example may have upon others. A spirit of desertion is now among my men, and if passed over with impunity will, I fear, have bad consequences.

I remain, with respect and esteem, your Honour's most obedient, humble servant,

HENRY B. LIVINGSTON.

To His Honour Governour *Trumbull*.

CHRISTOPHER LEFFINGWELL TO GOVERNOUR TRUMBULL.

Norwich, September 30, 1776.

HONoured SIR: In pursuance of orders received from your Honour and from Colonel *Wolcott*, in conformity thereto, I have been with my company and twelve men from Colonel *Wolcott's*, with what shipping I could find, to *Sag-Harbour*, where I was joined by a company from Colonel *Livingston*, with which we have taken off most of the fat cattle that was left in the *Hamptons* and on *Montauk*, as also most of the sheep, having left a sufficiency of fat beef and mutton and the milch cows, for the use of the inhabitants that tarry on the island, as also the greater part of the lean and young cattle.

The vessels I took up at *Norwich* and *New-London* brought off seven hundred and ninety sheep, one hundred and fifty-two head of horned cattle, three families, furniture, &c., &c. The sheep and cattle have been delivered to the Committee of *Norwich*. Several of the owners are now there taking charge of their own. Others are expected soon, but probably there will be a number that no owner will appear for this some time.

The Committee of *Norwich* have never received any request from the Convention of the State of *New-York*, neither had they seen the resolution of that Convention recommending the removal of the women, children, stock, &c., until I shew a copy of it to them this day. They were proposing to advertise the remaining cattle and sheep for sale at publick auction; but as it is new business, and they are not invested with such authority as they could wish, they desire to be instructed by your Honour. A great number of the inhabitants of *Easthampton* own they have taken the oath of allegiance, and signed the roll of submission; many of which have since come off, and more intend coming. They are threshing their *English* grain, and are very desirous of getting their *Indian* corn, if possible. My company were the last troops on the island, Colonel *Livingston's* men having embarked and sailed before we had taken all the stock on board. The officers and men have exerted themselves beyond what is common, and are much fatigued; hope your Honour will excuse them from any further immediate service, that they may have time to recruit, except something very special should require their aid.

I have paid some of the masters and people I employed in the shipping, as I promised them their money immediately on their return. The owners I have paid nothing; wish to be directed how to settle with them, and advised how they shall be paid, and when, as they will be calling on me.

Beg leave to subscribe, with great esteem, your Honour's most obedient, humble servant,

CHRIST. LEFFINGWELL.

To Governour *Trumbull*.

N. B. The vessels employed by Colonel *Livingston* imagine must have carried off double the number of stock and ten times as many of the inhabitants as those I employed.

C. L.

COMMODORE HOPKINS TO THE MARINE COMMITTEE.

Providence, September 30, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: Enclosed you have a copy of the account Captain *Whipple* gave me of his cruise, who arrived here yesterday in the *Columbus*, and a copy of a letter I received this day from Mr. *Goddard*. The *Columbus* is very foul; shall order her to *Newport* the first fair wind to clean. The *Hampden* and the *Alfred* are ready all but men, which I have not been able to get a sufficient number yet. The new ships are down the river with about one hundred men each, but as there are so many privateers fitting out, which give more encouragement as to shares, it makes it difficult to man the Continental vessels. There are some small-arms arrived here belonging to the Continent, imported by Messrs. *Nicholas, Brown, & Co.*; should be glad of an order for them for the new ships, as I expect to get orders from the Committee of this State to enlist men out of their troops when they meet, which will be this week.

I am, gentlemen, your most obedient, humble servant,

E. HOPKINS.

To the Hon. *John Hancock*, Esq., President of the Marine Committee, at *Philadelphia*.

GENERAL WARD TO MASSACHUSETTS COUNCIL.

Boston, September 30, 1776.

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR HONOURS: As your Honours have thought proper to remove from the Heights on *Dorchester Point* those cannon which I had placed there, I must entreat you to see that those Heights are supplied with other proper cannon, and well furnished with ammunition. They are important posts, and ought not to be destitute of proper ordnance and ordnance stores one day. It gives me great uneasiness to think they have been so long destitute, and not in my power to furnish them. If we should be attacked when they are in such situation, the consequence will be bad, and great blame will fall somewhere, and that it may not justly come on me I give you this notice.

I am your Honours' humble servant,

ARTEMAS WARD.

To the honourable Board.

CAPTAIN J. P. JONES TO THE MARINE COMMITTEE.

Providence, off the Isle of Sable, September 30, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: I had the honour of writing to you on the 27th ultimo, per the brigantine *Britannia*, a whaler, which I sent in under the care of Lieutenant *Grinnell*; likewise 4th current, per the brigantine *Sea-Nymph*, which I sent in under the care of Mr. *W. Hopkins*; also 7th current, per the brigantine *Favourite*, which I sent in under the care of Mr. *J. Vesey*. The *Sea-Nymph* was from *Barbadoes* for *London*; the *Favourite*, from *Antigua* for *Liverpool*.

From that time till the 14th I cruised without seeing any vessels. I then spoke the *Columbus's* prize, the ship *Royal Exchange*, bound for *Boston*. By this time my water and wood began to run short, which induced me to stand to the northward for some port of *Nova-Scotia* or *Cape Breton*. I had besides a prospect of destroying the *English* shipping in these parts. The 16th and 17th I had a very heavy gale from the northwest, which obliged me to dismount all my guns, and strike every thing I could into the hold. The 19th I made the Isle of *Sable*, and on the 20th, being between it and the main, I met with an *English* frigate, with a merchant ship under her convoy. I had hove to, to give my people an opportunity of taking fish, when the frigate came in sight directly to windward, and was so good-natured as to save me the trouble of chasing him, by bearing down the instant he discovered us. When he came within cannon shot, I made sail to try his speed quartering, and, finding that I had the advantage, shortened sail to give him a wild goose chase, and tempt him to throw away powder and shot. Accordingly a curious mock engagement was maintained between us for eight hours, till night, with her sable curtain, put an end to this famous exploit of *English* knight-errantry.

He excited my contempt so much by his continual firing at more than twice the proper distance, that when he rounded to, to give his broadside, I ordered my Marine officer to return the salute with only a single musket. We saw him next morning standing to the westward, and it is not unlikely that he hath told his friends at *Halifax* what a tripping he gave to a "Rebel privateer" that he found infesting the coast.

That night I was off *Canso* harbour, and sent my boat in to gain information. On the morning of the 22d, I anchored in the harbour, and before night got off a sufficiency of wood and water. Here I recruited several men, and finding three *English* schooners in the harbour, we that night burnt one, sunk another, and in the morning carried off the third, which we had loaded with what fish was found in the other two.

At *Canso*, I received information of nine sail of ships, brigs, and schooners, in the harbours of *Narrowhook* and *Peter de Groat*, at a small distance from each other in the Island of *Madame*, on the east side of the bay of *Canso*. These I determined to take or destroy, and to do it effectually. Having brought a shallop for the purpose from *Canso*, I despatched her with twenty-five armed men, to *Narrowhook*, while my boat went well manned and armed to *Peter de Groat*, and I kept off and on with the sloop to keep them in awe in both places. The expedition succeeded to my wish. So effectual was the surprise, and so general the panick, that numbers yielded to a handful without opposition, and never was a bloodless victory more complete.

As the shipping that were loaded were all unrigged, I had recourse to an expedient for despatch: I promised to leave the late proprietors vessels sufficient to carry them home to the Island of *Jersey*, on condition that they immediately fitted out and rigged such of the rest as might be required. This condition was readily complied with, and they assisted my people with unremitting application till the business was completed; but the evening of the 25th brought with it a violent gale of wind with rain, which obliged me to anchor in the entrance of *Narrowshook*, where I rode it out with both anchors and whole cables ahead. Two of our prizes, the ship *Alexander* and schooner *Sea-Flower*, had come out before the gale began. The ship anchored under a point, and rode it out, but the schooner after anchoring, drove and ran ashore. She was a valuable prize, being loaded with oil; but as we could not get her off, I next day ordered her to be set on fire. The schooner *Ebenezer*, taken at *Canso*, was driven on a reef of sunken rocks, and there totally lost, the people having with difficulty saved themselves on a raft.

Towards noon, on the 26th, the gale began to abate. The ship *Adventure* being unrigged and almost empty, I ordered her to be burnt. I put to sea in the afternoon with the brigantine *Kingston Packet*, and being joined by the *Alexander*, went off *Peter de Groat*. I had sent an officer round in a shallop to order the vessels in that harbour to meet me in the offing, and he now joined me in the brigantine *Success*, and informed me that Mr. *Gallagher* (the officer who had commanded the party in that harbour) had left it, at the beginning of the gale, in the brigantine *Defiance*, and taken with him my boat and all the people. I am unwilling to believe that this was done with an evil intention. I rather think he concluded the boat and people necessary to assist the vessel in getting out, the navigation being difficult, and the wind at the time unfavourable; and when the gale was begun, I know it was impossible for them to return. Thus weakened, I could attempt nothing more. With one of our brigs and the sloop I could have scoured the coast and secured the destruction of a large coal fleet

that was loading near *Lewisburgh*, with the *Savage* only to protect them.

The fishery at *Canso* and *Madame* is effectually destroyed; out of twelve sail which I took there, I only left two small schooners and one small brig to convey a number of unfortunate men, not short of three hundred, across the Western ocean. Had I gone farther, I should have stood chargeable with inhumanity. In my ticklish situation, it would have been madness to lose a moment. I therefore hastened to the southward, to convey my prizes out of harm's way; *Dawson's* brig having been within fifteen leagues of the scene of action during the whole time.

On the 27th I saw two sail, which we took for *Quebeck* transports. Unable to resist the temptation, having appointed a three days' rendezvous on the southwest part of the Isle of *Sable*, I gave chase, but could not come up before they got into *Lewisburg*, a place where I had reason to expect a far superiour force, and therefore returned, and this day joined my prizes at the rendezvous.

If my poor endeavour should meet with your approbation, I shall be greatly rewarded in the pleasing reflection of having endeavoured to do my duty. I have had so much stormy weather and been obliged, on divers occasions, to carry so much sail, that the sloop is in no condition to continue long out of port. I am, besides, very weak-handed, and the men I have are scarce able to stand the deck for want of clothing, the weather here being very cold. These reasons induce me to bend my thoughts towards the Continent. I do not expect to meet with much, if any success, on my return; but if fortune should insist on sending a transport or so in my way, weak as I am, I will endeavour to pilot him safe. It is but justice to add that my officers and men behaved incomparably well on the above occasion.

I have the honour to be, with much respect and grateful esteem, gentlemen, your most obliged and very humble servant,

JNO. P. JONES.

To the honourable the Marine Committee.

[Two copies per the *Providence's* prizes, the ship *Alexander* and brigantine *Success*.]

MARYLAND COUNCIL OF SAFETY.

Monday, September 2, 1776.

Council met. Present the same Members as on the 31st of August.

Ordered, That the *Western-Shore* Treasurer pay to *John Amber* 37s., for attending the Hospital.

Ordered, That said Treasurer pay to *Thomas White* £16 17s. 6d., for Boatage for Flying-Camp.

Ordered, That said Treasurer pay to *William Clayton* 27s. 10d., for Cartage for Flying-Camp.

Ordered, That said Treasurer pay to *Patrick Hannah* £73 8s., for Tent Poles.

Ordered, That said Treasurer pay to *John Parker* £3 5s., for a Gun.

Ordered, That said Treasurer pay to *William Nevins* and Company £18 16s. 6d., for balance of his Account.

Ordered, That said Treasurer pay to *Joseph Gilpin*, for use of *Henry Hollingsworth*, £300, to provide necessaries for the Flying-Camp.

Ordered, That said Treasurer pay to *James Byers* £13 2s. 6d., for Boatage.

Ordered, That said Treasurer pay to Captain *Thomas Ewing*, for use and by order of Major *Gist*, £30.

Ordered, That said Treasurer pay to *Joseph Dorsey* £6 15s., for Boatage.

Ordered, That said Treasurer pay to *Thomas B. Hodgskin* 20s., for Cartouch Paper.

Ordered, That Supervisors of the Gun-Lock Manufactory, at *Frederick*, deliver to Captain *Thomas Beal* four Rifle Gun-Locks.

Copy of Letter No. 167 was sent to Captain *Darnes*.

Ordered, That Captains *Forrest* and *Bourke* immediately march both their Companies to the city of *Annapolis*, on their way to the Flying-Camp.

Ordered, That Commissaries of Stores deliver to Colonel *Ewing*, or to his order, whatever Guns, Tents, Camp-Kettles, Cartouch-Boxes, Gun-Slings, Bayonet-Belts, Knapsacks, and Haversacks, Priming-Wires, Brushes, and Canteens.

FIFTH SERIES.—VOL. II.

Ordered, That *Eastern-Shore* Treasurer pay to Captain *Richardson* £300, for Arms and Blankets.

Ordered, That Captain *James Tootell* provide a Sergeant and eight men of the Militia to guard the Magazine near his house; and that he endeavour to hire that number of men who will keep guard constantly, and let this Board know the lowest price at which they can be got.

Robert Welch was appointed Surgeon Assistant to Colonel *Ewing's* Battalion of the Flying-Camp.

Adjourned till next day, ten o'clock.

Tuesday, September 3, 1776.

Council met. Present the same Members as on yesterday.

Ordered, That *Western-Shore* Treasurer pay to *William Belwood* £5, for Boatage for Flying-Camp.

Ordered, That *Western-Shore* Treasurer pay to *George Gordon* and *Oliver Whiddon* £10 8s. 11d., for mending Guns.

Ordered, That said Treasurer pay to *Thomas Dronn* 13s. 4d., for making Clothes.

Ordered, That *Western-Shore* Treasurer pay to *George Trumbull*, for use of Captain *James Nicholson*, £514, for pay of ship *Defence's* Crew.

Ordered, That said Treasurer pay to *George Trumbull*, for the use of *Jesse Hollingsworth*, £200.

Ordered, That said Treasurer pay to *Samuel Chester* £22 10s., for being Adjutant.

Ordered, That said Treasurer pay to *Selby & Howard* £13 16s. 6d., for amount of Account.

Ordered, That said Treasurer pay to *Samuel Harris* £6., for Boatage.

Ordered, That said Treasurer pay to *Daniel Jenifer*, Jun., £9 7s. 6d., for his medical attendance at *St. George's* Camp.

Ordered, That said Treasurer pay to *William Akers* £5 12s. 6d., for Boatage.

Adjourned till next day, ten o'clock.

Wednesday, September 4, 1776.

Council met. Present same Members as on yesterday.

Ordered, That *Western-Shore* Treasurer pay to *John Thomas* £3 9s., for Subsist of Flying-Camp.

Ordered, That said Treasurer pay to *Joseph Gilpin*, for use of *Tobias Rudolph*, £18 3s., for Wagonage.

Ordered, That said Treasurer pay to *Joseph Gilpin* £4 19s. 7d., for Wagonage.

Warrant was issued to *Abraham Boyd* to enroll fifty men for the Flying-Camp.

Ordered, That *Western-Shore* Treasurer pay to Captain *Boyd* £135 currency.

Ordered, That said Treasurer pay to *Robert Wache* £9 13s. 8d., for Militia duty.

Ordered, That said Treasurer pay to *Matthew Traverse* £94, for Militia duty.

Ordered, That said Treasurer pay to *Francis Bruesbanks* £4 10s., for Boatage.

Ordered, That the said Treasurer pay to *John Crandall* £3 10s., for a Gun.

Ordered, That the said Treasurer pay to *Henry Griffith* 36s., for Subsist of Flying-Camp.

Adjourned till next day, ten o'clock.

Thursday, September 5, 1776.

Council met. Present the same Members as on yesterday.

Ordered, That *Western-Shore* Treasurer pay to *Wiseman Claggett* £3 10s., for a Gun.

Ordered, That Commission issue to *Robert Polk*, of the schooner *Montgomery*, he having given bond according to the instructions of Congress.

Ordered, That *Western-Shore* Treasurer pay to *Richard Weems* 12s., for and on account of his Company.

Ordered, That Commissary of Stores at *Annapolis* deliver to *John Davidson* one barrel of Musket Gunpowder, in exchange for one barrel of Cannon ditto.

Commissions issued to *Solomon Long*, appointed First Lieutenant, *Ely Dorsey*, Second Lieutenant, and *Richard Grace*, Third Lieutenant, of an Independent Company.

Ordered, That *Western-Shore* Treasurer pay to *Elizabeth Sharpe* £2 14s. 6d., for nursing the Sick at Hospital.

Ordered, That said Treasurer pay to *Philis Waterland* 15s. for attending Sick at Hospital.

Ordered, That Paymaster pay to Captain *Watkins* one month's pay, ending 3d day of September instant.

Ordered, That *Western-Shore* Treasurer pay to *Edward Abell* £113 15s. 10d., for his Company of Militia on duty.

Ordered, That said Treasurer pay to Lieutenant *Henry Dennis*, for use of *Philip Fiddeman*, £475 7s. 10d., for and on account of his Company.

Ordered, That *Eastern-Shore* Treasurer pay to Colonel *Benson Stanton* £207 2s. 6d., for Militia duty.

Ordered, That Commissary of Stores at *Annapolis* deliver to Captain *Philip Fiddeman* eighty-six Knap and Haversacks, Priming-Wires, Brushes, and fifteen Camp-Kettles.

Ordered, That *Western-Shore* Treasurer pay to *Richard Barnaby* £45, for Boatage.

Ordered, That said Treasurer pay to *Charles Wallace*, Esq., £500.

Copy of Letter No. 168 was sent to Captain *Fiddeman*; No. 169 to Colonel *Henry Hollingsworth*; No. 170 to *Thomas Stone*, Esq.

Ordered, That *Western-Shore* Treasurer pay to *Robert Martin* £6 15s., for Boatage.

Adjourned till next day, ten o'clock.

Friday, September 6, 1776.

Council met. Present the same Members as on yesterday.

Ordered, That *Western-Shore* Treasurer pay to Captain *Robert Bowie* £94 9s. 3d., for balance of his Account.

Ordered, That said Treasurer pay to *Benjamin Brookes* £4 12s. 6d., for Expresses.

Ordered, That said Treasurer pay to *John H. Briscoe* £7 19s., for balance of his Account.

Ordered, That *Eastern-Shore* Treasurer pay to Colonel *John Ennalls* £90 17s. 4d., for Militia duty.

Ordered, That *Western-Shore* Treasurer pay to *John Clark Sprigg*, for collecting the number of souls in part of *Prince George's* County.

Ordered, That said Treasurer pay to *Benjamin Brookes* £15, for collecting number of souls in County aforesaid.

Ordered, That said Treasurer pay to *Gordon & Patten* £708 18s., for Knapsacks with Haversacks.

Ordered, That said Treasurer pay to *James Harrington* 40s., for Boatage.

Ordered, That said Treasurer pay to *Matthew Patten* £29 12s. 3d., for Scabbards.

Ordered, That said Treasurer pay to said *Patten* 13s. 9d., for amount of Account.

Ordered, That said Treasurer pay to *Jno. Gordon* £15 0s. 3d., for amount of his Account.

Ordered, That said Treasurer pay to *John Gordon*, for use of *George Fitzings*, £4 1s., for amount of his Account.

Ordered, That said Treasurer pay to *James Allcock* £45, for thirty days' Engineering.

Ordered, That said Treasurer pay to *Edward Parker* £110, for Blankets.

Ordered, That *Western-Shore* Treasurer pay to Colonel *John Addison*, for use of Captain *Edward Tiliard*, £125, for advance.

Ordered, That said Treasurer pay to Captain *William Richardson* £62 7s. 4d., for Militia duty.

Ordered, That said Treasurer pay to Captain *David Crauford* £3 2s. 6d., for Expresses.

Permit was granted to *Hugh Sherwood*, of the Schooner *Betsey*, to go to *Martinico*, or any other foreign port, he having given bond with security, according to Resolves of Congress.

Ordered, That *Western-Shore* Treasurer pay to *Thomas Smyth*, Esq., for use of the Committee of *Kent* County, £400, for Arms and Blankets.

Ordered, That said Treasurer pay to *Thomas Pryse* £23 3s. 8d., for amount of his Account.

Adjourned till next day, ten o'clock.

Saturday, September 7, 1776.

Council met. Present as on yesterday.

Ordered, That *Western-Shore* Treasurer pay to *Francis Burgess* £18, for being Adjutant.

Ordered, That *Western-Shore* Treasurer pay to *John Maltimore* £4 10s., for Boatage.

Commissions issued to *Joseph Hall*, appointed Surgeon, *John Johnson* and *Richard Donning*, Surgeon Assistants, to Colonel *Griffith's* Battalion of Flying-Camp.

Adjourned till Monday, ten o'clock.

Monday, September 9, 1776.

Council met. Present as on yesterday.

Ordered, That *Western-Shore* Treasurer pay to Lieutenant *William Beall*, for the use of Captain *Robert Bowie*, £6, for pay for part of his Company.

Ordered, That said Treasurer pay to Captain *Uriah Forrest* £334 15s. 9d., for Pay and Subsist of his Company.

Ordered, That the said Treasurer pay to said *Forrest*, for use of *Belwood & Parran*, £5 5s., for Boatage.

Ordered, That said Treasurer pay to *Pollard Edmondson*, for use of *David McIntosh*, £24, for four months' Adjutancy.

Ordered, That said Treasurer pay to *Joshua Tugore* £3, for Boatage.

Ordered, That said Treasurer pay to *Robert Cummins* £1000, on account of Subsist of Troops.

Ordered, That said Treasurer pay to *Hillary Wilson* 30s., for Subsist of part of Flying-Camp.

Ordered, That *Western-Shore* Treasurer pay to *Henry Stonestreet* £14, for being Adjutant.

Adjourned till next day, ten o'clock.

Tuesday, September 10, 1776.

Council met. Present same Members as on yesterday.

Copy of Letter No. 171 was sent to *William Hindman*.

Ordered, That *Western-Shore* Treasurer pay to *Daniel Fowler* 50s., for a Gun.

Ordered, That said Treasurer pay to *Henry Sewell* £8 6s. 11d., for Subsist for Flying-Camp.

Ordered, That the Paymaster of the *Eastern-Shore* advance and pay to the Guard of the *Eastern-Shore* Magazine, or any person authorized to receive the same, 1s. per man per day, for subsist, and such pay as due to the Militia, when in actual service, the Guard consisting of a Sergeant and eight men, at the expiration of each month.

Ordered, That *Western-Shore* Treasurer pay to *Peter Smith* £24 17s., for Drums.

Ordered, That said Treasurer pay to *John Davidson*, for the use of *Archibald Buchanan*, £500, on account of Gondolas.

Copy of Letter No. 172 to Colonel *Henry Hollingsworth*; No. 173 to the Committee of Observation for *Baltimore* County.

Ordered, That the *Western-Shore* Treasurer pay to Captain *John Mackall* £81 2s. 4d., for Militia on duty.

Adjourned till next day, ten o'clock.

—
Wednesday, September 11, 1776.

Council met. Present the same Members as on yesterday.

Ordered, That *Western-Shore* Treasurer pay to Captain *John Brooke, Jun.*, £399 14s. 4d., for and on account of his Company.

Captain *John Brooke's* Company commissioned.

Ordered, That *Western-Shore* Treasurer pay to *James Tootell* £61 13s. 3d., for amount of Account.

Ordered, That said Treasurer pay to *William Urquhart* £4 13s., for Subsist of part of Flying-Camp.

Ordered, That said Treasurer pay to *Cornelius Garretson* £24 4s. 3d., for amount of Account.

Copy of Letter No. 175 was sent to Colonel *Smallwood* and Brigadier-General *Beall*.

Ordered, That Colonel *William Smallwood* be requested to procure a Stamp to be made, on which the word *Maryland* shall be engraved; and that he therewith cause all the Guns belonging to this State in the hands of the Regular Troops, including the Independent Companies, to be stamped; and Brigadier-General *Beall*, or the commanding officer of the Militia of the Flying-Camp, is requested to cause all of the Guns in the hands of the said last-mentioned Troops to be stamped in the same manner.

Ordered, That *Western-Shore* Treasurer pay to Colonel *John Stull* £600, for and on account of the Militia Company to be raised in the Upper District in *Frederick* County.

Ordered, That the said Treasurer pay to Dr. *Adam Fisher* £600, for and on account of the Company to be raised in the Middle District of *Frederick* County.

Warrants issued to *Elijah Robeson*, appointed Captain, *Samuel Baker*, appointed First Lieutenant, *Vach. Gauthier*, appointed Second Lieutenant, *Nicholas Worthington*, appointed Ensign, of a Company for Flying-Camp.

Ordered, That *Western-Shore* Treasurer pay to Major *Elijah Robeson* £600, on account of his Company.

Ordered, That Advertisements be inserted for one thousand Pikes.

Commissions issued to *James Lloyd*, appointed Second Lieutenant, and *Richard Willis*, Ensign, of Captain *Frisby's* Company of Militia, in *Kent* County.

Adjourned till next day, ten o'clock.

—
Thursday, September 12, 1776.

Council met. Present the same Members as on yesterday.

Ordered, That *Western-Shore* Treasurer pay to *Elisha Williams* £600, for to raise the Militia Company in Lower District of *Frederick* County.

Ordered, That *Samuel Messersmith* be requested to deliver to Captain *Forrest* all the Guns which were left in his custody to be repaired by Captain *Hammond*.

Ordered, That Commissary of Stores immediately send to *Annapolis* one hundred Camp Kettles; and all the Can-

teens from the Magazine, and Guns, if any, to be sent to *Annapolis*.

Copy of Letter No. 176 was sent to *Jesse Hollingsworth*.

Permit was granted to *Job Greene*, of the Schooner *Two-Brothers*, to go to *Martinique*, or any other foreign port, he having given bond and returned a manifest, agreeable to the Resolves of Convention.

Permit was granted to *Thomas Ridley*, of the Sloop *Fanny*, to go to *Hispaniola*, or otherwise.

Ordered, That *Western-Shore* Treasurer pay to *Archibald Buchanan* £450, for Schooner *Dolphin*, insured by this State.

Ordered, That said Treasurer pay to *George Wells* £300, on account of Gondolas.

Ordered, That Mr. *Hollingsworth* be requested to deliver to Mr. *Stephen Steward* two thousand weight Bread and ten barrels Flour.

Ordered, That Commissary of Stores at *Baltimore-Town* deliver to *Henry Howard* one half-barrel Powder, to try Cannon.

Ordered, That *Western-Shore* Treasurer pay to *Stephen Steward* £200, for *Craigh's* Boat.

Commissions issued to *Ezekiel Vickars*, appointed Captain, *Thomas Firmin Eccleston*, appointed First Lieutenant, *Nathaniel Manning*, appointed Second Lieutenant, *John C. Harrison*, appointed Ensign, of a Company of Militia in the Nineteenth Battalion.

Ordered, That *Western-Shore* Treasurer pay to *Joseph Middleton* £150, for his look-out Boats.

Ordered, That said Treasurer pay to *John Smith, Esq.*, for use of the Committee of Observation for *Baltimore* County, £600, on account of the Fortifications.

Ordered, That said Treasurer pay to *Nathaniel Stinchcomb* £5 5s., for Boatage.

Ordered, That said Treasurer pay to *Thomas Shilies* £7 4s., for amount of Account.

Ordered, That said Treasurer pay to the Committee of Observation for *Caroline* County £25 3s. 5d., for amount of Account.

Ordered, That said Treasurer pay to Captain *Conway* £72 12s., for amount of Account.

Ordered, That said Treasurer pay to *Daniel Campbell* £3 10s., for a Gun.

Ordered, That *Eastern-Shore* Treasurer pay to Captain *Greenb. Goldsborough* £461 1s. 9d., for and on account of his Company.

Ordered, That said Treasurer pay to said *Goldsborough* £50 for advance.

Ordered, That *Western-Shore* Treasurer pay to Colonel *John Ennalls* £24 19s. 6d., for amount of Account.

Copy of Letter No. 177 was sent to *Gerard Hopkins*; Nos. 178 and 179 to Messrs. *Vanbibber & Harrison*.

Commission to Captain *Conway*, of Sloop *Molly*, as a Letter-of-Marque.

Ordered, That *Western-Shore* Treasurer pay to *Josh. Nicholson, Esq.*, £16 2s., for his attendance in Council of Safety.

Adjourned till next day, ten o'clock.

—
Friday, September 13, 1776.

Council met. Present as on yesterday.

Ordered, That *Eastern-Shore* Treasurer pay to Colonel *James Murray* £706 13s. 6d., for Militia duty.

Ordered, That *Western-Shore* Treasurer pay to Captain *John Parnham* £34 17s. 8d., for Militia duty.

Ordered, That said Treasurer pay to *Thomas Dent* £8 8s. 10d., for amount of Account.

Ordered, That the *Western-Shore* Treasurer pay to *Thomas Dent* £25, for enumerating the inhabitants in part of *Prince George's* County.

Ordered, That said Treasurer pay to *William Tuck* £3 11s. 8d., for expenses.

Copy of Letter No. 180 sent to *George Cooke, Esq.*

James Boyd, of *St. Mary's* County, contracts with the Council of Safety for making Muskets, completely fitted in the usual manner, at £4 5s. each; the Council enga-

ging to take any quantity of him, and find Powder for their proof.

Ordered, That *Western-Shore* Treasurer pay to *Oliver Whiddon* £3 10s., for a Musket.

Ordered, That said Treasurer pay to *Joseph Gilpin*, Esq., £1,000, for three Companies in *Cecil* County.

Copy of Letter No. 181 was sent to *Benjamin Rumsey* and *James Tilghman*, Esquires.

Henry Killum, *Zerobabel Maddox*, and *William Corbin*, being called upon and examined, and appearing to be persons who had gone over to the enemy, and deserted from them,

Ordered, That they stand committed, until they give security, in the sum of £50 currency, each, for their good behaviour and obeying all orders of the honourable Congress and Convention.

Ordered, That they be put under the care of Mr. *Thomas Price*, and be delivered by him to the Committee of Observation for *Somerset* County, who are required to take security according to the above order.

William Tumblesome discharged on his parole not to leave *Annapolis* until the further order of the Council of Safety.

John Evans, *John Price*, and *Robert Howarth*, discharged, upon giving bond, with security.

Adjourned till next day, ten o'clock.

— Saturday, September 14, 1776.

Council met. Present as on yesterday.

Lambert Purnell, of Captain *Watkins's* Company, discharged, and permitted to return to his home.

Adjourned till Monday, ten o'clock.

— Monday, September 16, 1776.

Council met. Present as on Saturday.

Permit was granted to *William Thomas*, Master of the Sloop *Hazard*, to go to *Martinique*, and dispose of his cargo, he having given bond, and lodged a manifest, agreeably to the Resolve of Convention.

Ordered, That *Western-Shore* Treasurer pay to Captain *Beriah Mabury* £13 12s. 8d., for Boatage.

Ordered, That said Treasurer pay to *Brittenham Dickinson* £7 11s. 7d., for amount of Account.

Ordered, That said Treasurer pay to *Jonathan Parker* £5 12s., for going Expresses.

Ordered, That Captain *Smith* be directed to let *Job Green*, of the Schooner *Two-Brothers*, proceed on his voyage, according to permit heretofore granted.

Ordered, That *Western-Shore* Treasurer pay to Colonel *Hooe*, for use of *Joseph Hanson Harrison*, £440 9s. 4d., for amount of Account.

Barton Tabbs appointed Surgeon Assistant to Doctor *Briscoe*, of the seven Independent Companies.

Lambert Purnell, of Captain *Watkins's* Company, discharged from the service, and permitted to go to his friends.

Ordered, That *Western-Shore* Treasurer pay to Colonel *James Murray* £3 14s. 4d., for Militia duty.

Commissions issued to *Isaac Reid*, appointed First Lieutenant, *Nehemiah Messeck*, appointed Second Lieutenant, *John Treyford*, appointed Ensign, of a Company of Militia called the *Friendship's* Company, in *Dorchester* County.

Ordered, That *Western-Shore* Treasurer pay to *John Bullen* £81 10s., for two Horses.

Ordered, That *Western-Shore* Treasurer pay to *Barton Tabbs* £7 1s. 6d., for medical attendance at *St. George's* Camp.

William Matthews, of Captain *Gunby's* Company, is discharged.

Ordered, That *Western-Shore* Treasurer pay to *John Bullen* £5 15s., for sundries, per Account.

Ordered, That said Treasurer pay to *Peter Shaw* £10 10s., for Boatage.

Ordered, That said Treasurer pay to Colonel *John Enalls* £21, for Militia duty.

Permit granted to *Thomas Waters*, Master of Sloop *Baltimore Hero*, to go to *Martinique* or any other foreign port,

he having given bond with security, agreeable to the Resolves of Convention.

Adjourned till next day, ten o'clock.

— Tuesday, September 17, 1776.

Council met. Present as on yesterday.

Ordered, That *Western-Shore* Treasurer pay to *Isaac Vanbibber*, for use of *Seth Paddock*, £25 10s., for amount of Account.

Ordered, That said Treasurer pay to *John Leybold* £2 15s., for Express.

Ordered, That *Western-Shore* Treasurer pay to Captain *Henry Shaaff* £60 12s. 2d., for Militia duty.

Ordered, That said Treasurer pay to Captain *Cox* £69 10s. 2d., for Militia duty.

Ordered, That said Treasurer pay to Captain *John Smith* £39 5s. 10d., for Militia duty.

Ordered, That said Treasurer pay to *Jos. Robson* £16 8s. 8d., for Militia duty.

Ordered, That said Treasurer pay to *Richard Sprigg* £40 12s. 6d., for Cannon.

Ordered, That said Treasurer pay to *Francis Sanderson* £428 13s., for copper Camp-Kettles.

Copy of Letter No. 182 was sent to *Robert Alexander*, Esquire.

Ordered, That *Western-Shore* Treasurer pay to Colonel *Richard Barnes* £145 17s. 3d., for Militia duty.

Ordered, That said Treasurer pay to *James West* £5, for Boatage.

Ordered, That said Treasurer pay to Dr. *John Parnham* 42s. 3d., for Militia Utensils.

Ordered, That *Western-Shore* Treasurer pay to *Basil Brooke* £6 8s., for Militia duty.

Ordered, That said Treasurer pay to Captain *Thomas Watkins* £600, for inlisting a Flying-Camp Company.

Warrants issued to *Thomas Watkins*, appointed Captain, *Levi Lawrence*, First Lieutenant, *Thomas Todd*, Second Lieutenant, and *John Jiams*, Jun., Ensign, of a Company for Flying-Camp.

Ordered, That Dr. *Richard Tootell* be requested to remove any Soldiers of infectious disorders, to be nursed in private houses.

Ordered, That *Western-Shore* Treasurer pay to Dr. *James Brohon* £12 19s., for amount of Account.

Ordered, That *Eastern-Shore* Treasurer pay to *William Traverse* £367 6s. 10d., for Militia duty.

Ordered, That *Western-Shore* Treasurer pay to *William Traverse* £74 9s., for ditto.

Ordered, That said Treasurer pay to *Joseph Duvall* £4 17s. 3d., for apprehending Deserters.

Ordered, That Mr. *Stephen Steward* take possession of all the Military Stores, Guns, and Rigging of the Schooner *Resolution*.

Ordered, That *Western-Shore* Treasurer pay to Captain *Uriah Forrest*, for use of *Abm. Barnes*, *S. Belwood*, and *C. Chesley*, £19 3s. 4d., for amount of his Account.

Adjourned till next day, ten o'clock.

— Wednesday, September 18, 1776.

Council met. Present as on yesterday.

Ordered, That *Western-Shore* Treasurer pay to *Peter Chaille* £85 9s., for amount of Account.

Mr. *Nicholas Thomas*, appointed a Member of this Board, attended, and having taken the oath prescribed by the Convention, took his seat accordingly.

Ordered, That *Western-Shore* Treasurer pay to Colonel *Jeremiah Jordon* £79 6s. 2d., for Militia Accounts.

Ordered, That said Treasurer pay to *James Parson* £13 15s., for Boatage.

Ordered, That said Treasurer pay to *William Akers* 15s., for ditto.

Ordered, That said Treasurer pay to Colonel *Jeremiah Jordon* £3 13s. 6d., for repairing Guns.

Permit was granted *Josh. Hayman*, commander of Sloop *Betsey*, to go to *Caiman*, or any other foreign port.

Ordered, That *Western-Shore* Treasurer pay to *John Bullen* £40, to be accounted for.

Ordered, That *Western-Shore* Treasurer pay to Captain *James Nicholson* £514, for pay of *Defence* Ship's Crew.

Ordered, That said Treasurer pay to *Christian Rhebeck* £72 15s., for Priming-Wires and Brushes.

Ordered, That said Treasurer pay to Major *Thomas Snowden* £78 18s., for Gun Carriages.

Ordered, That a Court-Martial be held for the trial of Captain *John Fontleroy*, of the Twenty-Eighth Battalion.

That Major *Matthew Driver* be President of the said Court, and the following persons Members of the same: Captains *Thomas Hughlett*, *Vincent Price*, *John Mitchell*, *Nathaniel Potter*, *Josh. Douglass*, *Peter Richardson*, and *Henry Easson*, Jun.

Ordered, That *Western-Shore* Treasurer pay to Captain *James Nicholson* £934 8s. 8d., currency, on account of *Defence*.

Ordered, That said Treasurer pay to *Oliver Whiddon* £3 10s., for a Musket.

Ordered, That said Treasurer pay to *Frederick Teems* £224, for the Bounty of a Company for Flying-Camp.

Warrant issued to *Frederick Teems*, appointed Captain of a Company in *Baltimore* County.

Copy of Letter No. 183 was sent to Colonel *William Buchanan*.

Adjourned till next day, ten o'clock.

Thursday, September 19, 1776.

Council met. Present as on yesterday.

Ordered, That *Western-Shore* Treasurer pay to *James Roystone* £2 6s. 6d., for amount of Account.

Mr. *Tilghman* attended.

James Cunningham and *William Tomlinson* permitted to pass through any part of the *Western-Shore*, and not to depart without leave of this Board, they being prisoners from Lord *Dunmore's* Fleet.

Ordered, That *Western-Shore* Treasurer pay to *James Cunningham* £3, for his Subsist while on parole.

Ordered, That said Treasurer pay to *William Tomlinson* 30s., for his Subsist while on parole.

Mr. *William Hindman* transmits to the Council of Safety, by the hands of Mr. *Gibson*, unsigned Bill of Credit amounting to £9,625, which Mr. *Harwood*, *Western-Shore* Treasurer, acknowledges the receipt of.

Ordered, That *Western-Shore* Treasurer pay to Captain *Cooke* £150, on account of Ship *Defence*.

Ordered, That Commissary of Stores deliver to Captain *Cooke* two bolts of *Oznaburgs*, for the Ship *Defence's* use.

Ordered, That *Western-Shore* Treasurer pay to *Patrick Bourk* £5 0s. 10d., for Express.

Ordered, That said Treasurer pay to *William Tuck* £4, for Express.

The following list of effects was delivered to the Board by Colonel *Waters*, which was taken off the Island in *Somerset* County: 3 clincker-built Boats, 2 casks of Train-Oil, 200 weight old iron or thereabouts, 1 Long-Boat, 1 Flat, 1 large Long-Boat, 1 Yawl, 2 hogsheads Rum, 1 small Schooner that will carry about two hundred bushels.

Ordered, That the Flat and large Long Boat be sent up to *Annapolis* by the first convenient opportunity, and that the other effects in the above list mentioned, be sold at publick sale to the highest bidder, under the direction of Colonel *Peter Waters*, after ten days' notice given of such a sale, and that the money be lodged in the hands of the *Eastern-Shore* Treasurer, subject to the order of Convention; and Colonel *Waters* is requested to cause any repairs to be made that may be necessary to the above-mentioned Flat.

Ordered, That *Western-Shore* Treasurer pay to Captain *Goldsborough* £150, on account of his Company.

Ordered, That Captain *Goldsborough* be requested to purchase fourteen Muskets, if they can be purchased at £4 10s., each, well fitted with Bayonets.

Ordered, That Commissary of Stores deliver to Captain *Goldsborough* fifteen Camp-Kettles and ninety Priming-Wires and Brushes.

Commissions issued to *William Schoolfield*, appointed

First Lieutenant, *George Schoolfield*, Second Lieutenant, and *Brittain Powell*, Ensign, of a Company in the Seventeenth Battalion of Militia.

Also, to *Ballard Bozman*, appointed Second Lieutenant, and *James Curtis*, Ensign, of a Company in ditto. Also, to *William Waller*, appointed Ensign, in a Company in ditto.

Also, to *Benjamin Schoolfield*, appointed Captain, *Thos. Jones*, First Lieutenant, and *Samuel Dixon*, Second Lieutenant, of a Company in ditto.

Copy of Letter No. 184, was sent to Colonel *Joseph Sim*.

Ordered, That *Western-Shore* Treasurer pay to *Levi Covington*, £224, for Bounty for a Company of Flying-Camp Militia.

Warrant issued to him for the purpose aforesaid.

Ordered, That *Samuel Messersmith* be requested to deliver to Captain *Brooke* all the Guns in his possession belonging to the publick, after repairing the same.

Adjourned till next day, ten o'clock.

Friday, September 20, 1776.

Council met. Present as on yesterday, except Mr. *Thomas*.

Ordered, That *Western-Shore* Treasurer pay to Captain *Uriah Forrest*, £161 1s. 10d., for account of his Company.

Ordered, That said Treasurer pay to *John Gibson*, £2 12s. 6d., for amount of his Account.

Ordered, That said Treasurer pay to Colonel *Richard Barnes*, £16 1s. 6d., for amount of Account.

Ordered, That said Treasurer pay to Colonel *Richard Barnes*, £4 8s. 4d., for Sundries furnished Captain *Forrest's* Company.

Ordered, That said Treasurer pay to *John Lucas*, 14s. 6d., for cash paid *Richard Pottenger*, for Medicine for *Lucas*.

Ordered, That *Western-Shore* Treasurer pay to Captain *Michael Lowe*, £12 17s. 10d., for the service of his Company.

Commissions issued to *Thomas Wilcozen*, appointed First Lieutenant, *William King*, Second Lieutenant, and *John Evans*, Ensign, of Captain *Michael Lowe's* Company of Militia, in *Prince George's* County.

Warrant granted to Mr. *Nicholas Norwood*, to raise a Company of Men, agreeable to the Resolves of the late Convention.

Ordered, That *Western-Shore* Treasurer pay to said *Norwood*, £234, for Bounty Money.

Ordered, That Captain *Vernon Hebb* and Mr. *Timothy Bowes*, or either of them, dispose of, for the use of this State, such part of the Captures lately made out of *Dunmore's* fleet, that may be deemed perishable or wasting.

Adjourned till next day, ten o'clock.

Saturday, September 21, 1776.

Council met. Present as on yesterday, except Mr. *Plater*.

Warrant granted to *Andrew Hynes*, appointed to raise a Company of Men, agreeable to the Resolutions of the late Convention.

Ordered, That *Western-Shore* Treasurer pay to Lieutenant *Ezekiel Cox*, for the use of Captain *Hynes*, £234, for Bounty of above Company.

Captain *George Beall* and *Hezekiah Magruder*, appointed Inspectors of *George-Town* Warehouse, in the Lower District of *Frederick* County.

Ordered, That the *Western-Shore* Treasurer pay to *Oliver Whiddon*, £3, for a Musket.

Adjourned till Monday, ten o'clock.

Monday, September 23, 1776.

Council met. Present as on Saturday.

Warrant granted to *Richard Wilson*, of *Queen Anne's* County, to raise a Company of Militia, agreeable to the Resolves of the late Convention.

Ordered, That the *Western-Shore* Treasurer pay to *Richard Wilson*, £429 for Bounty, and one month's pay.

Warrant granted to *Robert Harriss*, of *Harford County*, to raise a Company as above.

Ordered, That *Western-Shore* Treasurer pay to *Robert Harriss* £429, for Bounty and one month's pay.

Copy of Letter No. 186 was sent to Colonel *Rumsey*.

Ordered, That *Western-Shore* Treasurer pay to *John Parker* 45s., for a Musket.

Warrant granted to *Francis Holland*, of *Harford County*, to raise a Company of Militia, agreeable to the Resolves of the late Convention.

Ordered, That *Western-Shore* Treasurer pay to *Francis Holland* £429, for Bounty and Pay of the above Company.

Copy of Letter No. 187 was sent to Colonel *Aquila Hall*.

Ordered, That *Western-Shore* Treasurer pay to *Thomas Edison* £15, for two and a half months' services as Adjutant to Colonel *James Johnson's* Battalion of Militia.

Ordered, That said Treasurer pay to *William Niven* £65 10s., for Account.

Ordered, That said Treasurer pay to *William Niven*, for the use of Mrs. *Pinkney*, £5, for rent of her House for Barracks.

Adjourned till next day, ten o'clock.

Tuesday, September 24, 1776.

Council met. Present as on yesterday.

Ordered, That *Western-Shore* Treasurer pay to *James Hervey* £5.

William Jones appointed Inspector of *White's* Warehouse in *Dorchester County*.

The Council of Safety contracted with *Joseph Selby*, for the making two thousand Cartouch-Boxes, Bayonet-Belts, and Gun-Slings, to be delivered in one month from this date, at 12s. 6d.

They also contracted with *George Gordon*, for the making two thousand Cartouch-Boxes, Bayonet-Belts, and Gun-Slings, at 12s. 6d.

Ordered, That *Western-Shore* Treasurer pay to *George Gordon* £300, on account of above Contract.

Ordered, That *Western-Shore* Treasurer pay to Colonel *John Dorsey* and Major *Gaither* £130, for purchase of Arms.

Ordered, That Mr. *Elisha Winters* deliver to Captain *Joseph Richardson* all the Muskets he has ready made for publick service.

Ordered, That the Committee of Observation for *Kent County*, deliver to Captain *Joseph Richardson* ten pounds of Powder and forty pounds of Lead.

Ordered, That *Western-Shore* Treasurer pay to *Gilbert Yeldhall* £3 5s., for a Gun.

Adjourned till next day, ten o'clock.

Wednesday, September 25, 1776.

Council met. Present as on yesterday.

Copy of Letter No. 188 was sent to *Thomas Ringgold*, Esq.

Ordered, That *Western-Shore* Treasurer pay to *William Tuck* £18 10s., for thirty-seven days' attendance as Door-keeper to the Council.

Ordered, That said Treasurer pay to *Catharine Nixon* 30s., for attending Hospital.

Ordered, That said Treasurer pay to *Selby & Howard* 34s. 6d., for amount of Account.

Ordered, That said Treasurer pay to *Joseph Selby* £250, on account of his contract for Cartouch Boxes.

Ordered, That Mr. *John Yost*, of *George-Town*, deliver to Lieutenant *Frederick Skinner* all the Muskets he has ready made for the publick service.

Ordered, That *Western-Shore* Treasurer pay to Lieutenant *Colmore Williams* £6 2s. 10d., for Board of part of Captain *Bracco's* Company.

Adjourned till next day, ten o'clock.

Thursday, September 26, 1776.

Council met. Present as on yesterday.

Mr. *Thomas* attended.

Warrant granted to *William Ridgaway*, of *Queen Anne's County*, to raise a Company, agreeable to the Resolves of last Convention.

Ordered, That *Western-Shore* Treasurer pay to Lieutenant *Mark Benton*, for the use of Captain *Ridgaway*, £429, for Bounty and one month's Pay.

Ordered, That said Treasurer pay to Dr. *J. Hall*, of Colonel *Griffith's* Battalion of Flying-Camp, £20, for advance.

Copy of Letter No. 189, was sent to Captain *James Nicholson*.

Ordered, That *Western-Shore* Treasurer pay to *John Bullen* £200 for the purchase of two Horses, a Cart, or light Wagon, and proper Geers.

Copy of Letter No. 190, was sent to the Committee of *Baltimore County*.

Passport was granted to *Josh. Dowson*, *Arch. Chisolme*, and Negroes *Cæsar* and *Jack*, in the Boat *Sally*, to pass to and from *Potowmack*, *Great Wicomico*, *Rhappahannock*, *Pearketank*, *York River*, and *James River*.

Ordered, That *Western-Shore* Treasurer pay to Captain *Daniel Claysaddle*, £54 7s. 6d., for travelling expenses of his Company from *Hagers-Town* to *Philadelphia*, in lieu of rations.

Commissions issued to Captain *Daniel Claysaddle*, Lieutenant *Frederick Nichodemus*, Lieutenant *David Harry*, Ensign *Mathias Hickman*, of a Company of Militia in *Washington County*.

Ordered, That Commissary of Stores deliver to Messrs. *Lux*, *Purviance*, and *Steward*, one ton of Gunpowder for the Continental Frigate at *Baltimore*.

Warrant issued to *Thomas Noble Stockett*, appointed Second Surgeon's Assistant to Colonel *William Richardson's* Battalion of Flying Camp.

The Council contracted with *Charles White* for making one thousand good, substantial hickory Pike Staffs, at 1s. 6d. each, seven hundred and fifty whereof to be delivered by the 15th of *November*, and the residue by the first day of *December* next.

Ordered, That the Commissary of Stores deliver to Mr. *William Patterson* twenty bolts of Canvass.

Adjourned till next day, ten o'clock.

Friday, September 27, 1776.

Council met. Present as on yesterday.

Ordered, That the Commissary of Stores deliver to *William Niven* a quantity of Steel sufficient for to make a Pike as a sample.

Warrant issued to *William Patterson* to enlist twenty-five men for the Marine service.

Ordered, That *Western-Shore* Treasurer pay to *Jacob Reasor* £90 14s. 8d., for repairing Guns.

Copy of Letter No. 191 was sent to the Deputies in Congress; No. 192 to Messrs. *Willing & Morris*; No. 193 to the honourable the Secret Committee in Congress; No. 194 to Messrs. *Lux & Bowley*.

Ordered, That *Western-Shore* Treasurer pay to Captain *William Patterson* £75, for inlisting men as above.

Adjourned till next day, ten o'clock.

Saturday, September 28, 1776.

Council met. Present as on yesterday.

Copy of Letter No. 195 was sent to Colonel *John Read*.

Commissions issued to *Samuel Evans*, appointed Captain, *Henry Dobson*, First Lieutenant, *Thomas Ramsey*, Second Lieutenant, *William Stuart*, Ensign, of a Company in *Cecil County*.

Ordered, That *Western-Shore* Treasurer pay to *John Steele* £55, for a Boat.

Ordered, That said Treasurer pay to *Henry Dobson*, for the use of *Charles Rumsey*, *Henry Hollingsworth*, and *Edward Parker*, £500, on account of Flying-Camp.

Ordered, That *Edward Parker*, of *Cecil County*, furnish Linen sufficient to make Tents for Captain *Evans's* Company.

William Nevin and *Anthony Pinkney*, of the City of *Annapolis*, agree with the Council of Safety to furnish them with one thousand Blades for Pikes, at 5s. 6d. currency, each; the Council of Safety to find steel sufficient for said work. Five hundred Blades to be delivered on or before the last day of *October*, and the whole to be ground, completed, and finished in a workmanlike manner by the last day of *November*. Said *Nevin & Pinkney* are to rivet and otherwise fasten the Blades to the shafts.

Copy of Letter No. 196 was sent to the Committee of *Baltimore* County; No. 197 to Colonels *Rumsey*, *Hollingsworth*, and Major *Parker*.

Ordered, That Commissary of Stores deliver to Lieutenant *Henry Dobson*, for the use of Captain *Samuel Evans's* Company, twelve Camp Kettles, seventy-six Cartouch Boxes, Priming-Wires and Brushes, Knapsacks with Haversacks and Canteens.

Messrs. *Ridgely & Howard*, of *Baltimore* County, required to furnish two hundred Camp Kettles of the sizes and dimensions of those heretofore furnished.

Ordered, That when unwholesome provision is furnished by the victualler or contractor, that the same shall be condemned, and a proper quantity in lieu thereof purchased by the Quartermaster at such rates as he shall agree for, and that the price be charged to the proper account of the contractor.

Adjourned till *Monday*, ten o'clock.

Monday, September 30, 1776.

Council met. Present as on yesterday.

Mr. *Carroll* attended.

Ordered, That *Western-Shore* Treasurer pay to *John Davidson* £6 15s., for Boatage.

Ordered, That said Treasurer pay to *Thomas Samuel Poole*, for the use of *John Young*, £106 5s., for Knapsacks, &c.

Ordered, That said Treasurer pay to Clerk £20, for Expresses and other purposes.

Commission granted to *James Tibbitt*, of the Sloop *Independence*, as a Letter of Marque, he giving bond according to Resolves of Congress.

Ordered, That *Western-Shore* Treasurer pay to *David Stewart*, for use of *Isaac Vanbibber*, by order of *Abraham Vanbibber*, two hundred dollars.

Adjourned till next day, ten o'clock.

Tuesday, October 1, 1776.

Council met. Present as on yesterday.

The Council of Safety agree to pay for any Blankets which *William Parson*, Quartermaster, may purchase for Captain *Brooke's* Company.

Ordered, That *Western-Shore* Treasurer pay to Doctor *John Archer*, for use of *Richard Dalhouse*, £100, on account of his Gun manufactory.

Ordered, That said Treasurer pay to *John Aubler* 45s., for attending the Hospital.

Mr. *Smyth* and Mr. *Plater* attended.

Ordered, That said Treasurer pay to *William Parran*, Quartermaster, £18 2s., for Quartermaster's duty.

Ordered, That said Treasurer pay to *Nicholas White* £22 13s., for Guns.

Adjourned till next day, ten o'clock.

Wednesday, October 2, 1776.

Council met. Present as on yesterday.

Ordered, That *Western-Shore* Treasurer pay to *William Wilkins* £300, on account of Fortifications at *Annapolis*.

Permit granted to *William McGarry*, master of Sloop *Nancy*, to go to *Virginia* for Tobacco, and return therewith to *Maryland*.

Ordered, That *Western-Shore* Treasurer pay to *Oliver Whiddon* £6, for two Muskets.

Dennis Griffith was appointed Ensign of Captain *Deakin's* Company, of Colonel *Griffith's* Battalion of Flying-Camp Militia; and Commission issued thereon accordingly.

Ordered, That *Western-Shore* Treasurer pay *Chiles Moore* £5, for Boatage.

Copy of Letter No. 198 was sent to Colonel *William Smallwood*.

Ordered, That *Western-Shore* Treasurer pay to *Samuel Dorsey* £40 1s., for Tents.

Adjourned till next day, ten o'clock.

Thursday, October 3, 1776.

Council met. Present as on yesterday. Mr. *Rumsey* attended.

Ordered, That *Western-Shore* Treasurer pay Doctor *John Boyd* £27 7s. 1½d., for Medicine.

Ordered, That said Treasurer pay to Lieutenant *John Hartshorne*, for use of Colonel *Hughes*, £570, on account of Captain *Maxwell's* Company.

Commissions issued to *James Maxwell*, appointed Captain, *John Hartshorne*, appointed First Lieutenant, *William Johnstone*, appointed Second Lieutenant, *Adam Glason*, appointed Ensign, of a Company, agreeably to the Resolves of late Convention.

The Council of Safety purchased, of Major *Horse*, the Schooner *Friendship*, with the rigging, sail, and tackle, agreeably to inventory lodged, for £1,000 common money. Major *Horse* agrees to deliver said vessel, fit for sea, at *Baltimore-Town*; the Council of Safety agreeing to insure from captures on her way up the Bay. Mr. *Henry* empowered to purchase twenty hogsheads of Tobacco, not exceeding 20s. per hundred weight, and one hundred barrels of Flour, at *Baltimore* prices. The Vessel is not to be detained for the Tobacco or Flour. Flour to be inspected at *Baltimore*, if thought necessary by the Council of Safety. To be ready to take in her cargo within twelve days.

Ordered, That *Western-Shore* Treasurer pay to *Catharine Minskey* 15s. 8d., for attending Hospital.

Ordered, That said Treasurer pay to Major *William Horse* £300, for above purchase.

Ordered, That said Treasurer pay to *Edward Timmons* £10, for three Guns.

Copy of Letter No. 199 was sent to Colonel *Hughes*.

Ordered, That Commissary of Stores deliver to Lieutenant *Hartshorne*, for use of Captain *Maxwell's* Company, eighty-eight Knap, with Haversacks, Cartouch-Boxes, Belts, and Slings, Canteens, fifteen Camp-Kettles, and Tents.

Commissions issued to *Valentine Creagar*, appointed Captain, *Philip Smith*, First Lieutenant, *George Neit*, Second Lieutenant, *John Perkinson*, Ensign, of a Company in *Frederick* County.

Commission issued to *William Richardson*, appointed Ensign of Captain *Grosh's* Company, in Colonel *Griffith's* Battalion of Flying-Camp.

Smith Bishop and *Joseph Mitchell* severally recognized, in the sum of £100 currency, each, for *William Bartlett Townsend's* appearance before the Convention, when called upon; and thereupon, Ordered, That he be discharged.

Adjourned till next day, ten o'clock.

Friday, October 4, 1776.

Council met. Present as on yesterday.

Commission issued to *Francis Holland*, appointed Captain of a Company in *Harford* County.

Ordered, That *Western-Shore* Treasurer pay to *John Bullen* £8 11s. 6d., for amount of Account.

Ordered, That *Western-Shore* Treasurer pay to *John Bullen* £40, for necessaries for Hospital.

John Williams and *Thomas Niambergh*, of Captain *Long's* Independent Company, permitted to go to *Worcester* County, for the recovery of their health.

Ordered, That *Charles Wallace*, Esquire, Paymaster, advance one month's pay to *John Williams* and *Thomas Niambergh*, of Captain *Long's* Company, ending the 3d instant.

Ordered, That *Western-Shore* Treasurer pay to *Beriah Maybury* £7 0s. 6d., for Boat-hire.

Ordered, That said Treasurer pay to *Ezekiel Towson* £20, to be accounted for.

The Council of Safety agree with *Ezekiel Towson* to be Captain of a Guard for a Magazine in *Baltimore County*, he engaging to hire twelve men, not exceeding 45s. per man, and Captain's pay for himself, and to draw rations.

Ordered, That Commissary of Stores deliver to *Bent. Edward Hall* three hundred yards of coarse Linen, for tenting; also Cartouch-Boxes, Priming-Wires and Brushes, and Knapsacks, with Haversacks; also, fifteen Camp-Kettles, for Captain *Holland's* Company.

Adjourned till next day, ten o'clock.

Saturday, October 5, 1776.

Council met. Present as on yesterday.

Ordered, That *Western-Shore* Treasurer pay to *Stephen Stewart* £1,500, to be repaid in Continental Money, either at *Philadelphia* or at this place.

Ordered, That said Treasurer pay to *William Thomas* £24, for attending as Adjutant to the Twenty-Fifth Battalion of Militia.

Copy of Letter No. 200 was sent to *Cravorth & Dugan*.

Ordered, That Major *William Horsey* be required to purchase twenty more hogsheads Tobacco, provided he can send it up in the Schooner *Friendship*, and that she be not delayed for it.

Ordered, That *Western-Shore* Treasurer pay to *Phillis Waterman* 15s., for attending Hospital.

Ordered, That said Treasurer pay to *Elizabeth Sharpe* 40s., for attending Hospital.

Ordered, That the Paymaster advance to *William Williams*, of Captain *Gunby's* Company, one month's Pay.

Ordered, That Commissary deliver to *Nicholas Newland*, of Captain *Burne's* Company, six yards of Linen.

Copy of Letter No. 201 was sent to Mr. *Jesse Hollingsworth*; No. 202 was sent to *Lux & Bowley*.

Ordered, That Captain *Fulford* be requested to take into his Company such of the Flying-Camp who have and shall be discharged from the Hospital, and that they do duty with his Company regularly, and be under his command.

Ordered, That *Western-Shore* Treasurer pay to *Elizabeth Hunter* 4s. 3d., for Ferriage of General *Lee*.

Adjourned till next day, ten o'clock.

Sunday, October 6, 1776.

Council met. Present as on yesterday.

Complaint being made to this Board that General *Stephens*, from *Virginia*, had impressed a Pilot of *Annapolis*, and confined him, with a view of obliging him, against his will and inclination, to pilot the Vessel of the said General *Stephens* to the *Head-of-Elk*, in this State, the attendance of General *Stephens* was by them requested, who, in consequence thereof, waited on the Board, when Mr. Vice President, on their behalf, informed him that such conduct was contrary to the laws of this State, and an infringement of the rights of the inhabitants thereof; that if General *Stephens*, or any officer of the *United States*, did or should stand in need of any assistance from us, we should exert ourselves to the utmost in procuring it; but that it became our duty, on complaint, to take notice of any violation of the law.

The General replied that he had the greatest veneration for the civil law of the land, and should always draw his sword in support of it; that he by no means intended to infringe it; but being under a necessity of passing the *Head-of-Elk*, in his way to the Camp near *New-York*, with part of the *Virginia* forces, having no skilful Pilot, and standing in great need of one, he had at first used some force; but had afterwards obtained the consent of the owner of the Pilot; that it did not occur to his mind, at that time, that there was Council of Safety or Convention sitting, or even a Justice of Peace; but that he would restore the Pilot of his liberty; and desired the Board to procure him one; which they accordingly did, agreeable to his request.

Adjourned till next day, ten o'clock.

Monday, October 7, 1776.

Council met. Present as on yesterday.

Ordered, That *Western-Shore* Treasurer pay to Doctor

Adam Fisher, for use of *George Bane*, £4 6s., for amount of Account.

Ordered, That said Treasurer pay to *Thomas Cleland* £63 6s., for Militia duty.

Ordered, That said Treasurer pay to *Adam Fisher*, for use of *Jacob Boyer*, *Michael Olbex*, and *Nicholas Tice*, £35 18s. 6d., for amount of Account.

Ordered, That *Western-Shore* Treasurer pay *William Johnson* £16 14s. 6d., for amount of Account.

Ordered, That *Charles Wallace*, Esq., Paymaster, pay to *William Ohano*, of Captain *Burke's* Company, one month's Pay.

John Perry was appointed Surgeon to the Battalion of Troops raised under the late Resolves of Convention.

Ordered, That *Western-Shore* Treasurer pay to *William Johnson* £3 14s., for amount of Account.

It being represented by Mr. *Philip Hill* that *Thomas Selby*, *William Orme*, and *Leonard Pearce*, enrolled in the Company formerly commanded by Captain *Beall*, now Captain *Bracco's*, refuse to join the corps now at the camp near *New-York*, this Board request Captain *Aaron Beall*, Jun., to send them under the guard of a Sergeant and six men of his Company to this place, as speedily as possible.

Ordered, That *Western-Shore* Treasurer pay to *John Chamberlaine* £2 9s., for amount of Account.

Adjourned till next day, ten o'clock.

Tuesday, October 8, 1776.

Council met. Present as on yesterday.

Commission issued to *Michael Wallace*, appointed Surgeon to Colonel *Smallwood's* Battalion of regular forces.

Also to *Francis Neale*, appointed Surgeon Assistant to said Battalion.

Ordered, That *Western-Shore* Treasurer pay to *Jeremiah Satchwell* 40s., for a Gun.

Ordered, That said Treasurer pay to Colonel *William Fitzhugh* for use of *Josh. Vanswearingen*, £3 7s. 9d., for amount of Account.

Commissions issued to *Benjamin Bradford* appointed Captain, and *William Smith* Second Lieutenant, of a Company in Eighth Battalion in *Harford County*.

Ordered, That the Memorial against Captain *Joseph Byus*, be taken into consideration on *Thursday*, the 24th day of *October* next, and he is hereby directed to attend the Council of Safety on that day, to answer the charge against him alleged: *John Hubbert*, *John Lee*, and *Sarah Lee*, *Elijah Marshall*, *Judah Marshall*, *William Bennelly*, *Samuel Hubbert*, and *William Fraizer*, of *Dorchester County*, being ordered to attend and testify their knowledge of, and concerning the facts contained in the Memorial aforesaid.

Ordered, That *Charles Wallace*, Esq., Paymaster, advance one month's Pay to *John Pratt*, of Captain *Thomas's* Company.

Ordered, That *Western-Shore* Treasurer pay Lieutenant *Levin Lawrence* £50, to be accounted for.

Ordered, That said Treasurer pay to *John Lamb* £5 10s., for Boatage.

Adjourned till next day, ten o'clock.

Wednesday, October 9, 1776.

Council met. Present as on yesterday.

Ordered, That *Western-Shore* Treasurer pay to Dr. *William Smyth* £4 16s., for attendance on Captain *Dean's* Company.

Ordered, That *Western-Shore* Treasurer pay to *George Hanson* 15s., for cleaning Guns.

Ordered, That said Treasurer pay to *Thomas Richardson*, by order and for the use of *Abraham Vanbibber*, six hundred and thirty dollars.

Ordered, That said Treasurer pay to *Stephen Stewart*, for use of *Jesse Hollingsworth*, £800, to be accounted for.

The Committee of Observation for *Queen Ann's County*, return a list of the number of inhabitants in *Town-Hundred*.

Ordered, That Commissary of Stores deliver to *Thomas Todd* fifteen Camp Kettles.

Copy of Letter No. 203 was sent to *Jesse Hollingsworth*.

Ordered, That *Western-Shore* Treasurer pay to *Mark Benton* £17 10s., for amount of Account.

Ordered, That said Treasurer pay to Captain *James Tootle* £47 5s. 5d., for account about Magazine.

Adjourned till next day, ten o'clock.

Thursday, October 10, 1776.

Committee met. Present as on yesterday.

Ordered, That *Western-Shore* Treasurer pay to *Gilchrist & Richardson* £15, for Boatage.

Ordered, That said Treasurer pay to *Peter Heron* 10s., for Ferriage.

Ordered, That said Treasurer pay to *Jenifer & Hooe* £48 10s., for outfit of Sloop *Molly*.

Copy of Letter No. 204 was sent to Colonel *Henry Hollingsworth*; No. 205 to Colonel *Bond* and Major *John Taylor*.

Copy of Letter No. 206* was sent to Mr. *William Johnson*; No. 207 to Mr. *Amos Garrett*; No. 208 to Dr. *Francis Neale*.

Ordered, That *Western-Shore* Treasurer pay to *Bent. Edward Hall*, for use of *Amos Garrett*, £100, for Arms and Blankets.

Ordered, That said Treasurer pay to *Jacob Morriss*, for use of *Thomas Bond* and *John Taylor*, £300, for ditto.

Ordered, That Commissary of Stores at *Baltimore-Town* deliver to Captain *Harriss*, eighty-six Cartouch Boxes, Belts, Canteens, Knapsacks with Haversacks, and sixteen Camp-Kettles.

Commission issued to *William Ewing*, appointed Ensign of Captain *Morriss's* Company, in the Eighth Battalion of Militia.

Ordered, That *Western-Shore* Treasurer pay to *John Buckley* £6, for one month's Adjutancy to Colonel *Rumsey's* Battalion of Militia.

Ordered, That said Treasurer pay to *Oliver Whiddon* £3 10s., for a Gun.

Ordered, That said Treasurer pay to *Robert Christie, Esq.*, £109 17s. 6d., for detention of two Vessels sunk at *Otter-Alarm*.

Ordered, That said Treasurer pay to *Melchor Keener* £41 7s. 6d., for ditto.

Ordered, That *Western-Shore* Treasurer pay to *William Worth* £126 5s. 10d., for sinkage of Vessels at *Otter-Alarm*.

Ordered, That said Treasurer pay to *James Clarke* £52 15s., for ditto.

Ordered, That said Treasurer pay to *Robert Johnson* £105 1s. 11d., for ditto.

Adjourned till next day, ten o'clock.

Friday, October 11, 1776.

Council met. Present as on yesterday.

Ordered, That *Western-Shore* Treasurer pay to *John Gordon* £400, on account of contract for Cartouch Boxes.

Ordered, That said Treasurer pay to *Catharine Nixon* 15s., for amount of Account.

Copy of Letter No. 209 was sent to Dr. *Michael Wallace*.

Council of Safety advertise for five thousand pair of Shoes.

Copy of Letter No. 210 was sent to Colonels *Veazey* and *Thomas*, Majors *Rumsey* and *Clayton*.

Ordered, That *Western-Shore* Treasurer pay to *John Gordon*, for use of *Gerard Hopkins*, £12 6s. 6d., for amount of Account.

Commission of Reprisal issued to *James Handy*, of the *Harlequin* Privateer, mounting six swivels, he having given bond according to Resolve.

Ordered, That *Western-Shore* Treasurer pay to *Robert Ridge* £3 16s. 9d., for amount of Account.

William Barker appointed Inspector of the Warehouse at *Nanjemoy*, in *Charles* County.

Ordered, That *Western-Shore* Treasurer pay to *James Maynard* £3 10s., for amount of Account.

*[All Letters of the Council of Safety after No. 205 are missing.]

FIFTH SERIES.—VOL. II.

Ordered, That said Treasurer pay to *Aquila Randall* £24, for four months' Adjutancy.

Ordered, That said Treasurer pay to Captain *Thomas Watkins* £200, for to purchase Arms and Blankets.

Ordered, That said Treasurer pay to *Selby & Howard* £400, on account of Contract.

Ordered, That said Treasurer pay to Colonel *Peter Waters* £391 2s. 5d., for amount Account.

Mr. *Benjamin King* appointed Captain of the Schooner *Resolution*, and the Council of Safety agree to pay him the same wages and merchants' pay, and empower him to procure hands to man her.

Ordered, That *Western-Shore* Treasurer pay to *Benjamin King* £50, on account of Schooner *Resolution*.

Copy of Letter No. 211 was sent to Captain *Joseph Handy*.

Adjourned till next day, ten o'clock.

Saturday, October 12, 1776.

Council met. Present as on yesterday.

Ordered, That *Western-Shore* Treasurer pay to *James Tilghman, Esq.*, for use of *John Perry*, £15, for one month's Pay.

Copy of Letter No. 212 was sent to the several recruiting Captains under the late Convention Resolve.

Ordered, That *Western-Shore* Treasurer pay to *Daniel and Samuel Hughes* £500, on account Cannon Contract.

Ordered, That *Eastern-Shore* Treasurer pay to *Ringgold & Hemsley* £500, to be accounted for.

Ordered, That *Western-Shore* Treasurer pay to *Thomas Smyth, Esq.*, £500 currency, on account of Gondolas.

Commissions issued to *Andrew Hynes*, appointed Captain, *Isaac McCrackin*, First Lieutenant, *Ezekiel Cox*, Second Lieutenant, and *John Jacobs*, Ensign, of a Company in *Frederick* County, raised to compose part of the Flying-Camp.

Ordered, That *Western-Shore* Treasurer pay to *Stephen Johnson* £54, for amount Account.

Commissions issued to *Edward Cockey*, appointed Colonel, *Joshua Stevenson*, Lieutenant-Colonel, *Micajah Merryman*, First Major, *Stephen Cromwell*, Second Major, *John Robert Hollyday*, Quartermaster, of the Gunpowder Upper Battalion, in *Baltimore* County.

Ordered, That *Western-Shore* Treasurer pay to *John Davidson*, for use of *Blair McClenechan*, by order and for use of *Vanbibber & Harrison*, £300 currency.

Copy of Letter No. 213 was sent to Captain *Andrew Hynes*; No. 214 to *Samuel Boone*.

Ordered, That the Treasurer of the *Western-Shore* pay to Lieutenant *Isaac McCrackin*, for use of Captain *Isaac Hynes*, £620, to be accounted for.

Ordered, That said Treasurer pay to Colonel *John Still* £147 2s. 3d., for amount Account.

Ordered, That said Treasurer pay to *John Oster* and *John Miller* £2 10s. currency, for amount Account.

Ordered, That said Treasurer pay to *Oliver Whiddon* £3 currency, for a Musket.

Ordered, That *Eastern-Shore* Treasurer pay to *Thomas Tibbles* £7, *James Wrench* £7, *John Hall* £6 6s., *James Earl Denny* £6 10s., *Solomon Jones* £6 10s., *Matthew Lewis Barnett* £7, for collecting and ascertaining the number of souls in *Talbot* County.

Permit was granted to *John Patterson*, master of the Schooner *Industry*, to go to *Hispaniola*, he having given bond and lodged manifests, according to Resolve of Convention.

Ordered, That *Western-Shore* Treasurer pay to *Abraham Haff* 40s., for amount of Account.

Ordered, That said Treasurer pay to *Gilchrist & Richardson* £13 15s. currency, for amount Account.

Ordered, That said Treasurer pay to *Francis Linthicum* £4 10s., for a Gun and Bayonet.

Ordered, That said Treasurer pay to *Benjamin Rumsey* £9 16s., for fourteen days' attendance in Council of Safety.

Adjourned till Monday, ten o'clock.

Monday, October 14, 1776.

Council met. Present as on Saturday

Ordered, That *Western-Shore* Treasurer pay to *Stephen Stewart* £1000, currency, to be accounted for.

Ordered, That said Treasurer pay to *George Garston* £8, for Pilotage.

Ordered, That said Treasurer pay to *Elizabeth Dune* 21s., for amount of Account.

Ordered, That said Treasurer pay to *Catharine Dixon* 12s. 6d., for amount of Account.

The Council of Safety deliver to Captain *Brooke* nine Muskets.

Ordered, That *Western-Shore* Treasurer pay *Thomas* and *John Dorsey* £17 2s. 8d., for amount Account.

Mr. *Nicholson* attended.

Ordered, That *Western-Shore* Treasurer pay to *James Hutchings* £228 15s. 4d., for amount Account.

The Council of Safety appointed Captain *Keltie* to rig and get the Schooner *Ninety-Two* fit for sea, she being bought of *Cravath & Dugan* for £800 currency.

Ordered, That *Western-Shore* Treasurer pay to *John Keltie* £50, to be accounted for.

Adjourned till next day, ten o'clock.

Tuesday, October 15, 1776.

Council met. Present as on yesterday.

Ordered, That Commissary of Stores deliver to Colonel *Fitzhugh* ten pounds of Powder, he having supplied Militia with that quantity.

Ordered, That *Western-Shore* Treasurer pay to *Samuel Dorsey* £500, on account of Cannon contract.

Copy of Letter No. 215 was sent to Colonel *Thomas Hughes*; No. 216 to *Ben. Edward Hall*.

Ordered, That *Western-Shore* Treasurer pay to *Cumberland Dugan* £1000, to be accounted for.

Ordered, That *Western-Shore* Treasurer pay to *Cumberland Dugan* £800, for Schooner *Ninety-Two*.

Ordered, That said Treasurer pay to *Philemon Warfield*, for use of *Matthew Hammond*, £4 4s., for Quartermaster-ship.

Commission issued to *John Carlisle*, appointed First Lieutenant, *William Young*, Second Lieutenant, and *Robert Morgan*, Ensign, of Captain *Holland's* Company of Flying-Camp.

Copy of Letter No. 217 was sent to Captain *Francis Holland*.

Ordered, That such of the Privates who have inlisted in the Company of Captain *Nicholas Norwood*, and will not serve in Captain *Deem's* Company, be discharged.

Ordered, That *Western-Shore* Treasurer pay to *Fredrick Teems* £200, to be accounted for.

Copy of Letter No. 218 was sent to *John Hanson*, Esq.

Ordered, That *Western-Shore* Treasurer pay to *John Hanson*, Esq., £100, for and on account of Tory Prisoners.

Ordered, That said Treasurer pay to *Dr. Adam Fisher*, for use of *Jacob Schley*, £52 18s., for amount Account.

Ordered, That said Treasurer pay to *Dr. Richard Tootell* £71 19s. 9d., for amount Account.

Adjourned till next day, ten o'clock.

Wednesday, October 16, 1776.

Council met. Present as on yesterday.

Ordered, That *Western-Shore* Treasurer pay to *John Little* 40s., for a Musket.

Ordered, That said Treasurer pay to *Matthew Patten* £3 10s., for amount of Account.

Ordered, That said Treasurer pay to *Erasmus Uhler* £56 2s. 6d., for amount Account.

Ordered, That *Charles Wallace*, Paymaster, advance to *Jesse Selby*, of Captain *Watkins's* Company, one month's Pay.

Ordered, That *Western-Shore* Treasurer pay to *Richard Bryan* 30s., for going Express.

Ordered, That said Treasurer pay to *Nicholas Thomas* £22 4s., for twenty-seven days' attendance and itinerant charges.

Ordered, That said Treasurer pay to Colonel *James Murray* £8 1s., for amount Account.

Josiah Hall, of *Harford* County, return to the Council of Safety \$160, with his warrant, he being appointed Third Lieutenant of the Rifle Company to be raised in said County, which said sum the *Western-Shore* Treasurer acknowledges to have received.

Ordered, That *Western-Shore* Treasurer pay to *David Evans* £6 12s. 8d., for amount Account.

Adjourned till next day, ten o'clock.

Thursday, October 17, 1776.

Council met. Present as on yesterday.

Ordered, That *Western-Shore* Treasurer pay to *Nicholas Hall*, for use of *John Robert Hollyday*, £91 10s. 6d., for amount Account.

Ordered, That said Treasurer pay to *Thomas Contee* £9 19s. 6d., for amount Account.

Copy of Letter No. 219 was sent to Mr. *Jacob Schley*; No. 220 to *Vernon Hobb* and *Timothy Bowers*; No. 221 to *George Wells*.

Ordered, That *Western-Shore* Treasurer pay to *John Barry*, for use of *George Wells*, £400, on account Row-Galleys.

Adjourned till next day, ten o'clock.

Friday, October 18, 1776.

Council met. Present as on yesterday.

Copy of Letter No. 222 was sent to *Jesse Hollingsworth*; No. 223 to the Continental Board of War; No. 224 to Colonel *Charles Rumsey*.

Ordered, That *Western-Shore* Treasurer pay to *George Crooke* £3 15s., for Wagonage.

Ordered, That Commissary of Provisions supply Captain *Patterson* with what Provision he may want.

Ordered, That *Western-Shore* Treasurer pay to Captain *Luke Maybury*, for use of Captain *Samuel Hawkins Bayne*, £17 6s., for Account.

Copy of Letter No. 225 was sent to *James Claypole*.

Council of Safety contract with *Nicholas McCubbin* for making 1,250 pairs Shoes, at 11½s. currency per pair; and

Ordered, That *Western-Shore* Treasurer pay to said *McCubbin* £300 currency, for above purpose.

Ordered, That said Treasurer pay to *Dr. John Parnham*, for use of *Josias Hawkins*, £41 9s. 2d. currency, for amount Account.

Adjourned till next day, ten o'clock.

Saturday, October 19, 1776.

Council met. Present as on yesterday.

Ordered, That *Western-Shore* Treasurer pay to *Daniel Falkin* £2 9s. 4d., for amount Account.

Ordered, That said Treasurer pay to *John Smoot* £2 6s. 8d., for amount Account.

Ordered, That said Treasurer pay to Major *Thomas Snowden* £101 3s. 4d., for Gun-Carriages.

Ordered, That *Western-Shore* Treasurer pay to *James Cheston* £31 10s., for amount Account.

Ordered, That said Treasurer pay to *Bennett Ryley* £1 12s., amount Account.

Commissions issued to *Robert Harris*, appointed Captain, *William Cole*, First Lieutenant, *Benjamin Scott*, Second Lieutenant, and *James Steele*, Ensign, of a Company in *Harford* County, raised to compose part of the Flying-Camp.

Ordered, That *Western-Shore* Treasurer pay to *Robert Harris* £75, to be accounted for.

Ordered, That Commissary of Stores at *Annapolis* deliver to Captain *Harris* eighty-two Priming-Wires and Brushes.

The charge against *William Bartlet Townsend* having been referred to the consideration of the Council of Safety by the Convention, he was thereupon called upon, and attended, and sundry Depositions against him being read, and several witnesses being examined, relative to the charge against him, it was Ordered, That he be discharged upon his given bond with security, in the penalty of £1000 currency, for his future good behaviour.

William Bartlet Townsend, Cornelius Dickinson, and Joseph Gray Taylor, recognized the principal in the sum of £1000 for his good behaviour, and that he will not correspond in any manner with, act, aid, or any way assist the enemies of *America*, and be of future good behaviour; the securities in £333 6s. 8d., each.

Ordered, That he pay all expenses incurred in the prosecution of the above charge.

Ordered, That his Estate be delivered him upon his paying the Committee of Observation for *Worcester County*, and *Bartlet Townsend*, respectively, all the expenses incurred.

Basil Clarkson, of *Dorchester County*, was discharged; and, thereupon, it was

Ordered, That his Property be forthwith returned him.

Jesse Selby, of Captain *Long's* Company, discharged from the service of this State.

Ordered, That the Paymaster advance one month's Pay to *Jesse Selby*.

Ordered, That *Western-Shore* Treasurer pay *William Traverse* £26 6s. 4d., for Militia duty.

Adjourned till *Monday*, ten o'clock.

—
In Convention, October 18, 1776.

Resolved, That the Council of Safety be empowered to hear and determine on the case of *William Bartlet Townsend*, of *Worcester County*, and to pass such judgment therein as in their discretion they may think fit.

Extract from the Minutes:

G. DUVAL, Clerk.

—
Depositions against TOWNSEND and SCARBROUGH.

September 12, 1776.

SIR: Upon request of your wife, I was this day going to a Magistrate, to give my deposition respecting your case; but am informed the Magistrate will not take it, but refers me to the Committee, and time will not permit the calling, and my going before the Committee for that purpose, at this time.

I am informed that you charge my oath against you as the principal cause of your present troubles. This is to assure you that I never to my knowledge swore an oath against you that could, in my opinion, injure you, was it fairly laid before the honourable Convention; nor indeed could I, with truth. I cannot now charge my memory what the several questions was that were asked me about you in Committee, or what my particular answers, if I said any thing that was construed to show that you intended to go on board any of the fleet under the command of Lord *Dunmore*, introduce the King's forces, or raise an army to join them. I do now solemnly declare that I never intended so to be understood, and, if called upon, would, at any time, make affidavit of it. But, as I said before, I scarce know the particulars of my oath before the Committee, as being a close prisoner, and under fear and apprehension. Yet, be assured, I was not so scared or surprised as to have sworn what I understand you have heard of.

Your obedient servant,
To Mr. *William Barkley Townsend*.

JOSIAH ROBINS.

—
November 16, 1775.

The Deposition of *Edward Pettitt*, being of full age, deposed and saith, That he lay at *Josiah Robins's* the night before last, and waking before day, about an hour, (as he apprehended,) he heard some person come to the house, on which Mr. *Robins* got up and asked him to sit down by the fire; upon which he heard the said *Robins* and the person then come talking, but did not give attention till he heard the said *Robins* say, "talk easy, *Pettitt* is up stairs;" upon which this deponent got up and went down immediately, and asked who had been there so early, and *Robins* said, "*Benjamin Butler*." This deponent said he was early. *Robins* said he only came on an errand, and was gone, and said he was afraid the horses were in the field, and went out hastily; upon which the said *Pettitt* told him if he would drive them up his horse would follow, and then went to one of his neighbours. When he came back, said *Robins* was gone. He then asked Mrs. *Robins* where her husband was. She was slow in answering till she sent the boys out, and

then told this deponent that her husband was gone to *William Barkley Townsend's*, that *Levin Townsend* had been on board the man-of-war and brought powder and shot enough to his father, and what they called Tories were all meeting in order to have it delivered, as it would not be safe to keep it in one place, and when they had divided the same they were to give the man-of-war notice, and he was to send up to their assistance, that the matter might be put an end to in a short time—some time between this and *Christmas*.

EDWARD PETTITT.

Taken before

JOHN SELBY.

—
November 15, 1775.

Mary Robbins, wife of *Josiah Robbins*, being sworn on the Holy Evangelists of Almighty God, deposed and saith: That on the 15th of *November*, 1775, in the morning of the same day, *Benjamin Butler*, came to the house of her said husband, and inquired whether there was any person in his house except his family; her husband made answer that there was; upon which they went out, and after some time her husband came in, and told her he was going to a certain *William Barcklay Townsend's*; that a certain *Levin Townsend* had been down to *Norfolk*, on board the man-of-war, and had brought up a quantity of ammunition, and that all those who were for the King were to go down to the said *William B. Townsend's*, to get their share of the ammunition; and that the said *Levin Townsend* had brought a paper from on board the said man-of-war that they were to sign; and that the said *Levin Townsend* was to set out this day on his return to the man-of-war; and that if there was a sufficient number of signers to the aforesaid paper, they were to have assistance immediately from the said man-of-war.

The above deposition taken before

JOHN SELBY.

—
November 25, 1775.

Josiah Robins, of lawful age, being called upon by the Committee of *Worcester County*, deposed and saith: That on *Wednesday* morning, the 15th instant, some little time before day, came *Benjamin Butler* to his house, and after he had been there some time, he asked this deponent if there was any body there besides his own family, and he made answer that *Pettitt* was up stairs; he then gave this deponent a touch and desired him to walk out, and upon his going out with said *Butler*, said *Butler* told this deponent that *Levin Townsend* had come home, and that it was said that he had been on board the man-of-war at *Norfolk*, and that he had brought salt and ammunition, and it was to be had there, and requested this deponent to bring his gun as there was to be a muster there; in consequence of which this deponent went immediately off to *Townsend's*, and arrived there, as he believes, about nine o'clock, at which time there was about fifteen people, some of whom were armed; and that *Levin Townsend* asked this deponent, as this deponent believes, to go up stairs; and then told him he must swear to keep secret what should be discovered to him, and at the same time asked him if he did not want salt; upon this deponent asked him where the salt was to be had; he told him it was no matter, and immediately swore him; that this deponent heard *William B. Townsend* say that salt would not do without ammunition; and that deponent heard some of the company say, that they heard *Levin Townsend* say, that when they returned they would not come alone.

JOSIAS ROBINS.

Before

JOHN SELBY.

—
November 25, 1775.

Joshua Selby, of lawful age, being called upon by the Committee, deposed as follows: That he was at *William B. Townsend's* on *Sunday*, the 12th instant, when he heard *Levin Townsend* say that he had been on board the man-of-war five days; that Mr. *William Allen* was at the said *William B. Townsend's*, and endeavoured to persuade him to appear before the Committee; that said *Townsend* declared that he would die before he would be taken, or submit to the punishment which he supposed the Committee would inflict on him; and further this deponent saith, that early on the *Wednesday* morning following, *Benjamin Butler* came to this deponent, and asked him to go down to *William B. Townsend's*, that there was salt to be got there

cheaper than it could be got at *Snow-Hill*; that *Butler* told him the orders they had, was to carry loaded guns; that this deponent accordingly went to *Townsend's*, and when he got there, he was carried up stairs, and sworn to keep secret by *Levin Townsend*, (son of *William B. Townsend*;) that on his being sworn, he asked said *Townsend* for what purpose it was? *Townsend* replied, to keep secrecy that they were going for salt. This deponent asked when they were going? *Townsend* replied, it was no matter when, if you will go with us, I will tell you. This deponent replied he could not go, for that he could not leave home. That this deponent then asked him (*Townsend*) what he would do if he brought salt, and the people attempted to take it from him; that *Townsend* replied, he should not come without help. That this deponent saw the above-mentioned *Levin Townsend* at a desk, as he supposed, taking down the names of the people who were to go with him for salt, and that the following persons were attending the said *Townsend*, as this deponent apprehended, giving in their names for that purpose, to wit: *William Dickerson, Benjamin Selby, Thomas Moore, Thomas Cluff, Hugh Cestry, and Solomon Butler*. And this deponent further saith, that he hath not seen any of those persons since the time above-mentioned, and supposes they are gone on the aforesaid design.

JOSHUA SELBY.

Taken before

JOHN SELBY.

November 25, 1775.

William Townsend, being called upon by the Committee of *Worcester County*, deposeth and saith: That on *Wednesday*, the 15th day of *November*, it being the day before *William B. Townsend* and company embarked, he was at *William B. Townsend's* house where he believed there might be sixty or seventy men, many of whom were armed. That *William Barclay Townsend* and son *Levin* told this deponent that *Luke Townsend* was to procure a load of salt, ready for them at *Norfolk*, and asked this deponent if he was willing to go along with them for it. That it was necessary to keep it a secret from the Committee, and for that purpose *Levin Townsend* administered an oath of secrecy to this deponent. That he believes the same oath was administered to numbers that were there that day. That the said *William B. Townsend* said he wanted friends enough to attend him as might prevent the salt from being destroyed. And this deponent further heard *Levin Townsend* say he was on board the man-of-war at *Norfolk*. That he, this deponent, has often heard the said *William B. Townsend* say, he would never submit to the measures of the Committee.

WILLIAM TOWNSEND.

Taken before

J. MITCHELL.

November 25, 1775.

Samuel Parker, of lawful age, being sworn on the Holy Evangelists of Almighty God, deposeth and saith: That *Benjamin Schochley* met with this deponent at *John Smith's* about a fortnight ago, and requested him to meet Captain *Schoolfield's* company at *Nasaingo Bridge*, and to carry his gun and ammunition with him; that this deponent asked said *Schochley* what he wanted him to go for; that *Schochley* told him he could not tell for what reason; that he had opened it to him as far as he dared; that accordingly this deponent went to the place aforesaid, with his gun, where he met with about fifty men, chiefly armed with guns; that *Josiah Ward* met the company at the bridge, and told them they were desired to go down to *William B. Townsend's*; that some of the company asked said *Ward* on what account they were to go down; that he told *William B. Townsend* requested they would go down, for that he expected his house would be to be pulled down; and said informed them that Captain *Schoolfield's* company were at *Townsend's*; and that this deponent saith that the said *Ward* informed them that the reason of the said company being called to said *Townsend's* was to protect him, which protection this deponent supposes meant that he was to be defended if he should be sent for by the Committee; and this deponent says that he proceeded no farther than the bridge aforesaid, but immediately returned home.

SAMUEL PARKER.

Taken before

JOSEPH DASHIELL.

December 1, 1775.

Matthew Hopkins, of lawful age, being called on by the Committee of *Worcester County*, deposeth and saith: That, agreeable to a summons issued by the Committee of *Worcester*, he, this deponent, waited on *William Bartlett Townsend*, in order to serve the same; that when he saw Mr. *Townsend*, he told him he had a summons for him from the Committee, desiring his attention on that day, and said *Townsend* asked this deponent where this authority was; he replied, "In his pocket," and also saith he took it out, and gave it to Mrs. *Townsend*, who went to the door, and gave it to a young man, who read it, and said it was a summons, upon which said *William Bartlett Townsend* said, "Well, tell them, damn them, I shan't wait on them; that he had waited on them once, and that he should never do it again, unless they would take him dead;" and further said, that he said *Hopewell* and his gang were coming for him, and said, "Damn them, let them come; that he was ready for them." And this deponent further saith not.

MATTHEW HOPKINS.

Sworn before

JOHN SELBY.

November 25, 1775.

Philip Rain, of lawful age, being sworn, saith: That a conversation happened between him and *Staunton Atkins*, and that said *Atkins* told him that he must make his will, and said deponent asked said *Atkins* if he was about to die; said *Atkins* said he "did not know, for there was like to be war;" and said deponent asked him, "Where?" and said *Atkins* replied, "With the people in the country." This deponent asked if he was down at *William B. Townsend's*, and said *Atkins* replied, "Yes." This deponent also asked if he carried his gun with him, and he replied, "Yes," and further told him there was about seventy guns at said *Townsend's*, and at the same time; and this deponent asked if his gun was loaded, and he answered, "Yes;" and this deponent also asked what was the purpose of his going down there, and said *Atkins* replied that it was "to defend *William B. Townsend*;" and the question being asked by this deponent whom it was he understood the said *Townsend* was to be defended against, said he "believed it was against the proceedings of the Committee."

his
PHILIP X RAIN,
mark.
JOHN SELBY.

Taken before

Thursday Evening.

SIR: On *Thursday* night *William B. Townsend* took *Daniel Boston* and his sloop. It is reported that he has seventeen armed men on board the sloop. They are about one mile below the mouth of the river, aground on the mud banks.

DAVID WILLIAMS.

To Mr. *Thomas Bluff*.

[The above letter was transmitted to the Committee of *Worcester County*, *November 17, 1775*.]

November 17, 1775.

William Handy, of lawful age, being called upon by the Committee of *Worcester County*, deposeth and saith: That he had frequently conversed with Mr. *Abraham Gibbs* upon the subject of the unhappy disputes now existing between *Great Britain* and the *American Colonies*; that the said *Gibbs*, some time last fall, winter or spring, he can't particularly recollect which, this deponent heard the said *Gibbs* say that the Congress he thought either ought or would lose their heads; and in case the Ministerial troops were sent over here to lay their hands upon Congress, that he, the said *Gibbs*, would be one of the first men who would join them; but that he has heard the said *Gibbs* long since speak much in favour of the *American* cause, and at different times since he has heard Mr. *Gibbs* speak against the cause, and condemn the conduct of those who were friends to the cause; and that the latest conversation this deponent had with the said *Gibbs*, as he believes, was about three weeks ago, he heard the said *Gibbs* then express himself very inimical, although not with that degree of violence or rancour as he had first heard him express himself respecting the Congress.

WILLIAM HANDY.

Sworn before

JOSEPH DASHIELL.

November 17, 1775.

The deposition of *Barclay Townsend*, of lawful age, being called upon by the Committee of *Worcester County*, deposeth and saith: That some little time since the rising of the last Convention of this Province, this deponent was informed that some of the company that *Benjamin Shockley* had enrolled, had desired him to attend at the house of the said *Shockley* for the purpose of exercising and instructing a number of people in the military exercise; that this deponent accordingly attended, and when he came he had exercised some of the people who were there; *Shockley* proposed to this deponent that he would be their Captain, but, upon this deponent's refusal, also asked if he would be their Lieutenant, which he also refused, upon which said *Shockley* then told this deponent he had come as a spy; he also asked this deponent if he had seen their articles; he said he had; he then asked him how he liked them; why, he said, he did not know; he found they were something like the association, or articles of his company; they were for the King and country. "Yes," said *Shockley*, "but we are against *Boston*." That *Shockley* afterwards insisted upon this deponent's hearing the articles read, and when they were read, they all huzzaed for the King, and pulled off their hats; this deponent also cried, Amen, and said he could huzza for their King, but as he did not pull off his hat, said *Shockley* seemed to be displeased, and that this deponent was under apprehensions he was unsafe in their company, and immediately came off.

BARTLEY TOWNSEND.

Sworn before

JOSEPH DASHIELLS.

November 18, 1775.

The deposition of *Isaac Hammond*, of lawful age, being called upon by the Committee of *Worcester County*, deposeth and saith: That about four weeks ago he went to a certain *Henry Parker's*, where he understood that a number of people were to assemble for the purpose of entering into an association contrary to the General Association of this Province, and that he believes there might be thirty or forty people, and that a certain article of agreement or association was handed about for the people to sign; the substance of which this deponent understood was, that all those persons who signed the same bound themselves to stand together in behalf of their King, and to oppose the measures of the Committee, and to support each other, and be in readiness in twenty-four hours' warning to rescue any one of their number who should happen to be called before the Committee, and to resist any attempts to apprehend or seize any of their said number; and that there was about seventy who had subscribed the same, and that a certain *Benjamin Shockley* was principally active in handing about the said Association and encouraging the people to sign the same, and advised them not to sign the General Association of the Province.

ISAAC HAMMOND.

Sworn before

JOSEPH DASHIELL.

November 18, 1775.

The deposition of *Nicholas Hamon*, of lawful age, being called on by the Committee of *Worcester County*, deposeth and saith: That he lives in the neighbourhood where the article of agreement or association-paper was circulated which is taken notice of in the deposition of *Isaac Hammond*, and that they heard some of them were to be sent to *Boston*, and they were determined not to go themselves or suffer any of their neighbours to go, if they could prevent it; that the association-paper or article of agreement above alluded to, was signed by *Benjamin Shockley*, amongst a number of others.

NICHOLAS HAMON.

Taken before

JOSEPH DASHIELL.

ACCOMACK County set.:

The deposition of *Stephen Riley*, aged twenty-eight years, or thereabouts, being duly sworn on the Holy Evangelists of Almighty God, deposeth and saith: That on *Thursday*, the 12th of *November*, 1775, being at *Old Point Comfort*, he went on board of *Edmund Scarborough's* schooner and arrived that night at the said *Scarborough's* house, where he heard *William Scarborough* tell a number at *Edmund Scarborough's*, that the Governour asked him who were the

leading men of the Eastern Shore? and the said *Scarborough* told him, *Thomas Teackle* was one, and that if the Governour would send him a cutter with eight men he would convey them to the said *Thomas Teackle's* in the night, that they might take him, the said *Thomas Teackle*, and carry him on board of the said cutter: and further this deponent saith that the said *Scarborough* said that if the Governour would send him a tender, with thirty men and an officer or two, that he would pilot them to every leading man's house in the County, and carry them to the Governour; and further, this deponent saith that the said *Scarborough* said at the same time that the Governour told him if he would bring him fifteen men who would 'list freely under him he should have a Captain's commission; if twenty, a Major's; if thirty, a Colonel's. This deponent further saith that the Governour told said *Scarborough* if he would bring any kind of provisions he should be paid for it. Further this deponent saith not.

STEPHEN RILEY.

Sworn before

WILLIAM MATTHEWS.

November 30, 1775.

Barkley White being sworn on the Holy Evangelists of Almighty God, deposeth and saith: That *Levin Townsend* sent for this deponent, and that this deponent accordingly went, and that when he came to *William B. Townsend's* that said *Levin Townsend* told this deponent that if he would go with him to the mouth of *Potowmack* river that he might have what salt he wanted very reasonable; upon which this deponent agreed to go; and on their arrival at the mouth of the river aforesaid, this deponent asked where the vessel was that had the salt on board? and the said *Levin Townsend* told this deponent that he always knew that there was no salt there, and accordingly put this deponent, with others, under the hatchway, and immediately pushed off for *Norfolk*; and on their arrival at *Norfolk* that the said *Levin Townsend* and *Isaac Costen* went on board of Lord *Dunmore's* ship, and from their return from board said ship said *Levin Townsend* asked this deponent and some others if they were willing to serve under Lord *Dunmore*, that if they would they should have a suit of regimentals, a guinea and a crown entrance, with their standing pay; but that *Cornelius Dickerson* objected to staying; and that this deponent said he would choose to return home, and said *Levin Townsend* said he could not return till he had taken an oath, which oath this deponent saith was administered to him in *Norfolk* by a Magistrate, in the Court-House, the contents of which oath this deponent can't well remember; that he heard *Levin Townsend* say that as he was manning out a tender to cruise up and down the bay, and that he should be in a very short time up *Pocomoke* river, and that he intended to try and take the Committee of *Worcester County* out of their beds in the dead of night and carry them on board his vessel, and then proceed as soon as possible with them down to Lord *Dunmore*, and that this deponent heard said *Levin Townsend* tell some of the company to look out sharply, that he should be along in a very short time; and this deponent further saith that *William B. Townsend* recommended it to him to enlist under the Governour, and said that he never would do any thing better for himself; and that this deponent heard the said *William B. Barkley Townsend* say he was determined to have revenge of the said Committee because they looked upon him as a Tory, and that he was very sorry for *James Atkinson*, and wished he had it in his power to get revenge; and further this deponent saith not.

BARKLEY WHITE.

Sworn before

JOSEPH DASHIELL.

December 1, 1775.

Hugh Vestery being called on by the Committee of *Worcester County*, deposeth and saith: That he was sent for by *William B. Townsend*, that this deponent went and carried a gun, and when he came to said *William B. Townsend's* said *Townsend* asked this deponent if he did not want salt, if he did that he might have enough down at the *Mud-Banks*, very cheap, upon which this deponent agreed to go, and that he set out with sundry others down to the mouth of the river. Finding there was no vessel there with salt, agreeable to what *Townsend* told him, he asked said *Townsend* where the salt was; the said *Townsend* turned it off with a laugh, and when they were off *Merromisco* this depo-

ment, with *Thomas Cluff* and *William Willis*, were very desirous to return home, but *Levin Townsend* told them they had better not, for they most certainly would be hanged if they did return, and advised them to go down to *Norfolk* and enlist under *Lord Dunmore* as soldiers; and when they were at *Merromisco* aforesaid said *Levin Townsend*, with others, went on shore, where they killed a beef and brought on board uncleaned and said they bought it, and immediately pulled the boat on deck, and ordered this deponent, with sundry others, under the deck, and shut the hatchway on them, and immediately proceeded for *Norfolk*; and on the arrival at said place the said *Levin Townsend* and *Isaac Coston* went on board said *Lord Dunmore's* ship, and after they returned said *Levin Townsend* asked this deponent and others if they would enlist under *Lord Dunmore*, that if they would they should have a suit of regimentals, a guinea and a crown at entrance, with the gun and bayonet and standing pay; to which proposal this deponent objected and said he would return home; said *Levin Townsend* replied that he would not return home till he took a certain oath, which oath was administered to this deponent by a person who he understood was a Colonel, and that the tenour of said oath, as well as this deponent can recollect, was to bear faith and true allegiance to his Majesty, and to abjure all authority of the General Congress, &c.; and this deponent further saith that he heard said *Levin Townsend* say he was fitting out a tender to cruise up and down the bay in order to take prizes, and that *Isaac Colton* was to be his Lieutenant, and that said *Levin Townsend* said he should in a short time be up *Pocomoke* river, where he intended to lay his vessel against the cypresses, &c., and then seize the Committee of *Worcester* in the night whilst they were asleep and convey them to *Lord Dunmore* as speedily as possible; and further saith that on their return he heard *Cornelius Dickerson* say at *Accomack* County that if he had thought that he would have been taken up he would most certainly never have left *Boston's* vessel, with whom he went to *Norfolk*; and further saith that *Levin Townsend* pressed him, this deponent, to meet and join him when he came into *Pocomoke*; also saith that he saw *William B. Townsend* and *Thomas Moore* talking very much in private whilst the said *Townsend* was in *Worcester*, and that said *William B. Townsend* advised him whilst in *Norfolk* to enlist in *Lord Dunmore's* service, and that he, this deponent, heard *Levin Townsend* say he expected a large number of men to join him on his return in *Annimessick*, and that *Thomas Moore* aforesaid went down to *Finley's Landing*, from which place this deponent embarked and where they parted, and that *Thomas Moore* wished them well, and said he hoped in a short time to see them return safe.

HUGH VESTERY.

Sworn before

JOSEPH DASHIELL.

December 1, 1775.

Solomon Butler, of lawful age, being sworn, deposeth and saith: That *Levin Townsend* sent for this deponent by *Hugh Vestery*, that he wanted to see him and talk to him; that he went on the *Tuesday* evening before *Townsend* went away; that he (this deponent) was sworn to secrecy, and *Townsend* told him he wanted him to go down to the mouth of the river, for that there was plenty of salt there very cheap; and that this deponent accordingly agreed to go, and went home next morning to get his clothes, and by *Levin Townsend's* directions carried his gun, *Townsend* telling him there was plenty of fowl at the mouth of the river; that he accordingly embarked with *Townsend* and his company; and that in their way down the river they took possession of *Daniel Boston's* schooner; that they then proceeded to the mouth of the river. When they arrived there and found there was no salt, this deponent and some others expressed great uneasiness, and were very desirous of returning; that *Levin Townsend* and his father, and sundry others, laughed at them, and told them they must go further for the salt, and immediately took their boat on board and secured all who were desirous of returning under the hatches; that when they arrived at *Norfolk*, *Levin Townsend* and *Isaac Colton* went on board the man-of-war, and on their return to their company solicited them very strongly to enlist under the *Lord Dunmore*, and told them they should have a guinea and a crown advance, and standing pay allowed them, with a suit of regimentals, a gun and

bayonet, &c.; that this deponent and several others refused to enlist; that he heard *Levin Townsend* say that he intended to fit out a tender to cruise in the bay and to take all the prizes they could, and then to proceed up *Pocomoke* river to take the Committee of *Worcester* County prisoners, and carry them to *Lord Dunmore*; and that *Isaac Colton*, *William Dickerson*, *Benjamin Selby*, *Francis Britt*, *Joseph Gray Taylor*, *Levi Townsend*, *Elias Townsend*, *Zadock Townsend*, *Josiah Ward*, approved highly of *Townsend's* scheme, and were determined to join him in it; that *Townsend* repeatedly expressed a confidence of being joined by a large number of people on his return home; that *Thomas Moore* was at old *Townsend's* the day the company set off, and went with them to the landing, where he wished them well, and told them he expected to see them in a short time; that *Moore* likewise met them at the Ferry down the river and had conversation with some of the company, which this deponent did not hear; that as they went down a beef was killed and brought on board; that this deponent heard *Isaac Colton* and *Francis Britt* say that they helped to bring the beef on board, but who the others were he cannot tell; that he heard *Levin Townsend* say he paid a half-joe for it, and that he obliged the company to pay their proportion.

his
SOLOMON X BUTLER.
mark.

Sworn before

JOSEPH DASHIELL.

November 18, 1775.

The deposition of *John Davis*, of lawful age, being called on by the Committee of *Worcester* County, deposeth and saith: That about four weeks ago a certain *Benjamin Shockley* came to this deponent's mill, and they were talking of the Provincial Association, and that *Shockley* told this deponent that if any person who had signed the same were sorry for what they had done, if they would come to him he would clear them from it.

JOHN DAVIS.

Taken before

JOSEPH DASHIELL.

November 19, 1775.

The deposition of *Smith Lingo*, of lawful age, being called on by the Committee: That about three or four weeks ago this deponent was at the house of *William Dykes*, where met with *Benjamin Shockly*, and *Shockly* asked him if he was one of the damned Associators; he, this deponent, replied, "Why, what if I am;" "Why," said *Shockly*, "they are not worth a damn," or words to that purpose; *Shockly*, taking up a broad-axe, at the same time told this deponent not to say a word, or he would split his brains open, or any that dared sign the Association. That this deponent at sundry times, had seen the said *Shockly* very violent in condemning and threatening other people in the same manner.

SMITH LINGO.

Sworn before

JOSEPH DASHIELL.

November 30, 1775.

William Willis being sworn on the Holy Evangelists of Almighty God, deposeth and saith, that *Levin Townsend* sent for this deponent, and that he accordingly went, and said *Levin Townsend* told this deponent that if he wanted salt he might have it down at the mouth of *Pocomoke* river, and that this deponent asked him who had it, and said *Levin Townsend* said it was his brother *Luke*, and that he might have it almost for going for, and that this deponent agreed to go; and after they had proceeded so far as *Oyster-shell Town*, this deponent asked where the vessel was that had the salt, and that the said *Levin Townsend* said he imagined it was lower down; and on their going farther down, said *Levin Townsend*, *Levi Townsend*, and *Isaac Colton*, went on shore, where they killed a beef, and brought it on board uncleaned, which they say they paid for; and upon this deponent's making further inquiry after the salt and finding there was none, this deponent requested that he might return home, but that said *Levin Townsend* said he should not, and immediately hauled the boat upon deck, and put this deponent with others under the hatchway, and there kept them till they arrived at *Norfolk*; and upon their arrival said *Levin Townsend* and *Isaac Colton* went on board *Lord Dunmore's* ship, where they stayed some short time; upon their return said *Levin Townsend* asked this

deponent and others if they were willing to enlist under *Dunmore*; that if they were they should have a suit of regimentals, a guinea and crown, a gun and bayonet; and that this deponent replied, he could not stay on them terms; "Well," replied said *Townsend*, "if you won't agree to that will you stay and go with me privateering up and down the bay to take prizes?" and this deponent said he could not do it. This deponent further saith, that said *Levin Townsend* said that *Isaac Colton* was to be his Lieutenant, and that he intended to visit *Maryland* as soon as the Governour could get him a commission for that purpose, and that he intended up *Pocomoke* river in a very short time; and that he would take if possible the Committee of *Worcester* whilst they were asleep in their beds, and carry them on board his vessel and convey them as speedily as possible down on board of Governour *Dunmore's* ship; and this deponent further saith that he was sworn by a person in *Norfolk*, unknown to this deponent, the purport of the oath this deponent can't well recollect; and further saith, *William B. Townsend* pressed this deponent exceedingly warmly to enlist in Lord *Dunmore's* service, but that this deponent, *Cornelius Dickerson*, *Bartley White*, *Hugh Vestry*, *Solomon Butler*, and *Thomas Cluff*, absolutely refused; that the rest of their crew, to wit, *Isaac Colton*, *Joseph Gray Taylor*, *Francis Britt*, *William Dickerson*, *Zadock Townsend*, *Elias Townsend*, *Josiah Wood*, *Benjamin Selby*, *Levi Townsend*, did, and this deponent believes, enlist in his Lordship's service; that when this deponent left the said *Townsend* at *Norfolk*, the said *Levin Townsend* told this deponent he might keep a look out for him in about ten days or a fortnight, off the mouth of *Pocomoke* river, and that he would see him, the said *Townsend*.

Sworn before

WILLIAM WILLIS.
JOSEPH DASHIELL.

November 30, 1775.

Thomas Cluff, of lawful age, being sworn, deposeth and saith: That he went at a certain place gathering of corn, and that *Levin Townsend* sent for this deponent, and when this deponent arrived at *William B. Townsend's*, *Levin Townsend* asked this deponent if he did not want salt, that if he did, provided he would go with him, he should have it very reasonable; to which this deponent agreed to go with sundry others down as far as the mouth of *Pocomoke* river, upon which the said *Levin Townsend* administered an oath to him to keep the matter secret, but not finding any salt this deponent and some others wanted to return, upon which the said *Townsend* confined them; and that the said *Levin Townsend* and others went on shore where they killed a beef, whereupon they proceeded down to *Norfolk*, and upon their arrival at *Norfolk*, the said *Levin Townsend* and *Isaac Colton*, one of their numbers, went on board Lord *Dunmore's* ship, and some time after returned to this deponent, and said *Levin Townsend* asked this deponent and company if they were willing to enlist under Lord *Dunmore*, that if they would they should have a suit of regimentals, a gun, a guinea and a crown entrance, with their standing pay: and this deponent said he would rather choose to return home again; and that said *Townsend* said you cannot return home, for you will not be let return, you will be taken up; and further told this deponent that if this deponent did not go up to the standard in *Norfolk*, the Governour would most certainly detain him; and this deponent further saith that the aforesaid *Levin Townsend* came with an officer, who administered an oath to him, the contents of which this deponent can't particularly recollect: and further saith that said *Levin Townsend* was fitting out a vessel for a tender, and that said *Levin Townsend* told this deponent that he intended to come up *Pocomoke* river in the tender aforesaid, and that a certain *Edmond Scarborough*, of *Virginia*, was to go to *Pocomoke* with him as an assistant, and that the said *Levin Townsend* said that after he took a cruise or two up the bay in order to make some prizes, he should lay his vessel against the *Cypresses* in *Pocomoke* river, and that he would then seize the Committee of *Worcester* County whilst they were asleep in their beds, and convey them on board his vessel, and then proceed down to the Governour as quick as possible: and this deponent further saith that when *Levin Townsend* was insisting on him to enlist under Governour *Dunmore*, *William Bartlet Townsend* pressed this deponent to do it, and told him (this deponent) that he could not do

any thing better for him, and very strongly recommended it to him; and the said *William B. Townsend* further told this deponent he should come up *Pocomoke* river in the tender with his son *Levin*: and this deponent further saith that the said *Levin Townsend* desired this deponent and the others that returned with him, to keep a look out on the *Anne-amessix's* shore for his return, to assist the said *Levin* in his scheme: and further saith not.

his
THOMAS X CLUFF.
mark.

The above oath taken before JOSEPH DASHIELL.

Monday, October 21, 1776.

Council met. Present, the same Members as on yesterday, except Mr. *Carroll*.

Ordered, That the *Western-Shore* Treasurer pay to *William Nevin* and Company £22 11s. 6½d., for amount of Account.

Whereas information hath been lodged before this Board, by Mr. *Timothy Bowes*, that a certain *John Francis Taney*, of *St. Mary's* County, had detained in his possession three pieces of Sprig-Lawn, the property of this State, and hath refused to deliver the same to the persons appointed by this Board to dispose thereof:

These are therefore to charge and require the said *Taney* to deliver the said three pieces of Lawn to Mr. *Timothy Bowes* or his order, or, in case of refusal, to appear before this Board on *Monday*, the 11th day of *November*, to show sufficient cause, if any he hath, for the detention thereof.

Ordered, That Dr. *Brehon*, of *St. Mary's* County, deliver to *Timothy Bowes* all the books of Physick, or of any other kind, in his possession, taken on board of any of the captures at *St. George's Island*, or, in case of refusal, to appear before this Board on *Monday*, the 11th day of *November*, to show sufficient cause, if any he hath, for the detention thereof.

Ordered, That *Western-Shore* Treasurer pay to *James Hall*, for the use of *Amos Garrett*, £200, to be accounted for.

Ordered, That *Richard Dallam*, or the supervisor of his Gun Manufactory, be requested to deliver to Captain *Holland*, or order, twelve Muskets, completely fixed and fitted with Bayonets, and take his receipt therefor.

Adjourned till next day, ten o'clock.

Tuesday, October 22, 1776.

Council met. Present, the same Members as on yesterday.

Ordered, That *Western-Shore* Treasurer pay to the Clerk £30, to be accounted for.

Ordered, That said Treasurer pay to *Godfrey & Elliott* £32 10s., for amount Account.

Ordered, That said Treasurer pay to Captain *Garrett Brown* £50, to be accounted for.

Copy of Letter No. 226 was sent to Mr. *Jesse Hollingsworth*; No. 227 to *Amos Garrett*; No. 228 to *Thomas Stone*, Esq.

Adjourned till next day, ten o'clock.

Wednesday, October 23, 1776.

Council met. Present, the same members as on yesterday.

Commissions issued to *John Ennalls*, appointed First Colonel, *Robert Harrison*, Lieutenant-Colonel, *Thomas Muse*, First Major, and *Thomas Jones*, Second Major, of the Nineteenth Battalion of Militia, of this State.

Ordered, That a Court-Martial be appointed for the trial of *Levi Willin*, First Lieutenant, and *Job Todd*, Ensign of Captain *Lake's* Company, in *Dorchester* County; and that Colonel *John Ennalls* be President of the said Court; Colonel *Robert Harrison*, Colonel *James Murray*, Colonel *John Dickinson*, Major *Thomas Muse*, Major *Thomas Jones*, Major *Joseph Ennalls*, and Major *Joseph Richardson*.

Ordered, That *Western-Shore* Treasurer pay to *Thomas Smyth*, Esq., for the use of *John Sturgis*, *Robert Read*, *Robert Constable*, and *Robert Blake*, £283 3s. 8d., for amount Account.

Copy of Letter No. 229 was sent to Mr. *Sheats*; No. 230 to *Elisha Winters*; No. 231 to Captain *Frederick Teems*.

Ordered, That *Western-Shore* Treasurer pay to *Catharine Nixon* 30s., for amount Account.

William Gerwood appointed Surgeon Assistant to Dr. *Richard Tootell*.

Ordered, That *Charles Wallace*, Paymaster, advance one month's Pay to said *William Gerwood*.

Ordered, That *Western-Shore* Treasurer pay to *Mary Dorsey* £6, for amount Account.

Ordered, That said Treasurer pay to Captain *Simmonds* * * *

Ordered, That *Western-Shore* Treasurer pay to *John Jiams* £10, for amount Account.

Adjourned till next day, ten o'clock.

Thursday, October 24, 1776.

Council met. Present, the same Members as on yesterday.

Copy of Letter No. 232 was sent to Mr. *William Horsey*; No. 233 to *Jesse Hollingsworth*; Nos. 234 and 235 to *John Rogers*, Esq.; No. 236 to *Lux & Bowley*.

Ordered, That *Western-Shore* Treasurer pay to Colonel *John Ennalls*, for use of *Peter Korvan* and *Rennis Bennett*, £3 8s., for amount Account.

Commission issued to *William Webb Haddaway*, appointed First Major of the Thirty-Eighth Battalion of Militia, of this State.

Ordered, That *Western-Shore* Treasurer pay to Committee of *Calvert County* £30 12s. 6d., for amount Account.

Ordered, That said Treasurer pay to *James Dick* £9 4s. 2d., for amount Account.

Ordered, That said Treasurer pay to *John Wells* £150 on bond, for a Linen Manufactory.

Ordered, That said Treasurer pay to Colonel *Zadock Magruder* 22s. 6d., for amount Account.

Ordered, That said Treasurer pay to *James Tilghman*, Esq., £26 12s., for thirty-eight days' attendance in the Council of Safety.

Adjourned till next day, ten o'clock.

Friday, October 25, 1776.

Council met. Present as on yesterday.

Commission and Letter of Marque issued to *Francis Speake*, Commander of Sloop *Potowmack*, mounting twelve carriage guns.

Ordered, That *Western-Shore* Treasurer pay to *Luke Maybury* £24 6s. 4d., for amount Account.

Copy of Letter No. 237 was sent to *Jesse Hollingsworth*.

Vernon Hobb and *Timothy Bowes* appointed to take the Depositions of any witnesses relative to a Sloop sunk by *Dunmore's Fleet*, near *St. George's Island*, and the sails, and other things, taken from and out of her by *William Richardson*, and transmit the same, when taken, to the Council of Safety.

Permit was granted to *William Thomas*, Master of Schooner *Edward*, to go to *Martinique*, he having given bond, and lodged manifest, agreeable to the Resolves of Convention.

Ordered, That *Western-Shore* Treasurer pay to *Charles Ridgely* £21 19s. 10d. currency.

Adjourned till next day, ten o'clock.

Saturday, October 26, 1776.

Council met. Present as on yesterday, except Mr. *Tilghman*.

Leonard Clements, of Captain *Stone's Company*, discharged from the service of this State, he being incapable of duty through infirmity and sickness.

Ordered, That *Charles Wallace*, Paymaster, advance to *Leonard Clements* four months' pay.

Ordered, That said Treasurer pay to Captain *Richard Davis* £46 10s., for amount Account.

Ordered, That said Treasurer pay to *James Sterett* £35, for amount Account.

Ordered, That said Treasurer pay to *Richard Coward*, *Edward Markland*, and *Thomas Pamphillion*, £15, for amount Account.

Ordered, That said Treasurer pay to *Jacob Myers* £300 on bond, for Wire Manufactory.

Council of Safety contracts with *James Claypole* for making six hundred pair of Shoes, at 12s. per pair, and ordered that *Western-Shore* Treasurer pay to *Isaac Claypole* £50 on above contract, he having given bond for performance of said contract.

Commissions issued to *Thomas Watkins*, appointed Captain, *Levin Lawrence*, First Lieutenant, *Thomas Todd*, Second Lieutenant, and *John Jiams*, Ensign, of a Company of Matrosses, raised for the defence of the City of *Annapolis*.

Adjourned till Monday, ten o'clock.

Monday, October 28, 1776.

Council met. Present as on Saturday.

Ordered, That *Western-Shore* Treasurer pay to *Charles Carroll*, Barrister, £31 10s., for forty-five days' attendance in Council of Safety.

Ordered, That said Treasurer pay to *John Bullen*, Quartermaster, £50 14s., for amount of Account.

Ordered, That *Charles Wallace*, Paymaster, advance to *Osborn Brashears*, of Captain *Bracco's Company*, one month's Pay.

Warrant issued to *John David*, appointed Lieutenant of one of the Gondolas, to enlist fifty men.

Ordered, That *Western-Shore* Treasurer pay to *John David* £150, for Recruiting Service.

Ordered, That *Western-Shore* Treasurer pay to *Charles Williamson* £22 16s. 8d., for amount Account.

Ordered, That Captain *Kiltie* be requested to purchase of Mr. *Smyth* whatever Cordage he may want, which Mr. *Lux* cannot supply, and the Council of Safety will pay therefor.

Ordered, That Major *Fallin* be directed to deliver to *Henry Lowes* or order, all the wearing apparel of a certain *Joseph Whaland*, now in his possession.

Ordered, That *Western-Shore* Treasurer pay to *Nicholas Valliant* £3, for amount Account.

Ordered, That said Treasurer pay to Captain *William Patterson* £60 6s., for amount Account.

Ordered, That the Paymaster pay to *William O'Harra*, of Captain *Burke's Company*, one month's Pay.

Adjourned till next day, ten o'clock.

Tuesday, October 29, 1776.

Council met. Present as on yesterday.

Ordered, That *Western-Shore* Treasurer pay to *Amos Davis*, for the use of *Charles White*, £28 15s., for amount Account.

Commission issued to *William Patterson*, appointed Commander of the Schooner *Dolphin*, mounting eight swivels, belonging to this State.

Ordered, That Captain *Patterson* be furnished with twenty-two Muskets, out of Captains *Brooke* and *Smith's Company*.

Warrant issued to *John Skinner*, appointed a Recruiting Sergeant for Matrosses and Continental Troops.

Commission issued to *Edward Markland*, appointed Lieutenant, and *Richard Coward*, Master, of the Schooner *Dolphin*.

Ordered, That *Western-Shore* Treasurer pay to *John Bullen* £15, for to be accounted for.

Ordered, That said Treasurer pay to *Jenifer Taylor*, for use of *Thomas Keiner*, £9 11s.

Ordered, That said Treasurer pay to *Jenifer Taylor*, for use of *Ignatius Taylor*, £32 10s. 2d., for amount Account.

Ordered, That said Treasurer pay to *Benjamin Tolson* £26 1s., for amount Account.

Ordered, That said Treasurer pay to *John Sliney* £3 15s., for amount Account.

Ordered, That *Western-Shore* Treasurer pay to *William Paca*, Esq., for use, and by order of *Daniel* and *Samuel Hughes*, £150.

Copy of Letter No. 239 was sent to *Benton Harriss*.

Ordered, That *Western-Shore* Treasurer pay to *John Skinner* £30, for inlisting Matrosses.

Adjourned till next day, ten o'clock.

Thursday, October 31, 1776.

Council met. Present as on yesterday.

Ordered, That *Western-Shore* Treasurer pay to *Joseph Selby* £200 for Account.

Permit was granted to *John Norton*, Master of the Schooner *Endeavour*, to go to *North-Carolina*, he having given bond agreeable to Resolve of Convention.

Permit was granted to *John Smith*, Master of the Schooner *Polly*, to go to *North-Carolina*, he having given bond agreeable to Resolve of Convention.

Warrants issued to *Edward Geale*, *Michael Morgan*, and *Clement Smith*, appointed Recruiting Sergeants for the Artillery of this State; and

Ordered, That *Western-Shore* Treasurer pay to each of said Recruiting Sergeants, £50.

Ordered, That said Treasurer pay to Colonel *James Murray*, for use of *Thomas Smith*, *John Fletcher*, and *John Langfott*, £60 15s., for amount Account.

Ordered, That *Western-Shore* Treasurer pay to Captain *Richard Smith* £67 12s. 11d., for amount Account.

Ordered, That *Western-Shore* Treasurer pay to *William Wilkins* £300, on account of Fortifications.

Adjourned till next day, ten o'clock.

Friday, November 1, 1776.

Council met. Present as on yesterday.

Ordered, That *Western-Shore* Treasurer pay to *Christian Keener*, by order, and for use of *Abraham Vanbibber*, one hundred and sixty Dollars, for his draft to *Lemuel Cormick*.

Ordered, That said Treasurer pay to *Melcher Keener*, for the use of *Jesse Hollingsworth*, £500.

Ordered, That Commissary of Provisions supply Captain *Martin* with what Rations he may want for the use of Brigantine *Friendship's* crew.

Copy of Letter No. 240 was sent to General *Smallwood*; No. 241 to Captain *A. Lawson Smith*; No. 242 to *Benjamin Rumsey*, and others; No. 243 to *Samuel Duvall*; No. 244 to Captain *Frederick Teems*.

Ordered, That *Western-Shore* Treasurer pay to *Melcher Keener*, for use of *Englehard Yeiser*, £290 9s. 8d.

Ordered, That *Western-Shore* Treasurer pay to *Robert Peters*, for use of *John Yost*, £6 13s. 6d.

Adjourned till next day, ten o'clock.

Saturday, November 2, 1776.

Council met. Present as on yesterday.

Ordered, That *John Gawes*, of Captain *Fulford's* Company, be discharged.

Ordered, That *Charles Wallace*, Esq., Paymaster, advance three months' Pay to *Robert Shipley*, of Captain *Watkins's* Company.

Ordered, That *Western-Shore* Treasurer pay to *James Taylor* £12.

Messrs. *Ringgold & Hemsley* return an order on *Western-Shore* Treasurer for the sum of £500.

Ordered, That *Western-Shore* Treasurer pay to *Samuel Cheote* £18.

Ordered, That said Treasurer pay to Captain *John Martin* £50.

Ordered, That the said Treasurer pay to Colonel *Jermiah Jordon*, for use of *Thomas Hobb* and *William Thomas*, £10 13s. 6d.

Ordered, That said Treasurer pay to *William Galbraith*, £197 16s. 6d.

Ordered, That *Western-Shore* Treasurer pay to *Caleb Sesson* £24.

Ordered, That said Treasurer pay to *Stephen West*, Esq., £169 17s.

FIFTH SERIES.—VOL. II.

Ordered, That said Treasurer pay to *Jos'h Nicholson*, Esq., £16 2s., for twenty-three days' attendance in Council of Safety.

Adjourned till Monday, ten o'clock.

Monday, November 4, 1776.

Council met. Present as on Saturday, except Mr. *Nicholson*.

Ordered, That *Western-Shore* Treasurer pay to Captain *Nathaniel Smith* £236 2s. 6d.

Ordered, That said Treasurer pay to *Thos. Snowden* £138 3s. 4d.

Ordered, That said Treasurer pay to Dr. *Adam Fisher*, for use of *Margaret Balswell*, *William Rutford*, and *Tobias Risener*, £28 17s. 8d.

Adjourned till next day, ten o'clock.

Tuesday, November 5, 1776.

Council met. Present as on yesterday.

Ordered, That *Western-Shore* Treasurer pay to Captain *Peter Adams* £40, to be accounted for.

Ordered, That Captain *Thomas Walker* deliver to Mr. *Jenkins* and *Milne*, all their Clothes and Wearing Apparel, taking care to detain all such goods for which bills of lading have been signed, till the further order of the Council of Safety, or Court of Admiralty of this State.

Alexander Furnival appointed Captain of a Company of Matrosses, to be stationed at *Baltimore-Town*.

James Lilleycrap's terms for Gardening accepted, and Council of Safety agree to give the annual rent of £5 to Major *Jenifer*, for a lot for Gardening.

Ordered, That *Western-Shore* Treasurer pay to Captain *Alexander Turnival* £200, for the Recruiting Service.

Ordered, That said Treasurer pay to *Charles Wallace*, Esq., Paymaster, £1000.

Copy of Letter No. 245 sent to *Jesse Hollingsworth*; No. 246 to *James Clarke*; No. 247 to *John Martin*; and No. 248 to Colonel *Benjamin Rumsey*.

Ordered, That Mr. *Bruff* be requested to deliver to *Elisha Winters* three hundred weight of Steel, bought of him by the Council of Safety.

Ordered, That said Treasurer pay to Clerk £30, for Expresses.

Ordered, That said Treasurer pay to *Elisha Winters* £150, to be accounted for.

Ordered, That said Treasurer pay to Lieutenant *Philip Smith* £20, on account of Captain *Creagar's* Company.

Adjourned till next day.

Wednesday, November 6, 1776.

Council met. Present as on yesterday.

Ordered, That *Western-Shore* Treasurer pay to Mons. *Francis Pelletier* £291 4s.

Ordered, That said Treasurer pay to *William Nevin* £17 5s. 2d.

Copy of Letter No. 249 was sent to *Jesse Hollingsworth*; No. 250 to *Cumberland Dugan*.

Ordered, That *Western-Shore* Treasurer pay to *Notley Mitchell* £12 7s. 6d.

Ordered, That said Treasurer pay to *Elizabeth Sharpe* £2 3s. 1d.

Ordered, That *Western-Shore* Treasurer pay to *Catharine Nixon* 18s. 9d.

Ordered, That said Treasurer pay to *Charles Ridgely* £1000.

Adjourned till next day, ten o'clock.

Thursday, November 7, 1776.

Council met. Present as on yesterday.

Ordered, That *Western-Shore* Treasurer pay to *Thomas Pryse* 26s. 8d.

Ordered, That said Treasurer pay to *John Bullen* £56 7s. 3d.

Ordered, That said Treasurer pay to *Peter Rich* £6.

Ordered, That *Charles Wallace* pay to *John Donse*, of Captain *Gunby's* Company, one month's Wages.

Adjourned till next day, ten o'clock.

Friday, November 8, 1776.

Council met. Present as on yesterday.

The Council of Safety contracted with *Jacob Madeira* for two hundred pair of Shoes; and

Ordered, That *Western-Shore* Treasurer pay to *Jacob Madeira* £60, for the above Contract.

Ordered, That *Western-Shore* Treasurer pay to *Woolman Gibson* 30s., for a Gun.

Ordered, That *Western-Shore* Treasurer pay to Dr. *Richard Tootle* £17 12s. 6d.

Ordered, That said Treasurer pay *Robert Cummings* £2000.

Ordered, That said Treasurer pay to *Thomas Wilson* £10, for his fine, being remitted by order of the Convention.

Ordered, That said Treasurer pay to *John Bullen* £230.

Ordered, That said Treasurer pay to Colonel *John Murdock* £102 17s. 8d.

Ordered, That those persons who keep *Patapsco* and *Susquehanna* Ferries be desired, from time to time, by night or day, to put the Postmaster-General's Rider over those Ferries, during the continuance of the War.

Mr. *Thomas Smyth* agreed with the Council of Safety to purchase one hundred barrels of Beef, on account, at the commission of five per cent.

Council of Safety agree with Colonel *Hooe* for all the Salt imported in the Brigantine *Friendship*, at 15s. per bushel.

Adjourned till next day, ten o'clock.

Saturday, November 9, 1776.

Council met. Present as on yesterday.

Commissions issued to *William Mackie*, appointed First Lieutenant, *Joseph Hill*, Second Lieutenant, and *John Thomas*, Ensign, of Captain *Mackall's* Company of Militia, in *Frederick* County.

Ordered, That *Western-Shore* Treasurer pay to *William Horsey* £183 11s. 1d.

Ordered, That *Eastern-Shore* Treasurer pay to *William Horsey* £1000.

Council of Safety agree with Colonel *Hooe* for all the Jackets imported in the Brigantine *Friendship*, at 22s. 6d. each.

Ordered, That *Western-Shore* Treasurer pay to Colonel *William Harrison* £177 4s. 3d.

Ordered, That said Treasurer pay to Captain *John Martin* £25, as a gratuity for his diligence in the importation of Gunpowder.

Ordered, That Commissary of Stores deliver to Colonel *Hooe* four pieces of coarse country Linen.

Ordered, That Colonel *George Day Scott* be requested to purchase all the Lead that can be procured for the use of this State, provided he does not exceed 6d. per pound.

Copy of Letter No. 250 was sent to *Stephen West*; and No. 251 to the Commissioners of the State of *Maryland* appointed to repair to Camp.

Ordered, That *Western-Shore* Treasurer pay to Captain *Richard Smith* £34 9s. 10d.

Ordered, That said Treasurer pay to Captain *William Richardson* £11 4s. 8d.

Ordered, That said Treasurer pay to *Archibald Buchanan* £700.

Ordered, That said Treasurer pay to *Edward Timmons* £7 5s., for two Guns.

Ordered, That said Treasurer pay to *Thomas Smyth* 32s. 3d., for amount Account.

Ordered, That said Treasurer pay to *Thomas Smyth*, for the use of *John Blakeway*, 40s.

Ordered, That *Western-Shore* Treasurer pay to Colonel *George Day Scott* £20, to be accounted for.

Ordered, That *Western-Shore* Treasurer pay to *Christian Praugle* £5 7s.

Ordered, That said Treasurer pay to *John Smyth, Esq.*, for the use of the Committee of Observation for *Baltimore-Town*, £600, on account of Fortifications.

Adjourned till next day, ten o'clock.

Monday, November 11, 1776.

Council met. Present the same Members as on yesterday.

Ordered, That *Western-Shore* Treasurer pay to Captain *Richard Smith* £80 2s. 4d.

Ordered, That said Treasurer pay to Doctor *Charles F. Weisenthal* £13 8s. 3d.

Ordered, That said Treasurer pay to *John Balzer* £11 18s. 4d.

Ordered, That said Treasurer pay to *Jacob Miller* 24s.

Ordered, That said Treasurer pay to *Jacob Klein* £8 10s.

Ordered, That said Treasurer pay to *Jonathan Parker* £7 5s. 6d.

Ordered, That *Western-Shore* Treasurer pay to Brigadier-General *John Dent* £9 15s.

Ordered, That said Treasurer pay to *Daniel of St. Thomas Jenifer, Esq.*, £65 2s., for ninety-two days' attendance in the Council of Safety.

Ordered, That said Treasurer pay to *John Hall, Esq.*, £28, for forty days' attendance in the Council of Safety.

Ordered, That said Treasurer pay to *George Plater, Esq.*, £20 6s. for twenty-nine days' attendance in Council of Safety.

Ordered, That said Treasurer pay to *Thomas Smith, Esq.*, 14s., for one day's attendance in Council of Safety.

Ordered, That said Treasurer pay to *Nicholas Thomas, Esq.*, £18 4s., for twenty-six days' attendance in Council of Safety.

Ordered, That said Treasurer pay to *Gabriel Duwall* £43, for forty-three days' attendance as Clerk.

Ordered, That said Treasurer pay to *Richard Ridgeby* £111 4s., for attendance as Clerk from the 7th day of July till the 12th day of November.

Ordered, That *Western-Shore* Treasurer pay to *Benjamin Harwood* 56s., for four days' as Clerk Assistant for the Copy Accounts.

Ordered, That the said Treasurer pay to *Robert Reynolds* £24 10s., for forty-nine days' attendance as Doorkeeper to Council of Safety.

Ordered, That said Treasurer pay to *William Tuck* £21 10s., for forty-three days' attendance as a Doorkeeper.

NEW-YORK COMMITTEE OF SAFETY AND CONVENTION.

COMMITTEE OF SAFETY.

Die Mercurii, 9 ho. A. M., September 4, 1776.

The Committee met pursuant to the adjournment.

Present: *Abraham Yates, Jun., Esq.*

NEW-YORK.—Mr. *Robert Harpur*, Mr. *Evert Banker*, Mr. *James Duane*.

DUTCHESS.—Mr. *Sackett*, Colonel *Hoffman*.

TRYON.—Mr. *Harper*, Mr. *Moore*, Mr. *Veder*, Mr. *Newkirk*.

ALBANY.—*Mr. *Abraham Yates*, Mr. *Adgate*, *Colonel *Renselaer*, Mr. *John Ten Broeck*, Mr. *Cuyler*, Colonel *Livingston*, General *Ten Broeck*.

CHARLOTTE.—Major *Webster*, Colonel *Williams*, *Mr. *Duer*.

SUFFOLK.—Mr. *William Smith*.

ORANGE.—Mr. *Wisner*, Colonel *Allison*, Mr. *Joseph Smith*.

CUMBERLAND.—Mr. *Sessions*, Mr. *Stevens*.

ULSTER.—Colonel *De Witt*, Mr. *Tappan*.

WESTCHESTER.—*Colonel *Cortlandt*, Judge *Graham*.

The Committee to whom was referred the consideration of the Resolution of the Convention of this State, relative to the calling out the Militia of *Westchester*, *Orange*, *Dutchess*, and *Ulster*, and the consideration of General *Washington's* Letter of *September* the 1st, report, that they have maturely considered the state of the Counties of *Orange*, *Dutchess*, *Westchester*, and *Ulster*, both with respect to their Militia and the number of disabled persons in the said Counties; and upon the whole, are of opinion that it will not be for the safety of this State, or the general interest of *America*; to order out any more of the Militia from the said Counties, and they submit to this Committee of Safety, the following reasons, among others, which have induced them to form this opinion:

1st. That from the best information they have been able to obtain, the number of armed and well-affected Militia, in the said Counties, do not exceed three thousand one hundred; the number of disarmed and disaffected persons two thousand three hundred, and the number of slaves two thousand three hundred. From a comparison of these numbers, and from our firm opinion that the disaffected only wait an opportunity of rising; that General *Howe* is actually endeavouring to enlist men in most of those Counties; and that our enemies would not scruple to stir up our slaves to bear arms against us, it would be extremely hazardous to the internal peace of the said Counties to draw out at present any more of their Militia.

2d. That from the situation of the County of *Westchester*, which borders both on the *Sound* and *Hudson's River*, and the Counties of *Dutchess*, *Ulster*, and *Orange*, on the *North River*, (the channel of which we have no reason to think sufficiently obstructed,) the enemy might land to the northward of our posts at *King's Bridge*, and take possession of those Counties, without any possibility of a resistance from the Militia.

3dly. That from the want of tents or sufficient houses, the Militia would be extremely exposed to the inclemencies of weather, and other hardships, which, added to the arts of the Tories in construing into a defeat the late prudent retreat from *Long-Island*, and the present inconvenient season of the year, would, we fear, prove too severe a trial for the virtue and patriotism of common soldiers, and disgust them so as to prevent their being of service to the State on a still more critical occasion. This appears to have been lately the case, both of the Militia and new levies, on *Nassau-Island*.

They therefore submit it to the wisdom of the Committee of Safety, whether it would not be advisable to send an express immediately to General *Washington*, informing him, from the reasons above-mentioned, of our inability to call forth at present any more of the Militia of the said Counties; assuring him, nevertheless, that the whole Militia of these Counties who are armed shall be ready to march on the earliest notice, whenever they receive orders from either himself or General *Clinton*, of the absolute necessity of such march.

Resolved, That this Committee of Safety does agree with their sub-Committee in the said Report.

And *Ordered*, That a copy thereof be prepared and certified, to be forwarded to General *Washington*.

Ordered, That his Excellency General *Washington's* Letter of the 1st instant be recommitted to the former Committee, with the addition of Judge *Graham*.

Die Mercurii, 4 ho. P. M., September 4, 1776.

The Committee met pursuant to adjournment.

Present: *Abraham Yates*, Jun., Esq., President.

NEW-YORK.—Mr. *Harper*, Mr. *Bancker*, Mr. *Duane*.

WESTCHESTER.—*Colonel *Cortlandt*, Judge *Graham*.

CUMBERLAND.—Mr. *Sessions* and Mr. *Stevens*.

ALBANY.—*Mr. *Abraham Yates*, Mr. *Adgate*, *Colonel *Renselaer*, Mr. *John Ten Broeck*, Mr. *Cuyler*, General *Ten Broeck*, Colonel *Livingston*.

SUFFOLK.—Mr. *William Smith*.

ORANGE.—Mr. *Wisner*, Colonel *Allison*, Mr. *Joseph Smith*.

ULSTER.—Colonel *De Witt*, Mr. *Tappan*.

TRYON.—Mr. *Harper*, Mr. *Moore*, Mr. *Veder*, Mr. *Newkirk*.

DUTCHESS.—Mr. *Sackett*, *Major *Schenck*.

CHARLOTTE.—Major *Webster*, Colonel *Williams*, *Mr. *Duer*.

N. B. Those gentleman whose names are marked with asterisms are a quorum of the Committee of Safety.

A draft of a Letter to his Excellency General *Washington*, to accompany the Report of the sub-Committee of this Committee on his Excellency's Letter of the 1st instant, was read and approved, and is in the words following, to wit:

"SIR: I enclose to your Excellency, by order of the Committee of Safety, a copy of a report which relates to a part of your letter of the 1st instant, respecting the calling out more of the Militia of this State, for the purpose of reinforcing the post at *King's Bridge*. It is with extreme concern that the Committee of Safety see their inability to assist further in maintaining the important posts. They flat-

ter themselves that the reasons which they have offered, will appear as satisfactory to your Excellency as they did to the Committee.

"I am, however, directed to assure your Excellency, that the whole Militia of the Counties of *Ulster*, *Orange*, *Dutchess*, and *Westchester*, shall be ready to march whenever your Excellency or General *Clinton* shall think it absolutely necessary; and to inform you that the Committee of Safety will immediately exert themselves in arming with lances all such of the well-affected Militia as are at present destitute of fire-arms.

"I have the honour to be, most respectfully, sir, your most obedient, humble servant.

"To His Excellency."

Ordered, That a copy of the said Letter be engrossed, and signed by the President, and transmitted.

Whereas many of the Militia of the different Counties in this State, who are well-affected to the *American* cause, are not supplied with fire-arms; and whereas it is the duty of the Convention of this State, at this critical period, to arm the whole Militia in such a manner as may prove most formidable to our inveterate and tyrannical enemies:

Therefore, *Resolved, unanimously*, That persons be appointed in the Counties of *Westchester*, *Orange*, *Dutchess*, *Ulster*, and *Albany*, for the purpose of procuring four thousand Lances to be made with the utmost expedition, agreeable to such models as shall be sent to the respective Counties.

Resolved, unanimously, That the following persons be appointed to procure the following proportion of Lances affixed to their respective names, in the Counties under-mentioned; and that this Convention will pay all the necessary charges for carrying this resolve into execution:

In the County of <i>Albany</i> , <i>Hermanus Wendell</i> and <i>Richard Esselstine</i> , Esqrs.,	- - - - -	800
In <i>Ulster</i> County, <i>Dirck Wynkoop</i> and <i>Robert Boyd</i> , Esqrs.,	- - - - -	800
In <i>Orange</i> County, <i>Henry Wisner</i> and <i>Joseph Smith</i> , Esqrs.,	- - - - -	800
In <i>Westchester</i> County, <i>Stephen Ward</i> , <i>William Miller</i> , and <i>Thaddeus Crane</i> , Esqrs.,	- - -	800
In <i>Dutchess</i> County, <i>James Weeks</i> , <i>William Cushman</i> , and <i>Nathaniel Foster</i> , Esqrs.,	- - -	800
Lances, - - - - -	- - - - -	4,000

CONVENTION.

Die Jovis, 9 ho. A. M., September 5, 1776.

The Convention of this State met pursuant to adjournment in the Episcopal Church, at *Fishkill*.

Present: *Abraham Yates*, Jun., Esq.

NEW-YORK.—Mr. *Robt. Harper*, Mr. *Duane*, Mr. *Bancker*.

DUTCHESS.—Mr. *Sackett*, Doctor *Crane*, Mr. *H. Schenck*.

TRYON.—Mr. *William Harper*, Mr. *Moore*, Mr. *Veder*, Mr. *Newkirk*.

ALBANY.—Mr. *Abraham Yates*, General *Ten Broeck*, Mr. *Cuyler*, Colonel *Livingston*, Mr. *Adgate*, Mr. *John Ten Broeck*, Colonel *V. Renselaar*.

CHARLOTTE.—Mr. *Duer*, Major *Webster*, Colonel *Williams*.

SUFFOLK.—Mr. *William Smith*.

WESTCHESTER.—Colonel *Cortlandt*, Judge *Graham*, Mr. *Haviland*.

CUMBERLAND.—Mr. *Sessions*, Mr. *Stevens*.

ULSTER.—Colonel *De Witt*, Mr. *Tappan*.

ORANGE.—Colonel *Allison*, Mr. *Joseph Smith*, Mr. *Wisner*.

This Church being very foul with the dung of doves and fowls, without any benches, seats, or other conveniences whatever, which renders it unfit for the use of this Convention, therefore they unanimously agreed to adjourn to the *Dutch Church* in this village; and adjourned to the same accordingly.

The Convention met in the *Dutch Church*, at the *Fishkill*, pursuant to the above adjournment.

Present: The President and Representatives above named.

Colonel *De Witt* from the Committee appointed yesterday to consider of and report on the difficulties stated on behalf of the Committee of *Kingston*, about the sale of Tea, and the removal of the Prisoners of War now at *Kingston*, reported the following Resolution and draft of a Letter, which were respectively read and agreed to, viz:

Resolved and Ordered, That the Treasurer of this State advance to Colonel *De Witt*, the sum of one hundred and fifty Dollars to be by him transmitted to the Chairman of the Committee of *Kingston*, in *Ulster* County, for the purpose of removing the Prisoners of War now at *Kingston*, to *Morris* County, in *New-Jersey*. And the said Chairman is hereby ordered to transmit to the Convention of this State a regular account of the expenditure of this money.

The draft of the Letter to the Committee of *Kingston* was read and approved, and is in the words following, to wit:

"The Convention having it in contemplation to pass a general resolve respecting the tea within this State, a Committee for that purpose was appointed a few days before we adjourned from *Harlem* to this place; but as several of the gentlemen appointed of that Committee are not yet arrived, the Convention is prevented from completing that business. I am therefore directed to acquaint you that the Convention expect you will use your utmost endeavours to keep peace and good order amongst you, till such resolutions are passed, in the best manner you can.

"The old paroles, together with a copy of a resolve of the Continental Congress respecting prisoners, which were omitted at the time when the blanks were sent, you have here enclosed. Also, a resolve to defray the expense of their removal.

"I am your very humble servant. By order.

"To the Chairman and Members of the Committee at *Kingston*."

Ordered, That a copy of the said Letter be engrossed, and signed by the President, and, together with a copy of the foregoing Resolution, transmitted to the Committee at *Kingston*.

John Wooley being examined, says that he was on board of the *British* ships once lately; that he was carried on board against his consent, and by violence; that this happened on last *Wednesday* a week, about noon, under the shore of *Nassau-Island*, opposite to *Frog's Point*; that two ships were there, one named the *Bloom*, as appeared by the name on the stern; that he went to bring a boat home to be unrigged, and by that means was taken; that he was not ill treated on board the ship, and his boat was returned, the reason whereof was, he believes, that his brother had been on board, and has been a warm partisan for the *British* fleet and army; that he could have gone on board frequently if he had chose it; that he did not mean to join the enemy; that a brother of his, the examinant, was with him when he was taken; that he was asked on board if he could furnish them with provisions, or if they could be supplied in the neighbourhood; that he answered in the negative, and told them the cattle were all drove off; that he did not learn any of the designs of the enemy, but heard some of the soldiers say that they expected a large reinforcement of twenty thousand men; that he is an Associator; that his father owned the boat he went for; that *Philip Wooley* was with him when he was taken; that they called him a Rebel when he was taken; that he saw *Isaac Barns* from the *New City Island*, in *Westchester* County, on board, and also two negroes belonging to *Henry Allen*.

John Wooley withdrew.

Major *Thorne*, of *Queen's* County, called in as a witness, says: That *John Wooley* has behaved peaceably, and has not, to his knowledge, said or done any thing in the *American* cause on either side; that he has been excused from military duty, as a ferryman, and that he is an invalid; that he heard at *Huntington* that the *Wooleys* were removing their boats from his wharf to Captain *Wooley's*, and were intercepted by a barge; that Captain *Wooley's* family in general, through the influence of his son *Thomas*, is esteemed disaffected to the *American* cause.

Mr. *Henry Stocker* says, that *John Wooley* has behaved very peaceably, and said nothing on either side in the *American* cause; that *Wooley's* cattle has been removed, and *John Wooley* says that he removed those that were brought to his house; that he heard that *Wooley's* ferry-boat was removed to Major *Thorne's* dock; that he does not know, nor has not heard, that *John Wooley* has supplied the enemy's ships with provisions.

The Committee determined to admit *John Wooley* to bail, if he can find two good sureties to be bound with him, for his peaceable and good behaviour, and remaining on the

main land in this State. The said *John Wooley* to be bound in the penalty of fifty pounds, and the said sureties in the sum of twenty-five pounds each.

And *Ordered*, That the President inform the said *John Wooley* thereof in time of the adjournment, and direct him to inform the Committee in the afternoon whether he can obtain sureties and who they are.

Ordered, That Mr. *McKesson*, one of the Secretaries, pay to Sergeant *David Mills* twelve shillings, by him paid for the passage of himself and two men under his command, sent up as a guard from *Peek's Kill* with a prisoner taken, who had been on board of the enemy's ships of war in the river. That the Secretary take a receipt for the same.

And *Ordered*, That the Treasurer repay to Mr. *McKesson* the said twelve shillings, and charge the same to Continental account.

Die Jovis, 4 ho., P. M., September 5, 1776.

The Convention met pursuant to adjournment.

Present: *Abraham Yates*, Jun., Esq., President.

NEW-YORK.—Mr. *Robert Harper*, Mr. *Baucker*, Mr. *Duane*.

DUTCHESS.—Mr. *Sackett*, Doctor *Crane*, Mr. *H. Schenck*.

ALBANY.—Mr. *Ab. Yates*, General *Ten Broeck*, Mr. *Cuyler*, Colonel *Livingston*, Colonel *Van Renselaer*, Mr. *Adgate*.

TRYON.—Mr. *William Harper*, Mr. *Moore*, Mr. *Veder*, Mr. *Newkerk*.

SUFFOLK.—Mr. *William Smith*.

WESTCHESTER.—Colonel *Cortlandt*, Mr. *Haviland*, Judge *Graham*.

CHARLOTTE.—Mr. *Duer*, Major *Webster*, Colonel *Williams*.

ULSTER.—Colonel *De Witt*, Mr. *Tappen*.

ORANGE.—Mr. *Wisner*, Colonel *Allison*, Mr. *Joseph Smith*.

CUMBERLAND.—Mr. *Sessions*, Mr. *Stevens*.

On motion, *Ordered*, That the Secretaries prepare the following number of Commissions, to be signed by the President and attested by one of the Secretaries, and transmitted to the County Committees hereafter mentioned, on the conditions prescribed in the Resolution of the Convention of this State of the day of last, viz: 100 Commissions for the County of *Albany*; 50 Commissions for the County of *Tryon*; 20 Commissions for the County of *Charlotte*; 6 Commissions for the Third Battalion of *Westchester* County.

On motion of the Deputies of *Albany*,

Resolved and Ordered, That *Harmen Van Bueren*, Esq., be appointed Major of the Seventh Regiment of Militia of the County of *Albany*, and that a Commission issue for that purpose.

The Petition of the Committee of *Tryon* County, dated the instant, was read and filed. They therein set forth that the Militia of that County would be more advantageously regulated if a Brigadier-General was appointed in that County, as the distance they are from Brigadier-General *Ten Broeck*, whom they esteem, is a great inconvenience.

Brigadier-General *Ten Broeck*, present, informed the Convention that it is a disadvantage to the Militia of *Tryon* County, and an inconvenience to himself, to have those Militia in his Brigade, and the more especially as the Major of Brigade resides in *Tryon* County, at a great distance from him.

Thereupon, *Resolved*, That the Militia of *Tryon* County be formed into a Brigade separate from the Militia of *Albany*.

And whereas *Nicholas Herkheimer*, Esq., is justly entitled to be appointed the Brigadier-General of the Brigade of Militia of *Tryon* County, as well from his military rank in that County, as from his great merit and many exertions in the present glorious struggle for liberty:

Therefore, *Resolved, unanimously*, That *Nicholas Herkheimer*, Esq., be appointed Brigadier-General of the Militia of *Tryon* County, and that a commission issue to him accordingly for that purpose.

And *Ordered*, That *John Frey*, Esq., be appointed Brigade-Major of that Brigade.

On motion of Mr. *Duer*, the Convention came to the following Resolution for the removal of the Bells from the City of *New-York*, viz:

Whereas the King of *Great Britain* is studiously endeavouring, by every means which artifice and lawless power can devise, to deprive the inhabitants of the *United States of America* of Ammunition, Cannon, and every warlike store, in order that they may fall a more easy prey to his tyrannical purposes; which cowardly designs have unhappily so far succeeded, that this State is now distressed by the want of sufficient Arms to resist the powerful and unnatural enemy by whom they are invaded: And whereas the duty which the representatives of a free people owe, both to God and their country, obliges them to make every possible exertion to procure Arms and Ammunition, in order to defend their rights and liberties, which are derived from the Supreme Being, and which posterity have a right to claim as an unincumbered inheritance:

Therefore, *Resolved, unanimously*, That his Excellency General *Washington* be requested and authorized to cause all the Bells in the different Churches and publick edifices in the City of *New-York* to be taken down and removed to *New-Ark*, in *New-Jersey*, with all possible despatch, that the fortune of war may not throw the same into the hands of our enemy, and deprive this State, at this critical period, of that necessary though unfortunate resource for supplying our want of cannon.

Resolved, That a copy of this Resolution be sent to the Ministers, Elders, or Church-Wardens of the respective Churches, in order that the weight and value of those Bells may be ascertained. And the Convention of this State pledge the publick faith that the respective Churches shall be furnished with Bells of equal goodness and value whenever their constituents, free from the apprehension of having their civil and religious rights violated by any earthly Power, shall be enabled to return their publick thanks to the Supreme Ruler of the universe for graciously rescuing them from the gulf of tyranny.

A draft of a Letter to his Excellency General *Washington* was read and approved, and is in the words following, to wit:

"*SIR*: I am directed by the Convention of this State to transmit to your Excellency a copy of a resolution which they entreat may be carried into execution with all possible despatch. It is with extreme concern that we find ourselves under the disagreeable necessity of having recourse to this unhappy but necessary expedient, or of troubling your Excellency with a commission of this nature; but the critical situation of this State, the want of brass field-pieces, and our inability to have this resolve executed by the Committee of the City of *New-York*, on account of their absence from the city, reduce us to the dilemma either of adopting this measure or of neglecting the publick safety. They therefore trust that your Excellency's zeal for the publick service will induce you to pardon the liberty they take of troubling you on this occasion.

"I have the honour to be, with the greatest respect, &c.

"To his Excellency General *Washington*."

Ordered, That a copy of the said Letter be engrossed, and signed by the President, and, together with a copy of the last foregoing Resolution, transmitted to his Excellency, by *Sampson Dyckman*, the Messenger.

The President informed the Convention that *John Wooley* offers as his sureties Major *Richard Thorne* and *Henry Stocker*, both of *Queen's County*, of which the Convention approved.

Ordered, That the Secretary present draw a proper Bond or that purpose, and see it duly executed by the said *John Wooley* and his sureties.

Major *Schenck* informed the Convention that a quantity of Oil, said to belong to this State, is stored in a store-house near *Bush's Landing*, and that it is in a leaky condition and wasting fast.

Ordered, That Major *Henry Schenck* be and is hereby authorized and requested to take proper care of the said Oil, and direct the same to be properly coopered, so as to preserve it from wasting.

The application or Petition of *Henry Chase*,* a prisoner in the Gaol of *Westchester County*, was read and filed. He thereby prays to be brought to a trial or discharged.

Ordered, That the consideration thereof be deferred until more important matters before the Convention are despatched.

The Petition of Colonel *Benjamin Birdsall*,† acting as Captain of a Company in Colonel *Smith's Regiment*, *Nassau-Island*, was read and filed. He thereby prays for money to discharge the bounty due to his men.

Ordered, That the consideration thereof be deferred until Colonel *Birdsall* can be examined before this Convention to-morrow.

The Bond of *John Wooley*,‡ and the condition, were brought into the Convention and read, and ordered to be filed.

Mr. *Duane*, from the Committee who visited the Fortifications on *Hudson's River*, produced a number of Returns, made by various officers there, and gave the Convention the following information in substance:

1st. That General *Clinton* told them that he thought the provisions deficient; that on inquiry they found a quantity of damaged pork in barrels there, which, from some information they received, was, in general, bad when sold for the use of the garrison, with a little good pork packed as a cover in each end of the barrels.

2d. That the fire rafts are in such a state as not to be fit for use, having in part water in them; and that the General does not know what to do with them.

3d. That at *Fort Montgomerie*, an Armourer, with the tools of his trade, is much wanted.

* *WHITE-PLAINS JAIL, August 30, 1776.*—GENTLEMEN: My confinement is the reason of my petitioning to you, the honourable Provincial Congress, hoping your Honours will be pleased to take my case into consideration; for the Committee of Safety says that they have no right to try me; so I leave my case to your Honours, gentlemen, and beg that your Honours would consider me, for I have been imprisoned a long time and nothing appeared against me; so I beg that you Honours would consider me as quick as possible, for I am a poor man and it is a great damage to me to lie in prison; so, gentlemen, I leave my case to your Honours, not doubting but your wisdoms, gentlemen, will do me justice. This broken petition from me, HENRY CHASE.

To the honourable Provincial Congress at the *Fishkills*.

P. S. Gentlemen, I should be very glad if your Honours would be so good as to send for me before your Honours as quick as possible, and in so doing you will greatly oblige me, HENRY CHASE.

In Committee of Safety for the County of *WESTCHESTER*, }
WHITE-PLAINS, August, 1776.

You are under the immediate cognizance of the Convention of the State of *New-York*, and this Committee thinks proper to inform you that they cannot take your case into consideration. You must make application to the Convention, if you want your case considered.

By order of Committee: JOSEPH YOUNGS, D. Chairman.

To H. CHASE, Prisoner.

† *FISHKILLS, September 6, 1776.*—GENTLEMEN OF THE STATE OF *NEW-YORK*: The conditions of the enlistment of the troops upon *Long-Island*, they had the promise of £4 bounty. I was to command one company; accordingly I have, but with only twenty-six men. They have often complained for the want of their bounty, which is £104, except £34 out, I have received; £70 is now due for bounty. I pray it may be discharged. I am at your service; and from this purpose, going with my men to *Long-Island* to join Colonel *Smith*, as I'm sensible he wants assistance. BENJ. BIRDSALL, Lieut. Colonel.

‡ Know all men by these presents, that we, *John Wooley*, of *Hempstead*, in *Queen's County*, Yeoman, and *Richard Thorne*, Esq., and *Henry Stocker*, both of *Hempstead* aforesaid, are held and firmly bound unto *Abraham Yates*, Jun., Esq., President of the Convention of the State of *New-York*, in the sums following, to wit: the said *John Wooley* in the sum of £50, and the said *Richard Thorne* and *Henry Stocker* in the sum of £25 each, to be paid to the said *Abraham Yates*, Jun., or to his certain attorney, executors, administrators, or assigns; for which payment well and truly to be made and done, we bind ourselves, our heirs, executors, and administrators, jointly and severally, firmly by these presents. Sealed with our seals, and dated the 5th day of *September*, 1776. The condition of the above obligation is such, that if the above-bound *John Wooley* do not go to any part of *Nassau-Island* without the permission of the Convention or Legislative authority of this State of *New-York* for the time being; and in the mean time if the said *John Wooley* shall and do behave himself as a faithful and good subject of the State of *New-York*, and not afford any aid, assistance, support, or comfort to any of officers or soldiers of the *British* fleets or armies, or their allies or adherents, or give them any intelligence by any means whatsoever, nor violate any order or resolution of the Congress of the *United American States*, or of the Convention or Committee of Safety of the State of *New-York*, then the obligation to be void; but on failure or non-performance of either of the above conditions, to be and remain in full force and virtue.

JOHN WOOLEY, Jr., [L. s.]

RICH'D THORNE, [L. s.]

HENRY STOCKER, [L. s.]

Sealed and delivered in the presence of us, the word "*Hempstead*" being wrote on a former word.

DAVID MILLS,
MICAH TOWNSEND,
JOHN MCKESSON.

4th. That there is a great want of men at Forts *Montgomerie*, *Constitution*, and *Red-Hook*; that the last mentioned work is very imperfect, but will be extremely useful. That one thousand more men the General would think necessary for the Fortifications, exclusive of *Red-Hook*. That spades, shovels, pick-axes, shot, lead, sheep-skins, langrage, and many other things, are wanting there; that the General desires a reinforcement of men, and that they may be armed. And he gave an account of the number of cannon there, and the weight of their metal.

Mr. *Duane* then moved that five hundred Militia may be immediately ordered to reinforce those Garrisons, to be detached from *Ulster*, *Orange*, and *Dutchess*.

Debates arose, and the consideration whereof is deferred till to-morrow.

Die Veneris, 9 ho. A. M., September 6, 1776.

The Convention met pursuant to adjournment.

Present: *Abraham Yates*, Jun., Esq., President.

NEW-YORK.—Mr. *Bancker*, Mr. *Duane*, Mr. *Robert Harper*.

DUTCHESS.—Mr. *Sackett*, Doctor *Crane*, Mr. *H. Schenck*.

ALBANY.—Mr. *Ab. Yates*, General *Ten Broeck*, Mr. *Cuyler*, Colonel *Livingston*, Colonel *Van Renselaer*, Mr. *Adgate*.

TRYON.—Mr. *William Harper*, Mr. *Moore*, Mr. *Veder*, Mr. *Newkerk*.

SUFFOLK.—Mr. *William Smith*.

WESTCHESTER.—Colonel *Cortlandt*, Mr. *Haviland*, Colonel *Drake*.

CHARLOTTE.—Mr. *Duer*, Major *Webster*, Colonel *Williams*.

ULSTER.—Colonel *De Witt*, Mr. *Tappen*.

ORANGE.—Mr. *Wisner*, Colonel *Allison*, Mr. *Jos. Smith*.

CUMBERLAND.—Mr. *Sessions*, Mr. *Stevens*.

On motion, *Resolved*, That a Messenger be sent for any Member of this Convention who shall absent himself without leave; and that the expense incurred thereby shall be defrayed by the said Member; and that such Member shall also receive a publick reprimand from the Chair, for a contempt of the House.

Mr. *Duane*, from the Committee appointed to visit the Forts *Montgomerie* and *Constitution*, gave the Convention some further information relative to the state of those Fortifications.

After some time spent thereon, *Resolved*, That it is of the utmost consequence to the safety of this State and the general interest of *America*, that a reinforcement should be immediately sent to the Forts *Montgomery* and *Constitution*, at *Hudson's River*.

Therefore, *Resolved*, *unanimously*, That six hundred men be, with all possible despatch, detached from the Militia of this State, and sent to the Forts *Montgomery* and *Constitution*, as a reinforcement to those Garrisons.

It was then proposed, and, after some considerable time spent therein, it was agreed, that the reinforcement for those Garrisons be detached from the Militia of *Ulster*, *Albany*, *Dutchess*, and *Orange* Counties.

A motion was then made by Mr. *Duane*, and seconded, that the proportion of men to be furnished by those Counties be as follows, to wit: From *Ulster* County, two hundred and twenty-five; from *Albany*, one hundred and fifty; from *Dutchess*, one hundred and fifty; and from *Orange*, seventy-five men.

Debates arose thereon. After some time spent thereon, a motion was made and seconded, that twenty-five men be taken from the number proposed to be raised in *Ulster* County, and added to the number proposed to be raised in *Dutchess*.

Debates also arose thereon; and the question being put, it was carried in the affirmative by every County present, except *Ulster*; that is to say, for the affirmative, twenty votes, and for the negative, four votes.

It was then proposed that the proportions of the Militia from those Counties be fixed as follows, viz: From *Ulster*, two hundred men; from *Albany*, one hundred and fifty men; from *Dutchess*, one hundred and seventy-five men; from *Orange*, seventy-five men—six hundred men.

Debates arose thereon; and the question being put, it was carried in the affirmative, in manner following, to wit:

For the affirmative.		For the negative.
6 Albany,	2 Charlotte,	3 Orange,
3 Tryon,	4 Westchester.	4 Ulster.
2 Cumberland,	—	—
—	17 votes.	7 votes.

Therefore, *Resolved*, That the above reinforcement detached from the Militia of those four Counties in proportions above mentioned.

Die Veneris, 4 ho. P. M., September 6, 1776.

The Convention met pursuant to adjournment.

Present: *Abraham Yates*, Jun., Esq., President.

NEW-YORK.—Mr. *Harper*, Mr. *Bancker*, Mr. *Duane*, Mr. *Jay*.

DUTCHESS.—Major *Schenck*, Mr. *R. R. Livingston*, Mr. *Sackett*, Doctor *Crane*, Mr. *Gilbert Livingston*, Mr. *Platt*.

ALBANY.—Mr. *Abraham Yates*, General *Ten Broeck*, Colonel *P. R. Livingston*, Mr. *Adgate*, Mr. *Cuyler*, Colonel *Renselaer*, Mr. *John Ten Broeck*.

TRYON.—Mr. *William Harper*, Mr. *Moore*, Mr. *J. Newkerk*.

SUFFOLK.—Mr. *William Smith*.

WESTCHESTER.—Colonel *Cortlandt*, Mr. *Haviland*, Colonel *Drake*.

CHARLOTTE.—Mr. *Duer*, Major *Webster*, Colonel *Williams*.

ULSTER.—Colonel *De Witt*, Mr. *Tappen*.

ORANGE.—Colonel *Allison*, Mr. *Joseph Smith*, Mr. *ner*.

CUMBERLAND.—Mr. *Sessions*, Mr. *Stevens*.

The Convention resumed the consideration of the of the Garrisons of Forts *Montgomery* and *Constitution* and the works erecting at *Red-Hook*. After some spent therein, the two following Resolutions were agreed and resolved, viz:

Resolved, That one hundred and fifty men from part of the County of *Albany* which is within and to the southward of the Manor of *Renselaerwyck*, including the City of *Albany*; one hundred and seventy-five men from the County of *Dutchess*; two hundred men from the County of *Ulster*; and seventy-five men from that part of the County of *Orange* which lies above the Mountain immediately detached by ballot, and marched to augment the Garrison at Forts *Montgomery* and *Constitution*.

Resolved, That the above reinforcement continue in service two months after their arrival at the said Forts, and that this Convention will discharge them sooner, if sufficient Garrisons of Continental troops shall be ordered to and arrive at those Forts before the expiration of the two months; and that the Militia so drafted shall be entitled to the same pay as are allowed to the Continental troops.

A question then arose into what number of Companies those Levies should be disposed. The same being considered,

Resolved, That the above Levies be formed into Companies in the following manner, to wit: Those from the County of *Ulster* into three Companies; those from *Albany* and *Dutchess*, respectively, into two Companies each; those from the County of *Orange* into one Company.

On motion of Mr. *Duer*, agreed that the Convention immediately proceed to fix and appoint the Field Officers to command the said Levies or Detachments intended to reinforce the said Garrisons.

Mr. *Duer* then moved that the Field Officers to command the said reinforcement be appointed out of the Officers of *Albany*, *Ulster*, and *Orange*, agreeable to the rank or rank fixed for the said Counties by the regulations for the Militia of this State.

Debates arose thereon; and the question being put, it was carried in the negative, in manner following, viz:

For the affirmative.		For the negative.
4 Ulster,	—	6 Albany,
3 Orange,	—	5 Dutchess,
2 Charlotte.	—	3 Tryon,
—	9 votes.	2 Cumberland.
—	—	—
—	—	16 votes.

Therefore the said motion was overruled.

On motion, *Resolved*, That the Colonel to command the reinforcement be called into service from *Ulster* County.

Lieutenant-Colonel from *Dutchess* County, and the Major from the County of *Albany*.

Colonel *De Witt* then moved, and was seconded, that the Troop of Horse in *Ulster* County, now called out by General *Clinton*, and the Rangers which are raised in the said County, be considered as a part of the troops to be raised by virtue of the resolutions passed this day.

Debates arose thereon; and the question being put, it was carried in the negative, *Ulster* alone for the affirmative.

Resolved, This Convention will, to the utmost of their power, comply with General *James Clinton's* requisitions for the support and supply of those Fortifications.

Colonel *V. Cortlandt* has leave of absence.

Die Sabbati, 9 ho. A. M., September 7, 1776.

The Convention met pursuant to adjournment.

Present: *Abraham Yates*, Jun., Esq., President.

NEW-YORK.—Mr. *Robert Harper*, Mr. *Jay*, Mr. *Duane*.

WESTCHESTER.—Major *Lockwood*, Colonel *Gilbert Drake*, Mr. *Haviland*.

ALBANY.—Mr. *Yates*, General *Ten Broeck*, *John Ten Broeck*, Mr. *Cuyler*, Colonel *Renselaer*, Mr. *Adgate*, Colonel *Livingston*.

TRYON.—Mr. *William Harper*, Mr. *Moore*, Mr. *Newkerk*, Mr. *Veder*.

ULSTER.—Colonel *De Witt*.

ORANGE.—Mr. *Jos. Smith*, Colonel *Allison*, Mr. *Wisner*.

CHARLOTTE.—Mr. *Duer*, Colonel *Williams*, Major *Webster*.

DUTCHESS.—Dr. *Crane*, Mr. *R. R. Livingston*, Mr. *H. Schenck*, Mr. *Gilbert Livingston*, Captain *Platt*.

CUMBERLAND.—Mr. *Stevens*, Mr. *Sessions*.

The Convention was informed by several Members, that the Stores from *White-Plains*, for the removal whereof *John Cregier* was lately sent, are now arrived at Mr. *Bogardus's* landing in a small Sloop or Pettiauger, under a guard of a Sergeant and twelve men, who ought to be immediately discharged and furnished with provisions for their return.

Ordered, That the said Stores be landed and stored under the care of *Nathaniel Sackett*, Esq., who is hereby appointed a Commissary for that purpose; and that Mr. *Sackett* be, and hereby is, authorized and requested to furnish and provide the guard with provisions for their return.

Mr. *Smith*, of *Suffolk* County, informed the Convention that a certain person of the name of *Harrison*, is in the neighbourhood, and can give some information relative to the situation of the enemy and disaffected on *Nassau-Island*.

Mr. *Harrison* says that the Ministerial Troops have been to *Oyster-Bay* and *Hempstead*; that the disaffected inhabitants have joined to assist the enemy, and proceeded as far as *Setauket*; that General *Howe* has set guards to prevent any person coming off the island or removing cattle; that *Isaac Ketchum* has taken a commission and got some men; that *William Smith*, of , administers oaths of fidelity or allegiance to the inhabitants, and that *Thomas Smith*, of *Hog-Island*, receives their submissions; that Colonel *Livingston* is moving westward on the island with the Militia; that a number of men were going from *Connecticut* to bring off some gunpowder from *Huntington* and a quantity of flour there, which one *Ireland* had sold to the Ministerial Army; that he saw Colonel *Smith*, of *Suffolk* County, in *Connecticut*.

Ordered, That Colonel *De Witt*, Mr. *William Smith*, and Mr. *R. R. Livingston* be a Committee to devise ways and means to succour the subjects of this State on *Nassau-Island*.

On motion of Mr. *Jay*,

Resolved, That a Committee of Safety and Correspondence for that part of this State which lies below the Highlands be immediately formed; that Colonel *Remsen*, Major *Abeel*, and Major *Peter P. Van Zandt*, be that Committee.

And *Ordered*, That Mr. *Duane*, Mr. *Jay*, and Mr. *Duer*, be a Committee to draw up Instructions for that Committee of Safety.

And *Ordered*, That Colonel *Hoffman* be excused from attending at *New-York* as a correspondent, according to his late appointment for that purpose.

Resolved, unanimously, That the Committee of Safety

and Correspondence at *New-York* be appointed and authorized to take from the doors of the Houses in the city of *New-York* all the Brass Knockers, and that they cause the same to be sent to some careful person at *New-Ark*, in *New-Jersey*, with all possible despatch; that the said Committee keep as accurate an account as possible of the weight and value of them, and of the houses from whence taken, in order that satisfaction may be hereafter made to the respective owners.

The residue of the morning was spent in preparing the Resolutions for reinforcing the Garrisons of the Forts on *Hudson's River*. The long preamble prepared by Mr. *Duane*, and many other parts, were read, amended, and agreed to.

Mr. *Wisner*, of *Orange*, moved, and was seconded, that a Bounty be allowed to the Militia now to be called into service in this State. Debates arose, and the question being put, the votes were as follows, viz:

For the Affirmative.

2 Cumberland.
6 Albany.
3 Orange.

11 votes.

For the Negative.

2 Charlotte.
3 Tryon.
5 Dutchess.
4 Westchester.

14 votes.

But by reason of the absence of several Members, the consideration of allowing Bounty is deferred till afternoon.

Die Sabbati, 4 ho. P. M., September 7, 1776.

The Convention met pursuant to adjournment.

Present: *Abraham Yates*, Jun., Esq., President.

NEW-YORK.—Mr. *Robert Harper*, Mr. *Duane*, Mr. *Jay*.

WESTCHESTER.—Colonel *Drake*, Major *Lockwood*, Mr. *Haviland*.

ALBANY.—Mr. *Abraham Yates*, General *Ten Broeck*, Colonel *P. Livingston*, Mr. *Adgate*, Colonel *Renselaer*, Mr. *Cuyler*, Mr. *John Ten Broeck*.

TRYON.—Mr. *William Harper*, Mr. *Moore*, Mr. *Veder*.

ULSTER.—Colonel *De Witt*.

ORANGE.—Mr. *Wisner*, Colonel *Allison*, Mr. *Joseph Smith*.

CHARLOTTE.—Mr. *Webster*, Colonel *Williams*, Mr. *Duer*.

DUTCHESS.—Mr. *Robert R. Livingston*, Mr. *Gilbert Livingston*, Mr. *Platt*, Dr. *Crane*, Mr. *Schenck*.

CUMBERLAND.—Mr. *Stevens*, Mr. *Sessions*.

The Convention resumed the consideration of the Report of the Committee who were sent to visit the Forts *Montgomery* and *Constitution*; and after some time spent thereon, and the completing of the Resolutions, designed for reinforcing the Garrisons at those Fortifications, with the preambles thereto, and the appointment of the Officers to command such reinforcements, the same being finally read and agreed to, are in the words following, to wit:

The Committee appointed the 2d instant, to visit and examine into the state of Forts *Montgomery* and *Constitution*, in the Highlands, laid before the Convention returns from different Officers at those Fortresses, showing the condition and wants of the respective Garrisons, from which, and the Reports of the Committee, among other things it appears that there are at present no more troops in the Highlands than seven hundred and sixty-four, whereof three hundred and ninety-eight are at *Fort Montgomery*, and two hundred and sixteen at *Fort Constitution*. The troops consist of Militia of the State, excepting five Companies of the Second *New-York* Continental Battalion. That to render *Fort Constitution* tenable, the *West-Point*, which commands it, ought to be fortified. That considerable progress is made in fortifying an advantageous eminence on the western shore, a little to the south of *Fort Montgomery*, and within the reach of cannon, but it is still incomplete. That the remaining part of the said troops, being one hundred and fifty, is employed in erecting works on the east side of the river, about three miles below *Fort Montgomery*, at a place called *Red-Hook*, near *Peekskill*, which are well calculated to prevent the enemies landing on that side, and becoming masters of the Highlands opposite to *Fort Montgomery*. That Brigadier-General *James Clinton*, commanding at the said Fortresses, informed the Committee that, exclusive of the post, at *Red-Hook*, an augmentation of one thousand men was requisite for completing and defending the Fortresses under his directions, and earnestly requested that this Convention would immediately

procure such reinforcement, as well as the several articles of ammunition, stores, and necessaries, hereafter specified, of which he stood in the utmost need.

This Convention having duly considered the said representation and requisition, and well knowing how much the safety of this State, as well as the success of the united efforts of this oppressed Continent in the defence of our common liberties, must depend on maintaining the possession of *Hudson's River*, and guarding it against the invasion which is to be apprehended from the enemy; considering, at the same time, the little probability that it can at present be in the power of his Excellency General *Washington* to detach for this service any of the army which is employed in opposing the progress of the enemy in the southern part of this State; the Convention must again have recourse to the good people of this State, not doubting but that, inspired by a virtuous love for their country, they will, on an occasion so pressing, and at a period when their lives, their liberties, and every temporal blessing, are in imminent danger, stand forth with zeal and alacrity in the greatest and best of causes:

Therefore *Resolved*, That six hundred men be, with all possible despatch, detached from the Militia of this State, and sent to the Forts *Montgomery* and *Constitution*, as a reinforcement to those garrisons.

That one hundred and fifty men from that part of the County of *Albany* which is within and to the southward of the Manor of *Renselaerwyck*, including the City of *Albany*, one hundred and seventy-five men from the County of *Dutchess*, two hundred men from the County of *Ulster*, and seventy-five men from that part of the County of *Orange* which lies above the Mountains, all exclusive of commissioned officers, be immediately detached by ballot, and marched to augment the Garrisons at Forts *Montgomery* and *Constitution*.

Resolved, That the above reinforcement continue in service two months after their arrival at the said Fortresses, and that this Convention will discharge them sooner in case sufficient garrisons of Continental Troops shall be ordered to, and arrive at, those Forts before the expiration of the said two months; and that the Militia so drafted shall be entitled to the same pay and rations as are allowed to the Continental Troops.

Resolved, That the above Levies be formed into Companies, in the following manner, to wit: Those from the County of *Ulster* into three Companies, and those from *Albany* and *Dutchess* respectively into two Companies each, and those from the County of *Orange* into one Company, and that each Company have one Captain, two Lieutenants, four Sergeants, four Corporals, one Drummer, and one Fifer.

That the said reinforcement shall be formed into one Battalion, to be commanded by a Colonel, Lieutenant-Colonel, and Major, to be appointed by this Convention; that a Surgeon, Adjutant, and Quartermaster, shall be appointed for the said Battalion, the first by the Convention, and the two last by the Colonel. That the Captains and Subalterns be appointed by the Field Officers of the Regiments in each respective County from which the quotas are to be raised, out of the Militia Officers, having regard to their rank and the dates of their commissions, if a sufficient number of such are willing to serve; if not, that they shall be at liberty to appoint such others as they shall think properly qualified; and that the Non-commissioned Officers be appointed by the Captain of each Company under whom they are to serve.

Resolved, That each Non-commissioned Officer and Private shall provide himself with a good Musket or Firelock, Bayonet or Tomahawk, a Blanket and Knapsack, and every six men with a Pot or Camp-kettle; and that one penny per mile be allowed to each Non-commissioned Officer and Private during their march, for subsistence-money, and one day's pay for every twenty miles between their respective homes and rendezvous, going and returning.

And to the intent that the Levies so raised may not be unfurnished with Arms, the Committees in the different Townships and Districts in the said Counties, and the Colonels of the respective Regiments, are hereby authorized and empowered to furnish all such as have not Arms, by taking them from those who are not drafted and such other persons in the Districts as have Arms, the same being valued

by the Committee of each District, the amount of such valuation hereafter to be paid to the proprietors of the said Arms by this Convention, or the Arms restored in the same order to their former proprietors.

Resolved, That Colonel *Johannes Snyder*, of *Ulster* County be and is hereby appointed Colonel, Lieutenant-Colonel *John Bailey*, Jun., of *Dutchess* County, to be Lieutenant-Colonel, of the Levies, now ordered to be detached from the Counties of *Albany*, *Ulster*, *Dutchess*, and *Orange*, and that a Commission be sent blank to the Committee of *Albany*, for a Major for the said Levies, to be offered first to the eldest Major of the Militia in the County of *Albany*, and in case of his refusal, to the next eldest in succession until it is accepted.

Resolved, That new Commissions issue for the Officers of those detachments, and that the Field Officers be by those Commissions appointed to that command, in addition to their former commands in the Militia of their respective Counties.

Resolved, That 50 Spades, 50 Wood-axes, 50 Pick-axes, 24 Shovels, 25 Bill-hooks, 200 weight of Lead, 1000 weight Langrage, 1000 round and bar Shot for nine-pounders, 50 sets of cast-iron Carriage-Wheels for cannon, 1000 weight of Nails for building barracks, 1000 rounds of six-pound Ball and Grape-Shot, three sets of men's Harness for drawing cannon, 30 pounds of Twine, 12 pounds of Thread for cartridges, and one Armourer with the tools of his business, be immediately procured and forwarded to Fort *Montgomery*. And that *John Schenck* be appointed an Agent for that purpose, with authority to draw on the Treasurer for a sum not exceeding twenty-five hundred Dollars, for which he shall keep and render an exact account.

Ordered, That the Treasurer of this State pay to *John Schenck*, as Agent for furnishing the Forts *Constitution* and *Montgomery* with the articles directed by this Convention, any sum for which he may apply not exceeding twenty-five hundred Dollars, for which Mr. *Schenck* is to keep and render account.

The subject of granting a Bounty to the detachments of Militia ordered by the foregoing Resolutions, was resumed. After a short time spent therein, the further consideration thereof was postponed till next week.

The following Preamble was read and agreed to, to introduce the copies of the foregoing Resolutions, which shall be sent to the Commanding Officers of the Militia in the Counties from whence the Militia are ordered to be detached, viz:

"The Committee appointed to visit and examine into the state of the Fortresses in the Highlands, report, among other things, that an immediate reinforcement is necessary and earnestly requested by General *Clinton*, the commanding officer."

Ordered, That the Secretaries prefix this Preamble to the copies to be sent to the Officers of the Militia in the Counties; instead of the other long introduction.

Ordered, That a copy of the said Resolutions be immediately prepared and despatched to the Delegates of this State at Congress, and that Mr. *Robert R. Livingston* prepare a draft of a Letter to the Delegates of this State at Congress, to accompany the said Resolutions.

Ordered, That a copy of the Resolution of this Convention, for removing Bells from the Churches and publick edifices in *New-York*, be sent to the Delegates of this State at Congress.

Ordered, That a certified copy of the Committee on General *Washington's* Letter, relative to sending Forces to *King's Bridge*, be sent to the Delegates of this State at Congress.

The Convention were informed that there are several women and a number of children, amounting to fifteen in the whole, at Captain *Wiltse's* Landing, in a storehouse, who came from *New-York*, and say that they were sent out by the Committee; but that they have not certificates, which the Committee usually gave; that they are willing to work, but are poor and have not subsistence. That the widow and children of *Isaac Teller*, deceased, are near this place, without support, and the widow in a sick and low condition.

Ordered, That Major *Henry Schenck* have discretionary power to provide for the maintenance of the poor now at

Wiltse's Landing, and also for the widow and children of *Isaac Teller*, deceased.

Resolved unanimously, and Ordered, That the Treasurer of this State stop payment of all Accounts passed by the Auditor-General for Colonel *Smith's* Regiment of Levies, and for the drafts of the Militia from *King's* and *Queen's* County, commanded by Colonel *Remsen*, till he shall receive further orders from this Convention or a future Legislature of this State.

Resolved, That the President, Mr. *William Smith*, Major *Webster*, Mr. *Duane*, Mr. *Adgate*, and Mr. *Jay*, be a Committee of Safety of this State until the next meeting of a representation of the State in this Convention. That the President and three members be a quorum of that Committee. That every member of this Convention who shall attend shall have a voice, and that the said Committee be and is hereby authorized to take every measure necessary for the safety, defence, and protection of this State.

Colonel *De Witt* has leave of absence to go home, and return as soon as possible.

Mr. *Duer* has leave of absence for two or three days.

Mr. *Wisner*, Mr. *Joseph Smith*, and Colonel *Allison*, obtained leave of absence, to return on *Monday* at noon.

Dr. *Crane* had leave of absence, to return on *Monday* next, at two o'clock.

Mr. *Robert R. Livingston* had leave of absence, to return on *Monday* next.

Mr. *R. R. Livingston*, according to order, reported a draft of a Letter to the Delegates of this State at Convention, which was read, and referred to the Committee of Safety.

Ordered, That *Nathaniel Sackett*, Esq., as Commissary, deliver to any one of the Deputies of *Charlotte* County, fifteen hundred weight of Lead and one thousand Flints, to be sent to *Charlotte* County, for the use of the inhabitants of that County, to be paid and accounted for by the County Committee and inhabitants of that County, to this State. Mr. *Sackett* to take a receipt for the same of the Deputy to whom he shall deliver it.

And *Ordered*, That Mr. *Sackett* deliver one ton and an half of Lead to any of the Members of *Tryon* County, together with three thousand Flints for the use of the inhabitants of that County, to be paid and accounted for by the inhabitants of that County, to this State. And that Mr. *Sackett* take a receipt for the same of the Deputy to whom it will be delivered.

COMMITTEE OF SAFETY.

Sunday Morning, September 8, 1776.

The Committee met pursuant to adjournment.

Present: *Abraham Yates*, Esq., President; Mr. *Bancker*, Mr. *Duane*, Mr. *Adgate*, Mr. *Moore*, Mr. *Ten Broeck*, Mr. *Lockwood*, Mr. *Stevens*, Mr. *Sessions*, Mr. *William Harper*, Mr. *Veder*, Mr. *Cuyler*.

Ordered, That *Nathaniel Sackett*, Esq., as Commissary, deliver one ton of Lead to the Deputies of the County of *Albany*, for the use of the inhabitants of that County, and take a receipt for the same; the County Committee and inhabitants of the County of *Albany* to account and pay for the same to this State.

Die Lunæ, 11 ho. A. M., September 9, 1776.

The Committee met pursuant to adjournment.

Present: *Abraham Yates*, Jun., Esq., President; Captain *Platt*, Major *Lockwood*, Mr. *Haviland*, Mr. *William Smith*, Colonel *Drake*, Colonel *Renselaer*, Mr. *Cuyler*, Mr. *Jay*, Mr. *Adgate*, Mr. *Sessions*, Major *Webster*, and Mr. *Stevens*.

A Letter from Brigadier-General *Scott*, dated the 6th instant, and received yesterday by *S. Dyckman*, the messenger, was read and filed.

He therein, in pursuance of the request of the Convention on the instant, gives a particular account of the situation and movements of the Army since the retreat from *Nassau-Island*.

It was represented to this Committee that a certain *Warrs* is spreading or propagating false and mischievous reports tending to injure the cause of *America*:

Ordered, therefore, That he be forthwith apprehended and

FIFTH SERIES.—VOL. II.

brought before the Convention of this State, or this Committee of Safety, and that Captain *James Weeks* apprehend him accordingly.

Ordered, That Mr. *Cuyler* and Captain *Platt* be a Committee to take the Spears brought from *New-York*, and get a model for making other Spears, with such alterations and amendments as they may think most advantageous.

Ordered, That a copy of the Resolution of the Convention of this State for furnishing *Fort Montgomery* with the articles and stores reported by the Committee as wanted by General *James Clinton*, be immediately despatched to Mr. *John Schenck*, and that the President write a letter to Mr. *John Schenck* requesting his immediate answer whether he will undertake the agency therein mentioned; and if he should undertake the same that he make the utmost despatch.

The said Letter and order was despatched immediately.

Resolved, That a Letter be written by the President to General *J. Clinton*, at *Fort Montgomery*, acquainting him of the reinforcement directed by the Convention of this State for the Fortresses under his command, and that he be requested to forward barracks for their reception as soon as possible.

A short Letter was accordingly written and signed by the President, and delivered, to be forwarded to General *James Clinton*.

A Letter received yesterday noon from his Excellency General *Washington* was read, and is in the words following, to wit:

"Head-Quarters, New-York, September 6, 1776.

"SIR: I have now before me your letter of the 4th instant, enclosing the report against ordering out any more of the Militia from the Counties of *Orange*, *Dutchess*, *Westchester*, or *Ulster*. The reasons alleged by the Committee to whom this matter was referred, are entirely satisfactory to me, and therefore I do not expect a compliance with that part of my letter which respects this matter.

"I have the honour to be your most obedient servant,

"GO. WASHINGTON.

"To the Hon. *Abraham Yates*, Jun., Esq., President of the Committee of Safety of the State of *New-York*."

Die Lunæ, 4 ho. P. M., September 9, 1776.

The Committee met pursuant to adjournment.

Present: *Abraham Yates*, Jun., Esq., President; Colonel *Peter R. Livingston*, Mr. *Robert Harper*, Mr. *William Harper*, Mr. *Adgate*, Major *Webster*, Mr. *Sessions*, Colonel *Drake*, Captain *Platt*, Mr. *Haviland*, Mr. *William Smith*.

A Letter received of General *James Clinton* was read, and is in the words following, to wit:

"Fort Montgomery, September 8, 1776.

"GENTLEMEN: Agreeable to your request I send you a return of articles wanted at the Fortifications in the Highlands. I have made a return of carpenters' tools: the reason of it is, that we have many carpenters amongst us that we can't employ for want of tools. I have sent to *New-York*, to the Quartermaster-General, for nails. I am in hopes he will supply me. I don't much expect to get the shingles: if they can't be got, we must use boards. As many of our arms want repair, we would be glad to have an armourer, with his tools, here for some time. I give you an account of the artillery stores and ordnance when you were here, with the number of men at each post; therefore think it unnecessary to send it again. In case of an attack I think we are too weak of men; therefore expect you will consider of some way to reinforce us, if you judge it necessary.

"I am, gentlemen, your most obedient, humble servant,

"JAMES CLINTON, Brigadier-General."

The following Return of Necessaries wanted at the Fortifications in the Highlands, enclosed in General *James Clinton's* Letter, was also read, and is as follows, viz:

A Return of Necessaries wanted at the Fortifications in the Highlands.

Fifty Axes; 50 Spades; 25 Mattocks; 25 Shovels; 25 Bill-Hooks; 20 Wheelbarrows; 1 dozen Flat and Half-round Files; 1 dozen of Three-square ditto; 2 large

Sledges; 2 Hand Vices; 10 Broad-axes; 10 Hand Saws; 10 Hammers; 5 Iron Squares; 2 dozen of Nail Gimblets; 6 pair of Compasses; 5 sets of Framing Chisels and Augers; 6 Spike Gimblets; 3 set of Match Planes, for inch and inch and a half Plank; 32,000 Brick; 10,000 Shingles; 700 weight of Iron; 25 lbs. of Blistered Steel; 400 weight of 10d. Nails; 300 weight of 20d. ditto; 20 hogs-heads of Lime; 7000 feet of 3-inch Plank; an Armourer, with his Tools, is wanting much; 5000 weight of Lead; 10 lbs. of Thread; 2000 of Tacks; 24 Sheep-Skins; 1000 weight of 6-lb. Shot; 1000 weight of 9-lb. ditto, one half each double-headed; 1½ ton of Grape Shot, from 4 to 6 oz. weight; 1 large Magazine Lock; 2 pair of Shears; 50 set of cast Carriage Wheels; 10 lbs. of Twine; quantity of Oil and Paint to paint the Carriages.

A Letter from his Excellency General *Washington*, dated yesterday, and received by a messenger, was read, and is in the words following, to wit:

"Head-Quarters, New-York, September 8, 1776.

"SIR: I have just received the resolve of your Convention, respecting the removal of the bells belonging to the different churches and publick edifices in this city, to *New Ark*, in the Province of *New-Jersey*. The measure I highly approve of, and shall accordingly have it carried into execution.

"I have lately been conversing with General *Clinton* concerning the defence of the Forts on the Highlands, who agrees with me in sentiment, that the force already there is by no means sufficient. I should, therefore, conceive it would be greatly in advancement of the service if you would cause a reinforcement of the Militia, amounting to about six hundred, to be sent there from the Counties of *Ulster* and *Orange*, or any other that may be most proper and convenient. They may be usefully and importantly employed as well in the defence of the Highlands, in case they should be attacked, as in erecting new works and fortifications, by which they may be rendered more secure.

"I am, sir, your most obedient servant,

"GO. WASHINGTON.

"To Hon. *Abraham Yates*, Jun., Esq."

Another Letter from General *Washington*, received by the same messenger, was also read, and is in the words following, to wit:

"Head-Quarters, New-York, September 8, 1776.

"SIR: I wrote you this morning by your express, but omitted mentioning a matter of consequence. It being determined to remove our sick to *Orange Town*, we shall want four large *Albany* sloops for that purpose. The fatigue of travelling that distance by land would not only be more than the patients could bear, but we have full employ for our wagons in transporting baggage, tents, &c., for the troops, from hence to our outposts. I must, therefore, beg the favour of your honourable body to procure the above number of vessels, and send them down with as much despatch as possible to this city.

"I am, with respect, sir, your most obedient servant,

"GO. WASHINGTON.

"To *Abraham Yates*, Jun., Esq., President of Convention of *New-York*.

"P. S. I shall be glad to know, by return of the express, when I may probably expect the sloops down. There are several now on the lower parts of the river, with boards: perhaps you might engage them to come this way, which would save time."

Resolved, That Brigadier-General *James Clinton* be requested to send a careful officer, in a whale-boat well manned, down *Hudson's River*, to impress four large river Sloops, to go to *New-York* for the Sick, agreeable to the request of his Excellency General *Washington*, and that a press warrant issue for that purpose.

And lest such four Sloops should not be large enough for the purpose,

Resolved, That two other Sloops be impressed at *Fishkill* landing and despatched for the same purpose.

Ordered, That the Secretary present prepare a copy of the Resolutions of the Convention of this State, of the 7th instant, for detaching from the Militia of this State a reinforcement to the garrisons of the Fortifications in the Highlands, to be sent to his Excellency by the return of his messenger.

A draft of a Letter to General *Washington* was read and approved, and is in the words following, to wit:

"SIR: Your Excellency's letters of the 8th instant this moment arrived, and we are happy to inform you that the resolutions enclosed have anticipated your Excellency's recommendation relative to a reinforcement for the fortresses in the Highlands; and although we have done every thing in our power to raise them with despatch, we are apprehensive that the whole will not arrive there within less than fourteen days, and that all the week will elapse before any of them will be got to the post. The vessels for the sick shall be procured as soon as possible and sent to the City of *New-York*, for which purpose we have directed every empty vessel down the river to be impressed until the number required is procured, and have ordered two others from *Fishkill* landing, lest the vessels might be small and four of them insufficient. Their despatch will depend upon wind and weather; we suppose, however, they may be down by *Wednesday* and *Thursday* next.

"I have the honour to be, with the greatest respect, your Excellency's most obedient, humble servant.

"To His Excellency General *Washington*."

Ordered, That a copy thereof be engrossed, and signed by the President, and, together with a copy of the Resolutions of the 7th instant, for detaching part of the Militia, transmitted to his Excellency by his messenger.

A draft of a Letter to Brigadier-General *Clinton* was read and approved, and is in the words following, to wit:

"SIR: The Committee received your letter of the 8th instant, covering a list of the articles wanting at your garrison, and have appointed a person to procure the same.

"They have also to acquaint you they passed a resolve, and have forwarded the same to the respective Brigadier-Generals of *Ulster*, *Orange*, *Dutchess*, and *Albany*, to reinforce your garrisons with six hundred men, with all speed. I have it in charge to desire you to despatch a whale-boat, well armed, with a proper officer, early to-morrow morning, to proceed towards *New-York*, with orders to impress four of the first large, convenient sloops they may meet with, and send them to the city of *New-York*, by request from General *Washington*, in order to bring up the sick to the town of *Orange*, in *Orange County*, for which purpose the captains of the sloops, on their arrival, are to apply to the Director-General of the Hospital.

"I am, respectfully, sir, your very humble servant.

"By order.

"To Brigadier-General *James Clinton*."

A Warrant for impressing Sloops was sent to General *James Clinton*, in the words following, to wit:

"SIR: You are hereby required, authorized, and empowered, to proceed with a whale-boat, well manned, towards *New-York*, and impress the first four large convenient river sloops you meet with, and send them (in pursuance of a request of his Excellency General *Washington*.) to the city of *New-York*, to remove the sick from the Hospitals there to *Orange-Town*, in the County of *Orange*; for which purpose you will direct the captains of the said sloops respectively, on their arrival at *New-York*, to inform General *Washington* of their arrival, and to apply to Doctor *Morgan*, the Director-General of the Hospital, for further orders, for which this shall be your sufficient warrant.

"By order of the Committee:

"ABM. YATES, Jun., President.

"To such Officer as General *James Clinton* shall appoint to execute this Warrant."

Ordered, That Mr. *McKesson* pay the bearer of the above Letter and Warrant eight shillings, to engage them to make despatch.

Ordered, That *John Moore*, Esq., one of the members of this Committee, be authorized to proceed to *Fishkill* landing, and there impress two Sloops, with proper persons to navigate them to *New-York*, to assist in the removal of the Sick from the Military Hospitals to *Orange Town*.

Thereupon a Warrant was issued to him in the words following, to wit:

"SIR: You are hereby required, authorized and empowered to proceed to the different landings near *Fishkill*, and

impress the first two large convenient sloops you may find, and send them (in pursuance of a request of his Excellency General *Washington*) to the city of *New-York*, to remove the sick from the Hospital there to *Orange-Town*, in the County of *Orange*; for which purpose you will direct the Captains of the said sloops respectively, on their arrival at *New-York*, to inform General *Washington* of their arrival, and to apply to Doctor *Morgan*, the Director-General of the Hospital, for further orders, for which this shall be your sufficient warrant.

“ABM. YATES, Jun., President.

“To John Moore, Esquire.”

The Committee were informed that *William Warne*, who has been apprehended by their order, is attending in custody.

Ordered, That he be brought in for examination.

Die Lunæ, 4 ho. P. M.

William Warne, of *Fishkill*, wheelwright, being examined, says, that the news he told that thirty thousand men were arrived on *Long-Island*, he heard on *Long-Island*, from the inhabitants there; that he came from *Long-Island* on *Thursday* last. That *David Colden* told him there were above thirty thousand men on *Long-Island*, and that ten thousand more were lately arrived at *Staten-Island*; that either *David Colden* or some other person informed him that fifteen thousand more were expected. That a Doctor told him that General *Burgoyne* had so many men in *Canada*, of the *Canadians* and *Indians*, as, with eight hundred Regulars, amount to twenty-five thousand.

That he was informed that men were killed and fifteen hundred taken prisoners. That he was informed that *Lasher's* battalion was so far destroyed that it would not be recruited; that Doctor *Ogden* informed that *Suffolk* County had given up; that General *Howe* had sent to *Suffolk* County that if they would submit and testify their loyalty, they must send him two hundred wagons, and that near three hundred had passed his house; that one of the Light-Horsemen told he had taken General *Woodhull* in the dark in a barn; that before he would answer when he spoke to the General, he had cut him on the head and both arms; that the ships in the *Sound* prevented his getting off the Island; that the enemy said they had about two hundred men killed and wounded.

William Warne, by order, withdrew.

Ordered, That he be committed to the custody of Captain *Weeks* till further orders, and that Captain *Platt* direct that the witnesses against him be summoned to attend this Committee and give evidence.

A draft of a Letter to the Delegates of this State in Congress, reported by Mr. *Robert R. Livingston* on the 7th instant, was read and amended, and approved of, and is in the words following, to wit:

“GENTLEMEN: Sensible of the great importance of the posts in the Highlands, we have lately directed an inquiry into their situation, which will appear from the enclosed returns to be far from such as we could wish.

“The necessity General *Washington* has of all the troops that compose his army at *New-York*, prevented his sparing to these fortresses sufficient garrisons or the necessary stores. What may be the fate of the country below the Highlands, is, as yet, uncertain, and may possibly depend on the event of a single battle. Should these posts be properly secured, we cannot but hope that the greater part of this State might nevertheless be retained, and the communication between the Northern and Southern States be by that means kept up; for which reason we wish you to call the attention of the Congress to an object of whose importance they have always been sensible, and to ask a proper supply of stores. We have already afforded them all in our power to supply. Fire ships would be of great use, yet for want of materials we are unable to proceed in preparing them. Seamen cannot be procured here to man our armed vessels without the greatest delay and difficulty, unless drafted from the army. Perhaps they may be got at *Philadelphia*.

“By the enclosed resolves you will find that we have endeavoured to reinforce the garrisons in the Highlands. As these men are all taken from the plough, we are very anxious to have them relieved as soon as the circumstances of the Continent will admit.

“We have borrowed of the State of *Connecticut* twenty pieces of cannon, (ten twelve and ten six-pounders,) for the forts. We wish they were heavier, but we fear this deficiency cannot be supplied, and therefore must endeavour to do without them. You will find by the enclosed resolves that we have taken measures to increase the number of our field artillery. You will be mindful to transmit us every publick resolve of Congress, and at least one of the *Pennsylvania* Gazettes, every week.

“We are, most respectfully, gentlemen.

“To the Delegates of the State, &c.”

Ordered, That a copy of the said Letter be engrossed, and subscribed by the President, and transmitted, and that the Secretaries enclose therein copies of all the Resolutions which have lately been ordered to the Delegates.

Die Martis, 8 ho. A. M., September 10, 1776.

The Committee met pursuant to adjournment.

Present: *Abraham Yates*, Jun., Esq., President.

NEW-YORK.—Mr. *Bancker*, Mr. *Robert Harper*, Mr. *Jay*.
DUTCHESS.—Doctor *Crane*, Mr. *Sackett*, Captain *Platt*,
Mr. *H. Schenck*.

ALBANY.—Mr. *Yates*, General *Ten Broeck*, Mr. *John Ten Broeck*, Colonel *Renselaer*, Mr. *Adgate*, Colonel *Livingston*, Mr. *Cuyler*.

TRYON.—Mr. *Harper*, Mr. *Veder*, Mr. *Moore*.

SUFFOLK.—Mr. *William Smith*.

WESTCHESTER.—Major *Lockwood*, Mr. *Zeb. Mills*, Colonel *Gilbert Drake*, Mr. *Jonathan Platt*.

CHARLOTTE.—Mr. *Webster*.

ULSTER.—Mr. *Wisner*, Major *Parks*.

ORANGE.—Colonel *Allison*, Mr. *Wisner*.

CUMBERLAND.—Mr. *Sessions*, Mr. *Stevens*.

Mr. *John Schenck*, attending, informs the Committee he is ready to execute their orders.

Colonel *Livingston* informed the Committee that the following articles, mentioned in General *James Clinton's* return of necessities, for Forts *Montgomery* and *Constitution*, are in store at *Fishkill* Landing, and may be ordered out to Mr. *John Schenck*, for the Forts. Thereupon, the following Order was unanimously made, and signed by the President, viz:

“Please to deliver to Mr. *John Schenck*, out of the stores in your custody, the following articles for the use of Forts *Montgomery* and *Constitution*, taking his receipt for the same: Twenty-five spades, twenty-five bill-hooks, twelve shovels, five thousand weight of lead, (delivering first all the lump lead in store, and the residue in ball and buck-shot,) and seven skeins or balls of thread.

“ABM. YATES, Jun., President.

“To Nathaniel Sackett, Esq.”

The following Order was given to Mr. *John Schenck*, for supplying the Fortifications, instead of the order made by the Convention on the 7th instant, the copy whereof Mr. *Schenck* returned:

“SIR: You are requested with all despatch to procure the under-mentioned articles for the use of the garrisons of Forts *Montgomery* and *Constitution*; and as soon as they are ready to send them to Brigadier-General *James Clinton*, commander at the said garrisons, taking his receipts for the same, viz:

“An Armourer with all his tools complete; 50 wood-axes; 25 spades; 25 mattocks; 13 shovels; 20 wheel-barrows; 1000 weight of six-pound iron shot, 1000 weight of nine-pound ditto—one-half of each double-headed; 3,000 weight of grape shot from four to six ounces; 50 sets of great gun-carriage wheels; 32,000 bricks; 10,000 shingles; 700 weight of bar iron; 25 pounds of blistered steel; 400 weight of ten-penny nails; 300 weight of twenty-penny nails; 7,000 feet of three-inch oak plank; 20 hogsheds of lime; 2,000 tacks; 24 sheep skins; 1 large magazine lock; 2 pair shears; a quantity of oil and paint to paint the carriages; 1 dozen of flat and half round files; 1 dozen three-square ditto; 2 large sledges; 2 hand-vices; 10 broad-axes; 10 hand-saws; 10 hammers; 5 iron squares; 2 dozen nail gimblets; 6 pair of compasses; 5 sets of framing chisels and augers; 6 spike gimblets; 2 sets of match planes for inch and half inch plank; 10 pounds of twine.

By order:

“ABM. YATES, Jun., President.”

On motion, *Ordered*, That Colonel *Curtenius* be requested to acquaint the Convention with the quantities of bar and other Lead he has shipped off from *New-York*, the places where sent to, and the names of the persons in whose hands they are deposited, and of the residue of other Military Stores remaining in his hands.

Ordered, That Mr. *Richard Norwood*, Commissary, make a return to the Convention of this State, of the Stores by him lately delivered to *Zebediah Mills*, and of those sent to General *Clinton's* encampment, or otherwise sent out of the city of *New-York*, and of such Stores, if any, as he may have on hand.

Abraham W. Depeyster being called in at the request of a member, and desired to give such information respecting *Joseph Reade*, Esq., as he had heard, Mr. *Depeyster* having mentioned sundry matters which he had heard of him, was directed to withdraw, and reduce his testimony to writing, in form of an affidavit, and bring it to this Committee.

A Letter from Brigadier-General *Peter Ten Broeck*, dated the 23d *August* last, was read and filed. He thereby recommends several gentlemen for Field and Staff Officers of Colonel *Graham's* Regiment; some of the Field and other officers of that Regiment being now in service.

He also requests blank commissions for three Companies. He requests to know whether the custom of electing officers is to be continued, alleges that thereby officers are generally appointed who have no command over their men; which matter he submits, and requests an answer.

Colonel *Renselaer*, Captain *Platt*, and Colonel *Livingston*, to whom General *Peter Ten Broeck's* Letter was committed, reported a draft of an answer; which was read and approved of, and is in the words following, to wit:

"SIR: I am directed by the Committee of Safety to acquaint you in answer to your letter of the 23d of *August*, it is their opinion that the respective officers now on duty are to be and remain the officers of the different regiments to which they belong, unless they should be removed by the fate of war; and that no new commissions will be granted to fill up any vacancies occasioned by officers called out in the service; but that they return to their respective commands, at the expiration of the service they are now on.

"We shall forward you blank commissions for the three companies of Militia, provided the officers are now out in actual service. If so, they are in the same predicament as above, to which beg your answer.

"I am, respectfully, sir, &c.

"To Brigadier-General *P. Ten Broeck*, *Dutchess County*."

Ordered, That a copy thereof be engrossed, and signed by the President, and transmitted.

Colonel *Livingston* and Colonel *Allison* are appointed a Committee to report a plan of establishing Riders to the city of *New-York*.

Captain *Zephaniah Platt* informed the Committee that Mr. *Guisbert Schenck*, who has been requested to give information of the late conduct of *William Warne*, was attending at the door. Being called in and examined, his Deposition follows:

"*DUTCHESS County*, ss:

"*Guisbert Schenck*, of *Dutchess County*, being duly sworn, deposeth and saith: That *William Warne* lately informed the deponent that he had come from *Nassau-Island*; that he had been informed, and said it was the publick report on the island, that the *American* army had lost in killed and taken, about three thousand men; that he had also heard that the *Royal* army had lost about two hundred men. That he told the deponent that he had received his information from the *Regulars* and the *Tories*. That he also informed the deponent of a report that one man, by stratagem, had taken prisoners either ninety or ninety-nine of the *American* army, by informing them, when they had surrounded him, that they were then surrounded by a large number, and advising them to club their arms and go with him, with which the *Americans* complied, and were thereby taken prisoners. That he also informed the deponent that *Suffolk County* had all surrendered; that the General had sent them a message, that if they would testify their loyalty, they must send him two hundred wagons; and that they had sent about three hundred wagons to assist in removing

baggage to *Hell-Gate*. That he also informed the deponent, that he had heard that the *Regulars* had thrown up a breastwork opposite to the fortification at *Horne's Hook*, and demolished it. That the said *William Warne* informed the deponent that he had left *Nassau-Island* on *Friday* last. That he gave it as his opinion that the *Royal* army would conquer *America*.

GYSBERT SCHENCK.

"Sworn this 10th day of *September*, 1776, before me:

"*ABM. YATES*, Jun., *President*."

Mr. *Abraham W. De Peyster*, agreeable to the directions given him this morning, brought in this Affidavit, to which he was sworn, and is in the words following, to wit:

"*DUTCHESS County*, ss:

"*Abraham W. De Peyster* being sworn, deposeth and saith: That on *Wednesday*, *Thursday*, and *Friday*, the 4th, 5th, and 6th days of *September* instant, he was at *New-Rochelle*, in the County of *Westchester*; that on one of the above named days he heard (as far as he can at present recollect) either *Theodosius Barton*, of *New-Rochelle*, aforesaid, or *Anthony Abrahams*, of the town of *Westchester*, in substance say, in a conversation this deponent had with the one or the other of them on the *American* contest, that *Joseph Reade*, late of the city of *New-York*, attorney-at-law, but at present, as this deponent understood, a resident in the town of *Westchester*, was reputed a great *Tory*. That the chief of his, the said *Joseph Reade's* conversation, was of the *Tory* kind; and that he, the said *Joseph Reade*, had reported, that in the late battle on *Long-Island*, between the *American* army and that of the King of *Great Britain*, the *Americans* had lost either seven or fourteen thousand men, (this deponent cannot now recollect which of the two numbers was mentioned, but rather thinks fourteen;) this deponent further says, that the amount of all he heard at *New-Rochelle* at the time aforesaid, respecting *Joseph Reid*, was that the said *Joseph Reid* was a great *Tory*, and very unfriendly to the *American* cause, and further this deponent saith not.

A. W. DE PEYSTER."

Sworn before me the 10th *September*, 1776:

ABM. YATES, Jun., *President*.

Ordered, That the said Deposition be transmitted to the Committee of *Westchester County*, with a Letter requesting them to proceed thereon.

A draft of a Letter to the Committee of *Westchester County* was read and approved, and is in the words following, to wit:

"SIR: I am directed by the Committee of Safety of this State to send you the enclosed affidavit, and to request the Committee of *Westchester County* to make further inquiry into the conduct of the person charged, and take such other steps as shall seem proper to them.

"I am, sir, your very humble servant. By order.

"To the Chairman of the County Committee, *Westchester*."

Ordered, That a copy thereof be engrossed, and signed by the President, and transmitted.

Two Letters from Mr. *Ebenezer Hazard*, Postmaster, the first dated the 1st, and the other the 6th, day of *September*, instant, was read and filed.

In the first letter he informs that he had submitted the matter about the privateer, for which the Committee applied to him, to the other owners, and sent the letter from the Committee to those owners.

In the postscript to the first letter, and by his second letter, he submits to the Convention the propriety of establishing a rider from *Dobbs's Ferry*, where the post-office is, to Head-Quarters; and that the *Albany* post should ride alternately on each side of *Hudson's* river, from *New-Windsor* upwards, and on the east side only below *Fishkill*. And further informs that the Comptroller of the Post-Office had informed him that the Postmaster-General thought the office should be kept near Head-Quarters.

A draft of an answer to Mr. *Hazard* was reported by Mr. *Robert Harper* and General *Ten Broeck*, and approved, and is in the words following, to wit:

"SIR: Yours of the 1st and 6th instant are now before us. I am in consequence directed to inform you that it is the desire of the Convention that the *Albany* post-rider should, in going from and returning to *New-York*, ride on

the east side of *Hudson's* river, between the *Fishkill* and the said city, and that he cross the said river at the *Fishkill* or *New-Windsor*, when it is his turn to ride on the west side thereof; and the Convention have no objections to your keeping your office at *Head-Quarters*, or any other place which the postmaster may think proper.

"I am, sir, &c.

"To Mr. *Ebenezer Hazard*."

Ordered, That a copy thereof be engrossed and signed by the President, and transmitted.

Mr. *Moore* reported that by virtue of the warrant of this Committee, he had impressed the Sloops of *James Jackson* and *Martin Wiltse*, to proceed to the city of *New-York*.

Die Martis, 4 ho. P. M., September 10, 1776.

The Committee of Safety met pursuant to adjournment.

Present: *Abraham Yates*, Jun., Esq., President.

NEW-YORK.—Mr. *Robert Harper*, Mr. *Jay*.

DUTCHESS.—Dr. *Crane*, Mr. *H. Schenck*, Captain *Platt*.

ALBANY.—Mr. *Ab. Yates*, Colonel *Renselaer*, Mr. *Cuyler*,

General *Ten Broeck*, Colonel *Livingston*, Mr. *Adgate*.

TRYON.—Mr. *William Harper*, Mr. *Moore*, Mr. *Veder*.

SUFFOLK.—Mr. *William Smith*.

WESTCHESTER.—Colonel *Gilbert Budd*, Colonel *Van Cortlandt*, Mr. *Joseph Platt*, Mr. *Zeb. Mills*.

CHARLOTTE.—Major *Webster*.

ULSTER.—Mr. *Wisner*, Major *Park*.

ORANGE.—Mr. *Wisner*, Colonel *Allison*, Mr. *Jos. Smith*.

CUMBERLAND.—Mr. *Sessions*, Mr. *Stevens*.

A Member informed the Committee that three witnesses are, by order, attending at the door, to be examined as to the conduct and declarations of Mr. *Warne*.

Dr. *Theodorus Van Wyck* was first called in, and sworn. He delivered in his testimony in writing. Being cross-examined by *William Warne*, such additions thereto as became necessary were added; and the Affidavit is annexed to the next page.

Roeloff Schenck being duly sworn on the Holy Evangelists, deposeth and saith: That his brother, *Guisbert Schenck*, and others, were present at the conversation with *William Warne*; that the said *Warne* informed them that the enemy were in possession of *Nassau-Island*; that the inhabitants were making their submission; that he said that from the information he had received, the two armies of the enemy when they met would be near eighty thousand men; that he intimated that he thought the *Americans* would be overcome; that he seemed inclined to think that the *Americans* had best to submit; that he also said that he had been informed that the *Regulars*, by a battery or some works on *Long-Island*, had demolished the works at *Horne's Hook*; that he said he had his information from *David Colden*, Dr. *Ogden*, and others; that he said he heard a *Highlander* say that he had himself taken ninety-nine men; that he informed that he had seen many of the officers, both *Hessians* and others; that he said those called friends to Government, were distinguished by a piece of something red on their hats; that he said he was not disposed to fight in the affair on either side, and that he would be willing to comply with the measures of Government, for that he thought it would be in vain to resist, or words to that effect; that he further informed that he had heard that General *Howe* had sent down to the inhabitants of *Suffolk County* that if they did not submit he would send down his army and destroy them; that the different towns in that County had sent in addresses to the General; that he had directed them if they would testify their loyalty to send him two hundred wagons to transport cannon and baggage towards *Newtown* or *Hell-Gate*, and that the different towns had sent three hundred wagons; that he further said that he had been informed that Justice *Kissam* was administering oaths of allegiance to the inhabitants.

ROELOFF SCHENCK.

Sworn the 10th day of *September*, 1776, before me,

ABM. YATES, Jun., President.

I saw *William Warnes* the 7th instant, who told me he left *Long-Island* the 5th in the evening, and says the regular army on *Long-Island* is upward of thirty thousand strong; that ten thousand had lately arrived on *Staten-Island*; that fifteen thousand was daily expected; that *Burgoyne's* army of *Regulars*, *Canadians*, and *Indians*, was fifteen thousand;

that they had spies throughout the Continent, and had intelligence of each other frequently; that in the late skirmishes on *Long-Island* we had lost in killed, prisoners, and wounded, two thousand five hundred; that when our troops evacuated *Long-Island* we left all our cannon and provisions; that our army behaved ill, saving two regiments, viz: a *Jersey* regiment and Colonel *Lasher's* regiment, the latter but a few escaped; that the *Regulars'* loss did not amount to two hundred; that General *Woodhull* was taken, with *Increase Carpenter*, in the said *Carpenter's* barn; that General *Howe* sent to the inhabitants of *Suffolk* to come in, and to show their loyalty to send down two hundred wagons; they immediately sent three hundred; he likewise told me he was almost a Tory, and advised us all to turn Tories, that the King would certainly overcome us; that the said *William Warne* informed him that he heard the above-mentioned matters from *David Colden*, a Surgeon of the Army, several of the *Light-Horse*, and Dr. *Ogden*; that he did not say that he knew any of these things of his own knowledge.

THEODORUS VAN WYCK, Jun.

Sworn before me the 10th *September*, 1776:

ABM. YATES, Jun., President.

Peter Horton being duly sworn on the Holy Evangelists, deposeth and saith: That *William Warne* informed him that he had seen the *Regulars* and some of the *Hessian* officers; that he said the *Regulars* had told him they had killed, wounded, and taken, three thousand of our men; that he said he reckoned they would beat us; that he said he was a Tory; that he told him one of the *Regulars* said he had killed one man and taken ninety-nine more, and that one of the *Light-Horse* had killed two *Riflemen* and taken two others; that this conversation was on last *Saturday* evening.

PETER HORTON.

Sworn the 10th day of *September*, 1776, before me:

ABM. YATES, Jun., President.

The Doorkeeper was directed to take the said *William Warne* to Captain *Weeks'* or any other place where he may be safely kept till to-morrow morning.

Colonel *Livingston* and Colonel *Allison*, the Committee to whom was referred the subject of employing Post-Riders, delivered in their Report, which was read.

Ordered, That the consideration thereof be postponed till to-morrow morning.

A Letter from Colonel *Henry Remsen*, dated at *New-Haven*, the 7th instant, was read. He therein informs that Mr. *Peter Colt* is agent for Colonel *Trumbull*, the Commissary-General; is employed up *Hudson's* river to purchase flour. He recommends Mr. *Colt* to the Members of the Convention to direct him where to apply for flour.

Ordered, That Colonel *P. R. Livingston*, Mr. *Wisner*, Captain *Platt*, Major *Park*, be a Committee to confer with Mr. *Colt*, and give him the best directions they can on that subject.

Colonel *Remsen* further informs by his said Letter that he is waiting at *New-Haven* for the arrival of Captain *Harrison* from *Providence*, which were imported by Mr. *Van Zandt* and himself for the State of *New-York*; that he expects them soon, and requests directions how to dispose of, or where to lodge the said goods.

Ordered, That that part of Colonel *Remsen's* Letter which relates to the Dry Goods be deferred for consideration till to-morrow morning.

Major *Schenck* informed the Convention that Captain *Wiltse's* Sloop, which was impressed to go to *New-York* for the Sick, is delayed for want of a Master; that Captain *Wiltse's* wife is in such a situation that he cannot go abroad, and that Captain *Bush* declines going.

Ordered, That Major *Schenck* go to the landing, and endeavour to procure some proper person to proceed with the said Sloop immediately.

N. B. Colonel *Renselaer* obtained the consent of all the Members present to go home and take charge of his Regiment, to furnish their quota of men, and to prepare and command the Regiment should they be generally called to action.

Die Mercurii, 9 ho. A. M., September 11, 1776.

The Committee met pursuant to adjournment.

Present: *Abraham Yates*, Jun., President.

NEW-YORK.—Mr. Robert Harper, Mr. Duane, Mr. Bancker, Mr. Jay.

DUTCHESS.—Dr. Crane, Mr. Zeph. Platt, Mr. Sackett.

ALBANY.—Mr. Yates, Mr. John Ten Broeck, Mr. Cuyler, Mr. Adgate, General Ten Broeck, Colonel Livingston, Mr. Robert Yates.

TRYON.—Mr. Moore, Mr. Harper, Mr. Veder.

SUFFOLK.—Mr. William Smith.

ORANGE.—Mr. Wisner, Colonel Allison, Mr. Joseph Smith.

CHARLOTTE.—Major Webster.

ULSTER.—Mr. Wisner, Jun., Major Parks.

WESTCHESTER.—Colonel Cortlandt, Colonel Gilbert Drake, Mr. Haviland, Mr. Jonathan Platt, Mr. Zeb. Mills.

CUMBERLAND.—Mr. Stevens, Mr. Sessions.

The Report of the Committee on the subject of employing Post-Riders to New-York, was again read. After some time spent thereon it was referred to the Convention of this State.

Colonel Remsen's Letter of the 7th instant, from New-Haven, was again read. He therein requested directions how to dispose of a parcel of Dry-Goods imported by Mr. Van Zandt and himself, for the use and on the account of this State.

Thereupon a draft of an answer to Colonel Remsen was read and approved of, and is in the words following, viz:

"SIR: Your letter, by Mr. Colt, has been received, and the necessary instructions given him.

"You will be pleased to transport the goods you mention to Fishkill, in the most cheap and expeditious manner, and by no means suffer any of them to be detained or sold.

"When the Convention shall be particularly informed of the circumstances of the inhabitants who have lately quitted Long-Island, they will doubtless make such a provision for them as humanity and the condition of this State may render necessary and proper. We are, &c. By order.

"To Colonel Henry Remsen."

Ordered, That a copy thereof be engrossed, and signed by the President, and transmitted.

On consideration of the case of William Warne, the Committee came to the following determination, viz:

Whereas, William Warne has been guilty of propagating divers false reports calculated to injure the American cause, and hath also confessed to certain persons that he was a Tory, and that in his opinion it was best for the country to submit to its enemies:

Resolved, That the said William Warne be committed to the Gaol of this County for one month. That the superintendents of the ship-yards at Poughkeepsie be requested and authorized to take the said Warne out of Gaol every morning, and set him to work in the yards, and return him to Gaol every night; and that they pay him weekly such wages as his labour may be reasonably worth.

Resolved, That at the expiration of the said month, the said Gaoler bring the said William Warne before the Convention, or a Committee of Safety of this State, whichever of them may be then sitting, to the end that he may abide such further order as may be then made concerning him.

Ordered, That Captain Evert Wynkoop Swart, or the next commanding officer of his Company send, with all possible despatch, two trusty Sentinels, well armed and accoutred, ready to proceed to execute such orders as they may receive from this Committee of Safety.

Whereas the Rev. Samuel Seabury, of the Borough of Westchester, in the County of Westchester, is notoriously disaffected to the American cause, and from his vicinity to the enemy, has opportunities of rendering them essential services:

Resolved, That Colonel Joseph Drake be directed forthwith to remove the said Samuel Seabury from Westchester to the house of Colonel John Brinckerhoff, at this place, to remain there till the further order of the Convention, or Committee of Safety of this State; and that he be not permitted to leave the farm of the said Colonel Brinckerhoff except in company with the Colonel.

On motion, Ordered, That Colonel Cortlandt, Mr. Jay, and Mr. Robert Harper, be a Committee to inquire into the circumstances of the Rev. Mr. Samuel Seabury and his, and report thereon to the Convention.

Ordered, That the President sign, and that one of the Secretaries countersign, six blank Commissions, to be delivered to Mr. Crane for certain officers in Dutchess County, and five others for certain officers in the County of Ulster, to be delivered to Christopher Tappen, Esq.

Major Schenck informed the Committee that in obedience to their order of last night, he had endeavoured to procure hands to navigate the Sloop from the landing of this place to New-York, to remove the Sick to Orange Town, but that he has not been able to procure any.

Therefore, Resolved, That Henry Schenck, Esq., be and is hereby authorized and empowered to impress a river Sloop, with a Master and men to navigate her, and that Mr. Schenck cause the said Sloop to proceed immediately to the city of New-York to remove such indisposed persons of the Army as General Washington or Dr. Morgan, the Director-General of the Hospital, shall be pleased to order on board to Orange Town, in the County of Orange.

Die Jovis, 9 ho. A. M., September 12, 1776.

The Committee met pursuant to adjournment.

Present: Abraham Yates, Jun., Esq., President.

NEW-YORK.—Mr. Bancker, Mr. Robert Harper, Mr. Duane, Mr. Jay.

DUTCHESS.—Doctor Crane, Captain Zeph. Platt, Mr. Sackett.

ALBANY.—Mr. Ab. Yates, General Ten Broeck, Colonel Livingston, Mr. Adgate, Mr. Robt. Yates, Mr. Cuyler, Mr. Jno. Ten Broeck.

TRYON.—Mr. Moore, Mr. Harper, Mr. Veder.

SUFFOLK.—Mr. William Smith.

WESTCHESTER.—Colonel V. Cortlandt, Colonel Gilbert Drake, Mr. Haviland, Mr. Jonath. Platt.

CHARLOTTE.—Major Webster.

ULSTER.—Mr. Wisner, Jun., Major Parks.

ORANGE.—Mr. Wisner, Colonel Allison, Mr. Jos. Smith.

CUMBERLAND.—Mr. Sessions, Mr. Stevens.

Egbert Dumond, Esq., of Kingston, in Ulster County, delivered to the Committee a Letter from General Schuyler, directed to the President, and which General Schuyler desired to be sent by express.

He also produced to this Committee a Letter from General Schuyler to the Committee of Ulster County, requesting their Militia to march to Albany immediately. Also an extract of intelligence received from Lake Champlain.

Mr. Dumond says, that he was desired by their Committee to bring General Schuyler's Letter to the President. But there appeared reason to believe that the Committee of Ulster desired to have the sentiments of the Committee, whether they should supply the detachments from their Militia, for the Garrisons in the Highlands.

Thereupon the Committee of Safety made the following determination, to wit:

The Committee of Safety have taken into consideration General Schuyler's Letter of the 9th instant to the Committee of Ulster, and by them transmitted to this Committee:

Thereupon, Resolved, That the Levies directed by the Convention to be raised in that County, to reinforce the Garrisons in the Highlands, be immediately completed, and the more so, as General Washington concurs with the Convention in thinking those Levies highly necessary for the defence of those important posts.

And it is the opinion of this Committee, that the remainder of the Militia of Ulster ought to comply with such requisitions and directions as they have, or may receive from General Schuyler.

Whereas the Publick Accounts of this State, to be laid before the Continental Treasury Board, to be audited and passed, are, in a great measure, delayed for want of the accounts of the expenditures of the publick moneys which have passed through the hands of Egbert Dumond, Esq.:

Ordered, That Egbert Dumond, Esq., render Accounts to the Treasurer, or to the Auditor-General, of all the Publick Moneys which have been put into his hands by the Representatives of this State, with all possible despatch.

Ordered, That one of the Secretaries deliver to Egbert Dumond, Esq., a copy of the above order, and the preamble thereof.

A Letter from Major-General Schuyler, dated at Albany, on the 9th instant, was read, and follows, viz:

"Albany, September 9, 1776.

"GENTLEMEN: In consequence of information received from Colonel *Dayton* on *Friday* last, that a body of the enemy were to be at *Oswego* on the 4th instant, and that another body were actually on their march to the *Mohawk* river, I have requested the Committee of this County to order up the Militia, and they are now convening here.

"At half past ten this morning, I received a letter from General *Gates*, dated the 6th instant, at *Tyconderoga*, in which he gives me the following extract of a letter from Lieutenant-Colonel *Hartley* to him, dated from *Crown-Point* at two o'clock on *Friday*:

"There has been a very heavy cannonade down the Lake all this morning. It is undoubtedly between our fleet and the enemy, so that you may prepare accordingly. I have sent down a boat just now to know more particularly."

"This intelligence has induced me to call on the neighbouring Counties in the *New-England* States, and those of *Dutchess* and *Ulster* in this, to march their Militia up. Future accounts from General *Gates* or Colonel *Dayton* must determine which way I am to march the Militia, whether to *Ticonderoga* or to the westward. Our army is in the greatest distress for medicines, and this, in common with all the other misfortunes that have attended our Northern operations, is imputed to me. I am happy that I have it in my power not only to exculpate myself on the most minute and critical inquiry, but that I can point out the source of most of our disasters in this department. Your respectable body will not be displeased at this declaration, since you have, more immediately, cause to wish that I may have discharged my duty with propriety, as by your recommendation I was appointed to a command which, notwithstanding your favourable opinion of me, I knew I was incompetent to, and therefore reluctantly accepted the arduous task.

"Envy, detraction, and the most unbecoming jealousy have followed from the beginning. I hope I have properly resented every calumny where I could fix it on individuals. To exculpate myself from the general clamour, I have entreated Congress to make the strictest inquiry into my conduct, that if I am culpable, I may meet with the detestation of my fellow-citizens; if not, and that others are, that the publick resentment may be transferred to the proper object. I have even ventured to declare that 'I do not believe I shall be even convicted of an error in judgment.' As twenty-four days are already elapsed since I requested an inquiry, and have not been honoured with any answer, and as the calumny against me increases with rapidity, I have by this conveyance advised Congress and General *Washington* of my intentions to resign, and as soon as I return from *Tryon* County or *Ticonderoga*, and that I will in some other way strive to evince my affection for my country and my zeal in its cause.

"I hope this step will meet your approbation, and although I am not at liberty to lay before you such proofs as I trust will clearly and fully acquit me of any impropriety of conduct, yet it may hereafter be my duty to do it, as well for my own justification as for that of the Provincial Congress, who wrote so partially in my favour to the Continental Congress.

"I am, gentlemen, with the greatest respect and esteem, your most obedient, humble servant,

"PH. SCHUYLER.

"To the honourable the Provincial Congress of the State of *New-York*."

Ordered, That Mr. *Cuyler*, Mr. *Duane*, Mr. *William Harper*, Mr. *Robert Yates*, and Mr. *Sessions*, be a Committee to consider of the said Letter from General *Schuyler*, and report thereon with all convenient speed.

Whereas the Convention of the Representatives of this State, did, on the 7th instant, order a draft of a Commission to be prepared for the Field Officers of the Detachment of the Militia of *Ulster*, *Orange*, *Dutchess*, and *Albany*, to reinforce the Garrisons of the Fortifications in the Highlands; which draft of a Commission has remained several days, but there has not since been a representation of this State in Convention, to approve of the same. And whereas it is

necessary for the despatch of those Detachments that a Commission issue to *Johannes Snider*, Esq.,* the Colonel appointed by Convention to command the same; and the said draft of a Commission and an engrossed copy thereof, has been read and approved by this Committee:

Therefore, from the necessity of the case, Ordered, That the President sign, and that one of the Secretaries attest the said engrossed copy of a Commission for Colonel *Snider*, and that it be forwarded to him by *Egbert Dumond*, Esq.

Which was done accordingly.

Whereas the time limited for the absence of *Robert R. Livingston* and *William Duer*, Esquires, from the Convention of this State, hath expired, and neither of them hath returned:

Resolved, That *Sampson Dyckman*, the Messenger, be directed to summon those gentlemen to return immediately to the House, and that they pay a reasonable compensation to the Messenger for his trouble and expenses.

Resolved, further, That the said Messenger summon all the absent Members who may reside or be between this place and the north bounds of the Manor of *Livingston*, to attend immediately, except *Gilbert Livingston*.

Ordered, That Mr. *Robert Harper* prepare a draft of a Letter to General *George Clinton*, requesting him to inform the Convention of the state of the *Chevaux-de-Frise*, and other obstructions to the navigation of *Hudson's River*, opposite to *Fort Washington*.

Ordered, That Colonel *Peter R. Livingston* have leave of absence, to depart on *Saturday*, and return on *Tuesday*.

Ordered, That the President send Letters to such absent Members as are not otherwise on duty, desiring their immediate attendance.

A Letter from Colonel *Swartwout*, of General *Clinton's* Brigade, dated the 10th instant, was read:

He therein mentions that Lieutenant Colonel *Ferris*, of his Regiment, on account of his indisposition, had obtained leave from their Brigadier-General to return to his family; that he will probably not be fit for service this campaign, and he recommends a promotion of the present officers now in service. Colonel *Swartwout* also claims the first rank in the Brigade to his Regiment.

A long Letter from Brigadier-General *George Clinton*, dated the 8th instant, was also read:

Amongst other things he mentions the frequent desertions from his Brigade, and encloses a return of the Brigade, whereby it appears that five hundred and ninety-six men are deficient. That the deficiency arises from the different Militia Regiments not having furnished their quotas, and from desertions.

He encloses therein a list of *Dutchess* County deserters; a petition of complaint against *William Fordman*, the Surgeon of Colonel *Graham's* Regiment; the testimony of some witnesses against *William Mahany* and *Gilbert Tippet*, by him confined for practices and declarations inimical to *American* liberty.

Ordered, That General *Ten Broeck*, Mr. *Zeph. Platt*, Dr. *Crane*, Colonel *Allison*, and Mr. *Wisner*, Jun., be a Committee to consider of and report on the Letters of General *George Clinton* and Colonel *Swartwout*, and the Papers

* In Convention of the Representatives of the State of *NEW-YORK*.

To *JOHANNES SNYDER*, Esq., greeting:

Whereas this Convention did, on the 7th day of *September*, instant, direct and order the raising and embodying out of the Militia of the Counties of *Albany*, *Ulster*, *Dutchess*, and *Orange*, six hundred men, exclusive of commissioned officers, to be formed into a battalion in order to reinforce the garrison in *Forts Montgomery* and *Constitution*, in the Highlands: Now, therefore, we, the Representatives of the State of *New-York*, reposing especial trust and confidence in your patriotism, valour, conduct and fidelity, do, by these presents, constitute and appoint you, in addition to your command as Colonel of the First Battalion of the Militia of the County of *Ulster*, to be Colonel of the troops so to be raised and regimented. You are therefore carefully and diligently to discharge the duty of Colonel of the said troops so to be raised, by doing and performing all manner of things thereunto belonging. And we do strictly charge and require all officers and soldiers under your command, to be obedient to your orders as Colonel aforesaid; and you are to observe and follow such orders and directions from time to time, as you shall receive from this, or a future Convention of the State of *New-York*, or of the Congress of the *United States of America*, or any other your superior officers, according to the rules and discipline of war, in pursuance of the trust reposed in you. This commission to continue in force until the said troops so to be raised and regimented shall be discharged.

Attest:

By order of the Convention.

attending the same. And that the said Committee do also report a Resolution to prevent harbouring Deserters.*

The Convention of this State, and the Committee of Safety of the State in the recess of the Convention, have frequent occasion for guards to apprehend dangerous and disaffected persons:

Resolved, That *Melancthon Smith*, Esq., Captain-Commandant of the three Companies raised in the Counties of *Dutchess* and *Westchester*, cause a detachment of a Sergeant and twelve Men to attend this Committee without delay.

Colonel *Drake* has leave of absence to return on *Tuesday* evening next.

Ordered, That Major *Schenck* be requested and authorized to cause to be apprehended and brought before this Committee, a certain *Reily*, suspected of being a Deserter from the Army of the *United American States*; and that Major *Schenck* use his discretion as to the mode of apprehending him, with power to demand the assistance of any Officer of the Militia, or other person or persons, in the execution hereof.†

Mr. *Jay* informed the Committee that he can employ *Abraham De Peyster* to assist in bringing up the Records of the Convention of this State, and desired to know whether the Committee will authorize him to apply to the said *Abraham De Peyster* on that subject.

Agreed, That Mr. *Jay* have leave to apply to converse with *Abraham De Peyster* on this subject, and report the result or terms proposed, to this Committee.

Die Veneris, 9 ho. A. M., September 13, 1776.

The Committee met pursuant to adjournment.

NEW-YORK.—Mr. *Bancker*, Mr. *Robert Harper*, *Mr. *Duane*.

DUTCHESS.—Doctor *Crane*.

CHARLOTTE.—*Mr. *Webster*.

ALBANY.—*Mr. *Abraham Yates*, General *Ten Broeck*, Mr. *John Ten Broeck*, Colonel *P. R. Livingston*, Mr. *Adgate*, *Mr. *Cuyler*.

CUMBERLAND.—Mr. *Sessions* and Mr. *Stevens*.

SUFFOLK.—Mr. *William Smith*.

WESTCHESTER.—Mr. *Haviland*, Mr. *Jonathan Platt*, *Colonel *V. Cortlandt*.

ULSTER.—Major *Park*, Mr. *Wisner*, Jun.

ORANGE.—Mr. *Wisner*, Colonel *Allison*, Mr. *Jos. Smith*.

TRYON.—Mr. *Moore*, Mr. *William Harper*, Mr. *Veder*.

Those gentlemen whose names are marked with asterisms are a quorum of the Committee of Safety.

Ordered, That Colonel *Livingston* have leave of absence till to-morrow week, the order of yesterday notwithstanding.

The Committee are informed that the services and attendance of *Matthew Vischer*, Esq., as Clerk to the Secretary to the Committee in the City and County of *Albany*, is absolutely necessary:

* Your Committee, to whom was referred General *George Clinton's* Letter of the 8th September, and Colonel *Swartwout's* of the 10th, with sundry other Papers, and to report a Resolution to prevent harbouring Deserters, do report:

That as the time for which Colonel *Remsen's* Regiment were enlisted is expired, they ought not to be holden.

Your Committee are of opinion, that circular letters from the President be forthwith forwarded to the Colonels of the several Battalions from which General *Clinton's* Brigade was detached, directing them, without delay, where they have not done it, to furnish their respective quotas, and to use their utmost efforts to apprehending and sending, under proper guards, all deserters or drafts who have neglected joining and marching with their respective companies, which guard shall receive a proper reward for their service, and a letter wrote to Captain *Melancthon Smith*, with a list of the names of the deserters from the regiments raised in *Dutchess* County, and the endeavour to have them apprehended.

† In Committee of Safety for the State of New-York, September 12, 1776.

Ordered, That Major *Schenck* be authorized and requested to cause to be apprehended and brought before this Committee, a certain *Rieley*, suspected of being a Deserter from the Army of the *United American States*; and that Major *Schenck* use his discretion as to the mode of apprehending him, with power to demand the assistance of any officer of the Militia, or other person or persons, in the execution hereof. Extract from the Minutes: ROBERT BENSON, Secretary.

Agreeable to the enclosed order, I this morning went to the place where the suspected person within named was supposed to be at work. I was informed that the person so suspected has been at the house of Mr. *Isaac Schultz*, and he told Mr. *Schultz* that he intended to make the best of his way to *Pennsylvania*, and accordingly went off.

September 13, 1776.

HENRY SCHENCK.

Therefore, *Resolved*, That the said *Matthew Vischer*, Esq., be exempted from all military duty during his continuance in the exercise of the said offices.

A Letter from Mr. *Ebenezer Hazard*, dated yesterday, was read and filed. He says he cannot see any reason why the *Albany Post* should not continue to ride on the east side of *Hudson's River* as far as *Fishkill*, though "the Comptroller desires his route may not be altered until there is an absolute necessity or order from the Postmaster General." In a postscript to his Letter, he mentions that some postage is due to him, and requests an order for payment.

Ordered, That Mr. *McKesson*, one of the Secretaries of the Convention of this State, pay the postage due to Mr. *Hazard*, and charge the same to this State.

A letter from General *George Clinton*, dated at *King's Bridge*, the 12th instant, and directed to Mr. *McKesson*, was read. He therein gives information of the state of the army near him, and of the enemy; and from the intelligence therein contained, there is reason to believe that *Samuel Gale* and *Isaac Ludlum*, of *Orange County*, have a correspondence with persons inimical, now on *Nassau Island*.

This Committee being informed that *Samuel Gale* and *Isaac Ludlum*, of *Orange County*, are concerned in a dangerous correspondence with the enemy,

Resolved, That Colonel *Allison* immediately repair to *Orange County*, and take such methods as he may think proper to have the said *Samuel Gale* and *Isaac Ludlum* immediately apprehended, together with all papers on the subject of the present troubles, or relative thereto, and cause them, with the said papers, to be forthwith brought before this Committee or the Convention of this State; and for that purpose that he be authorized to search the houses and all such other places belonging to them as he may judge necessary.

The Committee were informed of sundry speeches and declarations of *Jacob Peets*, *Johannes Snider*, *Andries Hart*, and *John Archibald*, of *Ulster County*, whereby it appears to this Committee that they are dangerous persons, inimical to the cause of *American* liberty.

Resolved and ordered, That the Committee of *Hanover Precinct*, in that County, be and hereby are directed to have those persons apprehended, examined, and secured; and that they report their proceedings to the County Committee of that County.

The Sub-Committee to whom were referred the letter from Major-General *Schuyler*, of the 9th instant, and the letters from *Comfort Sands* and *Thomas Grant*, have, according to order, taken the same into consideration; and, first, that part of the General's letter communicating information that a body of the enemy were expected at *Oswego* on the 4th instant, and another body actually on their march to the *Mohawk* river; and that there had been a very heavy cannonade down *Lake Champlain* on the morning of the 6th instant, between our fleet and that of the enemy; that in consequence of this intelligence he had ordered up the Militia of the Counties of *Albany*, *Ulster*, and *Dutchess*, to be employed to the northward and westward, as might, from future accounts, become necessary. Upon which your Committee observe that the following drafts have already been made, and directed to be made, from the Militia of *Dutchess* and *Ulster* Counties, to wit: In pursuance of a resolution of the Provincial Congress of the 7th of *June* last, from *Dutchess*, embodied in Brigadier-General *Scott's* Brigade, posted near the city of *New-York*, three hundred and thirty-five men; from *Ulster*, for the same service, three hundred men; a further draft, agreeable to a resolution of the Convention of this State of the 19th of *July* last, of one fourth of the remaining Militia of each of the said Counties, which form a part of Brigadier-General *Clinton's* Brigade, and are stationed at or near *King's Bridge*; and a third draft, directed by the Convention on the 7th instant, of one hundred and seventy-five men from *Dutchess*, and two hundred from *Ulster*, to reinforce the Garrisons of *Forts Montgomery* and *Constitution*, in the Highlands. That when the last-mentioned drafts shall be completed, it is supposed that dependence cannot be made on more than seven hundred armed and well-affected Militia in the County of *Dutchess*, or on more than one thousand in the County of *Ulster*. That the Fortresses in

the Highlands (which are of the utmost consequence to the common cause of *America*) will, even after receiving such reinforcements, be far from a state of security. That in case of an attack on those Fortresses, or any sudden irruption of our open, or insurrection of our concealed, enemies, no relief can at present be expected from the armies or Militia to the southward or northward.

From these circumstances, and considering, further, that many of the Militia of the County of *Dutchess* are disaffected, your Sub-Committee are of opinion that no more of the Militia can, with any regard to the common safety, be spared from the Counties of *Dutchess* and *Ulster*. Having, however, the highest confidence in General *Schuyler's* judgment and zeal for the common cause, we cannot advise that his order for the march of the Militia of the said Counties should be superseded by act of the Committee of Safety, but rather that a member be immediately despatched to confer with the General, that, fully apprised of the reasons which influence the opinion of this Sub-Committee, he may be satisfied of the danger of drawing all the Militia from those Counties, and give such directions as shall appear to him most salutary in this difficult and arduous conjuncture.

Your Sub-Committee are further of opinion that General *Schuyler* be informed, with respect to the subject-matter of the two last-mentioned letters, that there are a quantity of medicines at *Poughkeepsie*, in the hands of *Gerardus Duyckink* and Doctor *Tappan*, and a further quantity at *New-Rochelle*, in the hands of *Comfort Sands*, the original costs of which last appears to be £340 sterling; such part of which as shall, in the judgment of the Director of the Hospital or his agent, be found serviceable, may be purchased for the use of the Continental Army, the Convention having directed them to be reserved for that purpose; and that the letters from Mr. *Sands* and Mr. *Grant*, and the invoice enclosed in the latter, be transmitted to the General, for his better information.

The Sub-Committee are further of opinion that the remaining part of the General's letter, which more immediately relates to himself, be referred to the consideration of the Convention at their first meeting.

The said Report being read, and again read, by paragraphs, and amended,

Resolved, That this Committee does agree with their Sub-Committee in their said Report. And *Resolved*, That *Jacob Cuyler*, Esq., be the Member to wait upon General *Schuyler* for the purpose mentioned in the foregoing Report.

Ordered, That a Letter be written by the President to General *George Clinton*, requesting him to cause the Medicines and Hospital Stores, which were lately left at the house of *Aaron Bussing*, near the Church in *Haerlem*, to be removed to some place of safety near his encampment, or where he may think them most safe from the enemy.

A draft of a Letter to General *George Clinton*, respecting the obstructions to the navigation of *Hudson's* river, was read and approved, and is in the words following, viz:

"SIR: Being informed by a member of the Convention that some of the cheveux-de-frise intended to be effectually sunk in *Hudson's* river, were, a few days ago, floating with the tide, I am directed to request the favour of you to inform me what probability there is of the permanence of those machines, their distance, and whether you conceive the navigation of the enemy's fleet is thereby obstructed.

"If you have any thing else to communicate on this subject, whereby defects may be repaired and the plan more effectually executed, it will be of important service to the State. I am, sir, &c.

"To General *George Clinton*."

Ordered, That a copy of the said Letter be engrossed, and signed by the President, and transmitted.

Certain Resolutions to prevent a correspondence with the enemy, by preventing persons from travelling in this State from one County to another without a Pass, were proposed and read.

Debates arose thereon, and they were committed to Mr. *Jay* to report thereon.

Die Veneris, 4 ho. P. M., September 13, 1776.

The Committee met pursuant to adjournment.

FIFTH SERIES.—VOL. II.

Present: *Abraham Yates*, Jun., Esq., President.
NEW-YORK.—Mr. *Bancker*, Mr. *Robert Harper*, *Mr. *Duane*.

ALBANY.—*Mr. *Abraham Yates*, General *Ten Broeck*, Mr. *John Ten Broeck*.

SUFFOLK.—*Mr. *William Smith*.

ULSTER.—Major *Park*, Mr. *Wisner*, Jun.

Only three Members of the quorum of the Committee of Safety attending, viz: those gentlemen whose names are marked with asterisms, the Committee could not proceed to business for want of a sufficient quorum; and therefore adjourned till to-morrow morning at nine o'clock.

CONVENTION.

Die Sabbati, 9 ho. A. M., September 14, 1776.

The Convention met pursuant to adjournment.

Present: *Abraham Yates*, Jun., Esq.

NEW-YORK.—Mr. *Bancker*, Mr. *Robert Harper*, Mr. *Duane*.

DUTCHESS.—Dr. *Crane*, Mr. *Sackett*, Major *Schenck*, Captain *Zeph. Platt*, Mr. *R. R. Livingston*.

ALBANY.—Mr. *Abraham Yates*, General *Ten Broeck*, Mr. *John Ten Broeck*, Mr. *Adgate*, Mr. *Robert Yates*.

TRYON.—Mr. *Harper*, Mr. *Moore*, Mr. *Veder*.

SUFFOLK.—Mr. *William Smith*.

WESTCHESTER.—Mr. *Haviland*, Mr. *Jonathan Platt*, Mr. *Zebediah Mills*.

CHARLOTTE.—Major *Webster*, Mr. *Duer*.

ULSTER.—Mr. *Wisner*, Jun., Major *Park*.

ORANGE.—Mr. *Wisner*, Mr. *Jos. Smith*.

CUMBERLAND.—Mr. *Stevens*, Mr. *Sessions*.

The information and representation of Lieutenant-Colonel *Benjamin Birdsall*, and also the representation of Lieutenant *Thomas Williams*, of Captain *Nostrand's* Company, as to the state of Colonel *Smith's* Regiment raised on *Nassau-Island*, each dated the 6th instant, were respectively read.

Ordered, That they be deferred for consideration until the state of *Nassau-Island* is taken into consideration, or further information can be obtained.

Henry Wisner, Esq., informed the Committee that a large quantity of Saltpetre, in the hands of several persons, is ready to be purchased, and requested an order on the Treasury for £200.

Ordered, That the Treasurer of this State pay to *Henry Wisner*, Esq., the sum of £200, to purchase Saltpetre; that the Treasurer take a receipt for the same; and that Mr. *Wisner* hereafter render an account to the Convention of the expenditure of that money.

Mr. *Joseph Smith* has leave of absence for three days, this day included; then to return or send a Member from that County in his place.

N. B. *Robert R. Livingston*, Esq., and *William Duer*, Esq., attended, whereby there is a representation of this State in Convention.

The names of those gentlemen are added to the Members of their respective Counties, and the Convention proceeded to business.

Whereas the present critical situation of this State, and the important objects the Convention have in view, render it necessary that the good people of this State should be fully and constantly represented in this Convention:

Resolved, therefore, That all the Members of this Convention do forthwith, and at all times during the session thereof, regularly give their attendance at it, except such of the Members as now are, or hereafter may be, absent by order of the Convention.

Ordered, That copies of the foregoing Resolution be immediately transmitted to the Committees of all the Counties in this State, except those of *Richmond*, *King's*, *Queen's*, *Suffolk*, and the City and County of *New-York*, and to all the Members of those five Counties who may not be in the power of the enemy.

Ordered, That the Committee appointed to report a form of Government, do report with all convenient speed.

Mr. *Jay*, according to order, reported the draft of certain Resolutions for granting Passes to travellers and Licenses to Inn-Keepers. The same were read, and adjourned for further consideration.

Mr. Joshua H. Smith obtained leave of absence till Monday next.

Ordered, That *Sa. Dyckman*, the Messenger, be directed to serve and deliver copies of the above Resolution, requiring the regular attendance of the Members of this Convention.

Mr. Jay reported a set of Resolutions to prevent persons travelling without papers, which were read, and adjourned.

Die Sabbati, 4 ho. P. M., September 14, 1776.

The Convention met pursuant to adjournment.

Present: *Abraham Yates*, Jun., Esq., President.

NEW-YORK.—Mr. Bancker, Mr. Robert Harper, Mr. Duane, Mr. Jay.

DUTCHESS.—Mr. Sackett, Major Schenck, Captain Zeph. Platt, Dr. Crane, Robert R. Livingston.

ALBANY.—Mr. Abraham Yates, General Ten Broeck, Mr. Robert Yates, Mr. Adgate, John Ten Broeck.

TRYON.—Mr. Moore, Mr. William Harper, Mr. Veder.

SUFFOLK.—Mr. William Smith.

WESTCHESTER.—Mr. Mills, Mr. Jonathan Platt, Mr. Haviland.

CHARLOTTE.—Mr. Duer, Major Webster.

ULSTER.—Mr. Wisner, Jun., Major Parks.

ORANGE.—Mr. Wisner.

CUMBERLAND.—Mr. Stevens, Mr. Sessions.

Henry Wisner, Esq., of Orange County, obtained leave of absence, to return on Monday next.

On motion, or request, of Mr. Jay, the Letter from Brigadier-General Scott, dated the 6th instant, and read in the Committee of Safety on the 9th instant, was read and committed to Mr. Robert Yates, Mr. Jay, and Mr. Duer.

Mr. Duer produced a draft of certain Resolutions to encourage persons upwards of fifty years, in the respective districts in this State, to form themselves into military Companies for the defence of their liberties, lives, and properties.

The same being read and moved for, and seconded, debates arose thereon. After some time spent therein they were committed to Dr. Crane, Mr. Robert R. Livingston, and Mr. Duer, to reconsider the same and report thereon.

A short Letter from General George Clinton, dated at King's Bridge, the 13th instant, was read.

He therein informs that he had examined the bearers, William Tredwell and Benjamin Ludlum, and sent their examinations to General Washington, and had sent the bearers to this Convention for further examination.

A short Letter of the said Tredwell and Ludlum to General Washington, and which was handed over to General Clinton, and enclosed, was also read.

Ordered, That Mr. Duane and Mr. Robert Yates be a Committee to examine the said William Tredwell and Benjamin Ludlum.

And Ordered, That as soon as their examinations are taken by the said Committee, they be taken into custody of Lieutenant Robert Brett, or such guard of the Militia as he may appoint for that purpose, and detained in custody until further order of this Convention.

Mr. Sackett informed the Convention that five or six soldiers from Philips's Precinct, in Dutchess County, are unarmed at the Forts in the Highlands, and that the Committee of that Precinct requests an order to purchase Arms for them at the publick expense, on an engagement of the Committee that the said Arms be restored to the State.

Ordered, That the Sub-Committee of Philips's Precinct be, and hereby are, empowered to purchase five or six Arms for the use of the said soldiers; the said Arms to be paid for by this State, and the said Sub-Committee to be accountable so far for the said Arms as to see that they are restored to the State by being delivered to a Commissary of Military Stores of this State only, that the State may not lose those Arms.

Ordered, That the Secretary write a Letter to the Auditor-General of this State and request his attendance on this Convention, and that he therein inform the Auditor-General that the reason of requesting his attendance is to point out the persons, or their particular accounts wanting, which

prevent stating the accounts of this State with the United States.

A Letter received this afternoon, from his Excellency General Washington, dated the 12th instant, was read, and follows, viz:

“Head-Quarters, New-York, September 12, 1776.

“SIR: I yesterday received the favour of your letter of the 9th, with its several enclosures, and am extremely happy that your honourable body had anticipated my recommendation by resolving on an augmentation of six hundred men to the garrisons in the Highlands. The importance of those posts demands the utmost attention and every exertion to maintain them.

“The vessels for the removal of the sick are not yet arrived. Their present situation gives me great anxiety. As the wind is now favourable, I would fain hope that a sufficient number will come down to-day to take in the whole. If they do not, my distress will be much increased.

“General Clinton, in a letter of the 8th, transmitted me a list of artillery and ordnance stores wanted at Forts Montgomery and Constitution, which included the several articles you have determined to procure, except those mentioned below.* I directed that they should be sent up, but as the situation of our affairs at this time may not perhaps admit of it, I think it will be prudent for Mr. Schenck, whom you have appointed an agent in this instance, to get all he can. Should he be able to obtain the supply you have voted necessary, and General Clinton's demand be complied with also, no damage will be done. Our stores will not be too large.

“I have the honour to be, with great respect, sir, your most obedient servant,

“GO. WASHINGTON.

*“Entrenching tools, iron carriages, cannon harness, Armourer with his tools.”

[In Convention of the Representatives of the State of New-York, Fishkill, September 14, 1776.]

Whereas the present critical situation of this State, and the important objects the Convention have in view, render it necessary that the good people of this State should be fully and constantly represented in this Convention:

Resolved, therefore, That all the Members of this Convention do forthwith, and at all times during the session thereof, regularly give their attendance at it; except such of the Members as now are or hereafter may be absent by order of the Convention.

Ordered, That copies of the foregoing Resolution be immediately transmitted to the Committees of all the Counties in this State, except those of Richmond, King's, Queen's, Suffolk, and the City and County of New-York, and to all the Members of those five Counties who may not be in the power of the enemy.

Extract from the Minutes:

ROBT. BENSON, Secretary.]

Die Solis, 10 ho. A. M., September 15, 1776.

The following Members met pursuant to adjournment:

Present: *Abraham Yates*, Jun., Esq., President.

NEW-YORK.—Mr. Robert Harper, Mr. Bancker, Mr. Duane.

DUTCHESS.—Mr. Sackett, Mr. H. Schenck, Mr. R. R. Livingston.

ALBANY.—Mr. Abraham Yates, General Ten Broeck, Mr. Robert Yates, Mr. Adgate, Mr. John Ten Broeck.

CHARLOTTE.—Major Webster, Mr. Duer.

SUFFOLK.—Mr. William Smith.

WESTCHESTER.—Mr. Mills.

CUMBERLAND.—Mr. Stevens.

ULSTER.—Mr. Wisner, Jun.

TRYON.—Mr. Moore, Mr. Harper, Mr. Veder.

Monday Morning, September 16, 1776.

The Convention met pursuant to adjournment.

Present: *Abraham Yates*, Jun., Esq., President.

For NEW-YORK.—Mr. Duane, Mr. Harper, Mr. Bancker, Mr. Jay.

For DUTCHESS.—Mr. R. R. Livingston, Mr. Schenck, Captain Platt.

For ORANGE.—

For ALBANY.—Mr. *Abraham Yates*, General *Ten Broeck*,
Mr. *Ten Broeck*, Mr. *Robert Yates*, Mr. *Adgate*.
For CHARLOTTE.—Mr. *Duer*, Mr. *Webster*.
For SUFFOLK.—Mr. *William Smith*.
For WESTCHESTER.—Mr. *Haviland*, Mr. *Mills*, Mr. *Platt*.
For ULSTER.—Mr. *Wisner*, Jun.
For TRYON.—Mr. *Moore*, Mr. *Harper*, Mr. *Veder*.
For CUMBERLAND.—Mr. *Sessions*, Mr. *Stevens*.

No other Members appeared. For want of sufficient number of Members to represent the State, the Members adjourned to four o'clock, P. M.

Die Lunæ, 4 ho. P. M. September 16, 1776.

The Members of Convention met pursuant to adjournment.

Present: *Abraham Yates*, Jun., Esq., President.
NEW-YORK.—Mr. *Robert Harper*, Mr. *Duane*, Mr. *Bancker*, Mr. *Jay*.
WESTCHESTER.—Mr. *Mills*, Mr. *Jonathan Platt*, Mr. *Haviland*.
ORANGE.—Mr. *Wisner*, Colonel *Allison*.
ALBANY.—Mr. *Abraham Yates*, General *Ten Broeck*, Mr. *John Ten Broeck*, Mr. *Adgate*.
TRYON.—Mr. *Moore*, Mr. *Veder*.
SUFFOLK.—Mr. *Hobart*, Mr. *William Smith*.
ULSTER.—Mr. *Wisner*, Jun., Major *Park*.
CHARLOTTE.—Major *Webster*, Mr. *Duer*.
DUTCHESS.—Captain *Zeph. Platt*, Dr. *Crane*, Mr. *Sackett*, Mr. *H. Schenck*, Mr. *R. R. Livingston*.
CUMBERLAND.—Mr. *Stevens*, Mr. *Sessions*.

The Convention was informed that through the absence of General *Morris*, the Militia of *Westchester* County are not so properly arranged and managed as they ought to be at this critical juncture, occasioned by the absence of General *Morris*:

Therefore, *Resolved*, That General *Morris*, now at the General Congress, do immediately return and resume the command of his Brigade.

Ordered, That the President enclose a copy of the foregoing Resolution in a Letter to General *Morris*, and transmit the same to General *Morris* with the utmost despatch.

Ordered, That Mr. *Duane* and Mr. *Robert Yates* be a Committee to examine *Samuel Gale*, who has been brought here in custody, by order of the Committee of Safety.

Ordered, That Mr. *Hobart*, Mr. *R. R. Livingston*, and Mr. *Duer*, be a Committee to report what further measures are necessary to bring *Abraham Lott*, Esq., to account to this Convention for the publick Moneys now in his hands, as Treasurer of the Colony of *New-York*.

Whereas *Ezra L'Hommedieu*, Esq., Loan officer of the County of *Suffolk*, did some time since deposit into the Treasury of this Convention, the sum of four hundred and twenty Pounds, which he had received of sundry persons for principal and interest, due on the several sums by them respectively borrowed of him as Loan officer as aforesaid:

Resolved, That the Treasurer of this State do immediately pay to *Egbert Benson*, Esq., Chairman of the Committee of *Dutchess* County, the above sum of four hundred and twenty Pounds, and that the receipt of the said *Egbert Benson* shall be a sufficient discharge to the Treasurer for the payment of the same.

Ordered, That *Egbert Benson* apply the said sum of money to the payment of the wages and subsistence due to the Companies under the command of Captain *Melancthon Smith*.

Tuesday Morning, September 17, 1776.

The Convention met pursuant to adjournment.
Present: *Abraham Yates*, Jun., Esq., President.
For NEW-YORK.—Mr. *Bancker*, Mr. *Duane*, Mr. *Jay*, Mr. *Harper*.
For DUTCHESS.—Dr. *Crane*, Mr. *R. R. Livingston*, Mr. *Sackett*.
For ALBANY.—Mr. *Abraham Yates*, General *Ten Broeck*, Mr. *Robert Yates*, Mr. *Ten Broeck*, Mr. *Adgate*.
For ORANGE.—Colonel *Allison*, Mr. *Smith*, Dr. *Sherwood*, Mr. *Wisner*.
For SUFFOLK.—Mr. *Smith*, Mr. *Hobart*.
For WESTCHESTER.—Mr. *Mills*, Mr. *Haviland*, Mr. *Platt*.

For CHARLOTTE.—Mr. *Duer*, Mr. *Webster*.
For ULSTER.—Mr. *Wisner*, Jun., Major *Parks*.
For TRYON.—Mr. *Moore*, Mr. *Harper*, Mr. *Veder*.
For CUMBERLAND.—Mr. *Sessions*, Mr. *Stevens*.

Resolved, That Colonel *Allison*, Mr. *R. R. Livingston*, and Mr. *Wisner*, Sen., be and are hereby appointed a Committee of Correspondence. That they be and hereby are authorized to establish Post-Riders between the *Fishkill*, where this Convention now statedly sits, and Head-Quarters, for the purpose of obtaining daily intelligence; and that this Convention will make provision for defraying the expense thereof, and that the said Committee be and are hereby empowered to write Letters to any correspondents, and take every other proper means to obtain intelligence.*

Sundry Affidavits taken by *Robert Erskine*, Esq., relative to the conduct of persons disaffected to the *American* cause, were read, and deferred to consideration and explanation until the Members from the country were present.

The Petition of *Henry Chase*,† dated at the *White-Plains*, on the 13th instant, praying to be released from imprisonment, was read.

The several Petitions of *Jonathan Purdy*, Jun., *Rynier Van Housen*, and *John Fowler*, were read.‡

The said *Jonathan Purdy*, Jun., thereby declares he is an enlisted soldier in the *British* army, and the said *Rynier Van Housen* that he is a registered Pilot in the *British* Navy; and they pray to be permitted to their paroles, as prisoners of war; and the said *John Fowler* sets forth the

* Your Committee to whom it was referred to devise ways and means to obtain intelligence from the Committee at *New-York*, report it as their opinion that the following resolve for that purpose be entered into:

Resolved, That *Uriah Mitchel* and *Samuel Dyckman* be employed as riders. That *Mitchel* set out from this place and *Dyckman* from *New-York* on one and the same day, and both meet at the house of *John Blagg*, this side *Croton's River*, and there exchange mails, with which each are to return to their respective stages the day following, so as to arrive as early as possible on that day: that is *Mitchel* to *Fishkill* and *Dyckman* to *New-York*, and set out again the day after and perform the same stages, and so to continue as long as this Committee or the Convention of this State shall think proper to employ them, and that there be allowed each respectively, while in said service, the sum of sixteen shillings per day.

SIR: You are hereby directed and empowered to repair from this place to *New-York*, to agree with some person at *Peekskill* to keep a horse for the publick service, and with some other person at *Odle's* to keep another horse, to employ a rider and a third horse at Head-Quarters, who shall set out every morning at daybreak from thence, having waited upon the General and the Postmaster the evening preceding for their letters, and upon General *Clinton* at *King's Bridge*, from whence he shall repair to *Croton* river, at which place he shall engage to be by twelve o'clock every day, and exchange his mail with that which shall go from this place every morning at the same hour, and return the same into the post office that night.

That such rider shall begin to ride on *Thursday* next, and continue to ride every day till the further order of this Congress, for which he shall be allowed a reasonable compensation, and be exempted from military duty. Or if he shall find it more advantageous, he may agree with any person by the great to ride daily from *New-York* and return thereto, finding their own horses, for which he may be permitted to allow any sum not exceeding three dollars per day.

The honourable Convention of the State of NEW-YORK to JACOB ODELL, Dr.

September 1, 1776. To riding Express from *Philipsburgh* to *New-York* and returning, twenty-seven miles..... £1 7 0
To do. from *Philipsburgh* to *Fishkill*, forty-two miles..... 2 2 0
To riding from 19th September to 1st November including, forty-four days, at 16s., as per resolve of Congress, bearing date the 17th September, 1776..... 35 4 0
£38 13 0

† WHITE-PLAINS GAOL, September 13, 1776.

GENTLEMEN OF THE HONOURABLE PROVINCIAL CONGRESS: This my humble petition to beg if your Honours please to send for me, that I may have my trial, for the County Committee and the Committee of Safety say that they have no right to try me, and I have desired them to send me to the honourable Provincial Congress, and they tell me that they dare not send me without orders from your Honours. Gentlemen, so I shall be very glad if your Honours will be good enough to send for me as soon as possible, for I have been in prison going on eight weeks, and I can't support myself any longer. So, gentlemen, I shall be very glad if your Honours will take my case into consideration, if your Honours please, so that I may be cleared or condemned. So, gentlemen, I leave my case to your Honours' wise consideration, not doubting but your Honours will have compassion on a poor prisoner.

HENRY CHASE.

‡ WHITE-PLAINS GAOL, September 13, 1776.

To the honourable the Provincial Congress of the State of NEW-YORK: The Petition of RINEER VAN HOUSER, of ORANGE County, humbly sheweth: That your petitioner hath now been upwards of six months confined in *New-York*, and in this place, where he was ordered by this honourable House who formerly promised to remove your petitioner to *Albany*, and to provide for his helpless wife and six children. As the winter is now approaching, your petitioner humbly begs of this

manner in which he formerly came on board of one of the *British* ships of war.

A Letter from Colonel *Malcom*, dated the 6th instant, directed to Mr. *McKesson*, giving some information respecting Captain *Stewart's* Company, in his Regiment, was read.

Ordered, That Mr. *Hobart*, Mr. *Robert Yates*, and Mr. *Mills*, be a Committee to take, consider of, and report on the said Affidavits, Petitions, and Letter, and that they bring in reports with all convenient speed.

That part of General *George Clinton's* Letter of the 8th of *September*, which relates to Lieutenant-Colonel *Ferris*, was read.

Colonel *Swartwout's* Letter of the 10th of *September*, instant, respecting Lieutenant-Colonel *Ferris's* ill state of health, and the appointment of a Lieutenant-Colonel and Major for that Regiment, was also read.

Resolved, That Lieutenant-Colonel *Ferris* be permitted to decline the present service.

That Major *Thompson* be appointed Lieutenant-Colonel, and Captain *Mott* appointed Major of Colonel *Swartwout's* present Regiment of Militia, now in service. Brigadier-General *George Clinton's* Brigade, while in the present service, in addition to their former respective commands in the Militia, in their respective Counties.

Ordered, That the Secretaries despatch the Commissions for Lieutenant-Colonel *Thompson* and Major *Mott*.

Resolved, That the eldest First Lieutenant of Colonel *Swartwout's*, be promoted to be Captain, vice Major *Mott*, and that the other officers rise in succession; and that the Secretaries send as many blank Commissions to General *George Clinton* as there are officers in that Regiment.

The Convention were informed that a person late one of the Light-Horsemen of *King's* County, and a Lieutenant of Colonel *Smith's* Regiment are about *Poughkeepsie*, in some distress, and that pay is due to them. That sundry of

honourable House to be removed over the river, where he may be somewhat nearer to his family, as being destitute of money, he cannot even procure his clothes to be washed or mended, for want of which convenience your petitioner is rendered quite loathsome by his dirty rags and vermin, and has no other hope but of perishing in this nauseous place, unless shortly relieved by this honourable House. And your petitioner humbly hopes to be admitted to his parole, as he is absolutely registered on the navy books, and hath been so for the space of seventeen months, after passing examination as *King's* pilot in the fleet. Your petitioner humbly begs for such relief as to this honourable House shall seem meet. And your petitioner as in duty bound shall ever pray.

RINEER VAN HOUSE.

To the honourable the President and Members of the Provincial Congress of New-York.

The Petition of JOHN FOWLER, of the City of New-York, humbly sheweth:

That your petitioner now a prisoner in the *White-Plains* Gaol humbly begs leave to acquaint your Honours that your petitioner's unhappy case hath been grossly misrepresented by his enemies, the truth, as he shall answer to his God, being as follows: That on the day the men of war passed by the city, your petitioner having obtained leave of the Captain of the Guard, put off from Mr. *Dean's* wharf, at the *North River*, in a small boat, together with a certain butcher named *Stophell*, and your petitioner's son, a boy of about thirteen years of age, in order to purchase some sheep and calves for *New-York* market, when your petitioner was unhappily overtaken by one of the men of war's tenders, partly opposite Colonel *Philips's*, when your petitioner, stretching over for the western shore in hopes to gain *Shethin's* ferry, but being just abreast of the *Meadows*, as he could not make the ferry on account of the flats, when the tender fired four or five shot, which affair was distinctly seen by Mr. *Edward Drake*, who saw them hoist out their barge and take every one of us out of boat and carry us on board the tender, and after detaining your petitioner about an hour or two, they then carried them on board the *Rose*, where they were detained all night, when in the morning he sent us on board the *Phanix*, when the Captain asked us where we were going with the boat, when my partner showed his pass, which intimated that he had liberty for so many days to buy creatures in the country; upon which the Captain interrogated us concerning the strength of the army at *New-York*; your petitioner replied that to his opinion he judged there might be about thirty thousand men or better; when *Stophel* told the Captain that a reinforcement of seven thousand more were on their march to join them, when the Captain said, "Damn you, you Rebels, why didn't you come to when you were first fired upon?" upon which said, that the sails were so entangled that he could not get them down, upon which the Captain asked your petitioners if they would get some fresh provisions for them, or otherwise they would burn your petitioner's boat, and insisted on keeping your petitioner's son as a hostage for their fidelity to return again, when your petitioner on going ashore was with the said *Stophel* immediately seized and brought to this unhappy place, where he is deprived of the common necessities of life, and his helpless family in a deplorable condition, as every thing is going to the utmost ruin.

Gentlemen, your petitioner humbly begs you would consider how your Honours would have acted in such a situation, as your petitioner declares he never was on board a man-of-war in his life before, nor ever contracted or furnished them with any kind of provisions or ever will.

Your petitioner, therefore, humbly begs for a hearing before your Honours, when he makes not the least doubt of making his innocence appear to your Honours' entire satisfaction.

Your Honours' kind compliance will ever lay an obligation on your distressed, humble servant,

JOHN FOWLER.

the Light-Horsemen fled from the island, and have left their horses behind them.

Ordered, That Mr. *Duane*, Mr. *Duer*, Mr. *Schenck*, and Dr. *Crane*, be a Committee to inquire into the situation of the Light-Horsemen who were obliged to flee from the said island, and Lieutenant *Onderdonk*, and that they report thereon.

Mr. *Wisner*, of *Orange* County, proposed to the Convention that the Company of Militia from *Orange* County, lately ordered to be detached to augment the Garrisons of Forts *Montgomery* and *Constitution*, be permitted to have that duty performed by different Companies or parcels of Militia, in rotation.

Ordered, That Mr. *Wisner*, General *Ten Broeck*, Mr. *Sackett*, and Major *Schenck*, be a Committee to consider of the said proposal, and report thereon with all convenient speed.

The Committee appointed to consider what further measures are necessary to bring *Abraham Lott*, Esq., to account to this Convention for the publick Moneys now in his hands, as Treasurer of the Colony of *New-York*, delivered in their Report, which was read, amended, resolved on, and agreed to, in the words following, to wit:

Whereas the late Provincial Congress of this State did, on the 9th day of *March* last, enter into a Resolution in the words following, to wit: "Whereas the publick exigencies of the Colony are so great as to require that all the publick Revenues of the same should be appropriated to defray its expenses; and whereas the General Assembly of the Colony have, by their prorogation, made on the day appointed for their meeting, been prevented from proceeding to the despatch of the ordinary business thereof. It therefore becomes necessary for the Representatives of the people in Provincial Congress to attend to the proper application of the publick Moneys now in the hands of the said *Abraham Lott*, Esq: Resolved and Ordered, therefore, That the said *Abraham Lott* be directed, and he is hereby directed within thirty days from this day, to lay before this Congress or the Committee of Safety, on oath, an account of all the moneys that now are or shall be in his hands, as Treasurer of this Colony, particularly stating to what funds they belong, and whether any and what funds are appropriated to any and what uses, and every other matter which shall be necessary to constitute a complete state of the Treasury of this Colony:" a copy of which was left by the Secretary of this Convention at the usual place of residence of the said *Abraham Lott*, Esq., in the city of *New-York*.

And whereas the said *Abraham Lott* hath neglected to comply with the tenour of the said Resolution: Therefore,

Ordered, peremptorily, That the said *Abraham Lott* do forthwith attend this House on pain of contempt, and that he bring with him the Books, Papers, and Money, belonging to the Treasury, in order that the Publick Accounts of the Colony of *New-York* may be settled, and the balance paid to the present Treasurer of this State.

Ordered, That a copy of the foregoing Resolution and Order be served on *Abraham Lott*, Esq., by Mr. *John Campbell*, who is hereby directed to require an answer in writing for the justification of his conduct.

Resolved, That if *Abraham Lott*, Esq., shall refuse to attend this Convention, or neglect to set out within five days after the receipt of the above order, and pursue his journey with all reasonable despatch, that he be then apprehended, and sent under guard to this Convention, at *Fishkill*, in *Dutchess* County.

And Mr. *John Campbell* is hereby required and empowered to apply to any Committee in the State of *New-Jersey* or *New-York*, in order that he may obtain assistance for carrying the foregoing Resolution and Order into execution, and that Mr. *Campbell* be furnished with a copy of all the above Resolutions.

On motion, the following Resolutions were agreed to, viz:

Whereas, since the dissolution of the late Government under the Crown of *Great Britain*, it is inconsistent with sound policy that any of the Publick Moneys should be paid into the hands of any officers not duly authorized by the Convention of this State to receive the same:

And whereas it is the duty of the Representatives of the people to secure the Publick Revenues for the purposes of

defending the lives, liberties, and property of the good people of this invaded State :

Therefore, *Resolved, unanimously*, That *Abraham Lott*, Esq., as Treasurer of the Colony of *New-York*, cease to demand or receive any Moneys belonging to the same ; and that the said Moneys be only paid to *Peter V. B. Livingston*, Esq., the Treasurer of this State, who is hereby authorized and directed to receive the same. And all persons owing Money to this State are hereby ordered to account with *Peter V. B. Livingston*, and to make payment with all possible expedition.

Resolved and Ordered, That the Loan Officers in the different Counties in this State do forthwith pay into the hands of the present Treasurer, all such sums of Money as they have at present in hands, or hereafter may receive, either on account of the principal sums lent, or for the interest due on such sums ; and that the receipt of the Treasurer of this State shall be considered by the Supervisors of the different Counties, as a voucher for the money so paid, in as full and ample a manner as if the same had been paid to *Abraham Lott*, Esq., late Treasurer of the Colony of *New-York*.

Resolved, That all the Loan Officers in all the Counties in this State be empowered to act in that capacity, till further orders from this Convention or a future Legislature of this State.

Ordered, That the Secretaries do immediately transmit copies of these Resolves to *Abraham Lott*, Esq., and to the Loan Officers in the different Counties in this State ; and that the same be published four weeks successively in all the publick newspapers of this State.

Information was given to the Convention by some of the Members from the Counties of *Orange* and *Ulster*, that there is great reason to apprehend that there are many dangerous persons in those Counties. That from several pieces of testimony given to the different Committees in those Counties, it is probable that persons there have been inlisting, or endeavouring to inlist, men to join the enemy.

Ordered, That the Members of this Convention from the Counties of *Orange* and *Ulster*, be a Committee to inquire into the grounds of the apprehensions, and the particulars of all such testimony as they can collect on that subject, and to report the measures necessary to be taken to prevent such disaffected persons in those Counties from joining or aiding the enemy.

The Deputy Treasurer delivered in a list of the Accounts*

**An Account of Moneys paid by the Treasurer, for which no Accounts have been rendered by the persons to whom they were paid.*

1775, November 2,	To David Clarkson to repay Mr. Lott.....	£200
" 4,	To Egbert Dumond to purchase flour.....	428
" "	To Colonel Ten Broeck, he received of Treasurer Lott.....	700
1776, January 12,	To McDougal & Curtenius, they paid Mr. Atherton on contract for Muskets.....	350
February 5,	To John V. D. Bilt to purchase a cargo.....	1,800
" 6,	To John Foster to purchase tow cloth.....	50
" 24,	To Nicoll & Palmer, to transport Cannon from New-York to Albany, &c.....	600
May 11,	To Thomas Palmer, for the Fortifications in the Highlands.....	1,152
June 13,	To Henry Glen, Bounty.....	1,152
July 15,	To Nathaniel Sackett, to transport Lead to Dutchess County.....	40
" 16,	To Henry Wisner, ditto to Orange and Ulster.....	50
" 17,	To Colonel Van Cortlandt, to procure Provision in Highlands.....	200
" "	To Christopher Tappen, on a Secret Committee.....	5,000
" 22,	To Colonel Hoffman, Bounty, &c.....	4,000
" "	To Colonel Allison, do.....	1,600
" 24,	To William Harpur, do.....	960
" "	To John Sessions, do.....	1,200
" "	To Alexander Webster, do.....	575
" "	To Arthur Parks, do.....	960
" "	To Samuel Townsend, do. for Queen's County.....	800
" "	do. do. for King's County.....	240
" "	To David Gelston, do.....	800
" "	To Colonel De Witt, do.....	2,000
" "	To General Morris, do.....	800
" 27,	To Messrs. V. Cortlandt & Platt.....	1,200
" "	To Captain James Stewart, £144 and £100.....	600
" "	To Colonel Joseph Marsh, to transport Lead, &c., to Cumberland, &c.....	244
August 8,	To Peter Curtenius, Commissary, on account... Militia.....	5,000
" 17,	To Messrs. V. Cortlandt & Platt, expense of	1,000
" "	To James Beckman, to remove the Poor.....	300
" 21,	To Captain Wisner, Bounty, &c.....	232
" "	To Zebediah Mills, to remove Military Stores out New-York.....	24
" 25,	To Robert Harpur, for the Queen's County Committee.....	200

or sums of Publick Moneys, which have at different times been paid out of the Treasury by order of the Representatives of this State, and which remain unaccounted for, whereby the Publick Accounts of this State against the Continent remain unsettled, and are prevented from being transmitted to be audited and paid. The same being read,

Ordered, That Mr. Duane, Mr. Bancker, and Mr Moore, be a Committee to take the same into consideration and report thereon.

A Letter from *Joseph Trumbull*, Esq., Commissary-General, dated the 16th instant, was received by a messenger, and read. He therein mentions that the *American* army had evacuated *New-York*. That in the retreat he had left

1776, August 29,	To Samuel Townshend, to forward Colonel Smith's Regiment.....	£100
" 31,	To Theodorus Barton, Commissary at New-Rochell.....	400
" "	To General Clinton.....	7,000
September 3,	To John Crygier, to remove Military Stores from White-Plains.....	24
" 7,	To Peter Monfort, to support the New-York poor at Fishkill.....	100
" 8,	To Charles De Witt, to remove Prisoners from Kingston.....	60
" "	To John Shenck, Commissary at Fort Constitution.....	400

To WILLIAM LIVINGSTON.

The State of NEW-YORK in Account Current with P. V. B. LIVINGSTON, Treasurer:

Dr.	
To Cash paid sundry persons between the 31st day May, 1775, and the 30th day of April, 1776, as per particular account.....	£159,865 15 0½
To ditto paid ditto between the 1st day of May, 1776, and the 17th day of September following, as per account of particulars drawn out and ready to be produced.....	86,469 7 1½
To balance due to the State.....	29 10 11
	£246,364 13 1

Cr.	
By sundry sums of money received for account of this State, between the 31st day of May, 1775, and the 30th day of April, 1776, as per account.....	£161,823 3 9
By ditto received between the 1st day of May, 1776, and the 17th day of September following, as per particular account.....	84,541 9 4
	£246,364 13 1

Errors excepted. For P. V. B. Livingston.
GERARD BANCKER.

FISHKILL, September 17, 1776.

The Continental Congress in Account Current with the State of NEW-YORK:

1776, April 30,	To amount of an account as prepared by the Auditors up to this date.....	£102,666 15 11½
	To amount of expenses accrued in this State since that time, being £86,469, about three-fifths of which (according to the estimate of the Treasury) will be Continental....	51,881 8 0
		<u>£154,548 3 11½</u>

Cr.		
1775, August 23,	By cash received by Mr. Jos. Hallett..	£70,000 0 0
1776, January 12,	By do. by Messrs. Palmer & Co....	20,000 0 0
March 8,	By do. by Mr. Francis Lewis.....	18,800 0 0
July 12,	By do. received on a warrant from his Excellency General Washington.....	20,000 0 0
	By balance due this State.....	25,748 3 11½
		<u>£154,548 3 11½</u>

FISHKILL, September 18, 1776. G. BANCKER.

On the 11th March, 1776, the Convention of this State appointed a Committee, to wit : Mr. Van Zandt, Captain Denning, Mr. Beckman, Colonel Brazier, and Mr. Sands, to examine the Treasurer's accounts, and to point out what part of the charges therein were to be considered as Continental, and what Provincial. A fair copy of the Continental account, as stated by them, was prepared by the Auditor's clerk.

In May last, the Auditors, to wit : Messrs. Van Zandt, Bancker, Beckman, Sands, and Denning, continued this account down to the 30th day of April last ; it was afterwards examined by some of the New-York members of the Continental Congress, and then taken to the Convention of this State, where it underwent several alterations, in which state it is now fair copied. Many accounts being not then come in, the Auditors deferred sending it to Philadelphia till some of the principal ones could be procured ; and many letters were wrote for that purpose.

Nothing more was done with the Continental account till the Auditor-General was appointed the latter end of July last, when he came to the Plains to endeavour to continue it down to that time, but the number of outstanding accounts was so increased by the great sums of money that had been paid out there by order of the Convention on account for services to be performed, as to induce him to defer the completion of it till they could be got in, several of which accounts he procured abroad, and left orders for writing to many persons who had neglected sending in theirs, which letters have accordingly been wrote, and copies of some of them sent. And though the number of outstanding accounts is greatly diminished, there are still many to be brought in, as per the annexed list, amounting to about £40,000.

FISHKILL, September 18, 1776. G. BANCKER.

behind him large quantities of Flour, which reduced the magazines too low; and requests the aid of this Convention to procure flour.

Agreed, unanimously, That Major *Henry Schenck*, Colonel *Charles De Witt*, and *Dirck Wynkoop*, Esquires, be appointed Agents for, and on behalf of, the Commissary-General, and that a draft of the Resolutions for that purpose be prepared and brought in, in the afternoon.

Die Martis, 4 ho. P. M., September 17, 1776.

The Convention met pursuant to adjournment.

Present: *Abraham Yates*, Jun., Esq., President.

NEW-YORK.—Mr. *Jay*, Mr. *Bancker*, Mr. *Robert Harper*, Mr. *Duane*.

ULSTER.—Mr. *Wisner*, Jun., Major *Parks*.

TRYON.—Mr. *William Harper*, Mr. *Moore*, Mr. *Veder*.

ALBANY.—Mr. *Abraham Yates*, General *Ten Broeck*, Mr. *Robert Yates*, Mr. *John Ten Broeck*, Mr. *Adgate*.

DUTCHESS.—Dr. *Crane*, Mr. *R. R. Livingston*, Mr. *Sackett*, Major *Schenck*.

CHARLOTTE.—Major *Webster*, Mr. *Duer*.

SUFFOLK.—Mr. *William Smith*, Mr. *Hobart*.

ORANGE.—Colonel *Allison*, Mr. *Wisner*, Mr. *Joseph Smith*, Dr. *Sherwood*.

WESTCHESTER.—Mr. *Mills*, Mr. *Haviland*, Mr. *Jonathan Platt*.

CUMBERLAND.—Mr. *Sessions*, Mr. *Stevens*.

The Convention, on information that the Soundings of *Hudson's River*, at and about *Fort Washington*, is not accurately sounded, and thereupon came to the following Resolutions:

Whereas there is reason to apprehend that the Channel of *Hudson's River*, opposite to *Fort Washington*, is not yet sufficiently obstructed; and whereas it is of the utmost importance to the safety of this State and general cause of *America*, that the navigation of that River should not be occupied by the enemy's ships: Therefore

Resolved, That Captain *Thomas Greenhill* be, and he is hereby requested and authorized to proceed, with all possible despatch, to *Mount Washington*, in order to take an accurate Survey of the Soundings of that part of *Hudson's River*: that he report his proceedings to the Convention of this State with all possible despatch.

Resolved, That the Commanding Officer of *Fort Washington* be applied to by Captain *Greenhill*, for his permission to sound the River, and for his assistance in carrying the above Resolutions into execution.

Resolved, That General *James Clinton* be requested to furnish Captain *Greenhill* with a Whale-boat, and a sufficient number of hands whose attachment to the *American* cause may be relied on, in order to assist in carrying this measure into execution: that General *Clinton* and Captain *Greenhill* be earnestly requested to conduct this matter with all the secrecy possible.

The Letter from Colonel *Trumbull*, received at noon, was again read, and here follows, viz:

"King's Bridge, September 16, 1776.

"GENTLEMEN: Yesterday our troops evacuated *New-York* to the enemy, and mean to make a stand at and near this place. In the retreat, I have been obliged to leave behind large quantities of flour, which reduces our magazine too low. It is absolutely necessary to have a large quantity soon. I have taken measures to get it in; but, fearing the apprehensions of the people may prevent their coming, and thereby distress the army, and knowing your body to be in a great flour country, I must beg the favour of you to forward, with all despatch, whatever flour can be had at and about *Fishkills* to *Spiting Devil Creek*, or as near it as may be. I much expect the ships up the *North River* again by and by: this makes me in the greater hurry to have this measure effected, as it may save us great expense and difficulty in land carriage. Perhaps it may be best to ensure the vessels of flour against the enemy: this and the price I will submit to your direction. The money for the flour will be ready, and paid on delivery.

"Your aid and assistance in this matter will greatly oblige, gentlemen, your most obedient, humble servant,

"*JOS. TRUMBULL, Commissary-General.*

"To the Hon. the Convention of the State of *New-York*."

The Resolutions for procuring Flour for the Commissary-General, in pursuance of his Letter, being read and agreed to, are in the words following, to wit:

Whereas *Joseph Trumbull*, Esq., Commissary-General of the *American Army*, by his Letter dated yesterday, at *King's Bridge*, and directed to this Convention, informs that the *American Troops* have evacuated *New-York*, and mean to make a stand at and near *King's Bridge*; that he has been obliged to leave behind large quantities of Flour, which reduces his magazine too low; that it is necessary to have a large quantity soon, that the Army may not be distressed; and requesting Flour to be forwarded, with all despatch, to *Spuyt den Duyvel Creek*, or as near it as may be to prevent the expense of land carriage, if the enemy's ships should come up *Hudson's River*; further suggesting that it may be best to ensure the Vessels and Flour against the enemy, which, together with the price, he submits to this Convention, requesting their aid; and the said Commissary-General therein engages that the Money for the Flour shall be paid on delivery:

Resolved, therefore, That Major *Henry Schenck* be, and hereby is appointed Agent in behalf of the said Commissary-General, to purchase all the Flour which can be obtained in *Dutchess*, *Orange*, and the lower end of *Ulster* Counties; and that Colonel *Charles De Witt* and *Dirck Wynkoop*, Jun., Esq., be, and each of them severally is, hereby appointed Agent in behalf of the said Commissary-General, to purchase all the Flour which can be procured in *Ulster* County, and places adjacent, not before particularized; and the said Agents are hereby respectively authorized, if it shall be found necessary, to impress Sloops or Vessels for the transportation of the said Flour; and to have such Vessels appraised by three indifferent Freeholders, one to be elected by the Agents respectively, another by the Owner of each Vessel, and the third by the two first elected. That the said Agents shall, in behalf of the Commissary-General, ensure against all risk of the enemy, to the sellers of the Flour respectively, the amount thereof at the stipulated price, and to the Owners of the Vessels the value thereof according to appraisement, such price and valuation, in case of capture, to be paid by the Commissary-General, agreeable to the said Letter. That they shall take Bills of Lading from the Masters of such Vessels to deliver the said Flour with the utmost despatch (the danger of the enemy excepted) to the Commissary-General at *Spiten Duyvel Creek*, or as near thereto as may be, forwarding to the Commissary-General by land, and by each Vessel, copies of each Bill of Parcels, and of each Appraisement of the Vessels, and Bills of Lading, with Letters of Advice, that the Sellers of the Flour and Owners of the Vessels may be under no difficulty in procuring payment.

Ordered, That a certified copy of the preceding Appointments and Resolutions be immediately despatched to the Commissary-General; and that a certified copy thereof be given to Major *Schenck*, and another such copy be despatched to Messrs. *De Witt* and *Wynkoop*, at *Kings-ton*.

A draft of an Answer to the Letter of the Commissary-General was read and approved, and is in the words following, to wit:

"SIR: The Convention of this State have received your letter of the 16th instant by Mr. *Peter Garson*, in consequence of which they have entered into the enclosed resolutions, which I am directed to transmit to you. We shall exert ourselves to the utmost of our power in every measure which may forward the common cause, which, notwithstanding the present aspect of affairs, we doubt not will triumph over our tyrannical enemies. Mr. *Colt*, your deputy, has paid into the hands of Major *Schenck*, one of the agents for the purpose of procuring flour, the sum of three thousand six hundred dollars, for which that gentleman will be accountable.

"I am, sir, with respect, &c.

"To *Joseph Trumbull*, Esq."

A Letter from *Gilbert Livingston*, Esq., at *Poughkeepsie*, was read. He therein informs that the Chain intended to obstruct the navigation of *Hudson's River* has been delayed for want of iron. He requests that one of the other Members of the Committee may come to him to assist him, and

bring with him two thousand Pounds, as their Treasury is nearly exhausted; and informs that he expects to go to the Fort to see that the apparatus is ready to fasten, and stretch the chain.

Ordered, That the Secret Committee for obstructing the navigation of *Hudson's River*, have permission to go to the Fortifications in the Highlands to-morrow morning.

Resolved, That Mr. *Duane*, Mr. *Hobart*, General *Ten Broeck*, Mr. *Duer*, Mr. *William Smith*, Mr. *Wisner*, and Mr. *Bancker*, with the President, constitute a Committee of Safety; that the President and any four of those gentlemen be a quorum of that Committee; that they continue a Committee of Safety until the first meeting of a representation of this State in Convention; that every other Member who may attend have a voice in the Committee, and that the said Committee have power to send for any Members of this Convention who may be absent.

Ordered, That Mr. *Hobart*, Mr. *Duer*, and Mr. *Bancker*, be a Committee to consider of and report the most proper disposition to be made of the vessel or sloop of war *Montgomery*, belonging to this State.

Ordered, That Mr. *Robert Harper* be added to and be one of the Committee for taking the Examination of *Samuel Yale*, Esq.

Adjourned.

Die Mercurii, 9 ho. A. M., September 18, 1776.

The Convention met pursuant to adjournment.

Present: *Abraham Yates*, Jun., Esq., President.

NEW-YORK.—Mr. *Duane*, Mr. *Bancker*, Mr. *Robert Harper*.

DUTCHESS.—Mr. *Robert R. Livingston*, Mr. *Sackett*, Dr. *Crane*.

ALBANY.—Mr. *Abraham Yates*, General *Ten Broeck*, Mr. *John Ten Broeck*, Mr. *Adgate*, Mr. *Robert Yates*.

TRYON.—Mr. *Moore*, Mr. *William Harper*, Mr. *Veder*.

SUFFOLK.—Mr. *William Smith*, Mr. *Hobart*.

ORANGE.—Mr. *Wisner*, Jun., Colonel *Allison*, Mr. *Joseph Smith*.

CHARLOTTE.—Mr. *Duer*, Major *Webster*.

ULSTER.—Mr. *Wisner*, Jun., Major *Parks*.

WESTCHESTER.—Mr. *Haviland*, Mr. *Mills*, Mr. *Jonathan Platt*.

CUMBERLAND.—Mr. *Sessions*, Mr. *Stevens*.

Whereas this Convention, after many anxious inquiries, hath at length received certain intelligence that the Hon. *Nathaniel Woodhull*, Brigadier-General of the Militia, and President of the Convention of this State, is at present in the hands of the enemy, and that he was made captive whilst actually employed in executing the resolutions of this House: And whereas they are loudly called upon, not only by the sacred voice of honour and public duty, but likewise by the sympathizing principles of personal affection and respect, to exert themselves in restoring so valuable a person to that liberty which he has himself lost in endeavouring to secure to others that inestimable blessing:

Therefore, *Resolved*, That a list of the Prisoners at the disposal of this State be immediately made out and transmitted to General *Washington*; and that *John Sloss Hobart*, Esq., wait on his Excellency, with the earnest request of this Convention, that he will be pleased to give his assistance and advice in negotiating this exchange.

Whereas the sum of one thousand eight hundred Pounds was advanced by this State to Colonel *Pierre Van Cortlandt* and Captain *Zephaniah Platt*, as occasional Commissaries for such of the Militia of this and the neighbouring States as were, at the request of his Excellency the General, called out for the defence of the State, which sum they have expended and accounted for with Mr. *William Paulding*, Deputy Commissary:

Resolved, therefore, That Mr. *Gerard Bancker* be directed to get a true state of that account from Mr. *William Paulding*, and request payment thereof from the Commissary-General, and on the receipt of the Money, to give a proper discharge therefor, which shall be considered as a voucher for the Money by the Auditor and Treasurer of this State.

Resolved, That Mr. *Gerard Bancker*, Deputy Treasurer of this State, proceed immediately to the persons who had

the charge of the Pork and other Provisions belonging to this State in *Westchester County*, in order to procure the receipts for what has been furnished to *Joseph Trumbull*, Esq., Commissary-General, or any of his Agents or Deputies. And that Mr. *Bancker* be directed and authorized to apply to the said Commissary-General for the payment of the same, at the price current of those articles when delivered; and that the receipt of the said *Gerard Bancker* shall be a sufficient voucher in behalf of this State.

Ordered, That Colonel *Allison* be added to and be one of the Committee for taking the Examination of *Samuel Gale*, Esq.

Ordered, That the Officer commanding the detachment of Captain *Melancthon Smith's* Company, which attends this Convention, be and hereby is commanded to take into the custody of his guard, *William Tredwell*, *Benjamin Ludlum*, and *Samuel Gale*, and them safely keep, as separate from each other as he can, till further orders of this Convention or their Committee of Safety.

Mr. *Hobart*, from the Committee to report the most proper disposition of the Sloop *Montgomery*, delivered in their Report, which was read.

That part of the Report which respects the condemnation and sale of Prizes, was agreed to.

Thereupon *Resolved*, That a Letter be immediately written to Mr. *Joseph Hallett*, the Agent for Prizes, requesting him forthwith to repair to *New-England*, and take the most speedy and effectual measures for the condemnation and sale of such Vessels and Goods as Captain *Rogers*, the Commander of the said Sloop, may have brought into that country.

The said Committee also reported a draft of such Letter to *Joseph Hallett*, as above mentioned, which was read and approved of, and is in the words following, to wit:

“SIR: The Convention having received information that Captain *Rogers*, of the sloop *Montgomery*, has left the south side of *Long-Island*, and is arrived at *Norwalk*, in *Connecticut*, with some of his prize goods, and that some vessels which he brought off with him are arrived in other parts of *New-England*, it is their desire that you repair forthwith to that country, and take the most speedy and effectual measures for the condemnation and sale of such vessels and goods; which I am directed to signify to you.

“And am, sir, your most obedient servant.

“To *Joseph Hallett*, Esquire.”

Ordered, That a copy thereof be engrossed, and signed by the President, and transmitted.

That part of the said Report which relates to the sale of the Sloop *Montgomery*, was recommitted to Mr. *William Smith*, General *Ten Broeck*, Mr. *Duer*, and Mr. *Bancker*, Mr. *Hobart* being excused on his earnest request, and reasons assigned.

Resolved, That a Committee be appointed to devise ways and means for establishing a fund for the board and subsistence of the poor inhabitants of this State who have or may be by distress of war obliged to abandon their habitations, upon such a plan as shall be least burthensome to the good people of this State.

Resolved, That Mr. *Robert R. Livingston*, Mr. *Duer*, Mr. *Duane*, Mr. *Jay*, and Mr. *Robert Yates*, be the Committee.

Ordered, That that part of the Report of a former Committee on this subject, and which was read and postponed on the 25th of *August* last, be recommitted to the same Committee.

Ordered, That Mr. *William Smith* have leave of absence to go to *Orange County*, ten days from the time of his departure.

Resolved, That Colonel *Broome* and Captain *Denning* be, and are hereby, appointed Members of the Committee of Safety and Correspondence for that part of this State which lies below the Highlands; that they be requested immediately to attend that business, and that Captain *Denning* in his way attend this Convention to receive instructions for the said Committee.

Robert R. Livingston, Esq., informed the Convention that from intelligence he has received, the particulars whereof he cannot consistent with prudence disclose, it may be

necessary to call out a detachment of the Militia or the guards which are now attending this House; and that some Member of this House should be empowered for that purpose. Therefore,

Resolved, That *Nath'l Sackett*, Esq., be, and is hereby, empowered to employ from time to time any detachments of the Companies under the command of Captain *Melanthon Smith*, or any part of the Militia of *Dutchess County*, not exceeding twenty men, which he may think necessary, and to give them such orders as he may think proper, which they are hereby directed to observe and obey.

Mr. *Wisner*, Sen., from the Committee to whom was referred the consideration of a more easy and effectual mode of raising the several quotas of the Militia for the garrisoning of the Forts *Constitution* and *Montgomerie*, delivered in their Report. The same being read, and the question put whether the Convention agrees with their Committee in the said Report, it was carried in the negative.

Resolved, That the Committee of Safety appointed till the first meeting of the Convention be revived, and that the same continue until the next meeting of the Convention.

COMMITTEE OF SAFETY.

Wednesday Afternoon, September 18, 1776.

The Committee of Safety met.

Present: *Abraham Yates*, Jun., Esq., Chairman.

For NEW-YORK.—*Mr. *Bancker*, *Mr. *Duane*.

For WESTCHESTER.—Mr. *Haviland*, Colonel *Drake*, Colonel *Cortlandt*.

For ALBANY.—*Mr. *Abm. Yates*, *General *Ten Broeck*, Mr. *Robert Yates*, Mr. *Ten Broeck*.

For CHARLOTTE.—*Mr. *Duer*.

For SUFFOLK.—*Mr. *Smith*, Mr. *Hobart*.

For TRYON.—Mr. *Harper*, Mr. *Moore*.

For ORANGE.—Dr. *Sherwood*, Colonel *Allison*, *Mr. *Wisner*, Mr. *Smith*.

Those names marked with an asterism are the Members appointed to constitute the Committee of Safety.

A Letter from *Hugh Hughes*, Assistant Quartermaster-General, by express, dated yesterday, at Head-Quarters, near *King's Bridge*, was received and read. He, at the request of General *Washington*, informs the Convention that two *Albany* skippers have deserted the service without unloading their cargoes. The one named *Brooks* has such utensils for supplying the army with soap and candles that the business cannot be carried on without them. The other, named *Rolf* or *Roff*, has ammunition on board, besides sundry articles belonging to the Quartermaster-General's department, it is said. Mr. *Hughes*, by directions of the General, gives this information that a suitable remedy may be timely applied.

The said Letter being taken into immediate consideration, thereupon,

Resolved, That a copy of the Letter received from Mr. *Hugh Hughes* be immediately sent by express to the Chairman of the Committee of *Albany*, and that the said Committee be requested to send back all the property belonging to the Continent contained in the said Sloops; and to inquire into the conduct of Captain *Roff* and Captain *Brooks*, and transmit a state of facts to this Convention, taking good security of the said *Roff* and *Brooks* to abide by the future order of this Convention in the premises.

Ordered, That a copy of the above Resolution be transmitted to Mr. *Hughes*.

A Letter from the Committee of *Albany*, dated the 12th instant, was read. They thereby inform that the Major from *Cumberland County*, with the proportion of men to have been raised to the eastward of the *Green Mountains*, as a part of Colonel *Van Dyck's* Regiment, have not joined the Regiment or come into the service.

A Letter from _____ Esq., who was intended to have been Major of that Regiment, to Brigadier-General *Ten Broeck*, was also read.

Ordered, That Mr. *R. R. Livingston*, Mr. *Hobart*, Mr. *Duer*, and Mr. *Robert Yates*, be a Committee to take those two Letters into consideration, and report thereon.

A Letter from the Committee of *Albany*, dated the 16th instant, was also read. The Committee thereby express great concern on account of General *Schuyler's* resignation,

and express their fears that it will occasion many other resignations in the Army, the Militia, and the Civil departments.

A long Letter from General *Schuyler*, dated the 15th, and a part thereof dated on the 16th instant, was read. The General therein informs the Convention of his resignation and in part his reasons for having requested leave to resign his office, and informs the Convention of the latest intelligence from the northward and westward; and that the Militia were countermanded before his receipt of the last Letter from this Convention.

The Examination of a *Hessian* Deserter enclosed in General *Schuyler's* Letter, was also read. Information is thereby given of the numbers of *Hessians*, *Brunswickers*, and other foreign Troops in *Canada*.

Ordered, That the Letter from the Committee of *Albany*, of the 16th instant, the Letter from General *Schuyler* of the 15th and 16th instant, and that part of General *Schuyler's* Letter of the 8th instant which remains to be considered, be committed to *Robert R. Livingston*, Mr. *Hobart*, Mr. *Duer*, and Mr. *Robert Yates*, to report thereon with all convenient speed.

A Letter from *Cornelius Glenn*, Treasurer of the County of *Albany*, to the President of the Convention, dated the 13th instant, was read. He requests his opinion whether the usual election shall be held in that County for a County Treasurer, or whether it shall be delayed until a plan is prescribed for that department under the new form of Government.

Ordered, That the consideration of, and determination on, this Letter, be referred to the Convention.

[Your Committee, to whom it was referred, to direct some mode for the relief of Debtors confined for debt in the Gaols of the respective Counties in this State, do report the following, viz:

Whereas, by the long suspension of the Legislature of this State, the debtors confined in the respective gaols are reduced to the greatest misery and distress, and their lives much endangered by long confinement: And whereas the detaining in custody debtors, under execution, who are willing to deliver up their estates for the use of their creditors, can be of no real benefit or advantage to the creditors, and at the same time, that by reason of such severity, many useful members are lost to the community, who might be advantageously employed at this arduous conjuncture in the service and defence of their country:

Be it therefore ordained, That all and every person and persons imprisoned or detained in any gaol within this State, by reason of any process, writ, or commitment for debt, be forthwith released and discharged: *Provided always*, That all and every person or persons, who shall take and claim the benefit hereby intended, shall before his, her, or their discharge, exhibit a petition in their respective Counties, where such person or persons are confined, to the persons hereinafter named, setting forth the reasons of such confinement; and if he, she, or they, so petitioning shall be charged in execution, such prisoner or prisoners shall with his, her, or their petition annex the name or names of his, her, or their creditors, and the debts due, as near as can be, and certify an account or inventory of his, her, or their whole real and personal estate, their bedding and clothing excepted, with the tenure by which it is held, and the evidences, deeds, books of account, notes or bonds relating thereunto; and upon such petitions and certificates delivered to the persons hereafter named, in the respective Counties, or any two of them, and they are hereby required to order such prisoner to be brought before them, and administer to such persons the following oath or affirmation, in such cases heretofore required, viz:

"You _____ of _____ do hereby solemnly swear upon the Holy Evangelist of Almighty God, that the account by you here produced, and to your petition annexed, to the best of your knowledge, contains a true and perfect state of all the debts due to your respective creditors; and likewise that the inventory by you exhibited contains a just and faithful account of all your real and personal estate, your bedding and clothing excepted, with the tenure by which it is held, and the evidences, deeds, books of account, notes or bonds relating thereto, and that you have not knowingly or intentionally kept back any part of the same, nor conveyed to any person or persons whatsoever any part thereof, for your

future benefit, with design to defraud your creditors. So help you God."

And upon having taken such oath or affirmation such prisoner or prisoners shall make an assignment of his, her, or their estate, to two such persons as assignees, being freeholders, as the persons empowered to administer such oath or affirmation shall appoint, to be by them equally divided among all the creditors of the said insolvent debtors, in proportion to their several and respective debts, dues, and demands; whereupon, he, she, or they, making such assignment as aforesaid, shall be discharged out of custody, from and after which discharge, he, she, or they, shall not any time hereafter be imprisoned for the same debt or debts for which he, she, or they have made such assignment.

And further, That any two of the Judges of the Inferiour Court of Common Pleas, in the respective Counties of this State, together with the Chairman of the County Committee for the time being, be and they are hereby nominated, empowered, and required to hear and discharge the prisoners in the gaols of the said Counties, and to administer to them the oath above mentioned, and that all Gaolers and Sheriffs heretofore appointed, and all persons within this State, give due obedience to the said persons within their several Counties, who have been hereby authorized and appointed to hear and discharge the prisoners aforesaid.

And lastly, That the assignees to be appointed as aforesaid, notify the several creditors of the debtors so discharged in one or more of the publick newspapers of this State, for three months successively of their appointment as aforesaid, with intent that they may be acquainted where to apply for their several dividends.

JOSHUA H. SMITH.

September 18, 1776.

CONVENTION.

Die Jovis, 9 ho. A. M., September 19, 1776.

The Convention met pursuant to adjournment.

Present: *Abraham Yates*, Jun., Esq., President.

NEW-YORK.—*Mr. Bancker*, *Mr. Robert Harper*, *Mr. Duane*, *Mr. Jay*.

DUTCHESS.—*Doctor Crane*, *Mr. Sackett*, *Mr. R. R. Livingston*.

CHARLOTTE.—*Major Webster*, *Mr. Duer*.

ALBANY.—*Mr. Abraham Yates*, *Mr. John Ten Broeck*, *Mr. Adgate*, General *Ten Broeck*.

ORANGE.—*Colonel Allison*, *Mr. Jos. Smith*, *Mr. Sherwood*, *Mr. Little*.

CUMBERLAND.—*Mr. Sessions*, *Mr. Stevens*.

SUFFOLK.—*Mr. Smith*, *Mr. Hobart*.

WESTCHESTER.—*Colonel Drake*, *Mr. Lockwood*, *Mr. Mills*, *Mr. Haviland*, *Colonel Cortlandt*.

ULSTER.—*Major Parks*, *Mr. Wisner*.

TRYON.—*Mr. Moore*, *Mr. Harper*, *Mr. Veder*.

Captain *Samuel Tudor*, one of the Superintendents for building the Continental Ships at *Poughkeepsie*, attending, delivered in a Letter from General *Schuyler*, dated *Albany*, September 17, 1776, and directed to Messrs. *Van Zandt*, *Tudor*, and the other gentlemen to whose care the building of the Frigates at *Poughkeepsie* is committed; wherein the General informs those gentlemen that he received a line by express from General *Gates*, informing him that he is in the greatest distress for the cordage mentioned in a list enclosed in the said letter, for the use of the row-galleys, which are the greatest strength of our naval force on the Lake. Captain *Tudor* requested the opinion and advice of the Convention on this subject.

Resolved, That as a Naval strength on *Lake Champlain* is an object of the utmost importance, and will greatly contribute to the security of *America*, that the Agents for building the Ships at *Poughkeepsie* be directed to supply such and so much Cordage as General *Schuyler* requires, and that this Convention will justify them to the honourable the Continental Congress.

Mr. Haviland and *Mr. Platt* have leave of absence, to return on next Monday week.

A certified copy of a Resolution of the Committee of *Dutchess County* was read and filed; and is in the words following, to wit:

"In Committee, *Dutchess County*, September 17, 1776.

"It having been suggested to this Committee, by the Deputies from this County, in Convention, that the quorum

FIFTH SERIES.—VOL. II.

at present necessary to represent the County, being five, was too numerous, and that, by means thereof, was frequently deprived of a voice in the Convention:

"Resolved, therefore, That the number of the quorum be reduced from five to three; and accordingly, that of the nine Deputies elected to represent this County in the Convention of the Representatives of this State, any three of them be a quorum for that purpose.

"By order: EGBERT BENSON, Chairman."

The determination of the Committee of *Dutchess County* was approved of.

Ordered, That *Mr. Jay*, *Mr. Duer*, *Mr. R. R. Livingston*, *Mr. Robert Yates*, and *Colonel Drake*, be a Committee to devise ways and means for preventing the dangers which may arise from the disaffected in this State.

On motion of *Mr. Duane*,

Resolved, That a Committee be appointed to examine into and report the present state of the Treasury; the progress which has been made in emitting the sum of £200,000, to supply the exigencies of the State, agreeable to a Resolution of the Convention, passed on the 15th day of *August* last; the obstructions which have prevented the settlement of the publick Accounts of this State against the Continent, and further means for the immediate supplying the Treasury with Money.

Resolved, That this Committee consist of those gentlemen to whom was referred a list of the unsettled Accounts of publick Moneys, delivered in by the Deputy Treasurer and committed last Tuesday at noon, viz: *Mr. Duane*, *Mr. Bancker*, and *Mr. Moore*.

Mr. Jay has leave of absence for eight days from the time of his departure.

The Committee appointed to procure a proper Guard-House for the detachment of Captain *Smith's* Company, at this place, by order reported that the most convenient they have observed, or can obtain, is a hatter's shop belonging to *Mrs. Mary Bloodgood*, which needs repair.

Ordered, That *Mr. Sackett* be added to that Committee, and that the said Committee repair that shop for a Guard-House at their discretion.

The Report of the proceedings of *Mr. Hobart* and *Mr. James Townshend*, the Committee appointed on the 28th of *August* to repair to General *Woodhull*, on *Nassau-Island*, to advise and assist the General in the execution of the orders given to him by this Convention, was read and taken into consideration. Thereupon,

Resolved, unanimously, That this Convention approves of the conduct of the said Committee while they acted in conjunction, and of the conduct of *John Sloss Hobart*, Esq., when he acted separately, as the same is stated in the said Report and the papers therein referred to.

Mr. Joshua H. Smith, from the Committee formerly appointed to consider of means for the relief of Insolvent Debtors, reported the draft of a Bill or set of Resolutions for the relief of Insolvent Debtors, which was read and amended; and being read a second time,

Ordered, That it lay on the table for the further perusal and consideration of the Members.

Mr. Duer, of the Committee appointed to devise ways and means for preventing the dangers which may arise from the disaffected in this State, reported a draft of certain Resolutions for that purpose, which were read. The same being read a second time, *Mr. Duane* moved, and it was seconded by *Mr. William Harper*, that the consideration of this Report be postponed till to-morrow morning.

Debates arose thereon, and the question being put, it was carried in the affirmative, in manner following, to wit:

For the Affirmative.

6 Albany.
2 Cumberland.
4 Ulster.
3 Tryon.

15 votes.

For the Negative.

2 Charlotte.
5 Dutchess.
4 Westchester.
3 Orange.

14 votes.

Therefore, Ordered, That the further consideration of the said Report be postponed till to-morrow morning.

On motion of *Mr. Jay*,

Ordered, That a Committee be appointed to inquire whether any and what Bounty is necessary for encouraging the manufacturing of Gunpowder in this State.

That Mr. *William Smith*, Mr. *Zephaniah Platt*, and Mr. *William Harper*, be the Committee for that purpose.

Resolved, That a Committee be appointed to employ proper persons for making discoveries and assays of Sulphur, Lead, and Flint, within this State.

That for this purpose they have power to draw on the Treasury for a sum not exceeding five hundred Dollars; and that they report their proceedings to this Convention; and that Mr. *Wisner*, Sen., Mr. *Robert Yates*, Mr. *William Harper*, Mr. *Adgate*, and Doctor *Crane*, be the Committee for the purposes above mentioned.

Ordered, That the appointing Inspectors of Saltpetre and Gunpowder, manufactured in or imported into this State, be taken into consideration on *Saturday* next.

Resolved, That the Committee for establishing Posts and obtaining Intelligence be empowered to appoint a Secretary, and to allow him a reasonable compensation.

Die Veneris, 9 ho. A. M., September 20, 1776.

The Convention met pursuant to adjournment.

Present: *Abraham Yates*, Jun., Esq., President.

NEW-YORK.—Mr. *Bancker*, Mr. *Harper*, Mr. *Duane*.

DUTCHESS.—Dr. *Crane*, Mr. *R. R. Livingston*, Mr. *Sackett*.

ALBANY.—Mr. *Ab. Yates*, Mr. *Robert Yates*, General *Ten Broeck*, Mr. *John Ten Broeck*, Mr. *Adgate*.

TRYON.—Mr. *Moore*, Mr. *William Harper*, Mr. *Veder*.

SUFFOLK.—Mr. *William Smith*, Mr. *Hobart*.

ORANGE.—Mr. *Jos. Smith*, Colonel *Sherwood*, Mr. *Wisner*, Jun., Colonel *Allison*, Mr. *Little*.

CHARLOTTE.—Mr. *Duer*, Mr. *Webster*.

ULSTER.—Mr. *Wisner*, Mr. *Parks*.

WESTCHESTER.—Mr. *Mills*, Colonel *G. Drake*, Major *Lockwood*, Colonel *V. Cortlandt*.

CUMBERLAND.—Mr. *Sessions*, Mr. *Stevens*.

The Committee appointed to consider General *Schuyler's* Letter brought in their Report, which was read. Thereupon the General's Letter of the 15th and 16th was read, and hereafter follows, viz:

"Albany, September 15, 1776.

"SIR: I do myself the honour to advise you that, by accounts received from General *Gates* and Colonel *Dayton*, the necessity of marching up the Militia is superseded. I have sent express to *Ulster* and *Dutchess* Counties to advise them of this, and have dismissed those that were here. The cannonade which was heard on *Lake Champlain*, and which was supposed to be between General *Arnold* and the enemy's army, was only a fire at a party of the enemy, who attacked a boat belonging to our fleet, at *Windmill Point*, in which three of the crew were killed and six wounded. The fleet continues off *Isle-au-Motte*, and no naval force of the enemy had appeared on the 9th instant. Our army at *Tyconderoga*, by the last returns, consisted of twelve thousand nine hundred and seventy men, are in good spirits, and so extremely well fortified on advantageous ground, that little is to be feared, even if the enemy should be able to cross the Lake, and make an attack.

"Many important matters require immediate attention in this department, to guard the State against the attempts, which will undoubtedly be made in the winter and spring, by the enemy from the northward. I suggested my ideas to Congress; but as I have not been honoured with a line, in answer to my letters, for near two months past, I suppose more momentous concerns so entirely engross their attention that they have not had time to take them into consideration.

"As I accepted of a command under the fullest conviction of my incompetency, I have made more than ordinary exertions to discharge the duties of it, that, if I could not gain reputation, I might at least not reflect disgrace on you, by whose means the command was conferred.

"Unhappily for me, envy and jealousy have followed me from the beginning. Aware to what a critical situation I was elevated, with the eyes of a jealous people on me, I took every precaution that I might have it in my power to justify myself whenever my conduct should be called in question. How far I have succeeded I shall beg the Convention of this State to judge, when I shall do myself the honour to lay a variety of papers before them, which I believe will be very soon, as I have sent my resignation to Congress.

"As the Convention is now removed to a place where they cannot be informed, by the usual channel, of what is transacting in this department, I shall do myself the honour to give them the most early information of every event as it arises.

"September 16.—Last evening I was honoured with the resolutions of the Convention of the 13th, conveyed to me by Mr. *Cuyler*. I am happy that there is no occasion at present for the service of the Militia. Should it become necessary, while I continue in command, (which will probably be until the 1st of *October*;) to call for their aid, I shall pay due attention to the information you have been pleased to give me, and not call on either *Dutchess* or *Ulster* County, unless on the most urgent necessity.

"I shall immediately despatch a proper person to purchase the medicines from the persons mentioned in your resolution; for although I am in hopes that Dr. *Stringer*, who is gone to *New-England*, will procure a considerable quantity there, yet the consumption in so large an army will, I fear, be far beyond what he will be able to procure.

"Enclose you copy of information given by a *Hessian* deserter, who lately arrived at *Ticonderoga*.

"I am, sir, with great respect, your most obedient, humble servant,

"PH. SCHUYLER.

"To the Hon. *Abraham Yates*, Jun., Esq., President of the Convention of the State of *New-York*."

The copy of the Information given by a *Hessian* Deserter* was again read and filed.

The Letter from *Albany*, of the 16th instant, was again read, and follows, viz:

"Albany Committee Chamber, September 16, 1776.

"GENTLEMEN: We are informed that General *Schuyler* has sent in his resignation to Congress, a circumstance truly alarming to the inhabitants of this city, and we fear will be very detrimental to the publick cause. His conduct as a General, his indefatigable assiduity on all occasions, are so very conspicuous, that we cannot help expressing the deepest concern.

"We are fully sensible, and time will evince, that the effects of his resignation will be severely felt in the Northern department, as we are well assured no person can be found to succeed him, capable of holding so honourable an office, that has a sufficient influence to conduct matters in the manner he has done, with such feeble supports.

"This day a Committee of this Board waited on his Honour, requesting to know the reason of his resigning. His answer was, that such inattention was paid to his remonstrances to Congress, and such calumnies thrown out against him, that, consistent with the character of a gentleman, he could not do otherwise.

"We are very unhappy to think that Congress should pay so little regard to the character of a gentleman whose conduct, we are well assured, merits the approbation of every well-wisher to this much-injured country.

"From what we have already heard, we can inform you, as a fact, that many resignations will follow his in a short time, as well in the Militia and Civil as in the Military departments.

"It is unnecessary for us, we presume, to expatiate on the great abilities which he possesses, as part of his conduct has manifested it more fully than we can possibly express.

*The Examination of *Anthony Fasselabend*, of Colonel *Riedesel's* Regiment of Dragoons, who deserted at *Montreal*, the 24th of *June*, with nineteen others, but does not know what became of them: Says, that in *February*, two thousand *Hessians*, and three thousand *Brunswickers*, and three thousand *Westphalians*, the latter all Roman Catholics, embarked on board forty-six *Dutch* vessels, at *Stade*, in *Hanover*, and sailed for *America*; that forty-three of these arrived at *Quebeck* the 27th *May*, the other three being blown off from the fleet in a storm about *Easter*, and supposed to be lost. That some time in *June* the whole marched for *Montreal*, where they arrived the latter end of the same month. That five hundred of the *Westphalians* and *Brunswick* troops were drafted as dragoons, horses purchased in *Canada*, and daily training for that purpose. Five hundred more were drafted as riflemen. The whole are new recruits from sixteen to twenty-two years of age, quartered at *Langville*, opposite *Montreal*, under the command of Colonel *Belnitz*, of the *Brunswick* troop. That at *Quebeck*, ten of the *Germans* had deserted. One was afterwards, at *Langville*, ordered to run the gauntlet through three hundred men; but the whole of the *German* troops mutinied, owing to their not receiving their pay and provisions promised 'em, refused to inflict the punishment, and were going to murder the General, but Colonel *Belnitz* quieted them with promises of their receiving their allowances regularly for the future. That he understood all the *Germans* were to return about *Michaelmas*, and that the *English* and *Canadians* amounted to about five thousand men.

September 5, 1776.

"From a full conviction of the above facts, we do instruct you, that you lay this letter before the Convention of this State, and desire you'll use your influence to have the sense of this Board transmitted to Congress on this occasion.

"We are, gentlemen, your very humble servants,

"By order: JOHN BARCLAY, *Chairman*.

"To the Deputies of the County of *Albany*, in Convention of the State of *New-York*."

General *Schuyler's* Letter of the 9th instant, which was made a part of the minutes of this Convention on the 12th instant, was again read.

Thereupon, the said Report of the Committee was again read, and being then read by paragraphs, on reading the second Resolution, Mr. *Duane* moved for the following amendment, to wit, that the words "endanger the peace" be obliterated, and the words "be productive of discontent and endanger the safety of this State," be inserted in their stead. Debates arose thereon, and the question being put it was carried in the negative, in manner following:

For the Negative.		For the Affirmative.
2 Charlotte.	3 Orange.	3 Tryon.
6 Albany.	4 Ulster.	
4 Westchester.	5 Dutchess.	
2 Cumberland.		
—		
26 votes.		

Therefore the said amendment was rejected.

The residue of the said Report being read by paragraphs, amended and approved of, the whole of the said Report was again read and adopted by the Convention, is in the words following, to wit:

Whereas this Convention have received information that Major-General *Schuyler* has sent in his resignation to the honourable the Congress, which they have reason to believe has arisen from some unhappy misapprehension of and a neglect to inquire into his conduct: They cannot, therefore, in justice to his character, avoid expressing their sense of his merit, and their apprehensions of the influence his resignation may have on the publick measures:

1st. Therefore, *Resolved, unanimously*, That Major-General *Schuyler*, since his appointment to the command in the Northern department, has, as far as this Convention has been enabled to judge, discharged the duties of his important trust with assiduity, fidelity, and skill.

2d. *Resolved*, That it is the opinion of this Convention that the resignation of Major-General *Schuyler* at this critical period will, if accepted, greatly affect the general interest of *America*, and endanger the peace and safety of the State.

3d. *Resolved, unanimously*, That the honourable the Congress be requested (through the Delegates from this State) to withhold their assent to the resignation of Major-General *Schuyler*, and to cause an inquiry to be made into his conduct; since this Convention cannot but hope that an honourable acquittal will, by silencing the voice of calumny, induce him to continue in his command, and thereby preserve a useful officer to the publick.

Resolved, unanimously, That as Major-General *Schuyler* was appointed at the request of this Convention, if no inquiry should shortly be made into his conduct, that it will be the duty of this Convention to institute the same, in order either to justify their recommendation, and vindicate a character which they have reason to fear has been unjustly traduced, or to hold him up, if he has disgraced his appointment, as an object of publick censure.

Resolved, unanimously, That *Robert R. Livingston, Esq.*, wait upon Major-General *Schuyler*, in order to inquire into the reasons of his resignation, and to report the same, and in the name of this State to request him not to insist thereon.

Resolved, That a copy of the foregoing Resolutions be immediately sent to the Delegates of this State at Congress, in order to be laid before that honourable House.

A draft of a Letter to the Delegates of this State, to attend the said Resolutions, was read and approved, and is in the words following, viz:

"GENTLEMEN: The Convention have much at heart the subject of the enclosed resolutions, and have directed me to recommend them to your particular attention. They are persuaded that General *Schuyler's* resignation will not only be highly prejudicial to the common cause of *America*, by

the loss of an able and vigilant officer, singularly qualified for the command he now fills, but will be productive of internal jealousy and discontent, at a period when union and harmony are necessary for our preservation.

"I have the honour to be, gentlemen, your most obedient.

"P. S. I am directed to add that the Convention have received no answer to their last letters. They would wish to hear from you on the matter contained in them and this matter, as soon as possible."

Ordered, That a copy of the said Letter be engrossed, and signed by the President, and transmitted without delay.

Mr. *Duane*, from "the Committee appointed to examine into and report the present state of the Treasury, the progress which has been made in emitting two hundred thousand Pounds to supply the exigencies of this State, agreeable to a resolution of the Convention, passed on the 13th of *August* last, the obstructions which have prevented the settlement of the publick Accounts of this State against the Continent, and further means for the immediate supply of the Treasury with money," delivered in their Report, which was read, and is in the words following, to wit:

Your Committee do report that they have, according to order, considered the several matters submitted to their examination. That the Treasury is exhausted, as appears by the account No. 1, being a general state of receipts and payments of the Treasury down to the 17th instant; and that the most speedy and effectual means ought to be adopted to supply the Treasury with money, that the publick credit may be supported, and the heavy expenses to which this State must unavoidably be exposed, in its present critical and dangerous situation, be provided for.

That by reason of the evacuation of the metropolis the loss of the paper mills, the dispersion of the printers, as well as of the gentlemen entrusted to procure the plates, superintend the press, and sign the bills of credit directed to be emitted, there cannot be the least prospect of supplying the Treasury from the intended emission so as to answer the exigencies of the State.

That the Committee have examined into the measures which have been pursued for adjusting the publick accounts of this State against the Continent, and for that purpose have been attended by the Deputy Treasurer, to whose state of facts mentioned in the paper No. 2, they refer; and from which it appears that several of the persons named in the list delivered in by the Deputy Treasurer on the 17th instant, who have been entrusted with publick money, have, though called upon, neglected to settle their accounts with the Auditor-General of this State, which putting it out of his power precisely to ascertain how much of the moneys have been applied for Continental service, and how much for the more immediate purposes of this State, hath hitherto proved an insurmountable obstruction to the adjustment of the publick accounts of this State against the Continent.

That, nevertheless, from an estimate made by the Deputy Treasurer, contained in the paper No. 3, which is herewith presented, it appears, and your Committee are satisfied, that upward of sixty-two thousand Dollars are due from the *United States* to the State of *New-York*. Whereupon, your Committee have agreed to the following Resolutions:

Resolved, 1st. That it is the opinion of this Committee that the Auditor-General be directed to use all possible diligence in completing the settlement of the publick Accounts of this State with the *United States*, and procuring the necessary Vouchers, in order that the said Accounts and Vouchers may, without further delay, be transmitted to the Treasury office of the *United States*, at *Philadelphia*, there to be finally settled and passed.

And to remove the impediments which have hitherto retarded the settlement of the said accounts,

Resolved, 2dly. That in the opinion of this Committee such of the persons named in the said list who have been entrusted with the publick Money, and have neglected to produce their Accounts and Vouchers to the Auditor-General of this State, be and they hereby are enjoined, on pain of incurring the displeasure of this Convention, to attend the said Auditor-General at *Fishkills*, with their respective Accounts and Vouchers, as soon as possible after receiving notice for that purpose from the said Auditor-General.

Resolved, 3dly. That it is the opinion of this Committee

that the honourable Congress of the *United States* be requested to advance to this State one hundred thousand Dollars, in consideration of the vast expenses to which we are exposed, and the impracticability, for the reasons herein set forth, of emitting Bills of Credit with a despatch suitable to the urgency of our publick affairs and the calamitous circumstances into which we are involved. That in case this requisition should be complied with, the Convention do pledge this State to be accountable for the sums to be advanced, declaring that the receipt of the Delegates of this State or either of them, shall be a sufficient voucher for the same, and directing the said Delegates to forward the Money as expeditiously as possible.

Resolved, 4thly, as the opinion of this Committee, That if it should be inconvenient to the *United States* to advance to this State the sum specified in the before-mentioned requisition, that then the honourable Congress be and are hereby requested to advance to this State the sum of sixty thousand Dollars, on account of the balance due from the Continent to this State; this Committee being of opinion, upon the best evidence they have been able to procure, that at least that sum must be due from the *United States* to this State.

The same Report was again read by paragraphs. Thereupon

Resolved, unanimously, That this Convention does agree with their Committee in the said Report.

Ordered, That a copy of the preceding Report be transmitted by the President of this Convention to the President of the honourable Continental Congress, and that a copy be also transmitted to the Delegates of this State at the Continental Congress.

Ordered, That the President write a Letter to the honourable the President of Congress, and another to the Delegates of this State at Congress, to accompany the copies of those Resolutions.

Ordered, That *Abraham Yates*, Jun., Esq., the President of this Convention, have leave of absence for one fortnight from the time of his departure.

Mr. *Duer*, from "the Committee appointed to report a more effectual mode for detecting and defeating the designs of the internal enemies of this State," delivered in their Report, which was read. The same was read a second time. Debates arose thereon.

Mr. *William Harper* moved and was seconded, that the said Report be rejected.

Mr. *Duane* moved and was seconded, that the former Resolutions of the late Provincial Congress of this Convention, for apprehending and securing dangerous and disaffected persons, be read.

After many debates on each of the said two last-mentioned motions, the further consideration thereof was deferred till to-morrow.

Mr. *Adgate* has leave of absence for a fortnight from the time of his departure.

Mr. *Wisner* has leave of absence for a week from the time of his departure.

Mr. *Duer* dissents to both.

Resolved and Ordered, That the President for the time being, with any five Members, have power to send a Messenger for any Member who shall depart the Convention without leave, or for any Member who having departed with leave, shall be absent longer than the time of permission to such Member limited, pursuant to the Resolve and Order of this Convention of the 6th instant.

The Convention being informed that *Isaac Ketcham*, who, as a Traitor against this State, has lately been aiding and assisting the cruel enemies of the *United American States* in ravaging and plundering the Farms and Estates of the subjects and inhabitants of this State, on *Nassau-Island*, and carrying off the Stock, has been taken by Captain *Rogers*, and is now in chains on board of the Sloop *Montgomery*:

Ordered, That the said *Isaac Ketcham* be brought, manacled and under a proper guard, before this Convention, to abide the further order of this Convention; and that *John Sloss Hobart*, Esq., be requested to see that this order be duly executed.

Mr. *Duane* dissents.

Ordered, That *Jost Wadder*, alias *Veder*, and *Peter*

Benjamin Van Vredenburg, two Deserters from Captain *Van Steinbergh's* Company, from *Dutchess* County, and now in custody of the Guard of Captain *William Clark's* Company, be sent to *Fort Constitution*, and there delivered to the Commanding Officer; and the said Commanding Officer is hereby requested to detain the said Deserters in safe custody, and send them by the first conveyance to the main guard at General *Clinton's* encampment, at or near *King's Bridge*, together with this order.

Die Sabbati, 9 ho. A. M., September 21, 1776.

The Convention met pursuant to adjournment.

Present: *Abraham Yates*, Jun., Esq., President.

NEW-YORK.—Mr. *Duane*, Mr. *Harper*, Mr. *Bancker*.

ORANGE.—Colonel *Allison*, Mr. *Wisner*, Dr. *Sherwood*, Mr. *Joseph Smith*, Mr. *Little*.

ALBANY.—Mr. *Ab. Yates*, General *Ten Broeck*, Mr. *John Ten Broeck*, Mr. *Robert Yates*.

WESTCHESTER.—Mr. *Mills*, Colonel *Drake*, Major *Lockwood*, Colonel *Cortlandt*.

SUFFOLK.—Mr. *William Smith*, Mr. *Hobart*.

TRYON.—Mr. *Moore*, Mr. *Veder*, Mr. *Harper*.

ULSTER.—Mr. *Wisner*, Jun., Major *Parks*.

CHARLOTTE.—Mr. *Webster*, Mr. *Duer*.

DUTCHESS.—Mr. *Zeph. Platt*, Mr. *R. R. Livingston*, Mr. *Sackett*, Dr. *Crane*.

CUMBERLAND.—Mr. *Sessions*, Mr. *Stevens*.

Mr. *Wisner* informed the Convention that the Rangers raised in *Orange* County are ready for service; but as the *Indians* are quiet and the Rangers unemployed, he suggested to the Convention whether it might not be proper to send them to *Fort Montgomerie* for the present, in lieu of the Company of Militia lately ordered to be detached from that County.

Resolved, That the state of the Rangers be taken into consideration on *Tuesday* next.

Ordered, That Mr. *Hobart* be directed to call at the Forts in the Highlands, in his way to Head-Quarters; that he get an exact account of the Garrison and the number of men required to put them in a proper posture of defence; and that he state to the General the inconvenience we lie under in raising more of our Militia, and request if they can be spared, that he would send a reinforcement from his Army to those posts.

Whereas that part of the order of the 18th instant, which sets forth that Colonel *Pierre Van Cortlandt* and Captain *Platt* had accounted with *William Paulding* for the publick Moneys put into their hands for supporting the Militia employed on the east side of *Hudson's River*, while the enemy's Ships of War were in that river, appears to have been founded on mistake:

On motion, *Ordered*, That the order of the 18th instant, respecting those Accounts, together with the Schedule containing the names of the persons who have not accounted to the Treasurer, be recommitted to Mr. *Ten Broeck*, Mr. *Bancker*, and Mr. *Duer*, who are hereby appointed a Committee for that purpose.

On motion of General *Ten Broeck*,

Resolved, That Mr. *Gerard Bancker*, the Deputy Treasurer of the State, do immediately draw upon the Loan Officers of the City and County of *Albany*, in favour of the Chairman of the Committee of *Albany*, for whatever interest of the Loan office Money is at present in their hands, not exceeding the sum of twelve hundred Pounds, and the said Committee are hereby ordered to apply the sum so received to the payment of the one-half of the Bounty to the Rangers raised in the said County, and to the payment of the Subsistence Money to the Company raised in the city of *Albany* for guarding the Stores and Vessels with Provisions and Ammunition, in and about the said city.

The Report of the Committee to whom was referred "the consideration of a more effectual mode of detecting and defeating the designs of the internal enemies of this State," was again read.

On motion, the Resolutions of the Provincial Congress of the 5th day of *June* last, appointing a Committee to call before them and secure persons dangerous and disaffected to the *American* cause, and those of equivocal character, were also read.

The Resolution of the Convention of the Representatives

of this State, increasing the powers of the respective County Committees as to dangerous persons, and also the Resolutions of the Convention on the 26th day of *August* last, authorizing the County Committees to secure persons committed, or to deliver the Gaols, were respectively read.

The Convention then resumed the consideration of the said Report of the Committee above mentioned; the same was again read, and, on motion made and seconded, the question was put whether the same shall be rejected, which was carried in the negative.

A Letter from General *Washington* was read, and follows, viz :

"Head-Quarters, Heights of Harlem, September 20, 1776.

"GENTLEMEN: Having reason to believe the enemy will attempt to gall us with their ships of war from the *North-River* as soon as they are ready to open their batteries against the front of our lines, which we expect them to erect with great industry, I beg leave to mention that I think it may be of immense consequence if your honourable body will order down some of your fire-ships, which may lay just above the obstructions in the river under cover of the guns of *Fort Washington*, where they will be ready to act in case the ships should attempt to come up. Hurried and surrounded with a thousand things, I have only time to add that I have the honour to be, with great esteem, gentlemen, your most obedient servant,

"GO. WASHINGTON."

On reading the Letter of his Excellency General *Washington*, of the 20th instant, requesting this Convention to order down some of their Fire-Ships to lay just above the obstructions in *Hudson's River*,

Resolved, That the two Fire-Ships charged by Captain *Hazelwood*, be immediately despatched to *Fort Washington*, or near it.

And *Ordered*, That *Gilbert Livingston*, Esquire, or any other Member of the Committee for obstructing the navigation of *Hudson's River* who may now be at *Poughkeepsie*, do immediately despatch the two Fire-Ships prepared and charged by Captain *Hazelwood*, with proper persons to navigate them, under cover of the guns of the said Fort, and there deliver them to the care of such person as his Excellency General *Washington* has or shall appoint to take charge of them.

Ordered, That a copy of the above Resolution and Order be despatched to his Excellency General *Washington*, and another copy to *Gilbert Livingston*, Esq.

A draft of a Letter to his Excellency was read and approved, and is in the words following, to wit :

"SIR: The Convention have received your Excellency's letter of *September 20*, and have in consequence entered into the enclosed resolution, which I am directed to transmit. We are sorry that it is not in our power to send down more than two fire-ships, as they have no more charged in such a manner as to be depended on.

"A Committee of Correspondence has been established by the Convention for the purpose of communicating to, and receiving intelligence from, the army. The express will receive orders to call upon your Excellency daily; and any commands or intelligence which your Excellency may think proper to transmit, will be thankfully received and punctually attended to by

"Your Excellency's most obedient, humble servant.

"By order.

"To his Excellency General *Washington*."

Ordered, That a copy be engrossed, and signed by the President, and transmitted.

A Letter from the Quartermaster-General to Captain *Cook*, open, directing him to purchase and procure Timber and Oak Plank with all possible despatch for the Army; and an order of the said Quartermaster to Captain *Cook*, to purchase Vessels, or take them at an appraisement, for completing the obstructions to the navigation of *Hudson's River*, opposite to *Mount Washington*.

Ordered, That Mr. *Duane*, Mr. *Sackett*, and Mr. *R. R. Livingston*, be a Committee to go out and confer with Captain *Cook* on the subjects of those two papers, and know what aid he expects of this Convention in the premises.

The Convention resumed the consideration of the Report of the Committee on "A more effectual mode of detecting

and defeating the designs of the internal enemies of this State."

A Letter from *Thaddeus Crane* to Major *Jos. Benedict*, dated the 17th instant, was read. He therein informs that the disaffected are grown troublesome and impudent, and that it is necessary that some remedy be provided. He suggests the necessity of removing a number of disaffected persons from *Salem*, and raising a company of twenty-five or thirty men, under the command of Captain *Samuel Dellavan*, for the purpose of awing and detecting the disaffected, insulting villains.

A pathetick Letter on the same subject from Major *Jos. Benedict* to Colonel *Drake*, dated the 18th instant, was also read and filed.

A Letter from *John White*, of *Rhynbeck* Precinct, to Captain *Zeph. Platt*, dated the 16th instant, was also read and filed. He therein complains of great desertions from the Army; that at least thirty deserters are thereabout in the woods, and supported by disaffected persons; that some remedy ought to be applied.

The Convention then spent some further time in consideration of the said Report, and the Letters above mentioned: Thereupon,

Resolved, That thirty men be raised in *Westchester* County by Captain *Samuel Dellavan*, and put on the same establishment as those under the command of Captain *Micha Townsend*; that they compose one Company under the command of the said Captain *Samuel Dellavan*, who is hereby empowered to appoint three Sergeants, three Corporals, and a Drummer and Fifer, in the said Company.

Dr. *Crane* had leave of absence, to return on *Wednesday* next, Mr. *Duer* dissenting.

The Convention adjourned one hour.

Die Sabbati, 4 ho. P. M., September 21, 1776.

The Convention met pursuant to adjournment.

Present: *Abraham Yates*, Jun., Esq., President.

NEW-YORK.—Mr. *Duane*, Mr. *Bancker*, Mr. *Harper*.

DUTCHESS.—Mr. *R. R. Livingston*, Mr. *G. Livingston*, Mr. *Platt*, Mr. *Sackett*.

ALBANY.—The President, General *Ten Broeck*, Mr. *John Ten Broeck*, Mr. *Robert Yates*.

ORANGE.—Mr. *Wisner*, Mr. *Little*, Dr. *Sherwood*, Mr. *Jos. Smith*, Colonel *Allison*.

SUFFOLK.—Mr. *William Smith*, Mr. *Hobart*.

WESTCHESTER.—Mr. *Mills*, Major *Lockwood*, Colonel *Cortlandt*, Colonel *Drake*.

CHARLOTTE.—Mr. *Duer*, Major *Webster*.

ULSTER.—Mr. *Wisner*, Jun., Major *Parks*.

TRYON.—Mr. *Moore*, Mr. *William Harper*, Mr. *Veder*.

CUMBERLAND.—Mr. *Stevens*, Mr. *Sessions*.

A Letter from *Thomas Randall*, Esq., one of the Marine Committee, dated at *Elizabethtown*, the 7th *September*, was read and filed.

A Letter from *Thomas Quigley*, Mate of the Privateer *Putnam*, dated at *Cranberry Inlet*, the 4th instant, was also read and filed.

The Petition of the Officers and Marines of the said Vessel-of-War was also read and filed. It thereby appears that there is a mutiny on board of the said vessel, and the marines and crew demand their wages and refuse to continue in the said vessel under the command of Captain *Thomas Cregier*.

Ordered, That those Papers be deferred for consideration.

The Convention resumed the consideration of the Report of the Committee "on a more effectual mode of detecting and defeating the designs of the internal enemies of this State." The same being read by paragraphs, resolved on, and agreed to, is in the words following, to wit :

"In Convention of the Representatives of the State of New-York, }
"September 21, 1776. }

"Whereas divers of the inhabitants of this State have, by the wicked arts and insidious and corrupt practices of *William Tryon*, Esq., late Governour of the Colony of *New-York*, and his adherents, been seduced to take part with our enemies, and aid and abet their measures for subjugating the *United States of America* :

"And whereas, although sundry of the said paricides

have been discovered and secured, yet there is the highest reason to believe that the measures hitherto pursued fully to detect and suppress such iniquitous practices and conspiracies, have not been effectual; and whereas this State is at present invaded by a powerful army at the capital, and threatened with the incursions of another army, attended by an host of savages on its northern and western frontiers, this Convention find themselves reduced by the great laws of self-preservation, and the duties which they owe to their constituents, to provide that no means in their power be left unessayed to defeat the barbarous machinations of their domestic as well as external enemies; and do, therefore,

Resolved, That a Committee be appointed for the express purpose of inquiring into and detecting and defeating all conspiracies which may be formed in this State against the liberties of *America*; that they be empowered to send for persons and papers; to call out such detachments of the Militia or Troops in the different Counties as they may from time to time deem necessary for suppressing insurrections; to apprehend, secure, or remove, such persons who they shall judge dangerous to the safety of the State; to make drafts on the Treasury for a sum not exceeding five hundred Pounds; that they be empowered to enjoin secrecy upon their own members and the persons employed by the Committee, whenever they shall judge the same necessary; and in general to do every act and thing whatsoever which may be necessary to enable them to execute the trust hereby reposed in them; that the said Committee keep regular Minutes of all their proceedings and expenditures, together with the examinations which they may from time to time take, and the correspondence they carry on for executing these resolutions, in order that the whole or any part thereof may be submitted to the consideration of this Convention, or future Legislature of this State, whenever and as often as they may think proper to call for the same; that they be empowered, if they shall think it necessary, to raise, officer, and put under pay, any number of men, not exceeding two hundred and twenty, officers included, to be upon the same establishment with those under the command of Captain *Melancthon Smith*, and to station them in such places, and to employ them on such services, as they shall judge expedient for the publick safety.

Resolved, That the Company of thirty men, ordered this day by this Convention to be raised by Captain *Delavergne*, be under the direction of the said Committee.

Ordered, That the several Committees in this State, do from time to time transmit to the above-mentioned Committee, all such information as they shall receive, relating to any machinations and conspiracies against this State, and that copies of these Resolutions be immediately sent by express to the Chairman of the County Committees, and to all the Brigadier-Generals, or Commanding Officers of the Militia in this State, that they may govern themselves accordingly.

Extract from the Minutes:

ROBERT BENSON, *Secretary*.

Resolved and agreed, unanimously, That the said Committee be chosen by ballot.

And the ballots of the several Counties being delivered in and told, *William Duer*, *Charles De Witt*, *Leonard Gansevoort*, *John Jay*, and *Zephaniah Platt*, Esquires, appeared duly elected by a majority of votes, to be the members of that Committee.

Resolved, therefore, That those gentlemen be the Committee.

Resolved, That *Nathaniel Sackett*, Esquire, be added to and be a member of the said Committee.

And *Ordered*, that the Secretaries send notice to *Charles De Witt*, Esquire, of his appointment to be one of this Committee, and desire his attendance.

Resolved, That the Chairman and two members of the said Committee be a quorum to proceed on business.

Resolved and ordered, That the Examinations of *Samuel Gale*, *William Tredwell*, and *Benjamin Ludlum* be delivered to the said Committee; that they take the same, with any other papers or evidences relating thereto, into consideration; and commit them or take securities of them, or liberate and discharge them respectively, as the said Committee may think proper.

Resolved and agreed, That the order for committing

the said *Samuel Gale*, *Benjamin Ludlum*, *William Tredwell*, to the officer of the guard at this place, be rescinded.

And *Ordered*, That the Secretaries take security of each of them, by bond, with a surety to the President, in the sum of £500, each, with condition for their appearance, respectively, before the said Committee on request, and in the mean time not to depart farther than two miles from the Dutch Church, at *Fishkill*.

On Report of the Committee who went out to confer with Captain *Cook*,

Resolved, That the Secret Committee for obstructing the navigation of *Hudson's River*, be empowered and directed to purchase and impress for the service of this State, any number of Vessels, not exceeding six, which they shall think best calculated for the purpose of completing the obstructions in *Hudson's River*, opposite to *Mount Washington*; that they cause an appraisement of the said Vessels to be made, by persons under oath, in the most equitable and expeditious manner possible, in order that satisfaction may hereafter be made by this Convention to the owners of such vessels. And it is recommended to the said Committee to request the services of Captain *Thomas Greenell* in ballasting and navigating, and delivering those Vessels to Captain *Cook*, at *Fort Washington*.

Resolved, That the said Committee be directed to send all the Oak Plank which they have in their possession to *Mount Washington*, with the utmost despatch.

Resolved, That the Superintendents for building the Continental Frigates be earnestly requested to send as much of their short Oak Plank, as they possibly can spare, to *Fort Washington*, with the utmost despatch; and this Convention do engage to justify their conduct, in this particular, to the honourable the Continental Congress.

Resolved, That the last-appointed Committee of Safety, with the addition of four Members hereafter named, be revived. That therefore, *Mr. Duane*, *Mr. Hobart*, General *Ten Broeck*, *Mr. Duer*, *Mr. William Smith*, *Mr. Wisner*, *Mr. Bancker*, and the four following Members, viz: *Mr. Ten Broeck*, *Major Lockwood*, *Mr. Moore*, and *Mr. Joshua H. Smith*, constitute a Committee of Safety. That any four of them present at this place be a quorum. That every other member who may attend have a voice in the Committee. That the said Committee have power to send for any members of this Convention who may be absent; and that they continue a Committee of Safety until the first meeting of a representation of this State in Convention.

N. B. Colonel *Cortlandt* excused from being of the Committee of Safety, that he may go to relieve his family now in a boat or pettianger, on the river.

COMMITTEE OF SAFETY.

Monday Morning, September 23, 1776.

The following Members met in Committee of Safety, to wit:

Members of NEW-YORK.—**Mr. Bancker*, *Mr. Duane*.
Of DUTCHESS.—*Mr. Sackett*.
CHARLOTTE.—**Mr. Duer*, **Major Webster*.
Of ALBANY.—**General Ten Broeck*, **Mr. Ten Broeck*.
Of WESTCHESTER.—**Major Lockwood*.
CUMBERLAND.—*Mr. Sessions*, *Mr. Stephens*.
ORANGE.—*Mr. Little*, **Mr. Joseph Smith*.
TRYON.—**Mr. Moore*, *Mr. Harper*, *Mr. Veder*.

Those whose names are marked with an asterism, are of the quorum of the Committee.

The Committee proceeded to the choice of a Chairman, when Brigadier-General *Abram Ten Broeck*, was unanimously elected.

Mr. Duer, one of the Members of the Committee for establishing Riders betwixt this place and Head-Quarters, at or near *King's Bridge*, for the purpose of obtaining the most early intelligence, reported a Letter from Brigadier-General *Scott*, dated at the camp at *King's Bridge*, September 21st, giving intelligence of a great fire, which happened the preceding night, in the city of *New-York*, but that he had not been able to get any information as to the particulars of it. The same was read, and immediately returned to *Mr. Duer*, to be filed with the Committee papers.

A Letter from *John Barclay*, Esq., Chairman of the

Committee of *Albany*, dated the 21st instant, and directed to Mr. *McKesson*, one of the Secretaries of the Convention of this State, was read. Mr. *Barclay* acknowledged the receipt of a Resolution of the Convention relative to *Brooks* and *Roff*, skippers of two *Albany* Sloops, who are charged with having deserted the service, with their Sloops laden with military stores, &c., and which they took on board at *New-York*, to be landed at or near *King's Bridge*. Mr. *Barclay* also informs the Convention that the said Committee have despatched a batteau well manned down the river in quest of them.

Whereas the Convention of this State did on the 17th instant appoint a Committee of Safety, to continue till the next meeting of a Representation of this State in Convention, and authorized them to send for any Members of the Convention who may be absent without leave, which said Committee was, with the addition of four Members, and with the like power, on the 21st instant, revived:

Therefore, *Ordered*, That a Messenger be immediately despatched to summon the following Members, who are absent without leave, to attend on the publick business without delay, and that they pay the Messenger a reasonable compensation for his trouble and expenses, to wit: Mr. *Mills*, Major *Parks*, Mr. *Wisner*, Jun., Colonel *Sherwood*, Colonel *Allison*, Colonel *Livingston*, Mr. *Zephaniah Platt*, and Mr. *Stevens*.

On motion of Mr. *Duer*, the sense of the Committee was taken, whether Colonel *Drake* had leave of absence, and the question being put it was determined, *nem. con.*, in the negative. The question was then put whether the Messenger shall be despatched to require Colonel *Drake's* immediate attendance. Determined in the negative, because Colonel *Drake's* presence in *Westchester* County is absolutely necessary, in order to inform the Committee of the measures, which at the time of his departure, the Committee had under consideration, for detecting and defeating conspiracies of the disaffected.

Monday Afternoon, September 23, 1776.

The Committee met pursuant to adjournment.

Present: Brigadier-General *Ten Broeck*, Chairman.

For *NEW-YORK*.—*Mr. *Bancker*, *Mr. *Duane*.

WESTCHESTER.—*Major *Lockwood*.

Of *ALBANY*.—*Mr. *Ten Broeck*, *General *Ten Broeck*.

TRYON.—*Mr. *Moore*, Mr. *Harper*, Mr. *Veder*.

Of *DUTCHESS*.—Mr. *Platt*, Mr. *Sackett*.

CHARLOTTE.—*Mr. *Duer*, *Mr. *Webster*.

Of *ORANGE*.—*Mr. *Smith*, Mr. *Little*.

CUMBERLAND.—Mr. *Sessions*.

Those marked with an asterisk are of the quorum of the Committee of Safety.

The Memorial of *William Tredwell*, now detained at this place by order of the Convention, on suspicion of holding correspondence with the enemy, (he having been on *Long-Island* since the same has been in possession of the enemy,) was read and filed.

Ordered, That the said Memorial be referred to the Committee appointed for detecting conspiracies, &c.

Mr. *Duer*, a member of the Committee of Correspondence and Intelligence, informed the Committee of Safety that he has transmitted to his Excellency General *Washington* copies of the Resolution of the Convention authorizing the Secret Committee to purchase or impress any number of Vessels not exceeding six, to complete the obstructions of the navigation in *Hudson's* River, opposite to *Fort Washington*, and of the Resolution requesting the Superintendents of the Frigates building at *Poughkeepsie*, to send down to *Mount Washington* all the short Oak Plank they can spare.

The Letter from *John Thomas*, Jun., Esq., Chairman of the Committee of Safety for *Westchester* County, [dated the 19th instant,] which was received in Convention on the 21st instant, relative to the indigent inhabitants of the city of *New-York*, who were sent into that County by a Committee of the Convention for that purpose appointed, was read:

Ordered, That the Secretaries write a Letter to Mr. *Thomas*, enclosing a copy of the Resolutions of the Convention on that subject, passed the 21st *August* last, and request of him that he cause report to be made of all the indigent persons which have been sent into that County,

agreeable to the directions of the said Resolutions, and that this Committee or the Convention will make provision for defraying the expenses of supporting them.

Adjourned till to-morrow morning.

Tuesday Morning, September 24, 1776.

The Committee met pursuant to adjournment.

Present: Brigadier-General *Ten Broeck*, Chairman.

NEW-YORK Members.—*Mr. *Bancker*, *Mr. *Duane*.

ORANGE.—Mr. *Little*, *Mr. *Jos. Smith*.

CHARLOTTE.—*Major *Webster*.

ALBANY.—Mr. *Ten Broeck*, General *Ten Broeck*.

WESTCHESTER.—Major *Lockwood*.

CUMBERLAND.—Mr. *Sessions*, Mr. *Stephens*.

DUTCHESS.—Captain *Platt*.

TRYON.—*Mr. *Moore*, Mr. *Harper*, Mr. *Veder*.

Note.—Those marked with an asterisk are a quorum of the Committee of Safety.

There being no material business proper for the Committee to take up,

Adjourned till four o'clock this afternoon, unless the bell should be ordered to ring before that hour, in which case the Members agree to give immediate attendance.

Tuesday Afternoon, September 24, 1776.

The Committee met pursuant to adjournment.

Present: General *Ten Broeck*, Chairman.

NEW-YORK Members.—*Mr. *Bancker*.

DUTCHESS.—Mr. *Platt*.

TRYON.—*Mr. *Moore*, Mr. *Harper*.

ALBANY.—*General *Ten Broeck*, *Mr. *Ten Broeck*.

WESTCHESTER.—*Major *Lockwood*.

CHARLOTTE.—*Mr. *Duer*, *Major *Webster*.

ULSTER.—Major *Parks*, Mr. *Wisner*.

ORANGE.—Mr. *Little*.

CUMBERLAND.—Mr. *Sessions*, Mr. *Stephens*.

Note.—Those marked with asterisks are a quorum of the Committee.

Thomas Cregier, Commander of the Schooner *General Putnam*, a vessel of war fitted out by and belonging to this State, waited upon the Committee and informed them that the said Schooner is very much out of repair, and, as the winter is approaching, submitted to the Committee whether it would be proper to keep the said Schooner longer in service. The Committee were of opinion that this matter be referred to the consideration of the Convention. Captain *Cregier* was called in and directed to wait the meeting of the Convention.

A Letter from Colonel *Levi Pawling*, dated the 23d instant, was read and filed. The Colonel complains much of the want of a Surgeon to his Regiment, and requests that Mr. *Joseph Crane* may be appointed to that office.

Ordered, That this Letter be referred to the Convention at their first meeting.

Adjourned till to-morrow morning, nine o'clock.

Wednesday Morning, September 25, 1776.

The Committee met pursuant to adjournment.

Present: Brigadier-General *Abraham Ten Broeck*, Chairman.

NEW-YORK Members.—*Mr. *Duane*, *Mr. *Bancker*, Mr. *Duncomb*.

ORANGE.—Mr. *Little*, *Mr. *Jos. Smith*.

CHARLOTTE.—Mr. *Duer*, Mr. *Webster*.

ALBANY.—*General *Ten Broeck*, Mr. *Ten Broeck*.

WESTCHESTER.—Colonel *Cortlandt*, Major *Lockwood*, Colonel *Drake*.

CUMBERLAND.—Mr. *Sessions*, Mr. *Stephens*.

DUTCHESS.—Mr. *Sackett*, Mr. *Platt*.

TRYON.—Mr. *Moore*, Mr. *Harper*.

ULSTER.—Major *Parks*, Mr. *Wisner*, Jun.

Those marked with an asterisk are a quorum of the Committee.

A Letter from General *Washington*, dated at the Heights of *Harlem*, September 23d, containing a particular account of the manœuvres of the enemy on their landing on *New-York* Island, and of the behaviour of our Troops who were stationed to oppose their landing; also an account of the skirmish when the enemy attacked the Heights at the north end of *Harlem* Lane, and of the loss on both sides, was read and filed.

A Letter from General *Scott* to the Committee of Intelligence, was introduced by Mr. *Duer*, and read. General *Scott* gives a particular account of the great fire which lately happened in *New-York*, and also of a little expedition to *Montresor's Island*, in which our Troops failed of success, and were obliged to retreat with the loss of the brave Major *Henly*, killed, and several others wounded and missing.

A Letter from Messrs. *Clark & Nightingale*, dated *Providence, September* the 16th, relative to two Prizes, to wit: the Brigantine *Temple*, from a whaling voyage, and a *Bermudian Sloop*, both taken on the south side of *Long-Island* by the armed Continental Sloops *Schuyler* and *Mifflin*, and the armed Sloop *Montgomerie*, fitted out by the State of *New-York*. A state of the case of the Brigantine, drawn up by a lawyer, was also enclosed. Were respectively read and filed.

Ordered, That the said Letter be referred to the Convention on their first meeting.

A Memorial of *Cornelius Atherton*,* dated this day, was read and filed. He prays that he, with his men, may be exempted from military duty, that he may be enabled to fulfil his contract entered into with the Representatives of this State for manufacturing Muskets. Referred to the Convention.

Adjourned till four o'clock this afternoon.

Die Mercurii, 4to ho. P. M., September 25, 1776.

The Committee met pursuant to adjournment.

Present: *Abraham Ten Broeck*, Esq., Chairman; Mr. *Bancker*, Mr. *Jno. Ten Broeck*, Colonel *V. Cortlandt*, Mr. *Sackett*, Mr. *Wisner*, Jun., Major *Lockwood*, Mr. *Little*, Mr. *Moore*, Mr. *Wm. Harper*.

No other Members appearing, and no urgent business having offered, the Committee adjourned till nine o'clock to-morrow morning.

CONVENTION.

Thursday Morning, September 26, 1776.

The Convention met. Present:

NEW-YORK Members.—Mr. *Duane*, Mr. *Dunscomb*, Mr. *Bancker*.

WESTCHESTER.—Major *Lockwood*, Colonel *Cortlandt*, Colonel *Drake*.

ALBANY.—General *Ten Broeck*, Mr. *Ten Broeck*, Colonel *Livingston*.

ORANGE.—Mr. *Little*, Mr. *Jos. Smith*.

ULSTER.—Mr. *Wisner*, Jun., Major *Park*.

TRYON.—Mr. *Harper*, Mr. *Moore*, Mr. *Veder*.

DUTCHESS.—Mr. *Sackett*, Captain *Platt*.

CHARLOTTE.—Major *Webster*, Mr. *Duer*.

CUMBERLAND.—Mr. *Sessions*, Mr. *Stephens*.

The President, *Abraham Yates*, Jun., Esq., with leave being gone home to visit his family, the Convention proceeded to elect by ballot a President. Colonel *Peter R. Livingston* was duly elected, and accordingly took the chair.

On motion of General *Ten Broeck*,

Resolved, That a Committee of Safety be immediately appointed, to consist of the President, with Mr. *Duane*, Mr. *Duer*, Colonel *Cortlandt*, *Zephaniah Platt*, Mr. *Wm. Harper*, and Colonel *Drake*. That any three of those gentlemen, with the President, be a quorum. That every member

*To the honourable Convention of the State of *New-York*: Is humbly presented the Memorial of *Cornelius Atherton*, showing the impossibility of his carrying on the manufacture of fire-arms under the present situation of this State, there being no exemption for him or his workmen from the military duty, which is a fatal bar to his progress in making fire-arms. Your memorialist has taken unwearied pains to employ workmen, but to no purpose; for before he can get them qualified for the business they are called into the army, and he has new ones to seek, and all to no purpose, as the same scene is acted over and over, viz: the calling of himself and workmen to general musters, Tory hunts, drafting, &c. All these manœuvres put together has rendered it impossible for me to accomplish my contract with the Congress; and unless the honourable Convention can see it expedient to pass an act whereby their memorialist can be secured in keeping his workmen, it will be forever impossible for him to do much at making fire-arms, and must of necessity oblige him to quit the business. Your memorialist, therefore, earnestly prays that your Honours would take the matter into their serious consideration, and afford their memorialist such assistance as to your Honours shall seem best. And your memorialist in duty bound will ever pray.
September 25, 1776.
CORNELIUS. ATHERTON, Memorialist.

To the care of *Zephaniah Platt*, Esq., attending the Convention for the State of *New-York*.

of the Convention who may attend have a vote. That no Member of Convention depart this neighbourhood without leave of the Committee of Safety, and that the said Committee have power and are hereby authorized to send for absent Members of the Convention of this State.

Mr. *Veder* being so sick and indisposed that he is unable to sit or attend the Convention, and there not being Members sufficient to continue the Convention without Mr. *Veder's* attendance, therefore the Convention from necessity adjourned till nine o'clock to-morrow morning.

And Ordered, That the Committee of Safety meet immediately.

COMMITTEE OF SAFETY.

The Committee of Safety met.

Present.—All the Members first named except Mr. *Veder*.

A Letter from *Stephen De Lancey*, Esq., now confined at *Hartford*, to *States M. Dyckman* was read.

Mr. *Dyckman* being called in and examined, says, that he knows the horses mentioned in Mr. *De Lancey's* letter; that they were kept on the farm of *James De Lancey*, Esq., at *Westchester*. That one of them is a bay horse about fifteen hands high, the other likewise a bay horse about fourteen hands high. That about a week ago he went to the farm of Mr. *De Lancey* and saw one of the horses, the large one; the other, the small one, he thinks perhaps may have been taken to *Long-Island* with the family.

States M. Dyckman withdrew. The Committee took the said letter and *Dyckman's* application for an order for the horses of *Stephen De Lancey* into consideration. After some time spent therein, an order with recitals on that subject being several times read, amended, and moved for, is in the words following, to wit:

Whereas it has been represented in behalf of *Stephen De Lancey*, Esq., now confined on his parole to the Town of *Hartford*, in *Connecticut*, by order of the General Committee of the County of *Albany*, that one of his horses has been taken, and is at present employed by persons in the Continental Army; and it being highly expedient that care should be taken to prevent the destruction of the property of all persons who are removed from their vacant places of residence by the authority of this State:

Resolved, therefore, That *States M. Dyckman* (recommended for that purpose by Mr. *De Lancey*) be authorized to take the custody and charge of the said horse, belonging to the said *Stephen De Lancey*: Provided, always, That the said horse, belonging to the said *Stephen De Lancey*, has not been impressed by proper authority for the service of the Army, and that nothing in this resolve contained shall exempt the horses of the said *Stephen De Lancey* from being impressed in common with those of other persons in this State.

Debates arose on the said proposed Resolution; and the question being put thereon, the Committee were equally divided, viz: Nine for the affirmative and nine for the negative. The Chairman then determined against the said proposed Resolution; wherefore it was rejected.

A Letter from *Thomas Cregier*, dated this day, was read. He therein gives a state of the vessel of war, the *General Putnam*, and her crew; that his men want their wages; and the vessel out of repair and unfit for the sea; and advises that she be laid up or sold.

Ordered, That the said Representation be filed, and referred to the consideration of the Convention.

The Memorial of *John McCauley* and of *Orange County*, setting forth the distresses of the inhabitants, for want of Salt, and that certain quantities of Salt are stored in *Orange County*, was read.

A Resolution of the Committee of *Dutchess County*, restraining the sale of the Salt stored in *Dutchess County*, was also read. They therein pray directions how the said Salt may be most advantageously disposed of.

The Resolution of the Continental Congress, directing the mode of the sales of Salt, was also read.

Ordered, That the said Papers, relating to the article of Salt, be committed to Captain *Zephaniah Platt*, Mr. *Dunscombe*, Colonel *Drake*, and Mr. *Duane*, hereby appointed a Committee to report thereon.

Mr. Duer, one of the members of the Committee of Correspondence, delivered in a Letter from *Tench Tilghman*, Esq., dated the 24th instant; which was read. He therein mentions his Excellency General *Washington's* satisfaction that the Convention should aid in obstructing the navigation of *Hudson's River*.

Ordered, That the said Letter be made a part of the Minutes of this Committee.

The said Letter follows, viz:

"Head-Quarters, Harlem Heights, September 24, 1776.

"DEAR SIR: I have this moment the honour of yours of the 22d instant, acquainting me that Mr. R. R. *Livingston* and yourself had been empowered, by your Committee of Correspondence, to employ some person about Head-Quarters to communicate, daily, such interesting intelligence as may be expected to occur at this critical time, and that you were anxious I should undertake this task. I feel myself highly honoured by this mark of distinction, and you may be assured I will exert myself to give you satisfaction in my office.

"His Excellency informs me that he wrote your Convention fully yesterday, and desires me to say that he has only to thank them for the attention they are paying to the obstruction of the *North River*, which he hopes will be rendered effectual by this intended additional obstruction above the chevaux-de-frise.

"We hear that our forces were obliged to abandon *Powle's Hook* yesterday evening; but as we have no particulars of the matter or manner, I must wait the return of General *Greene*, who went down that way this morning, to make himself fully informed. You shall hear more of it to-morrow.

"I beg you will let me know, in your next, who is President of your Committee of Correspondence, as I suppose my letters in my official capacity are to be addressed to him. I shall, till then, address myself to you.

"You are pleased to call me *Richard*, but I have the honour and pleasure to be your most obedient,

TENCH TILGHMAN.

"To *William Duer*, Esq., at *Fishkill*."

Die Jovis, 4to ho. P. M., September 26, 1776.

The Committee of Safety met pursuant to adjournment.

Present: Colonel *Peter R. Livingston*, President.

NEW-YORK.—Mr. *Dunscombe*, Mr. *Duane*.

WESTCHESTER.—Colonel *G. Drake*, Major *Lockwood*.

CUMBERLAND.—Mr. *Sessions*, Mr. *Stevens*.

ALBANY.—Colonel *Livingston*, General *Ten Broeck*, Mr. *John Ten Broeck*.

ORANGE.—Mr. *Little*, Mr. *Joseph Smith*.

ULSTER.—Mr. *Wisner*, Jun., Major *Park*.

TRYON.—Mr. *William Harper*, Mr. *Moore*.

DUTCHESS.—Mr. *Sackett*, Captain *Zephaniah Platt*.

CHARLOTTE.—Major *Webster*, Mr. *Duer*, Colonel *Williams*.

A Letter from *Benjamin Dupuy*, Chairman of the Committee of *Mamacotting* Precinct, in *Ulster* County, was read and filed, and is dated the 23d instant. The said Chairman thereby informs that a vacancy of a military officer had arisen by Captain *De Witt's* engaging in the Ranging service; that thereby the following gentlemen were duly promoted and elected, viz: *Abraham Cuddeback*, Jun., Captain, *Robert Cock*, First Lieutenant, *Samuel King*, Second Lieutenant, and *Samuel Dupuy*, Ensign.

Ordered, That the said Commissions issue. And they were issued accordingly.

A Letter or Request of *Joab Hoisington* was received and read, and is in the words following, to wit:

"To the Hon. *Nathaniel Woodhull*, President of the honourable Congress of the State of *New-York*:

"Agreeable to the order of the honourable the Congress, I have sent the muster-rolls of the several companies under my command, by *Elizur Andrews*, the bearer, begging the favour of your forwarding the remainder of the bounty rations and first month's wages, taking his receipt for the same.

"Am, sir, your humble servant, JOAB HOISINGTON.

"N. B. Please to remit my wages and rations; likewise

FIFTH SERIES.—VOL. II.

as much of the rations as the honourable Congress shall see fit. Find it much easier to purchase supplies with cash."

A Return of the Commissioned Officers of the four Companies of Rangers, commanded by Major *Hoisington*, signed by *James Clay*, Chairman, was also read; and certain Muster-Rolls of the said Companies were also delivered in.

The Committee took the same into consideration. After some time spent therein, a motion was made and seconded, that a sum sufficient to answer the purposes of Major *Hoisington's* request be transmitted to him.

It was objected that the Committee of that County had, by their letter or declaration to this Convention, dated the 21st of *June* last, reserved, or pretended to reserve, to the people of that County, a right of seceding from the Government of this State; that the State has already been at great expense for that County; that further expenditures on their account ought not to be made until the jurisdiction of this State is fully acknowledged by the inhabitants of that County.

After sundry debates on this subject, at the request of a Member, Mr. *Stevens*, one of the Deputies from that County, was interrogated whether he, as a Representative of *Cumberland* County, acknowledges the jurisdiction of this State over the said County? Mr. *Stevens* declared that he does fully acknowledge the jurisdiction of this State over the said County.

The like question being asked of Mr. *Sessions*, he also answered in the affirmative, and declares he does, as a Representative of *Cumberland* County, fully acknowledge the jurisdiction of this State over the County of *Cumberland* and its inhabitants.

The further consideration of this subject was postponed till to-morrow.

Adjourned.

Friday Morning, September 27, 1776.

Committee of Safety met pursuant to adjournment.

Present: Colonel *Peter R. Livingston*, the President, Chairman.

NEW-YORK Members.—Mr. *Bancker*, Mr. *Dunscombe*, Mr. *Duane*.

ORANGE.—Mr. *Joseph Smith*, Colonel *Sherwood*, Mr. *Little*.

ALBANY.—General *Ten Broeck*, Mr. *Ten Broeck*, Colonel *Livingston*.

WESTCHESTER.—Colonel *Drake*, Major *Lockwood*, Colonel *Cortlandt*.

ULSTER.—Mr. *Wisner*, Major *Parks*.

TRYON.—Mr. *Moore*, Mr. *Harper*.

DUTCHESS.—Mr. *Sackett*, Mr. *Platt*, Major *Schenck*.

CHARLOTTE.—Mr. *Duer*, Major *Webster*, Colonel *Williams*.

CUMBERLAND.—Mr. *Sessions*, Mr. *Stevens*.

Mr. *Duer*, from the Committee for establishing Posts and obtaining Intelligence, introduced a Letter from *Tench Tilghman*, Esquire, dated at Head-Quarters, Heights of *Harlem*, September 25, 1776, and directed to Mr. *Duer*: the same being read, it is

Ordered, That such part of the said Letter as relates to General *Washington's* application for Powder be immediately transmitted by express to *Henry Wisner*, Jun., and *John R. Livingston*, Esquires; and that they be requested to forward all the Powder which they have on hand to *King's Bridge*, with all despatch; and that they be empowered to apply to General *James Clinton* for a proper guard to escort the said Powder.

The part of Mr. *Tilghman's* Letter above referred to is as follows: "His Excellency begs your Board would immediately order down what powder is ready at *Wisner's* and *Livingston's* mills."

A Letter from Brigadier-General *Petrus Ten Broeck*, enclosing the Returns of the Militia of his Brigade in *Dutchess* County, (excepting the Regiments of Colonel *Brinkerhoff* and Colonel *Graham*,) and a request that the other Field Officers of the Militia may be commissioned in the place of those called into actual service:

Ordered, That the Secretaries write to the General, and inform him that the Returns sent by him are irregular, and that he be requested to transmit to Convention a proper

Brigade Return of the whole Militia of *Dutchess*, that the Convention be enabled to judge of the remaining strength of the said Militia.

Colonel *Williams* delivered in the Return of his Regiment of Militia in *Charlotte* County. Was put on the file.

Mr. *Joshua H. Smith* has leave of absence for three days. Mr. *Duer* dissents thereto.

A Letter from *David Matthews*, dated at *Litchfield*, the 25th of *September*, was read.

A copy of a Letter from Captain *Moses Seymour* to Governour *Trumbull*, dated at *Litchfield*, on the 20th *September*, instant, relating to the conduct of *David Matthews*, was also read.

Ordered, That the said Letters lie on the table for the perusal of the Members.

John Campbell, who was sent as a Messenger to *Abraham Lott*, Esq., late Treasurer of the Colony of *New-York*, with a certified copy of the Resolutions of this Convention relative to the publick Treasure, and his contempt in not having accounted, pursuant to the Order of the Provincial Congress of the 17th of *March* last, delivered the following representation from *Abraham Lott*, Esq., viz:

"To the Honourable Convention of the Representatives of the State of *New-York*:

"GENTLEMEN: Yesterday evening, I received, by Mr. *John Campbell*, your resolves and orders of the 17th instant, directing me to make answer, in writing, why the order of the Provincial Congress of the 9th *March* last, relating to the delivery of my publick accounts, has not been complied with.

"Permit me, gentlemen, to assure you that the omission has not proceeded from neglect of your authority, which I trust many of the honourable Convention are well convinced of, but from the following causes:

"Shortly after I received the order of the 9th *March*, I had the misfortune to wound my left arm in the wrist, in such a manner that I could not make any use of it for six weeks. When I got in part over this incapacity, I was attacked with the gout, which confined me six weeks longer at this place, and my books and accounts being in *New-York*, put it out of my power, for three months, to do any thing in the matter. After this I went to the city with intent to comply with the order, but the troubles increasing, and every body moving out of town, and advising me to do the same, as the fleet was arrived at *Staten-Island*, I packed up my books and papers in a hurry, and brought them here, about a month ago, from *Newark*, where they some time laid for want of a wagon to bring them up. Since which the times have been so very distressing, that I have not had resolution to finish the assorting of my papers, and thus not prepared to make out my accounts. These, and not contempt or neglect, are the true causes why the order of the 9th *March* has not been complied with.

"However, to convince the honourable Convention of my readiness to comply with its directions, will, with all possible speed, make out the accounts, and attend them without delay, agreeable to the order of the 17th instant, though cannot exactly mention the day, as I have still a number of papers to assort. Permit me to add that no unnecessary procrastination shall happen, and that I am, with respect, your most obedient servant,

"ABRAHAM LOTT.

"Beverwyck, September 22, 1776.

"P. S. On reading the foregoing to Mr. *Campbell*, he was very desirous that I would limit the time of my attendance as near as possible. For the satisfaction of the Convention, do not think it will be in less than a fortnight, but will come sooner if in my power."

Ordered, That the said Letter be referred to the consideration of the Convention of this State.

Major *Henry Schenck*, one of the Deputies of *Dutchess* County, came into the room, who, with the other Members before named, were a sufficient number to form a Convention.

They therefore proceeded as a Convention.

The Convention then took into consideration the application of Major *Joab Hoisington*, from *Cumberland* County, for money for the Bounty for the Rangers, and paying their Wages and Subsistence.

The Letter or application of Major *Hoisington* was read. The Return of the Officers of the Companies of Rangers, under the command of Major *Hoisington*, signed by *James Clay*, Chairman of the Committee of *Cumberland* County, was also read.

The Letter from *Cumberland* County Committee, of the 21st day of *June* last, to this Committee, was also read.

Debates arose on the application from Major *Hoisington*, occasioned by the said Letter of the 21st day of *June* last.

The following Questions, by order of the Convention, were asked of the Deputies from *Cumberland* County, and their answers are here inserted, viz:

Question. Were you elected by the people of the County at large, or by the Sub-Committees in the Towns?

Answer, (by Mr. *Sessions* and Mr. *Stevens*.) We were elected by the people of the County at large.

Question. How is your County Committee formed?

Answer. By two Members sent from the Committees of each Town.

Question. Were those Committees appointed or elected by the people of the County, before or after your election as Deputies?

Answer. The Committees were elected long before the late election for Deputies to represent that County.

Question. Have your County Committee any power or authority from the people to give such instructions or directions, or to make such declarations or reservations, as are contained in the said letter of the 21st of *June*?

Mr. *Sessions*, in answer, declares; that he is very confident that the Sub-Committees or Committees in *Cumberland* County, had not any directions or instructions from the people or inhabitants of *Cumberland* County, to give such instructions or directions as are contained in the said letter of the 21st of *June*, or to make such declarations or reservations as are therein mentioned. Mr. *Stevens* makes the like declaration, and says that the letter of the 21st *June* was agreed to prevent any division in the County, as some few towns in the County were opposed to sending Deputies to Convention, unless with such instructions. That he had not any particular instructions from the people of the town in which he resides, and believes the people of the other towns did not give any. That he conceives the credentials from the County give him full and unrestrained power in forming a Government. That he conceives himself no further bound by those instructions than his vote, and then only in cases where the instructions are agreeable to his own judgment.

Mr. *Sessions* says he shall think it his duty to pay regard to his instructions so far as to lay them before the House, and obtain a compliance with them, so far as they shall appear to be right and beneficial.

The Deputies from *Cumberland* County were then asked whether, if on debate it should appear that a matter contained in or directed by those instructions, would be injurious to the State, they would think themselves bound by those instructions?

They respectively answered, by no means. That they did not think themselves bound by those instructions whenever they might work any injury to the State, or whenever they should be out-voted.

The Convention were informed that the Committee to whom were referred the said Letter of the 21st of *June* to this Convention, have not made any Report thereon, and that the greater part of the Members appointed on that Committee are now absent.

Ordered, That the said Letter of the 21st of *June* last, and the application of Major *Joab Hoisington* for money to pay and subsist the Companies of Rangers mentioned in the Returns thereof by him made, with the said Returns, be committed to a Committee.

Ordered, That Mr. *Duer*, Mr. *Duane*, and Mr. *Zephaniah Platt*, together with Mr. *Sessions* and Colonel *Stevens*, be a Committee for that purpose, and that they report such facts relating to this matter, and what will in their opinion be most eligible to be done in the premises, with all convenient speed.

Resolved and Ordered, That the Committee appointed on the 21st instant, "for the express purpose of inquiring into, detecting, and defeating all conspiracies which may be formed in the State against the liberties of *America*," be and hereby are authorized and empowered at their discretion to place Guards at such place or places as they may think

proper, for apprehending Deserters from the *American* Army, and for detecting and defeating all conspiracies which have or may be formed in the State against the liberties of *America*, and to give such instructions to those Guards as the said Committee may think necessary for those purposes.

Major *Schenck* produced to the Convention an account of *Walter Hyer* for services done as a Cooper, in securing and preserving a quantity of Oil, said to belong to the Continent, and now in store at *Fishkill* landing; which is as follows, viz:

The State of New-York, to WALTER HYER, DR.
September 14, 1776, To trimming 36 Tierces of Spermaceti Oil, the property of Continental Congress, on board of the Sloop *Captain Cook*, - - - - - £2 12 0

Ordered, That *Peter Van Brugh Livingston*, Esq., pay the above Account to *Henry Schenck*, Esq., for the use of *Walter Hyer*, and charge the same to account of the Continent.

Resolved, That a Committee of Safety be and hereby are appointed to act until a meeting of this Convention, to consist of the President, with Mr. *Duane*, Mr. *Duer*, Colonel *Cortlandt*, Mr. *Zephaniah Platt*, Mr. *William Harper*, and Colonel *Drake*. That any three of those gentlemen with the President, be a quorum; that every Member of the Convention who may attend have a vote; that no Member of Convention depart this neighbourhood without leave of the Committee of Safety, and that the said Committee have power and are hereby authorized to send for absent Members of the Convention of this State.

Die Veneris, 4 ho. P. M., September 27, 1776.

The Committee of Safety met pursuant to adjournment.

Present: Colonel *Peter R. Livingston*, Chairman.

NEW-YORK.—*Mr. *Duane*, Mr. *Dunscombe*, Mr. *Bancker*.
WESTCHESTER.—*Colonel *V. Cortlandt*, *Colonel *Drake*, Major *Lockwood*.

ALBANY.—General *Ten Broeck*, John *Ten Broeck*, Colonel *P. R. Livingston*.

ORANGE.—Mr. *Little*, Dr. *Sherwood*.

ULSTER.—Major *Park*, Mr. *Wisner*, Jun.

TRYON.—*Mr. *Harper*, Mr. *Moore*.

DUTCHESS.—Mr. *Sackett*, *Mr. *Platt*.

CUMBERLAND.—Mr. *Sessions*, Mr. *Stevens*.

Lieutenant *Brett* informed the Convention that sundry Prisoners are in the Guard-House, in custody of the Guard at this place under his command; some of them detained as suspicious persons, travelling without any certificates or passes, and others for reasons which were particularly assigned to the Convention.

The said Prisoners being severally brought in and examined:

Ordered, That *Michael O'Farrell* and *Richard Gazart* be respectively confined in the said Guard-House till further order of this Convention or their Committee of Safety; there being great reason to believe from the imperfect accounts given of themselves respectively, and particularly from the many contradictions in the account given by the said *Richard Gazart*, that they are Deserters from the *American* Army.

The other Prisoners were respectively discharged.

RESOLVES, &c., OF THE COUNCIL AND HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF MASSACHUSETTS.

MEMORIAL OF JOSEPH FRYE.

Colony of MASSACHUSETTS-BAY:

To the honourable the Council and House of Representatives of said Colony in General Court assembled, MAY 30, 1776:

The Memorial of JOSEPH FRYE humbly sheweth:

That your memorialist being settled in a new plantation at a place called *Pigwacket*, in the County of *York*, much exposed to an enemy from *Canada*, where the news of the *Lexington* battle arriving soon after it happened, it filled your memorialist and the other inhabitants of said plantation with great concern, apprehending that, as hostilities were commenced, a war in a little time would become general. And as they were far advanced in the County of *York*, they expected that the Governour of *Canada* would send the *Indians*, and others he could influence, against them and other exposed plantations; and as they had no ammunition to defend themselves, they expected either to be destroyed or driven from their habitations except they could get some. Therefore they met and requested your memorialist to try and procure some for them; in consequence of which your memorialist came off from said plantation on the 25th of May, 1775, for that purpose, but your memorialist could hear of none in *Falmouth*, *Portsmouth*, *Newbury*, nor in any other trading towns in the eastern country, in the County of *Essex*, nor any where else; but hearing, after he came to *Andover*, a large quantity of powder was expected would soon arrive in *Watertown*, he tarried at *Andover* some days waiting for the news of its arrival, hoping that if the quantity he had heard of did arrive, he should be favoured with some of it for the purpose above mentioned; and while he was at *Andover*, viz: on Saturday, the 17th of June, 1775, news arrived there of the burning of *Charlestown* and the battle of *Bunker-Hill*. Your memorialist being much concerned at that event, being then fully convinced that the Ministerial plan was to prosecute the unjust war they had begun with their utmost vigour, he the next day after went to *Medford*, where he tarried the night following, and the 19th went to *Cambridge*, where he found the honourable General *Ward*, Commander-in-Chief of the forces that were in the field; also many other gentlemen, some of whom were officers who had been with your memorialist in the wars with the *French* and *Indians*, and other men that were privates, who had been under his particular command in those wars, all of whom

appeared very desirous of his company in the army, and not only those, but several of the honourable gentlemen belonging to the Congress then sitting at *Watertown* desired the same. Your memorialist, finding his service so generally desired, consented to serve his country accordingly, the distresses of his exposed plantation notwithstanding; whereupon the honourable the Congress of this Colony were pleased to honour him with a Major-General's commission, bearing date the 21st of June, 1775. With that commission he entered into the service in *Cambridge*, under the command of General *Ward*. After which, about the last of that month or beginning of July, General *Ward* received a packet from *Philadelphia*, containing his commission from the honourable the Continental Congress, and a list of General Officers appointed by that Congress to command in the army, which list he showed to your said memorialist. Upon looking over said list he thought he might then return to his family, which he mentioned to General *Ward*; in consequence of which he went up to *Watertown*, and on his return to *Cambridge* he informed your memorialist that he had shown said list to one or more of the Congress of this Colony, and that a letter would without delay be sent to the Continental Congress with respect to your memorialist and sundry other General Officers appointed by this Colony Congress, and that those of the last-mentioned Congress he had spoke with desired your memorialist would continue in the army till an answer to that letter should be returned from the Continental Congress, upon which your memorialist consented to tarry. Not long after this, the Congress of this Colony was dissolved, and in the beginning of July, then next, a General Court for this Colony assembled at *Watertown*, from whom your memorialist received a letter conceived in the following terms, viz:

"In the House of Representatives, Watertown, }
July 22, 1775. }

"SIR: This House, approving of your services in the station you were appointed to in the army by the Congress of this Colony, embrace this opportunity to express their sense of them, and at the same time to desire your continuance with the army, if you shall judge you can do it without impropriety, till the final determination of the Continental Congress shall be known with regard to the appointment of General Officers. We assure you that the justice of this House will be engaged to make you an adequate compensation for your services. We have such intelligence as affords us confidence to suppose that a few days will determine whether any such provisions shall be made for you as is

consistent with your honour to accept, and shall give you encouragement to remain in the service.

"By order of the House:

"JAMES WARREN, *Speaker*.

"General *Frye*."

When your memorialist had received the letter of which the foregoing is a true copy, he not only judged he could continue in the army without impropriety, but looked upon himself bound in duty to his country to do it till the final determination of the Continental Congress should be known with regard to the appointment of General Officers, and accordingly went to *Roxbury* with General *Ward*, and while there, viz: about the time it was expected a commission would arrive from *Philadelphia* for your memorialist, this Colony's members of the Continental Congress came to General *Ward's* quarters, when they informed your said memorialist that in the letter sent to them in regard to him and others, his Christian name was not mentioned, and that as they knew your memorialist had moved into the County of *York*, they could not satisfy themselves it was he, therefore deferred the affair till they could have the name ascertained; and then two of those gentlemen desired your said memorialist to give them an account of his military services in the *French* wars, in order to lay it before the members of the Continental Congress, who were strangers to him; agreeable to which your said memorialist gave them the account they desired; and about the last of *August* those gentlemen set out on their journey to *Philadelphia*, leaving their desire of his continuance in the army, not doubting but he would be commissioned to command a Brigade that was then vacant. Your memorialist continued at *Roxbury* accordingly till the 12th day of *October* following, when being informed that General *Washington* had received a letter from the Continental Congress, wherein, among other things, he was informed that the appointment of another Brigadier-General was deferred for the then present, your memorialist left *Roxbury*, came to *Cambridge*, where it took him two days, viz: the 13th and 14th of said month, to get ready to return home, and on the 15th left *Cambridge* and went to *Andover*, which being his native place he tarried there till the beginning of *November*, then next, where he received a commission and instructions from the honourable the Council of this Colony, empowering him to take the command of the men posted in the County of *Cumberland* for the defence of the sea-coast, &c., and commanding them to obey him as their superiour officer.

As the instructions above mentioned were directed to General *Frye*, had no doubt on his mind but he would be esteemed as such, and as he was sure he had done nothing for which he deserved degradation, he concluded that the commission meant no more than to subject the troops in the County of *Cumberland* to his command, and that he should be treated in some measure agreeable to the dignity of the commission he had been honoured with from the Colony Congress. In this service he continued till the beginning of *February*, 1776, when he received a letter from General *Washington*, whereby your said memorialist was informed that the Continental Congress had appointed him a Brigadier-General in the Continental army, and by the same letter he was ordered to the camp in *Cambridge* with all possible speed. In obedience thereto your said memorialist left *Falmouth*, in said County of *Cumberland*, and came to *Cambridge*, where he arrived the evening of the 15th of said month, and the next morning waited upon General *Washington*, who presented him a Brigadier-General's commission, dated the 10th day of the preceding month. Your memorialist having informed your Honours how he understood the above-recited letter, begs leave to insert in this place a Resolve of the late Great and General Court, passed in the House the 25th of *January*, 1776, which is as followeth, viz:

"Resolved, That there be allowed and paid out of the publick Treasury of the Colony to the General Officers appointed by the Congress of this Colony for their services in the *Massachusetts* Army, from the time they entered into said service until they were put into the pay of the Continent or were otherwise discharged, at the several rates following, viz: To the Hon. General *Ward*, who served this Colony as Commander-in-Chief, £21 per month; to General *Thomas*, who served this Colony as Lieutenant-General, £18 per month; and to Generals *Whitcomb*, *Heath*, *Frye*,

and *Pomeroy*, who served this Colony as Major-Generals, £16 per month each, accounting twenty-eight days to a month; and they are respectively desired to make up their accounts accordingly, and lodge them with the Secretary of this Colony for examination and allowance of the Committee on the Muster Rolls of the Army."

As your memorialist was brought into the army in the manner already mentioned, and desired to continue therein, as appears by the Court's letter of the 22d of *July*, 1775; and as the time of his being brought into the Continental army was deferred by reason his Christian name was omitted in the letter sent to the Continental Congress, and being sent by the late General Court to take the command of the sea-coast men in the County of *Cumberland*, by a commission dated the 13th of *November*, 1775; in which service he continued till the beginning of *February*, 1776, when he was called into the Continental army, as before related, and by comparing the letter from the General Court to your memorialist, dated the 22d of *July*, 1775, with the said Court's resolve of the 25th of *January*, 1776, and observing his pay was but £16 per month, which is not half the sum allowed to a Brigadier-General in the Continental army, and much less still than half the pay per month of a Major-General in that army, your memorialist had no doubt in his mind but the honourable the then General Court of this Colony designed his pay of £16 per month should be continued till he was taken into the pay of the Continent. But so it was, the following Resolve passed in the General Court, *April* 24, 1776, viz:

"Resolved, That there be paid out of the publick Treasury of this Colony to the Hon. *Joseph Frye*, Esq., the sum of £41 7s., in full discharge for his service as Major-General in the Colony Army one month and twelve days, and also for his service as superiour officer on the sea-coast establishment at *Falmouth*, two months and one day."

This is much short of the time of his service, as before shown. If it should be objected that between the 15th of *October*, 1775, which was the time your memorialist left the army, as before mentioned, and the 13th of *November*, then next, which is the day of the date of his commission to command the troops at *Falmouth*, on the sea-coast establishment, there is twenty-eight days he was not in actual service, he begs leave to reply that he allows it; but as he was one hundred and forty miles from his family, and one hundred and twenty miles from *Falmouth*, he apprehended that in the first case he should be allowed (as was ever usual) some time to go home in, and in the latter case, as no rations were allowed for his subsistence, and it being very expensive travelling at that season of the year, by reason there was such a scarcity of hay, no horses, as he was told, could be kept in *Falmouth*, he was obliged to hire two horses in *Andover*, and a man to bring them back from *Falmouth*, which was attended with no trifling expense. He flattered himself that all things considered through the whole affair, he should be allowed some part of the twenty-eight days, if not the whole, in either of those cases.

Your memorialist having given your Honour's a true relation of facts with regard to his service, he begs leave to say that he really thinks, that as they were not stated in due order and laid before the late honourable Assembly, it was the occasion of some mistake with regard to the time of his service, otherwise he is persuaded a larger sum would have been allowed him. Wherefore, upon the whole, your memorialist prays your Honours would please to take the premises under consideration, when he makes no doubt but your Honours will make him an adequate compensation for his services, agreeable to the before-recited letter from the late honourable Assembly to him.

And, as in duty bound, prays.

JOSEPH FRYE.

In the House of Representatives, September, 1776.

Resolved, That there be allowed and paid out of the Treasury of this State to General *Joseph Frye*, over and above what has been already allowed him, the sum of £44 in full for his services during his continuance in the Army at *Cambridge* and *Roxbury*, and the further sum of £3 16s., over and above what he has received of the Commissary for his subsistence during his continuance in the sea-coast service of this State, in the County of *Cumberland*, the same to be in full for his services till his appointment to a command in the Continental Army.

PETITION OF JEREMIAH COLBURN AND JOSHUA EAYRE.

To the honourable the Council and House of Representatives of the State, the Colony MASSACHUSETTS-BAY, in General Court assembled at WATERTOWN:

The Petition of JEREMIAH COLBURN and JOSHUA EAYRE, of PENOBSCOT RIVER, humbly sheweth:

That your petitioners have been settlers on *Penobscot* River for a number of years, and that your petitioners was obliged to quit their settlements after making great improvements on their lands, by order of proprietors, or persons pretending to own or claim the land, to their great damage, and had no place to go to. Your petitioners went farther up the river and settled on wild and unimproved lands, five miles above any settlement, where they thought no person could claim to turn them off, there built two dwelling-houses, one half a saw-mill, cleared a road to a meadow six miles, cleared another road to the inhabitants five miles, and cleared and improved a considerable tract of land, and built the other half of the mill, by being assisted by other people. Your petitioners began to build said dwelling-houses and mill in *July*, 1774, and in *October* following, moved our family upon the land, and there continued until *May* following; in the mean time the *Indians* of the *Penobscot* tribe were continually at our house, and we were always ready to assist them in any thing they requested, and were always welcomed to any provisions they desired, which your petitioners has given them to the value of thirty pounds, lawful money, at least, and were always kindly treated by us. And in *May*, 1775, your petitioners, being apprehensive of some danger from reports that the *Canadian Indians* intended to assist the people of *Great Britain* that might come across the country and destroy us, thought it most safe to move in to the inhabitants. Your petitioners moved their families and effects, and remained from *May* to *August* following, and one of us from *May*, 1775, to *June*, 1776. All this while your petitioners was urged by the *Indians* to return to our settlements, and promised we should enjoy our possessions, and they would protect and support us in the same; but since being acquainted that they had a promise of the lands from the *Massachusetts* Congress in *June*, 1775, we would not move again until they gave us their words that we should enjoy peaceably our possessions. In dependence of the same, we moved our families up, the time above mentioned, and since have heard they have resolved, in council amongst themselves, that every family shall be removed above the line that was settled by the Congress in *June*, 1775. They say they have a promise when the General Court next sits, that there will be an order to turn us off, in consequence of which they have told all the inhabitants within their limits, to get in readiness to move off when they gather their harvests.

Your petitioners are always ready to comply with any rule, order, or regulation, as your Honours shall direct. Your petitioners would inform your Honours that we have spent all our substance in this settlement, and which renders us so poor, we are not able to move our families away. Your petitioners most humbly pray your Honours to take their difficult circumstances into your wise consideration, and grant them such relief as you in your great wisdom shall see meet. And your petitioners, as in duty bound, shall ever pray.

JEREMIAH COLBURN,
JOSHUA EAYR.

Penobscot River, 16th August, 1776.

September 5, 1776.—The Committee to whom was referred the consideration of the above Petition, have attended that service, and beg leave to report that the petitioners have leave to withdraw the same.

JEDEDIAH PREBLE, Per order.

PETITION OF STEPHEN BUSSELL AND OTHERS.

To the honourable Council and the House of Representatives of the State of the Colony of MASSACHUSETTS-BAY, in General Court assembled at WATERTOWN:

The Petition of STEPHEN BUSSEL, DAVID ROWELL, and PATRICK McMANNAY, humbly sheweth:

That your petitioners are settlers on *Penobscot* River, and went on and settled on wild and uncultivated lands on the eastern side of *Penobscot* River, above the Falls, in *March* 22d, 1774; there built a dwelling-house each of us, and cleared about six acres of land each, cleared sundry roads

to meadows, &c. And since being acquainted that the *Indians* of *Penobscot* tribe had a promise of the lands from the Congress of the Colony of the *Massachusetts-Bay*, in *June*, 1775, your petitioners was willing to make any reasonable consideration for the lands when they were acquainted whose right it was, and since your petitioners has had a warning from the said *Indians* to move off from our possessions as soon as we can get our harvest in, we have offered them any pay they should reasonably demand for the same. But nothing will satisfy them but we must move off. Your petitioners are very needy, having spent our strength and substance in subduing the land, to raise bread to support our families, and therefore don't know where to go to, to settle, unless enabled by your Honours to settle on lands back in the country. Your petitioners were and are always ready to comply with any rule, order, or directions your Honours in your wisdom shall order for the good and regulation of your inhabitants.

Your petitioners most humbly pray your Honours to take their difficult circumstances into your wise consideration, and grant them such relief as you in your wisdom shall think right. And your petitioners, as in duty bound, shall ever pray.

STEPHEN BUSSELL,
DAVID ROWELL,
PATRICK McMANNAY.

Penobscot River, August the 19th, 1776.

The Committee to whom was referred the consideration of the above Petition, have attended that service, and beg leave to report that the petitioners have leave to withdraw the same.

JEDEDIAH PREBLE, Per order.

PETITION OF SELECTMEN OF WALDOBOROUGH.

Colony of the MASSACHUSETTS-BAY:

To the honourable Council and the honourable House of Representatives, in General Court assembled:

Humbly show, we the subscribers of the town of *Waldoborough*, in the County of *Lincoln*, that your petitioners, by reason of there not being any ammunition in this town, we labour under many great difficulties and danger, on the account of not being supplied with ammunition in this town, for this town has already spent near one hundred pound by sending for ammunition, and never getting any. Therefore we would pray your Honours to grant the bearer, Captain *Levi Soule*, of *Waldoborough*, one hundred pounds of gunpowder. And your humble petitioners, as in duty bound, shall ever pray.

JACOB LIDWIG,
JACOB WINCHENBACH, } *Selectmen.*
NATH'L SIMMONS.

Waldoborough, August the 19, 1776.

State of the MASSACHUSETTS-BAY, in AMERICA:

To the honourable Council and House of Representatives of said State:

The Petition of the Committee of Safety for the Town of CAPE-ELIZABETH, humbly sheweth:

That on *January* 19th, 1776, that *Stephen Agen*, *Stephen Hayter*, and *Thomas Brierton*, enemies to the *United Colonies*, and were taken prisoner, were brought to us on their way to Head-Quarters; who were put to Mr. *Joseph Mariner*, inn-holder in said town; they had three meals of victuals a man, at eight pence a meal, their lodging nine pence half-penny.

Your petitioners hereby apply themselves to this honourable Court to discharge the debt. As in duty bound shall ever pray.

N. B. Said prisoners were sent to us by the Committee of *St. George's*, in the County of *Lincoln*.

EBEN. THORNDIKE, Clerk of Committee Safety.

PETITION OF JOTHAM BUSH.

To the honourable Council and House of Representatives of the State of MASSACHUSETTS-BAY, in General Court, or in the recess of said Court, to the said honourable Council:

The Petition of JOTHAM BUSH, of SHREWSBURY, in the County of WORCESTER, most humbly shews:

That on the 11th day of *July* last, the Committee of Correspondence, &c., for the town, disarmed your petitioner and ordered him to be confined to his homestead farm; and

his four sons, namely, *David, John, Jotham, and Levi*, to be confined to his lands in *Shrewsbury* and *Lancaster*, and never to pass over the bounds aforesaid, without a permit from said Committee, until the further orders of said Committee; and that if he, or his aforesaid sons, should at any time disobey the said orders of the said Committee, and be convicted thereof, they should be confined to close gaol, in the County aforesaid, or otherways dealt with, according to the discretion of said Committee, as by the proceedings of said Committee herewith exhibited fully appear. All which proceedings your petitioner is greatly injured in his character and interest, for the following reasons: For that the said Committee, without ever convening him before them at the town aforesaid, and upon examination, finding him guilty of being inimical to the States of *America*, passed the aforesaid resolve, as it plainly appears by said resolve. They have not given any reason for their cruel treatment to him; and supposing they had proceeded against him by a proper examination of him, and upon said examination had found him guilty, in that case if your petitioner had tendered bonds for his good behaviour. Agreeable to a late law of this State, they had no right to imprison him in manner aforesaid; by which imprisonment he is prevented taking care of his business, much of which lies in other towns, especially two farms in *Lancaster* under his own immediate improvement, which he is deprived personally of taking care of.

Every individual in every State has an undoubted right to the protection of such State, and ought not to forfeit such protection without a fair hearing and adjudication of the crimes charged upon him. Your Honours will perceive that your petitioner, in the resolve of said Committee, is not charged with any crime whatever, but the whole proceedings of said Committee appear to be without any foundation against him. He therefore prays you to whom he appeals to take his case into your consideration, and liberate him and his sons from their present confinement, or at least to extend their limits, so far as that they may be permitted to attend publick worship, go to mill, and to take care of all his lands that are under his actual improvement or otherwise relieve them as to your Honours shall seem fit. And as in duty bound shall ever pray.

JOTHAM BUSH.

Shrewsbury, August the 23d, 1776.

PETITION OF ICHABOD JONES.

State of the MASSACHUSETTS-BAY:

To the honourable the Council and the honourable House of Representatives of the State aforesaid, assembled in General Court at WATERTOWN, AUGUST 28, 1776, most humbly shows:

Ichabod Jones, late of *Boston*, in the County of *Suffolk*, that your petitioner in *May*, 1775, considering that the people at *Machias*, in the eastern part of this State, were of themselves unable to procure the provisions necessary for their subsistence, and knowing that the greater part of them depended on your petitioner to supply them, the other traders having declined to do it, did purchase a quantity of pork, flour, and other articles of food, and convey the same to the people aforesaid in two sloops belonging to your petitioner. That when arrived at *Machias* the inhabitants, at the request of your petitioner, met together and were informed that if they would furnish themselves in any other way with necessary provisions, your petitioner would be extremely glad to be freed from the difficult and hazardous task. That a great majority of them declared they could not obtain the necessary supplies, without the assistance of your petitioner, and desired him to continue as formerly to bring them provisions. That afterwards by means of some of the *Machias* people, with the assistance of others in the neighbouring places, the vessels aforesaid, and the person of your petitioner were seized; that at the time of the seizure the inhabitants of *Machias* owed to your petitioner and company, nearly the sum of four thousand pounds lawful money, which he is able and ready to prove. That your petitioner is lately informed they have taken possession of his houses, mills, and all his other estate at *Machias*, and not only of the estate of which your petitioner was sole proprietor, but also of the estate which belonged to himself and others in partnership. That your petitioner learns from an advertisement in the *Watertown* paper of *August* 19th, that libels are filed against the vessels and cargoes above mentioned, before the Judge of the Maritime Court, for the

Eastern District in this State, and that the justice of the captures is to be tried at the said court, to be holden at *Pownalboro'*, on the 9th of *September* next.

As your petitioner is confined to the town of *Northampton*, under large bonds, (with scanty means of subsistence,) he is unable to attend himself, or procure any person to attend in his place on so short a notice, and is greatly apprehensive that his property therefore will be condemned; although if allowed to attend the said Court, with his evidence, he persuades himself the innocence of his conduct would fully appear.

Your petitioner therefore most humbly prays your Honours to take the premises into your wise consideration, and that he may be heard thereupon, having no doubt, on a full knowledge of his case, your petitioner would be discharged from any further confinement. Your petitioner also prays that he may have liberty to attend in person the trial aforesaid of his vessels, at some future time, to which the said court shall by order of your Honours be adjourned; and that in the mean time all proceedings touching the vessels and cargoes aforesaid, may be staid; all which is most humbly submitted; and in duty bound shall pray.

ICHABOD JONES.

PETITION OF SELECTMEN OF HARPSWELL.

To the honourable Council and the House of Representatives at WATERTOWN, in General Court assembled, the prayer of your petitioners humbly sheweth:

That on the eighteenth day of *October*, one thousand seven hundred and seventy-five, when the town of *Falmouth* was burnt, there was an alarm at *Harpswell*, and upon said alarm there came from *Topsham* Captain *James Hunter*, with fifty men, Captain *Actor Patten*, with thirty men, and Captain *Peter Coombs*, with thirty-two men, from *Brunswick*, and were all there five days, and were billeted by order of the Selectmen, which makes eighty-five weeks for one man, at six shillings per week, comes to twenty-five pounds ten shillings; and as the town is a small town, and under low circumstances at best, and more so now, by reason of the drought, and the multitude of grasshoppers, which have almost cut off our *English* grain, there is but few that will get more than their seed, and some not that, and, to take the town throughout, not more than one-fifth part of a usual crop of hay is got in the town this year: therefore your petitioners humbly pray your Honours will take it under your wise consideration, and allow to the town the above-said account. And your petitioners, as in duty bound, shall ever pray.

Per order of the Town,

WILLIAM SYLVESTER,
JOHN RODICK,
ANTHONY COOMBS, } Selectmen.

Harpswell, August 28, 1776.

October the 18th, 1775.—Upon an alarm at *Harpswell*, Captain *Actor Patten*, and Ensign *Tibbits*, of *Topsham*, with twenty-nine men under their command, marched to their relief, and spent five days. JAMES POTTER, Clerk.

October 19th, 1775.—Upon an alarm at *Harpswell*, Captain *Peter Coombs* and Lieutenant *Hosea Baly*, and *Joseph Atten*, Ensign, with thirty-one men under their command, marched to their relief, and spent five days, and were billeted there, by order of the Selectmen, at one *Michel Curtis's*, the whole time.

Per PETER COOMBS, Captain.

PETITION OF THOMAS EDWARDS.

To the honourable the President and Members of the Council for the State of MASSACHUSETTS-BAY: The very humble Petition of THOMAS EDWARDS, humbly sheweth:

That your petitioner, on the evacuation of the town of *Boston*, did remain with his family; and as he was determined to demean himself in an orderly and most respectful manner, according to such regulation as might be established, so he firmly hoped to receive that protection and security for his person and property which such a line of conduct might naturally and justly demand. That however guiltless your petitioner actually was of any species of offence, yet he was, at the instance of some malicious person or persons, procured to be committed to close confine-

ment, but for what reason or what pretext he is wholly at a loss to determine. That your petitioner hath languished in a painful, close confinement near six months, in want of many necessaries of life, whereby his health and constitution is exceedingly impaired, and in such a declining state, that, unless speedily relieved, he cannot long survive. That your petitioner hath a sickly wife, quite helpless, with seven small children, entirely dependent on his industry for their support, which begin now unhappily deprived of, they are become objects of the most tender and compassionate concern.

Your petitioner therefore humbly hopes that benevolence which has so strongly marked your characters, will now operate in his favour, and that you will be pleased, in tender consideration of the peculiar unhappiness of his case, to give orders that he may be discharged, hereby solemnly promising that he will continue to demean himself in an orderly, respectful manner, in due obedience to such regulations as now are or shall be made for the government of this State. And your petitioner, as in duty bound, shall ever pray.

THOMAS EDWARDS.

Provost Gaol, Boston, August 30, 1776.

MEMORIAL OF JONAS BALL AND OTHERS.

State of the MASSACHUSETTS-BAY:

To the honourable the Council and House of Representatives in General Court assembled, at WATERTOWN, AUGUST 28, 1776:

The Memorial of JONAS BALL and others, in behalf of JOHN TAYLOR, of NORTHBOROUGH, in the County of WORCESTER, yeoman, humbly sheweth:

That the Committee of Correspondence for said town of Northborough, without any just cause therefor, by virtue of a pretended power vested in them, arrested the said John Taylor, confined him to the limits of his farm in said Northborough, and published him in the publick prints as an enemy to the liberties of America, and forbid him holding correspondence with any person, on any commercial account whatever, whereby the said Taylor is greatly injured in his property and estate. Wherefore your memorialists, deeming him to be a firm friend to the cause of America, and esteeming it an infringement upon the rights and liberties of a freeman, to be debarred of his personal liberty, without any just cause being first assigned, pray the honourable Court will take the subject-matter of this petition under consideration, and appoint a committee to make inquiry into the merits of this complaint, that justice may be impartially administered. And, as in duty bound, will ever pray.

JONAS BALL,
JOHN EAMES,
PETER BALL,
THADDEUS WYMAN.

PETITION OF JONATHAN EDDY AND OTHERS.

To the honourable Council and to the honourable House of Representatives in the State of the MASSACHUSETTS-BAY, in General Court assembled, at WATERTOWN, the 28th day of AUGUST, Anno Domini, 1776:

The Petition of JONATHAN EDDY, WILLIAM HOW, and ZEBULON ROE, late of CUMBERLAND, in NOVA-SCOTIA, humbly sheweth:

That your petitioners, in behalf of ourselves and distressed friends residing in the County of Cumberland, in the government of Nova-Scotia. That your petitioners would inform your Honours that the British enemy are now repairing the old forts in that Province, to the great detriment of the inhabitants there: that, we apprehend, can be for no other intent but to keep the inhabitants in subjection to their tyrannical measures, especially since their forces arrived from Boston, the last spring, to Halifax. That the far greatest part of the people of Nova-Scotia are greatly concerned about it, and has been the cause of many of them to leave their estates to be confiscated, and to come over to these States, and will be the cause of many more to do the same, if they can effect it, unless they can have some supplies and assistance. That your petitioners humbly conceive that, if we, your petitioners, with a small number more to join our brethren there, could be supplied with some necessaries, as provisions and ammunition, we could at present easily destroy those forts, and relieve our

brethren and friends, by permission from your Honours for so doing, or in any other way your Honours shall see meet. And your petitioners, as in duty bound, shall ever pray, &c.

JONATHAN EDDY,
WILLIAM HOW,
ZEBULON ROE.

Resolve relative to the Brig RISING-EMPIRE; passed AUGUST 30, 1776.

On the representation of Captain Welden, respecting the Brigantine called the *Rising-Empire*:

Resolved, That the said Welden repair forthwith to the town of Plymouth, and bring said Brig to a good wharf in said town, and there deliver said Brig with all the appurtenances thereunto belonging, to one or more persons that this Court may appoint to take charge thereof, and then said Welden is directed to discharge all the officers and men under his command, and make up his muster-roll for said officers and men, and lay it before this Court for payment thereof. Also, that the cannon now on board said Brig be ordered forthwith to the town of Swansey, and there put on board one or both of the armed vessels now fitted out by this State against the enemies of the United States of America.

Resolve on the Petition of JOHN FOX; passed AUGUST 31, 1776.

Resolved, That the Commissary-General of this State be, and he hereby is directed to deliver John Fox, six hundred pounds of Gunpowder, to be taken from the Powder-Mill at Andover, for the use of a private sloop-of-war called the *Retrieve*; he, the said Fox, allowing and paying the sum of six shillings per pound for said powder to the said Commissary-General, who is to be accountable for the same.

Resolve on the Petition of EBENEZER BECKFORD and others; passed AUGUST 31, 1776.

Resolved, That the Commissary-General supply Ebenezer Beckford and others, with five hundred pounds of Gunpowder, from the Powder-Mill at Andover, for the use of the *Harlequin* schooner of war; he, the said Ebenezer Beckford, paying at the rate of six shillings per pound; the Commissary-General to be accountable for the money so received.

Captain WELDEN directed to deliver the Brig RISING-EMPIRE to WILLIAM WATSON, Esq., AUGUST 31, 1776.

Resolved, That Captain Welden, commander of the Brig *Rising-Empire*, be, and he hereby is ordered and directed to deliver the said Brig, (which, by a resolve of this Court of yesterday, was ordered to be hauled up,) with her Appurtenances, Cannon, and Stores, unto William Watson, Esq., for the use of this State, he taking his receipt therefor, to be lodged with the Secretary of this State.

Resolve for the paying of Colonel ABIJAH BROWN £9; passed AUGUST 31, 1776.

Resolved, That there be paid out of the publick Treasury to Colonel Abijah Brown, nine pounds, for twenty-seven days' service as Lieutenant-Colonel in Colonel Woodbridge's Regiment, it appearing he was made up in the muster-roll of said Regiment so much short of the time he was in service.

Resolve on the Petition of GEORGE WILLIAMS, Jun., and others; passed AUGUST 31, 1776.

Resolved, That the Commissary-General of this State supply George Williams with five hundred pounds of Gunpowder from the Powder-Mill at Andover, for the use of the schooner of war called the *General Putnam*, the said George Williams paying at the rate of six shillings per pound. The Commissary-General to be accountable for the money so received.

Resolve on the Petition of JOSEPH SPRAGUE and others; passed AUGUST 31, 1776.

Resolved, That the Commissary-General of this State supply Joseph Sprague and others, with three hundred

pounds of Gunpowder, from the Powder-Mill at *Andover*, for the use of the Schooner *General Gates*; the said *Joseph Sprague* and others to allow and pay the sum of six shillings per pound for said Powder to the Commissary-General, he to be accountable for the same.

Committee appointed to view places suitable for erecting Furnaces; AUGUST 31, 1776.

Resolved, That *Hugh Orr, Esq., Thomas Durfee, Esq.,* and Deacon *Ebenezer Washburn*, be a Committee to repair immediately to some parts of this State, and take a view of some suitable place or places for erecting proper Furnaces for casting Cannon, and where Ore can be procured for that purpose; and that they apply to some Founder or Founders to advise in this matter. That they also inquire what sum or sums any stream, land, or ore, can be purchased for, they to make a report of their doings as soon as may be.

Resolve to revive Actions that were pending in the Inferiour Courts; passed AUGUST 31, 1776.

Whereas, by reason of the difficulties raised by the wicked designs of the enemies of our liberties, an interruption took place in the administration of civil distributive justice throughout this Colony, and whereas by an act of the General Court removing all officers from their respective offices, many civil suits which had been commenced, and were actually entered on the docket or book of entry of the inferiour courts of common pleas in the several Counties within this Colony, have not been prosecuted to final judgment, and much injury will happen if an adequate remedy is not provided in that behalf:

It is *Resolved*, That all civil actions that were pending in any inferiour court of common pleas in any County within this Colony, by having the same entered on the docket or minute book of said County, and on which judgment has not been given, may be brought forward at the next term of the said court, in which the same was entered as aforesaid, and the same proceedings had thereon as though such causes had been regularly continued in the said inferiour courts respectively, from term to term, where the same were pending when such interruption took place. *Provided, always*, That nothing in this resolve shall be construed or intended to be meant to enable any person or persons to bring forward any civil action which was brought forward, had, or pending in the inferiour court of common pleas for and within the County of *Suffolk*, from and after the first day of *September*, Anno Domini 1774, until the 17th day of *March*, Anno Domini 1776. *Provided, also*, That no execution or writ of possession shall issue on any judgment given in any of the cases aforesaid, until fifteen days after such judgment; and that the justices of the said inferiour courts of common pleas shall continue the said causes and actions one term at least, and cause the absent party to be notified of the suits against them; and where any of the party shall be out of the County, and in the Continental or Colonial service, the said suits shall be continued until the party as aforesaid shall return, or be dismissed from the said service, any law, usage, or custom, to the contrary notwithstanding.

Resolve on the Petition of JONATHAN EDDY and others; passed SEPTEMBER 2, 1776.

Resolved, That the Commissary-General be, and he hereby is directed to deliver to *Jonathan Eddy, William How, and Zebulon Rowe*, two hundred pounds weight of Gunpowder, five hundred weight of Musket-Balls, three hundred Gun-Flints, and twenty barrels of Pork, taking their obligation to be accountable for the same, when called for by order of this Court.

Resolve annulling a Resolve of the 29th of APRIL, allowing the Officers of Vessels in the sea-service to enlist Men out of the sea-coast Companies; passed SEPTEMBER 2, 1776.

Whereas, by a resolve passed by the General Court the 29th of *April*, the officers of vessels in the Colony sea-service were allowed to enlist men out of the companies raised for the defence of the sea-coasts, and the officers of the said companies were thereby directed to permit any of

their men to enlist into the Colony and Continental sea-service only, and to enlist others to supply vacancies occasioned thereby, as soon as may be; and whereas such liberty or allowance, which was then given to the officers of vessels in the Colonial or Continental service has been found to be very detrimental, having weakened and very much exposed to the enemy many of our harbours and towns on the sea-coasts; and many of the officers of the sea-coast companies, after much expense of time and money to raise their companies, have had their men taken from them, to their great loss and damage, and thereby been discouraged from further recruiting; and some parts of the sea-coast may, if this practice is allowed, be left destitute of all defence, and thereby become a harbour for our enemies, which would not only further distress our trade, but involve us in many other difficulties: Therefore,

Resolved, That the aforesaid Resolve of the 29th of *April*, be, and hereby is discontinued and made null and void.

Resolve appointing a Committee to repair to NEW-HAMPSHIRE to endeavour to get one of the Continental Frigates fixed out; passed SEPTEMBER 2, 1776.

Resolved, That *Benjamin Greenleaf, Esq., Oliver Wendell, Esq.,* and Captain *George Williams*, be a Committee immediately to repair to the State of *New-Hampshire*, and apply to the Government there, and if practicable, with the loan of as many Cannon as can be spared from this State, to effect the fixing out the Continental Ship now under the direction of Mr. *Langdon*, and to take immediate measures that such number of Cannon and other necessaries, as without distressing this State, may be lent to the Continent, may be safely and expeditiously transported to *Portsmouth*. This Ship to be fixed out for the purpose of attacking the *Milford*, or other ships of war distressing our coasts.

And in case said Ship can within any reasonable time be equipped for the sea:

Resolved, That two or more Colony Armed Vessels be directed to act in concert with her, and that the said Committee be, and hereby are empowered, to engage as many sea-coast soldiers, east of *Boston*, as may incline to enter for said service, and in general to do every thing necessary for effecting the aforesaid purpose. And that the pay of the sea-coast men continue in addition to the emoluments of the sea service. The said Cannon and other articles that may be lent as aforesaid, to be returned as soon as the cruise shall be over, or as soon as they shall be called for by this Government.

Resolve to supply six Soldiers in Colonel DYKE's Regiment with Guns; passed SEPTEMBER 2, 1776.

Resolved, That *Richard Devens, Esq.,* Commissary, be directed to deliver out of the Colony stores six Guns to *Samuel Taylor*, Captain of a Company in *Colonel Dyke's* Regiment, for the use of six soldiers enlisted in said *Taylor's* Company, who are come hither without Guns, viz: *Samuel Slarrow, Ebenezer Greaves, Nathaniel Rice, Joseph Huxford, Cyrus Pratt, and Seth Denis*. And that the Commissary, upon delivery of said Guns, shall take a receipt of the Captain for the same, to be returned into the stores at the end of the campaign, and pay a dollar for the use of each of the same; and in failure of such return, be obliged to pay the full value for every Gun not returned.

Resolve on the Petition of FRANCIS BUTLER; passed SEPTEMBER 2, 1776.

Resolved, That there be paid out of the Treasury of this State to *Francis Butler*, £59 8s. 6d., in full for the net proceeds of the cargo of the Schooner *Industry*, which was paid into said Treasury by *Jonathan Glover* and *Joshua Orne*.

Resolve recommending to the Government of NEW-HAMPSHIRE to pass an act for preventing the Exportation of Lumber; passed SEPTEMBER 2, 1776.

Whereas *Benjamin Greenleaf* and *Oliver Wendell, Esquires,* and Captain *George Williams*, are appointed a Committee to repair to *Portsmouth*, in the State of *New-*

Hampshire, to procure the Continental Frigate to cruise after the *Milford* and other Frigates of the enemy that are infesting the sea-coast of these *United States*:

Resolved, That the said Committee be directed to represent to the Legislative authority of the State of *New-Hampshire*, the expediency of forthwith passing an act to prohibit the exportation of Lumber for a limited time, similar to that passed by this State for that purpose.

PETITION OF JOSEPH SPRAGUE AND OTHERS.

To the honourable the General Court of the State of MASSACHUSETTS-BAY:

The Petition of the subscribers humbly sheweth:

That the said petitioners have fitted at a great expense, the schooner *General Gates*, *William Carlton* commander, whom the honourable Council have lately commissioned, with six carriage guns, eight swivels, two cohorns, and twenty muskets, together with sundry other implements of war, having fifty men, and provisions for three months' cruise, with an intention of making captures of the vessels belonging to the enemies of the *United States of America*. To effect said purposes, your petitioners humbly pray, that the honourable Court would grant them three hundred and fifty pounds of gunpowder upon your petitioners paying such a price for the same as the honourable Court shall think proper. And your petitioners, as in duty bound, shall ever pray.

JOSEPH SPRAGUE,
BENJ. GOODHUE, Jun.,
EBEN. BECKFORD,
JOHN GARDNER, Jr.

Salem, August 29, 1776.

PETITION OF JOHN FOX.

To the honourable the Council and the honourable the House of Representatives of the State of MASSACHUSETTS:

The Petition of JOHN FOX, for himself and in behalf of others, inhabitants of FALMOUTH, CASCO-BAY, humbly shows:

That they are fitting out, and have almost completed for the sea, a private sloop-of-war, called the *Retrieve*, commanded by Captain *Joshua Stone*, mounted with ten carriage and sixteen swivel guns; to be navigated by eighty men; that said sloop is fitting out for the purpose of cruising against the enemies of the *American States*; that your petitioners have endeavoured, but without success, to provide for said sloop's intended cruise; that their only hope to obtain a sufficient supply is by applying to the honourable Court; and therefore their humble request is, that your Honours will be pleased to order the Commissary-General to supply them, out of the State Magazine, with six hundred pounds weight, they paying the usual price for the same. And your petitioners, as in duty bound, will ever pray, &c.

JOHN FOX,

In behalf of himself and the other owners.

Watertown, August 30, 1776.

PETITION OF JOSEPH NORTH.

To the honourable the Council and House of Representatives of the State of the MASSACHUSETTS-BAY:

The Memorial of JOSEPH NORTH, of a Plantation called GARDNERSTOWN, in the County of LINCOLN, Esquire, humbly sheweth:

That some time in the month of *April* last, *William Gardner*, of *Gardnerstown* aforesaid, Esquire, presented a petition to your Honours, setting forth, that at the time of the evacuation of *Boston*, on the 17th day of *March* last, his father, the late *Silvester Gardner*, of said *Boston*, Esquire, quitted the said town of *Boston*, and, with the Ministerial fleet and army, went to *Halifax*; that, at the same time, he, the said *William Gardner*, was in possession of a certain tract of land, with buildings thereon, situate at said *Gardnerstown*, which land his said father had some time before (as it seems the son alleged) given him, by deed of gift; and that the same being left at *Boston*, in his said father's house, was, by some evil-minded person, taken out of his possession. Whether the said *Gardner* had such a deed or not, or whether he was deprived of it or not, your memorialist does not pretend to determine; would only observe that the negative is generally believed, as he does

not pretend the deed was recorded; neither is there one person in the County or elsewhere, that your memorialist ever heard of, who has pretended to assert they ever saw or heard of the deed before the 19th day of *April*, (after the evacuation,) at about which time your Honours passed a resolve that the respective Committees of Inspection and Safety, &c., through the Province, should take into their possession the respective estates of such persons as had gone off with the said fleet and army, and lease them in the best manner they could, for the publick benefit, excepting such estates, or parts of estates, which were leased or otherwise conveyed before the 22d of *May*, 1775. Pursuant to the said resolve, the Committee, soon after the receipt of it, acquainted said *Gardner* with it, and told him he must no longer keep possession of the said land, &c., in right of his father. But some time after this information of the Committee, (how long after the memorialist is uncertain,) the said *William Gardner* produced to the Committee your Honours' resolve and order that the said *William* be repossessed of the said tract of land and appurtenances, upon condition the said Committee, in their judgment, were convinced that he had not acted an unfriendly part since the dispute between *Great Britain* and this Province commenced. Upon receipt of the said order, the said *William* was repossessed of the said tract of land as before, but your memorialist and others think without due consideration of the inimical character which the said *William* did then bear, and had before deservedly borne, in the said Plantation and the vicinage, as may appear from the evidences which may be referred to in the sequel of this memorial.

Your memorialist further humbly sheweth, that the Committee of Safety, in *June* last, warned the inhabitants of said plantation of *Gardnerstone* to meet, in order to choose a new Committee of Inspection, Safety and Correspondence. At said meeting your memorialist appeared and informed the inhabitants that the General Assembly had lately passed a resolve, that all the future meetings for the said purpose should be notified by warrant of a Justice of the Peace, and that, therefore, he was of opinion that a choice of those officers at the present meeting would be deemed illegal; that the said *William Gardner*, with sinister views, as was supposed, insisted that the inhabitants should proceed to a choice; notwithstanding, however, part of the inhabitants, being convinced of the resolve which your memorialist had informed them of, left the meeting, unwilling to proceed contrary to law; but the said *William*, fond of choosing a committee at that meeting, for purposes of his own, persuaded such of the inhabitants as he was able to influence, to continue the meeting, now consisting of about fourteen persons only, one half of whom were disqualified for voting; notwithstanding which they proceeded to choose a Moderator and Clerk, and afterwards a Committee of five persons, such as said *Gardner* approved of; after which, through favour of a majority of said Committee, he procured a paper to be signed, recommending him to your Honours as a staunch friend to his country, in order to his obtaining from your Honours a confirmation of the said tract of land.

Your memorialist further sheweth that, after it was known in the said plantation that a majority of the new Committee had been induced to sign the recommendatory paper before mentioned, a complaint was made to your memorialist, as a Justice of the Peace, by *Gideon Gardner*, one of the inhabitants, (and a relative of the said *William*,) giving your memorialist to understand, that he had applied to the said Committee, and informed them that he was ready and able to prove the said *William Gardner* to be an enemy to these *United Colonies*, but that the said Committee had declined taking any notice of his information, and that, to prevent publick mischief which might arise from the proceedings of the said Committee respecting the said *William Gardner*, he had applied himself to your memorialist to summons divers persons to give evidence of what they knew touching said *William Gardner's* behaviour at different times, since the arrival of General *Gage* at *Boston*. The persons named were accordingly summoned, and made oath to their respective depositions, to be produced by your memorialist when demanded, and he expected that he should have been furnished with several other testimonies relative to the said *William Gardner's* enmity to his coun-

try, by him clearly manifested, as well since as before his application to your Honours to be repossessed of the tract of land before mentioned; such as that, some time after General *Gage's* arrival, said *William Gardner* had shown to several persons a pass, under the hand of the said *Gage*, permitting him to go from *Kennebeck* to *Quebeck* at any time when he thought proper, and that one of the persons saw the said pass destroyed by the said *William* last spring; but said persons, as your memorialist was informed, upon request refused for certain reasons to depose the same; and further, that, even in *July* last, the said *William* had declared at *Gardnerstone*, to one of the inhabitants of *Woolwich*, then at *Gardnerstone*, that he (said *William*) continued of the same mind respecting the probability of these Colonies being subjected to the Government of *Great Britain*, &c., but was afraid to speak his mind, as he knew several persons were watching his words and actions, &c.

And further, your memorialist sheweth that, inasmuch as the said *William Gardner*, in his memorial of last spring, endeavoured to avail himself of his great merit, as being the principal cause of procuring a number of the Eastern *Indians* the last year to go into war against the enemy, it will appear, by a deposition of one *Benjamin Colburn*, that the said *William Gardner*, in the year 1774, did declare in his presence, that, when the Regulars should come, he (said *William*) "would put on a red coat, and join with them to drive the men who had burnt the tea;" as it will also appear by the same deposition that the said *William* was so far from being the principal means of procuring said *Indians*, (as set forth in his memorial,) that he only furnished for their use sufficient coarse ratteen to make one jacket and a pair of *Indian* stockings, delivered to one *Reuben Colburn*, who declares the said *William* demanded of him the pay for the said cloth, and that he accordingly paid him; and further, your memorialist would add here, from the affidavit of Lieutenant *Samuel Berry*, (also ready to be produced,) that, upon an alarm at *Gardnerstone*, in *July* last, occasioned by a report of the *Indians* having killed a man above *Norridgewalk*, and the said *Berry* having orders from your memorialist to muster a division of Minute-men to march to *Fort Halifax*, to defend the inhabitants in that settlement, the said *William*, upon the occasion, manifested himself so inconsistent with his occasional professions, as to discourage the said officer from doing his duty; which your memorialist and others, with great reason, suppose that, since the said *William's* professed exertions to procure a number of the Eastern *Indians* to assist us last summer, he had been apprised by some of his brother Tories, that much money was arrived from the *British* Administration, and had been partly applied to bribe the *Indians*, and induce them to take up the hatchet against the inhabitants of these *United Colonies*.

Upon the whole your memorialist begs leave to declare to your Honours, that he does not prefer this memorial from any personal enmity against the said *William Gardner*, but to prevent your Honours being further imposed upon by him or other person, whom he may have probably procured to support his credit, and because your memorialist is convinced that it is the indispensable duty of each member of the community, as far as may be in their power, to expose to publick view those persons who, while expecting publick favours, yet evidently have discovered their being inimical to the publick welfare. The evidences by your memorialist produced to prove that the said *William Gardner* is to be viewed as one of that character, your Honours, he hopes, will take into your serious considerations, and in your great wisdom act as you shall judge most conducive to the safety of the publick. And your memorialist shall ever pray, &c.

JOSEPH NORTH.

Watertown, September 2, 1776.

I, *Nathaniel Thwing*, of lawful age, testify and declare, that at the time we first received the Act of the *British* Parliament for curtailing the Charter of this Province, the Court of General Sessions of the Peace and Inferiour Court of Common Pleas was then sitting at *Pownalboro*, in and for the County of *Lincoln*. A gentleman who had just received a newspaper which contained the act, was reading it at table after dinner, *William Gardner*, Esq., of *Gardnerston*, being present, on hearing it read, expressed himself in the following manner, viz: Now we shall see

glorious times; now we shall be happy; now we may sit down, every man under his own vine and under his own fig tree, and have none to make us afraid; now we may sing the song of good old *Simeon*, "Lord, now lettest thou thy servant depart in peace." I further say that in the month of *May*, 1775, the several towns upon *Kennebeck* River sent delegates to meet in Congress, at the Court-House in *Pownalboro*, to devise means of safety in case of an attack from the savages, and to provide a stock of ammunition and provision, &c., and seeing in the return from *Gardnerston* the name of *William Gardner*, Esq., as one of the delegates for said *Gardnerston*, and knowing from the above expressions of his, and some conversation which he had with one *Benjamin Gardner*, of *Bowdoinham*, which I had from said *Benjamin Gardner*, that the said *William Gardner*, Esq., was inimical to this country, I objected to his being allowed to sit in Congress with the other delegates as being an improper person to sit there, but after some short debate the President moved that as the town where he lived thought fit to send him, they, the Congress, would not put an affront upon the town by refusing him; and it being put to vote, he was admitted to sit. And further saith not.

NATHANIEL THWING.

LINCOLN, ss., August 2, 1776:

Then *Nathaniel Thwing*, Esq., personally appeared, and being carefully examined and duly cautioned to testify the whole truth, made solemn oath to the truth of the above deposition by him subscribed, being taken at the request of *Gideon Gardner*, to be used in the General Court of the Colony of *Massachusetts-Bay*. The above-named *William Gardner*, Esq., not being within twenty miles of the place of caption, was not notified nor present.

Taken before me: JOSEPH NORTH, Justice Peace.

GARDNERSTON, July 29, 1776:

I, *Benjamin Colburn*, of *Gardnerston*, in the County of *Lincoln*, of lawful age, testify and say, that on the 28th day of *June*, 1774, on that day a covenant was offered to *William Gardner*, Esq., to sign, by Mr. *Joseph North*, but he refused to sign it, as the said *Gardner* said. As he came up to the deponent, I heard him, the said *Gardner*, say, that if the Regulars came that he would put on a red coat and join them, and go to help them to drive the men that burnt the tea.

I, the deponent, further say, that in the month of *June*, 1775, that my brother, *Reuben Colburn*, desired me to go after *Paul Higans*, and engage him to go with him after some *Indians*, to come in and take part with the *United Colonies*, and to join our army at *Cambridge*; my brother was the first that moved to go after and went after them, not *William Gardner*, Esq. All he, the said *Gardner*, did towards getting the *Indians* to come in, was to let *Paul Higan* have a piece of cloth to make a piece of *Indian* stockings and a jacket, which *William Gardner* said he gave the cloth to *Higan*, and he lent to my brother a tin kettle and a jump line. I know of nothing else he, the said *Gardner*, did to forward the said affair, and I think that *Higans* would went after the *Indians* if Mr. *Gardner* had not given said cloth to him, as the cloth might be had other wheres.

BENJAMIN COLBURN.

LINCOLN, ss., GARDNERSTON, July 31, 1775:

Then personally appeared *Benjamin Colburn*, and being carefully examined and duly cautioned to testify the whole truth, made solemn oath to the truth of the within deposition by him subscribed. The within named *William Gardner*, Esq., not being within twenty miles of the place of caption, was not notified nor present.

Taken before me: JOSEPH NORTH, Justice Peace.

PETITION OF JOSIAH BATCHELDER, JUN.

To the honourable the Council of the State of MASSACHUSETTS-BAY:

The Petition of JOSIAH BATCHELDER, JUN., & Co., humbly sheweth:

That your petitioners have fitted out and equipped the Brigantine called the *Retaliation*, for a privateer, to cruise on the enemies of the *United States of America*, and having conformed to all the resolves and regulations of the honourable the Grand *American* Congress, and of the General Court of this State, relative to fitting out private ships of

war, humbly pray that your Honours would be pleased to commissionate the three within-named persons, with full power to proceed on their cruise, &c.

And your petitioners, as in duty bound, shall ever pray. In behalf of himself & Co.,

JOS. BATCHELDER, JUN.

An account of the Brigantine *Retaliation's* stores and appurtenances, as followeth, viz:

Brigantine *Retaliation*, about 75 tons; 10 carriage-guns from 4 to 2-pounders; 9 swivel guns.

Josiah Batchelder, Jun., & Co., of Beverly, owners; Eleazer Giles, Captain; Thomas Stephens, Jun., First Lieutenant; John Procter, Jun., Second Lieutenant; 70 men.

50 barrels beef and pork; 4,000 weight bread; 4 quintals fish; 6 jars oil; 10 bushels potatoes; 500 weight powder; 80 weight musket-balls; 400 cannon shot; 25 small-arms; 30 cutlasses; 10 lances.

These may certify that the above is a true account of the Brigantine called the *Retaliation*, together with her stores, appurtenances, and equipment, &c.

JOS. BATCHELDER, JUN.

Beverly, September 2, 1776.

In Council, September 4, 1776.

Read, and *Ordered*, That the above-mentioned Eleazer Giles be commissioned as Commander of the Brigantine *Retaliation*, he complying with the resolves of Congress.

SAMUEL ADAMS, *Secretary*.

PETITION OF JOHN WINTHROP, JUN.

State of the MASSACHUSETTS-BAY:

To the honourable the Council of the MASSACHUSETTS-BAY: The Petition of JOHN WINTHROP, Jun., humbly sheweth:

That your petitioner, owner of the sloop *Union*, burthen about eighty tons, armed with two six-pounders, four four-pounders, four three-pounders, and fourteen swivels, manned with sixty-five men, and with six months provision, under the command of Isaac Somes, with Daniel Parsons for First Lieutenant, and Jonathan Russell, Jun., for Second, all of Gloucester, in the County of Essex, is designed to cruise against the enemies of these United States. Your petitioner would, therefore, request your Honours to grant a commission to the said vessel and Captain, for the purpose before mentioned. And your petitioner, as in duty bound, shall ever pray.

JOHN WINTHROP.

In Council, September 2, 1776.

Read, and *Ordered*, That a Commission be issued out to the above-mentioned Isaac Somes, as Commander of the Sloop *Union*, he complying with the resolves of Congress.

JOHN AVERY, *Deputy Secretary*.

ORDERS IN COUNCIL.

In Council, September 3, 1776.

As the old top of the Light-House is rendered unfit to be used for that purpose in future, the Commissary-General is hereby directed to deliver so much of it to the Committee for fortifying the Harbour of Boston as they shall need to supply the cannon with balls.

It being represented to this Board that the men raised for the Northern department, in the First Regiment, in the County of Hampshire, on the east side of Connecticut River, have not marched, it is therefore

Ordered, That all the said men now raised for said purposes are directed to march forthwith under the command of Phineas Chapin, Jun., Lieutenant, on the most direct way to join Captain Flowers's Company in Colonel Woodbridge's Regiment.

PETITION OF CHARLES GOODRICH.

To the honourable Council and honourable House of Representatives of the State of MASSACHUSETTS-BAY, now sitting at WATERTOWN, in Great and General Court, or Assembly:

The Memorial and Petition of CHARLES GOODRICH, of PITTSFIELD, in the County of BERKSHIRE, in the State aforesaid, humbly sheweth:

That the Committee of Correspondence, Inspection and Safety, of Pittsfield aforesaid, on or about the 25th day of

March last, assumed to themselves power to hear, judge, and assess, both publick and private damages with cost, against your petitioner, for defending himself with blows when previously assaulted by a certain James Morey. That in the course of the above affair, your petitioner was dragged out of his house, and carried before said Committee, by violence, late in the night, by a number of men, who said they proceeded by order of said Committee. That said Committee then refused to dismiss your petitioner, till he had promised in writing to pay said damages and costs.

That said Committee in proceeding against Moses Graves, Jun., generally deemed an inveterate Tory, ordered him to have no conversation with any Tories; who then desired him to give them in writing the names of such persons, whereupon said Committee published a list of such names, including the name of your petitioner, with whom said Graves should not converse; thereby publickly stating the character of your petitioner in a most malicious manner, which will suffer till some way can be pointed out for an impartial hearing.

That upon the late raising every twenty-fifth man in the State aforesaid, your petitioner was informed, by report only, that he was ordered by the commanding officer in Pittsfield aforesaid, either to serve as a drafted soldier, or to hire one for that end. That afterwards he was cited to appear before said Committee to answer to a complaint not pointed out to him, which he neglected to do, supposing himself bound thereunto, neither in law, equity, nor common prudence. That since the above, the Clerk of said Committee hath informed your petitioner that said Committee had sent to Mr. Watson, printer at Hartford, to advertise your petitioner as an enemy to his country. That your petitioner conceives that the foregoing violent and oppressive proceedings were had against him principally because he was appointed to civil office in said County the last year, by the constitutional authority of this State, by which proceedings justice and the rights of mankind are trampled upon. Therefore, as the civil affairs of the County aforesaid are so near a state of nature that your petitioner cannot have such protection and redress as societies are instituted to give, he prays that he may have them in such a way and manner as the justice of his cause and the rights of mankind require, and such as you in your wisdom and righteousness shall deem meet. And your petitioner, as in duty bound, shall ever pray.

CHARLES GOODRICH.

Watertown, September 3, 1776.

In the House of Representatives, September 7, 1776.

Read, and committed to the Committee on the Petitions from the town of Hancock. Sent up for concurrence.

J. WARREN, *Speaker*.

In Council, September 7, 1776.

Read and concurred, and Benjamin Greenleaf, Esq., and Benjamin White, Esq., are joined.

JNO. AVERY, *Deputy Secretary*.

The Committee to whom was referred the consideration of this Petition, beg leave to report in form of a Resolve, herewith exhibited. Per order, B. GREENLEAF.

The Petition of Charles Goodrich, Esq., of Pittsfield, in the County of Berkshire, having been considered, the following Resolve is passed thereon, viz:

In Council, September 16, 1776.

Whereas, the Committee of the town of Pittsfield have advertised the said Goodrich in the *Connecticut Courant*, of September 2d, 1776, as an enemy to his country, to the end that all connections and commercial intercourse be withdrawn from him, till he give satisfaction for his unfriendly conduct, and the said Committee having set forth the reasons for their proceedings against him in this manner, the principal of which are, "his having procured to himself a commission in the King's name to exercise authority over the people as a Justice of the Peace, which they seem to have considered as a submitting to British authority; his not paying a proper regard when he was drafted on the alarm list, to serve in the expedition against Canada; and his having joined himself with the most ancient Tories and implacable enemies among us." As to the first charge, Mr. Goodrich received a commission from the major part of the Council of this Colony, of such a tenour and form as

they judged it proper to adopt, and such, as far as they could learn, as was agreeable to the practice of the other Colonies, and agreeable to the sentiments of the Congress. The said Committee therefore in exhibiting this charge, have discovered an entire ignorance of the line of their duty, and great indecency towards the constitutional authority of this State.

With regard to the second article of charge, it appears that Mr. *Goodrich* considered himself as not liable, by the laws of this State, to be drafted from the alarm-list in such manner and for such purpose as was intended, and that therefore it was he did not yield a ready compliance, according to the expectation of the Committee.

The other charges being general, and not supported by any proper proof or evidence, do not merit attention.

Therefore it is *Resolved*, That it does not appear to this Court that the said *Charles Goodrich*, Esq., ought to be stigmatized as an enemy to his country; but that, on the other hand, we consider him as a friend to the rights of mankind, and to the grand cause in which the *United States* are at present engaged.

In Council, September 16, 1776.

Read and accepted. Sent down for concurrence.

JOHN AVERY, *Deputy Secretary*.

Resolve for paying £13 12s. 7d. to JOSEPH HOWLAND and TIMOTHY GOODWIN; passed SEPTEMBER 3, 1776.

Resolved, That there be paid to *Joseph Howland* and *Timothy Goodwin*, out of the publick Treasury of this State, the sum of £13 12s. 6d., in full discharge of what remains due for their service for post riding between *Cambridge* and *Falmouth* in the year 1775.

PETITION OF COMMITTEE OF FRAMINGHAM.

State of the MASSACHUSETTS:

To the honourable the Council and the honourable the House of Representatives of this State, now sitting at WATERTOWN:

The Petition of the Committee of Correspondence, Inspection, and Safety, of the Town of FRAMINGHAM, humbly sheweth:

That many people in this town are much dissatisfied that *Nathaniel Brinley* has the free liberty thereof, which renders it impracticable for the said Committee to comply with the order of Court, taken in its largest latitude, as the people take him for a very villain. The reasons by them assigned are the following, viz: That when among us heretofore, he used his influence to discourage and corrupt the minds of the people by saying that the Parliament had an undoubted right to make void the charter, in part or in whole; that ten thousand troops, with an artillery, would go through the Continent, and subdue it at pleasure, &c.; that he had a letter, in which we strongly suspect he had intelligence of the hostile intentions of the *British* troops some little time before the 19th of April, 1775; that he was preparing to join our enemies several months before that time, by slowly conveying his best furniture to *Roxbury*, and moved his family and goods into *Boston* a little before *Lexington* battle, and remained there so long as he could have the protection of the *British* troops; and approved of General *Gage's* conduct in the highest terms. And 'tis further observable that he left a large farm, on which he had his chief dependence for subsistence, at the most busy season of the year; and that his most intimate connexions were some of our worst enemies and traitors.

Your petitioners beg leave to observe to your Honours, that since said *Brinley* has been under our inspection, we can see nothing, either in his conduct or disposition, that discovers the least contrition, but contrarywise. He says he is a gentleman, and has done nothing to forfeit that character.

All which is humbly submitted to your Honours' wise consideration, praying for such direction or relief as to your Honours may seem meet. And, as in duty bound, shall ever pray.

Per order of the Committee of Correspondence, Inspection, &c.

EBEN'R MARSHALL.

Framingham, September 4, 1776.

To the honourable the Council and honourable House of Representatives of the State of MASSACHUSETTS-BAY, in General Court assembled, at WATERTOWN:

NATHANIEL BRINLEY, of FRAMINGHAM, husbandman, humbly sheweth:

That your petitioner was, in consequence of a power vested in five Justices of the Peace for the County of *Suffolk*, by said Justices apprehended and examined, as being a person suspected of being inimical to the rights of *America*, and, after examination, was sentenced to be sent to the town of *Framingham*, in the County of *Middlesex*, there to remain for the space of four months; and your petitioner entered into a recognizance to *Henry Gardner*, Esquire, Treasurer of this State, or his successor in said office, in the penalty of six hundred pounds, with two sureties in the sum of three hundred pounds each, for his not departing the limits of said town, for the said space of four months, and for his being of the peace, and good behaviour towards all the inhabitants of the free and independent States of *America*, specially towards the inhabitants of this State, for the space of twelve months, and for his not in any manner aiding, abetting, assisting, or corresponding with any of the enemies of said States.

Your petitioner conceived, and as he apprehends of right conceived, both from the judgment of said Justices and the condition of the recognizance, that he might reside and dwell in any part of said town of *Framingham*, and that he might pass and repass from any one part of said town to another, so that he broke not the condition of his recognizance.

But your petitioner would represent to this honourable Court that the Committee of Correspondence, Inspection and Safety, of said town, have put your petitioner to Mr. *John Fisk*, of said town, to labour for said *Fisk*, and not permitted him to go more than twenty rods from said *Fisk's* house, without his presence, and have denied him the free use of pen, ink and paper, all which your petitioner represents, for your Honours' advisement thereon, as he conceives the said Justices have no power to alter their former sentence; and prays that he may be ordered to some other inland town in this State, or in such other way as to your Honours may seem meet, may be relieved from his distress, especially as he apprehends the said Committee are not empowered to inflict other or further punishment than that ordered by said Justices, more specially as the only charge against your petitioner was his consenting to have his name put to an address to General *Gage*, which was brought to him when he was in great bodily pain, and your petitioner verily believes he should not have signed it if he had been in health, as he had always avoided every thing of that kind.

Your petitioner would further represent to this honourable Court, that while he was shut up in the town of *Boston*, being accidentally there, and not as a refugee, said Committee took into their possession the stock on the farm lately improved by your petitioner, as well as his farming utensils of every kind, his household furniture, &c., which your petitioner humbly prays may be ordered by this honourable Court to be restored to him, as he humbly conceives he has not by any law of this State forfeited the same.

And, as in duty bound, shall ever pray, in behalf of her husband, *Nathaniel Brinley*, aforesaid.

CATHARINE BRINLEY.

State of MASSACHUSETTS-BAY:

To the honourable the Council and the honourable the House of Representatives, in General Court assembled, this 9th day of SEPTEMBER, 1776:

Humbly sheweth NATHANIEL BRINLEY, of FRAMINGHAM, in the County of MIDDLESEX, husbandman:

That your petitioner was, by sentence of a Court of Inquiry specially appointed by this honourable Court, sent to the town of *Framingham*, in the County of *Middlesex*, there to remain for the space of four months; your petitioner would represent to the honourable Court that the only offence alleged against him, and the only thing of which he was found guilty by said Court, was signing an address to General *Gage*; an address presented to your petitioner while under great indisposition, and suffering the severest bodily pain; he, it is true, being in this distress, to avoid importunity and solicitation, which in such circumstances could

not but add to his sufferings, consented to have his name put to said address; he did not sign it himself, and he is firmly persuaded had he been in health he should not have consented to have had his name thereto, as he always avoided every thing of the kind. Your petitioner would further represent to the honourable Court that he hath accordingly been confined in said town of *Framingham* for near the space of six weeks; not, as he apprehends, according to the true intent and meaning of the sentence against him, for he is confined to the limits of one farm in said *Framingham*, viz: Mr. *Benjamin Eaton's*, and indeed is not allowed to depart said *Eaton's* house without the presence of said *Eaton*; that he is not allowed to converse with any person friendly or unfriendly to the rights of this State, not even with his wife, unless in the hearing of some one of said *Eaton's* family; that he is denied the use of pen, ink and paper, and is really apprehensive of loss of life should he even depart the said house; that these apprehensions are grounded on good foundations, for he has been insulted even when in company with said *Eaton*, and was once struck at when in a chaise with said *Eaton*, which stroke, your petitioner apprehends, had it not been happily warded off, would have dangerously hurt your petitioner. All these facts your petitioner can make fully appear to the honourable Court when called upon so to do. He therefore prays the honourable Court that after a due consideration of the premises, they would order him to some other inland town in said State, where he may be treated in a manner suitable to a person suffering the penalties adjudged him by the said Court of Inquiry, and where a Committee may not add punishment to punishment already inflicted, and adjudged by the said Court adequate to his offence. And, as in duty bound, shall ever pray.

Signed in behalf of her husband, *Nathaniel Brinley* aforesaid,
CATHARINE BRINLEY.

PETITION OF ELIAS HASKET DERBY AND OTHERS.

To the honourable the Council of the State of MASSACHUSETTS-BAY, in NEW-ENGLAND:

The Petition of ELIAS HASKET DERBY, MILES GREENWOOD, and JOSEPH WHITE, all of SALEM, in the County of ESSEX, and State aforesaid, humbly sheweth:

That your petitioners are now fitting out, and have almost completed for sea, a private sloop-of-war, called the *Revenge*, of ninety tons burthen, to be mounted with twelve guns, from four to six-pounders, owned by the subscribers, and whereof *Benjamin Warren* is intended to be master, to be manned by eighty men, to be victualled with thirty barrels of pork, fifty barrels of beef, and seventy barrels of bread, and to be provided with eight hundred pound weight of powder and one thousand shot. Your petitioner's humble prayer, therefore, is, that the before-named *Benjamin Warren* may be commissioned Captain of the said private sloop-of-war *Revenge*. And your petitioners, as in duty bound, shall ever pray.

ELIAS HASKET DERBY,
MILES GREENWOOD,
JOSEPH WHITE.

Salem, September 4, 1776.

In Council, September 4, 1776.

Read, and *Ordered*, That the prayer of the within Petition be granted, and that a Commission be issued to the within-mentioned *Benjamin Warren*, he complying with the resolves of Congress.

SAM'L ADAMS, *Secretary*.

PETITION OF SAMUEL DOGGET AND OTHERS.

State of MASSACHUSETTS-BAY:

To the honourable Council now sitting at WATERTOWN:

The Petition of SAMUEL DOGGET, GUSTAVUS FELLOWS, NEHEMIAH LOMES, SAMUEL PARTRIDGE, of BOSTON, DANIEL HOWES, and others of HARWICH, humbly sheweth:

That your petitioners, owners of the sloop *Wolfe*, burthen about ninety tons, armed with ten carriage-guns, viz: two six-pounders, four four-pounders, and four three-pounders, and ten swivel guns, navigated by ninety men, *Nathaniel Freeman* commander, *Joshua Doane* First Lieutenant, *Joshua Winslow* Second Lieutenant, and *Nathaniel Cooke* master, has on board as provisions, fifty barrels pork and

beef, four and half tons bread, five barrels flour; and as warlike stores, nine hundred and fifty pounds weight powder, cased and double-headed shot in proportion, with langrage. Said sloop is designed to cruise against the enemies of these *United States*. Your petitioners would, therefore, humbly pray your Honours to commission the said sloop and commander for the purpose before mentioned. And your petitioners, as in duty bound, shall ever pray.

NATH'L FREEMAN,
SAMUEL PARTRIDGE,
SAMUEL DOGGETT.

In Council, September 4, 1776.

Read, and *Resolved*, That the prayer of this Petition be granted, and that a Commission issue to the within-named *Nathaniel Freeman* accordingly, he giving bonds agreeable to the order of the Continental Congress.

SAM'L ADAMS, *Secretary*.

Resolve directing the Commissary to deliver JONATHAN EDDY and others, Bread instead of Pork; passed SEPTEMBER 4, 1776.

Whereas, by a resolve of the General Court on *September 2, 1776*, the Commissary-General was directed to deliver to *Jonathan Eddy, William How, and Zebulun Rowe*, sundry articles of Ammunition and twenty barrels of Pork; and the said *Eddy, How, and Rowe*, have represented that a quantity of Bread would be much more useful to them than such a quantity of Pork:

Therefore, *Resolved*, That the Commissary-General be, and he hereby is directed to deliver to the said *Jonathan Eddy, William How, and Zebulun Rowe*, only ten barrels of Pork, and as much Bread as shall amount to the value of ten barrels of Pork, taking their obligation as directed in the resolve aforesaid.

Resolve for the delivery of a four-pound Cannon to ISAAC COLLIER; passed SEPTEMBER 4, 1776.

Resolved, That Colonel *Crafts* be directed to deliver to Mr. *Isaac Collier* one four-pound Cannon, which by certificates, appears to have been delivered for the use of the Army at Cambridge, in April, 1775.

PETITION OF JOSEPH MAYHEW AND SHUBAEL CATTLE.

To the honourable the Council and the House of Representatives of the State of the MASSACHUSETTS-BAY, in General Court assembled:

The Petition of JOSEPH MAYHEW and SHUBAEL CATTLE, members of said House of Representatives for the towns of CHILMARK and TISBURY, in the County of DUKES County, in the State aforesaid, humbly sheweth:

That the several companies of soldiers stationed on the sea-coast establishment on *Martha's Vineyard*, in said County, for the defence thereof, do stand in great need of boats, in order to their passing (as there will be occasion for them to do) from one place to another; for which reason the prayer of your petitioners in behalf of their constituents and other inhabitants of the County aforesaid, is, that some suitable person be appointed and directed by this honourable Court to provide for the use of the officers and private soldiers of said companies ten boats, and to exhibit to your Honours an account of the cost thereof, for your allowance and order for payment, out of the publick Treasury of the State. And your petitioners, as in duty bound, shall ever pray, &c.

JOSEPH MAYHEW,
SHUBAEL CATTLE.

Watertown, September 5, 1776.

PETITION OF NATHANIEL GUILD.

To the honourable the Council and the honourable House of Representatives for the State of MASSACHUSETTS-BAY:

Humbly sheweth your petitioner that this honourable Court granted him leave to choose sixteen men out of the towns of *Stoughtonham, Walpole, Norton, and Mansfield*, to work in the furnace in *Stoughtonham* aforesaid, to forward the making military stores, ordered by this honourable Court and General *Washington*. Your petitioner is informed that the Militia are ordered to supply the lines in this State, and

of course the men now employed at the furnace must be called upon to serve in their turns, which must inevitably stop the going of the furnace now making garrison wheels, &c., for the Castle, part of which is now finished, and will greatly injure your petitioner in his interest, after putting the furnace into blast at an unseasonable time at a great expense, should the persons concerned in said furnace be obliged to attend their turns in the military service; wherefore your petitioner humbly begs this honourable Court that the persons now concerned in said furnace business, may be exempted from serving in the Militia service during the blasting of said furnace. And your petitioner, as in duty bound, shall ever pray.

NATHANIEL GUILD.

MEMORANDUM.

The owners of Furnace *Hope*, in the State of *Rhode-Island*, pray that the following persons may be exempted from military duty in the State of the *Massachusetts-Bay*, as they are necessary to carry on the works at said furnace: *Solomon Perkins, Daniel Keth, Jun., Abner Sears, Jeremiah Keth, James Keth, Ruel Keth, Seth Keth, Jonathan Keth, Amos Shepherdson*, gun moulders; *Martin Darsance*, fireman; *Ebenezer Hooper, Thomas Wood*, topmen; *James Hill, Jun.*, blacksmith.

PETITION OF COMMITTEE OF MIDDLEBOROUGH.

To the honourable Board of Counsellors and House of Representatives of the *Massachusetts State*, at *WATER-TOWN*, in General Court assembled:

The Petition of the Committee of Correspondence of the town of *MIDDLEBOROUGH*, humbly sheweth:

That the said Committee, in serving the publick agreeable with, and pursuant to, the order and directions of the honourable Council and House of Representatives, (which they are resolved seriously and carefully to observe, so far as shall any ways promote the publick good,) do meet with some difficulty; and, in particular, first: As they were ordered to the possession of, and lease out, the real estates of all persons that have fled to *Boston*, &c., and no directions given how to clear said real estates from their present encumbrances, there yet remains such real estate not leased out, because the present possessor obstinately refused to quit possession or hire the same; alluding, at the same time, to something from two of the present Council as a reason for such conduct: and further, as the personal estate of the *Olivers* hath not been under the care of publick authority, the said Committee, on taking possession, and also an inventory, of said personal estate, do find, by sufficient testimony from reputable persons, who were well acquainted with said estate, that there were many valuable things there, when and soon after the said *Olivers* left their estate, which they do not find now, and there is no person accountable therefor; and it hath been repeatedly suggested to the said Committee that particular persons who have had the opportunities have used, removed, and concealed a part of said estate; and further, a part of said personal estate is perishable, and liable at any time to be lost, and for that cause no one will risk it: Therefore your petitioners most humbly pray that the said honourable Council and House of Representatives would immediately grant to the said Committee further authority and directions adequate to their task; and in particular, with submission to your Honours' great wisdom, your petitioners humbly pray that your Honours would grant to the said Committee authority immediately to remove any person or persons from the possession of any such real estate as above-said, who have not, nor will not hire the same at a reasonable rate; and further, to demand the assistance of a Justice of the Peace so far as is necessary for the obtaining such personal estate as above-said that is yet missing; and also that any person or persons, being suspected of having taken any part of such personal estate as abovesaid, shall be accountable upon oath to the said Committee therefor, and that all perishable estate as abovesaid may be disposed of for the good of the publick. For all which your petitioners, as in duty bound, for the benefit of the publick in general, and for the equity, peace, and good order of the town to which they belong, shall ever pray. Dated at *Middleboro*, September the 2d, 1776.

By order of said Committee:

JOHN MILLER, Chairman.

IN COUNCIL, September 5, 1776: Read and sent down.

SAMUEL ADAMS, Secretary.

The Committee to consider the within Petition have attended that service, and beg leave to report that the petitioner have leave to withdraw said Petition.

OAKES ANGIER, per order.

Resolve for supplying Captain PLUMMER's Company with Powder, &c.; passed SEPTEMBER 5, 1776.

Resolved, That the Commissary-General supply Captain Benjamin Plummer with fifty pounds of Gunpowder, one hundred pounds of leaden Balls, and one hundred and fifty Flints, for the use of his Company, he, the said Plummer, to be accountable for the same.

Resolve for the delivery of six Firelocks to Captain LEIGHTON; passed SEPTEMBER 5, 1776.

On the Petition of Samuel Leighton,

Resolved, That the Commissary-General be, and he hereby is directed to deliver to Captain Samuel Leighton, six Firelocks out of the store belonging to this State, for the use of six soldiers mentioned in his Petition, and that he, the said Captain, be accountable for said Firelocks, and that there be deducted out of each of said soldiers' wages, six shillings for the use of the same.

Resolve for the delivery of four Firelocks to Captain LYMAN; passed SEPTEMBER 5, 1776.

Resolved, That the Commissary-General be, and he is hereby directed to deliver to Captain Lyman, four Firelocks out of the store belonging to this State, for the use of four soldiers mentioned in the Petition, he to be accountable for the same, and that there be deducted out of each of said soldiers' wages, six shillings for the use of the same.

Resolve for the Payment of £2 14s. to ELEAZER SPAULDING; passed SEPTEMBER 5, 1776.

On the Petition of Eleazer Spaulding, praying that his son Daniel may be allowed for his Gun lost at the battle of *Bunker-Hill*,

Resolved, That there be paid out of the publick Treasury of this State £2 14s. to the above petitioner, in full compensation for the loss of his Gun above mentioned.

PETITION OF THOMAS NICHOLSON.

To the honourable the Council of the State of *MASSACHUSETTS-BAY*:

The Petition of THOMAS NICHOLSON humbly sheweth:

That your petitioner is fixing out from *Plymouth* as a privateer, a sloop called the *America*, burthened about eighty tons, mounting ten carriage-guns and six swivels, owned by himself, Messrs. *Watson & Spooner*, and a number of others. She has on board six thousand pounds of bread, forty barrels pork and beef, five hundred weight of powder, two thousand weight of iron, and three hundred weight of leaden balls; manned with seventy men: *Thomas Nicholson* Captain, *Corben Barnes* First Lieutenant, *Nathaniel Ripley* Second Lieutenant. Your petitioner therefore humbly prays your Honours would grant him a commission as Commander of the said privateer, he giving bond agreeable to the requisition of the Congress.

THOMAS NICHOLSON.

In Council, September 6, 1776.

Read, and Ordered, That a Commission be issued out to the said *Thomas Nicholson* as Commander of the Sloop *America*, he complying with the resolves of Congress.

JNO. AVERY, Deputy Secretary.

PETITION OF THOMAS CRAGG.

State of the *MASSACHUSETTS-BAY*:

To the honourable the General Court of said State:

The Petition of THOMAS CRAGG humbly shows:

That your petitioner being part owner of the ship *Isaac* and her cargo, was on a voyage in said ship from the Island of *Tortola* bound to *Liverpool*, in *England*, to visit his family and attend to his private concerns; that in prosecuting said voyage he was taken and brought into this State. This unexpected event has thrown your petitioner into the

most distressed and pitiable circumstances. A principal part of his fortune is taken out of his hands, and what remains must suffer inevitable ruin from his absence in a short time. He has a wife, children, and a large family, who cannot long subsist without his support; and himself, though unused to want the conveniences of life, must soon experience the wretchedness of extreme poverty. Your petitioner begs leave to declare that he has never taken an active part in the unhappy controversy between *Great Britain* and *America*; and from his age and standing in life, it necessarily follows that he never will. He, therefore, humbly prays your Honours to take his unhappy case into your consideration, and grant him and one servant liberty to take passage for some part of *England*, in the ship _____, owned by Mr. *William Ross*, and by your Honours' permission bound for some part of *England*, or grant him such other relief as your Honours' well-known wisdom and humanity may point out. And your petitioner as in duty bound shall ever pray.

THOS. CRAGG.

Boston, September 4, 1776.

In Council, September 6, 1776.

Read, and *Ordered*, That the prayer of this Petition be granted, and that the said *Thomas Cragg*, with one servant, be permitted to depart from this State to any part of *Great Britain* in such Vessel as *William Ross* and *Nathaniel Morgan* (who lately had liberty obtained to depart) may purchase for that purpose.

JNO. AVERY, *Deputy Secretary*.

PETITION OF THOMAS MELVILL.

State of MASSACHUSETTS-BAY:

To the honourable the Council of said State:

The Petition of THOMAS MELVILL, one of the owners of armed Schooner SPEEDWELL, in behalf of himself and the other owners of said schooner, humbly shows:

That the said owners of said schooner have, at a great expense, armed, fitted, and manned, said schooner, (as mentioned in a memorandum given in to the Secretary's Office of this honourable Board,) to cruise against the enemies of this and the *United States of America*. Your petitioner, therefore, in behalf of himself and other said owners of said schooner, humbly prays your Honours to authorize, empower, and commissionate *Jonathan Greeley*, of *Boston*, in the County of *Suffolk*, mariner, to take the command of said schooner, and to cruise against the said enemies of the said *States of America*. And your petitioner, as in duty bound, shall ever pray.

THOS. MELVILL, one of the Agents.

In Council, September 6, 1776.

Read, and *Ordered*, That the within-mentioned Schooner *Speedwell*, whereof *Jonathan Greeley* is Commander, be commissioned, he complying with the resolves of Congress.

JOHN AVERY, *Deputy Secretary*.

On board the armed Schooner SPEEDWELL, seventy-five tons.

70 men, officers included;
8 carriage-guns, four and three-pounders;
12 swivels; 35 small-arms;
700 lbs. powder; 400 three and four-pound shot;
300 swivel shot; 70 weight small-arm balls;
45 bbls. beef and pork; 6,000 weight bread;
4 bbls. flour, and a number of other small stores.

Jonathan Greeley Captain, First Lieutenant not yet appointed, *William Pitman* Second Lieutenant, *John Wilkinson* Master.

THOMAS MELVILL, JONATHAN GREELY,
WILLIAM FOSTER, THOMAS HICHBORN,
DAVID BRADLEY, Captain GORHAM.
JOHN HUCKLEY,

Owners, all of *Boston*.

PETITION OF WALTER LOGAN.

Needham, September 6, 1776.

To the honourable the Council of the Colony of MASSACHUSETTS-BAY:

The Petition of WALTER LOGAN, Comptroller of the Customs of PERTH-AMBOY, in NEW-JERSEY, humbly sheweth:

That your petitioner, in December last, being about to

remove his family from the town of *Needham* (the place of their residence) to his port, his Excellency General *Washington* was pleased to order him to remain within the said town on his parole of honour, and afterwards did refer his condition to the determination of the authority of your Colony. That the office of your petitioner having now ceased, he is deprived of his subsistence, which reduces him and his family to very distressing circumstances. He therefore prays your Honours will be pleased to permit him, his wife and son, to return to *Britain*, and to grant him such liberty as may be necessary, in the mean time, to prepare for his voyage. And your petitioner will ever pray.

WALTER LOGAN.

In Council, September 6, 1776.

Read, and *Ordered*, That the prayer of the within Petitioner be so far granted that the said *Walter Logan*, wife, and son, may have liberty to depart this State in the first vessel licensed by this Board; and that he have liberty to prepare for his voyage.

JOHN AVERY, *Deputy Secretary*.

PETITION OF NATHANIEL BARSTOW AND DANIEL WHITMORE.

To the honourable Council and the honourable House of Representatives of the State of the MASSACHUSETTS-BAY, in General Court assembled:

The Petition of NATHANIEL BARSTOW and DANIEL WHITMORE, of SUNDERLAND, in the County of HAMPSHIRE, humbly sheweth:

Whereas there is a great scarcity of gunpowder in this part of the State, and people cannot obtain necessary supplies thereof at this important crisis, and there being considerable quantity of saltpetre manufactured in these parts, your petitioners apprehending that it would be advantageous to the publick, and serve the publick cause, to have the saltpetre made in these parts manufactured into gunpowder amongst us, one of us has taken pains to acquaint himself with the mystery of manufacturing the same, and has attained it, so that he has already made about forty weight of what is esteemed excellent good gunpowder; and we have begun to erect a Powder-Mill by the assistance of Mr. *Cunable*, who says it may be ready to go in about three weeks. Your petitioners therefore humbly pray that your Honours would be graciously pleased to grant unto them the privilege of manufacturing what saltpetre is made in these parts into gunpowder for the use of the estate, on the terms that it is manufactured at the other Powder-Mills in the said State, and also appoint some meet person or persons to purchase and receive said saltpetre, and also to dispose of such gunpowder as shall be made therewith. And in duty bound, will ever pray.

NATHL. BARSTOW,
DANIEL WHITMORE.

Sunderland, September 6, Anno Domini 1776.

PETITION OF ANNE TWEEDIE.

State of MASSACHUSETTS-BAY:

To the honourable the Council of the said State:

The Petition of ANNE TWEEDIE, GEORGE KEYS, MAIN-SWEETE WALDRON, PHILIP HICKS, and CHARLES GRANT, lately from the Island of ANTIGUA, humbly sheweth:

That the said *George Keys* was lately master and part owner of a certain ship called the *Nancy*, bound from the said Island of *Antigua* to *London*, laden with sugars, the property of inhabitants in the said Island. That the said ship was made capture of by the brigantine privateer called the *Hancock*, from *Philadelphia*, commanded by *Wingate Newman*, which said ship was brought into *Newport*, in the said State of *Massachusetts-Bay*. That some of your petitioners have the nearest and dearest connexions in *England*, who are entirely dependent upon them for maintenance; that others of your petitioners have private important business in *England*, concerning themselves only, which cannot be transacted without their presence there; that your petitioners are so unhappily circumstanced that they are unprovided with means by which they may support themselves in this country. That your petitioners are residents, and have property in the said Island of *Antigua*, but have taken no part in the present unhappy war between

Great Britain and the *United States of America*. Your petitioners therefore humbly pray that your Honours will take their unfortunate case into consideration, and grant your petitioners and their three servants lately from *Antigua*, leave to depart from this State to some part of *Europe*, in the ship lately purchased by *William Ross*, or in any other vessel bound to *Europe*, or the *West-Indies*. And your petitioners shall ever pray, &c.

PHILIP HICKS for ANNE TWEEDIE,
GEORGE KEYS,
MAINSWETE WALROUD,
PHILIP HICKS,
CHS. GRANT.

In Council, September 7, 1776.

Read, and *Ordered*, That the prayer of this Petition be granted, and the several petitioners be permitted to depart from this State to any part of *Great Britain*, in such vessel as *William Ross* and *Nathaniel Morgan*, who lately had liberty to depart granted them by this Board, may purchase for this purpose. JOHN AVERY, *Deputy Secretary*.

Resolve relative to the Adjournment of a Maritime Court at POWNALBOROUGH; passed SEPTEMBER 6, 1776.

On the Petition of *Ichabod Jones*,

Resolved, That the prayer of this Petition be so far granted that the Maritime Court for the Eastern District of this State, to be holden at *Pownalborough*, on the 9th of this instant, in order to try the justice of the captures of two Vessels taken from the petitioner, be adjourned to the first day of *October* next, in order that the petitioner, by an attorney, may show cause, if any he has, why the said Vessels should not be condemned. And the petitioner, by his attorney, has liberty to file his claim with the Judge of the said Maritime Court to the said Vessels and Appurtenances, at any time before the said first day of *October* next, and that the Judge of said Court be notified thereof, by being served with a copy of this order.

PETITION OF ELISHA HEDGE.

To the honourable Council and House of Representatives of the State of MASSACHUSETTS-BAY, in General Court assembled:

The Petition of ELISHA HEDGE, of MARLBOROUGH, in the County of MIDDLESEX, in said State, most humbly shows:

That in consequence of a late resolve of the honourable Continental Congress giving full liberty and approbation to all persons in the *American States* to buy and sell the article of tea, your petitioner, about the 1st of *July* last past, sent forty pounds lawful money to one Mr. *Jonathan Danford*, of *Hardwick*, in order for the said *Danford* to purchase a quantity of tea for your petitioner; which tea the said *Danford* did actually purchase, and brought the said tea to *Hardwick* aforesaid, for your petitioner; but when your petitioner applied for the said tea, the Committee of Correspondence for the aforesaid town of *Hardwick* had seized the said tea and all the rest of the said *Danford's* estate which they could find, without ever convening the said *Danford* before them, to give him any hearing in his own defence, or even without proving any crime against him whatever; all which proceedings of the said Committee are directly contrary to the resolves of the Congress aforesaid; and supposing the said Committee had ever so good a right to seize the said *Danford's* estate in manner as aforesaid, surely they have no right to withhold and detain the property of your petitioner in their custody. Therefore your petitioner humbly prays your Honours to take his case into your consideration, and give him some directions how he shall proceed, in order to obtain his property aforesaid out of the hands of the aforesaid Committee, as said Committee have refused to let the aforesaid tea go out of their hands, but unjustly detain it in their own custody, greatly to the damage of your petitioner. All which is humbly submitted. And as your petitioner, in duty bound, shall ever pray.

ELISHA HEDGE.

Marlborough, September the 7th, 1776.

The Committee on the Petition of *Elisha Hedge* have attended that service, and beg leave to report that this petitioner have leave to withdraw his Petition.

PETITION OF JOHN CODMAN.

State of MASSACHUSETTS-BAY:

To the honourable the Council and honourable House of Representatives, in General Court assembled:

The Petition of JOHN CODMAN, of BOSTON, humbly sheweth:

That your petitioner, with several other owners of the schooner *Langdon*, mounting six carriage-guns and ten swivels, now fitting out to cruise against the enemies of these *United States*, and said schooner having every necessary equipment but the article of gunpowder, and for want of which she is unable to proceed on her cruise, your petitioner therefore humbly prays that your Honours would grant him permission to purchase five hundred weight of gunpowder out of the publick store belonging to this State, and for which he will immediately pay the money. And, as in duty bound, shall ever pray.

JOHN CODMAN.

PETITION OF JOSEPH SPRAGUE AND SAMUEL WARD.

To the honourable Council and House of Representatives of the State of MASSACHUSETTS-BAY:

The Petition of the subscribers humbly sheweth:

That your petitioners have, at a great expense, fixed out as a privateer the schooner *Dolphin*, *Samuel Waters* commander, whom the honourable Council have commissioned, with eight swivel-guns and twenty-five men, to cruise on the enemies of the *United States of America*. To effect said purposes, your petitioners humbly pray that the honourable Court will grant them sixty pounds of gunpowder, they paying for the same such a sum as the honourable Court shall think proper. And your petitioners, as in duty bound, shall ever pray.

JOSEPH SPRAGUE.
SAM. WARD.

PETITION OF ISAAC COLLYER.

To the honourable the General Court of the State of the MASSACHUSETTS-BAY, now assembled at WATERTOWN:

The Petition of JOHN COLLYER, of MARBLEHEAD, humbly sheweth:

That your petitioner with sundry others are fitting out an armed vessel on a four months' cruise against our unnatural enemies, to carry twelve carriage-guns and one hundred men, *Nathaniel Leech* commander, and as it is difficult if not impracticable to procure ammunition, beg your Honours would be pleased to order the Commissioners of this Colony to deliver your petitioner one thousand pounds of gunpowder, he paying for the same. And your petitioner, as in duty bound, shall ever pray, &c.

ISAAC COLLYER.

Resolve for the payment of Wages and Rations to JEREMIAH COLBURN and SAMUEL LOW; passed SEPTEMBER 7, 1776.

On the Petition of *Jeremiah Colburn* and *Samuel Low*,
Resolved, That there be paid out of the Treasury of this State to the above petitioners, the same Wages and Rations as were allowed to the other soldiers of *Captain Lane's* Company, viz: six dollars per month, and seven pence half penny per day, each, for rations, amounting in the whole to sixteen pounds and eleven shillings each.

Resolve relative to building a Barrack on the GURNET; passed SEPTEMBER 7, 1776.

Resolved, That *William Watson*, Esq., the Commissary for the supply of the Troops doing duty for this State at *Plymouth*, be and he hereby is empowered and directed as soon as may be, to provide materials and build a Barrack upon the *Gurnet* in *Plymouth* harbour, sufficient to contain one hundred men.

An Adjutant for the Second Regiment of Militia in the County of LINCOLN, chosen SEPTEMBER 7, 1776.

The House made choice, by ballot, of *Ebenezer Farnwell*, as an Adjutant to the Second Regiment of Militia in the County of *Lincoln*.

Concurred by Council.

Resolve on the Petition of THOMAS NICHOLSON; passed
SEPTEMBER 7, 1776.

On the Petition of *Thomas Nicholson*,
Resolved, That *William Watson*, Esq., deliver unto the petitioner, *Thomas Nicholson*, two four-Pounders and six Swivels, that belonged to the Brig *Rising-Empire*, he delivering to the said *Watson* a bond with sufficient sureties, payable to the Treasurer of this State, that he will deliver two four-Pounders and six Swivels of equal goodness with those hereby ordered to be delivered, within ten days from this day; and also, that the said *Watson* deliver to the said *Nicholson* two hundred pounds of Gunpowder belonging to said brig, he paying the sum of six shillings a pound for the same.

Resolve on Captain JOHN PARKER's Muster-Roll; passed
SEPTEMBER 7, 1776.

Whereas, by a Resolve of this Court of the 28th of June last, the sum of £13 11s. 6d., was made payable out of the Treasury of this State to Captain *John Parker*, for the use of the officers and soldiers of a company of men lately commanded by said *Parker*, and it having been made to appear to this Court that the said *Parker* was deceased before the passing said Resolve: Therefore,

Resolved, That there be allowed and paid out of the publick Treasury of this State to *John Bridge*, Lieutenant of said Company, the above-said sum of £13 11s. 6d., for the use of the officers and soldiers borne on the muster-roll of said Company, made up and attested to by said *Bridge*, in full of said roll; and that the warrant that was drawn by this Court on the Treasurer, for the above-said sum, in favour of said *Parker*, be stayed in the Secretary's office.

Field-Officers for the BOSTON Regiment chosen.

The House made choice, by ballot, of the following gentlemen, as Field-Officers for the *Boston Regiment* of Militia, in the County of *Suffolk*: *Henry Bromfield*, Colonel; *Thomas Dawes*, Lieutenant-Colonel; *Ephraim May*, First Major; *William Dawes*, Second Major.

Concurred by Council, September 7, 1776.

An Adjutant chosen for the Fourth Regiment of Militia, in the County of MIDDLESEX.

The House made choice, by ballot, of *Daniel Loring*, as an Adjutant of the Fourth Regiment of Militia, in the County of *Middlesex*.

Concurred by Council, September 7, 1776.

PETITION OF WILLIAM SPOONER AND OTHERS.

State of the MASSACHUSETTS-BAY:
To the honourable Council of said State, sitting at WATERTOWN, SEPTEMBER 9, 1776:

William Spooner, *Stephen Bruce*, and *Daniel Martin*, agents for themselves and for *Richard Gridley*, *Paul Dudley Sargent*, *Henry Newman*, *Benjamin Wormell*, *Benjamin Bird*, and *Edward Church*, all of *Boston*, of the schooner *Viper*, represent to your Honours, that they have, at their joint and proper expense of the said owners, fitted out, armed, manned, and equipped, the aforesaid schooner, now lying in the harbour of *Boston*, and ready for the sea; burthened about seventy tons, to be navigated by fifty men, mounting six carriage-guns, four-pounders, eight swivels, and other implements of war, and provided with thirty barrels of beef and pork, four thousand weight of bread, and forty butts of water, together with five hundred weight of powder, and twelve hundred weight of shot, and to be commanded by the aforesaid *Benjamin Wormell* as Captain, *Joseph Lovace* as First Lieutenant, *Alexander Martin* as Second Lieutenant, as Master, *John Martin* as Gunner, *Josiah Levett* as Surgeon; for the purpose of cruising on the enemies of the *United States of America*, and their property. They therefore make this application to your Honours for a commission for the said schooner, the said *Benjamin Wormell*, in the bond herewith exhibited, having complied with the requisitions of the honourable Congress, in such case made and provided. And, as in duty bound, shall ever pray.

WILLIAM SPOONER,
DANIEL MARTIN,
STEPHEN BRUCE, } Agents.

FIFTH SERIES.—VOL. II.

In Council, September 9, 1776.

Read, and *Ordered*, That the prayer of this Petition be granted, and that a Commission be issued to the said *Benjamin Wormell*, as Commander of the schooner called the *Viper*, he complying with the resolves of Congress.

JOHN AVERY, Deputy Secretary.

PETITION OF ELIZABETH FENTON.

State of MASSACHUSETTS-BAY:
To the honourable Council now sitting at WATERTOWN:
The Petition of ELIZABETH FENTON, of CHARLESTOWN,
humbly sheweth:

That as the circumstances of publick affairs render it impracticable for your petitioner to have any communication with, or receive any kind of assistance from, her husband, who is now in *England*; and your petitioner understanding that Mr. *Ross* has lately obtained liberty to depart this State, and has purchased a vessel for this purpose, your petitioner therefore prays your Honours' leave that she may be permitted, with her children and a negro girl, to take passage in said vessel. And, as in duty bound, shall ever pray.

In behalf of my sister, Mrs. *Elizabeth Fenton*,
NATHANIEL DOWSE.

In Council, September 9, 1776.

Read, and *Ordered*, That the prayer of the Petition be granted, and the said Petitioner, with her Children and Servant, be permitted to depart from this State to any part of *Great Britain* in such Vessel as Mr. *William Ross* and *Nathaniel Morgan*, who lately had liberty obtained to depart, may purchase for that purpose.

JOHN AVERY, Deputy Secretary.

PETITION OF THOMAS MELVILLE.

State of MASSACHUSETTS-BAY:
To the honourable the General Court of said State:
The Petition of THOMAS MELVILLE, of BOSTON, in the County of SUFFOLK, in behalf of himself and the other owners of the armed Schooner SPEEDWELL, now riding at anchor in the Harbour of BOSTON aforesaid, commanded by JONATHAN GREELEY, humbly shews:

That they have, at a great expense, equipped and fitted said schooner with her carriage-guns, and every necessary warlike implement for a cruise against the enemies of the *American States*, but for the want of about seven hundred pounds of powder, said schooner is detained in the harbour, and unable to proceed on her intended cruise. Your petitioner, therefore, in behalf of himself and the said owners of said schooner, humbly prays your Honours to take the premises into your wise consideration, and grant him a supply of seven hundred pounds' weight of powder, for the use of said schooner against the said enemies of said States, out of the publick stores or magazines of this State, at such price, or on such conditions, as to your Honours may seem fit. And your petitioner, as in duty bound, shall ever pray.

THOMAS MELVILLE.

PETITION OF THE COMMITTEE OF ROCHESTER.

To the honourable the Great and General Court or Assembly of the Colony of the MASSACHUSETTS-BAY:
MAY IT PLEASE YOUR HONOURS:

The Committee of Correspondence and Inspection for the town of *Rochester*, being directed by your Honours to inform of all persons whose conduct is unfriendly to the cause of the Colonies, &c., said Committee beg leave to name *Samuel Sprague*, who was one of the addressors of the late Governour *Hutchinson*, but did, some time after, subscribe a declaration, manifesting his repentance and retraction of said Address, and also his abhorrence of the *Quebeck Bill*, and the Act of Parliament for blocking up the Port of *Boston*, &c., which confession and retraction was to the general satisfaction of the town. But the said *Sprague* hath since retracted his former confession and repentance, and manifests a disposition unfriendly to *America*, as it appears to us by the enclosed depositions; and the said *Samuel* did, before the Committee, on the 7th of June last, declare that he was not convinced of the justice of the cause of the Colonies, and that he utterly refused to take up

arms, or be any ways personally active in the defence of the common cause of the Colonies.

By order of the Committee, &c.,

ISRAEL SNOW, *Chairman*.

Rochester, September 9, 1776.

To the Hon. the Speaker of the House of Representatives.

I, the subscriber, do testify and declare that I lately heard *Samuel Sprague*, Esq., say, in his own house, he was sorry that he signed a retraction of the Address to Governor *Hutchinson*, and that, if it were to do again, he should not do it.

STEPHEN BARDEN.

Rochester, June 21, 1776.

PLYMOUTH, ss., June 21, 1776:

The above-named *Stephen Bardin* appeared and made oath that the above deposition is the truth.

Sworn before DAVID WING, *Justice of Peace*.

I, the subscriber, testify and declare that, in conversation with Mr. *Samuel Sprague*, I heard him declare that he did believe the *Quebeck* bill complained of to be just, and was enacted to fulfill a former contract.

JAMES COWING.

Rochester, June the 21, 1776.

I, the subscriber, heard *Samuel Sprague* say, in regard to his signing a recantor for addressing Governor *Hutchinson*, he did that which was wrong, and that he did it for to save his life, and, had it been in matters of religion, he looked on it he ought to resist even to bloodshed.

JOHN BURGESS.

Rochester, June 21, 1776.

PLYMOUTH, ss., June 21, 1776:

The above-named *John Burges* appeared and made oath that the above deposition by him subscribed is the truth.

Sworn before DAVID WING, *Justice of Peace*.

I, the subscriber, being called upon by the Committee of Correspondence for the town of *Rochester* to declare what I heard *Samuel Sprague* say relative to the *Quebeck* bill, do testify and declare that the said *Samuel* did, in my hearing, plead up for and justify the said bill, as being just and equitable, and nothing more than a ratification of a former treaty, and that he could see no ill consequences attending the same.

JABEZ COTTLE.

Rochester, June the 21st, 1776.

PLYMOUTH, ss., June 21, 1776:

The within-named *Jabez Cottle* appeared and made oath that the within deposition, by him subscribed, is the truth.

Sworn before DAVID WING, *Justice of Peace*.

PETITION OF DAVID KEMP.

State of the MASSACHUSETTS-BAY:

To the honourable the Council and House of Representatives of this State in General Court assembled at WATER-TOWN, SEPTEMBER, 1776:

The Petition of DAVID KEMP, of GROTON, in the County of MIDDLESEX, humbly sheweth:

That your petitioner's son, *David Kemp*, Jun., a minor, under the age of twenty-one years, enlisted himself into his country's service in April, 1775, in Captain *Joshua Parker's* Company, in Colonel *William Prescott's* Regiment, and served there as a private until the 17th of June, 1775, and was in the battle at *Bunker-Hill*; was there taken captive and carried into *Boston*, and remained there till the British troops left *Boston* last March, at which time he was carried off with them to *Halifax*, and there remained a prisoner with Lieutenant *Scott* until the 13th of June last, when said *Scott* came off. Your petitioner would represent to your Honours that Captain *Parker* made up your petitioner's son no longer than to the 17th of June, 1775, that your petitioner has received no wages for his said son's service but what was allowed in said Captain *Parker's* roll. Your petitioner is poor and very needy; therefore desires your Honours would take the subject-matter of this petition into your wise consideration, and allow him the wages for his son to this time, or such part of the time as your Honours shall think fit. And as in duty bound, shall ever pray.

DAVID KEMP.

This certifies, that Lieutenant *Scott*, of *Peterboro*, who was taken prisoner by the King's troops on the 17th of June, 1775, married my wife's sister, and told me since his

return from *Halifax* that *David Kemp*, Jun., of *Groton*, was taken prisoner with him at the same time and carried to *Boston*, and there confined in gaol until the town was evacuated, and then he and said *Kemp* were carried to *Halifax* in irons, and confined in the gaol there until he broke out, that he parted with said *Kemp*, but was informed by a deserter that they had retaken said *Kemp*, and carried him back to the gaol again; said Lieutenant *Scott* said also that he had heard the same about said *Kemp* from divers other persons.

ISAAC WOODS.

Groton, September 9, 1776.

David Kemp, son of *David Kemp* and *Hannah* his wife, was born at *Groton*, January 25, 1758.

A true copy from the Town book, page 119.

Attest: OLIVER PRESCOTT, *Town Clerk*.

The Committee on the within Petition beg leave to report that the petitioner have leave to withdraw said Petition.

Resolve for the payment of Captain DODGE's Roll; passed SEPTEMBER 9, 1776.

Resolved, That there be allowed and paid out of the publick Treasury of this State to Captain *Isaac Dodge*, or his order, the sum of £22 4s. 10d., for the use of himself officers, and men, (who were employed in the Continental service,) in full discharge of his roll.

Resolve for furnishing CALEB TURNER's Company with Powder, &c.; passed SEPTEMBER 9, 1776.

Resolved, That the Commissary-General be and hereby is directed to deliver to *Caleb Turner*, fifty weight of Gunpowder, one hundred weight of leaden Ball, and one hundred and fifty Flints, for the use of his Company, he to be accountable to this Court for the same.

Resolve for paying MOSES HARRINGTON £2 15s.; passed SEPTEMBER 9, 1776.

Resolved, That there be paid out of the publick Treasury of this State the sum of £2 15s., to *Moses Harrington*, in full discharge for the loss of his son's Gun, as set forth in said Petition.

Resolve for paying the heirs of OBADIAH ADAMS £1 16s.; passed SEPTEMBER 9, 1776.

Resolved, That there be paid out of the publick Treasury of this State the sum of £1 16s., unto the heirs of *Obadiah Adams*, deceased, in full discharge for the loss of a Gun broken to pieces by a cannon-ball from the enemy on *Dorchester Hill*, the 10th of March, 1776.

Resolve for paying Mileage to the Militia called in to the Heights of DORCHESTER; passed SEPTEMBER 9, 1776.

Resolved, That such part of Militia of this State as marched to the Heights of *Dorchester* by order of Council, (for the defence thereof,) made in the last recess of the General Court, be paid their mileage out of the Colony treasury, at the rate of one penny a mile for the respective distances which they have travelled to the said place of rendezvous; the rolls or abstracts thereof to be made up by the respective Captains, and paid to the said Captains severally for the use of themselves and the men under their command; the said mileage rolls to be paid by warrant from the Council, after they have been examined by the Committee of both Houses that is or may be appointed for that purpose.

And it is further Resolved, That the commissions of the several officers that have been appointed by the Council for that service, shall be as valid to all intents and purposes as though the said officers had been previously elected by the whole General Court.

Resolve for paying £37 1s., to SAMUEL STOCKBRIDGE; passed SEPTEMBER 9, 1776.

On the Petition of *Samuel Stockbridge*, Resolved, That there be paid out of the publick Treasury of this State, £37 1s., to the petitioner in full for billeting fifty-seven men three weeks, which, together with the mileage, makes up the five shillings per week.

Resolve for the delivery of Powder to THOMAS MELVILL; passed SEPTEMBER 9, 1776.

On the Petition of *Thomas Melvill*,
Resolved, That the Commissary-General be, and he is hereby directed to deliver out of the store belonging to this State, or order the same to be delivered at the Powder-Mill in *Stoughton*, five hundred pounds of Gunpowder, to *Thomas Melvill*, he the said *Melvill* paying six shillings per pound to the said Commissary for the same. The Commissary-General to be accountable for the money so received.

Resolve for the sale of Powder to JONATHAN HOBBY; passed SEPTEMBER 9, 1776.

On the Petition of *Jonathan Hobby*,
Resolved, That the Commissary-General be, and he is hereby directed to deliver out of the store belonging to this State, or order the same to be delivered at the Powder-Mill in *Andover*, four hundred pounds of Gunpowder to *Jonathan Hobby*, he the said *Hobby* paying six shillings per pound for the same. The Commissary-General to be accountable for the money so received.

Resolve on the Petition of JOHN CODMAN; passed SEPTEMBER 9, 1776.

On the Petition of *John Codman*,
Resolved, That the Commissary-General of this State supply *John Codman*, with three hundred and fifty pounds weight of Gunpowder for the use of the schooner *Langdon*, at the Powder-Mill at *Stoughton*, the said *Codman* paying at the rate of six shillings per pound. The Commissary-General to be accountable for the money so received.

Resolve on the Petition of JOSEPH SPRAGUE and SAMUEL WARD; passed SEPTEMBER 9, 1776.

On the Petition of *Joseph Sprague* and *Samuel Ward*,
Resolved, That the Commissary-General of this State supply *Joseph Sprague* and *Samuel Ward* with sixty pounds of Gunpowder, they paying after the rate of six shillings per pound for the same; the Commissary-General to be accountable for the money so received. The Commissary is directed to deliver the Powder to *John Pickering*, Jun., or order, for the use of the Petitioners.

Resolve on the Petition of ISAAC COLLYER; passed SEPTEMBER 9, 1776.

On the Petition of *Isaac Collyer*,
Resolved, That the Commissary-General of this State supply *Isaac Collyer* with seven hundred pounds of Gunpowder, at the Powder-Mill at *Andover*, for the use of an armed Vessel; the said *Collyer* to pay after the rate of six shillings per pound. The Commissary-General to be accountable for the money so received.

Resolve on the Petition of JOHN WINTHROP, Jun.; passed SEPTEMBER 9, 1776.

On the Petition of *John Winthrop*, Jun.,
Resolved, That the Commissary-General of this State supply *John Winthrop*, Jun., with four hundred pounds of Gunpowder, for the use of the *Union* sloop-of-war, at the Powder-Mill at *Andover*, the said *Winthrop* paying at the rate of six shillings per pound. The Commissary-General to be accountable for the money so received.

Resolve on the Petition of JAMES SWAN; passed SEPTEMBER 9, 1776.

On the Petition of *James Swan*,
Resolved, That the Commissary-General of this State supply *James Swan* with thirty hundred pounds of Gunpowder, at the Powder-Mill at *Stoughton*, for the use of the privateer ship named the *Boston*, the said *James Swan* paying at the rate of six shillings per pound. The Commissary-General to be accountable for the money so received.

PETITION OF THOMAS HARRIS.

To the honourable the Council and the honourable the House of Representatives for the State of the MASSACHUSETTS-BAY, in General Court assembled at WATERTOWN, SEPTEMBER 9, 1776:

The Petition of THOMAS HARRIS, of BOSTON, in the County of SUFFOLK, in behalf of himself and others, owners of the Schooner AMERICA, now lying at NEW-MEADOWS, humbly sheweth:

That your petitioners are preparing the said schooner for a privateer, to cruise against the enemies of the *United American States*, but find it impossible to purchase powder sufficient for the purpose of private persons. They would therefore humbly pray that your Honours would give orders that they may receive out of the publick magazine of this State seven hundred pounds weight of gunpowder, for the purpose aforesaid, they paying the customary price for the same.

And your petitioners, as in duty bound, shall ever pray,
&c. THOMAS HARRIS.

PETITION OF NATHANIEL LEECH.

State of MASSACHUSETTS-BAY:

To the honourable Council now sitting in WATERTOWN.
The Petition of NATHANIEL LEECH, and others, of MARBLEHEAD, in the County of ESSEX, humbly sheweth:

That your petitioner and others, owners of the sloop called the *Polly*, burthen about ninety-three tons, armed with twelve carriage-guns, eighteen swivel-guns, and thirty muskets, navigated by one hundred men, *Nathaniel Leech* Commander, *John Dixey* Second Lieutenant, *Isaac Colyar* First Lieutenant, *Samuel Green* Master, all of *Marblehead*, has on board as provisions eighty barrels of beef and pork, ten thousand weight of bread, and other stores in proportion. Said sloop is designed to cruise against the enemies of these *United States*.

Your petitioner would therefore humbly pray your Honours to commission the said sloop and Commander for the purpose before mentioned.

And your petitioner, as in duty bound, shall ever pray.
NATHANIEL LEECH & Co.

In Council, September 10, 1776.

Read, and *Ordered*, That a Commission be issued out to the above-mentioned *Nathaniel Leech*, agreeable to the prayer of the petition, he complying with the resolves of Congress.

JOHN AVERY, Deputy Secretary.

PETITION OF JEDEDIAH PREBLE, JUN.

To the honourable Council and to the honourable House of Representatives, in General Court assembled at WATERTOWN, in the State of the MASSACHUSETTS-BAY, SEPTEMBER 10, 1776.

The Petition of JEDEDIAH PREBLE, Jun., and JEREMIAH COLBURN, of PENOBSCOT, in behalf of themselves and inhabitants adjacent, humbly sheweth:

That your petitioners, being inhabitants up the river of *Penobscot*, and near adjacent to the *Indian* settlements, and are daily exposed to the enemy, and none but *Indians* to trust to. That your petitioners imagine they are not fit to be trusted alone, without some of our guards with them, which causes the inhabitants to be very uneasy for fear their settlements may be broke up. That your petitioners pray your Honours would order some guards there, to be connected with the *Indians*, in order to keep them from joining against us, as they are no ways to be trusted alone, would cause us to dwell much more at ease among us, and much less in fear of them. That your petitioners pray your Honours would consider their danger, and relieve them, as in your great wisdom see meet. And your petitioners, as in duty bound, shall ever pray.

JEDEDIAH PREBLE, Jun.,
JEREMIAH COLBORN.

PETITION OF SHUBAEL COTTLE.

To the honourable Council and House of Representatives for the State of the MASSACHUSETTS-BAY:

SHUBAEL COTTLE, a member of this House, and Representative of the Town of *Tisbury*, in *Dukes County*, in the behalf of *Nathan Smith*, Captain of the First Company of sea-coast men, stationed in said *Tisbury*, in *Dukes County* aforesaid, for the defence of the said County, most humbly sheweth:

That from the encouragement given by these States to all persons to make captures of vessels belonging to the enemy employed against the *United States*, as also by a resolve

which passed the honourable Continental Congress on the 23d of *March*, in 1775, respecting such matters, your petitioner begs leave to say that the above-said Captain *Smith*, from a principle of serving his country, and stimulated with the hopes of reward, he, with divers other persons belonging to a sea-coast company stationed on the Island of *Martha's Vineyard*, with some of the Militia of the same place, with three pilot-boats provided by said *Smith* and company, did, on the 12th day of *April* last past, at the risk of their lives, board, take, and bring into the port of *Bedford*, in this State, a certain schooner called the *Volante*, of about sixty tons burthen, laden with provisions and stores for the use of the fleet and army employed against the *United States of America*, the said schooner then being a part of said fleet, and tender to the *Scarborough* man-of-war, one *Edward Marsh* master. Your petitioner at the time of the capture did humbly conceive, after condemnation and deducting the charges incident thereto, that the vessel, cargo, and appurtenances, were to be divided among the captors; but by a resolve which passed the late General Assembly at their last session on the 23d day of *April*, 1775, the State thereby taking two-thirds of all such captures, and the other third to the use of the captors, your petitioner humbly suggests that should your Honours take any part of said capture by virtue of said resolve passed the 23d of *April* aforesaid to the use of this State, that two-thirds is by far too great a part in the opinion of your petitioner. Your petitioner, therefore, in the behalf of said Captain *Smith* and company, humbly prays that you would take the matter into your wise consideration; and as the State were at no expense, nor suffered not any risk for vessel's cannon, in making said capture, that your Honours would order the whole or such a part of said schooner, cargo, and appurtenances, to the use of the captors as you in your great wisdom shall think proper. And your petitioner, in duty bound, shall ever pray.

PETITION OF WILLIAM WHITING.

To the honourable Council and House of Representatives of the State of MASSACHUSETTS-BAY, in General Court assembled:

Humbly sheweth WILLIAM WHITING:

That the honourable Provincial Congress of the Colony or State aforesaid, in the beginning of the year 1775, so far took the important matter of manufacturing saltpetre as to resolve that fourteen pounds per hundred should be given for all that should be manufactured in this Colony for a certain limited time, at which time your petitioner observing the profound ignorance which appeared in all ranks of people respecting the nature of this manufacture, and being anxious for the defence of his country against tyranny and vassalage, which he saw little grounds to hope for without the help of this important discovery, your petitioner then immediately set himself with the greatest solicitude to investigate the same, for which purpose he devoted himself in a great measure to the procuring and perusing the various authors who had made any mention of this manufacture, and in making experiments on the same. Soon after, viz: in the beginning of *May*, in the same year, your petitioner laid a short dissertation upon this subject before the honourable Provincial Congress at *Watertown*, showing the practicability of manufacturing saltpetre in this country, and urging the Congress to a more zealous and efficient prosecution of the same; whereupon the Congress appointed your petitioner a Committee, with orders to repair to *New-York*, or elsewhere, in order, if possible, to acquire sufficient knowledge for the carrying on of this important business; upon which your petitioner repaired to *New-York*, and from thence to *Philadelphia*, and returned through *Rhode-Island* Colony; and although in this tour your petitioner acquired several useful pieces of knowledge relative to this business, so that on his return he was able to produce some saltpetre, yet he found the true process far from being investigated, though he found encouragement and was determined vigorously to pursue the same. This being in *August*, and the honourable Assembly hearing of a person in *Connecticut* who pretended great skill in saltpetre-making, ordered your petitioner, after making some experiments at *Watertown*, to repair to *Windsor*, in *Connecticut*, which he did, and found the man so famed to be a vile impostor, as afterwards notoriously appeared, though your petitioner did not wholly lose his labour, having acquired some

additional knowledge from two persons who were endeavouring to carry on the business, although they afterwards failed. Your petitioner after his return from *Connecticut* continued to make experiments at *Watertown*, with but ordinary success, until *November*, when he was ordered again to *Connecticut* on the Assembly having received intelligence of some new discoveries being made there in the process of saltpetre-making; and from *Connecticut* your petitioner was ordered to repair to *Newburyport*, there to join Deacon *Baker*, Captain *Peck*, and Mr. *Fips*, who were also of the Saltpetre Committee, and there to pursue making experiments until the 15th of *December*. Your petitioner again repaired to *Connecticut*, but instead of finding encouragement, he found the persons who had been famed for carrying on this business with success wholly discouraged and just quitting the business, having worked one hundred and twenty cart-loads of earth, and had procured seventy pounds of saltpetre only. This ill-success of their's shocked your petitioner with discouragement and filled his breast with the greatest anxiety, being strongly impressed at that time with an opinion that except a sufficient quantity of that important article of defence could be procured among ourselves our country must be lost. He was, however, so far from giving over the pursuit, that he then determined either to make the important discovery or spend his life in the cause. In his long journey from *Windsor* to *Newburyport*, your petitioner, with anxious days and sleepless nights, recollected and considered every thing he had ever read, heard of, or experienced, relative to this process, and by the time he arrived at *Newburyport* he was so happy as to have determined upon a method which in theory promised him certain success. When your petitioner arrived at *Newburyport* he found his worthy brethren of the Committee drooping and almost discouraged. They had worked twelve or fifteen loads of earth and had produced but six or eight pounds of saltpetre; they had boiled down the liquor from about seventy bushels of earth, which appeared very strong, but could get no saltpetre from it. On a small quantity of this liquor your petitioner made trial of his new projected process, and in a short time produced a proportionably large quantity of saltpetre from it, to his very great satisfaction. He then repeated the trial on the remaining liquor, with equal success. He then continued for several days making small experiments, until he had reduced the process to a certain system; after which he proceeded to model those works agreeable to his new process, and then went on to make about eight or ten pounds a day for a number of days without the least difficulty; after which your petitioner, having been repeatedly solicited, returned to *Rowley*, where he, with some small conveniences, made fifty weight of saltpetre in five days; from thence he returned to *Watertown*, where he was ordered to publish his new process. Soon after which large quantities of saltpetre was made in various parts of the Colony, to the great satisfaction of every true patriot.

Your petitioner begs leave to say that in the foregoing narration he has not arrogated to himself more of the credit of this valuable discovery than what truth and justice warrants him to do; and although sundry persons have made variations and improvements upon this process since its first publication, yet all of them have been merely circumstantial, and none of them essential.

And your petitioner begs leave further to inform your Honours, that during the long time he was pursuing this important discovery, he was necessitated almost wholly to neglect the business of his profession, the only means he has had of supporting an helpless and expensive family; and since he has been released from publick employment in this business, much of his time has been taken up in giving instructions to people who have applied to him for that purpose. Your petitioner also finds to his grief that great numbers of his former customers have been obliged, in his absence, to apply themselves to other physicians, and have become so attached to them as not to return to him again, in consequence of which his business as a physician is greatly lessened. He could also demonstrate that the wages he has already received for those services, have not been more than sufficient to defray his own personal expenses. From all which your petitioner is humbly of opinion that the honourable Court will judge him entitled to some greater reward, though he is sensible this is no time for the publick to lavish out its bounties in great rewards for ser-

vices, and he is conscious that the ultimate end he had in view was the salvation of his country. He would not, however, suffer himself to be so far swallowed up in patriotism, as to incur *St. Paul's* anathema, viz: "He that provides not for his own household has denied the faith, and is worse than an infidel."

Your petitioner therefore humbly prays that your Honours would take this matter under your wise consideration, and make him such further allowance for his services and sufferings, as to your Honours shall seem meet. And, as he ought, shall ever pray.

WM. WHITING.

Watertown, September the 10, 1776.

Resolve for the sale of Powder to THOMAS HARRIS; passed SEPTEMBER 10, 1776.

On the Petition of *Thomas Harris*,

Resolved, That the Commissary-General be, and he is hereby directed to deliver out of the store of this State, or order the same to be delivered out of the Powder-Mill in *Andover*, five hundred pounds of Gunpowder to *Thomas Harris*, he, the said *Harris*, paying six shillings per pound for the same to the Commissary-General. He, the said Commissary, to be accountable for the money so received.

Resolve for supplying Doctor WATTS with Medicines, &c.; passed SEPTEMBER 10, 1776.

Resolved, That there be paid to Doctor *Edward Watts*, out of the Treasury of this State, the sum of eighteen pounds, to purchase Medicines for the benefit of the sea-coast men stationed at *Falmouth*, in the County of *Cumberland*; he, the said Doctor *Watts* forthwith to lodge an account of the expenditure of said money in the Secretary's office, therein setting forth the quantity and price of each medicine severally, and account with this Court for the same whenever called upon therefor.

And it is further Resolved, That the aforesaid Doctor *Watts* be allowed at the rate of six pounds per month as a Surgeon for the aforesaid sea-coast men, until the last day of *December* next, unless sooner duly discharged by order of this Court.

Sundry Resolves for paying Militia, raising Men, &c., passed in consequence of a message from the Council, SEPTEMBER 10, 1776.

Resolved, That the guard which did duty at *Hull* last winter, be paid wages and billeting, agreeable to establishment made for the men raised in this State for the defence of the sea-coast.

Resolved, That three Companies of fifty men, each, including officers, be raised to augment the Regiment of Artillery, now under the command of Colonel *Crafts*.

Resolved, That the Militia which have been called in to duty since *March* last, (excepting those lately called in on the Continental establishment,) be paid wages and billeting, agreeable to establishment made for the Regiments under the command of the Colonels *Whitney* and *Marshall*.

Resolved, That there be paid to the Hon. *Benjamin Lincoln*, Esq., the sum of twenty-one pounds per month, for the time he served as a General Officer by appointment of the honourable Council of this State.

And it is further Resolved, That some person be appointed by this Court to take the command of the troops in the pay of this State.

Resolved, That Governor *Cooke's* Letter, his answer to Lord *Howe*, together with Lord *Howe's* Letter and Declaration which accompanied the message, be referred back to the honourable Board.

Resolve for the delivery of an Iron Cannon to JOSEPH HOMAN, &c., of MARBLEHEAD; passed SEPTEMBER 10, 1776.

Resolved, That the Commissary-General be, and he is hereby directed to deliver to *Joseph Homan*, *John Gallison*, and *Isaac Collyer*, or either of them, or their order, one piece of Iron Cannon, a four-pounder, which was taken from *Marblehead* the last year, for the use of this State, if it is to be found; but if not to be found, then to deliver to the persons aforesaid, any other Cannon of the same dimensions, if such there be.

Resolve respecting Deserters from the Northern Army; passed SEPTEMBER 10, 1776.

Resolved, That the several Returns of Colonel *Patterson*, Colonel *Bond*, Colonel *Greaton*, and Colonel *Porter's* Regiments, describing the several persons Deserters from each of said Regiments, with this resolve, be printed and sent to the Committees of Correspondence, Inspection and Safety of each town in this State. And the said Committees are directed to make a strict search and inquiry after such Deserters as described in said Returns; and, upon finding any of said Deserters, to take care and secure them in the common Gaol of the County, in order that they may be forthwith returned to their several Regiments. And the Committees aforesaid are enjoined to take special care, and use their best endeavours to take up, and confine as aforesaid, any other person or persons who have enlisted into the publick service, that have or may hereafter leave the Army, or the Regiments to which they belong, before the time of their enlistment is out, unless they can show a regular discharge or furlough from his or their superiour officer. And the said Committees are enjoined to make returns of their doings hereon, as soon as may be, to the Secretary of this State. And all necessary charges attending the securing such Deserters, shall be paid out of the Treasury of this State, and shall be deducted out of the said Deserters' wages.

Resolve for raising one-fifth part of the Militia of this State, to reinforce the Army at NEW-YORK; passed SEPTEMBER 10, 1776.

Whereas it has been represented to the General Court of this State, by the honourable the Governour of the State of *Connecticut*, that it is of the utmost importance to the *United States of America* to have a large body of troops stationed above the Island of *New-York*, to prevent the *British Army's* cutting off the communication between the *American Army* at the City and Island of *New-York*, and the country. And whereas the honourable Congress, in consequence of an application made to them by his Excellency General *Washington*, in the present critical state of our affairs, have since called upon the Government, in the most pressing terms, immediately to send all the aid in our power to the Army at *New-York*; this Court, being sensible that the safety, freedom, and future happiness of *America* depend upon, and pressingly demand, a vigorous and manly management of this campaign, and well considering that, while all that is dear to this people is at stake, they should be chargeable with great remissness if they did not exercise the powers with which they are vested by this State for its salvation, at this critical moment, by sending such reinforcement to the Army at *New-York* as the exigency of the case requires. And whereas the Militia of this State within the Counties of *York*, *Cumberland*, and *Lincoln*, are too remote to march to the timely aid of the Army; and whereas the situation of the Counties of *Nantucket* and *Dukes* County, the towns of *Boston*, *Dartmouth*, *Plymouth*, *Salem*, *Marblehead*, *Gloucester*, *Manchester*, *Beverly*, and *Newburyport*, render it unfit for any part of the Militia to be drafted from them at present, it is

Resolved, That one-fifth part of the Militia of this State, not now in actual service by sea or land, excepting those of the towns and counties above named, be ordered, by the major part of the Council, to march immediately, under the command of such General officer as shall be appointed by the General Court, and commissioned by the Council, to command them, to remain and continue in the service within the four *New-England* Governments, the State of *New-York*, or the *Jerseys*, until they are recalled by the General Court of this State, the House of Representatives, or the major part of the Council, under such regulations, and upon such establishment, as is hereinafter provided.

And that the said fifth part of said Militia may march without delay, it is

Resolved, That the major part of the Council make out their order in writing to Major-General *Warren*, commanding him that he immediately order the Brigadiers of the several Counties of *Suffolk*, *Essex*, *Middlesex*, *Worcester*, *Hampshire*, *Plimouth*, *Barnstable*, *Bristol*, and *Berkshire*

to cause the Militia, as well of the Alarm List, as Training Band of their respective Brigades, to be mustered without delay, excepting those in the towns above excepted; and that they cause to be drafted therefrom, when so mustered, every fifth able-bodied man of the non-commissioned officers and private soldiers, under fifty years of age, except the officers and students of *Harvard College*, grammar-school masters, and persons necessarily employed in the manufacture of gunpowder, not exceeding four to each powder-mill, and armed with a good firelock, bullet-pouch, and powder-horn, or cartridge-box, a bayonet, cutlass, or hatchet, and twenty bullets fitted to their gun, with a knapsack and blanket, to march to the reinforcement of the Army as aforesaid; and that they form those so drafted into Companies of sixty-four men each, including non-commissioned officers, or as nigh thereto as they conveniently can; and that the said Brigades, from the officers of their respective Brigades, order one Captain and two Lieutenants to take the command of each of said Companies; and that said Brigadiers shall form such Companies as are raised and drafted from their respective Brigades, not amounting to sixteen, into one Regiment; and where they do amount to that number of Companies or upwards, into two; and, to each Regiment so formed, assign or order from the field-officers of such Brigade, one Colonel, one Lieutenant-Colonel, and one Major, to command said Regiments; and the officers of said detachment of the Militia drafted as aforesaid, shall have, while in said service, the same relative rank with each other as they now have.

And it is further Resolved, That if any person of the Alarm List or Train Band, non-commissioned officer or soldier, shall, after being duly warned thereto, neglect to appear upon such muster designed for drafting as aforesaid, he shall forfeit and pay the sum of ten pounds, one half thereof to the use of this State, and the other half to the person who shall sue for the same, by action of debt, in any Court proper to try the same. And if any person so drafted shall refuse to march upon being ordered thereto, not having a sufficient excuse therefor, and shall not procure some able-bodied and effective man to go in his stead, or shall absent or conceal himself, so that his officer cannot find him to give him marching orders, he shall, for either of the said offences, pay a fine not exceeding ten pounds, or be committed to prison not exceeding two months, upon his being convicted thereof, on indictment or presentment therefor by the Grand Jury for the County where the offence shall be committed, before any Court proper to try the same, whose duty it shall be to make a presentment thereof.

And it is likewise Resolved, That the said detachment of Militia shall, while out of this Government, be under the general command of the Commander-in-Chief of the Continental Army, and shall be under the laws and regulations provided by the Congress for said Army.

And it is further Resolved, That the pay and allowance of provision for said detachment shall be every way the same as that allowed the Continental Army.

And it is likewise Resolved, That the Selectmen of each town from whence any part of said detachment shall be drafted, shall be, and hereby are directed and empowered to procure as many teams or other conveyances within their respective towns, as shall be sufficient to carry the baggage of the said fifth part of the Militia, to *Fairfield*, in *Connecticut*, in the most expeditious manner. And the said Selectmen are also directed to furnish said men with kettles and canteens, and also to pay each man one penny for each mile from the place they march from to the place of their destination, to support themselves, and to render an account of those expenditures to the General Court for allowance and payment.

And it is also Resolved, That the Brigadier of each County shall appoint one Chaplain, one Surgeon and Mate, one Adjutant, and one Quartermaster, to each Regiment that shall be so drafted from his Brigade; and the General officer appointed to command the detachment shall appoint a Brigade-Major to each Brigade.

And it is also Resolved, That each Brigadier-General, as soon as the men are drafted and formed into Companies, be, and hereby is directed to order them to march to *Horseneck*, subject, however, to such further orders as they may receive from the General Court of this State, the House of Representatives, or the major part of the Council, or the

orders of the General and Commander-in-Chief of the Continental Army.

And it is Resolved, That in the absence of any Brigadier of any County, the next officer in command in said Brigade shall be held to do the duty assigned to the Brigadier, and shall be obeyed accordingly.

And it is also Resolved, That the Commissary-General of this State be, and hereby is directed to send forward immediately to *New-Haven*, such quantities of ammunition as this Court shall order.

PETITION OF ETHAN COMPSTOCK.

To the honourable the Council and House of Representatives of the State of MASSACHUSETTS-BAY, in NEW-ENGLAND.

The Petition of ETHAN COMPSTOCK, Second Lieutenant in the DILIGENT schooner-of-war, Captain JOHN LAMBERT, Commander, and JOSHUA WING, Master of said schooner, humbly sheweth:

That your petitioners have been in the service of the State nearly six months, have made several cruises, but all of them unsuccessful, by which they have not been able to supply themselves with any of the necessaries of life, and your petitioners are now reduced to such a situation (not having as yet received any wages) as obliges them to petition your Honours for some relief.

And your petitioners, as in duty bound, will ever pray,
ETHAN COMPSTOCK,
JOSHUA WING.

Boston, September 11, 1776.

Resolve for paying SAMUEL FREEMAN, Esq., Clerk of the House, £120; passed SEPTEMBER 11, 1775.

Resolved, That there be allowed and paid out of the Treasury of this State to *Samuel Freeman, Esq.*, the sum of £120, for his services as Clerk to the House of Representatives the last year, and to enable him to satisfy others who may have assisted in said service, or officiated as Clerk in his stead during that time, and the further sum of £19 10s., paid by him to sundry persons for copying resolves, &c., by which means the said Clerk was better enabled to carry on the business of his said office.

Resolve for paying WEMYSS ORROCK £100; passed SEPTEMBER 11, 1776.

On the Petition of *Wemyss Orrock*,

Resolved, That *Edward Pope, Esq.*, the Colony Agent at *Dartmouth*, be, and he is hereby empowered and directed to pay to the petitioner £100, out of the Colony's part of the ship and cargo, of which the petitioner was late master, if so much there be belonging to this State; if not, whatever is the Colony's proportion of said expense.

Resolve for procuring Couriers; passed SEPTEMBER 11, 1776.

Whereas it is of the utmost importance that at this critical situation of our publick and military affairs the most early intelligence should be obtained from the several quarters where our Troops are employed: Therefore,

Resolved, That *Brigadier Palmer*, *Captain Brown*, of *Watertown*, and *Major Osgood*, be, and hereby are appointed a committee to engage suitable persons as Couriers for this service, upon such terms as they shall judge proper.

MEMORIAL OF JOHN JONES.

To the honourable Council and honourable House of Representatives of the State of the MASSACHUSETTS-BAY, in General Court assembled:

The Memorial of JOHN JONES, in behalf of the Committee of Correspondence, Inspection, and Safety, of the Town of HOPKINTON, humbly sheweth:

That on the 24th day of *June* last, the Sheriff of the County of *Middlesex* did order to the said Committee of the Town of *Hopkinton*, seven officers on parole, and four waiters as prisoners, to be supported by said town; that said Committee have already expended a very considerable sum of money in their support, and are not in a capacity to support them any longer, unless they can be reimbursed their past expenses. Therefore prays your Honours would take

their case into your consideration, and grant them such release as you shall direct. And your petitioner, as in duty bound, shall ever pray.

JOHN JONES,

In behalf of the Committee of *Hopkinton*.

Watertown, September 12, 1776.

MEMORIAL OF JEREMIAH COLBURN.

To the honourable Council and to the honourable House of Representatives, in General Court assembled at WATERTOWN, in the State of the MASSACHUSETTS-BAY, the 12th day of SEPTEMBER, Anno Domini 1776.

The Memorial of JEREMIAH COLBURN, of PENOBSCOT, humbly sheweth:

That your memorialist would inform your Honours upon your appointing twenty men, together with ten Indians, as a guard at *Penobscot*, under the command of Lieutenant *Andrew Gilman* and myself, that your memorialist would be glad to know if your Honours would order some subsistence and ammunition for the said thirty men by your memorialist, as he is bound home on his duty. And your memorialist, as in duty bound, shall ever pray, &c.

JEREMIAH COLBURN.

Resolve appointing RICHARD DERBY, Jun., Esq., to lay claim to the Ship *LORD DARTMOUTH*; passed SEPTEMBER 12, 1776.

Whereas the ship named *Lord Dartmouth*, lying in *Danvers*, is libelled in the Maritime Court for the Middle District, by *Bartholomew Putnam* and *Andrew Cabot*; and whereas this Court apprehend that as said vessel was owned in *Great Britain*, she properly belongs to this State:

Therefore, Resolved, That the Honourable *Richard Derby*, Jun., Esq., be, and he is hereby appointed agent in behalf of this State, to put in and defend their claim to final judgment; and if the same shall be adjudged to this State, that he take possession thereof till the further order of this Court.

Resolve relative to the purchasing Cannon of the Town of NEWBURY-PORT; passed SEPTEMBER 12, 1776.

Whereas, the town of *Newbury-Port* have offered to sell to this State five pieces of Cannon, nine-pounders, at the rate of five pounds per hundred weight, and the carriages belonging to the same at the prime cost; and as it is apprehended the same may be of great use to this State for its defence:

Therefore, Resolved, That Brigadier *Palmer* be a Committee for purchasing the same.

Resolve for placing a Guard of thirty Men on PENOBSCOT River; passed SEPTEMBER 12, 1776.

Resolved, That a guard of thirty men, ten of them to be Indians, be placed on *Penobscot* River, under the direction of *Andrew Gilman*, and that there be appointed by this Court to command them, one Lieutenant and one Ensign, and to be on the same establishment with the men raised for the defence of the sea-coast.

Resolve relative to Vouchers of Accounts against the Continent; passed SEPTEMBER 12, 1776.

Whereas many Vouchers are lodged in the hands of the Treasurer of this State, and in the Secretary's office, that may be necessary to be produced to prove the several articles of charge to be transmitted to the Continental Congress by this State, which the Treasurer and Secretary may not think they can with propriety deliver out of their possession without the express directions of this Court: Therefore,

Resolved, That the Treasurer and Secretary be, and they hereby are severally directed to deliver unto *William Story*, *Henry Hill*, and *Joseph Henderson*, a Committee appointed to prepare the accounts of charges and expenses incurred by this State in the defence of *American* liberty, to be transmitted to the honourable the Continental Congress, they, the said Committee, making out an account of the amount of the sums, supported by the several vouchers and their date, and the names of the persons to whom any sums as aforesaid have been paid, and giving a receipt for the vouchers they shall receive, which receipt of said Com-

mittee shall be held good and effectual to discharge the Treasurer and the Secretary in as full and ample manner and sort as though the vouchers had not been delivered as aforesaid.

Resolve for supplying MARTHA'S VINEYARD with three Cannon; passed SEPTEMBER 12, 1776.

Resolved, That the Commissary-General be, and he hereby is directed to deliver to *Joseph Mayhew*, Esq., or order, proper apparatus for the three Cannon ordered to *Martha's Vineyard*, he, the said *Joseph Mayhew*, Esq., to be accountable to this Court for the same.

Resolve permitting Captain BARBER'S Schooner to come to the Port of BOSTON; passed SEPTEMBER 12, 1776.

Resolved, That Captain *John Barber* be permitted to bring his Schooner with her cargo, from *Cape Ann* to the Port of *Boston*, he taking due precaution to prevent said Schooner and cargo falling into the hands of the enemy.

PETITION OF ISAAC SNOW.

To the honourable Council sitting at WATERTOWN, in the State of the MASSACHUSETTS-BAY, SEPTEMBER the thirteenth day, Anno Domini 1776.

The Petition of ISAAC SNOW, of HARPSWELL, in the County of CUMBERLAND, humbly sheweth:

That your petitioner has the command of a private schooner of war called the *America*, of ninety-eight tons burthen, mounting ten carriage-guns, eight of which are four-pounders, and two three pounders; eighteen swivel-guns, five hundred weight of powder, fifteen hundred weight of shot, thirty-five barrels pork and beef, six thousand weight of bread, belonging to *Aaron Hinckley*, Esq., of *Brunswick*, *James McCobb*, Esq., of *George-Town*, *Nathaniel Purrington*, Esq., and Messrs. *John Snow*, *Joseph Linscott*, *Henry Merritt*, *Elisha Snow*, and *Isaac Snow*, your petitioner, of *Harpswell*, in the County of *Cumberland*, in the State aforesaid; whereof *Isaac Snow*, of *Harpswell*, aforesaid, is Commander, and *Benjamin Lemmount*, of *George-Town*, in the County of *Lincoln*, is Lieutenant, with eighty men.

Your petitioner prays your Honours would grant him a commission to cruise against the enemies of the *United States of America*, and your petitioner, as in duty bound, shall every pray, &c.

ISAAC SNOW,

In behalf of himself and other owners.

In Council, September 13, 1776.

Read, and Ordered, That a Commission be issued out to the above-named *Isaac Snow*, as Commander of the Schooner *America*, he complying with the resolves of the Congress.

JOHN AVERY, Deputy Secretary.

MEMORIAL OF THOMAS CRAFTS.

To the honourable the Council of the State of the MASSACHUSETTS-BAY:

Some time in *June* last a *Scotch* ship and brig were seen in the Bay by the troops stationed at *Hull*, standing in for the Light, and four privateers attacking them without any probable hopes of success; on this, ordered one eighteen-pounder to *Point Alderton*. In the dusk of the evening the vessels were between said Point and the Fort on *Hull*; we fired from the Fort on them; the brig struck to us, and sent her boat on shore. I sent in a claim for the vessels in the name of the State, and in behalf of myself and regiment, but recovered no part of the ship or brig. When the *Queen-of-England* was taken I had the same idea of the matter as before: that it was my duty to claim for the State as well as myself, accordingly gave directions to my counsel. I was afterward, to my great surprise, informed that the ship was not libelled in the name of the State, and that it was too late to correct this error. But at my request the Hon. Mr. *Derby*, agent for the State, had leave to enter his claim, the time by law for his doing it being elapsed notwithstanding, for I had no disposition that the State should be deprived of its just right in this vessel, neither have I now any disposition to contend if the Council are clearly of opinion that there ought to be a different

disposition of said ship and cargo from that given by the court and jury.

I beg your Honours would excuse my troubling you with this matter; and believe me to be, with the greatest respect, gentlemen, your most humble servant,

THOS. CRAFTS.

SUFFOLK, ss:

At the Superiour Court of Judicature, &c., held at *Brain-tree*, within and for the County of *Suffolk*, by adjournment, on the second *Tuesday* of *September*, Anno Domini 1776,

In the case *Benedict Eldridge*, one of the claimants of ship *Queen-of-England*, appellant, vs. *Caleb Hopkins* et al., libellants, and *Josiah Whitney*, *Thomas Crafts*, and *Thomas Marshall* et al., other claimants of the same ship, cargo, and appurtenances, appellees. The jury find that the said ship *Queen-of-England*, was employed in carrying supplies to the fleet and army employed against the *United Colonies* or *States of America*, and being so employed, the said ship was taken at the time when, in the libel, she is said to have been taken, by the claimants *Josiah Whitney*, *Thomas Crafts*, and *Thomas Marshall*, and the men under their command, and *Benedict Eldridge*, the Pilot, and by them brought into *Boston*, in the County of *Suffolk*, and that one-fifth part of said ship, and appurtenances, and cargo, be to the use of *Benedict Eldridge*, and the remainder of said prize to the use of *Josiah Whitney*, *Thomas Crafts*, and the said men under their command.

JOHN ELLIS, Foreman.

September 13, 1776.—Judgment accordingly.

SAML. WINTHROP, Clerk.

Resolve directing the Commissary-General to send Ammunition to FAIRFIELD; passed SEPTEMBER 13, 1776.

Resolved, That the Commissary-General of this State be directed, as soon as may be, to send forward to *Fairfield*, in the State of *Connecticut*, for the use of the Militia of this State, this day ordered to be sent to *New-York*, five thousand four hundred pounds weight of imported Gunpowder, if such be in store; eleven thousand Gun Flints, and thirteen reams of paper fit for Musket Cartridges, with thread proper and sufficient for the same, and five thousand four hundred pounds weight of leaden Balls of different sizes, there to be distributed under the care of such person as shall be appointed by the Commissary, in the following proportions, viz: one pound of Gunpowder, two Flints, one sheet of Cartridge Paper, and twenty Musket Balls to each man; said person so appointed by the Commissary to be accountable to this Court for the same.

Resolve to alter the Rigging, &c., of the TYRANNICIDE from a Sloop to a Brig; passed SEPTEMBER 13, 1776.

Resolved, That the Hon. *Richard Derby*, Jun., Esq., be directed as soon as may be, to alter the Spars and Rigging of the *Tyrannicide*, from that of a Sloop to a Brigantine; and to lay his account before this Court for examination and allowance; and in order that this matter may be effected expeditiously, the honourable Board are desired to issue their warrant on the Treasury, in favour of the said *Richard Derby*, Jun., Esq., for such sum of money as they judge may be necessary for the purpose aforesaid, the said *Derby* being accountable therefor.

Resolve for ordering the Men drafted from PLYMOUTH and BARNSTABLE Brigades to march to RHODE-ISLAND instead of NEW-YORK; passed SEPTEMBER 13, 1776.

Whereas the General Assembly of this State did, by their resolve of the 12th instant, order and direct that one-fifth part of the Militia, both of the Alarm and Train Band list, not now in actual service, be drafted from the said Militia of the Counties of *Suffolk*, *Essex*, *Middlesex*, *Hampshire*, *Plymouth*, *Bristol*, *Barnstable*, *Worcester*, and *Berkshire*, some towns only excepted, to march to the aid of the Army at *New-York*, in manner as is by said resolve directed; and whereas the honourable the *American Congress* have requested the Assembly of this State to send one Battalion of the Militia thereof to the State of *Rhode-Island*, to supply the place of a Battalion in the service of the *United States* ordered from thence to reinforce the Army at *New-York*:

It is therefore Resolved, That the men drafted from the

Brigades in the Counties of *Plymouth* and *Barnstable* in consequence of the aforesaid resolve, be and hereby are ordered, instead of marching to the aid of the Army at *New-York*, to march to the State of *Rhode-Island*, to supply the place of the Continental Battalion aforesaid, and the major part of the Council of this State be and hereby are desired to make out their orders in writing to Major-General *Warren*, commanding him immediately to order the Brigadiers of the said Counties of *Plymouth* and *Barnstable*, as soon as their men are drafted agreeable to the resolve aforesaid, to form them into Companies of sixty-four men each, including non-commissioned officers, and to officer them agreeable to the resolve aforesaid, the whole to form into one Regiment, and to be officered agreeable to said resolve, and to order them to march to *Rhode-Island* for the purpose aforementioned, the resolve aforesaid notwithstanding. This Regiment to continue in the service until they are recalled by the General Court of this State, the major part of the Council, or the House of Representatives.

Resolve on the Petition of RICHARD MAYBERRY; passed SEPTEMBER 13, 1776.

Resolved, That the Commissary-General of this State be directed to deliver to Captain *Richard Mayberry*, the petitioner, seven effective Fire-Arms, for the purpose in his Petition mentioned, he being accountable to this Court for the same; and that he pay one dollar for the use of each of said Fire-Arms, he being empowered to stop the same out of the wages of those persons that may receive them.

Resolve for paying SOLOMON WOOD £2 8s.; passed SEPTEMBER 13, 1776.

Resolved, That there be paid out of the publick Treasury of this State, to *Solomon Wood*, the sum of £2 8s., in full for the loss of his Gun at *Bunker-Hill*.

Resolve to furnish the Agent for building the Continental Ships with Guns for one of them; passed SEPTEMBER 13, 1776.

Resolved, That this State will furnish the Agent for building the Continental Ships at *Newburyport* with a sufficient number of Guns for one of them, and afford him every other assistance in their power in fitting out and manning said Ship, provided leave can be obtained from the honourable Congress for said Vessel to cruise on this coast, for the protection of the trade thereof; the Agent engaging to reimburse all the expenses this State shall incur in the fitting out and manning said Ship, and return said Guns whenever said Ship shall be otherwise employed.

Resolve on the Petition of JAMES MCCOBB; passed SEPTEMBER 13, 1776.

Resolved, That there be paid out of the publick Treasury of this State, the sum of £19 4s., or \$64, as expressed in the Petition, to *James McCobb*, Esquire, Chairman of the Committee of Safety in the County of *Lincoln*, or his order, for the use of Messrs. *Pages* and *Parham*, who performed the services set forth in the Petition, in pursuance of an agreement with the above Committee, at the rate of thirty-two dollars per month, as appears by their testimonies before a Magistrate in said County; which sum will be in full for two months' wages on said tour to *Canada*.

Resolve on the Petition of the Selectmen of HARPSWELL; passed SEPTEMBER 13, 1776.

Resolved, That the Treasurer and Receiver-General be directed to pay out of the publick Treasury of this State, the sum of £8 6s. 8d., to *William Sylvester* and *Anthony Combs*, in full discharge of their account for furnishing Blankets for seventeen soldiers enlisted in Captain *James Curtis's* Company, within mentioned.

REPRESENTATION FROM COMMITTEE OF NEWBURYPORT.

To the honourable the Council of the State of the MASSACHUSETTS-BAY:

The Committee of Correspondence, Inspection, and Safety, for the town of *Newburyport*, would beg leave to

represent to your Honours that a Sub-Committee was appointed by them, to inspect all vessels arriving at or departing from this harbour, that the regulations of the honourable Congress or of this State might not be violated; that while on their duty on board the sloop *Two-Friends*, (which was some time past taken and brought into this place by Captains *O'Brian* and *Lambert*, and acquitted by a Court of Admiralty held for this district,) *William Hazen* master, bound for *St. John's*, they were informed of two men that were bound for *Nova-Scotia* in said sloop, and of whom it was suspected that, if not prevented, they would be of real damage to this State to let pass. Upon further inquiry, we were satisfied as to the unfitness of their going, and prevented them. It appeared they were to be sent by Mr. *Epes Sargeant*, of *Cape Ann*, (the one being his son, and the other a master of a vessel who had for some time past been in his employ,) down to *East Passage*, where he had a snow and he said a schooner or two lying, with considerable interest, we have reason to think has, for some time past been employed in and under the protection of that Government. By a letter from Mr. *Epes Sargeant*, which was wrote directly upon his being frustrated in this plan, to Captain *Sayword*, master of his snow there, and intercepted just before the sloop sailed, fully convinces us of the above suggestions.

We are induced to trouble your Honours with this information, by a report that the said Mr. *Sargeant* did, on his leaving this town, hire a two-mast boat in *Ipswich*, and applied to a friend in *Salem*, who procured a commission for said boat; that she has actually sailed, it is supposed directly for *East Passage*, and that his son is gone in her; which your Honours will be pleased to act upon as shall in your wisdom seem fit.

In behalf and per order of the Committee:

JONA. TITCOMB, *Chairman pro tem.*

Newburyport, 30 August, 1776.

In Council, September 14, 1775.

On the Representation from the Committee of *Newburyport*, relative to *Epes Sargeant*,

Read, and Ordered, That the said *Epes Sargeant* be notified to appear and make answer in Council, on *Thursday*, the 26th day of *September*, instant, to such matters as are in said Representation suggested to his prejudice; and that the Secretary be directed to serve him, the said *Epes Sargeant*, with a copy of said Representation and this Order thereon, and also serve the Committee of the town of *Newburyport* with a copy of the above Order, that they may appear if they think proper. JOHN AVERY, *Deputy Secretary.*

Newburyport, August 16, 1776.

Captain JOSEPH SAYWORD:

SIR: I have only time to tell you that your family is well, and that Heaven must direct you in your movements. I can't get down. I beg you'd keep a good look out. I can't say any more.

Your friend,

EPES SARGEANT.

To Captain *Joseph Sayword*, of snow *Charles*, at *East Passage*.

Resolve for supplying THOMAS CRANE, Esq., with a large Copper; passed SEPTEMBER 14, 1776.

Resolved, That the Committee appointed to take care of the Estates, in the town of *Boston*, of persons who have fled with our unnatural enemies, be, and they hereby are, directed to deliver to *Thomas Crane*, Esq., or his order, for the use of the Powder-Mill at *Stoughton*, one large Copper of said effects, which will contain thirty or forty gallons, said *Crane* to be accountable to this Court for the same.

Resolve forbidding the sale of two Negroes brought in as Prisoners; passed SEPTEMBER 14, 1776.

Whereas this Court is credibly informed that two Negro men lately taken on the high seas, on board the sloop *Hannibal*, and brought into this State as prisoners, are advertised to be sold at *Salem* the 17th instant, by publick auction:

Resolved, That all persons concerned with the said Negroes be, and they are hereby forbidden to sell them, or in any manner to treat them otherwise than is already ordered for the treatment of prisoners taken in like manner; and if any sale of the said Negroes shall be made it is hereby

FIFTH SERIES.—VOL. II.

declared null and void; and that whenever it shall appear that any Negroes are taken on the high seas and brought as prisoners into this State, they shall not be allowed to be sold, nor treated any otherwise than as prisoners are ordered to be treated who are taken in like manner.

Resolve appointing Colonel SIMONS and others to execute in the County of BERKSHIRE the Resolve for raising one-fifth of the Militia; passed SEPTEMBER 14, 1776.

Whereas it has been represented to this Court that there is now no Brigadier in the County of *Berkshire*, to put in execution a late resolve of this Assembly for raising and sending to *New-York* a fifth part of the Militia; and as the first Colonel of the Militia there is now in the service of the *United States*, and the other chief Colonel is sick, and one Lieutenant-Colonel of the Militia there is also in the said service: Therefore,

Resolved, That Colonel *Simons*, of *Williamstown*, Colonel *Root*, of *Sheffield*, and Deacon *Curtis*, of *Stockbridge*, be, and they hereby are empowered and directed to execute the late resolve of this Court above referred to, within the County of *Berkshire*, in the same manner and observing the same directions that are given to the Brigadiers or commanding officers in the several Counties by said resolve.

Additional Resolves for procuring Clothing for the Army; passed SEPTEMBER 14, 1776.

Resolved, That the Committee appointed by this Court the last Session to purchase Clothing for the Continental Army agreeable to a recommendation of Congress, be directed to purchase as many suits of Clothes and Blankets as they may be able to procure before the first day of *December* next, and that the said Committee be directed to make returns to this Court of their doings as soon as possible.

And further Resolved, That the further sum of thirteen thousand Pounds be granted to the same Committee for the above purpose, each of them to be accountable to this Court for that part of said sum they shall severally receive.

Resolve for supplying the Ship BOSTON with Cannon; passed SEPTEMBER 14, 1776.

Whereas it is necessary in order that the Ship *Boston*, *Hector McNeil* commander, may be fitted out with all possible expedition, that she should be immediately supplied with the Guns this Court has resolved, upon certain conditions, to supply her with: Therefore,

Ordered, That the Committee for fortifying the Harbour of *Boston* be, and hereby are directed to send forthwith, by water, so many Cannon, nine-pounders, with carriages and other apparatus, from those in and about the town of *Boston*, as shall be sufficient to arm said Ship, to the town of *Newbury-Port*, to be there delivered to Captain *Hector McNeil* for the purpose aforesaid; and in case the whole number of nine-pound Cannon above mentioned cannot be obtained from those in and about *Boston*, then the said Committee are empowered and directed to procure and send to *Newbury-Port*, by water, so many as may be necessary to make up the deficiency from the towns of *Salem* and *Marblehead*, and give them others in lieu of the same from those in and about the town of *Boston*.

And further Ordered, That the Agent for building the Continental ships at *Newbury-Port*, be furnished by the town of *Newbury-Port*, for the purpose before mentioned, with the five pieces of Cannon this State has lately purchased of said town, and also with five other Cannon, nine-pounders, which the town of *Newbury-Port* has agreed to lend to this State, with their carriages, &c.; the Agent agreeing to redeliver all the Cannon, with their carriages and other apparatus before mentioned, to the order of this State in case leave cannot be obtained from the honourable Congress for said vessel to cruise on this coast for the protection of the trade of this State. And it is strongly recommended to said Agent to be as expeditious as possible in fixing out said Ship.

PETITION OF ROBERT CAMPBELL.

To the honourable Speaker and Gentlemen of the General Court for the United State of MASSACHUSETTS-BAY:

Permit your humble petitioner to lay before your House a

remonstrance setting forth a state of the circumstances that has attended me since I came on shore at *Cape Cod* in *March* last, and the treatment I have met with in not being able till now even to get a line before you, where I only could expect justice.

I laboured above four months endeavouring to get to *Boston*, which Colonel *Cobb*, one of the Cape members, is not unacquainted with, and who knows I never acted as if I intend to leave the place as an enemy, as it was every day in my power before I came to this place; but as a testimony of what I always professed, I had not the least intentions of being concerned in bringing destruction on my native land. Notwithstanding every convincing proof of my innocence, as soon as I arrived at *Boston* I was ordered to gaol for want of bail, as I being a stranger, I could not give, nor has any thing appeared since I have been here against me. I beg the favour I may be admitted to come into Court with a state of my grievances, not doubting from the known wisdom of the House my liberty will be accelerated, and my private property and wearing apparel will be returned me.

I beg to be excused in my manner of writing, as all the table I have is the heels of iron boots to lay my paper on.

I am, with due respect, gentlemen, your most obedient, humble servant,

ROBERT CAMPBELL.

Boston Gaol, the 16th of September, 1776.

MEMORIAL OF RICHARD ADAMS.

To the honourable Council and to the honourable House of Representatives, in General Court assembled at WATERTOWN, in the State of the MASSACHUSETTS-BAY, on the 16th day of SEPTEMBER, Anno Domini 1776.

The Memorial of RICHARD ADAMS, of MADUNCOOK, in the County of LINCOLN, humbly sheweth:

That your memorialist would set forth to your Honours, that, about the month of *March* last, there was, at the said *Maduncook*, a meeting, and chose assessors and collector to assess and gather the taxes for the present year. That in *May* last they called another meeting, and chose another set of assessors and collector for the same purpose. That the last of said assessors assessed and made the rates, and delivered to the collector, who has gathered near one-half of said taxes, and remitted it to the Hon. *Henry Gardner*, Esq., Treasurer for said State, as may appear by said Treasurer's books. That your memorialist would further acquaint your Honours that the first-chosen collectors are applying for a warrant to collect the same over again; and those that have paid have paid the whole that they were assessed to pay to the last-mentioned collector. That your memorialist would pray your Honours to take this into your wise consideration, and order therein what your Honours in your great wisdom shall see meet. And your petitioner, as in duty bound, shall ever pray, &c.

RICHARD ADAMS.

PETITION OF JULIANA JAMES.

To the honourable the Council and honourable the House of Representatives of the State of the MASSACHUSETTS-BAY:

The Petition of JULIANA JAMES, of BOSTON, Widow, humbly shews:

That soon after the town of *Boston* was shut up, she, with great difficulty, obtained passes for herself and child to go out of town, but was prevented twice, and, finding she could not get out, was obliged to submit to remain in town until the *British* troops were about leaving the town, when she was told that the town would certainly be set on fire, which so terrified her, that she, with her child, took passage on board a sloop, commanded by one *Campbell*, bound she could not tell where, which same sloop afterwards went into *Cape Cod*, where your petitioner, with the rest of the passengers on board, was carried on shore at a place called *Provincetown*. That your petitioner, with her child, has remained there ever since, suffering much hardship and distress by reason that she could not be permitted to take away with her the few articles of household stuff she carried with her, without which she cannot support herself and child. Your petitioner, therefore, humbly prays your Honours would so far compassionate her case as to order that her bedding and household furniture may be delivered her,

so that she may be enabled to get some support for herself and child, as she has no other means than her own labour to procure it. And, as in duty bound, she will pray, &c.

JULIANA JAMES.

SUFFOLK, ss.: BOSTON, September 14, 1776:

Juliana James personally appeared and made oath, that the annexed schedule contains a just and true inventory of the articles of household furniture now at *Provincetown*, which she refers to in the foregoing petition, and claims as her property.

Cor. JOSEPH GARDNER, Just. Peace.

Account of the Household Furniture of JULIANA JAMES.

Eight maple chairs, one old packing desk, one square table, one round ditto, one small *Dutch* look glass, one pair small hand-irons, shovel and tongs, one pair bellows, one dozen pewter plates, five dishes, one dozen cream-colour plates, one pair brass candlesticks, two iron pots, three iron skillets, one gridiron, two beds and bedstead, one frypan, one crane, and sundry small articles, together with wearing apparel.

BENJAMIN LINCOLN, Esq., chosen to command the Militia; SEPTEMBER 16, 1776.

The House made choice, by ballot, of the Hon. *Benjamin Lincoln*, Esq., to command the Militia ordered to be raised by a resolve of Court, which passed the honourable Board the 12th instant, to reinforce the Army at *New-York*.

Concurred by Council, September 16, 1776.

Resolve to continue Military Commissions in force until the 19th of JANUARY, 1777; passed SEPTEMBER 16, 1776.

Whereas, in and by one act or law of this State, made in the present year of the Christian era, for establishing the style of Commissions, &c., and by one other act in addition thereto, it is ordered that all Military Commissions issued by the major part of the Council of this State before the first day of *June*, one thousand seven hundred and seventy-six, and bearing the date of the year of the reign of the King of *Great Britain*, and not afterwards made conformable, as to the style and date, in the manner required by said acts, before the nineteenth day of *September*, one thousand seven hundred and seventy-six, should on and after said day become void, and of none effect: And as sundry Military Officers of this State have neglected to get their Commissions made to conform as aforesaid, and it being necessary, for the defence of this and the other *United States*, that the whole Militia be constantly prepared and properly organized for duty, and especially necessary at this time to expedite the marching that part of the Militia now ordered for reinforcing the Army at *New-York*, and defence of a neighbouring Government:

It is therefore Resolved, That all Military Commissions now in force shall be and continue in full force and effect on the same 19th day of *September*, and from thence to the 19th day of *January* next after, such Commissions not being made to conform as aforesaid, notwithstanding.

Resolve for supplying the Town of FALMOUTH with Powder and Cannon Balls; passed SEPTEMBER 16, 1776.

Resolved, That the Commissary be, and he hereby is directed to deliver to the Hon. *Jedediah Preble*, Esq., or order, fifteen hundred weight of Gunpowder, and the following Cannon Balls for the use of the town of *Falmouth*, viz: twenty 32-pounders, twenty 18 ditto, one hundred and fifty-two 12 ditto, one hundred and forty-four 9 ditto, and one hundred and two 6-pounders; said *Preble* to be accountable to this Court for the same.

Resolve for procuring Whale-Boats, &c., passed SEPTEMBER 16, 1776.

Resolved, That *Joseph Nye*, Esq., *Shubael Cottle*, Esq., and Colonel *Nathaniel Leonard*, be and hereby are appointed a Committee to purchase sixty Whale-Boats and Oars, and to collect them at *Falmouth* or *Buzzard's Bay*, and *Dartmouth*, as soon as may be; and the major part of the honourable Council are desired to issue their orders to

Major-General *Warren*, commanding him to give orders to the Brigadiers of the Counties of *Plymouth* and *Barnstable*, to cause the men drafted from their Brigades in consequence of the resolves of the General Assembly of this State of the 12th and 13th instant, or as many of them as conveniently can, with their baggage to proceed to *Rhode-Island* in said boats with all the despatch possible, and them to deliver to the Hon. *Nicholas Cooke*, Esq., Governour of said State; and the Treasurer is hereby directed to furnish the said Committee with the sum of £360 for that purpose, each of them to be accountable to this Court for such sums as they shall respectively receive.

And it is also *Resolved*, That the Committee aforesaid, be empowered to take such a number of the sea-coast men stationed at the *Vineyard* and *Elizabeth* Islands, as they shall judge necessary to assist in removing and collecting said boats; and the officers and men of said companies are hereby directed to conform themselves to such orders as they shall receive from said Committee, for the purpose aforesaid.

Resolve appointing a Committee to sign and number Bills; passed SEPTEMBER 16, 1776.

Ordered, That the Rev. *John Murray*, *Thomas Cook*, Esq., *Abraham Fuller*, Esq., *Jonas Dix*, Esq., *John Bliss*, Esq., *Jonathan Brown*, Esq., *John Lewis*, Esq., and Mr. *Henry Hill*, be a Committee to sign and number the Bills of the present emission of £50,004.

Resolve directing Committees to return Money to the Treasury; passed SEPTEMBER 16, 1776.

Whereas several gentlemen who have been lately employed by the General Court on various services for this State, more especially such as have been employed on the Committees for inlisting men into the service of the *United States of America*, having received divers sums of money for which they are accountable to this State, now have considerable sums of money resting in their hands, which are not needed for the purposes for which they were received; and as the Committee of this Court lately appointed to take the accounts of the persons accountable as aforesaid, will not be able speedily to complete so lengthy a business:

It is therefore *Resolved*, That all such persons having money so remaining in their hands, be directed to pay the same to the Treasurer of this State forthwith; and the said Treasurer is hereby directed, on the receipt of such moneys, to make to the person or persons paying the same, a duplicate receipt thereof; and that the person or persons taking such duplicate, be directed to lodge one part of such duplicate in the office of the Secretary of this State, keeping the other part for his own use.

Resolve for paying off Captain WIGGLESWORTH's Portage Bill; passed SEPTEMBER 16, 1776.

Resolved, That the Treasurer of this State be, and he is hereby directed to pay out of the publick Treasury to Captain *John Wigglesworth*, or order, the sum of £74 4s., in full discharge of the Portage-Bill of the Sloop *Swift*, in the service of this State, and all charges attending the same.

Resolve on the Petition of PRESERVED CLAP; passed SEPTEMBER 16, 1776.

Resolved, That there be paid out of the publick Treasury of this State to *Preserved Clap*, £43 1s. 10d., in full for his account. And whereas said *Clap* says that he has invented a machine for boring Cannon, which may be improved to the great advantage of this State,

Therefore, *Resolved*, That if said *Clap* will exhibit a plan or model of said machine to *Hugh Orr*, Esq., and others, a Committee for casting large Cannon, so as to satisfy them of its superiour utility, upon their report thereof to this Court, there shall then be granted to him such a sum for his invention as may appear to be adequate to its superiour usefulness.

Resolve for erecting or purchasing an Air Furnace for casting Cannon; passed SEPTEMBER 16, 1776.

Resolved, That *Hugh Orr*, Esq., and others, a Com-

mittee appointed to make inquiry with respect to casting of Cannon be, and they hereby are directed immediately to erect or purchase an Air Furnace in such place as they may judge most fit and proper for the purpose of casting and boring large cannon; and that they provide all such workmen, materials, and every thing necessary for the erecting said furnace, and casting such cannon as aforesaid, and that they carry the same into effect with all possible despatch.

And it is also *Resolved*, That *Major Crane* and Mr. *Root* be added to said Committee.

PETITION OF COMMITTEE OF CAMBRIDGE.

To the honourable the Council and the honourable House of Representatives of the State of the MASSACHUSETTS-BAY:

The Petition of the Committee of Correspondence, Inspection, and Safety, of the Town of CAMBRIDGE, humbly sheweth:

That whereas we, the said petitioners, have in our possession personal estate that is wasting, which belonged to certain persons who were unfriendly and inimical to this State, and have fled from *Cambridge* to the *British* fleet and army for protection, we, your said petitioners, humbly pray that your Honours would appoint some person or persons to sell the same. And whereas there is certain personal estate which belonged to those said persons, which has been conveyed into other towns without our knowledge, we therefore pray that this honourable Court would pass such orders thereon as they in their very great wisdom shall think fit. And your petitioners, as in duty bound, shall ever pray.

By order of the Committee:

ANDREW BORDMAN, Clerk.

Cambridge, September 17, 1776.

Resolve relative to NATHANIEL BRINLEY; passed SEPTEMBER 17, 1776.

Resolved, That *Nathaniel Brinley* be put under the care of *Francis Brinley*, Esq., to be forthcoming at the order of this Court, said *Francis* giving security therefor to the Treasurer in the sum of six hundred Pounds.

Resolve for a Loan of £150 to the Town of GOULDSBOROUGH; passed SEPTEMBER 17, 1776.

Resolved, That the town of *Goldsborough* be favoured with the loan of one hundred and fifty Pounds out of the Treasury of this State, for the term of two years, the Committee of said town giving security to the Treasurer for the repayment of the same.

Resolve appointing Mr. DAVIS and Colonel GOODWIN to sign Bills; passed SEPTEMBER 17, 1776.

Ordered, That Mr. *Davis* and Colonel *Goodwin* be a Committee to sign the Bills of Credit of the present emission, in the room of Major *Fuller* and Colonel *Bliss*, excused.

Resolve on the Petition of JONATHAN HALE, relative to receiving Saltpetre; passed SEPTEMBER 17, 1776.

It appearing to this Court that the Powder-Mill erecting in the town of *Springfield* and County of *Hampshire* is now almost ready for service, but will be a useless machine unless duly provided with materials for carrying on the manufacture of Powder; and whereas the time is near expired for the bringing in the Saltpetre, in order to be entitled to the premium: Therefore,

Resolved, That Captain *James Sikes* be, and hereby is appointed to receive in the town of *Springfield* the Saltpetre made in the Counties of *Hampshire* and *Berkshire* for the use of this State, until the further order of this Court; and that the sum of fifteen hundred Pounds be paid to him out of the publick Treasury to enable him to pay for the Saltpetre so delivered to him, pursuant to a late resolve of the General Court of this State, and that he be accountable to this Court for the same.

Resolve for the delivery of Household Goods to JULIANA JAMES; passed SEPTEMBER 17, 1776.

On the Petition of *Juliana James*, of *Boston*, widow,

Resolved, That the prayer of said petitioner be granted, and the Selectmen of *Province-Town* are hereby directed to deliver the said *Juliana James* the several articles of Household Furniture in the list, or such part of them as may be in their custody, she paying all such charges as may have arisen thereon.

Resolve for paying Brigadier PREBLE £8, for the use of two INDIANS; passed SEPTEMBER 17, 1776.

Resolved, That there be paid out of the publick Treasury the sum of eight Pounds unto the Hon. *Jedediah Preble, Esq.*, for the use of *Joseph Denaquara* and *Peter Andre*, two of the *St. John's* tribe of *Indians*, for their support from *Watertown* to their home.

Resolve on the Petition of SHUBAEL COTTLE, Esq., respecting the capture of a Vessel; passed SEPTEMBER 17, 1776.

On the Petition of *Shubael Cottle, Esq.*, in behalf of *Nathan Smith* and others,

Resolved, That whereas it appears to this Court that certain persons mentioned in said Petition were concerned in taking and bringing into this State a certain Schooner mentioned in said Petition; and it further appears that the vessel or boats which attacked and took said Schooner were procured by and at the risk of the captors. Therefore,

Resolved, That after the charges of trial and condemnation are deducted from the gross proceeds of said Vessel and Cargo, and the share of the other captors have been assigned, the Colony shall receive one-third, and the sea-coast men the other two-thirds of said Schooner, Cargo, and Appurtenances.

Resolve for recalling the Militia ordered to NEW-YORK, within the space of two months, &c.; passed SEPTEMBER 17, 1776.

Whereas doubts may arise in the minds of some of the good people of this State, who are willing to go out at this important juncture against our unnatural enemies, agreeable to the resolve of this Court passed the 12th instant, about what time they shall be held in that service:

Therefore, for removing any difficulties of that nature, it is *Resolved*, That all those persons who shall march out on this exigence, shall be recalled within the space of two months from this date, at the farthest, and as much sooner as the service may admit of.

And whereas some persons may, pursuant to the said resolve of the 12th instant, be drafted for the purpose therein specified, whose business and other avocations may render it inconvenient for them to attend that duty personally, and may voluntarily choose rather to pay down their fines, and some persons that have been already drafted may have paid the fine, by reason of their not knowing what time they should be held in the service:

It is further *Resolved*, That the commanding officer of each company be, and hereby is empowered to receive the fines of all such persons who will voluntarily pay the same, and to dispose thereof in the best manner he can, for the purpose of raising other men for that service; and such persons as have already paid their fines, by reason of their not knowing how long they should be held in the service, shall have the said fine paid back to them by the officer that received it, in case they incline to receive it back and to proceed upon the service, or do procure some able-bodied, effective person to proceed in their room.

And in order that there may be no deficiency in the number of men for the above service, it is further *Resolved*, That the commanding officer of each respective company of the Militia in any town; or in case the Militia is not duly organized in any town, then the respective Committees of Safety of such towns, and the Selectmen where there are no such Committees, are hereby empowered and directed to muster the Militia, when and so often as they may respectively find it necessary, in order for the obtaining the quota designed: and that all persons for non-attendance, or for not marching when drafted, shall be subject to the like penalties as are specified in the said resolve of the 12th instant, to be applied as aforesaid. And that each man on his march, shall

be entitled to receive for his support, a further sum of one penny per mile, from the place he marches from to the place of his destination. And the Selectmen of the several towns are in like manner as in the former resolve to pay the same, and lay their accounts before this Court for allowance and payment.

Resolve for the delivery of Gunpowder, &c., to Mr. JEREMIAH COLBORN; passed SEPTEMBER 17, 1776.

On the petition of *Mr. Jeremiah Colborn*,

Resolved, That the Commissary-General be, and he is hereby directed to deliver out of the store belonging to this State unto the petitioner, sixty Flints and thirty pounds of Gunpowder, and Lead answerable thereto, for the use of the guard mentioned in the petition, and also Provisions enough to supply the said guard for the space of three months, according to the established allowance in the army, he, the said petitioner, *Jeremiah Colborn*, to be accountable for the distribution and expenditure of the same.

RICHARD DERBY, Esq., directed to make application to the Superiour Court, relative to the Ship QUEEN-OF-ENGLAND; passed SEPTEMBER 17, 1776.

Resolved, That *Richard Derby, Jun., Esq.*, Agent for the Middle District of this State, be, and hereby is directed forthwith to make application to the Superiour Court of Judicature, &c., for this State, that in the precept or order of sale that they may issue from that Court for the sale of the Ship *Queen-of-England*, her cargo and appurtenances, lately (as is said) condemned there, by appeal from the Maritime Court for the Middle District, distribution of two-thirds of the neat proceeds of such part thereof as the regiments in the service and pay of this State have had adjudged to them as original captors, may be directed to be paid to him for the use of this State, pursuant to a resolve of both Houses in *April* last, directing what proportion prizes taken by officers and men in the service and pay of this State, stationed in any port or harbour on the sea-coast for the protection and defence thereof, shall be distributed.

Resolve for granting three of the Judges the sum of £80 each; passed SEPTEMBER 17, 1776.

Resolved, That there be allowed and paid out of the publick Treasury of this State to the Honourable *William Cushing*, *Jedediah Foster*, and *James Sullivan*, Esquires, three of the Justices of the Superiour Court of Judicature, &c., severally, the sum of eighty Pounds, in part for their services the present year.

Resolve on the Petition of RICHARD ADAMS, of MADUNCOOK; passed SEPTEMBER 17, 1776.

Resolved, That the inhabitants of *Maduncook*, as soon as may be, assemble a legal meeting, called by some neighbouring Justice of the Peace, then and there to proceed to choose Assessors and Collectors of the Tax for the year 1775; and the Assessors so chosen are hereby empowered and directed to assess the taxes for said year, according to law, and return the sum and the Assessors' names to the Treasurer of this State, as early as possible; and the said Treasurer is hereby directed to delay issuing his warrant for collecting any tax there for said year, until such return is made to him; and when he shall issue such warrant, he is directed to issue it for seven pounds four shillings and five pence less than the whole tax of said *Maduncook* for said year; and the Collector to whom said warrant shall be directed, is ordered to accept from any inhabitants of said place the receipts of the Collectors appointed in *May* last, as payment for such sums of said tax as they have paid for said year.

Resolve for paying DANIEL HENSHAW, Jun., £3; passed SEPTEMBER 18, 1776.

Resolved, That there be paid out of the publick Treasury of this State to *Daniel Henshaw, Jun.*, three Pounds, in full for his services as Deputy-Commissary in the service of this State.

Resolve for paying the Committee of NORTHFIELD £27, for the use of Prisoners; passed SEPTEMBER 18, 1776.

Resolved, That there be paid out of the publick Treasury of this State to the Committee of Correspondence, Inspection and Safety, of the town of *Northfield*, or to their order, the sum of twenty-seven Pounds, for the use of the five prisoners now in that town on their parole, being at the rate of twelve shillings per week for each prisoner, from the eighth day of *July* last, agreeable to a resolve of the Continental Congress.

Resolve for confining JOHN GRAVES; passed SEPTEMBER 18, 1776.

Resolved, That the Sheriff of the County of *Berkshire* be, and he hereby is authorized and directed to receive from the Committee for superintending Prisoners of War in the State of *Connecticut*, the body of *John Graves*, of *Pittsfield*, in the said County; who (as is said) was sent to *Hartford*, in the said State of *Connecticut*, by order of the said Committee of said *Pittsfield*, charged with aiding and assisting one Captain *McKay*, a prisoner of war stationed in said *Hartford*, upon his parole, in making his escape therefrom, in violation of his parole; and him the said *John Graves*, closely confine and keep in the common gaol of the said County of *Berkshire*, that he may be dealt with touching the said charge, as to law and justice appertaineth.

Resolve excusing the Town of CHARLESTOWN from furnishing Men; passed SEPTEMBER 18, 1776.

Resolved, That such of the inhabitants of the town of *Charlestown* of the Training Band and Alarm-List, who lived in that part of the town which has been destroyed by the *British Army*, be excused from furnishing their quota of Men lately ordered, by a resolve of this Court, to be raised to reinforce the Army at *New-York*, any thing in the said resolve to the contrary notwithstanding.

Resolve for supplying Brigadier PALMER to buy Cannon at NEWBURY-PORT; passed SEPTEMBER 18, 1776.

Resolved, That a warrant be granted to Brigadier *Palmer*, from the honourable Board, on the Treasurer of this State, for such sum as he shall agree for the payment of five pieces of Cannon, with Carriages, which, by a resolve of the 11th instant, he was to purchase of the town of *Newbury-Port*; and that he pay the same to the order of the Selectmen of said town, in full for said Guns and Carriages.

Resolve empowering the Committee of DEERFIELD to make sale of NATHANIEL DICKENSON'S personal Estate; passed SEPTEMBER 18, 1776.

Resolved, That the Committee of Inspection, &c., for the town of *Deerfield*, be empowered and directed to make sale, by publick auction, of all the personal Estate of *Nathaniel Dickenson* above named, and make return of the proceeds thereof to this Court.

Resolve for furnishing the Frigate HANCOCK with Guns, &c.; passed SEPTEMBER 18, 1776.

Resolved, That this State will furnish the Agent for building the Continental Ships at *Newbury-Port* with a sufficient number of Guns, provided they can be obtained by purchase or otherways, for the Continental Frigate called the *Hancock*, *John Manley* Commander, and which Ship is built to carry thirty-two Guns; and will afford him every other assistance possible for fitting out and manning said Ship; and the Honourable *Richard Derby*, Esquire, is appointed agent, in behalf of this Colony, for the purposes aforesaid, provided leave can be obtained from the honourable Congress for said Vessel to cruise on this coast, for the protection of the trade thereof; the said Continental agent engaging to reimburse all the expenses this State shall incur in fitting out and manning said Ship, and return said Guns whenever said Ship shall be otherwise employed; it being of great importance that there should be a sufficient number of armed vessels fixed for sea effectually to free this coast from the enemy's armed vessels now infesting it.

Resolve to encourage the manufacture of Fire-Arms; passed SEPTEMBER 18, 1776.

Whereas, notwithstanding the encouragement hitherto given by this State for the manufacturing of Fire-Arms, a sufficient number has not yet been obtained: Therefore,

Resolved, That for every effective and substantial fire-arm which shall be manufactured in this State, with a good barrel of three feet and nine inches in length, that will carry an ounce ball, with a good bridle-lock, a good bayonet, with a blade not less than eighteen inches in length, with a scabbard for the same, a steel ramrod with a spring to retain the same, two loops for gun-slugs, and the manufacturer's name stamped or engraved on the lock, and which shall be delivered at *Boston* or *Watertown*, to the Commissary-General, for the time being, on or before the first day of *October*, in the year 1777, there shall be allowed and paid out of the publick Treasury of this State, to the owner thereof, the sum of four pounds; provided, always, that the owner of each fire-arm which shall be received for this State, shall produce a certificate that such fire-arm has been proved by firing the same properly loaded with four inches and a half of powder, at least, with a wad thereon, and a ball with a wad upon it, in the presence of one or more Selectmen of that town where such fire-arm was manufactured.

Resolve on the Petition of NATHANIEL GUILD; passed SEPTEMBER 18, 1776.

On the Petition of *Nathaniel Guild*,

Resolved, That the prayer of the Petition be so far granted, that the Committee of Correspondence of *Walpole*, be directed to sell to Mr. *Nathaniel Guild*, as much Wood of the estate belonging to *Isaac Royal*, Esq., Sir *William Pepperrel*, and *George Erving*, lying within two miles of *Stoughton* Furnace, as they shall think necessary, not exceeding one hundred cord, provided the said Committee of Correspondence see that it be cut where it will be the least damage to the said lots, the said *Guild* paying the full value for the Wood to the said Committee, the Committee being accountable to this Court for the sum or sums so received.

And it is further *Resolved*, That sixteen such men as Mr. *Guild* most wants to carry on his furnace business, it being of so great importance for the defence of this and the *United States of America*, be excused from service in the present alarm, if drafted agreeable to the resolve of this Court, to assist said *Guild* in his furnace works.

Resolve respecting Vouchers to the Accounts against the Continent; passed SEPTEMBER 18, 1776.

Resolved, That there appears a deficiency of Vouchers for the sum of £1,451 10s., and that the Vouchers produced be sent forward to Congress, together with the State accounts against the Continent since the last adjustment, deducting the aforesaid sum of £1,451 10s., from the said demand.

It is further *Resolved*, That the persons hereafter named, who stand chargeable with the sums affixed to their respective names, viz:

<i>Asa Whitcomb</i> , with the sum of	- - -	£1,151	3
<i>William Hunt</i> ,	- - - - -	228	7
<i>Aaron Blaney</i> ,	- - - - -	60	0
<i>Jonas Heywood</i> ,	- - - - -	12	0
Amounting to		£1,451	10

pay the same to the Hon. *Henry Gardner*, Esq., Treasurer of this State, immediately, and the Treasurer is hereby empowered to demand and receive the same accordingly.

And it is also *Resolved*, That the said *William Hunt* do, as soon as may be, deliver the following articles which he has in his possession, belonging to this State, viz: one cask of Sweet Oil, 1 ditto of Neat's Foot ditto, 2 ditto of Wine, 1 ditto Raisins, 89 lbs. of Coffee, 14 barrels of Vinegar, 1 ditto Oatmeal, 9½ yards of Swanskin, and 36 Hay-Rakes, to the Commissary-General of this State; who is hereby directed to receive the same accordingly.

Resolve relative to the Hospital at SEWALL'S POINT; passed SEPTEMBER 18, 1776.

On the Petition of *Edward Marrett*, one of the Committee of the town of *Cambridge*,

Resolved, That the prayer of this Petition be so far granted as that the Barracks standing within the Fort at *Sewall's Point*, be not used for a Hospital, and that they be kept clear of infection, any thing in the order or license of the Court of General Sessions of the Peace for the County of *Suffolk* to the contrary notwithstanding.

Resolve for staying Executions on attachments of Tories' Estates; passed SEPTEMBER 18, 1776.

Whereas divers attachments are made on the Estates of those persons who have fled from this State, and whose Estates have been taken into possession by the several Committees according to the order of Court; and it being necessary that the circumstances attending said Estates should be inquired into, that justice may be equally distributed: Therefore,

Resolved, That executions be stayed on all such attachments, and that no other attachments be made until the further order of this Court.

Resolve for vesting the Council with certain powers during the recess of the Court; passed SEPTEMBER 18, 1776.

Whereas it is necessary that in the recess of the General Court, certain powers should be vested in the Council, or a quorum of them, for the publick good: Therefore,

Resolved, That the honourable Council, or a quorum of them, at least, be a Committee of Safety, whose business it shall be, during the recess of the General Court, to direct the Commissary-General of this State respecting the taking in and delivering out the warlike stores and provisions belonging thereto, as they shall judge necessary for the safety and defence of the State. And that the said Council, or a quorum of them, have power to appoint agents, and in all respects provide for and give such instructions to the commanders of the armed vessels, that are or may be fitted out on the account of this State, as shall be necessary for the defence and interest of the same, or of the *United States of America*: *Provided, always*, That instructions be not contrary to any law or resolve of the General Court of this State, or resolve of the *American Congress*. And that the Council, or a quorum of them, have power to direct the Commissary-General of this State to procure such warlike stores and provisions as they shall judge necessary, and that the said Council, or a major part of them, be empowered to grant their warrants on the Treasurer of this State, in favour of the said Commissary, for such sums of money as shall be necessary for the purposes aforesaid, the said Commissary to be accountable for the same.

And that all the forces in the service and pay of this State, within the same, be under the direction of the Council, or a quorum of them, who may, if occasion should require, put them under the command of such officer as they shall judge proper, whose commission or authority shall continue until the further order of this Court. The foregoing powers to continue until the next meeting of the General Assembly and no longer.

And it is further Resolved, That the Council, or a major part of them, during the next recess of the General Court, be empowered and authorized to treat with any *Indians* that may arrive in this State, and make such provision for them as they shall judge proper.

Resolve permitting JOLLEY ALLEN to sell part of his effects; passed SEPTEMBER 18, 1776.

Resolved, That *Jolley Allen* be permitted to collect and make sale of so much of his effects at *Cape Cod*, as shall be sufficient to discharge the debts incurred by him and his family at *Provincetown* since *March* last, and after settling and paying said debts, that the Selectmen of *Provincetown* deliver the remainder of his effects into the hands of Mr. *Wendell* and Mr. *Pitts*, at *Boston*, who shall be accountable to this Court for what may be so delivered to them.

Resolve for discharging the two Vessels of Observation; passed SEPTEMBER 18, 1776.

Resolved, That two small vessels employed for the purpose of obtaining intelligence respecting the movements of the *British Fleet* and Army, with their crews be, and they hereby are discharged from the service of this State. And

that the Hon. *James Warren, Esq.*, be, and he hereby is empowered and directed to dispose of one of the above mentioned vessels which was fixed out at *Plymouth*, with her appurtenances to the best advantage of this State, and pay the proceeds arising from said sale into the Treasury of this State, taking duplicate receipts, the one of which receipts to be lodged in the Secretary's office; the said Hon. *James Warren, Esq.*, to be accountable to this Court.

And it is further Resolved, That Captain *Josiah Batchelder* be, and he hereby is directed to dispose of any articles that are the property of this State, that may be found on board, or belonging to one of the above mentioned vessels fixed out from *Beverly*, discharge, and pay the said vessels and crew, and lay his account before this Court.

Orders to provide Supplies for Armed Vessels.

In Council, September 19, 1776.

Ordered, That *Benjamin Austin, Esq.*, be, and hereby is appointed and empowered to provide the vessels of war commanded by Captain *Williams* and Captain *Clouston*, with such stores, cannon, and other articles, as may be necessary to equip them for the sea; and the Commissary-General is hereby directed to supply the said vessels, out of the publick store, with such things as by said *Austin* shall be required of him and *William Watson, Esq.*, of *Plymouth*, who has been appointed Agent to take care of the stores belonging to the *Rising-Empire*. Captain *Walden*, late Master, is hereby directed to furnish the said vessels with such articles out of the stores of Brig *Rising-Empire* as he may be directed to supply by the said *Austin*.

And it is further Ordered, That *Benjamin Austin* be and is empowered to order either of the above-named vessels to sail to *Plymouth*, and take on board and transport such stores and other necessary articles there, to the Harbour of *Boston*.

PETITION OF ANDREW GIDDINGS.

Brig *Civil Usage*, burthened ninety tons, twelve carriage-guns, viz: four of six pounds, six of four pounds, and two of two pounds; owned by *Jonathan Jackson, Nathaniel Tracey, John Tracey, Thomas Thomas, and John Coffin Jones*, all of *Newburyport*; the officers, *Andrew Gidding* Captain, *Joseph Stanwood* Lieutenant, *Moddie Engs* Master, *Timothy Weir* Captain of Marines; eighty men; six hundred pounds powder, three hundred shot, forty barrels of beef and pork, five ton of bread.

To the honourable the Council of the State of MASSACHUSETTS-BAY:

Your humble petitioner prays your Honours would be pleased to grant a commission or letter-of-marque and reprisal, to set forth the above-mentioned vessel to sea as a private ship of war, he conforming to the appointed rules. And, as in duty bound, he shall ever pray.

ANDREW GIDDINGE.

Watertown, September 19, 1776.

In Council, September 19, 1776.

Read, and *Ordered*, That a Commission be issued out to the said *Andrew Giddings*, as Commander of the above Brig, he complying with the resolves of Congress.

JOHN AVERY, Deputy Secretary.

ORDERS TO ALEXANDER SHEPARD.

In Council, September 19, 1776.

Ordered, That Mr. *Alexander Shepard*, who is entrusted with the care of conveying some military stores from this State to *Fairfield*, for the use of the Militia now marching from hence to *New-York*, be directed to engage a suitable Guard for the same, at the charge of this State, until he arrives in the County of *Worcester*, and then to apply to some Field Officer in that Brigade to order a Sergeant, with a sufficient number of men, destined for *New-York*, to attend him in guarding said stores to *Fairfield*; and such Field Officer as he may so apply to is hereby enjoined to furnish such Guard accordingly.

PETITION OF OFFICERS OF THE SCHOONER DILIGENT.

To the honourable Council of the State of the MASSACHUSETTS-BAY:

The Petition of the following persons humbly sheweth: That we, your petitioners, have served this Colony in

different departments on board the schooner *Diligent*, John Lambert Commander, since the 16th March last, which, we are sorry to say, to little advantage to the publick or ourselves. We therefore beg that your Honours would take it into your wise consideration, and honourably acquit us, discounting for the time served, or place us in some way wherein we may serve the general cause of *America* and ourselves, as we cannot be so happy in any other way as in the defence of the country. But in the channel we are in we cannot make ourselves easy, unless we are lost to a sense of all honour and justice, as all the privates have left the vessel; but as to your petitioners, we are not willing to leave the service, unless it meets with the sanction of your Honours' approbation. We therefore beg leave to inquire the reason of the detainment of our wages. Is the captures we brought in unlawfully taken, or is it for embezzlements? Or are we accountable for the Captain's conduct, when our commissions from your Honours oblige us to obey his commands? If we are impeached with any thing, being conscious of our innocence, we beg to be brought to an immediate trial, by which means we doubt not of being able to acquit ourselves with honour and to your satisfaction, as we esteem our honour dearer than our interest or even our lives. We therefore heave ourselves at the feet of your Honours, hoping you'll consider our distressed situation in so expensive a place as this, having already expended a great part of our wages in the pursuit of them. We therefore pray we may no longer be kept in suspense, but have an immediate answer, that we may not lose our honour and time; in complying with which we shall esteem ourselves under the greatest obligations. And, as in duty bound, shall ever pray.

JOHN O'BRIEN, *First Lieutenant*.

WALTER PERKINS, *Second Lieutenant*.

JOSHUA WING, *Master*.

PETER CLARK, *Commander Marines*.

In Council, September 20, 1776.

Read, and *Ordered*, That *Walter Spooner* and *Samuel Holton*, Esquires, be a Committee to take the within Petition under consideration and report.

JOHN AVERY, *Deputy Secretary*.

PETITION OF JOHN FRAZIER.

To the honourable Council assembled at WATERTOWN, in the State of the MASSACHUSETTS-BAY, the 20th day of SEPTEMBER, Anno Domini 1776:

The Petition of JOHN FRAZIER, late Commander of the prize ship *SUSANNA*, humbly sheweth:

That your petitioner, with the above-said ship, was taken and carried into *Piscataqua*; that your petitioner has liberty from his Excellency General *Washington* to depart from *America*, on his having given his parole of honour not to act directly nor indirectly inimical to *America* during the present dispute with *Great Britain*; that your petitioner has also liberty from the honourable Council and House of Representatives in the State of *New-Hampshire*, to depart from this Continent; that your petitioner prays your Honours he may have liberty to go as a passenger in the ship at *Boston* belonging to Mr. *Ross*. And your petitioner, as in duty bound, shall ever pray, &c.

JOHN FRAZER.

In Council, September 20, 1776.

Read, and *Ordered*, That the prayer of the petition be granted, and the said *John Frazier* be permitted to depart from this State to any part of *Great Britain*, in such vessel as Messrs. *Ross* and *Morgan*, who lately had liberty granted them by this Board to depart, have purchased for this purpose.

JNO. AVERY, *Deputy Secretary*.

ORDERS TO COLONEL MITCHELL.

Council Chamber in Watertown, September 20, 1776.

To Colonel JONATHAN MITCHELL:

You being appointed by the General Assembly of this State to the command of the five companies of sea-coast men stationed in and about *Falmouth*, are hereby directed to keep them in good order and discipline, and continue to carry on the works there in such manner as will be most for the security of the town, and let regimental musters for the present cease.

PETITION OF LYONEL BRADSTREET.

To the honourable Council assembled at WATERTOWN, in the State of the MASSACHUSETTS-BAY, the 20th day of SEPTEMBER, Anno Domini 1776.

The Petition of LYONEL BRADSTREET, late Commander of the Ship *NOLLY FRIGATE*, taken by the HANCOCK and FRANKLIN Privateers, humbly sheweth:

That your petitioner would set forth to your Honours that the above-said ship, with her cargo, was condemned the 12th day of *August* last. That your petitioner has leave from the honourable Congress in the State of *N'ampshire* to proceed to any port of *Great Britain* or elsewhere, upon condition that your petitioner don't act directly or indirectly inimical to *America* during the present dispute with *Great Britain*. That your petitioner prays your Honours he may have liberty to go as a passenger in the ship at *Boston* belonging to Mr. *Ross*. And your petitioner, as in duty bound, shall ever pray, &c.

LYONEL BRADSTREET.

In Council, September 20, 1776.

Read, and *Ordered*, That the prayer of this Petition be granted, and the said *Lyonel Bradstreet* be permitted to depart from this State to any part of *Great Britain* in such vessel as Messrs. *Ross* and *Morgan*, who lately had liberty granted by this Board to depart, have purchased for this purpose.

JOHN AVERY, *Deputy Secretary*.

PETITION OF GEORGE ASHBURN.

State of MASSACHUSETTS-BAY:

To the honourable the General Court of said State:

The Petition of GEO. ASHBURN shows:

That your petitioner being master of the ship *Isaac*, was on a voyage in said ship from the Island of *Tortola*, bound to *Liverpool*, in *England*, to visit his family and attend to his private concerns. That in proceeding said voyage, he was taken and brought into this State. This unexpected event has thrown your petitioner into the most distressed and pitiable circumstance. As his wife was born in *America*, he is in fear she'll find but few friends in his absence; that she and children must suffer without his support. Your petitioner begs leave to declare that he has never taken an active part in the unhappy controversy between *Great Britain* and *America*, and from his age, standing in life, it necessarily follows that he never will. He therefore humbly prays your Honours to take his unhappy case into your consideration, and grant him liberty to take passage for some part of *England* in the ship owned by Mr. *William Ross*, and by your Honours' permission bound to some part of *England*, or grant him such other relief as your Honours' well-known wisdom and humanity may point out. And your petitioner, as in duty bound, shall ever pray.

GEO. ASHBURN.

In Council, September 20, 1776.

Read, and *Ordered*, That the prayer of the Petition be granted, and the said *George Ashburn*, be permitted to depart from this State to any part of *Great Britain*, in such vessel as Messrs. *Ross* and *Morgan*, who lately had liberty granted them by this Board to depart, have purchased for this purpose.

J. AVERY, *Deputy Secretary*.

INSTRUCTIONS TO CAPTAIN JOHN CLOUSTON.

By the major part of the Council:

Captain JOHN CLOUSTON:

The sloop *Freedom*, under your command, being in all respects equipped in warlike manner, and being also well and properly manned, so as to enable you to proceed on a cruise, you therefore are directed to range the eastern-shore of this State, laying between the River *Piscataqua* and *Machias*, in order to clear that coast of any of the enemy's cruisers that may be infesting the same, and from thence proceed to the mouth of the River *St. Lawrence*, and there cruise until the 1st of *November*, in order to intercept any of the enemy's vessels that may be passing that way, and from thence you must proceed to the coast of *Newfoundland*, and there cruise until the middle of *November* aforesaid, in order to surprise and seize such vessels of the enemy as you meet with upon that coast, or in any of the harbours of the same, after which you may proceed upon a cruise as far to the southward as latitude 38° north, and continue upon

said cruise so long as you find it practicable or expedient; and then you are to return to the harbour of *Boston*, always using every necessary precaution to prevent the sloop under your command from falling into the hands of the enemy. You are to observe and follow such orders and directions as you shall from time to time receive from Captain *Daniel Souther*, provided they are consistent with the instructions now given you.

And whereas you have received a commission by force of arms to attack, seize, and take on the high seas, all ships and other vessels belonging to the inhabitants of *Great Britain*, or others, infesting the sea-coast of this Continent, you are therefore punctually to follow the instructions already delivered you for regulating your conduct in this matter, and in all things conduct yourself consistent with the trust reposed in you.

In Council, September 20, 1776.—In the name and by order of Council. JOHN AVERY, Deputy Secretary.

PETITION OF THOMAS BUCKMORE.

To the Honourable Council, sitting at WATERTOWN, in the State of MASSACHUSETTS-BAY, SEPTEMBER 19, 1776.
The Petition of THOMAS BUCKMORE, of CONCORD, Armourer, humbly sheweth:

That your petitioner has been employed in making of fire-arms for this State for upwards of eighteen months past. That your petitioner has supplied the said State with new arms, and repairing upwards of three hundred to satisfaction of his employer, and employed workmen for the said service with great difficulty. That your petitioner has now upon hand about one hundred arms, belonging to the State, and some partly finished, and would be glad to know what to do with them. That your petitioner is drawn out, with three of his workmen, by the officer of the town, to proceed to *New-York* as soldiers. That your petitioner is not against proceeding, if his accounts can be made up with the Commissary, and discharge them, if your Honours think he can be spared from his business, which instance he never knew in *London* upon any such emergency. That if your petitioner is ordered to proceed, he prays your Honours he may go in the station of an armourer. And your petitioner, as in duty bound, shall ever pray.

THOMAS BUCKMORE.

State of Massachusetts-Bay, Council Chamber, }
September 20, 1776. }

Whereas it has been represented to this Board by *Thomas Buckmore*, of *Concord*, that he has been employed in making Fire-arms for this State for upwards of eighteen months past, and has now upon hand a large number of Arms belonging to the State, and some partly finished, and that he, the said *Thomas Buckmore*, is drawn out, with three of his workmen, by the officer of the town, to proceed to *New-York* as soldiers: the Board, considering how necessary it is that this State should be fully supplied with Fire-arms, and that the Armourers actually employed in making such Arms are doing more essential service to the State, while thus employed, than they could do as soldiers, are of opinion, that the said *Thomas Buckmore* and his workmen ought not to have been counted or drafted to serve as soldiers in the present reinforcement to be sent to the Army at *New-York*:

Therefore, Ordered, That Captain *George Minot*, of *Concord*, be, and he hereby is required and directed to discharge the said *Thomas Buckmore* and *Silas Wood* from the service for which they were drafted, and immediately to proceed to draft two other persons in their room, not engaged in the necessary business of this State.

PETITION OF WILLIAM JENKINS.

State of the MASSACHUSETTS-BAY:

To the honourable the Council and the honourable the House of Representatives of said State, in General Court assembled, at WATERTOWN, this 12th day of September, 1776, humbly sheweth:

WILLIAM JENKINS, of the City of BRISTOL, in the Kingdom of GREAT BRITAIN, Mariner;

That your petitioner, being master of the brigantine called the *Perkins*, was, by the chance of war, taken by the Captains *Tucker* and *Skimmer*, in the Continental

armed schooners, called the *Hancock* and *Franklin*, and brought into the port of *Boston*, where he now is.

Your petitioner would represent to the honourable Court that, at the time of his being taken, he was on a merchant voyage, bound from *St. Augustine* to *Bristol*, in *Great Britain*; that he had on board his said brigantine no supplies of any kind, either for the fleet or the army now employed against these States, neither had he arms or ammunition.

Your petitioner would further represent to the honourable Court, that he left in *Bristol* a wife and four small children, who are entirely dependent on him for their support and maintenance, and he is really apprehensive that, even before this time, they may be suffering all the anxiety and distress annexed to a want of the necessities and comforts of life, unless fortunate enough to find friends to relieve them in their troubles. However tedious and irksome his continuance here might otherwise be, this cannot but necessarily render it more so. He therefore prays the honourable Court that, from a consideration of the premises, they would grant him permission to take passage for *Great Britain*, or any other part of *Europe*, the first opportunity that offers: he also prays liberty to take with him his servant boy.

He humbly presumes there will be no objection to the prayer of his petition, as he is not held as a prisoner of war, and no information that he can give can be of any possible service or disservice to either party in this war, unless indeed the humanity with which he has been treated may be an inducement to the like treatment of others in similar circumstances on the other side. And, as in duty bound, shall ever pray.

WILLIAM JENKINS.

In Council, September 20, 1776.

Read, and Ordered, That the prayer of this Petition be granted, and said Petitioner be permitted to depart, with his servant boy, to any part of *Great Britain*, agreeable to his request.

JOHN AVERY, Deputy Secretary.

To the honourable the Council of the MASSACHUSETTS State:

GENTLEMEN: The bearer, Captain *Jenkins*, who waits on the honorable Board with a petition, appears to be a person deserving the commiseration of the Board. I have reason to believe nothing but his attachment to his family, and the reasons set forth in his petition, induces him to leave *America*. I pray the honourable Board to gratify the petitioner, and they will lay a lasting obligation on their most obedient, most obliged, and very humble servant,

C. J. BRADFORD.

September 14, 1776.

PETITION OF ROBERT BROWN AND JOHN MOON.

To the honourable the Council of the State of the MASSACHUSETTS-BAY.

The Petition of Robert Brown and John Moon humbly sheweth:

That one of your petitioners, viz: *Robert Brown*, was lately chief mate on board the ship *Rachel*, *Moses Henry*, master, bound from *Grenada*, in the *West Indies*, to *London*. That your Honours' other petitioner, viz: *John Moon*, was steward on board said ship. That, on the 26th day of *August* last, the said ship *Rachel* was taken by the armed sloop called the *Tyrannicide*, commanded by Captain *John Fisk*, and your petitioners taken out of said ship, and put on board said sloop, and brought into *Salem*, in this State; but, before the said sloop *Tyrannicide* was out of sight of the said ship *Rachel*, the said ship was retaken by a *British* man-of-war. That when your petitioners were put on board the said sloop *Tyrannicide*, they left all their interest, together with their wearing apparel, on board their own ship. That your petitioners are, by these means, deprived of the necessary means of subsistence; and, from the peculiar circumstances necessarily attending their situation, they are rendered totally incapable of procuring a maintenance.

Your petitioners' most humble prayer, therefore, is, that your Honours would be pleased to grant them permission to take passage for *London* in a ship bound there, and lately purchased by Mr. *Ross* and others. And your petitioners, as in duty bound, shall ever pray.

ROBERT BROWN.

Salem, September 22, 1776.

JOHN MOON.

In Council, September 24, 1776.

Liberty is hereby granted to *Robert Brown* and *John Moon* to depart this State in the Ship *Creighton*, *Benjamin Moore*, Master, lately purchased by Mr. *Ross* for the purpose of transporting himself and others to *Great Britain*.

JOHN AVERY, *Deputy Secretary*.

MEMORIAL OF COMMITTEE OF SUNBURY, NOVA-SCOTIA.

To the honourable the General Assembly of the State of the MASSACHUSETTS-BAY, in NEW-ENGLAND:

The Memorial of the Committee of Safety for the County of SUNBURY, in NOVA-SCOTIA, humbly sheweth:

That whereas your memorialist did in the month of May last prefer a petition to the said General Assembly, setting forth that the inhabitants on the River *St. John's* were desirous of committing themselves to the government and protection of the Province (or State) of the *Massachusetts-Bay*, and other matters as set forth in said petition.

Having received no direct answer to these particulars, we have since endeavoured to regulate our conduct agreeable to the rules made by the *United States*, as far as we have been able to get information, but our remote situation renders it difficult on these accounts.

It is the humble request of the aforesaid Committee, that if the inhabitants on the River *St. John's* are esteemed as a part of the free States of *America*, your Honours would be pleased to signify it to them, and give directions for their future conduct, who are ready at all times to pursue every measure in their power that you shall prescribe. And your memorialists, as in duty bound, shall ever pray for the peace and prosperity of the *American States*, and for the preservation of your Honours' lives and administration.

Signed by order and in behalf of the Committee:

JACOB BARKER, *Chairman*.

Mauryervill, September 24, 1776.

Attest:

ISRAEL PERLEY, *Clerk*.

For particular information of the circumstances of the inhabitants on the river *St. John's*, with regard to commerce, &c., &c., the General Assembly are desired to inquire of the bearer, *Francis Shaw*, Jun., Esq.

TO JAMES SIMONDS, JAMES WHITE, and JAMES SAY, Esqrs.

GENTLEMEN: The disputes between *Great Britain* and *America* are so generally known and so fully understood by you, that to say any thing upon that subject would be needless. Likewise the proceedings of the inhabitants of this river in that regard you have been made acquainted with. These measures you have not thought proper to fall in with, neither have you declared against them. This conduct of yours gives uneasiness to many of the inhabitants, who think you stand ready to be reconciled to the strongest party, and if unhappily for the *Americans*, wherewith should it be but with the heads of these men? We, therefore, in the name and in behalf of our constituents request of you an explicit declaration of your sentiments on this subject, and what part you are determined to take in the present controversy. You will perhaps say you are determined to stand neuter, but this will not be a satisfactory answer. We conclude you have determined in your own mind which of the contending parties you choose should get the victory, in case the sword determine it; and he must be a slothful man who chooses or desires a thing may come to pass, and yet shall use no measures direct or indirect to accomplish his desire. We don't mean to prescribe rules binding on the consciences of men, nor yet to urge any person into measures contrary to his inclination: all we request of you is a plain declaration of your sentiments and determinations, and that immediately.

By order of the Committee of Safety:

JACOB BARKER, *Chairman*.

Mauryervill, June the 20, 1776.

Copy of the original:

ISRAEL PERLEY, *Clerk*.

No answer hath been given to the foregoing letter. In July following Mr. *Simonds* was up river, and being questioned concerning those matters, he said he had wrote an answer, but upon consideration thought best not to send it. He was then requested by some that if he was a friend to the cause, that he would leave something privately with the Committee, expressing his sentiments; this he declined, any further than words, alleging that he could be of more

FIFTH SERIES.—VOL. II.

service to the people not to do it. He was then asked to give something from under his hand, he would not inform or appear at Government against the inhabitants for their entering into an alliance with the people of *New-England*; this he refused. Being told by some of the Committee that they could not esteem such a man their friend, nor a friend to the cause in general, nor could they, consistent with their own resolves, hold any commerce with him, he said if he did do such a thing, he must represent that he was compelled to do it, which he thought would be rather against the people. Thus matters remain to this day.

September 24, 1776.

PETITION OF WILLIAM PASCALL.

The honourable the Council of the State of the MASSACHUSETTS-BAY:

May it please your Honours:

The humble Petition of WILLIAM PASCALL, *steerage passenger on board the ship ANNA MARIA*, WILLIAM PRINGLE Commander, from BARBADOES, bound for LONDON, and taken by the privateer sloop REVENGE, of SALEM, JOSEPH WHITE Commander, sheweth:

That whereas I hear of a ship in *Boston* harbour, purchased by Messrs. *Ross* and *Morgan*, of said *Boston*, with intent of carrying passengers to *London*, I humbly crave the favour your Honours will of your goodness grant me the liberty to return in said ship to *London*, my native place, as I have a tender mother, a widow, and two children younger than myself, whose whole dependence (under God) is on my labour and industry for their support. I complain not, may it please your Honours, of any ill treatment since my being made a captive, but on the contrary declare, and will at all times declare, my being exceedingly well used. But my money being on the decline, and a long, and in all probability tedious winter approaching, is the sole cause of this my earnest prayer. I beg, therefore, your consideration of my case, and that this my request and prayer may be granted. And your petitioner, as in duty bound, shall ever pray.

WILLIAM PASCALL.

Salem, 18th September, 1776.

In Council, September 24, 1776.

Liberty is hereby granted to the within-named *William Pascall* to depart this State in the Ship *Creighton*, *Benjamin Moore* Master, lately purchased by Mr. *Ross*, for the purpose of transporting himself and others to *Great Britain*.

JNO. AVERY, *Deputy Secretary*.

PETITION OF ADAM HIGH.

May it please your Honours:

The humble Petition of ADAM HIGH, *Second Mate*, and THOMAS LIMMON, *Boatswain*, on board the ship ANNA MARIA, WILLIAM PRINGLE Commander, from BARBADOES, bound for LONDON, and taken by the privateer sloop REVENGE, of SALEM, JOSEPH WHITE Commander, sheweth:

That whereas we hear of a ship now in *Boston* harbour, purchased by Messrs. *Ross* and *Morgan*, of said *Boston*, with intent of carrying passengers to *London*, we humbly crave the favour your Honours will of your goodness grant us the liberty to return in said ship to our native homes, as we have each of us in *London* a wife and several children, whose whole dependence, under the Almighty, is on our labour for their support. We complain not, may it please your Honours, of any ill-treatment since our being made captives, but on the contrary declare, and will at all times declare, our being exceedingly well used. But our money being on the decline, and a long and in all probability tedious winter approaching, is the sole cause of this our earnest prayer. We beg, therefore, your consideration of our case, and that this our request and prayer may be granted. And your petitioners, as in duty bound, shall ever pray.

ADAM HIGH,
THOMAS LIMMON.

Salem, 18th September, 1776.

To the honourable the Council of the State of the Massachusetts-Bay.

In Council, September 24, 1776.

Liberty is hereby granted to the within-named *Adam High* and *Thomas Lemmon* to depart this State in the Ship *Creighton*, *Benjamin Moore* Master, lately purchased by

Mr. Ross, for the purpose of transporting himself and others to Great Britain. JOHN AVERY, Deputy Secretary.

PETITION OF OWNERS OF SLOOP PHOENIX.

State of MASSACHUSETTS-BAY:

To the honourable the Council now sitting in WATERTOWN: The Petition of JOHN ROWE, in behalf of himself of BOSTON, and CARLTON B , of VIRGINIA, humbly sheweth:

That your petitioners, owners of the sloop *Phoenix*, burthened ninety tons, armed with ten three and four-pounders, eight swivels and cohorns, one thousand weight of powder with shot in proportion, navigated by sixty men, and two months' provisions on board; said sloop is destined to cruise against the enemies of the *United States of America*. The officers on board are as follows, viz: *Joseph Cunningham*, Captain; *William Lovering*, 1st Lieutenant; *Daniel Malcom*, 2d ditto; *Henry Jackson*, Master.

Your petitioners would therefore humbly request your Honours to commission the said sloop and commander for the purpose before mentioned. And your petitioners, as in duty bound, shall ever pray.

JOHN ROWE.

In Council, September 24, 1776.

Read, and Ordered, That the prayer of this Petition be granted, and that a Commission be issued out to the above named *Joseph Cunningham*, as commander of said sloop, he complying with the resolves of Congress.

JOHN AVERY, Deputy Secretary.

PETITION OF OWNERS OF SLOOP LIBERTY.

To the honourable Council of the State of MASSACHUSETTS-BAY:

The Petition of SAMUEL WEBB, SAMUEL FLAGG, and HENRY WILLIAMS, of SALEM, humbly sheweth:

That your petitioners are fixing out at Salem, the schooner *Liberty* as a privateer, to cruise upon the enemies of the *United States of America*; which schooner is about twenty tons burthen, mounts six guns, navigated by twenty-five men; has on board fifty pound of powder, eight barrels of beef and pork, two thousand weight of bread, and will be commanded, if your Honours please, by *Ebenezer Peirce*. Your petitioners therefore pray that your Honours would be pleased to grant a commission to the said *Ebenezer Peirce* to command the said schooner for the above purpose. And your petitioners, as in duty bound, will ever pray, &c.

SAMUEL WEBB, SAMUEL FLAGG,
HENRY WILLIAMS.

In Council, September 24, 1776.

Read, and Ordered, That the prayer of the Petition be granted, and that a Commission be issued out to the said *Ebenezer Peirce*, as commander of the Schooner *Liberty*, he complying with the resolves of Congress.

JOHN AVERY, Deputy Secretary.

PETITION OF PETER GOULAY.

May it please your Honours:

The humble Petition of PETER GOURLAY, Carpenter on board the Ship *MARIA*, WILLIAM PRINGLE Commander, from BARBADOES, bound for LONDON, and taken by the Privateer Sloop *REVENGE*, of SALEM, JOSEPH WHITE Commander, humbly sheweth:

That whereas I am informed of a ship now in Boston harbour, purchased by Messrs. Ross and Morgan, of said Boston, with purpose of carrying passengers to London, I humbly crave the favour, your Honours will of your goodness grant me the liberty to return in said ship to my native home, and to my family, whose whole dependence (under God) is on my labour for their support. I freely, and with gratitude, acknowledge to have been treated with the greatest civility and kindness, since my being made a captive; but my money now grows very low, that I cannot possibly support myself the approaching winter. I therefore humbly entreat your Honours' consideration of my case, and that this my earnest request and prayer may be granted. And your petitioner, as in duty bound, shall ever pray.

PETER GOULAY.

Salem, 23d September, 1776.

To the honourable the Council of the State of the Massachusetts-Bay, assembled at Watertown.

In Council, September 24, 1776.

Read, and Ordered, That liberty be hereby granted to the within petitioner to depart this State in the Ship *Creighton*, lately purchased by *William Ross*, for the purpose of transporting himself and others to Great Britain.

JOHN AVERY, Deputy Secretary.

PETITION OF DANIEL DONNAN AND OTHERS.

State of MASSACHUSETTS-BAY:

To the honourable the General Court of said State:

The Petition of DANIEL DONAVAN, Esquire, GEORGE BATES, and MARK SIDDEN, humbly sheweth:

That your petitioners were passengers on board the ship *Isaac*, on a voyage from *Tortola* to *Liverpool*, in England, and being on said voyage were taken and brought into this State. That all your petitioners have the strongest of family connexions in England, and some of them wives and children, entirely depending upon them for support, added to the distress of mind occasioned by their separation from their friends; they find themselves in a situation that threatens them with the want of every necessary of life. These calamities are less easily supported, as they have never taken any active part in that dispute which is the foundation of their present captivity. Your petitioners therefore humbly pray your Honours to take their unhappy case into your wise considerations, and grant that *Daniel Donovan* and his servant, *Mark Sudden* and his servant, and *George Bates*, may have liberty to take passage for some part of Europe, in a ship owned by Mr. *William Ross*, or grant them such other relief as your Honours may think fit. And your petitioners, as in duty bound, shall ever pray, &c.

DANIEL DONNAN,
GEORGE BATES,
MARK SEDDEN.

In Council, September 24, 1776.

Read, and Ordered, That liberty be hereby granted to the above petitioners to depart this State in the Ship *Creighton*, *Benjamin Moore* Master, lately purchased by Mr. Ross, for the purpose of transporting himself and others to Great Britain.

JOHN AVERY, Deputy Secretary.

PETITION OF JOHN BEARDWELL BARNARD.

To the honourable Council of the State of MASSACHUSETTS, now sitting at WATERTOWN:

The Petition of JOHN BEARDWELL BARNARD, passenger, humbly sheweth:

That your petitioner, having been taken on his passage, bound for London, in the ship *Pecary*, *Breholt Cleaveland* Commander, from *Tobago*, and carried into *Cape Ann*, begs the gentlemen to consider his case, having a wife and three children, to give him leave to proceed in the first ship permitted to sail for England. And your petitioner will ever pray.

J. B. BARNARD.

Cape Ann, September the 18th, 1776.

In Council, September 24, 1776.

Read, and Ordered, That liberty is hereby granted to the above petitioner to depart this State in the Ship *Creighton*, *Benjamin Moore* Master, lately purchased by Mr. Ross for the purpose of transporting himself and others to Great Britain.

JOHN AVERY, Deputy Secretary.

PETITION OF JOHN EMMES.

State of the MASSACHUSETTS-BAY:

Unto the honourable the Council of said State, sitting in WATERTOWN, SEPTEMBER, 1776:

The Petition of JOHN EMMES humbly shows:

That he was taken on board the ship *Creighton*, from *Antigua*, and brought into Boston by the Yankee privateer. That his friends and connexions are all in Great Britain. That he has no money to support him here, and therefore humbly prays your Honours would be pleased to allow him to depart in the ship *William*, owned by Mr. *William Ross*, and that he will act as a seaman on board of said ship. And your petitioner, as bound, shall ever pray, &c.

JOHN EMMES.

In Council, September 24, 1776.

Read, and Ordered, That liberty be granted to said petitioner to depart this State in the Ship *Creighton*, lately

purchased by him for the purpose of transporting him and others to *Great Britain*.

JOHN AVERY, *Deputy Secretary*.

PETITION OF JOHN BROWN.

To the honourable the Council of the MASSACHUSETTS STATE, now sitting in WATERTOWN:
The Petition of JOHN BROWN, a native and inhabitant of GREAT BRITAIN, humbly sheweth:

That your petitioner belonged to the ship *Earl of Erroll*, and was on his passage from the Island *Grenada* to *London*, but, on the 24th *July* last, was taken by two privateers of *New-York*, and sent into *Boston*.

That your petitioner, having a wife and family in *London*, is desirous of returning to them, and begs the favour of your honourable Board to grant him a permit to go thither with Mr. *Ross*, who, your petitioner understands, is permitted to go in the Ship *Clayton*. And your petitioner, as in duty bound, will ever pray.

JOHN BROWNE.

In Council, September 24, 1776.

Read, and Ordered, That said petitioner have liberty granted to depart this State in the Ship *Creighton*, Benjamin Moore Master, lately purchased by Mr. *Ross*, for the purpose of transporting himself and others to *Great Britain*.

JOHN AVERY, *Deputy Secretary*.

Boston, September 21st, 1776.

PETITION OF JOHN ROWE.

State of MASSACHUSETTS-BAY:

To the honourable the Council now sitting at WATERTOWN:
The Petition of JOHN ROWE, of BOSTON, humbly sheweth:

That your petitioner, with several others, owners of the sloop *Phoenix*, now fitting her out to cruise against the enemies of these *United States*, and said sloop having every necessary equipment but the article of gunpowder, and for want of which she is unable to proceed on her cruise; your petitioner, therefore, humbly prays that your Honours would grant him permission to purchase five hundred weight of gunpowder out of the publick magazine belonging to this State, and for which he will immediately pay the money.

JOHN ROWE.

In Council, September 24, 1776.

Resolved, That the Commissary-General of this State be, and he hereby is directed to deliver John Rowe, Esq., five hundred pounds of Gunpowder, to be taken from the Powder-Mill at *Andover*, for the use of a private sloop-of-war called the *Phoenix*, he, the said Rowe, allowing and paying the sum of six shillings per pound for said Powder to the said Commissary-General, who is to be accountable for the same.

JOHN AVERY, *Deputy Secretary*.

PETITION OF JOHN STALKER.

May it please your Honours:

The humble Petition of JOHN STALKER, Mariner on board the ship ANNA MARIA, WILLIAM PRINGLE Commander, from BARBADOES, bound for LONDON, and taken by the privateer sloop REVENGE, of SALEM, JOSEPH WHITE Commander, sheweth:

That whereas I hear of a ship, now lying in *Boston* harbour, purchased by Messrs. *Ross* and *Morgan*, of said *Boston*, with intent of carrying passengers to *London*, I humbly crave the favour your Honours will of your goodness grant me the liberty to return in said ship to *London*, it being my native place, where I have a wife, whose whole support depends upon my labour and industry; and myself being a man of a very weakly constitution, very unable to endure the hardships of a long and in all probability tedious winter, being always used to a warmer climate; my money also being much on the decline, that I cannot possibly support myself here much longer.

These, may please your Honours, are the sole cause of this my earnest prayer; for I freely and with gratitude acknowledge to have been treated with the greatest civility and kindness since my being made a captive. I therefore beg your Honours' consideration of my case, and that this my prayer may be granted.

JOHN STALKER.

Salem, 20th September, 1776.

To the honourable Council of the State of the Massachusetts-Bay.

In Council, September 24, 1776.

Read, and Ordered, That liberty be hereby granted to the said petitioner to depart this State in the Ship *Creighton*, Benjamin Moore Master, lately purchased by Mr. *Ross*, for the purpose of transporting himself and others to *Great Britain*.

JOHN AVERY, *Deputy Secretary*.

PETITION OF CAPTAIN BROWN.

To the honourable Council of the State of the MASSACHUSETTS-BAY:

The Petition of Captain WILLIAM BROWN sheweth:

That your petitioner is appointed by Messrs. Paul Dudley Sergeant, James Swan, Mungo Mackey, and Thomas Adams, to the command of the privateer frigate-ship named the *Boston*, of which they are proprietors, which is almost ready to sail upon a six months' cruise against the enemies of *America*. She carries twenty-two guns—ten nine-pounders, six six-pounders, and six four-pounders, with two hundred and ten hands, including officers and marines; is burthened about four hundred tons, and has on board ninety barrels of pork, ninety barrels of beef, with small stores. The First Lieutenant's name is Heman Doane, the Second Lieutenant's name is John Snoddin; Captain of Marines, Gaven Brown, Jr., the Lieutenant of Marines, William Nichols.

Your petitioner therefore prays your Honours would commission him commander of said frigate, and give him the necessary papers of instructions. And, as in duty bound, shall ever pray.

WILLIAM BROWNE.

In Council, September 24, 1776.

Read, and Ordered, That the prayer of the above Petition be granted, and that a Commission be issued out to the above Commander, he complying with the resolves of Congress.

JOHN AVERY, *Deputy Secretary*.

FORM OF BOND GIVEN BY AGENTS FOR CAPTURES.

Know all men by these presents, that we, Timothy Persons, of Pownalborough, in the County of Lincoln and State of Massachusetts-Bay, gentleman, and stand firmly bound and obliged to Henry Gardiner, Esq., Treasurer of the State aforesaid, in the sum of ten thousand pounds, to be paid the said Treasurer or his successors in said office, to the which payment, well and truly to be made, we bind ourselves, our heirs, executors, and administrators, jointly and severally, and firmly, by these presents. In testimony whereof we have hereunto set our hands and seals, this 24th day of September, Anno Domini 1776.

The condition of the foregoing obligation is such, that whereas the said Timothy Persons, Esq., is appointed Agent for the Eastern District for all captures made by any vessel or otherways in which this State is any way interested or concerned, whose authority as Agent shall be limited to and confined within the limits of the aforesaid district for holding the Court of Captures, as set forth by an act of this State for the trying and condemning of all vessels as aforesaid. If, therefore, the said Timothy Persons shall in all things observe and conduct himself according to the orders and directions given him respecting his office as Agent aforesaid, and shall duly account, when thereto legally required, for all moneys and effects by him received in virtue of his appointment as aforesaid, then the above obligation to be void, otherways to abide and remain in full force and virtue.

PETITION OF HUGH WALKER AND OTHERS.

State of MASSACHUSETTS-BAY:

To the honourable the Council of the said State:

The Petition of HUGH WALKER, ARCHIBALD BOG, and ROBERT PARK, humbly shows:

That your petitioners were taken in different ships belonging to the inhabitants of *Great Britain* and brought into this State; that they have families in *Great Britain* suffering for want of their assistance while they remain here without the least employment, and must soon suffer for want of the necessaries of life, or become an unwilling burthen upon their friends; your petitioners therefore humbly pray that your Honours will take their distressed circumstances into your wise consideration, and grant them a permission to leave this State with Mr. *Ross* on his intended voyage, or

any other opportunity under the directions of your Honours, or make such order and grant them such relief as in your Honours' wisdom may seem fit. And your petitioners, as in duty bound, shall ever pray.

HUGH WALKER,
ARCH'D BOG,
ROBERT PARK.

Boston, August 22d, 1776.

In Council, September 25, 1776.

Read, and *Ordered*, That liberty be hereby granted to the within petitioners to depart this State in the Ship *Creighton*, Benjamin Moore Master, lately purchased by Mr. Ross, for the purpose of transporting himself and others to Great Britain.

JOHN AVERY, Deputy Secretary.

ORDER FOR PROCURING CANNON FOR THE SHIP BOSTON.

In Council, September 25, 1776.

Whereas, by a resolve of the General Court, passed September 16th, 1776, the Committee for Fortifying the Harbour of Boston were directed to send forthwith by water, so many Cannon, nine-pounders, with carriages and other apparatus from those in and about Boston as shall be sufficient to arm the Continental ship called the *Boston*, to the town of *Newburyport*; and whereas a sufficient number of nine-pound Cannon cannot be procured out of those in and about the town of Boston, for the purpose above mentioned: Therefore,

Ordered, That the Committee for fortifying the Harbour of Boston be, and hereby are directed to send to *Newburyport* for the Cannon aforesaid, forthwith by water, four twelve-pound Cannon and other apparatus, with their carriages, from those in and about Boston, in lieu of the nine-pound Cannon that are wanting, and they were directed to send to the place before mentioned, and also to supply the said Ship with two six-pounders and four four-pounders, if to be procured.

PETITION OF OWNERS OF SCHOONER INDEPENDENCE.

To the honourable Council of the State of MASSACHUSETTS BAY:

The Petition of WILLIAM NICKOLS, in behalf of himself, STEPHEN HOOPER, and SAMUEL BATCHELDER, humbly sheweth:

That your petitioners are fitting out at *Newburyport*, in this State, the schooner *Independence*, to cruise on the enemies at the *United American States*; said schooner is about fifty tons burthen, carries six carriage-guns, four and three-pounders, and eight swivels, with a sufficient quantity of powder and ball, has twenty barrels of provisions on board; will be navigated by twenty-five men, and commanded by William Nickols; First Lieutenant Moses Gerish; Cutting Lunt Captain of the Marines. Your petitioners, therefore humbly pray your Honours to commission William Nickols to command said schooner for the above purpose. And your petitioners, as in duty bound, will ever pray.

WILLIAM NICKOLS.

In Council, September 25, 1776.

Read, and *Ordered*, That a Commission be issued out to the above-named William Nickols, he complying with the resolves of Congress.

JOHN AVERY, Deputy Secretary.

PETITION OF CHARLES REID.

State of MASSACHUSETTS:

Unto the honourable Council of said State, sitting at WATERTOWN:

The Petition of CHARLES REID humbly sheweth:

That the petitioner was taken some months ago in his passage to London, and brought into Boston. That he is a married man and has six small children, capable of no support to themselves, and who depend entirely for subsistence on his labour. That he has no way in the world of getting home to them unless the honourable Council will please to allow him to go in Mr. Ross's ship, which he earnestly requests may be granted him. And your petitioner, as in duty bound, will ever pray.

CHARLES REID.

In Council, September 25, 1776.

Read, and *Ordered*, That liberty is hereby granted to

the above petitioner to depart this State in the Ship *Creighton*, Benjamin Moore Master, lately purchased by Mr. Ross, for the purpose of transporting himself and others to Great Britain.

JOHN AVERY, Deputy Secretary.

PETITION OF ALEXANDER TOUGH AND THOMAS MAHONY.

State of MASSACHUSETTS:

To the honourable the Council of said State, sitting at WATERTOWN:

The Petition of ALEXANDER TOUGH and THOMAS MAHONY humbly sheweth:

That your petitioners were taken some months ago on their voyage from Jamaica to London, and brought into Boston. That Alexander Tough has three small children, who, having the misfortune to be motherless, are in the utmost need of his personal support. Thomas Mahony is likewise a married man, and has the additional care of a parent, who depends entirely upon him for maintenance. Your petitioners therefore most humbly request the honourable Council to permit them to go home in the ship belonging to Mr. Ross, as they have no other prospect of relief. And your petitioners, as in duty bound, shall ever pray.

ALEXANDER TOUGH,
THOMAS MAHONY.

In Council, September 25, 1776.

Read, and *Ordered*, That liberty be hereby granted to the within petitioners to depart this State in the Ship *Creighton*, Benjamin Moore Master, lately purchased by Mr. Ross, for the purpose of transporting himself and others to Great Britain.

JOHN AVERY, Deputy Secretary.

PERMISSION FOR THE SHIP WILLIAM.

State of MASSACHUSETTS-BAY:

Permission is hereby granted unto Benjamin Moore, Master of the Ship *William*, together with the several passengers and others on board her, to depart this State in ballast, and stores for the people and passengers' sustenance only, for some port in Great Britain, liberty having been granted to the said passengers and others by this Board, as will appear by the several permits delivered them, under the hand of the Secretary of this State, or his Deputy. Therefore, all masters and commanders of armed vessels fitted out from any of the United States will duly notice this permission, and suffer said ship to pass with her passengers and others, unmolested accordingly.

In Council Chamber, at Watertown, the 25th September, 1776.

In the name and per order Council:

JOHN AVERY, Deputy Secretary.

In Council, September 26th, 1776.

Ordered, That the Committee of Safety, Inspection, &c., of the town of Boston be, and they hereby are directed to deliver to Mr. William Ross, owner of the Ship *William*, (lately the *Creighton*,) the sails, or any other articles now in their possession, belonging to said Ship. And the said Committee are further directed carefully to inspect the said ship, and to take care that no one person takes passage in the said ship but such as have a certificate in writing under the hand of the Secretary of this State, or his Deputy, certifying that liberty has been granted them for that purpose. And the said Committee are also directed to see that no other persons but such as produce a certificate as aforesaid, take passage in said vessel; and the Committee are directed to permit Mr. Ross to take on board as provisions for the voyage such articles named in a bill of stores this day delivered Mr. Ross, signed by the Secretary, which has been allowed by this Board; and the Committee are also directed to return a list of the names of the persons who shall actually sail in the said ship, to this Board as soon as may be.

PETITION OF WILLIAM ROSS.

State of the MASSACHUSETTS-BAY:

To the honourable the Council of State sitting in WATERTOWN, SEPTEMBER, 1776:

The Petition of WILLIAM ROSS, of JAMAICA, gentleman, humbly shows:

That by an order of this honourable Board of the 7th

ultimo, your petitioner, in conjunction with Mr. *Nathaniel Morgan*, were permitted to purchase a vessel for the convenience of transporting themselves and their families to *Great Britain*, to depart from this State any time after the 1st instant, and in the mean time giving them leave to prepare such vessel as they might purchase, so as to be ready to sail when this honourable Board might think proper to grant them permission. In consequence of which order your petitioner has purchased a vessel, but in preparing her he has met with some interruption, particularly in procuring of ballast, which has been refused to be supplied him without a certificate from the Committee of Safety in *Boston*, of its being agreeable to them, for which certificate your petitioner applied to the said Committee, and produced a copy of the aforesaid order of this honourable Board, but the said Committee refused granting any such certificate, as the said order was not addressed to them.

Your petitioner therefore humbly prays that your Honours would be pleased to order the said Committee to grant him leave to procure such ballast, and to do and provide every thing else necessary for the putting the said vessel into a proper condition for going to sea, (excepting the bending of her sails,) that she may be ready to proceed whenever your Honours are pleased again to grant permission, the honourable Board in their wisdom having thought proper to suspend their former permission till further orders, by an order of the 21st ultimo. And your petitioner shall ever pray, &c.

WILL. ROSS.

In Council, September 3d, 1776.

Read, and *Ordered*, That *David Sewall*, Esq., be directed to take the within Petition into consideration and report.

JOHN AVERY, *Deputy Secretary*.

Council Chamber, September 3, 1776.

Ordered, That *William Ross*, of *Jamaica*, who has by permission of this Board purchased a vessel to transport himself and family to *Great Britain* be, and hereby is permitted to procure ballast for his said vessel, and to do every thing necessary for repairing and fitting the vessel for the sea, for his intended voyage; and all persons are directed in no manner to retard, hinder, or molest, the said *William Ross*, or such persons as he may employ in that business. And to the end the said *William Ross* may not depart till the order of this Board, the Committee of Inspection, Correspondence, &c., for the town of *Boston*, are directed to receive the sails of the said vessel into their custody, and them detain until the said *Ross* shall have permission in writing from this Board to take his departure, and the said Committee are also directed to use their influence to prevent the said *William's* being interrupted in preparing his vessel for his intended voyage as aforesaid.

PETITION OF JAMES HODGES,

To the honourable Council assembled at WATERTOWN, in the State of the MASSACHUSETTS-BAY, the 26th day of SEPTEMBER, Anno Domini 1776:

The Petition of JAMES HODGES, of ABERDEEN, in SCOTLAND, Merchant, humbly sheweth:

That your petitioner, about twelve months since, was passenger in the brigantine *Diana*, John Wallace Commander, from *Quebeck*, bound for *Boston*, and taken by some boats and carried to *Cape Ann*. That your petitioner has, by the kindness of your Honours, been upon parole ever since, to go any where upon the Continent; that your petitioner is of a tender constitution, and not brought up to labour, and nothing left for his support here, and having no opportunity to return to his native country, he prays that your Honours would grant leave therefor. And your petitioner, as in duty bound, shall ever pray, &c.

JAMES HODGES.

In Council, September 26, 1776.

Read, and *Ordered*, That the above petitioner have liberty granted him to depart this State in the Ship *William, Benjamin Moore* Master, lately purchased by Mr. *Ross*, for the purpose of transporting himself and others to *Great Britain*.

PETITION OF WILLIAM EMLE AND JAMES M'GILL.

State of the MASSACHUSETTS-BAY:

Unto the honourable the Council of said State:

The Petition of WILLIAM EMLE and JAMES M'GILL, humbly sheweth:

That your petitioners were taken on their passage on board the *Zachary Bayley*, from the *West-Indies*, to *London*, and brought into *Boston*; that your petitioners have wives and families in *England*, whose only support depends upon your petitioners, and in case they are not permitted to go to them, they must be reduced to the greatest misery and want. Your petitioners, therefore, most humbly pray your Honours would be pleased to permit them to depart on board the ship purchased by Mr. *Ross*, who will take them with your Honours' permission. And by granting this petition, your petitioners will be ever bound to pray, &c.

WILLIAM EMLE,
JAMES M'GILL.

In Council, September 26th, 1776.

Read, and *Ordered*, That the above petitioners have liberty granted to them to depart this State in the Ship *William, Benjamin Moore* Master, lately purchased by Mr. *Ross*, for the purpose of transporting himself and others to *Great Britain*.

APPLICATION FOR CAPTAIN SAMSON.

Kingston, 23d September, 1776.

SIR: Captain *Samson* waits upon the Council to make report, and receive further orders. As some small repairs are wanting on the brigantine he commands, and if the honourable Council should order him out again, some provisions, &c., will be necessary, I imagine it will be thought needful, that some person should be appointed for these purposes, as I don't know that any provision has been made in these respects.

Captain *Samson* thinks that it might have been advantageous to the State, as well as to the ship's crews, if he had not been so restricted by his orders in his last cruise. I presume your Honours will give him such instructions as shall be thought most conducive to the good of the State.

I am, sir, your very humble servant,

W. SEVER.

In Council, September 26, 1776.

Read, and *Ordered*, That the Hon. *William Sever* be appointed Agent for the purpose above mentioned, and he is hereby directed to supply the said Brigantine with such Stores, and other articles, as may be necessary to equip said Brigantine for the sea.

JOHN AVERY, *Deputy Secretary*.

To Hon. *James Bowdoin*, Esq.

In Council, September 26, 1776.

Ordered, That the Hon. *William Seaver*, Esq., be appointed to provide the armed vessel commanded by *Simeon Samson*, with such Stores, and other articles, as may be necessary to equip said vessel for the sea; and the Commissary is hereby directed to supply said vessel out of their publick store with such things as by said Mr. *Seaver* shall be required of him.

JOHN AVERY, *Deputy Secretary*.

Memorandum for sundry Provisions for Brigantine *Independence*, November:—25 barrels Beef, 15 barrels Pork, 1 cask Rice, 6,000 lbs. Bread, 6 firkins Butter, 10 bushels Peas or Beans, 50 bushels Potatoes and Turnips.

PETITION OF OWNERS OF SCHOONER HOPE.

State of MASSACHUSETTS-BAY:

To the Honourable the Council of MASSACHUSETTS-BAY:

The Petition of *Watson and Spooner, Samuel Jackson*, and *John Grey*, in the town of *Plymouth*, in behalf of themselves and others, owners of the schooner *Hope*, burthened about forty-seven tons, armed with five three-pounders and ten swivels, three hundred weight powder, one hundred three-pound, and twenty double-head shot, three hundred swivel shot, forty two and a half pound shot, eight hundred grape shot: provisions, twenty-five barrels beef and pork, and two thousand bread; navigated by forty-five men; *Walter Hatch* commander; is designed to cruise against the enemies of the *United States of America*.

Your petitioners would, therefore, humbly request your Honours to commission the said vessel and Captain for the

purpose aforesaid. And your petitioners, as in duty bound, shall ever pray.

WATSON SPOONER,
SAMUEL JACKSON,
JOHN GRAY.

N. B. *John Churchill*, First Lieutenant; *Solomon Whitten*, Second Lieutenant; *Sibeline White*, Master.

In Council, September 26, 1776.

Read, and *Ordered*, That a Commission be issued out to the above-named *Walter Hatch*, he complying with the resolves of Congress.

JOHN AVERY, *Deputy Secretary*.

ORDER TO CAPTAIN BANGS.

In Council, September 26, 1776.

Whereas a number of men in the several Towns in the County of *Barnstable*, have been drafted to repair to the lines at *Dorchester Heights*, which men have not as yet arrived at the place of destination:

Ordered, That Captain *Abijah Bangs*, who was appointed to command said men, be, and is hereby directed and commanded immediately to repair to the County of *Barnstable*, and to order the men that have been drafted in the several towns in said County, for the purpose aforesaid, and who have not yet appeared, immediately to march to the Heights of *Dorchester*, there to attend their duty.

PETITION OF ALEXANDER LIDDELL AND THOMAS CREMARTY.

State of the MASSACHUSETTS-BAY:

Unto the honourable the Council of said State:

The Petition of ALEXANDER LIDDELL and THOMAS CREMARTY, humbly sheweth:

That your petitioners were taken in their passage from *Jamaica* to *London*, and brought into *Boston*. That the said *Alexander Liddell* has a wife and two small children at home, and his wife big with a third when he came away; that their support entirely depended upon his labour; and that the said *Thomas Cremarty* hath a father, who, from age and infirmities, has been confined to bed for three years past, whose whole subsistence, as well as that of his sister, who takes care of him, depends upon your petitioner.

That the conduct of your petitioners since their arrival in *Boston*, hath been so satisfactory that the owners of the privateer who took the ship they were in, knowing the above circumstances, made them a present of what little adventure they had on board, though the ship and cargo was condemned without exception. That, having converted their little property into money, they gave it to Mr. *Ross*, who has invested it in the purchase of his ship, &c., and cannot return them their money till his arrival in *England*.

Therefore most humbly prays your Honours to allow them to depart in the said ship, that their families may receive that relief which they must now be so much in want of. And your petitioners, as in duty bound, will ever pray.

ALEXANDER LIDDELL,
THOMAS CREMARTY.

William Ross begs leave to inform the honourable Board that the circumstances mentioned in the above petition respecting him are true, and most earnestly prays your Honours would be pleased to permit the petitioners to depart with him, that he may have it in his power to pay them their money, which he cannot do here but by bills of exchange, which, from the unhappy state of affairs, cannot be negotiated.

WILL. ROSS.

In Council, September 26, 1776.

Read, and *Ordered*, That the within petitioners have liberty granted them to depart this State in the Ship *William*, *Benjamin Moore* Master, lately purchased by Mr. *Ross*, for the purpose of transporting himself and others to *Great Britain*.

PETITION OF ROBERT M'KOWN.

To the honourable the Council of the State of the MASSACHUSETTS-BAY, at WATERTOWN:

Your petitioner humbly sheweth that, as your petitioner, as Commissary for the troops stationed at *Bristol*, in the

County of *Lincoln*, hath received the first and second payments, and hath settled his accounts for the first, and he is come up to settle his accounts for the second, and to receive the third payment according to the resolves of the Great and General Court, not knowing that the Court was adjourned, and as those supplies that your petitioner hath received are nearly exhausted, and the distance he hath come is two hundred miles, your petitioner humbly prays that his accounts may be examined; and that, as the distance is so great, he may receive the money for the three ensuing months, which is one hundred and eighty-seven pounds, ten shillings, or as much as your Honours, in your great wisdom, shall think proper. And your petitioner, as in duty bound, shall ever pray.

ROBERT M'KOWN.

In Council, September 26, 1776.

Read, and *Ordered*, That the prayer of the above Petition be granted, and that a Warrant be drawn on the Treasury for £150, in favour of said *M'Kown*, he to be accountable for the same.

JOHN AVERY, *Deputy Secretary*.

PETITION OF OWNERS OF SCHOONER RANGER.

State of MASSACHUSETTS-BAY:

To the honourable the Council now sitting in WATERTOWN: The Petition of TRISTRAM DALTON, JONATHAN TITCOMB, PETER ROBERTS, THOMAS THOMAS, and EBENEZER PARSONS, humbly shows:

That your petitioners, owners of the schooner *Ranger*, burthened about fifty-two tons, armed with six three-pounders, ten swivels, two hundred weight of powder, with shot in proportion, navigated by forty men; and thirty barrels of beef and pork, three thousand weight of bread, on board. Said schooner is intended to cruise against the enemies of these *United States*.

The officers on board are as follows, viz: *Peter Roberts*, Commander; *Jeremiah Parsons*, First Lieutenant; *John Robinson*, Master.

Your petitioners, therefore, humbly request your Honours to commission the said schooner and commander for the purposes above mentioned. And your petitioners, as in duty bound, shall ever pray.

PETER ROBERTS,
In behalf of myself and owners.

In Council, September 27, 1776.

Read, and *Ordered*, That the prayer of the Petition be granted, and that a Commission be issued out to the said *Peter Roberts*, he complying with resolves of Congress.

JOHN AVERY, *Deputy Secretary*.

PETITION OF JAMES FULTON.

To the honourable Council of the State of the MASSACHUSETTS-BAY:

The Petition of JAMES FULTON, late Master of the *JEAN* OF IROIN, humbly sheweth:

That your petitioner hath laid his case before your Honours twice before, this some time ago, to obtain liberty to return home. At present, your petitioner, understanding there is a ship bound from the port of *Boston* to *London*, belonging to Mr. *William Ross*, and that there is liberty granted to several shipmasters to go with the said *William Ross*, your petitioner humbly prays that your Honours would take his case into consideration, as I was taken by Captain *Tucker*, of the *Hancock*, armed schooner, and carried into *Lynn*, on the 7th of *May*, and hath remained in *Lynn* ever since, and never hath got any subsistence since that I came to the country, but hath been obliged to sell both clothes and other necessities to support me. For such reasons your petitioner humbly prays that your Honours would take his case into consideration, and grant him liberty, with his servant, to go with the above Mr. *William Ross*, or, if disappointed of him, with the first opportunity that may offer to *Britain* or *Portugal*. And your petitioner, in duty bound, shall ever pray.

JAMES FULTON.

In Council, September 27th, 1776.

Read, and *Ordered*, That the prayer of the Petition be so far granted, that the petitioner have liberty to depart this State in the Ship *William*, commanded by *Benjamin Moore*, lately purchased by Mr. *Ross*, for the purpose of transport-

ing himself and others to *Great Britain*, provided the said *Ross* permit him to go in said ship; but permission for his servant is not granted.

JOHN AVERY, *Deputy Secretary*.

Captain *Fulton* has remained in this town ever since he was taken, which is about four months, and during that time he has behaved himself with decency and civility, and not departed in any respect, as we apprehend, from his parole.

JOHN MANSFIELD,

Chairman of the Committee of Correspondence.

Lynn, 2d September, 1776.

To all persons whom it may concern.

PETITION OF JAMES KENNEDY.

State of the MASSACHUSETTS-BAY:

To the honourable Council of the State of MASSACHUSETTS-BAY, now sitting in WATERTOWN:

The Petition of JAMES KENNEDY, late Master of the Ship PEGGY, &c., humbly sheweth:

That your petitioner laid his case before your Honours some time ago, of his bad state of health, and of his having a wife and small family in *London*, to which place your petitioner hears of a ship just going, belonging to a *William Ross*; your petitioner, therefore, being yet poorly in his health, and subject to rheumatism, fears the approaching season, and likewise in a place where he knows nobody that can give him support, and already has been obliged to dispose of his linen and clothes to support himself. He therefore hopes that your Honours would be pleased to grant him liberty to go in said ship, together with a servant man named *John Weatherd*, and girl named *Sophia Kennedy*, which your petitioner was obliged to bring from the *West-Indies*, to wait on and take care of him in his trouble, being at that time unable to put off or on his clothes, and is now been obliged to have the attendance of a doctor since his arrival here. Your petitioner therefore hopes that your Honours would be pleased to grant him said indulgence. And as in duty bound, he will ever pray, &c.

JAMES KENNEDY.

Boston, September 25th, 1776.

In Council, September 27, 1776.

Read, and Ordered, That the prayer of the petitioner be so far granted that he have liberty to depart this State with his servant girl, named *Sophia Kennedy*, (but his servant man not permitted to go,) in the Ship *William*, commanded by *Benjamin Moore*, lately purchased by Mr. *Ross*, for the purpose of transporting himself and others to *Great Britain*, provided the said *Ross* permits him to go in said vessel.

JOHN AVERY, *Deputy Secretary*.

Boston, 29th September, 1776.

These certify whom it may concern, that Captain *James Kennedy* was master, and *Thomas Pamp* mate, of the Ship *Peggy*, when captured by the Captains *Skimmer* and *Tucker*.

J. BRADFORD.

PETITION OF RICHARD PYNE.

To the honourable the Council of the State of MASSACHUSETTS-BAY, humbly sheweth:

That your petitioner, *Richard Pyne*, was chartered on the 26th of *August*, 1775, by Messrs. *Lettis* and *Hayes*, of the Island of *St. Michael's*, with a design to carry staves to the *West-Indies*; but by an unforeseen accident was prevented, on which said freighters thought proper to load her with wine and fruit for this Continent, and on the 7th of *May*, 1776, was taken by the armed schooner *Hancock*, of this Province, and carried into *Lynn*. Your petitioner now requests that your Honours will be good enough to give him liberty to depart from this country, that he may return home to his family; and as he has some freight due to him in the Island of *St. Michael*, would prefer going by that way; and some time past bought an old vessel with a design of proceeding when liberty would be granted, and since, apprehending that she might be liable to seizure, resold her. Your petitioner now humbly beseeches your Honours will permit him to buy a small vessel to return home with, with a crew of masters and servants to navigate her, that have your permission to depart from here, or permit him to depart by any other ways or means I may find most con-

venient for myself and a small boy, an apprentice. And as many other masters have your Honours' permission, your petitioner prays your Honours to permit the same indulgence to him, as on his being taken he signed a parole not to act against the Colonies, and is now willing to give your Honours any other obligations you may require, that a stranger or an individual can give. And on your Honours' permission, your petitioner will be forever bound to pray.

RICHARD PYNE.

In Council, September 27, 1776.

Read, and Ordered, That the prayer of this Petition be so far granted that the petitioner, but not his servants, have liberty to depart this State in the Ship *William*, commanded by *Benjamin Moore*, lately purchased by Mr. *Ross*, for the purpose of transporting himself and others to *Great Britain*, provided the said Mr. *Ross* permits him to go in said ship.

JOHN AVERY, *Deputy Secretary*.

Boston, July, 1776.

Captain *Richard Pyne*, of the brig *William*, has given his parole of honour not to act against the *United Colonies*.

J. WARD, A. D. C.

Committee of Correspondence, Lynn, September 26, 1776.

Richard Pyne, who was master of the brigantine called the *William*, which was taken and brought into the harbour in this town, has resided here ever since the capture, and we are fully persuaded has made no attempts to depart the country secretly and without license, but has in all respects abided by his parole. And we are unable to suggest any reason why he should have liberty to depart and return home denied him, if others in the same condition with him have liberty granted to them. We esteem him to be a gentleman and a man of honour, and as such, we recommend him to the respect and assistance of all persons.

JNO. FLAGG, per order.

PETITION OF JOHN DONNESTON.

To the honourable the Council of the State of MASSACHUSETTS-BAY:

The Petition of JOHN DONNESTON, late Master of the Ship ANN, humbly sheweth:

That your petitioner laid his case before your Honours some time ago to obtain leave to go out of this country, and at present there is a ship bound from *Boston* to the port of *London*. He therefore begs your Honours would be pleased to grant him liberty to go in that ship, along with Mr. *William Ross*, as he understands several other shipmasters is going who was taken some time after him. Your petitioner, therefore, most humbly prays your Honours will grant him liberty to return home to his wife and family by this ship or the first that goes to any port of *Britain*, *Spain*, or *Portugal*, as he has been near four months in this country and never had any subsistence allowed him, and had an interest on board when taken upward of three hundred pounds sterling. Your petitioner, therefore, begs your Honours will take his hard case into consideration, and allow him any part of his private venture your Honours may think proper, with liberty to depart from this country. And in duty bound, shall ever pray.

JOHN DONNESTON.

In Council, September 27, 1776.

Read, and Ordered, That the prayer of this Petition be granted; the petitioner have liberty to depart this State in the Ship *William*, commanded by *Benjamin Moore*, lately purchased by Mr. *Ross*, for the purpose of transporting himself and others to *Great Britain*, provided the said Mr. *Ross* permit him, the said *Donneston*, to go in said ship.

JOHN AVERY, *Deputy Secretary*.

APPLICATION IN FAVOUR OF CAPTAIN DUDFIELD.

To the honourable the President of the Council, WATERTOWN.

Salem, 27th September, 1776.

The bearer, Captain *Dudfield*, was taken and brought in here by Captain *Fisk*, in the *Tyrannicide*. He has a young son with him, about six years old, and a black boy; and now waits on the Council in hopes of obtaining permission for himself and then, together with the surgeon of his vessel, to sail for *England* with Mr. *Ross*. They have very little to support themselves here, and will soon become bur-

thensome to the State. May it not, under the circumstances, be prudent to let them go?

With due respect, I am your Honours most obedient servant,
 RICHARD DERBY, JUN.
 To the honourable the President of the Council.

In Council, September 28, 1776.

Read, and *Ordered*, That liberty be granted to Captain *Dudfield*, his son and servant, to depart this State in the Ship *William*, *Benjamin Moore* Master, lately purchased by Mr. *Ross*, for the purpose of transporting himself and others to *Great Britain*; but permission is not granted to his Surgeon.

JOHN AVERY, *Deputy Secretary*.

PETITION OF PEARSON JONES.

To the honourable Council of the State of MASSACHUSETTS:
 The Petition of PEARSON JONES, of FALMOUTH, C. BAY,
 humbly shows:

That he, with *Ebenezer Parsons*, of *Newbury-Port*, have fitted out a sloop called the *Putnam*, burthened sixty tons, navigated by forty-five men, mounted with two carriage-guns, three-pounds, and sixteen swivel-guns, to carry two hundred pounds powder, three thousand pounds beef, four barrels pork, three thousand pounds of bread, &c. That said sloop is fitted out for the purpose of cruising against the enemies to the *American States*. That the owners of said sloop have chosen the following officers for her, viz: *Joseph Bailey* Captain, *John Maxwell* First Lieutenant, *Nathaniel Thompson* Second Lieutenant, *William Thomas* Master. The petitioner therefore prays your Honours to grant a commission to Captain *Joseph Bayley* as commander of the above-mentioned vessel. And, as in duty bound, will ever pray.

PEARSON JONES.

In Council, September 28, 1776.

Read, and *Ordered*, That a Commission be issued out to *Joseph Bayley*, as Commander of the above Sloop called the *Putnam*, he complying with the resolves of Congress.

JOHN AVERY, *Deputy Secretary*.

Watertown, September 28th, 1776.

PETITION OF OWNERS OF SCHOONER DOLPHIN.

State of MASSACHUSETTS-BAY:

To the honourable Council of the State of MASSACHUSETTS-BAY:

The Petition of SAMUEL WARD, JOSEPH SPRAGUE, and SAMUEL WATERS, all of SALEM, humbly sheweth:

That your petitioners are now fitting out with all despatch, a private schooner of war, called the *Dolphin*, burthen about eighteen tons, to carry one hundred pounds weight of gun-powder, and ten barrels of provisions, to be mounted with eight swivel-guns, and navigated by twenty-five men, whereof is intended to be Captain *John Leach*. Your petitioners therefore humbly request that the said *John Leach* may be commissioned Captain of the said private schooner of war. And your petitioners, as in duty bound, shall ever pray.

SAMUEL WARD,
 JOSEPH SPRAGUE.

In Council, September 28, 1776.

Read, and *Ordered*, That a Commission be issued out to the said *John Leach*, he complying with the resolves of Congress.

JOHN AVERY, *Deputy Secretary*.

ORDER FOR SUPPLIES FOR GENERAL WASHINGTON.

In Council, September 28, 1776.

Whereas General *Washington*, in his letter of the 19th instant, to the General Assembly of this State, has represented that the army under his command are much in want of Camp Utensils, and that he knows not how to procure a sufficiency:

Therefore, *Ordered*, That the Commissary-General be, and hereby is directed to procure two Teams, and load the same with such a number of iron Pots as they can contain, and send them forward immediately to *Norwich*, in the State of *Connecticut*, and consign them to *William Coit*, Esq., merchant there, and desire him to forward them by water to the town of *Fairfield*, to the address of *Thaddeus Burr*, Esq., to be by him forwarded to General *Washington* for the use of the Continental Army in the State of *New-York*.

PETITION OF JAMES DARGIE.

To the honourable Council and Representatives of the General Court assembled at WATERTOWN:

The humble Petition of JAMES DARGIE, setteth forth:

That he arrived at this place upon the 9th of April, 1775, to go as an officer on board of a new ship, then building at *Danvers*, for Dr. *John Calfe*, of *Ipswich*, by Captain *Israel Hutchinson*, and further sheweth that the said ship was launched in June, 1775, from which time to the present, as the ship has been stopped by the honourable House as above, your said petitioner has been distressed greatly for want of the necessaries of life, and as I see no prospect of the ship going from hence, humbly begs your Honours to grant me liberty to leave this country, as having a wife and two small children at home, and must be in a poorer situation for want of my assistance. Your Honours' compliance will forever bind your petitioner to pray.

JAMES DARGIE.

Danvers, in the County of Essex, September 29, 1776.

ORDER FOR DISCHARGE OF CONSTANT CHURCH, AN INDIAN.

State of Massachusetts-Bay, Council Chamber,
 September 30, 1776. }

Whereas by an order of Council of the 9th instant, one *Bill*, alias *Constant Church*, an *Indian*, was committed to the Gaol in *Cambridge*, in the County of *Middlesex*, on suspicion of being a Spy sent from *Canada*, and there to remain till further order of Council; and it having been now made to appear to this Board that the said *Indian* belongs to the town of *Freetown*, and not likely that he was any Spy or any ways inimical:

Therefore, *Ordered*, That the said *Constant Church* be, and he hereby is discharged from his confinement in the said Gaol in *Cambridge*.

In the name and by the order of the Council.

To the Keeper of the Gaol in *Cambridge*, in the County of *Middlesex*.

PETITION OF JEREMIAH O'BRIEN.

To the honourable Committee of Council, assembled at WATERTOWN, for the MASSACHUSETTS STATE:

The Petition of JEREMIAH O'BRIEN, in behalf of himself and Company, humbly sheweth:

That he has served with his company on board the sloop *Machias Liberty*, in the Colony service, from the 1st day of February last, under many disadvantages, my officers and seamen making repeated applications for money, with which I have supplied to the amount of five or six hundred dollars, and still lie out of it, which your Honours readily think is a great disadvantage to me. Also, have furnished the sloop and schooners now in the Colony service to the amount of nigh one hundred and sixty pound lawful money, and as yet have not received any pay therefor; the men on board had not sufficient clothing to defend them against the inclemency of the weather. I have now on board my full complement of men, who are daily solicited to enter in private properties; they having such great encouragement, renders it very difficult to keep them on board, and unless the honourable Committee will in their great wisdom order payment it will be impossible to confine them on board. Also would inform that I have made application to the Commissary for provisions, and can't obtain any without a draft from the honourable Committee of Council. We hold ourselves always ready and willing to serve for the good of our country; but are anxious to know whether we are held in commission or to be discharged. An immediate answer from your Honours will lay your petitioner under the greatest obligations imaginable. As in duty bound, shall ever pray.

JEREMIAH O'BRIEN.

In Council, October 1, 1776.

Read, and thereupon *Ordered*, That the Commissary-General of this State be, and he hereby is directed to furnish necessary Provisions from time to time to the men belonging to the Sloop *Machias Liberty*, under the command of Captain *Jeremiah O'Brian*, and in actual service on board the said sloop, until the next meeting of the General Court.

JOHN AVERY, *Deputy Secretary*.

In Council, October 1, 1776.

Whereas Captain *John Foster Williams*, of the Sloop *Republick*, and Captain *John Clouston*, of the Sloop *Freedom*, both belonging to this State, are in want of some iron ballast that they may immediately proceed on their intended cruise: therefore the Committee for fortifying the Harbour of *Boston* be, and they are hereby directed to deliver the said *Williams* and *Clouston*, out of the row-galley lying in *Boston* harbour, so much iron ballast, as they may stand in need of at this time for their several sloops.

PETITION OF JOSHUA ORNE.

To the honourable Council of the MASSACHUSETTS STATE:
The Petition of JOSHUA ORNE, of MARBLEHEAD, humbly showeth:

That your petitioner, in concert with Captain *John Selman*, of *Marblehead*, has been at considerable cost and pains to equip an armed schooner called the *Necessity*, to cruise against the foes of this and the *United States of America*. Said schooner is burthened about thirty tons; armed with twelve swivel guns and blunderbusses; commanded by *William Le Craw*; navigated by thirty men; victualled with twelve hundred pounds of bread, twelve hams of beef, and six of pork; to carry two hundred pounds powder. Your petitioner being destitute of a supply of powder for the above vessel, humbly prays your Honours will grant him an order on the Commissary-General for two hundred pounds, he to pay for it, and two hundred grape-shot from the Laboratory, at *Boston*, as there are none to be had at the forges for want of rain; and also a commission for the above-named *Le Craw*. And your petitioner, as in duty bound, will ever pray, &c.

JOSHUA ORNE.

Watertown, October 1, 1776.

In Council, October 1, 1776.

Read, and Ordered, That the prayer of the Petition be granted, and that a Commission be issued out to the said *William Le Craw*, as commander of said Schooner, upon his complying with resolves of Congress; and that the Commissary-General be directed to deliver Mr. *Joshua Orne*, two hundred pounds Gunpowder out of the Powder-Mill at *Andover*, and two hundred pounds Grape-shot out of the Laboratory at *Boston*, for the use of said Schooner; he paying six shillings per pound for Powder, and for the Shot the customary price to the said Commissary, who is to be accountable for the same.

JOHN AVERY, Deputy Secretary.

MEMORIAL OF THE TOWN OF SPENCER.

Colony of the MASSACHUSETTS-BAY:

To the honourable General Court, sitting at WATERTOWN:
The Memorial of the Committee of Correspondence, Inspection, and Safety, of the Town of SPENCER, humbly showeth:

That the Tories in several towns in the County of *Worcester* have frequent meetings in large bodies, which creates suspicions in the minds of the good people of said County that said Tories have and are providing magazines of warlike stores in several places, which we, your memorialists, think it will be of very dangerous consequence to the lives and liberties of this and the *United Colonies* in *North America*, if suffered to proceed in their schemes and plans. Therefore we, your memorialists, humbly pray your Honours that you would take said affair into your wise consideration, and give us such instructions and directions, in order to proceed with said Tories as may be effectual, when put into execution, to prevent their evil designs against the said Colonies. As in duty bound, shall ever pray.

ASA BALDWIN,
JEREMIAH WHITEMORE,
KNIGHT SPRAGUE,
JOSHUA DRAPER,

Committee of Correspondence, Safety, and Inspection.

Spencer, July 13, A. D. 1776.

In the House of Representatives, October, 1776.

Upon the Petition of the Committee of Correspondence, &c., of the town of *Spencer*:

Resolved, That said Committee be enjoined to keep a watchful eye upon suspected persons, and, according to their best discretion, to redouble their exertions for the peace and safety of their town.

FIFTH SERIES.—VOL. II.

PETITION OF JOSEPH THOMPSON.

To the honourable the Council and honourable House of Representatives of the State of MASSACHUSETTS-BAY, in General Court assembled at WATERTOWN, AUGUST, 1776:
The Petition of JOSEPH THOMPSON, of MEDFORD, humbly showeth:

That your petitioner, after *Lexington* battle, left *Medford*, and retired to *Boston*, from whence, on the eighth day of *November* last, he went to *Swanzey*, and there lived till within a few days past. That your petitioner never signed any addresses or associations, though often solicited to do it while he was in *Boston*. He acknowledges he has, in some instances, acted an imprudent part, for which he is very sorry. That he lately wrote to the Committee of Inspection, &c., in *Medford*, for leave to return home, and that he might enjoy his estate again, but they informed him it was out of their power, and that it lay with this honourable Court.

Your petitioner therefore humbly prays this honourable Court to take his case into your wise and compassionate consideration, and that your Honours would be pleased to give orders that he may be restored to the enjoyment of his estate again. And your petitioner, as in duty bound, shall ever pray, &c.

JOSEPH THOMPSON.

PETITION OF DAVID GRIFFIN.

To the honourable the General Assembly of the Province of the MASSACHUSETTS-BAY, now holden at BOSTON, in said Province:

The Petition of DAVID GRIFFIN, of SHEFFIELD, in the County of BERKSHIRE, humbly showeth:

That, whereas there is a considerable quantity of saltpetre made and manufactured in said *Berkshire* County, and although there is a premium given for encouragement to those who shall make the same, yet, nevertheless, the transportation thereof to the powder-mills is attended with a very considerable trouble and cost, the mills being so far distant; and your petitioner, with a view for the benefit and safety of the *United States* of this distressed Continent, as well as for his private interest, having obtained license from the honourable General Assembly of the Colony of *Connecticut*, hath erected and set up a Powder-Mill in the town of *Salisbury*, in *Litchfield* County, a town adjoining to said *Sheffield*; and your petitioner being sensible that said mill cannot be fully supplied with saltpetre by the towns adjacent in said Colony; and your petitioner being also sensible that the saltpetre made in said *Berkshire* County can, with less trouble and cost, be delivered to said mill than any other in the Province: Therefore your petitioner prays that your Honours would take the matter into your wise consideration, and enact, order, and decree, that the towns in the County of *Berkshire*, or the towns in said Province, that are nearest said mill, may deliver their saltpetre at said mill; and that your Honours would appoint a Committee to have the charge and oversight of the matter, that the powder made of said saltpetre be delivered for the use and benefit of the Province, or in some other way grant relief. And your petitioner, as in duty bound, shall ever pray.

Dated in *Sheffield*, this 5th day of *August*, 1776.

DAVID GRIFFIN.

PETITION OF COMMITTEE OF MEDFORD.

To the honourable the Council and House of Representatives in General Court assembled, OCTOBER, 1776:

May it please your Honours:

Pursuant to a resolve of Court passed the 19th of *April*, Anno 1776, the Committee of Correspondence, &c., of *Medford*, proceeded to take into their care the estates belonging to the absentees, (as in said resolve described,) and made due return thereof to said Court.

The present Committee beg leave now further to inform your Honours, that they have lately discovered a dwelling-house in said town, (now occupied by the Widow *Kidder*), to be the property of Sir *William Pepperell*, an absentee, the particulars of which are fully described in the records of the County Register.

STEPHEN HALL, ter.,
ISAAC WARREN,
JOSEPH TUFT,
JONA. PATTEN,

} Committee
of
Medford.

PETITION OF SUSANNAH LEECH.

To the honourable Council and House of Representatives of the State of MASSACHUSETTS-BAY:

The humble Petition of SUSANNAH LEECH, widow of the late JOHN LEECH, a soldier in Captain WILKINS's Company, Colonel WIGGLESWORTH's Regiment, was killed on board the galley TRUMBULL on LAKE CHAMPLAIN, in OCTOBER, 1776, sheweth:

That your petitioner, being left with two small children, and incapable of supporting them, owing to the exorbitant prices of the necessaries of life, by which they must have suffered, had it not been for the assistance of her friends, begs leave to lay before your Honours the under-mentioned schedule of what clothes, &c., was lost belonging to her late husband in that expedition, and humbly solicits such allowance to compensate for said loss, as in your wise judgment may think meet:

A gun and accoutrements, cost him	- - -	£4 15
1 cloth jacket,	- - - - -	0 10
2 homespun do.,	- - - - -	0 18
1 Damascus do.,	- - - - -	1 00
blanket,	- - - - -	0 18
1 pair cotton-velvet breeches,	- - - - -	1 10
1 pair ribbed pattern do.,	- - - - -	1 4
1 pair homespun do.,	- - - - -	0 9
1 pair linen do.,	- - - - -	0 10
4 linen shirts,	- - - - -	2 10
5 pair woolen stockings,	- - - - -	1 10
2 pair shoes,	- - - - -	0 9
1 pair silver shoe-buckles and 1 pair knee do.,	1 10	
1 hat and 1 silk handkerchief,	- - - - -	0 15
		£19 8

This may certify that the above John Leech was a soldier in my regiment and was drafted on board of above vessel in the expedition on Lake Champlain.

EDWARD WIGGLESWORTH, Colonel.

PETITION OF BENJAMIN GOODHUE.

To the honourable the Council of the State of MASSACHUSETTS-BAY:

The Petition of BENJAMIN GOODHUE, of SALEM, in the State of MASSACHUSETTS-BAY, humbly sheweth:

That he has, in company with several other persons, fitted the schooner *Sturdy Beggar*, of one hundred tons burthen, with eight carriage-guns, twelve swivels, muskets, spears, and other weapons of war, with sixty men, and provisions suitable for a six months' cruise, with an intention of cruising upon and making captures of the property of the enemies of the *United States of America*.

To effect said purposes, your petitioner, in behalf of himself and company, humbly begs that your honourable Board would grant *Edward Rowland*, commander of said schooner, a commission authorizing him to cruise and make captures of the enemies aforesaid. And as in duty bound, your petitioner shall ever pray.

BENJ'N GOODHUE, JUN.

In Council, October 2, 1776.

Read, and *Ordered*, That the prayer of the Petition be granted, and that a commission be issued out to the above-named *Edward Rowland*, as commander of the Schooner *Sturdy Beggar*, he complying with the resolves of Congress.

JOHN AVERY, Deputy Secretary.

ORDER OF COUNCIL RESPECTING PRISONERS.

State of Massachusetts-Bay, Council Chamber, }
October 3, 1776. }

Ordered, That the Sheriff of the County of *Essex* be, and hereby is directed to tender the parole accompanying this order to now in *Salem*, lately taken prisoners of war, and in case they refuse, or either of them, to sign the same, to commit him or them so refusing to prison agreeable to a resolve of the honourable Congress. And it is further ordered, that the said Sheriff be, and hereby is directed to employ some suitable person to conduct the said

to the town of *Boxford*, in the said County of *Essex*, to which place the said is destined, upon their signing said parole, and deliver them to the care of the Committee of Safety, &c., of said town. And the said Sheriff is further ordered to take into his custody

soldiers and sailors taken by Captain *Sauter*, and

brought into the town of *Salem*, and confine them in the gaol in said *Salem*, unless they or either of them incline to labour, or exercise their trades in order to support themselves, in which case you are directed to deliver to any of the Committees of Correspondence, Inspection, &c., in said County, such individuals of the said prisoners as are willing to be employed in labour as aforesaid, to be by said Committees distributed to such persons as they may think proper for the purposes aforesaid; and the Sheriff is directed to take receipts of such Committees expressing the names of such of the prisoners as they have received under their care, and their engagement to return them to yourself (if remaining in their town) when any order of Council shall pass for that purpose.

ORDER FOR DELIVERING GUNS TO CAPTAIN M'NEIL.

Council Chamber, October 3, 1776.

Ordered, That the Committee of Correspondence, Safety, and Inspection of the town of *Newbury-Port* be, and they are hereby directed to deliver Captain *Hector McNeil*, for the use of the ship *Boston*, eight swivel guns, brought in said town the last year by one Captain *Johnson*, who was from the *West-Indies*, in the service of this State.

JOHN AVERY, Deputy Secretary.

PETITION OF OWNERS OF BRIGANTINE WASHINGTON.

State of MASSACHUSETTS-BAY:

To the honourable the Council, now sitting in WATERTOWN:

The Petition of JOHN DYSON, THOMAS DAVIS, WILLIAM VAUS, of BEVERLY, SAMUEL TWING, and JONATHAN HOBBY, of BOSTON, humbly sheweth:

That your petitioners, owners of the brigantine called the *Washington*, burthened ninety tons; armed with twelve carriage-guns, six and four-pounders, six swivels, four blunderbusses, six hundred weight of powder, with shot in proportion; navigated by eighty men; and with twelve thousand pounds beef and pork, twelve thousand pounds bread on board. Said brigantine is designed to cruise against the enemies of the *United States of America*.

The officers on board are as follows, viz: *Elias Smith* Captain, *James Lovett* First Lieutenant, *William Tucker* Second Lieutenant, *John Vickery* Master.

Your petitioners would therefore humbly request your Honours to commission the said brigantine and Commander, for the purpose above mentioned. And your petitioners, as in duty bound, shall ever pray.

JOHN DYSON,

In behalf of all concerned.

In Council, October 3, 1776.

Read, and *Ordered*, That a Commission be issued out to the above-mentioned *Elias Smith*, as Commander of the said Brigantine, on his complying with resolves of Congress.

JOHN AVERY, Deputy Secretary.

Council Chamber, October 3, 1776.

Ordered, That the Committee for fortifying the Harbour of *Boston* be, and they are hereby directed to send, by water, to *Newbury-Port*, twelve Swivel-Guns out of the Row-Galley in *Boston* Harbour, to be delivered Captain *Hector McNeil*, for the use of the Ship *Boston*.

JNO. AVERY, Deputy Secretary.

PETITION OF OWNERS OF BRIG REPRISAL.

State of the MASSACHUSETTS-BAY:

To the honourable Council of said State, sitting at WATERTOWN, SEPTEMBER 30, 1776:

JOB PRINCE and SAMUEL WHITE, agents for themselves and for JACOB FOWLE, ANDREW CABOT, JOHN COFFIN JONES, and BENJAMIN HITCHBORNE, owners of the Brigantine REPRISAL, represent to your Honours:

That they have, at their joint and proper expense of said owners, fitted out, armed, manned, and equipped, the aforesaid brigantine now lying in the Harbour of *Boston*, and ready for the sea, burthened about seventy tons; to be navigated by seventy men; mounting eight carriage-guns, three-pounders, ten swivels, and other implements of war; and provided with seventy barrels beef and pork and fifty butts water, together with six hundred weight of powder and

twelve hundred weight shot; and to be commanded by *John Wheelwright*, *Samuel Smallcorn* First Lieutenant, *Nathaniel Thayer* Second Lieutenant, *John Gregore* Master, *John Ritchmond* Doctor, *Peter Johnson* Gunner, and *Joseph Pickman* Steward.

They therefore make this application to your Honours for a commission for the said brigantine, the said *John Wheelwright*, in the bond herewith exhibited, having complied with requisitions of the honourable Congress in such case.

SAM. WHITE,

In behalf of Captain *Job Prince* and owners.

In Council, October 3, 1776.

Read, and *Ordered*, That a Commission be issued out to the above-mentioned *John Wheelwright*, as Commander of the said Brigantine, on his complying with the resolves of Congress.

JOHN AVERY, Deputy Secretary.

State of MASSACHUSETTS-BAY to BENJAMIN AUSTIN, DR.

1776, September 28.—To cash paid Captain *John Clouston*, of the Sloop *Freedom*, for one month's advance wages to the men on board the said Sloop, at 40s. each, £14.

Errours excepted.

BENJ'N AUSTIN.

In Council, October 3, 1776.

Read and allowed, and *Ordered*, That a warrant be drawn on the Treasury for £14, in full of the above account.

JOHN AVERY, Deputy Secretary.

Boston, 28th September, 1776.

Received of *Benjamin Austin*, Esquire, fourteen pounds, being so much he paid me for one month's advance wages to seven men enlisted on board the sloop *Freedom*, belonging to this State.

Captain JOHN CLOUSTON.

£14.

MEMORIAL OF THOMAS CUSHING, AGENT FOR BUILDING THE CONTINENTAL FRIGATES.

To the honourable the Council of the State of the MASSACHUSETTS-BAY:

The Memorial of THOMAS CUSHING, Agent for building two Continental frigates, humbly sheweth:

That your memorialist has received directions from the Marine Committee of Congress to apply to this State for powder, ball, musket-shot, and other military stores, for the Continental frigate called the *Boston*, commanded by *Hector McNeil*, which they say will be paid for or returned by the Congress; that your memorialist finds there will be wanted for the said frigate, four tons of powder, one thousand double-headed shot nine-pounders, one thousand weight of musket-ball, ten swivel blunderbusses, fifty small-arms, eighty cartouch-boxes, five hundred flints, some swivel and some partridge shot, fifty screwed-bottom powder-horns. He therefore humbly prays that your Honours would supply him with the articles before mentioned, for the use of the frigate *Boston*, *Hector McNeil*, Commander, which will either be paid for or returned by the Congress. And your memorialist, as in duty bound, shall ever pray.

THOMAS CUSHING.

October 4, 1776.

In Council, October 4, 1776.

Ordered, That the Commissary-General be, and hereby is directed to supply the petitioner, *Thomas Cushing*, Esq., or his order, with four tons of Powder, out of the Powder Mills at the town of *Andover*, and with other articles mentioned in the Petition, as also such other Military Stores as he finds necessary for the use of the Continental Frigate called the *Boston*, he, the said *Cushing*, giving his receipt therefor.

ORDER RESPECTING THE THREE REGIMENTS FOR DEFENCE OF MASSACHUSETTS.

State of Massachusetts-Bay, Council Chamber, }
October 4, 1776. }

Ordered, That the three Regiments now in the pay of this State, and raised for the defence and service of the same, commanded by Colonel *Josiah Whitney*, Colonel *Thomas Marshall*, and Lieutenant-Colonel *Thomas Crafts*, be, and hereby are put under the command of Major-General *Ward* until further order; and the said Colonels *Whitney*, *Marshall*, and *Crafts*, together with the inferior officers

and soldiers in their respective Regiments, are hereby commanded to obey the said Major-General *Ward* as their General Officer, and to observe and follow such orders and instructions as they shall from time to time receive from him.

In Council, October 4, 1776.

Ordered, That the Commissary-General be and hereby is directed to supply the Regiments under the command of Colonel *Whitney*, Colonel *Marshall*, and Colonel *Crafts*, with such Guns or Muskets as the Colonels of the respective Regiments may apply for, for the use of the men under their command.

State of Massachusetts, In Council, }
October 4, 1776. }

Ordered, That the two Independent Companies raised in the towns of *Weymouth* and *Hingham*, under the command of Captain *Stowers* and Captain *Trufant*, be joined to the Regiment under the command of Colonel *Josiah Whitney*, with them to do duty; and the two Independent Companies raised in the town of *Braintree*, under the command of Captain *Turner* and Captain *Thayer*, be joined to the Regiment under the command of Colonel *Thomas Marshall*, with them to do duty, and that the Secretary forthwith notify Colonel *Whitney* and Colonel *Marshall*, and the several Captains before mentioned with this order by serving each of them respectively with an attested copy of the same.

PETITION OF EBENEZER PORTER.

To the honourable the Council of the State of the MASSACHUSETTS-BAY, now sitting at WATERTOWN:

The Petition of EBENEZER PORTER most humbly sheweth:

That your petitioner, a native of *Salem*, where he was brought up, and afterward resided at *Woburn* until within this few years, when he, with his family and many others, removed to *Nova-Scotia*, and settled at a place called *Yarmouth*, in the Bay of *Fundy*, inhabited chiefly by people from *Salem* and *Beverly*, and some from *Ipswich* and *Wenham*, who are now drove to great straits and difficulties, owing to the communication between this State and that Province being cut off. That your petitioner is very desirous of removing himself and family from *Nova-Scotia* to *Salem*, the place of his nativity, could he have your Honours' liberty in so doing; and to prevent his little furniture and effects from being captured on their passage from *Yarmouth* to this place, your petitioner humbly prays your Honours would be pleased to grant him a license in returning to *Nova-Scotia* in any way he may be able, and to remove from thence himself, his wife, and five children, together with his furniture and effects. And your petitioner, as in duty bound, shall ever pray.

EBENEZER PORTER.

Woburn, October 4, 1776.

In Council, October 4, 1776.

Read, and *Ordered*, That the prayer of this Petition be granted, and that *Samuel Holton*, Esq., be directed to draft an order for the above purpose.

JOHN AVERY, Deputy Secretary.

PETITION OF NATHAN UTLEY AND OTHERS.

To the honourable the Council of the State of the MASSACHUSETTS-BAY, now sitting at WATERTOWN:

The petition of *Nathan Utley*, *Henry Coggin*, *Asa Hammond*, and *Nehemiah Porter*, natives of *New-England*, where they lived till a few years ago, when they, with many others, removed to *Nova-Scotia*, and settled in a place called *Yarmouth*, in the Bay of *Fundy*, inhabited chiefly by people from *Beverly*, *Salem*, *Ipswich*, and *Wenham*, who are now drove to great straits and difficulties, owing to the communication between this State and that Province being cut off. That your petitioners are very desirous of removing themselves and families from *Nova-Scotia* to *New-England*, the place of their nativity, could they have your Honours' liberty in their so doing; and to prevent their little furniture and effects from being captured on their passage from *Yarmouth* to this place, your petitioners humbly pray your Honours would be pleased to grant them a license in returning to *Nova-Scotia* in any way they may be able, and

to remove from thence themselves, their wives and children, together with their furniture and effects. And your petitioners, as in duty bound, shall ever pray.

NATHAN UTLEY,
HENRY COGGIN,
ASA HAMMOND,
NEHEMIAH PORTER, in behalf
of his son of the same name at *Yarmouth*.

Watertown, October 4, 1776.

In Council, October 4, 1776.

Read, and *Ordered*, That the prayer of the Petition be granted, and that *Samuel Holton*, Esq., be directed to draft an order for the above purpose.

JOHN AVERY, *Deputy Secretary*.

PETITION OF RICHARD VALPEY.

To the honourable the Council of the State of MASSACHUSETTS-BAY, now sitting at WATERTOWN:

The Petition of RICHARD VALPEY, most humbly sheweth:

That your petitioner is a native of *Salem*, where he always resided until within this five years, when he, with his family and many others, removed to a place called *Yarmouth*, in the Bay of *Fundy*, and Province of *Nova-Scotia*, inhabited chiefly by people from *Salem* and *Beverly*, who are now drove to great straits and difficulties, owing to the communication between this State and that Province being cut off. That your petitioner is very desirous of removing himself and family from *Nova-Scotia* to *Salem*, the place of his nativity, could he have your Honours' liberty for his so doing; and to prevent his little furniture and effects from being captured in their passage from *Yarmouth* to this place, your petitioner humbly prays your Honours will be pleased to grant him a license in writing, to return to *Nova-Scotia* in any way he may be able, and to remove from thence himself, his wife and nine children, and an aged mother, together with his furniture. And your petitioner, as in duty bound, shall ever pray.

RICH'D VALPEY.

Salem, October 3, 1776.

This may certify that the contents of the foregoing Petition is true, and that Mr. *Valpy* has been a respectable ship master in this State for many years.

R. DERBY, Jun.

In Council, October 4, 1776.

Read, and *Ordered*, That the prayer of the Petition be granted, and that *Samuel Holton*, Esq., be directed to draft an order for the above purpose.

JOHN AVERY, *Deputy Secretary*.

State of Massachusetts-Bay, Council Chamber, }
October 4, 1776. }

Whereas *Ebenezer Porter*, *Richard Valpey*, *Nathan Utley*, *Henry Coggin*, *Asa Hammond*, and *Nehemiah Porter*, all of *Yarmouth*, in the Province of *Nova-Scotia*, have petitioned this Board that they may have liberty to remove themselves, their families, and effects, from said *Yarmouth* to this State, and it appearing that the petitioners, not many years since, removed themselves and families from this State:

Therefore, *Ordered*, That the above-named petitioners be, and hereby are permitted to return from this State to *Yarmouth*, in the Province of *Nova-Scotia*, and bring off their families and effects to any part of this State that they shall think proper; and it is hereby recommended to the commanders of all armed and other vessels, to let the above-

named petitioners, or either of them, pass unmolested to *Yarmouth*, in said Province, and from thence to this State to bring their families and effects.

On *Tuesday*, the 1st day of *October*, instant, the privateer schooner, from *Boston*, (the day before,) named the *Speedwell*, took a snow from *London*, which sailed last *July* in company with twenty four topsail vessels, bound to *Boston*, but finding the harbour evacuated steered off; and by the information of the mate of the above prize snow, the fleet are now hovering about *Nantucket*, not knowing where to go, till they get orders from *New-York*, as they signed bills of lading for *Boston*. This signed by part of the proprietors of the said privateer *Speedwell*, commanded by Captain *John Greeley*, this 5th day of *October*, 1776.

THOS. HICHBORN, Jun.

JAM. SWAN,

E. PARKMAN.

SIR: In consequence of the foregoing information, several gentlemen of the Council in the town of *Boston*, have thought it advisable that you proceed towards *Nantucket*, in order to fall in with the above-mentioned fleet, and afterwards to proceed agreeable to the former orders of the Council.

Sir, your most humble servant, JAMES BOWDOIN.

Capt. *Souther*, Com'r of one of the State vessels of war.

Capt. *Samson*, do.

Capt. *Williams*, do.

Boston, Saturday Evening, October 5, 1776.

In Council, October 9, 1776.

The above laid before Council, and they approve of the same.

JOHN AVERY, *Deputy Secretary*.

MEMORIAL OF JOHN ANDERSON.

To the Hon. JAMES BOWDOIN, Esq., President, and the rest of the honourable Members of the Council of the State of the MASSACHUSETTS-BAY, NEW-ENGLAND:

The Memorial of JOHN ANDERSON, of the River St. JOHN'S, NOVA-SCOTIA, humbly sheweth:

That your memorialist, through the unhappiness of the times, has been induced to move with his family to *Newbury-Port*. That he has sundry effects remaining at his farm, at *St. John's*, consisting of several hundred of moose skins, two iron cannon, nine-pounders, (double fortified,) with a few wall-pieces, and small-arms, and likewise some provisions, which he is desirous to send a small vessel for, in order to bring them to *Newbury-Port*; and therefore begs your Honours' permission for the above purpose. On the receipt of the cannon and small-arms, your petitioner will look upon himself obliged to give your Honours the first refusal of the said military stores. And your petitioner, as in duty bound, shall ever pray, &c.

JOHN ANDERSON.

Newbury-Port, 4th October, 1776.

In Council, October 8, 1776.

Resolved, That *John Anderson*, within named, be permitted to import into this State the warlike stores and other effects in his petition mentioned, provided the said *Anderson* give bonds with sufficient sureties to the Treasurer of this State, in the sum of five hundred Pounds conditioned for his (the said *Anderson's*) importing the effects in the said petition mentioned into this State as soon as may be, and give the refusal of the warlike stores in said petition mentioned to this State, for the use thereof.

JOHN AVERY, *Deputy Secretary*.

CORRESPONDENCE, PROCEEDINGS, &c.

EARL OF ABINGDON'S ADDRESS.

Wallingford, England, October 1, 1776.

A few days ago, at the annual meeting of the Mayor and Corporation of this borough, the Earl of *Abingdon*, our High Steward, took occasion to compliment them respecting their unanimous petition to the Throne upon the unhappy troubles in *America*, in a speech to the following purport:

"GENTLEMEN: It is with infinite pleasure that I embrace this opportunity of congratulating you on that humane, independent, and truly patriotick spirit you so well expressed in the petition I had the honour, at your request, of present-

ing to the Throne, and, at the same time, of assuring you that, both for your own sakes and that of the Commonwealth in general, my only wishes and endeavours have been to preserve that integrity of disposition you so firmly displayed, unbiased and unbroken. Happy, gentlemen, would it have been, in my opinion, had your laudable example been followed by every other Corporation in the Kingdom! We should not then have been involved in a war the most unjust and unconstitutional in its principles and ruinous in its tendency, of any to be found in the annals of this or in any other nation upon earth; for so inauspicious is this war, that our very successes must destroy us. We are murdering our own people, choking up the channels of our own wealth, and, thus enervated and drained, laying

ourselves open to every combination in *Europe* that should think proper to fall upon us."

SILAS DEANE TO THE SECRET COMMITTEE.

Paris, October 1, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: Mr. *Morris's* letters, of the 4th and 5th *June* last, of politicks and business, I received, with the duplicates of my commission and instructions, on the 25th ultimo. I stand corrected, and confine myself to politicks.

Your letter found me in a most critical situation. The Ministry had become extremely uneasy at your absolute silence; and the bold assertions of the *British* Ambassador, that you were accommodating matters, aided by the black and villainous artifices of one or two of our own countrymen here, had brought them to apprehend, not only a settlement between the two countries, but the most serious consequences to their *West-India* Islands, should we unite again with *Great Britain*. For me, alas! I had nothing left but to make the most positive assertions that no accommodation would or could take place, and to pledge myself, in the strongest possible manner, that thus would turn out the event. Yet so strong were their apprehensions, that an order issued to suspend furnishing me with stores. Think what I must feel upon such an occasion! Our friend *Monsieur Beaumarchais* exerted himself, and in a day or two obtained the orders to be countermanded, and every thing is again running on favourably.

For Heaven's sake, if you mean to have any connection with this Kingdom, be more assiduous in getting your letters here. I know not where the blame lies, but it must be heavy somewhere, when vessels were suffered to sail from *Philadelphia* and other ports, quite down to the middle of *August*, without a single line. This circumstance was urged against my assertions, and was near proving a mortal stab to my whole proceedings.

Doctor *Williamson*, of *Philadelphia*, and Colonel *Mercer*, of *Virginia*, have been in *France*. The latter, I believe, is still here. The former has returned, with his budget, for *London*. Under pretence of being an *American*, this man is doing the Colonies prodigious mischief; and the situation of affairs here, at this critical moment, renders it as dangerous for the Ministry to take him up, as it is to let him alone. Let his name be known in *America*, and every one be put on their guard how they correspond with him.

One Mr. *Hopkins*, of *Maryland*, in this service, and who is in the rank of Brigadier-General, appeared desirous of going to *America*; but on my not paying him the regard he vainly thought himself entitled to, formed the dark design of defeating, at one stroke, my whole prospects as to supplies. At this critical period, he pretended to be in my secrets, and roundly asserted that I had solely in view a reconciliation with *Great Britain*, immediately after which, the stores now furnishing would be used against *France*. This coming from a supposed enemy of *Great Britain*, from a native of *America*, from one who professed himself a zealous friend to the Colonies, you must suppose had weight. However thunderstruck I was, as well as my friend *Monsieur Beaumarchais*, at this unexpected and last effort of treachery, we exerted ourselves, and truth prevailed. This mischief has recoiled on himself, and having fallen into disgrace here, he will strive to get to *America*, where he threatens, I hear, to do much mischief to me. However, he will not, probably, be permitted to depart, unless he slips off very privately. Should that be the case, or should he write letters, you have now a clue to unravel him and his proceedings.

It would be too tedious to recount what I have met with in this way. It has confined me not only to *Paris*, but to my chambers and pen, for some weeks past, in drawing up, by way of memorial, the true state of the Colonies, their true interests, the system of policy they must unquestionably pursue, and that the highest interests of *France* are inseparably connected therewith. I do not mention a single difficulty with one complaining thought for myself. My all is devoted, and I am happy in being so far successful, and that the machinations of my enemies, or rather the enemies of my country, have given me, finally, an opportunity of experiencing the friendship and protection of great and valuable men. But it is necessary that you should know as much as possible of my situation.

The stores are collecting, and I hope will be embarked by the middle of this month. If later, I shall incline to send them by *Martinico*, on account of the season. It is consistent with a political letter to urge your remittance of the fourteen thousand hogsheads of tobacco, wrote for formerly, in part payment of these stores. If you make it twenty, the publick will be gainers, as the article is rising fast; in *Holland*, seven stivers, ten pounds, and must be in a proportion here.

You are desired by no means to forget *Bermuda*. If you should, *Great Britain* will seize it this winter; or *France*, on the first rupture, having been made sensible of its importance by the officious zeal of that same Mr. *Hopkins*.

As your navy is increasing, will you commission me to send you duck for twenty or thirty sail? I can procure it for you, to the northward, on very good terms, and you have on hand the produce wanted to pay for it with.

Have you granted commissions against the *Portuguese*? All the friends to *America* in *Europe* call loudly for such a measure.

Would you have universal commerce, commission some person to visit every Kingdom on the Continent that can hold any commerce with *America*. Among them, by no means forget *Prussia*.

Grain will be in demand in this Kingdom and in the south of *Europe*. Permit me again to urge the increase of the navy. *Great Britain* is calling in her *Mediterranean* passes, to expose us to the *Algerines*. I propose applying to this Court on that subject.

Doctor *Bancroft*, of *London*, merits much of the Colonies. As I shall now have frequent opportunities of writing by officers and others going out, I will not add more, than that one Mr. *Carmichael* has now been with me some time, recommended by Mr. *A. Lee*, of *London*. I owe much to him for his assistance in my despatches, and for his friendly and sensible advice on all occasions. He is of *Maryland*, and is here for his health, and proposes going soon for *America*. I expect to hear from *London* to-morrow, by Doctor *B.*, who is on his way here.

I am, with my most sincere respect and esteem for the Secret Committee, and most profound regard to the honourable Congress, your most obedient and very humble servant,

SILAS DEANE.

An agent from *Barbadoes* is arrived in *London*, to represent their distresses. Another from *Bermuda*, with a declaration to the Ministry of the necessity of their being supplied with provisions from the Colonies, and saying if not permitted they must ask the protection of Congress.

P. S. I have to urge your sending to me, either a general power for the purpose, or a number of blank commissions for vessels of war. It is an object of the last importance, for in this time of peace between the nations of *Europe*, I can be acquainted with the time of every vessel's sailing, either from *England* or *Portugal*, and by despatching little vessels, armed, from hence, and to appearance property of the subjects of the *United States of America*, to seize them, while unsuspecting on this coast, and to stand directly for *America* with them, great reprisals may be made; and persons of the first property have already solicited me on the occasion. Indeed, they have such an opinion of my power, that they have offered to engage in such an adventure, if I would authorize them with my name, but this might as yet be rather dangerous. It is certainly, however, a very practicable and safe plan, to arm a ship here as if for the coast of *Africa*, or the *West-Indies*, wait until some ship of value is sailing from *England* or *Portugal*, slip out at once and carry them on to *America*. When arrived, the armed vessel increases your navy, and the prize supplies the country.

Since writing the foregoing, I waited on Mr. *Beaumarchais*, and while in conversation on our affairs, Mr. *Hopkins* came in. He was surprised at seeing me, and evidently fluttered at the apprehensions that *Mons'r B. M.* had been informing me of his informations to the Ministry; and on my charging him with it, and expostulating, he boldly maintained his information to be true, and that his zeal for, and fidelity to this kingdom, would not permit him to keep it a secret, and had the confidence to charge me with saying that I meant a reconciliation, &c., &c. He, however, previously acknowledged there had been a coldness and

indifference between us for more than three weeks, during which he complained that I would not let him speak to me alone. I was, he said, so very reserved towards him, yet his zeal had prompted him to make this information only two days before this, and immediately on his resenting a reception I gave him at my lodgings. These, and many other circumstances convinced me on what grounds and with what real intention it was made, to which I added, that I could not condescend to confront Mr. *Hopkins* as on a level, but if one doubt remained in the minds of any one of the Ministry, my correspondence since in *France*, which I had minutely copied, as well as my most secret conversation to my most confidential friends, might be examined into, and I would fall if a single sentence ever escaped me, tending in the least to what Mr. *Hopkins* asserted. He then persevered in his assertions, and laboured to make the dispute personal. He finally declared his resolution of going to *America*, and gave hints what he would do there; to which I replied he was at his liberty, but justice to my country would oblige me to transmit a true narration of his conduct, and the bold attempt he had made to intercept the sending out of supplies, which could be exceeded by nothing but his inconsistency, in pretending to offer his service to a country which he had laboured to injure so materially.

We parted, and nothing in his power will be left unattempted against me pretendedly, but against the Colonies ultimately. However, I am under no great apprehensions. Such a man, when known, ceases to be formidable; but I can by no means avoid cautioning you against him, should he escape into *America*, as one of those restless and unquiet spirits ever dangerous in civil society, but more so in military operations. Inveterate as he is, I can manage him in such a Government as this, better than you can in *America*. I say, if he escapes, for at present he is closely watched in all his motions, but he may write letters, and under pretence of friendship for *America* cause some uneasiness here. Should he persevere in his machinations, he would soon wind himself up; indeed, I am apprehensive he will, but am determined never more to put myself, or any affair of mine, in his way. The Ministry are satisfied with my conduct in the affair, and I believe mean to use the present occasion for dismissing him, which as he may be apprehensive of, he will push the harder to get away for *America*.

It is of importance, as I have mentioned in my former letters, to have some one deputed and empowered to treat with the King of *Prussia*. I am acquainted with his agent here, and have already, through him received some queries and proposals respecting *American* commerce, to which am preparing a reply. I have also an acquaintance with the agent of the Grand Duke of *Tuscany*, who proposes fixing a commerce between the *United Colonies* and *Leghorn*, but has not as yet given me his particular thoughts. *France* and *Spain* are naturally our allies. The *Italian* States want our flour and some other articles. *Prussia*, ever pursuing her own interests, needs but be informed of some facts relative to *America's* increasing commerce to favour us. *Holland* will pursue its system, now fixed, of never quarrelling with any one on any occasion whatever. In this view is seen at once the power we ought to apply to and gain a good acquaintance with. Let me again urge you on the subject of tobacco. One hint further; it is this: Should you apportion a certain tract of the western lands, to be divided at the close of this war among the officers and soldiers serving in it, and make a generous allotment, it would, I think, have a good effect in *America*, as the poorest soldiers would then be fighting literally for a freehold; in *Europe* it would operate beyond any pecuniary offers. I have no time to enlarge on the thought, but may take it up hereafter; if I do not, it is an obvious one, and if capable of execution, you can manage it to the best advantage.

I have no doubt but I can obtain a loan for the Colonies, if empowered, and on very favorable terms. I have already sounded on this subject, and will be more explicit hereafter, both as to my proposals, for I can go no further, and the answers I may receive.

I am, as ever, yours,

SILAS DEANE.

London, October 1, 1776.

Yesterday, Major *Creed*, who brought the last despatches from Lord and General *Howe*, was at Court, and had a conference with his Majesty. The insurers of *London*

have agreed to pay to the master and crew of any vessel taken by the *Americans*, and retaken by the said crew, five pounds per cent. on their several subscriptions, as a reward to the said crew.

SPEECH OF THE GOVERNOUR OF BARBADOES, TO THE COUNCIL AND ASSEMBLY OF THE ISLAND, AT THE OPENING OF THE NEW SESSION, IN SEPTEMBER, 1776.

Gentlemen of the Council and

Gentlemen of the Assembly:

It is with the greatest pleasure I meet you again in this new session, which from your zeal for the good of the Colony, and your knowledge and experience in the publick business of the Island, I trust will be productive of such useful regulations as may be of lasting service to the community. The present juncture of publick affairs would unavoidably awaken the attention of his Majesty's subjects in every part of his extensive dominions. They must all feel the effects of a suspension of trade with so many of his Majesty's Northern Colonies in *America* as are now in rebellion; nor was it possible that his *West-India* Islands could be exempt from a large share of inconvenience from this interruption.

But such has been the provident care of his Majesty and both Houses of Parliament, as first in the prohibitory act, to grant us all the indulgence which the nature of the case would then admit of, and by a late act to allow the exportation of wheat and other articles to the *East* and *West-Indies*.

We have reason to be very thankful for these marks of attention from the supreme Legislature towards these distant Colonies, which, together with the prudence of the planters and merchants in ordering our supplies, has had the most desirable effect. Numerous have been the cargoes imported into this Island within the present year; and even as to the articles of *Indian* and *Guinea* corn, the usual support of the negroes in the plantations, these have in some measure had their substitutes; and now from the continual showers of rain for these two months past, there is the most pleasing prospect of more plenty of corn and other provisions than has been yet known, and which ought to relieve our anxiety on this important point.

But as it must be the sincere wish of every good man to see peace restored throughout all his Majesty's dominions, so we have great reason to expect some very favourable result from the operations of the present campaign. On the one hand the terms of submission which his Majesty's commissioners are empowered to accept, are open to all those who are desirous of returning to their duty. On the other hand, the powerful armament of land and sea forces now upon the coast of *America*, must have some effect in reducing the most obstinate to obedience. Therefore, it is scarcely to be doubted that some one or more of these Colonies will sue for peace and obtain the King's pardon this present year. Should an event so devoutly to be wished come to pass, we then shall have a market open to us, and all our apprehensions will subside.

Mr. Speaker and Gentlemen of the Assembly:

As this Colony shares with the mother country in the happiness of the noblest form of government that ever existed, so the inhabitants have a right to expect all the benefits which can arise from it. As I am fully persuaded that you, gentlemen, who are the representatives of the people, are desirous to promote their interest and happiness, so I must earnestly recommend to your prudence, calmness, temper, and moderation in your proceedings, as essentially necessary towards the publick service.

Gentlemen of the Council and Gentlemen of the Assembly:

I have at the commencement of former sessions recommended two points to your serious consideration—the revisal and amendment of the Militia law, and a daily maintenance for the prisoners. They still are objects worthy of your attention. There are many other matters which might be proposed for the publick service, but I am fully persuaded that your own zeal for the interest of the community will readily suggest to you such as may be more immediately necessary. I have no wish nearer my heart than to contribute to the peace, happiness, and prosperity of this Island; therefore you may be sure of my immediate concurrence in every measure which may be productive of these singular blessings.

REPLY OF THE ASSEMBLY.

To his Excellency the Hon. EDWARD HAY, his Majesty's Captain-General, Governour and Commander-in-Chief of the aforesaid Island; Chancellor, Ordinary, and Vice-Admiral of the same.

The humble Address of the General Assembly of the said Island:

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR EXCELLENCY: We, the Representatives of the people, return your Excellency the thanks of our Assembly for your speech, and those favourable sentiments which it expresses of our zeal for the good of our country, joined to our knowledge and experience in the publick business, and we flatter ourselves that the same zealous inclination to promote the interests of this Colony, which distinguished our proceedings in the former sessions, will continue to animate the conduct of this House on every laudable occasion through the present.

Unavoidably as the attention of his Majesty's subjects must have been awakened to this unhappy conjuncture of affairs in every part of his extensive dominions, yet in no part of them could the anxiety and apprehensions be naturally so great as in our own, and all the other helpless *West-India* settlements in the neighbouring seas; for, dependent as this Island has been, time immemorial, upon the Northern Colonies of *America*, not only for supplies to carry on the works of our most valuable manufacture, but for the very articles in a great measure of our subsistence, and both parts of the importation happily exchanged for the produce of our lands and labour, we could not behold the first threatening appearances of an interruption to this necessary commerce without a just alarm, yet confiding in the wisdom of his Majesty's councils, ever influenced by a tender regard to the wants and weaknesses of this dutiful and loyal Colony, and moreover unwilling from our particular affection to our Sovereign, to add any thing to the weight of his royal cares for the general welfare of his *American* dominions, by too hasty an expression of our fears, we for a long time maintained a resolute and respectful silence, until by an act of the *British* Parliament, we saw our intercourse with the Northern Colonies, the granary of this Island, utterly cut off, and yet no new channel opened for our supply; but on the contrary we found a permission tacitly, yet effectually granted by your Excellency to one of his Majesty's transport vessels, to export from this Island a part of those very stores which had been laid up under the same authority for our own supply; then indeed, the duty we owed both to our country and ourselves, constrained us to speak out.

We first remonstrated to your Excellency against the unnatural license which you had been pleased to grant, under our own alarming circumstances, by requesting you to grant no more; and then too justly apprehending an unlucky interpretation that might be put in *England* upon your Excellency's extraordinary indulgence to that vessel, as a sign of our abundance, rather than a sacrifice from our scanty store, we in the next place presented a most humble and dutiful petition to the King, to implore his gracious attention to the true state of our Colony, and such relief as in our critical situation, we stood most in need of. Yet for this last measure, though voted with unanimity, and was but the natural consequence of the former, the honour of our Assembly stands impeached before his Majesty, and our country has been disappointed of the hopes of our Sovereign's favour by the ill offices of your Excellency, the immediate representative amongst us of that great father of his people, whom we had supplicated in the season of our distress. But if the benevolence of his royal heart, from whence so gracious a declaration flowed, "of his Majesty's readiness to do every thing for the advantage of his good subjects of *Barbadoes*," be not too far obstructed by the malign interposition, our country will at length reap the fruits of our repeated application to the Throne, and its representative body too be cleared from every imputation of a factious and unworthy motive to their proceeding.

Whatever may have been the provident care of his Majesty and both Houses of Parliament, in the prohibitory act in our favour, yet we are not sensible that the inhabitants of this Island have actually received the least benefit by such indulgence; and from the other act, to allow the exportation of wheat from *England* to the *East* and *West-Indies*, the benefit is yet to be received. We are, however, duly thankful for every mark of attention in the supreme

Legislature towards these distant Colonies. But notwithstanding the numerous cargoes which have been imported into this Island, added to the supplies ordered out by the prudence of several of the planters on a private account; and notwithstanding the substitutes which your Excellency takes notice of, in the room of our accustomed supplies of corn from *North America*, yet certain it is, that from the extravagant prices of the common articles of provisions, many of our poor white inhabitants have been put to the most wretched shifts to keep themselves and families from perishing, and many of the planters in those parts of the Island that were accustomed to rely upon the *North American* grain for the support of their negroes, have been to the greatest degree distressed to find the proper subsistence for their people. And even now, that after the Island had been blessed with continual showers of rain, for the two months preceding the date of your Excellency's speech, and we were enjoying the prospect of a plentiful crop of *Indian* corn, such is the melancholy uncertainty of our soil, the destructive worm to which that plant is too frequently liable has since appeared, and robbed us in many places of the promised harvest. Nor is it without terror we have seen some vestiges of the same vermin in the young blades of our other sort of grain, the *Guinea*, planted to succeed the *Indian*, for our supply; and should there be any failure too of this, the most beneficial of our internal grain, the miseries of a famine may yet in some parishes prove their dreadful lot.

From every consideration, then, that can affect the members of this House, as men or citizens, we cannot but look with eagerness for a joyful end of the present most horrid conflict upon the Continent of *America*; since upon the happy restoration of peace, and a renewal of that ancient harmony which subsisted betwixt our parent State and her *American* dominions, all hope of the prosperity, if not the very preservation, of our own Colony, can be alone securely rested.

Perfectly sensible of the happiness which in this Island we partake of, in the free and noble form of government of our mother country, this Assembly will be equally careful not to violate the sacred trust by any unbecoming trespass on the one part, nor to betray it by any mean surrender of our glorious birthright on the other; happy whilst we see no occasion offer to force us away from that temper, calmness, and moderation recommended by your Excellency; yet not unprepared, however painful it may be to us, in a different conjuncture, to show that sense of injury, and adopt that spirit of resentment inseparable from the character of a faithful and independent representative of the people.

In the course of our former sessions, we gave the strongest proof of our humane attention to the poor prisoners then confined for debt, by an insolvent act, including every unhappy object found in gaol down to the very day on which the act passed the House. Nor were our cares wanting to the just relief of any unfortunate debtors under the like confinement, as will appear from the proceedings of the House; but whether we shall in the present Assembly proceed to a revival of the plan proposed, but left undetermined at the expiration of our body, or make the provision recommended by your Excellency, for the maintenance of those who may be held in prison under the present laws, shall be the subject of our mature consideration.

But with regard to an amendment of our Militia law, the other principal object of your Excellency's earnest and repeated recommendation to the Assembly, this is a point on which we cannot help repeating, in our turn, the difficulties and distrusts that rise up in our minds against the undertaking, and which seem rather to increase than lessen by every impulse to remove them. Nor can we help reflecting upon the good fortune of our ancestors, who, under certain Administrations, were able to keep up a numerous and respectable body of Militia in this Island, yet with no higher hand than what the present defective law permitted them to hold over their respective corps. In the principle of a personal regard from their inferiours, the commanding officers found every deficiency of the law most happily supplied; and we are therefore most unwilling now, in times more propitious to the claims of civil liberty in the Colonies than ever, to renounce a principle of attachment so honourable to society, and enforce obedience by a power congenial only with the habits of despotick sway.

In all other matters that may be laid before us by your

Excellency, for the good of the country, we shall most cheerfully concur, being bound by every tie of interest no less than duty to promote its peace, its happiness, and prosperity; blessings which we rejoice to hear your Excellency has so near your heart for this Island, and which no generous endeavour of your Excellency's to procure, can fail to draw after it the hearts of our community.

By order of the House:

JOHN GAY ALLEYNE, *Speaker*.

House of Assembly, October 1, 1776.

THE SENTIMENTS OF THE SEVERAL COMPANIES OF MILITIA AND FREEHOLDERS OF AUGUSTA, IN VIRGINIA, COMMUNICATED BY THE DEPUTIES FROM THE SAID COMPANIES AND FREEHOLDERS TO THEIR REPRESENTATIVES IN THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE COMMONWEALTH.*

GENTLEMEN: We have chosen you at a very critical juncture to represent us in the General Assembly of our Commonwealth, and need not tell you that we place great confidence in you. Your being elected by us, in such times as these, to an important place of trust, will sufficiently prove it, and show, at the same time, our respect for you and the sense we have of your abilities and virtue.

Our independence on *Great Britain* and every other nation, we are determined upon, without a nice calculation of costs; for if possible to effect and preserve liberty for ourselves and unborn generations, we think it will be a noble equivalent for much blood and treasure, and we trust a full balance of all our losses.

Attempts, unnatural, cruel, and unjust, to rob us of our most valuable rights and privileges, have roused almost all *America* to defend them, forgetting the illiberal treatment which a difference in religious sentiments, in some misguided places, has produced. All denominations have unanimously rushed to arms to defend the common cause. Their unanimity has made them formidable to their enemies; their unanimity will be ever preserved by giving equal liberty to them all; nor do they crave this as the pittance of cour-

*Mr. PURDIE: In your last paper I saw a piece entitled "The Sentiments of the several Companies of Militia and Freeholders of *Augusta*, communicated by the Deputies from the said Companies and Freeholders to their Representatives in the General Assembly of the Commonwealth;" which piece, as it has been submitted to the publick inspection, is a proper subject for a few publick strictures.

Its object is the subversion of our Church Establishment, an establishment which has been found, from the experience of near two hundred years, productive of peace and order, of piety and virtue. Its independent exordium is, to be sure, of a very popular nature; but then it would precede with as much, perhaps more propriety, an essay to prove the expediency of continuing our Establishment. For did not Churchmen, clergy as well as laity, when the salvation of their country rendered it necessary, declare for independence with as much alacrity as Dissenters of any denomination? and have they not since been as active in supporting it? I could instance as many clergymen of the Established Church who have been more forward in the present glorious contest, than any of the religious of any sect amongst us, although the former acted at the risk of losing livings, whilst the latter were tempted with the prospect of creeping into them.

The grand, and indeed the only argument which these sentimental gentlemen indulge us with, in behalf of their favourite scheme, is, that by giving equal liberty to all denominations unanimity will be preserved; and unanimity, they tell us, has already made us formidable to our enemies. I would ask, as they acknowledge that unanimity has heretofore prevailed amongst us, what was our situation at that time? Had we not a Church Establishment; and were not Dissenters freely tolerated? Why, then, should unanimity forsake us, as long as we continue in the same situation? If it does, it must be because some people require more than others for having ventured less, and only having done, to say the most, as much.

But are our gentlemen sure that, by destroying our Church Establishment, that unanimity, so necessary to the salvation of our country, will be preserved? If they are, they have, I must needs confess, great confidence in the meek and disinterested disposition of the members of the Established Church, much more than they evidently have in the temper of their own sects. They suppose the spirit of our Church so generous and forgiving, that it will dispose us to submit to laws which are injurious to us, rather than for a moment endanger the publick welfare; while they declare they will not pay obedience to what is enacted by the supreme power of this State, unless their particular interest is preferred to the lasting interest and happiness of the whole community. If they represent matters fairly, our Legislatures may easily determine whether they will do their country a greater service by supporting so excellent a Church as ours is acknowledged to be by its very adversaries, or by depressing it, and encouraging sectaries, who, by their own confession, are selfish, turbulent, and seditious.

But, what if these men should be mistaken? They may not have considered that, though the spirit of the Established Church is meek and tolerating, still its members are by nature men of like passions with themselves; and that though their religion forbids them to trespass upon the patrimony of others, it by no means authorizes them to give up, or even neglect, their own. To threaten seems to be the province of bullies, and of such as have a bad cause; but every reasonable person will allow, that to deprive men of what they have always enjoyed, and been taught to regard as their right, is a much juster cause of complaint, and much more likely to produce dissatisfaction and dissensions,

tesy, but demand it as their patrimony, that cannot be withheld from them without the most flagitious fraud, pride, and injustice, which, if practised, may shake this Continent, and demolish Provinces.

This we think our Representatives in Convention, last *June*, had fully in view. Besides other things, they declared, "that all men are equally entitled to the free exercise of their religion, or the duty they owe to their Creator, and the manner of discharging it according to the dictates of their consciences." We take this to be the true and full meaning of their words, without any unjust view of favouring some to the hurt of others, and we view their declaration in this light as a most happy proof of their wisdom and virtue. Hereby men, how different soever in their religious opinions, are united in defence of our invaluable inheritance, which they can equally call their own. Hereby jealousies, oppositions, and we believe all the plagues of jarring interests, will be prevented, their united force be employed to accomplish the same ends, and the only strife be who will become the most approvable, wise, and useful members in society.

While we most pressing request you as individuals, or members of the same community, to use your best endeavours to promote the general good, we do, gentlemen, as our Representatives most solemnly require you, and positively command you, that, in the General Assembly of this Commonwealth, you declare it the ardent desire and unanimous opinion of your constituents, should such a declaration become necessary, that all religious denominations within this dominion be forthwith put in the full possession of equal liberty, without preference or preëminence, which, while it may favour one, can hurt another, and that no religious sect whatever be established in this Commonwealth. This, from its apparent tendency to promote, and most effectually to secure the good of our country, we earnestly wish to see established; and we hope the number of interested bigots, illiberal politicians, or of disguised enemies to the freedom and happiness of *Virginia*, will be too small and contemptible to prevent or obstruct a matter of such extensive utility, a

than the withholding from them what they never had in possession, and what the distresses of their country only could have made them expect.

I hope this will be considered by our honourable Assembly, and that they will carefully avoid a measure by which the greater and more orderly part of the State will be aggrieved, and may be sickened of our important dispute.

The rest of this sentimental piece containing only puerile declamation, I shall vouchsafe it no further notice; but, as I am before the publick, I will take this opportunity of making a few observations on the advantages of a religious establishment. I take it for granted, that the necessity of the Christian religion, both with respect to our temporal and eternal welfare, is a point, in Christian countries, generally acknowledged; and, if so, it is undoubtedly the duty of those who are appointed to take care of a State, to adopt the most likely method of having it propagated in the greatest purity. An establishment of that Church which, to the majority, seems most orthodox in its doctrines, most apostolical in its form, and most rational in its precepts, bids fairest to effect this purpose; for when a good provision is made for teachers, and ensured to them by the publick faith, men of abilities will think it worth their whiles to take some pains in qualifying themselves for such an office; and men who have been accustomed to think and reason, who have had their judgments strengthened and assisted by all the learned treasures of the ancient and modern world, will be more able to comprehend, and consequently to communicate to their hearers, the sense of the Holy Scriptures.

On the other hand, when every church and sect is alike countenanced by the State, when salaries are to depend entirely upon the caprice of the people, what encouragement is given to men of genius to qualify themselves for the sacred function? That person must be but little acquainted with the world who has not observed that the generality of the world are more influenced by their passions than by their reason, and that the harangues of fanatics are more likely to be attended to, and to gain followers, than the most sensible discourses of sober-minded, rational men. The consequence must be, where there is no Establishment, that all preachers must either turn popular declaimers or starve; and thus all just notions of religion must be lost.

I own it seems somewhat hard, and repugnant to liberty, to oblige men to pay towards the support of a Church to which they do not belong; but if such a thing be conducive to the general good, as from the foregoing observations appears to be the case, such persons are in duty bound to submit, in consideration of the many advantages they may be supposed to derive from the State; and in so doing they make but a small sacrifice, especially when they are permitted to enjoy their own private opinions, and to worship God according to the dictates of their own consciences. Would any one hesitate a moment to affirm, that it was highly just and reasonable to oblige every member of a society to join in supporting that form of civil government which had been judged best, and adopted by a majority of the society? I am inclined to think that an advocate for monarchy, whose lot was cast in a republican government, would not be excused his quota of publick taxes upon any plea he could urge of disapprobation of that form of government; and as the cases are similar, why should we not admit in both the same mode of reasoning?

I shall make no apology, Mr. Purdie, for giving you so much trouble. You must be sensible of the necessity of such publications at this time.

A MEMBER OF THE ESTABLISHED CHURCH.

matter so just that the contrary is most evidently iniquitous, destructive, and oppressive. But should the future conduct of our legislative body prove to you that our opinion of their wisdom and justice is ill grounded, then tell them that your constituents are neither guided nor will ever be influenced by that slavish maxim in politicks, "that whatever is enacted by that body of men in whom the supreme power of the State is vested must in all cases be implicitly obeyed," and that they firmly believe attempts to repeal an unjust law can be vindicated beyond a simple remonstrance addressed to the legislators.

These, gentlemen, are the sentiments with which we have been entrusted, by communicating of which we have discharged the duties of our deputation. Other things, how material soever they may be, are committed to your prudence and unremitting care, to be managed conformable to the declaration of rights.

We are, for ourselves, and the companies and freeholders for whom we act, gentlemen, your most obedient, humble servants,

John Magill,	James Bruster,	Arch. Alexander,
James Allen,	John Poage,	David Gray,
George Moffett,	John Hington,	Robert Wilson,
David Laird,	John Davis,	Thomas Hewitt,
James Fraizer,	Alexander Long,	John Wear,
James Marshall,	Christopher Graham,	Michael Dickey,
Walter Moffett,	William M'Pheeters,	Robert Tedford,
John Cunningham,	Elijah M'Clenahan,	James Walker,
Alexander Sinclair,	Alex. Thompson,	Charles Campbell.

WALTER CUNINGHAM, Clerk.

THOMAS HUGHES TO MARYLAND CONVENTION.

Charles-Town, Cecil County, October 1, 1776.

SIR: Agreeable to your letter of the 8th ultimo, and the resolves of the 10th, I called the battalion together, to raise a company of volunteers, and in a few days after made up one composed of as hearty young fellows as any company that has marched out of this Province, who have readily and willingly agreed to march under the following officers, viz: *James Maxwell* Captain, *John Hartshorn* First Lieutenant, *William Johnston* Second Lieutenant, and *Adam Glasgow* Ensign.

I wrote to the Council of Safety (in your recess) recommending the above gentlemen to be commissioned by them, and acknowledging the receipt of £333 5s. cash, for the use of the company, and at the same time begging they would forward the cartouch-boxes, haversacks, canteens, and what other necessities they had there for the troops, and to send up as much more cash as they thought would be necessary for the purchase of blankets and provisions for the immediate use of the company, and to pay the remainder of the bounty and advance agreeable to your resolves, but not receiving the advices from them, have advised Mr. *Hartshorn* to wait on you and receive your further instructions. Mr. *Hartshorn* can inform you what situation they are in at present with respect to arms. Bayonets cannot be got here at any rate; and should be glad you would instruct him in what manner these and all other necessities that are wanting may be procured.

I am, gentlemen, your most obedient and humble servant,
THO. HUGHES.

To the Hon. *Matthew Tilghman*, Esq., President Convention of *Maryland*, *Annapolis*.

DOCTOR WEISENTHALL TO MARYLAND COUNCIL OF SAFETY.
Baltimore-Town, October 1, 1776.

SIR: I was, by the former Convention, ordered to examine the saltpetre earths on the south bank of the *Potomack*, of which I produced a sample. The Convention having adjourned before I returned, I now take the liberty to make a report thereof. The place is on *Patterson's* creek, about twelve or fourteen miles from the South Branch, near Colonel *Hight's*. It is a perpendicular rock, in the middle of which is a cavern, and which was formed from the stones composing the rock decaying and tumbling down, carrying along with them a good quantity of rich mould, which contains the saltpetre; and as the cavern is so deep that no rain can come in, the saltpetre is not washed off. If stones are broke off, or lifted up, there is sometimes a good quantity of real saltpetre in its white colour found, which can be scraped off out of the interstices, where it collects. As for its formation, there is a similarity

with old cellars, which are known to contain often, (according to their age,) great quantities, with this difference only, that the collection of nitre in these caverns may be formed thousands of years, which accounts for their richness.

From the situation and causes, I had reason to suppose that the mountains must contain a great many sub-caverns; and accordingly informed the inhabitants with my notion, who have since searched and discovered, about three miles farther, another sub-cavern equally rich; and as I have received a sample of saltpetre from the *Ohio*, which was found and scraped off from interstices of stones in a cavern, which I hereby send for the inspection of Convention, it is evident that our mountains contain everywhere such caverns full of saltpetre as to furnish the Colonies with that desirable article to the fullest extent, at reasonable rates.

I attempted a trial to make some saltpetre out of the mould, and took two bushels thereof, from which I extracted between two and three pounds, but am sure that it would have produced considerable more, if I had the necessary utensils on the spot. A sample of the nitre I have brought to the Council of Safety. This saltpetre was exceeding strong and in very large crystals. The people on the spot now make saltpetre, and make use of it partly in gunpowder, and partly for salting meat, that being a scarce article there, and no doubt squander away great quantities, not being sufficiently skilled to make it to advantage.

I have the honour to be, sir, your most obedient and humble servant,

C. WEISENTHALL.

To *Matthew Tilghman*, Esq., President of the Convention of *Maryland*.

JESSE HOLLINGSWORTH TO MARYLAND COUNCIL OF SAFETY.
Baltimore-Town, October 1, 1776.

Honourable Council of Safety,

To *JESSE HOLLINGSWORTH*, Dr.

To cash paid for 134½ lbs. of 20d. nails, at
1s. 1d., - - - - - £7 5 8½
To cash paid for 32 lbs. of 20d. nails at 1s. 1d., 1 14 8
To commission on £ at 2½ per cent.

SIR: I have sent the boat and scow down with all the nails I can get. Please to excuse their not coming sooner, as it was not in my power. Please hurry the hands home, as they are by the day.

My part of the timber for gondolas is in the yard, and shall be glad to serve you in any further orders. From your humble servant,
JESSE HOLLINGSWORTH.

To honourable Council of Safety.

LUX AND BOWLEY TO MARYLAND COUNCIL OF SAFETY.

Baltimore, October 1, 1776.

HONOURABLE SIR: We are favoured with yours of the 27th ultimo, respecting the cordage we were to furnish Mr. *Stewart*, for the gondolas, &c., on the publick account.

We did not enter into any agreement with him to finish it at any particular day; but on his return from *Philadelphia*, as he could not get it there, we promised to do our endeavours to complete it as soon as possible, and which we mean to comply with, so soon as we get rid of the frigate's rigging, which we think will be finished in a week; after that, we hope to furnish for the gondolas as nearly as fast as it is wanted, and shall, agreeable to Mr. *Stewart's* directions, forward it to *Annapolis*, as we make it.

We are, honourable sirs, with respect, your most obedient servants,

LUX & BOWLEY.

To the Hon. *Daniel of St. Thomas Jenifer*, Esq., President Council of Safety.

COMMITTEE OF SECRET CORRESPONDENCE.

Philadelphia, October 1, 1776.

"On my leaving *London*, *Arthur Lee*, Esq., requested me to inform the Committee of Correspondence, that he had had several conferences with the *French* Ambassador, who had communicated the same to the *French* Court; that in consequence thereof the Duke de *Vergennes* had sent a gentleman to Mr. *Lee*, who informed him that the *French* Court could not think of entering into a war with *England*, but that they would assist *America* by sending

"from *Holland* this fall two hundred thousand pounds sterling worth of arms and ammunition to *St. Eustatius*, "*Martinico*, or *Cape François*. That application was to be made to the Governours or Commandants of those places by inquiring for Monsieur *Hortalez*, and that on persons properly authorized applying, the above articles would be delivered to them." [Verbal statement of THOMAS STORY to the Committee.]

The above intelligence was communicated to the subscribers, being the only two members of the Committee of Secret Correspondence now in the city, and our considering the nature and importance of it, we agree in opinion that it is our indispensable duty to keep it secret even from Congress, for the following reasons:

First, Should it get to the ears of our enemies at *New-York*, they would undoubtedly take measures to intercept the supplies, and thereby deprive us not only of those succours, but of others expected by the same route.

Second, As the Court of *France* have taken measures to negotiate this loan of succour in the most cautious and secret manner, should we divulge it immediately, we may not only lose the present benefit, but also render that Court cautious of any further connection with such unguarded people, and prevent their granting other loans and assistance that we stand in need of, and have directed Mr. *Deane* to ask of them. For it appears from all our intelligence they are not disposed to enter into an immediate war with *Britain*, although disposed to support us in our contest with them. We therefore think it our duty to cultivate their favourable disposition towards us, draw from them all the support we can, and in the end their private aid must assist us to establish peace, or inevitably draw them in as parties to the war.

Third, We find by fatal experience the Congress consists of too many members to keep secrets, as none could be more strongly enjoined than the present embassy to *France*, notwithstanding which Mr. *Morris* was this day asked by Mr. *Reese Meredith*, whether Dr. *Franklin* and others were really going Ambassadors to *France*, which plainly proves, that this Committee ought to keep this secret, if secrecy is required.

Fourthly, We are of opinion that it is not necessary to inform Congress of this intelligence at present, because Mr. *Morris* belongs to all the Committees that can properly be employed in receiving and importing the expected supplies from *Martinico*, *St. Eustatius*, or *Cape François*, and will immediately influence the necessary measures for that purpose; indeed, we have already authorized *William Bingham*, Esq., to apply at *Martinico* and *St. Eustatius* for what comes there, and remit part by the armed sloop *Independence*, Captain *Young*, promising to send others for the rest. Mr. *Morris* will apply to the Marine Committee to send other armed vessels after her; and also to *Cape François*, (without communicating this advice,) in consequence of private intelligence lately received, that arms, ammunition, and clothing can now be procured at those places.

But should any unexpected misfortune befall the States of *America*, so as to depress the spirits of the Congress, it is our opinion, that on any event of that kind, Mr. *Morris* (if Dr. *Franklin* should be absent) should communicate this important matter to Congress; otherwise keep it until part of or the whole supplies arrive, unless other events happen to render the communication of it more proper than it appears to be at this time.

B. FRANKLIN,
ROBT. MORRIS.

Communicated to me the 11th *October*, 1776, and I concur heartily in the measure.

RICHD. HENRY LEE.

Communicated to me the 10th *October*, 1776, and I do also sincerely approve of the measure.

WILLIAM HOOPER.

COMMITTEE OF SECRET CORRESPONDENCE TO SILAS DEANE.
Philadelphia, October 1, 1776.

DEAR SIR: Mr. *Morris* has communicated to us the substance of your letters to him, down to the 23d *June*, when you were near setting out for *Paris*. We hope your reception there has been equal to your expectations and our wishes; indeed we have no reason to doubt it, considering the countenance we have met with amongst the *French*

Islands and their seaports in *Europe*. It would be very agreeable and useful to hear from you just now, in order to form certain opinions of the designs of the *French* Court respecting us and our contest, especially as we learn by various ways they are fitting out a considerable squadron at *Brest* and *Toulon*. What a noble stroke they might now strike at *New-York*! Twenty sail of the line would take the whole fleet there, consisting of between four and five hundred sail of men-of-war and transports, storeships, and prizes. Was that piece of business once effected by a *French* fleet, we would engage to give them a very good account of General *Howe's* army in a short time; but alas, we fear the Court of *France* will let slip the glorious opportunity, and go to war by halves as we have done; we say go to war, because we are of opinion they must take part in the war sooner or later, and the longer they are about it the worse terms will they come in upon.

We doubt not you will obtain from *England* a regular account of the proceedings of Lord *Howe* and his brother; and we suppose the General's military operations will be ushered into the world with an éclat beyond their true merits; or at least the conduct of our people and their present situation will be misrepresented as ten times worse than the reality. We shall therefore state these things to you as they really are. The fleet under Lord *Howe* you know is vastly superiour to any thing we have in the navy way; consequently wherever ships can move they must command; therefore it was long foreseen that we could not hold either *Long-Island* or *New-York*; nevertheless as our fortifications are chiefly built with axes and spades, the time and trouble in raising them was not mispent, for it must have been owing to those works that they remained several weeks at *Staten-Island*, without making any attempt. The first they did make was on *Long-Island* where they landed twenty thousand men or upwards. At this time we had our army, consisting of not more than twenty thousand effective men, stationed at *King's Bridge*, *New-York*, and on *Long-Island*; six to seven thousand was the whole of our force on the latter, and about three thousand of them commanded by General *Sullivan* and Lord *Stirling* turned out of the lines, took possession of some heights, and intended to annoy the enemy in their approaches. They, however, outgeneraled us, and got a body of five thousand men between our people and the lines, so that we were surrounded and of course came off second best: but they purchased this victory dear, and many such would be their ruin. *Sullivan*, Lord *Stirling* and many other officers fell into their hands. These with privates amounted to from eight hundred to one thousand men in killed, wounded, and taken prisoners. They lost a greater number in killed and wounded; but we took but few prisoners as you may suppose.

General *Howe* then laid a trap in which he fully expected to have caught every man we had on that island; but General *Washington* saw and frustrated his design, by an unexpected and well-conducted retreat across the *Sound*. This retreat is spoken of on both sides as a master-stroke.

The enemy immediately marched up a large body of men opposite to *Hell-Gate*. Our people threw up intrenchments on *York-Island* to oppose their landing; but, shame to say it, on the day of trial two brigades behaved infamously, and could not be stopped by the entreaties or threats of the General who came up in the midst of their flight. It had been previously determined to abandon *New-York*, and most of our cannon and military stores were removed from thence in time. The enemy took possession of the city and encamped on the Plains of *Harlem*. Our side occupy the Heights of *Harlem*, *King's Bridge*, and *Mount Washington*, where they have made lines as strong as can be. In this situation they had a skirmish between about one thousand to twelve hundred men on each side, in which we gained greatly the advantage, beat them off the field, and took three field-pieces from them, having killed and wounded a considerable number of their men.

Since then the city of *New-York* has been on fire, and it's said one-fifth or one-sixth of it is reduced to ashes. The enemy charged some stragglers of our people that happened to be in *New-York* with having set the city on fire designedly, and took that occasion, as we are told, to exercise some inhuman cruelties on those poor wretches that were in their power. They will no doubt endeavour to throw the odium of such a measure on us; but in this they will fail,

for General *Washington*, previous to the evacuation of that city, whilst it was in his power to do as he pleased with it. desired to know the sense of Congress respecting the destruction of the city, as many officers had given it as their opinion it would be an advisable measure; but Congress resolved that it should be evacuated and left unhurt, as they had no doubt of being able to take it back at a future day. This will convince all the world we had no desire to burn towns or destroy cities, but that we left such meritorious works to grace the history of our enemies.

Upon the whole our army near *New-York* are not sufficiently strong to cope with General *Howe* in the open field; they have therefore entrenched themselves, and act on the defensive. They want better arms; better tents, and more clothing than they now have; nor is it in our power, at this time, to supply them. Consequently we cannot recruit or increase that army under these discouragements. Men cannot cheerfully enter a service where they have the prospect of facing a powerful enemy, and encountering the inclemency of a hard cold winter, without covering, at the same time. These are discouraging circumstances, but we must encounter them with double diligence, and we still have hopes to procure clothing, partly by importation, partly by capture, and chiefly by purchasing all that can be found on the Continent.

If *France* means to befriend us, or wishes us well, they should send us succours in good muskets, blankets, cloths, coatings, and proper stuff for tents, also in ammunition; but not like the *Venitians*, wait until we are beat, and then send assistance. We are willing to pay for them, and shall be able soon as we can safely export our tobacco and other valuable produce.

Our Northern army is strong, well intrenched in an advantageous post at *Tyconderoga*, which can only be taken from them by storm, as it cannot be approached in a regular manner on account of the situation. We are also formidable on the lakes, in galleys, boats, and gondolas, under command of your friend *Arnold*, and that army is better provided than the other, so that we do not seem to apprehend any danger in that quarter at present.

The Southern States are, from the present, in peace and quietness, except some interruptions from the *Indians*, who were instigated thereto by Mr. *Stewart*, the Superintendent, and other agents from our enemies; however, they have not any cause to rejoice in those machinations as yet, for the *Carolinians* and *Virginians* have attacked and beat them several times, destroyed several of their towns and cornfields, and made them repent sorely what they have done. So that we have little to apprehend on account of *Indians*.

The only source of uneasiness amongst us arises from the number of Tories we find in every State. They are more numerous than formerly, and speak more openly; but Tories are now of various kinds and various principles. Some are so from real attachment to *Britain*, some from interested views, many, very many, from fear of the *British* force; some because they are dissatisfied with the general measures of Congress, more because they disapprove of the men in power and the measures in their respective States. But these different passions, views, and expectations, are so combined in their consequences that the parties affected by them either withhold their assistance or oppose our operations; and if *America* falls, it will be owing to such divisions more than the force of our enemies. However, there is much to be done before *America* can be lost, and if *France* will but join us in time there is no danger but *America* will soon be established an independent empire, and *France*, drawing from her the principal part of those sources of wealth and power that formerly flowed into *Great Britain*, will immediately become the greatest Power in *Europe*.

We have given you as just a picture of our present situation as we can draw in the compass of a letter, in order that you may be well informed; but you will only impart such circumstances as you may think prudent.

Our frigates are fine vessels, but we meet difficulty in procuring guns and anchors. Our people are but young in casting the former, and we want coals to make the latter; however, these difficulties we shall surmount, and are bent on building some line-of-battle ships immediately. The success in privateering, and encouragement given by the merchants, will inevitably bring seamen amongst us. This, with the measure that will be adopted to encourage the

breeding of seamen amongst ourselves, will, in a few years, make us respectable on the ocean. Surely *France* cannot be so blind to her own interest as to neglect this glorious opportunity of destroying the power and humbling the pride of her natural and our declared enemy.

We make no doubt but you have been made acquainted with the negotiations of Monsieur *Hortalez*, and in consequence thereof we conclude you will be at no loss to obtain the supplies of goods wanted for a particular department, notwithstanding we know that the greatest part of those remittances that were intended you, have been intercepted by one means or other. It is unfortunate and much to be regretted that those remittances have had such ill fate, but we hope you have obtained the goods on credit, and you may depend that remittances will be continued until all your engagements are discharged.

Clothing and tents are so much wanted for our armies that we entreat you to apply immediately to the Court of *France* for a loan of money sufficient to despatch immediately considerable quantities of stuff fit for tents, and of coarse cloths, coatings, stockings, and such other comfortable necessities for an army as you can readily judge will be proper. You will get these goods either sent out direct in *French* vessels, or to their islands, where we can send for them; but if you could prevail on the Court of *France* to send out men-of-war with them, it would be most acceptable. Whatever engagements you make for payment of the cost of such clothing and necessities, the Congress will order sufficient remittances to fulfil the same; but in our circumstances it requires time to accomplish them. You'll observe the Secret Committee have given orders to Mr. *Thomas Morris* to procure sundry articles and despatch them immediately; and if you succeed in the negotiation of a loan from the Court for this purpose, you may employ him or act in conjunction with him to procure and despatch those articles ordered by them, and such others as you shall judge necessary, and the remittances to be made him will serve to refund the loan. Should the Court decline this matter perhaps the Farmers General may be induced to advance the money or stake their credit for the sake of securing the tobacco the Secret Committee will remit to Europe. These things we throw out as hints, and shall only further observe that you cannot render your injured country more essential service at this time than by procuring these supplies immediately.

We are told that our vigilant enemies have demanded of the Courts of *France*, *Spain*, and *Portugal*, to deliver up the *American* ships in their ports, and to forbid their having any future intercourse with them. The Court of *Portugal* has complied so far as to order our ships away on ten days' notice. That *France* and *Spain* gave evasive answers. This is private uncertain intelligence; but we think you will do well to intimate to the Ministers of those nations that first impressions are lasting; that the time has been when they stood much in need of *American* supplies; that the time may come again; that although we are styled Rebels by *Britain*, yet our friendship may hereafter be of the utmost importance to those Powers particularly that possess *American* Colonies, and that injuries now done us will not be easily effaced. These hints of arguments you'll offer as the suggestions of your own mind, and endeavour to influence them by interest or fear from taking any active part against us. On the contrary, as it is evidently their interest to encourage our commerce, so we hope you'll be able to influence them, by one means or other, to protect and license it in the utmost extent.

We shall not take up more of your time at present, but remain, sir, your humble servants.

To *Silas Deane*, Esq.

COMMITTEE OF SECRET CORRESPONDENCE TO WILLIAM BINGHAM.

Philadelphia, October 1, 1776.

MR. BINGHAM: Sir: Having received advices that our agent, Mons. *Hortalez*, is despatching sundry articles, wanted for the service of the *United States of America*, to *Martinico* or *St. Eustatia*, recommended to the care of his Excellency the General, or the Governor and Intendant there, to be by them delivered to whoever shall be properly authorized by Congress to receive the same, we hereby

request you will make application for all arms, ammunition, money, clothing, or other articles, that may arrive in *Martínico* or *St. Eustatia* with the above directions; and you are hereby empowered to receive and grant receipts for the same, on behalf of the *United States of America*, or to sign certificates, or any other writing that may be required, purporting the delivery thereof to you as agent for the Congress. We are, sir, your humble servants.

In Congress, Philadelphia, October 1, 1776

I do hereby certify that *Benjamin Franklin* and *Robert Morris*, Esquires, Delegates in Congress from *Pennsylvania*, have been duly appointed members of the honourable Committee of Secret Correspondence, and that they are fully empowered to direct all matters in their department on behalf of the *United States of America*, the other members of said Committee being now absent. I do also certify that the delivery of arms, ammunition, specie, or other stores, to them or their order, on behalf of the Congress, is, and will be acknowledged as valid and binding on the *United States of America*.

B. FRANKLIN TO C. W. F. DUMAS.

Philadelphia, October 1, 1776.

SIR: I have just time to acknowledge the receipt of your two packets, with the pamphlets enclosed, the contents of which are very satisfactory. You will hear from me more fully in a little time. With great esteem, I am, sir, &c.,

B. FRANKLIN.

P. S. We have a great force brought against us here, but continue firm.

MARINE COMMITTEE TO LIEUTENANT ALBERTSON.

October 1, 1776.

SIR: The Continental schooner *Muskeito*, under your command, being well fitted and manned, you are to set sail for *Ocracock*, in *North-Carolina*, and proceed up with said schooner to *Edenton*. On your arrival there, put into the post-office any letters you carry with you, and the military stores and other goods you have on board deliver to Messrs. *Hewes & Smith*, merchants, at that place. Those gentlemen are to lade you back; therefore you must lose no time in discharging and getting the vessel ready for the reception of naval stores, or any other goods which they may want for to put on board, which you are to receive to the full lading of your vessel.

You are to apply to the Convention, or any other publick body at that place, for any despatches they may want to send by you; and as soon as you have received your cargo and despatches from Messrs. *Hewes & Smith*, you are to set sail for this place, proceeding with caution, to avoid being taken by the enemy. Should you find our bay shut up by the men-of-war, and that you cannot get in by the *Cape May* channel, bear away for some of the inlets, and write to us when you get in.

You are to be careful of the schooner, her materials and stores, and we expect you will be diligent and attentive to the execution of your business.

We are, sir, your humble servants.

To Lieutenant *Thomas Albertson*, of the Continental schooner *Muskeito*.

P. S. You must make the utmost despatch from *Carolina*, and take care not to waste any powder. Should you be taken, throw all letters and papers overboard, slung to a shot to sink them.

ROBERT MORRIS TO MARYLAND COUNCIL OF SAFETY.

In Secret Committee, Philadelphia, October 1, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: Publick bodies should be equally cautious of taking offence as of giving it, because mischiefs are very apt to arise therefrom, and generally before a remedy can be applied. You have taken amiss the refusal of fourteen pieces of canvass, wanted for your Colonial vessels, and had information that two thousand pieces had been imported in our vessel here. These are your premises; and the facts are as follows: It was not this Committee that refused you the canvass, for we had, agreeable to orders of Con-

gress, delivered the whole to the Marine Committee, and that whole consisted of about six hundred pieces instead of two thousand; but it was not possible the Marine Committee could spare you a single bolt, because the Congress had but a day or two before your application ordered all the light duck and other stuff, then in the publick stores, or that could be bought in the city, to be made up into tents, and to be sent immediately to General *Washington*. The Marine Committee remonstrated against this measure, alleging that none of the Continental vessels could be sent out if the canvass was taken from them. No matter, they were told; the soldiers should have tents if they stripped the yards of those Continental frigates and cruisers that had sails made up; and in consequence of this measure, which nothing but the extreme necessity of our army could justify, we have now a parcel of fine vessels lying here useless at a time they might have been most advantageously employed. Therefore judge you, whether that Committee or the Congress itself could have justified sparing you the canvass you wanted.

You may depend, gentlemen, that no just grounds are ever meant to be given by Congress, or any of its Committees, for complaints like yours. We are all embarked in a cause that requires our utmost united exertions to carry us through, and be assured you can always demand our utmost aid and assistance, where it can possibly be extended consistent with the general welfare.

I have the honour to be, gentlemen, for and on behalf of the Secret Committee, your most obedient and very humble servant,

ROBT. MORRIS.

To the Honourable Council of Safety of *Maryland*.

Philadelphia, October 1, 1776.

Yesterday arrived in this city from the *American* camp at *Harlem*, Brigadier-General *Mifflin*, Colonel *Penrose*, and Major *Williams*.

We hear that an armed vessel is now fitting out in this city, which will be called the *Parry*, in honour of the late gallant Colonel *Parry*, of this State, who fell on *Long-Island*, the 27th of *August* last, nobly contending for the freedom and independence of his country.

COLONEL Z. BUTLER TO ROGER SHERMAN.

Westmoreland, October 1, 1776.

HONOURED SIR: In some of my last letters, you will recollect, I informed you I had sent a messenger among the *Indians* upon the head waters of the *Susquehanna*, and thereby informed them of an assault made upon one of our people, whose testimony has some time since been sent to you. The *Indians*, you will see by the enclosed messages, are disposed for peace, and think it necessary that this place be appointed to hold their council at, and, as they express it, to have a fire-place here. Their importunity was so pressing on that account, that I promised them to inform the Congress and our Assembly of their request, and would beg the opinion of yourself, and our other Delegates, whether it is best to lay it before the Congress, and that you would be pleased to inform his Honour, our Governour, immediately what you apprehend will be best for the Colony to do, if any thing, in that matter.

The *Indians*, when they come here, expect presents, or at least to be supported while among us, and no one is appointed to treat with them. They come to me, and I have frequently given them, but find the burthen too great for one man to bear. They also insist upon a new flag, such as is used by the army of the *United States*. They say their old flag came over the great water, and they now want a new one, as a token of their friendship to the *United States*.

By the last papers we find that the report of Colonel *Butler*, etc., with *Indians* and *Canadians* being at *Oswego*, is disbelieved. By the accounts we had before received of that matter, some were much agitated here, but seem more easy at present.

I expect to be at the Assembly, and shall gladly receive any information you shall think proper to send me.

I am, sir, your humble servant,

Z. BUTLER.

To Hon. *Roger Sherman*.

N. B. The *Indians* deny having any hand in the attack made upon *Wilson*, and have engaged to let us know if they make any discovery of that matter.

A Conference held at WYOMING, or WESTMORELAND, between Captain JOHN, in behalf of the SIX NATIONS, and Colonel BUTLER, of the Colony of CONNECTICUT.

Captain John: Brothers, we come to make you a visit, and let you know we were at the treaty at *Oswego*, with Colonel *Guy Johnson*. We are all of one mind; we are friends, and bring good news.

Brothers, we are also come to let you know the *Six Nations* have been something afraid, but are now glad to see all things look like peace, and they think there will be no quarrel with each other, and you must not believe bad reports, or remember times that have been bad or unfriendly.

Brothers, all our spirits are of one colour, why should we not be of one mind?—continue to be brothers as our fathers and grandfathers were?

Brothers, we hope and desire you may hold what liberties and privileges you now enjoy.

Brothers, we are sorry to hear two brothers are fighting with each other, and should be glad to hear the quarrel was peaceably settled. We choose not to interest ourselves on either side. The quarrel appears to be unnecessary. We do not well understand it. We are for peace.

Brothers, when our young men come to hunt in your neighbourhood, you must not imagine they come to do mischief; they come to procure themselves provisions, also skins to purchase them clothing.

Brothers, we desire that *Wyoming* may be a place appointed where the great men may meet, and have a fire, which shall ever afterwards be called *Wyomick*, when you shall judge best, to prevent any jealousies or uneasy thoughts that may arise, and thereby preserve our friendship.

Brothers, you see but one of our chiefs. You may be suspicious on that account, but we assure you this chief speaks in the name of the *Six Nations*. We are of one mind.

Brothers, what we say is not from the lips, but from the heart. If any *Indians* of little note should speak otherwise, you must pay no regard to them, but observe what has been said and wrote by the chiefs, which may be depended on.

Brothers, we live at the head of these waters, (*Susquehanna*.) Pay no regard to any reports that may come up the stream or any other way, but look to the head of the waters for truth, and we do now assure you, as long as the waters run, so long you may depend on our friendship. We are all of one mind, and we are all for peace.

GENERAL HOWE'S ORDERS FOR SEIZING GRAIN, &c., ON LONG-ISLAND, NEW-YORK.

In pursuance of his Excellency the Commander-in Chief's orders to me, you are hereby directed to take into your custody all the grain, forage, and creatures you can find on *Long-Island*, being the property of persons in actual rebellion, or who have deserted their habitations, and put themselves under the protection of the Rebels, taking an exact account of what is so seized, and report frequently to *John Morrison*, respecting grain and forage, and to *James Christie* respecting creatures. In execution of this duty you are to employ such persons as you think proper, who will apply to his Majesty's Justices of the Peace to impress boats, wagons, horses, drivers, mills, barns, and what other conveniences you may require for the benefit of his Majesty's service; and all officers, civil and military, are hereby required to give you their aid. For doing all which, this shall be a sufficient warrant.

DAN'L CHAMIER, *Com. Gen.*

October 1, 1776.

Jamaica, October 2, 1776.

TO JOHN HEWLETT, Esq., *L. I.*:

You are to use your utmost endeavours to bring me cattle and sheep for the army; when delivered a receipt will be given, to be paid at a certain time and place. If any butcher or others interfere with you under pretence of bringing them to me, without a written order from me, seize their cattle, put a fair value on them, and drive them to me, and the owners shall be paid. Also seize all sheep and cattle of Rebels who have left their habitations, and employ proper people to assist you. For doing whereof, this shall be your warrant.

JAMES CHRISTIE,
Commissary for Cattle and Sheep.

GENERAL WASHINGTON TO GOVERNOUR TRUMBULL.

Head-Quarters, Harlem Heights, October 1, 1776.

SIR: I have the honour of your favour of the 27th ultimo, and note the contents. The row-galleys belonging to your State, together with those the property of the *United States*, and all other vessels, on the approach of the men-of-war, ran up the *North River*, under cover of the battery on *Mount Washington*, from whence it is now impossible to remove them. As they are now posted, they are serviceable to us, by preventing a communication with the ships, and keeping out row-guards by night, to give us timely notice of the approach, or any movements, of the enemy. To take from them their crew would be rendering them entirely useless, and to rob them of their weapons would dispirit the men. However, if it should be thought advisable, after weighing the above circumstances, to have the crew ordered to *Connecticut*, or any of the arms or other weapons on board to be sent there, your orders shall be attended to. The situation of the enemy's ships is very different at this time from what it was before the evacuation of *New-York*. We then had the command of a narrow pass, communicating from the *Sound* to the *East River*, commonly called *Hell-Gate*, which is now in their possession. Two of their ships came through yesterday—one, I think, a transport, the other a frigate mounting twenty-four guns.

October 3.—Since the above, I am honoured with yours of the 28th, enclosing the petition from the gentlemen sent from this State on parole to *Connecticut*. They were looked upon as favourers to Governour *Tryon* and the *British* troops, and were removed to prevent giving any intelligence or otherways aiding the enemies of our country. It was intended that when the theatre of action was removed, they might return; but that at present is not the case. Nor do I think it prudent they should be permitted to return during our present situation, as undoubtedly they may have it in their power to give information concerning your State, &c., which might be prejudicial to the general good. They particularly mention, in their petition, "that they were removed from *Long-Island* into *Connecticut* until such time as the situation and state of affairs there should admit of their return to their respective families again." You will be pleased to inform them I agree with you in sentiment that that period is not arrived.

There is no material difference in our situation since I last wrote you. The enemy have nearly completed their works from the *North* to the *East River*. As the season is far advanced, we cannot reasonably expect a state of inactivity; but should they attempt to dislodge us from our present quarters, I am in hopes to defeat their designs, and give a favourable account to the publick of the conduct of the troops under my command.

I have the honour to be, sir, your most humble servant,

GO. WASHINGTON.

To Governour *Trumbull*, *Connecticut*.

COLONEL REED TO THE COMMITTEE OF CONGRESS AT HEAD-QUARTERS TO INQUIRE INTO THE STATE OF THE ARMY.

Camp, near Harlem, October 1, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: Your departure from this place earlier than I expected, obliges me to communicate to you this way what I intended to have done in person. I observe that the Congress, in the establishment of a new and permanent army, have very properly reserved the appointment of General officers to themselves. As the department I now have the honour to hold is in that class, and of very great importance to the publick safety and welfare, I think it my indispensable duty to acquaint you, as early as possible, that I find my apprehensions of not being able to fill it to advantage to the publick and satisfaction to myself, have been too well realized to allow me to continue in it.

If there is any department in the army which should be filled by one who has made arms his profession, it is this; and I doubt whether any abilities or reading can supply the deficiency of practice. In a well-regulated army, it is a post of great concern and difficulty, and always filled by some officer of the greatest experience: how much more necessary must it be in ours, where the greatest part are uninformed of their duty, and the frequent changes keep us constantly ignorant. To set out with the new troops; to

lead them on step by step in the various duties of the camp, the parade of the field; to establish one system of exercise through the whole, so that the whole machine, though large, may move with ease, will require an officer to whom the minute duties are familiar, and whose knowledge and experience will claim respect in his discharge of the greater ones. I feel myself often at a loss in the former, and inexpressibly so in the latter: to continue, therefore, in an office which may be filled by a man of capacity, when I am sensible of my deficiencies, would, in my opinion, be unbecoming a man of character and honour. In the new arrangement, therefore, to be made, you will be pleased to consider this department as one to be provided for, and the sooner, I apprehend, the better.

The General's friendship and partiality would doubtless induce him to retain me with him, and supply my defects from his own knowledge and application to business, both which are very great. I have not, therefore, as yet, acquainted him with my intentions; but I beg you would do me the justice to believe that neither a regard to private interest, personal danger, or dissatisfaction with the service, but a single eye to the publick service and welfare, have actuated me upon this occasion. I shall not hesitate to apply the little knowledge and experience I have acquired to the publick service in a channel through which I can serve it with satisfaction and honour, but I cannot continue in an important department, where the publick and my own character will eventually suffer.

I am, with great respect and regard, gentlemen, your most obedient and very humble servant,

Jos. REED, *Adjutant-General*.

COLONEL GRAYSON TO GENERAL HEATH.

Head-Quarters, Heights of Harlem, October 1, 1776.

SIR: His Excellency has desired me to acquaint you that he approves of the sentence respecting the condemnation of *James McCormick*, as also the sentences on Lieutenant *Thomas Yunkerman*, of Colonel *Haller's* Regiment, and of *Oliver Mildeberger*, of Captain *Leonard's* Company, Colonel *Lasher's* Regiment. With respect to *James McCormick*, it will be necessary for you to appoint the place and time of execution, and acquaint his Excellency therewith, that he may have an opportunity of putting it into general orders.

I have it further in command to acquaint you, that whenever any prisoners in your division are charged with capital offences, that it will be advisable to send them here for trial: in other instances you are to proceed as heretofore. His Excellency having some matters to communicate to you is desirous of seeing you here some time to-day.

I am, sir, your most obedient servant,

WILLIAM GRAYSON, *A. D. C.*

To the Hon. Major-General *Heath*, at *King's Bridge*.

P. S. His Excellency, upon considering further on the subject of *McCormick*, thinks it will be best to order him here for execution: you will, therefore, be pleased to have this done. You will please to let the prisoner know he is certainly to die, and direct that a blessing may attend him.

COLONEL REED TO GENERAL HEATH.

Head-Quarters, October 1, 1776.

SIR: You will please to order *McCormick* down here under a guard, as soon as you conveniently can. Captain *Wilcox* has applied for a Court of Inquiry into his conduct on *Long-Island*, in *August*. You will please to order one if General *Sullivan's* health will admit his attendance.

I am, sir, your most obedient, humble servant,

Jos. REED, *Adjutant-General*.

COLONEL REED TO GENERAL HEATH.

October 1, 1776.

SIR: I wrote you this morning by the General's direction to desire *McCormick* might be sent down here to be executed to-morrow, but as he has not arrived, I fear the letter has miscarried.

I send you back the proceedings of the Court-Martial on

the other prisoners, which the General desires you would have carried into execution immediately.

I am, sir, your obedient, humble servant,

Jos. REED, *Adjutant-General*.

TENCH TILGHMAN TO WILLIAM DUER.

Head-Quarters, Harlem Heights, October 1, 1776.

DEAR SIR: I have only to acquaint you that a frigate came through *Hell-Gate* last night, and anchored within the mouth of *Harlem* river, a little below *Harlem* town. This looks more and more like an attempt upon that side. As we have got our front well secured, we are bestowing all our attention to our flank next the *Sound*. Mr. *Jenifer* arrived here an hour ago; he left General *Lee* in *Georgia*, the 1st of last month. He would set out for this on the 3d, and as he intended to ride post we look for him every day. His arrival will greatly relieve our worthy General, who has too much for any mortal upon his hands.

I have not to add, but that I am, sincerely your most obedient servant,

TENCH TILGHMAN.

To *William Duer*, Esq., *Fishkill*.

Captain *Cook* has not yet given his answer respecting sinking of the ships.

GENERAL HEATH TO GENERAL SALTONSTALL.

King's Bridge, October 1, 1776.

DEAR SIR: Your Militia have not as yet come forward. I beg you would hurry them, as they are wanted immediately. Two regiments are to take post on *New-York* Island, agreeable to his Excellency's orders lately given to you. Four were to join Colonel *Chester*, two of which are now to be posted on *Harlem* river, nearly opposite to Head-Quarters. Colonel *Throop's* regiment is also to come forward without loss of time, and take post at the last-mentioned place. Major *Rogers's* regiment is to remain on the sea-coast; Captains *Wheat* and *Perkins* are to remain at the *Saw-Pitts*; the other companies of that regiment are to be posted in the most judicious manner between the *Saw-Pitts* and *East-Chester*, in such manner as most effectually to secure and guard the coast.

I am, dear sir, yours affectionately,

W. HEATH.

To General *Saltonstall*.

GENERAL SALTONSTALL TO GENERAL HEATH.

West-Chester, October 1, 1776.

HONoured SIR: Yours of this day is before me. Yesterday ordered two regiments, Lieutenant-Colonel *Stores's* and Major *Greaves's*, immediately to march on to *New-York* Island and encamp on the hill opposite *Fort Washington*, and apply to his Excellency for further orders. Two regiments, Lieutenant-Colonel *Ely's* and Lieutenant-Colonel *Smith's*, immediately to march on the hill westward of my lodgings, to occupy the tents now standing, left by the late *Connecticut* Militia. One regiment, Colonel *Douglass's*, is posted here. One regiment, Colonel *Hosford's*, out of which one hundred and seventy-five men are posted at Manor of *Pelham*, and guard four miles of sea-coast, having only fifty men more to march, as the number of one hundred and seventy-five was left to my discretion, with advice of Colonel *Joseph Drake*, who then urged to have more guards for that length of coast; but if you don't order otherwise this day, will order the remainder of said regiment to march forward. The four first-mentioned regiments are now on their march for their destination aforesaid, but shall order the several regiments, with Colonel *Throop's*, immediately to march to the post you assign on *Harlem* river, and give Major *Rogers* orders agreeable to your direction. His Excellency told me my command would be where the greater part of the brigade was, and consequently on this side *King's Bridge*.

I am your most humble servant, G. SALTONSTALL.

To Major-General *Heath*.

GENERAL SCOTT TO GENERAL GATES.

Camp near King's Bridge, October 1, 1776.

DEAR GENERAL: Permit me to recommend to your par-

particular attention Monsieur *Sennalet*, a young gentleman from the *French Islands*, who has entered into the *American* service, and has a Majority, with orders to repair to your department. The gentleman has been with me a few days; and I flatter myself, from the short acquaintance I have with him, that you will find him a man of merit. Of this, however, General *Gates* will be a better judge than myself. The General's good sense and politeness will give merit its due; and I cannot help flattering myself that no person will be prejudiced in his estimation by the recommendation of his most obedient, humble servant,

JNO. MORIN SCOTT.

To the Hon. Major-General *Gates*.

JOSEPH TRUMBULL TO THE PRESIDENT OF CONGRESS.

[Read October 14, 1776.]

King's Bridge, October 1, 1776.

SIR: I have this day drawn on you, in favour of Colonel *Lowry*, for sixty thousand dollars, towards supplying the Continental troops in *New-Jersey* with provisions. I hope the same will be paid and charged to my account accordingly.

I am, sir, your most humble servant,

JOS. TRUMBULL.

To the Hon. *John Hancock*, Esq., President of Congress.

WILLIAM MILLER TO THE COMMANDING OFFICER AT MOUNT WASHINGTON.

In Committee of Safety for the County of Westchester, }
White-Plains, October 1, 1776. }

SIR: We are well assured that there are several companies of men in the Counties of *Westchester* and *Dutchess*, who are making ready to go off and join the King's army. We are taking all possible pains to detect and apprehend them, by raising and sending off guards. We inform you, at the same time, that the Convention are apprised of it, and have recommended it to us to use the utmost vigilance. We beg, as they may go down the *North River* this evening, or perhaps in a night or two, that you'll keep a strict watch at your fort, by the water-side. They may likewise endeavour to pass over the *East River* to *Long-Island*; and we think they will meet with no difficulty in effecting their scheme that way, as the Continental Militia keep so indifferent a guard along that shore.

We thought proper to acquaint you of this plot, as it may be in your power to stop them in going down the *North River*.

By order of the Committee:

WM. MILLER, D. Chairman.

To the Commanding Officer at *Mount Washington*.

We beg you'll be kind enough to forward the above information to the commanding officers along the *Sound*.

COLONEL WEBB TO GENERAL HEATH.

Head-Quarters, ten o'clock, Tuesday Evening.

The General has this moment received information from the Committee of *Westchester* County, that several companies are formed and forming to join General *Howe*, and that it is more than probable they intend to pass this night or in a day or two. I am therefore to acquaint you his Excellency expects your guards keep the strictest watch from *Harlem* river, as far up as they posted.

I am, sir, yours, &c., SAM'L N. WEBB, A. D. C.

To General *Heath*.

WILLIAM MILLER TO CAPTAIN OSBORNE.

White-Plains, October 1, 1776.

I this day received a letter from the Convention, in which they inform me of a discovery made to them by you of conspiracies among some persons upon *Cortlandt's Manor*. I must acquaint you that the Convention have reposed especial trust in me to be aiding and assisting in bringing the same to light, as you may learn by applying to Captain *Delavan*. I must beg that you will, as soon as possible, give me further information about the matter, in order that they may be apprehended before they can escape, and if

I could see you I could impart further matter of the like consequence.

I am your very humble servant, WM. MILLER.

To Captain *Osborne*, at *Cortlandt's Manor*.

An account of Ball and Flints delivered by P. T. CURTINIUS, before Mr. NORWOOD's appointment.

	Balls.	Flints.
<i>Tryon County</i> , - - - - -	600	3,000
<i>West-Chester</i> , - - - - -	800	4,000
<i>Ulster</i> , - - - - -	400	2,000
<i>Dutchess</i> , - - - - -	1,000	5,000
<i>Albany</i> , - - - - -	2,000	9,500
<i>Suffolk</i> , - - - - -	1,000	5,000
<i>New-York</i> , - - - - -	1,350	—
	—	28,500
	6,150 lbs.	

JOHN SIMPSON AND OTHERS TO NEW-YORK CONVENTION.

GENTLEMEN: It is now six weeks and two days since we were admitted to our parole by your body at the *White-Plains*—our destination *Bedford*. We were at the same time informed that the Committee of that place were to furnish us with two dollars per week on account of the Continental Congress, for our subsistence, to be repaid by us when exchanged; for which we have repeatedly applied, but through inattention or want of understanding in the matter, it has hitherto been neglected, which lays us under the necessity of this application, desiring you would be kind enough to order the arrears to be paid us, as likeways to appoint the means of our future support. We have boarded upon our own credit for these six weeks, at *Bedford*; brought from there on *Friday* last, without a morsel of victuals being allowed us from seven o'clock of the morning of that day till *Saturday*, that we got our dinners upon a fresh credit at the *Plains*, where we now sojourn. As we have no money to get our linen washed or shoes mended, &c., the favour of your attention to this will much oblige your humble servants,

JNO. SIMPSON,
WILL'M ELDER,
JOSEPH WOLLCOMB,
WM. McDERMOTT.

To the Congress of the State of *New-York*.

PETITION OF PRISONERS CONFINED IN MORRISTOWN JAIL.
To the honourable the Provincial Congress for the Colony of NEW-YORK:

Your petitioners: *Barnaby McMaron*, belonging to General *Greene's* brigade, stationed at *Long-Island*, punished for sleeping on his post, and ordered one month's confinement, and been confined near three months:

Richard Keef, belonging to Lord *Stirling's* brigade, confined for buying a gun; tried and punished; ordered one month's imprisonment, confined three months:

William Gillas, confined for buying of a soldier who was indebted to him, a shirt and a pair of breeches, which it proved he had stole. To excuse himself he informed that I was going on board the *Asia*, though in years and a cripple; keeps a small store in *York*:

Thomas Dennis, confined by Major *Crane*, under suspicion of desertion into *Boston*, to the enemy. I was taken by them and pardoned for deserting from them, which I have done a second time, leaving all my clothes behind, and as a reward for returning, I have been long confined quite naked:

Jeremiah Gilly, confined for getting drunk, and making a disturbance in the streets of *New-York*:

Edward Wilson, confined for quarreling with his Corporal, being a front rank man and he would place me in the rear at the battle on *Long-Island*; a rifleman:

John Dougherty, confined for being in a certain house in *York* in liquor; a bowl being broke, the guard being come in, accused us with being Tories, my company fled, and I sent to gaol; an inhabitant of *York*:

James Nowles, confined on suspicion of going to *Long-Island*, being fishing in the *East River* for the Hospital:

Thomas Berry, belonging to General *Sullivan's* brigade, confined for striking a Lieutenant on the *Holy ground*, who

had drawn the sword on two of them. Confined since *April 17, 1776*:

John Creig, confined for the above crime, and is the man who has disciplined most of the *Jersey* troops; was to have been discharged the day after we left *York*:

John Andrews, a prisoner of war, taken at *St. John's*, hath since disciplined two battalions of Provincial troops at *Montancus*, where he left his regiment and came in Captain *John De Witt's* company to *Horn's Hook*. Confined for being in company with a man suspected to be a Tory. The man got cleared, I being neglected in the hurry of business; should have been discharged in a few days, if we had not left *New-York*:

John Gee, belonging to the First Battalion of *York* Militia, confined for affronting a Sergeant who was in liquor. I reminding him of his duty for fear of getting mischief, he charged me with being inimical to the country. I was tried and honourably acquitted by a Court-Martial, upon a good character given from my Captain, which he repeatedly sent me, but could not come and take me, being upon *Long-Island*; therefore I remain, though guiltless, through the hurry and confusion of the times:

Most humbly sheweth, that your petitioners think they are very cruelly treated, to be confined without crimes, or even the shadow of a crime in reality; and hurried like the worst of criminals from one gaol to another, when soldiers are so much wanted; and it is the desire of every man to join their respective regiments, instead of perishing for want of clothes, and their health by their close confinement daily declining. We are used to enjoy liberty in *York* and *Newark* gaols, but here close locked up in dungeons; our victuals and the treatment we meet with from the gaoler is kind and good. We, beg for justice sake, you will take our unhappy, as well as unmerited sufferings into your kind and most serious consideration, (being every resource left us while the army is in such confusion,) or we must languish without any hopes, though most of us might be very useful if we had liberty and justice. Hope you will take these unhappy circumstances into your most serious consideration; and your petitioners, in duty, as well as gratitude, be ever bound to pray, &c.

Morristown Gaol, October 1, 1776.

COMMITTEE OF SHAWANGUNK TO NEW-YORK CONVENTION.

In Committee, Shawangunk, in Ulster County, }
October 1, 1776. }

GENTLEMEN: Whereas the company of Militia of Foot formerly commanded by *Matthew Rea*, in the Precinct of *Shawangunk*, and in the regiment commanded by Colonel *Jonathan Hasbrook*, have been under the necessity to make a new choice of officers, by reason of their Captain's resigning and other vacancies, the following gentlemen were chosen, agreeable to the resolves of Congress, for the officers of said company, viz: *Siah Robenson* for Captain, *James Hunter* for First Lieutenant, *James Karne, Jun.*, for Second Lieutenant, and *Evert Huffman* for Ensign. And the Committee of said Precinct of *Shawangunk* do earnestly request that the persons above named may be commissioned as early as possible.

By order of the Committee:

MATTHEW REA, *Chairman*.

To the honourable the Convention of the State of *New-York*, now convened at *Fishkill*.

LIEUTENANT ALGER TO NEW-YORK CONVENTION.

Fort Montgomery, October, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: Captain *Dennis* was speaking to me concerning raising a company of Marines to enter on board the ship *Montgomery*, for her safety this winter. I make no doubt but he has acquainted the Convention of the same. I had some encouragement that I should have the berth, as our regiment will soon be disbanded and our men will be idle. By what small encouragement I have had from Captain *Dennis*, I have engaged a company of very fine young men, a great part of them sailors and artillerymen, which will go through all hardships with me. If you see cause to appoint me in that station, and send me the rate that they must engage under, I shall engage them instantly, as they wait for nothing else.

Gentlemen, your compliance to this petition will very much oblige your humble servant.

WILLIAM B. ALGER, *Lieutenant*.

To Captain *Platt*, or either of the members of Congress, at *Fishkill*.

GENERAL JAMES CLINTON TO GENERAL WASHINGTON.

Fort Montgomery, October 1, 1776.

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR EXCELLENCY: Enclosed you have a copy of a letter and a deposition sent to me by the Chairman of the Committee of *New-Windsor*. The prisoners mentioned in the deposition are both confined in the Guard House at *Fort Constitution*, and their butter put in the Commissary's store. I have ordered an exact account of the quantity of butter taken to be sent to me; but I have not yet received it. I understand there is between fifty and sixty firkins and pails. It appears that the said *Connor* has a quantity of flour in Colonel *Ellison's* store, at *New-Windsor*; but I have not heard how much. Their conduct has been very suspicious ever since they came into the country, though the evidence given against *Connor* is only what *Montgomery* informed the said *Lightbody*. If I were convinced or had reason to believe that the butter, &c., was intended for our army at *King's Bridge*, I would be very unwilling to stop it; though, in my opinion, it was intended for our enemies. I intend to keep them and the butter until I receive your Excellency's directions about the matter.

Colonel *Snider*, who was appointed Colonel of the new recruits to assist in fortifying and defending these posts, is lately arrived here, with part of three companies, which consist of about a hundred men, including officers. There is part of two companies of the same regiment at *Fort Constitution*, but I have no return of their number as yet.

We have not a sufficient number of intrenching tools for to carry on our work. I have applied to Congress for them, but I am not yet supplied.

I am your Excellency's most obedient, humble servant,
JAMES CLINTON, *Brigadier-General*.

To His Excellency General *Washington*, &c., at Headquarters, *King's Bridge*.

In Committee for the Precinct of *New-Windsor*, }
September 23, 1776. }

SIR: Enclosed you have a copy of an affidavit taken before this Committee this day, on which the Committee have determined to transmit to you the culprits, with their property, in order to be disposed of as you may judge proper. Mr. *Connor* alleges, in his favour, that he hath, for some time past, sold necessities to our army in *New-York*, and that he intended what he now possesses should be disposed of in the same way. But as Mr. *Connor* purchased the butter after he heard that our people had evacuated the town, and the ships of war hath proceeded some way up the *North River*, the Committee was of opinion that he might design it for the enemy, as he confessed that he did design to stay in town till the Regulars were on his back.

It further appeared to the Committee that *Montgomery* sold a quantity of butter to *Connor* after he had heard said *Connor* make the declaration as recited in the above affidavit; by which the Committee are of opinion that *Montgomery* is highly culpable.

We are, sir, your most humble servants. By order of the Committee:

SAM'L BREWSTER, *Chairman*.

P. S. Since the Committee determined on the above, they received information that *Connor* hath a quantity of flour in Colonel *Ellison's* store, which they have not determined concerning at present.

GENERAL SCHUYLER TO GENERAL WASHINGTON.

Albany, October 1, 1776.

DEAR SIR: Two Sachems of the *Cayugas*, who have been with me on some business, expressed an inclination to visit your Excellency, which I greedily embraced, as their reports, when they return, will, I hope, eradicate the various accounts which prevail amongst the savages to our disadvantage. They go down under the care of Mr. *Deane*,

the interpreter to this department. I wish, if convenient, that they might be shown as much of our force as possible, and to have some presents made them. They do not wish to remain above a day or two with you.

I am, dear sir, most respectfully, your Excellency's most obedient, humble servant,

PH. SCHUYLER.

To His Excellency General *Washington*.

GENERAL SCHUYLER TO GENERAL GATES.

Albany, October 1, 1776.

DEAR SIR: Yesterday I received a letter from General *Washington*, enclosing a paper containing some information respecting the strength and intentions of the enemy in *Canada*. Copies of both I now enclose.

It is probable that a blow is meditated on the communication. The garrison at *Fort George* is too weak to encounter a vigorous attack, and as the fate of the army depends on the regularity of the supplies, you will please to detach a battalion to its support, which may again join you in time, should General *Arnold* be unable to keep the Lake. A sufficiency of batteaus should for that purpose be kept at *Fort George*.

If it should be left to you to appoint a General Officer to command here, permit me to hint that *St. Clair*, I believe, would be as agreeable as any, as you will not be able to spare *Arnold*. Whoever it is, my aid, if necessary, shall not be wanting. I have not had a letter from Congress, in answer to any of mine, since *July*. I feel this slight very sensibly, and have already and shall continue to resent it.

I am informed that Congress has resolved on raising eighty-eight battalions during the war; to give twenty dollars bounty, and a gratuity in land to officers and soldiers; eight-ninetieths of a dollar is to be allowed in lieu of a ration to officers. How they have come to estimate it so low, I know not.

Some more cordage left this yesterday, and the remainder is momentarily expected, and shall be forwarded without delay.

I am, dear General, very sincerely, your obedient, humble servant,

PH. SCHUYLER.

To the Hon. General *Gates*.

COLONEL DE HART TO GOVERNOUR LIVINGSTON.

Tyconderoga, October 1, 1776.

SIR: I have taken the liberty to acquaint you of a matter so materially interesting to the Province of *New-Jersey*, respecting our regiment, that it might be construed a neglect of my duty was I to omit it, which I trust will serve as an apology for intruding on your time. When the Continental Congress gave the order for raising the *New-Jersey* Regiments, part of the contract was, that the men should find their own arms. The mode of inlisting men armed, was found impracticable, and the Province, as I apprehend, at their own risk, provided them with arms, to be repaid by stoppages arising from the men's pay at two dollars a month. How far this mode will indemnify the publick, will at our return be best known; this, however, I very much suspect, that a great number of very good arms will be lost to the Province.

At the expiration of the soldiers' inlistment the arms are then their own property, and the distance of way, with many other reasons will, I fear, occasion the soldiers to dispose of them, and our Eastern friends seem very desirous of taking them off of the soldiers' hands at a very good price. Should this happen, and our Province be deprived of six or seven hundred good *Jersey* arms, (the very best guns on the Continent,) I fear that our small, though willing, services to our country will be more than counterbalanced by the loss. If the Province look upon this circumstance in the light I do, and are desirous of remedying it; I will contribute every thing in my power towards it.

If any person here should be authorized to give the men assurances that the stoppages that have been made on them for the arms, should be returned to them upon their being delivered in *New-Jersey*, I imagine it would be in my power to persuade or compel them to return them to *New-Jersey* again, a thing, I am of opinion, much to be desired by the people of that Province. Such intelligence ought to be sent soon, as I expect we shall march for *New-Jersey* the begin-

ning of *November*. I have by an application to General *Gates* got orders to secure the arms of the dead and deserted, which shall be my particular care. Had I received such orders when our regiment first marched for *Canada*, it would have been a happy circumstance. This I request you will please to communicate to such members of the State as it may be proper this application should be made to, and at the same time excuse any impropriety of application, as at present I am a stranger to your new Constitution.

I heartily congratulate you and our State on your late appointment, convinced it will produce the good effects intended, which shall be the constant wishes of, sir, your most obedient, humble servant,

WM. DE HART.

To His Excellency *William Livingston*, Governour of *New-Jersey*.

COLONEL HARTLEY TO GENERAL GATES.

Crown-Point, October 1, 1776.

HONOURED SIR: I was surprised that the boat I had despatched to the fleet had not returned; but the cause now appears. Sergeant *Macolm* had orders to take Messrs. *Gilliland*, *Watson*, and *MacCawley* prisoners, and to convey them to *Ticonderoga*. This occasioned some delay. General *Arnold* doubtless will inform you the reasons that induced him to make these orders. I thought that as Mr. *Gilliland's* family and Mr. *Watson's* family were in our power, there would have been no danger of either of the men, had they inclined to act against us. Mr. *Watson's* family is in great distress, his wife near lying in, very unwell and made unhappy by his confinement, induces me to desire that *Watson* should be permitted to return here to remove his family as he proposes. There can, in my opinion, be no great danger, let his offence be what it may.

General *Arnold* seems very uneasy that the galleys do not come down, as he every moment expects the enemy. Should he be attacked by a superiour force, he intimates that he will be obliged to keep up a running fight till he joins the galleys. You will doubtless use every expedition to forward them. Some accident has, I presume, retarded the two. If the enemy mean to come at all, I should apprehend it will be the next fair wind.

I am, honoured sir, with the greatest respect, your most humble servant,

THOS. HARTLEY.

To General *Gates*.

GENERAL ARNOLD TO GENERAL GATES.

Valcour, October 1, 1776.

DEAR GENERAL: Last night the *Trumbull* galley arrived here, and Captain *Warner* delivered me your letter of the 26th ultimo. I was rejoiced to hear she brought a reinforcement of seamen. I expected at least one hundred, but was much surprised when Captain *Warner* informed he had not one save his own ship's company. I hope to be excused (after the requisitions so often made) if with five hundred men, half naked, I should not be able to beat the enemy with seven thousand men, well clothed, and a naval force, by the best accounts, near equal to ours. The *Trumbull* is a considerable addition to our fleet, but not half finished or rigged; her cannon are much too small.

I wrote in *July* for cordage sufficient for eight galleys; I then supposed that number would be built. I am surprised at their strange economy or infatuation below. Saving and negligence, I am afraid, will ruin us at last.

Colonel *Trumbull* writes me a very imperfect account of the affairs at *New-York*. I am all impatience to hear the particulars, and know the event.

Enclosed is a list of sundry articles which I have sent Lieutenant *Calderwood* to bring down, if to be had. Great part of my seamen and marines are almost naked. The weather has been very severe for some time. I don't expect to be able to keep my station above a fortnight longer. We have continual gales of wind, and the duty very severe.

I ordered the Captain of the *Liberty* to stay no longer than to overhaul his vessel, which might have been done in forty-eight hours. I beg you will be kind enough to order him back immediately. If he brings materials his vessel may be done here in one day.

This minute Sergeant *Stiles* is returned from a scout to the *Isle-aux-Noix*, where he was sent this day week. En-

closed is his examination, by which it appears the enemy are exerting every nerve to augment their navy, doubtless with a design to cross the Lake this fall or be an over-match for us next spring.

Colonel *Wigglesworth* joins me in respectful compliments.
I am, dear General, your affectionate and obedient humble servant,

B. ARNOLD.

To Hon. Major-General *Gates*.

Sergeant *Stiles* returned this morning from the *Isle-aux-Noix*, where he was sent this day week. Says he left it last night at sunset; that there appears upwards of two thousand men on the island, in tents; that he saw a schooner mounting twelve guns, two gondolas, completed, with three guns in each and a square-sail, one gondola launched and not completed, and two on the stocks, one of them just set up; that a number of people were encamped at *River la Cole*, where they have erected a battery of heavy cannon. He also saw many tents on *Hospital Island*, and on the west shore between that and the *Isle-aux-Noix*; that he passed *Windmill-Point* in the night, and believes there was four hundred *Indians* there; and that on the Bay opposite he saw many lights and fires, and supposes the regular troops were encamped there.

Valcour, October 1, 1776.

Memorandum of Articles which have been repeatedly wrote for, and which we are in the extremest want of, viz:

10 double-headed, 10 grape, and 10 chain shot, for each of the following guns:

No.	Lb.				
1	18	10 shot each kind,	-	-	30
6	12	10 do. each,	-	-	180
22	9	10 do. do.	-	-	600
8	6	10 do. do.	-	-	240
23	4	10 do. do.	-	-	690
					1740

300 lbs. musket ball.
All the useless old iron that will do for langrage.
200 lbs. buckshot.
A sufficient quantity slow-match for the fleet. Very little on hand, and that exceeding bad.
Port-fire.
12 horn and tin lanterns.
50 swivels with monkey tails.
3 anchors—150 lbs., 200 lbs., 250 lbs. 3 cables for do.
1 set caulking irons.
1 piece osnabrigs.
2 dozen 6 and 7 inch single blocks, for gun-tackles.
6 lbs. twine and 2 dozen sail needles.
All the old junk that can be spared.
1000 tacks for spunges.
1 barrel pitch. 1 ditto tar.
300 stand grenados, filled, and fuses.
100 lbs. 5 to 9 inch spikes.
1 cask 20d. nails. 1 do 10d. do.
1 coil 5-inch rope for springs.
1 do. 3 do. do.
1 do. 2½ do. do.
1 do. 1½ do. do.
1 coil small ratline. 1 do. spun yarn.
30 inch pine boards.
Rum, as much as you please.
Clothing for at least half the men in the fleet, who are naked.
100 seamen. (No land-lubbers.)

B. ARNOLD.

Valcour, October 1, 1776.

COLONEL BARRETT TO GENERAL GATES.

Rutland, on Otter Creek, October 1, 1776.

SIR: I received a line from your Honour yesterday by the post of the 28th *September*. Would inform your Honour that the underwork of the bridge is raised and the string pieces all on but two, which frames the upper work, in which the people are at work on, and making a road to and from the bridge. I am, sir, pursuing your instructions as vigorously as possible as is within my power with the

detachment here, and shall by every opportunity inform your Honour as the work advances.

I am, sir, your Honour's most obedient, humble servant,
JOHN BARRETT, *Superintendent*.

To the Hon. General *Gates*.

JOSEPH HAWLEY TO GENERAL GATES.

Northampton, October 1, 1776.

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR HONOUR: Among my solicitous meditations on the state of our armies, it occurs to me that if an army of the *United States* should continue at *Ticonderoga* the approaching winter, (as I trust they will, maugre all the efforts of *Britain*;) several hundred pair of snow-shoes will be needed for them. The army cannot subsist without them. There are in my house, left here by accident, fifty-nine pair belonging to the States, in good order, paid for last year. I have wrote to one or two members of Congress suggesting the necessity of timely provision of snow-shoes for the Northern army. But mention made of it by your Honour in a list or invoice of necessities for the winter, will have far greater effect than the suggestion from me.

Pray, sir, pardon my officiousness in this particular. My only apology is the consideration of the infinitude of matters which your Honour has to attend to, induced me to suppose that possibly this article for the winter might not be thought of so early as would be most advantageous.

I am, sir, with the greatest respect, your most obedient and most humble servant,
JOSEPH HAWLEY.
To General *Gates*.

GOVERNOUR TRUMBULL TO MASSACHUSETTS COUNCIL.

Lebanon, October 1, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: The Honourable *E. Gerry*, Esq., in his letter of the 6th of *August* last, informed that upon my desire he applied to you to lend or sell a quantity of sulphur, for the use of the powder-mills in this State, and that you was willing to comply with the proposal, but supposed it expedient for me to advise you what quantity would be wanted, and whether we should choose to purchase or borrow it, that determination of the General Court might be had thereon. We are still in want of that article, and the powder-mills here must stop if they cannot obtain it from your State. I should esteem it a favour if you would spare one ton at this time, and should choose to purchase it. It is now likely that more will be wanted. I should be glad that the Assembly would, at the same time, make provision to spare us more if needed; it will be very prejudicial to the publick to have the powder-mills stopped.

The ton of sulphur now wanted please to deliver to *Jedediah Elderkin* and *Nathaniel Wales*, Jun., Esq., or their order, who will pay for the same if had on purchase; otherwise they will give their receipt to be returned if received on loan.

I am, gentlemen, your most obedient, humble servant,
JONTH. TRUMBULL.

To the honourable Council of the State of *Massachusetts*.

Mr. *Story*, Mr. *Berry*, Mr. *Noyes*, a Committee to inquire into the state of the Magazines with respect to Sulphur, and report whether the application of Governour *Trumbull* to this Court for one ton of that article can be complied with.

NATHANIEL SHAW TO GENERAL WASHINGTON.

New-London, October 1, 1776.

SIR: The 29th ultimo I shipped by Captain *Webster*, seventy-two tents which were sent me by *Daniel Tillinghast*, Esq., of *Providence*, and hope they will get safe to hand. I now, by Captain *Thomas King*, send you nine markees and ninety-seven common tents, which I hope will also come safe. In case any of the *British* ships should come down this way, I think we should have the earliest notice of it, as we are daily shipping goods up the *Sound* for the army.

I am, sir, your very humble servant,

NATH'L SHAW, Jun.

To His Excellency General *Washington*, Commander-in-Chief of the *American Army*.

New-London, October 1, 1776.

Received on board the sloop *Susannah*, myself master, nine markee tents and ninety-seven common tents, from *Nathaniel Shaw*, Jun., which I promise (the dangers of the seas excepted) to deliver as far up the *Sound*, as the said vessel can proceed with safety, and deliver to General *Washington*, or his order, having signed two receipts of this date.

THOMAS KING.

STEPHEN HOPKINS TO JOHN ADAMS.

Providence, October 1, 1776.

SIR: On my journey homeward, at a town called *Millstone*, in *Somerset County*, in the *Jerseys*, I found confined there a strange group of about fourteen prisoners, four of which belong to *New-England*, and had been taken at different times by *British* cruisers, and carried to *Halifax*; and having no other means to get home, shipped themselves on board some transport vessels bound to *New-York*, where they were to be discharged. Four more of them are *French* subjects, taken in the same manner on this coast, and carried also to *Halifax*, and were returning in like manner, in order to get home. One of them is a boy of eleven years of age, belonging to *Halifax*; the remainder *British* seamen. I promised these prisoners that I would write to the Board of War concerning them, in order to procure their release, or at least the liberation of the *New-England* men and *Frenchmen*; and I wish you to use your influence for that purpose.

I remain your friend,

STEP. HOPKINS.

To *John Adams*, Chairman to the Board of War.

COMMODORE HOPKINS TO REV. SAMUEL HOPKINS.

Providence, October 1, 1776.

SIR: I received yours of the 20th *September*, yesterday, and am very much obliged to you for your address and advice; and as to your complaints of the morals of the people belonging to the navy, I am now to let you know that I did not enter into the navy as a divine, and that I am not qualified to act nor give directions in that matter. The Congress whom I serve made provision for a Chaplain to perform the necessary duty, but to my mortification, I have not been able to get a single man to act in that character, although I have applied to many. If you know of any that has the good of mankind at heart sufficient to expose himself to necessary danger of the service, should be glad you would send him, who may depend, shall be treated with due respect. And if none can be procured, I cannot but condole with you the depravity of the times.

I am, with great respect, sir, your humble servant,

ESEK HOPKINS.

To the Rev. *Samuel Hopkins*, Pastor of the First Congregational Church, at *Newport*.

JOHN AVERY TO PRESIDENT OF CONGRESS.

SIR: I am directed to acquaint the President of the honourable Congress of the sums advanced to the *Sieur Girault Chavalier* and *Sieur Coleaux*, on account of the Congress, which you'll perceive by the enclosed resolves that I have now the honour to transmit to you.

I am, sir, with great esteem, your Honour's most obedient, humble servant,

JOHN AVERY, *Deputy Secretary*.

To Hon. *John Hancock*, Esq.

EXTRACT OF A LETTER RECEIVED IN LONDON, DATED HALIFAX, NOVA-SCOTIA, OCTOBER 1, 1776.

On *Sunday* last we received advice from *Liverpool*, in this Province, that some of the *American* privateers had taken in port *Medway* a brig belonging to Captain *Hall*; a sloop, the property of Mr. *Richard Cunningham*, of this town, and several others; and also a ship, nearly loaded with lumber, spars, &c., out of which they took the provisions, sails, anchors, cables, &c., cut away all the rigging, and after destroying part of the said ship left her. A schooner loaded with cattle, roots, &c., was likewise taken coming out of the harbour of *Liverpool*, bound to this port.

[The obvious object of these excursions, and others, some on *Kennebeck River*, Bay of *Fundy*, &c., in which the *New-England* troops have been assisted by the *New-Eng-*

land privateers, has been to distress the garrison at *Halifax*. They expect to be joined by a party in the Colony.]

MARYLAND COUNCIL OF SAFETY TO COLONEL SMALLWOOD.

[No. 198.]

Annapolis, October 2, 1776.

SIR: We are desirous of having a particular account of the troops at present under your command, as well Regulars as Militia, distinguishing those that are effective from those that are sick, wounded, or prisoners; also a list of those that have been killed. We have heretofore wrote about sending us an inventory of arms and other stores belonging to this State, to which we refer, and repeat our request that you would comply therewith. We are surprised you have never wrote us a line since you left *Annapolis*, and more especially since the battle on *Long-Island*. We are much pleased to hear the great character the *Marylanders* have acquired, and heartily wish you health and success. We are, &c.

To Colonel *William Smallwood*.

MARYLAND COUNCIL OF SAFETY TO COLONEL HUGHES.

[No. 199.]

Annapolis, October 2, 1776.

SIR: In yours of the 22d of *September* last you inform us that Colonel *Hollingsworth* would call on us in a day or two, and that by him we should have an opportunity of sending the commissions and cash wrote for by you. We had ourselves reason to expect that gentleman down, as we had requested he would attend us on business of importance; but we have been disappointed, as he has not appeared. Your letter to the Convention of the 1st instant, informing them of your not receiving any answer from this Board, and applying to them, has been laid by them before us, and we are much surprised at the application, as attention was and would have been paid to your letter, had Colonel *Hollingsworth*, agreeable to your expectation, come here. As soon as a safe hand, with whom we could entrust the money, made application from you, it has been immediately sent.

Mr. *Hartshorne* brings you up five hundred and seventy pounds, for the purchase of arms, blankets, payment of subsistence money, and remainder of bounty money, a sum judged sufficient, but if it should fall short a further sum will be sent you on transmitting the accounts of the expenditure of the moneys already sent. Mr. *Hartshorne* has an order for cartouch-boxes, haversacks, and canteens, at *Baltimore*, and what tents may be ready there. If more are wanting, and you can get them made with you, the cash will be furnished on requisition. If you can buy materials for them they can be made at *Baltimore*. We are, &c.

To Colonel *Hughes*.

MARYLAND COUNCIL OF SAFETY TO MESSRS. CRAVATH AND DUGAN.

[No. 200.]

Annapolis, October 2, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: If the schooner *Ninety-Two* is still unengaged we shall be glad to see you immediately on the subject of chartering or purchasing her. We are, &c.

To Messrs. *Cravath & Dugan*.

PRESIDENT OF CONGRESS TO THE ASSEMBLIES OF THE SOUTHERN STATES.

Philadelphia, October 2, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: The Congress being at present deeply engaged in matters of the utmost importance to the welfare of *America*, have judged it absolutely necessary that there should be a full representation of the several States as soon as possible. For this end, I am to request, in obedience to their commands, you will immediately take proper measures to comply with the enclosed resolves, in order that the *United States* may be fully represented in Congress, and the sentiments of *America* be more fully known upon those interesting subjects that lie before them. I shall therefore only once more request your compliance with this requisition of Congress; and have the honour to be, in great haste, gentlemen, your most obedient and very humble servant,

JOHN HANCOCK, *President*.

To the Convention of *Maryland*.

[Same to Assembly of *Virginia*; Convention of *North-Carolina*; Assembly of *South-Carolina*; Assembly of *Georgia*.]

PRESIDENT OF CONGRESS TO THE ASSEMBLIES OF THE
NORTHERN STATES.

Philadelphia, October 2, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: The many and just complaints of the insufficiency of the Surgeons and their Mates to discharge their duty in a proper manner, have induced Congress to pass the enclosed resolves, recommending it to the several States to appoint some skillful examiners, without whose approbation no Surgeon or Surgeon's mate shall receive a commission either in the army or navy.

The Congress being at present deeply engaged in matters of the utmost importance to the welfare of *America*, have judged it absolutely necessary that there should be a full representation of the several States as soon as possible. For this end I am to request, in obedience to their commands, you will immediately take proper measures to comply with the enclosed resolve, in order that the *United States* may be fully represented in Congress, and the sentiments of *America* be the better known upon those interesting subjects that lie before them. I shall therefore only once more request your compliance with this requisition of Congress; and have the honour to be, gentlemen, your most obedient and very humble servant,

JOHN HANCOCK, *President*.To the honourable Assembly of *New-Hampshire*.[Same to *Massachusetts-Bay*; *Rhode-Island*; *Connecticut*; *New-York*; *New-Jersey*.]

PRESIDENT OF CONGRESS TO GENERAL WASHINGTON.

Philadelphia, October 2, 1776.

SIR: The bearer, Major *Ross*, calling on me previous to his setting out for Head-Quarters, I have only time to enclose you sundry resolves, and to inform you that I shall write you fully by General *Mifflin*. In the interim, I have the honour to be, with the greatest esteem and respect, sir, your most humble servant,

JOHN HANCOCK, *President*.To General *Washington*.

COMMITTEE OF SECRET CORRESPONDENCE TO SILAS DEANE.

Philadelphia, October 2, 1776.

SIR: We have this day received from the honourable the Congress of Delegates of the *United States of America* the important papers which accompany this letter: being first a treaty of commerce and alliance between the Court of *France* and these States; second, instructions to their Commissioners relative to the said treaty; and lastly, a commission whereby you will find that Doctor *Franklin*, the Hon. *Thomas Jefferson* and yourself are appointed Commissioners for negotiating the said treaty at the Court of *France*. These papers speak for themselves, and need no strictures or remarks from us, neither is it our business to make any.

You will observe that in case of the absence or disability of any one or two of the Commissioners, the other has full power to act. We therefore think it proper to inform you, that Doctor *Franklin* and Mr. *Jefferson* will take passage with all speed; but it is necessary that their appointment on this business remain a profound secret; and we do not choose even to trust this paper with their route. Suffice it therefore that you expect them soon after this reaches your hands, and if you don't see some evident advantage will arise by communicating this commission to the *French* Ministry immediately, we give it as our opinion you had best suspend it until the arrival of one or both these gentlemen, because you will then benefit of each other's advice and abilities, and we apprehend their arrival will give additional importance to the embassy. But should you be of opinion that delay will be in the least degree injurious to our country or its cause, you must by all means use your own discretion in this matter, wherein we are not authorized to instruct or advise; we only offer you our thoughts on the subject. Should you think proper to disclose this commission to the Ministers of *France*, enjoin the strictest secrecy respecting the names or rather insist that it be not made known to any persons but those whose office and employments entitle them to the communication, that any other are joined with you in it, because if that circumstance reaches *England* before their arrival it will evidently endanger their persons:

The Congress have ordered the Secret Committee to lodge ten thousand pounds sterling in *France*, subject to the orders of the Commissioners, for their support, &c., and you may depend that remittances will be made for that purpose with all possible diligence. We can also inform you that you may expect instructions for forming treaties with other nations; consequently you will cultivate a good understanding with all the Foreign Ministers.

We have committed these important despatches to the care of Mr. *William Hodge*, Jun., who we hope will in due time have the pleasure to deliver them in person. He knows nothing more of their contents than that they are important; and in case of capture, his orders are to sink them in the sea. This young gentleman's character, family, and alertness in the publick service, all entitle him to your notice. He is also charged with some business from the Secret Committee, wherein your countenance and assistance may be useful. You will no doubt extend it to him, and also engage Mr. *Morris's* exertions therein.

You will please to advance Mr. *Hodge* the value of one hundred and fifty pounds sterling for his expenses, and transmit us his receipt for the same.

We most fervently pray for a successful negotiation; and are with the utmost attention and regard, dear sir, your affectionate friends, and obedient, humble servants.

To *Silas Deane*, Esq.

P. S. Mr. *Hodge* has some instructions from the Secret Committee, which he will lay before you, and if the negotiation of Mons. *Hortalez* respecting arms and ammunition has been conducted with success it will be needless for Mr. *Hodge* to make contracts for those articles. You will know how that matter is, and direct Mr. *Hodge* accordingly, and if you should think it of more consequence to send him immediately back here with despatches, than to employ him in the business that Committee have proposed, he will obey your orders, and Mr. *Morris* may do the other.

CESAR RODNEY TO THOMAS RODNEY.

Philadelphia, October 2, 1776.

SIR: I received your letter yesterday about three o'clock in the afternoon, by post. *Lake*, who set out from the creek's mouth on *Monday* morning arrived here yesterday afternoon about one o'clock; but did not call on me until the evening. However, this could be no fault of his, unless it had pleased God to have endowed him more understanding, for I really believe (as he says) that he had been hunting from the minute he came, and could not find me or the house where I lodged. If he had been lucky enough to have blundered on the house he would have found me, as I happened to be at home all that afternoon. This turned out to be the case at last; for stalking along the street he saw Monsieur standing in my door, which relieved him. I shall sell the vessel as soon, and as for as good a price, as possible. Mr. *Read* is not yet come up. However, I shall set out for *Kent* on *Saturday* or *Sunday* at farthest, whether he comes or not. Yesterday I received a letter from Doctor *Tilton*. The officers are in pretty good health, except Colonel *Haslett*, who has been unwell with the flux for a considerable time past, but getting better. One paragraph in the old man's letter is very full of the great honour obtained by the *Delaware* battalion, in the affair at *Long-Island*, from the unparalleled bravery they showed in view of all the Generals and troops within the lines, who alternately praised and pitied them. By General *Howe's* return of the prisoners to Congress, Lieutenant *Stewart* and Lieutenant *Harvey* are both alive and well.

General *Mifflin* came to town the day before yesterday. He brought letters from General *Washington* informing Congress that Mr. *Moylan*, the Quartermaster-General, had resigned his commission, as unable to conduct the business of so many troops. That in consequence thereof, the General says he had prevailed on General *Mifflin* to accept, confident that there was not another man in the army who could carry on the business upon the present large plan. Under these circumstances, *Mifflin* has with reluctance accepted. General *Mifflin* says our army is numerous; mending fast as to their sickness; in high spirits; well fortified, and wish for nothing more than a general engagement. There is seldom a day but some prize or some *French* trading vessel comes into this port—some days two or three.

I hope the children will get better of their sickness soon, and am glad Sally is better.

I am, with love to all, yours, &c., CÆSAR RODNEY.
To Thomas Rodney, Esq.

VOLUNTEERS FOR THE FLOATING BATTERY.

All gentlemen, volunteers and others, who are free, able, and willing to serve their country in this grand struggle for liberty, yet may not choose to be far removed from a parent, family, wife, or sweetheart, have now an opportunity to show that laudable desire, and gratify their tender feelings by entering on board the new Floating Battery fitting out under the command of Captain William Brown, for the particular defence of the State of Pennsylvania, and will never be stationed more than six or seven miles down the river Delaware. Those who are thus inclined to serve themselves, their country, and posterity, let them repair to the rendezvous opened by said Brown, at John Stoops's, at the sign of the Two Tuns, opposite the New Market, where they shall be well entertained, have a month's pay advance, and a dollar or a dollar's worth of drink, to drown all their sorrows, and drive away care. Their pay and subsistence will be fifty shillings per month, and that paid monthly; ten pounds of beef, mutton, or pork, seven pounds of bread, sixpence worth of vegetables, and seven half pints of rum, per week.

This battery is well constructed for defence, and for the preservation and accommodation of her men. If any industrious tradesmen, whose business is of a sedentary nature, should incline to enter this service, he may here have his house-rent, firing, victuals, and drink free, besides his pay and a great deal of time, in which he may employ himself for the emolument of his family (should he have one) or to fill his pockets for his own amusement. This is encouragement no other service on the Continent can give.

Philadelphia, October 2, 1776.

GENERAL WASHINGTON TO THE PRESIDENT OF CONGRESS.

[Read October 4th; referred to the Board of War.]

Head-Quarters, Harlem Heights, October 2, 1776.

SIR: I do myself the honour of transmitting to you the enclosed letter [of September 24] from Lieutenant-Colonel Livingston, with sundry copies of General De Lancey's orders, which discover the measures the enemy are pursuing on Long-Island for raising recruits and obtaining supplies of provisions. In consequence of the intelligence they contain, and authentick advices through other channels respecting these matters, I have sent Brigadier-General George Clinton to meet General Lincoln, who has got as far as Fairfield, with part of the troops lately ordered by the Massachusetts Assembly, to concert with him and others an expedition across the Sound with these troops—three companies under Colonel Livingston, and such further aid as Governour Trumbull can afford, in order to prevent, if possible, their effecting these important objects, and to assist the inhabitants in the removal of their stock, grain, &c., or in destroying them, that the enemy may not derive any advantage or benefit from them. The recruiting scheme they are prosecuting with uncommon industry; nor is it confined to Long-Island alone, having just now received a letter from the Committee of Westchester County, advising that there are several companies of men in that and Dutchess County preparing to go off and join the King's army. I have given directions to our guard boats, and the sentinels at our works at Mount Washington, to keep a strict look-out, in case they attempt to come down the North River. Also to General Heath, at King's Bridge, that the utmost vigilance may be observed by the regiments and troops stationed above there, and down towards the East River, that they may intercept them, should they take that route with a view of crossing to Long-Island. I will use every precaution in my power to prevent these parricides from accomplishing their designs, but I have but little hopes of success, as it will be no difficult matter for them to procure a passage over some part or other of the Sound.

I have been applied to lately by Colonel Weedon, of Virginia, for permission to recruit the deficiency of men in his regiment out of the troops composing the Flying-Camp, informing me, at the same time, that some of those from

Maryland had offered to engage. Colonel Hand, of the Rifle battalion, made a similar application to-day. If the enlistments could be made, they would have this good consequence, the securing of so many in the service. However, as the measure might occasion some uneasiness in their own corps, and be considered as a hardship by the States to which they belong, and the means of their furnishing more than the quota exacted from them in the general arrangement, and would make it more difficult for them to complete their own levies, I did not conceive myself at liberty to authorize it without submitting the propriety of it to the consideration of Congress, and obtaining their opinion whether it should be allowed or not.

I have enclosed a list of warrants granted from the 2d to the 30th ultimo inclusive, the only return of the sort that I have been able to make since the resolution for that purpose, owing to the unsettled state of our affairs, and my having sent my papers away. You will also receive sundry letters, &c., from General Schuyler, which came under cover to me, and which I have the honour of forwarding.

By a letter just received from the Committee of Safety of the State of New-Hampshire, I find a thousand of their Militia were about to march, on the 24th ultimo, to reinforce this army, in consequence of the requisition of Congress. Previous to their march, General Ward writes me he was obliged to furnish them with five hundred pounds of powder, and one thousand pounds of musket ball, and I have little reason to expect they are better provided with other articles than they were with ammunition. In such case they will only add to our present distress, which is already far too great, and become disgusted with the service, though the time they are engaged for is only till the 1st of December. This will injure their inlisting for a longer term, if not wholly prevent it.

From three deserters who came from the Galatea man-of-war, about five days ago, we are informed that several transports had sailed, before they left her, for England, as it was generally reported, in order to return with a supply of provisions, of which they say there is a want. General Mercer in a letter informed me, that General Thompson said he had heard they were going to dismiss about a hundred ships from the service. I am also advised, by a letter from Mr. Dirby, at Boston, of the 26th ultimo, that, the day before, a transport snow had been taken and sent into Piscataqua by a privateer, in her passage from New-York to the West-Indies. She sailed, with five more, under convoy of a man-of-war, in order to bring from thence the troops that are there to join General Howe. They were all victualled for four months. From this intelligence it would seem as if they did not apprehend any thing to be meditating against them by the Court of France.

October 3d.—I have nothing in particular to communicate respecting our situation, it being much the same as when I wrote last. We had an alarm this morning, a little before four o'clock, from some of our out-sentries, who reported that a large body of the enemy was advancing towards our lines. This put us in motion. However, it turned out entirely premature, or at least we saw nothing of them.

I have the honour to be, with every sentiment of respect, sir, your most obedient servant,
Go. WASHINGTON.

GENERAL ORDERS.

Head-Quarters, Harlem Heights, October 1, 1776.

(Parole, Spotswood.)

(Countersign, Gutes.)

The picket duty being too severe on the few Brigadiers who are now here, after this day, the Brigadier-General of the day is not expected to lay out on picket. He will attend on the parade, march off the guards, see them properly posted, visit them twice in the day, and at daybreak in the morning. The Colonel, being the immediate commanding officer of the picket, will be very vigilant to prevent surprise; give immediate notice to the Brigadier of any approach of the enemy, or other extraordinary occurrences.

James McCormick, of Captain Farrington's Company, Colonel Sargent's Regiment, having been tried and convicted by a Court-Martial, whereof Colonel Lasher was President, of "desertion and mutiny," is ordered to suffer death, on the eighth and fifth Articles of War. The General approves the sentence, and orders him to be hanged

to-morrow, at eleven o'clock. The troops off duty are to be paraded on the grand parade at that time.

Captain *Marony*, late Provost-Marshal, having absented from camp without leave, is suspended, and *Thomas Bryan* appointed in his stead. He is to be obeyed and respected accordingly.

No officer is, on any pretence, to leave the camp without permission, in writing, from the Commander-in-Chief, one of the Major-Generals, through their respective Brigadiers, or commanding officers.

The General also thinks it proper to acquaint the officers and soldiers who have stayed and faithfully attended to their duty, that he has wrote to the respective States, to order back all officers and soldiers who have absented themselves with or without leave, and that he will take the most effectual measures for the purpose.

From the movements of the enemy, and other corroborating circumstances, to say nothing of the advanced season and the necessity which must induce them to bring on a decisive engagement, the General has abundant reason to believe that an attack may be hourly expected. He exhorts every commanding officer, therefore, of corps to pay particular attention to the state of the arms and ammunition of their men, that nothing may be amiss whenever we are called upon, however sudden it may happen. At the same time he once more recommends to every officer and soldier the importance of the cause they are engaged in, and the necessity there is of their behaving like men who are contending for every thing that freemen should value. He assures the whole that it is his fixed determination to defend the posts we now hold to the last extremity; and nothing but unparalleled cowardice can occasion the loss of them, as we are superiour in number, and have a better cause to contend in than the enemy have. He further declares that any spirited behaviour in officers or soldiers shall meet with its reward, at the same time that misbehaviour and cowardice shall find exemplary punishment.

Every Brigadier, or officer commanding a brigade, is hereby enjoined and ordered to select some good officers to be in the rear of their battalions; and these officers are positively ordered to shoot any officer or soldier who shall presume to quit his ranks or retreat, unless the retreat is ordered by proper authority. And to prevent the confusion which is occasioned by every person's undertaking to give or carry orders, none are to be looked upon as valid that are not delivered in the manner mentioned in the orders of the 17th ultimo.

The Militia, if they have not already done it, are to get completed with as much powder, ball, and cartridge-paper, as will make twenty rounds of cartridges.

That no man, either officer or soldier, may plead ignorance of these orders, the Colonels or commanding officers of corps are to take especial care that they be read to the whole, as they will answer the contrary. The Adjutant-General is to transmit copies thereof to Major-Generals *Heath* and *Greene*, that the whole army may be apprised thereof, the General being determined to punish cowardice the instant it happens, for the sake of example.

Major *Colbourne* is appointed to command the Rangers lately under Colonel *Knoulton*. He is take orders from General *Putnam*, to whom they are to make daily reports.

After-Orders.—The following troops to parade at five o'clock, on the grand parade, and there receive orders from General *Putnam*:

Light Infantry of the *Pennsylvania* Battalions.

General *Mifflin's* Brigade to furnish a Lieutenant-Colonel and three hundred men.

General *Wadsworth's* Brigade to furnish two hundred men, to be commanded by Colonel *Silliman*.

General *McDougall's* Brigade to furnish a Lieutenant-Colonel and two hundred men.

General *Fellows's* Brigade to furnish a Major and one hundred and fifty men.

Head-Quarters, Harlem Heights, October 2, 1776.

(Parole, *Hartford*.)

(Countersign, *Harlem*.)

Jonathan Pollard, Esquire, is appointed Aid-de-Camp to General *Heath*, and is to be obeyed and respected accordingly.

It is with much concern the General is informed that though the new Rules for the government of the Army have

been out some time, they have not been generally read to the soldiers. Surely gentlemen do not reflect what prejudice it is to the service to omit so material a point of duty.

It is once more repeated that every soldier is to be completed with ammunition to twenty-four rounds a man; and it is the duty of officers to see that they have it. Some of the troops who went out on the covering party, this morning, had not their complement; nor had their officers examined their arms and ammunition before they marched them on the grand parade. This conduct, if not amended, will be fatal to the army and the country. Where the cartridge-boxes will not hold the full complement, application is to be made for pouches, which may be had at the Commissary's store.

Head-Quarters, Harlem Heights, October 2, 1776.

(Parole, *Ireland*.)

(Countersign, *Florida*.)

General *Putnam* will please to point out proper places, for huts to shelter the picket guard, (in front of our lines,) and direct the officers who command these guards to see that the men are employed, every day, at work thereon, till they are completed; and this, for the sake of their own health and convenience, it is hoped they will do as soon as possible, as the weather will soon grow too uncomfortable to lay without shelter.

As the new articles for the government of the Army are to take place on Monday next, it is expected that the officers will make their men acquainted with them as soon as possible, that crimes may not pass unpunished on any pretence of ignorance.

The several Brigadiers are immediately to return a list to Head-Quarters, of the Field Officers of their respective Brigades, who are absent, and on what account; noting such (if any) as have absented themselves without leave, or stayed beyond their limited time. Colonels and commanding officers of Regiments are to do the same in their Regiments respectively. This return to be made on *Saturday*, at twelve o'clock. When the Brigadier is absent, the eldest officer of the Brigade to make the return.

Captain *Fitzgerald* is appointed to act as Major to Colonel *Weedon's* Regiment, till further orders, instead of the brave Major *Leitch*, who is dead of his wounds.

An exact return of the officers' names, "fit for duty," in camp, and "unfit," is to be made separate from the general return.

The Brigades which send their detachments first on the parade are to take the right, as has been the usage for a long time.

No officer is on any pretence to take off any soldier who is employed either as wagoner, butcher, tallow-chandler, or other business under the Quartermaster-General, or Commissary-General, without first applying to the head of the department; and in case of difficulty or difference on the occasion, to apply to Head-Quarters, and in the mean time the soldier to continue on the command.

Head-Quarters, Harlem Heights, October 4, 1776.

(Parole, *Holland*.)

(Countersign, *Boston*.)

The shameful inattention in some of the camps to decency and cleanliness, in providing necessaries, and picking up the offal and filth of the camp, having been taken notice of before in general; after this time particular Regiments will be pointed out by name when such practices prevail.

The Court-Martial whereof Colonel *Magaw* was President, is dissolved. The Brigade-Majors are immediately to settle a new one, Colonel *Weedon* to preside.

As there are many officers in camp whose health will not admit their going on piquet, but can attend Court-Martial, the Brigade-Majors are to attend to this circumstance in forming the Court, by which means the duty will be easier to the whole.

GENERAL HEATH TO GENERAL SALTONSTALL.

King's Bridge, October 2, 1776.

DEAR SIR: If it be agreeable to you, I should think it best that Colonel *Ely's* regiment should take post on the hill on this side the bridge, near *Williams's* Tavern. My reason for this is that a redoubt must be immediately thrown up on that height, and two companies of that regiment have for some months been employed in the construction of works

at *New-London*. Colonel *Smith* will march forward agreeable to your orders, and you will please to order one of the other regiments forward in the room of Colonel *Ely's*, to take post on *Harlem* river.

I am, dear sir, yours affectionately, W. HEATH.
To General *Saltonstall*.

COLONEL REED TO GENERAL HEATH.

SIR: We must desire you to exert your authority to make the witnesses attend in the affair of *Scott* and *Weimer*; they keep thirteen officers from other duty, and will probably escape, as by one means or other all such rascals do. The Captain who suffered *McCormick* to escape, the General orders to put under close arrest and tried immediately in your division. I am, sir, your obedient, humble servant,
Jos. REED, *Adjutant-General*.

To Major-General *Heath*.

GENERAL HEATH TO MAJOR BACKUS.

King's Bridge, October 2, 1776.

SIR: Information has just been received that several companies are formed and forming in this State to join General *Howe's* army, and it is probable will very soon, if possible, get to *Long-Island*. Your guards and sentinels are, therefore, to be very alert, and apprehend such persons as are suspicious and cannot give a good account of themselves and their business. In addition to your sentinels let patrols frequently patrol in the most likely places to discover them in their attempts to get over to the Island.

I am, sir, yours, &c., W. HEATH.

To Major *Backus*.

P. S. You will immediately send one or two of your Light-Horsemen to give the above notice to all the officers commanding the guards between your own posts at *Westchester* and the *Sawpits*, and in particular to Major *Rogers* and Captain *Theyer*. You may relieve the Horsemen at General *Washington's* as often as you may think proper, with the like number now posted there. You will direct one of them to inquire for General *Sullivan*, at *New-Rochelle*, and deliver him the letter directed to him. W. H.

EZRA THOMPSON TO NEW-YORK CONVENTION.

Great Nine Partners, October 2, 1776.

TO THE HONOURABLE CONVENTION OF THE STATE OF NEW-YORK: By reason of sickness in my family I have not been able to attend constantly at the mines; but as Mr. *McDonald* appears an honest, industrious man, and one Mr. *Herrick*, that I improved, was a man used to the business and very faithful, therefore I think the business has gone on very well. I was obliged to go to Mr. *Livingston's* Powder-Mill, in order to get powder for the business, and then could not get it without paying the money, at eight shillings per pound. I got twenty pounds.

Mr. *McDonald's* report, as far as I can judge, may be depended upon. He will give you particular account of the cost and what the damage was appraised at, done to Mr. *Fish*, the owner of the land where the mine is.

In great haste, I must beg leave to subscribe myself your very humble servant,

EZRA THOMPSON.

To the President of the *New-York* Convention.

EVERT BANCKER TO JOHN M. HOBART.

Fishkill, October 2, 1776.

DEAR SIR: The Convention having determined to send the *Montgomerie*, Captain *Rogers* commander, out on a cruising voyage again, and appointed us to expedite the same, and give instructions, and grant such supplies as may be necessary there, and therefore to desire you will supply Captain *Rogers* with as much money as may be necessary to fit out said privateer, out of the publick moneys you mentioned in your letters to Convention. If opportunity will permit, should be glad you would inspect and see what is necessary, and that prudence is used in the outfit.

Yours, &c.,

EVERT BANCKER,
ZEPHA. PLATT, JUN.,
WM. HARPER.

To John M. Hobart, Esq.

EVERT BANCKER AND OTHERS TO THE NEW-YORK MARINE COMMITTEE.

Fishkill, October 2, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: We, as a Committee being appointed by Convention to give instructions to Captain *Rogers* to proceed on a cruising voyage with all possible expedition; but as his men have some months wages due them, they are unwilling to proceed on the same. This is, therefore, to desire you'll please to pay them out of the sales of the prize goods which has been by them taken.

Remain, gentlemen, your most humble servants,

EVERT BANCKER,
ZEPHA. PLATT, JUN.,
WILLIAM HARPER.

To Messrs. *Jacobus Van Zandt*, Judge *Hallet*, and others of the Marine Committee.

Fishkill, October 2, 1776.

SIR: Whereas the arm sloop *Montgomery*, yourself commander, now lying in *Norwalk, New-England*, and on your application to the Convention of the State of *New-York*, they came to a resolution on the 28th ultimo to continue said sloop in the same service, and we being a Committee to give such orders as we shall think proper, this is, therefore, to order and direct that you proceed from hence with all convenient speed to *Norwalk* and fit out said armed sloop with provisions and other necessary articles which she shall want for a cruising voyage; and as soon as victualed and well manned, to proceed from thence to such cruising ground as you may judge most proper to meet with vessels belonging to the subjects of the King of *Great Britain, Ireland, &c.*, and meeting with such vessels to do what is in your power to take the same as prizes; when taken to send them to any of the most convenient harbours belonging to the *United States* of this Continent, to be consigned into the hands of such person or persons as you, or the Convention of this State may judge fit to act for our mutual benefit, in order to have the same condemned, agreeable to the resolves of the Continental Congress.

On the arrival of any prize or prizes in any harbour, you are to order the Prizemaster or Agent to acquaint the President of this Convention or Legislature of *New-York*, with all convenient speed, letting them know the contents of the cargo, burthen of the vessel, from whence and where bound. If the vessel or any of the prizes should have a cargo of warlike stores, dry-goods, or cloth, linens, threads, &c., it is the desire of Convention that the same be retained for the use of this State.

In order to enable you to fit out the sloop *Montgomery*, you are to apply to Mr. *John Sloss Hobart* for so much cash as you shall want for the same.

We conclude with wishing you a prosperous voyage, and remain your humble servants,

EVERT BANCKER,
WILLIAM HARPER,
ZEPHA. PLATT, JUN.

To Captain *William Rogers*.

GENERAL SCHUYLER TO GOVERNOUR TRUMBULL.

Albany, October 2, 1776.

SIR: I am honoured with your very obliging favour of the 25th ultimo. I have not a wish to enter into any measure that would prove prejudicial to my country, and since you think the publication of my vindication would militate against our common cause, I should not hesitate to defer it if it was now ready for the press as long as I possibly could, consistent with my honour. I cannot help saying that the line of conduct which Congress has held with me, will put it out of my power to continue in any publick office where the appointment must come immediately from them; for although my veneration for the representatives of a free people cannot be exceeded by any member of the community, yet I cannot patiently sit down, with insult added to injustice, and must always resent it.

We have nothing new either from the northward or westward; all seems quiet, and I hope will continue so.

I am, sir, with every friendly wish, and every grateful sentiment, your most obedient humble servant,

PH. SCHUYLER.

To Hon. *Jonathan Trumbull*, Esq., &c.

GENERAL GATES TO GENERAL ARNOLD.

Tyonderoga, October 2, 1776.

DEAR GENERAL: I received your favour of the 28th, yesterday, in the forenoon; and after dinner Messrs. *Gilliland*, *Watson*, and *Macaulay*, were brought here prisoners: I found they had a free intercourse together at *Crown Point*, so that no end could be answered by keeping them separate here. I propose sending them to General *Schuyler*, with the deposition of Sergeant *Day* and your letter. The Sergeant is by this time at *Philadelphia*; but *Gilliland* designing to remain down the country during the war, there will be no difficulty in bringing him to answer any accusation.

I am astonished at the folly and timidity of the fellow who destroyed your letters. There was a packet from General *Schuyler*, one from your family, (as I believe,) and some other letters. A copy of mine I enclose you. It contained little news; but in some degree to make amends for that, I send you an extract from General *Washington's* letter of the 20th ultimo, to General *Schuyler*.

(Extract, &c., "I removed my quarters," to the end of the letter.)

This will be delivered to you by General *Waterbury*. As I shall be happy to know that he has joined you, desire you will despatch an express boat with the news. The *Liberty* schooner sails to-morrow, by whom I shall send any further accounts that may arrive from our Southern army. The other row-galley will be here to night from *Skeen*, and is in such forwardness that I expect she will be ready to sail from hence in a week. My best compliments to Colonel *Wigglesworth*. For further particulars must refer you to General *Waterbury*.

I am, dear General, your affectionate humble servant,

HO. GATES.

To Brigadier-General *Arnold*.

GOVERNOUR TRUMBULL TO GENERAL WASHINGTON.

Lebanon, October 2, 1776.

SIR: I received your favour of the 26th ultimo, in which you inform me of the discharge of the Militia under the command of General *Wolcott*, who were much reduced by desertions, &c. I flatter myself that those under General *Saltonstall* seeing their error and the dishonour they have brought on the State to which they belonged, would have manifested a different temper, but with most sensible pain have heard that numbers of those have also deserted the army. I hope and trust this State will in a proper manner discover their resentments against such vile and scandalous behaviour, and that those who still remain will faithfully abide and discharge their duty, till regularly dismissed.

Your request of a return of the names of the prisoners in this State shall be complied with as soon as possible, and have given orders to the several Committees immediately to furnish me therewith; those in the Counties of *Hartford* and *Windham* will, when I receive your Excellency's directions, be sent by water down *Connecticut* river, and through the *Sound* as far as *Norwalk* or *Stamford*; those in the County of *Litchfield* must be sent down through the County to one or both of those towns. Should be glad to be informed whether such of the privates as are mechanics, and some others who have a strong inclination to abide and remain in the County, must be forced and obliged to return and be exchanged, unless there should be a deficiency to redeem those of our people in the hands of the enemy; and whether it is expected that the charge and expense attending the keeping the prisoners be forwarded to your Excellency with them.

I have received from the honourable Congress of the *United States* their resolution of inlisting a new army of eighty-eight battalions to serve during the present war, with the bounty of money and land therein offered; that the appointment of all officers and filling up vacancies (except General officers) be left to the Governments of the several States; the quota assigned this State, is eight battalions.

The appointment of suitable officers is a matter of the greatest consequence to the States and armies; wish to have such persons appointed as may serve with courage, good conduct, and honour; and ask the favour of your Excellency to take some suitable steps (consulting our General officers if agreeable) and furnish me with intelligence of such in the

army who are willing to undertake, and fit for the service; and give me your sentiments on the affair, that appointments may properly be made. Shall request the same favour from General *Gates*, at *Tyonderoga*, for the three battalions in that quarter, where will probably be enough to make one battalion or more. I shall meet the Assembly at *New-Haven*, the 11th instant, and your information as soon as convenient will be very acceptable.

I am, with great esteem and regard, sir, your obedient humble servant,

JONTH. TRUMBULL.

P. S. When the Field Officers are agreed upon, will not they be able to point out the best Captains and Subalterns for the respective companies, in their respective regiments, subject to your Excellency's correction.

CONNECTICUT COUNCIL OF SAFETY.

At a meeting of the Governour and Council of Safety of *Connecticut*, October 2d, 1776,

Present: His Honour the Governour, *Elipht. Dyer*, *Jabez Huntington*, *Richard Law*, *William Hillhouse*, *Nathaniel Wales*, Jun., *Benjamin Huntington*, and *Jed'h Elderkin*, Esqrs.

Voted, That the *Spy*, commanded by Captain *Niles*, be ordered and directed to get ready with all possible despatch, and to cruise in the *Sound* between *Montauk-Point* and *Stamford*, in order to watch the movements of our enemies, and to give intelligence in the earliest and best manner for the security of the navigation belonging to the *United States*, and of the towns upon the *Sound*, and to annoy our enemies, until further orders.

Voted, To draw on the Pay Table for £1,500, in favour of Captain *John Deshon*, of *New-London*, to enable him to provide for the troops there, and to his account. (Order drawn October 2d, 1776, and delivered *Peter Christopers*.)

Voted, That Sergeant *John Spencer*, of Captain *Wells's* Company, in Colonel *Wolcott's* Regiment, and also seven or eight seamen or marines of the same, be permitted to enlist on board the ship *Oliver Cromwell*, and that others may be enlisted in their stead in said regiment, if they can be without premium.

Whereas the great cry and want of the necessary article of Salt threatens to disturb the publick peace and safety of the State, that it makes it absolutely necessary in order to supply both the publick and private necessities of the people, and that in the most private and speedy method:

Therefore, *Voted and Resolved*, That a suitable number of Vessels be provided at the publick expense, to be sent under convoy, in order to get a supply of that article; and Captain *John Deshon* an agent to carry this resolve into execution.

Instructions to Captain JOHN DESHON.

You are hereby instructed and ordered forthwith to impress and cause to be appraised the schooner *Hannah* and *Elizabeth*, which was taken by Captain *Robert Niles*, of the armed schooner *Spy*, belonging to this State, and take up and have appraised five hundred tons more of vessels, from about sixty to about one hundred tons burthen, which are good for sailing and well found, and see them suitably manned and supplied with provisions and suitable cargoes for purchasing the salt, to go out at your discretion and direction as to their sailing and place of destination, they to be guarded and protected by an armed vessel; for which end you are to advise the Governour and Council of Safety, for their orders to such one as they shall see fit. You are to do the whole with the greatest secrecy and despatch.

To Captain JOHN DESHON, of NEW-LONDON, Greeting:

You are hereby authorized and empowered to take up or impress five hundred tons of vessels, from about sixty to one about one hundred tons, good for sailing and well found, and have them appraised by suitable persons under oath, for publick service, for which this shall be your warrant.

Voted, That his Honour the Governour be desired to appoint such person as he shall think proper to be master of the Ship *Oliver Cromwell*; also any other officer that shall be wanted. And also to give orders for medicine on board said ship, as shall be wanted.

Voted, That Doctor *Samuel Lee*, of *Windham*, be, and he is hereby appointed Surgeon and Physician on board the Ship *Oliver Cromwell*.

Doctor *Benjamin Dyer* exhibited an account of sundry Drugs, &c., by him supplied for the use of this State to amount of £57 11s. 10d., which is allowed, and voted to draw on the Pay Table for the same in his favour. (Order drawn October 2d, 1776, delivered Colonel *Dyer*.)

Jabez Huntington, Esq., exhibited two accounts of sundries supplied and services done for the publick, amounting to £171 6s. 10½d., which is allowed, and voted to draw on the Pay Table for the same. (Order drawn October 2d, and delivered *B. Huntington*.)

Voted, To draw on the Pay Table for £300 in favour of Doctor *Joshua Elderkin*, to enable him to purchase Clothing, &c., for the publick, and to be in account. (Order drawn and delivered Colonel *Elderkin*, October 2d, 1776.)

Voted, To draw on the Pay Table for £300 in favour of Mr. *Andrew Huntington*, to enable him to purchase Clothing, &c., for the publick, and to be in account. (Order drawn October 2d, 1776, taken by Mr. *Huntington*.)

Benjamin Huntington, of *Norwich*, exhibited his account of sundry services and expenses for this State, which is allowed, being £25 8s. 7d, and voted to draw on the Pay Table for the same. (Order drawn and taken by himself, October 2d, 1776.)

Prosper Wetmore, Esq., Sheriff of *New-London* County, exhibited an account of transporting one *Bazeb Boudenot* from *Norwich* to *Worcester*, in the State of the *Massachusetts*, amounting to £8 17s., which is allowed, and voted to draw on the Pay Table for the same. (Order drawn October 2d, 1776, taken by *B. Huntington*.)

JOHN L. C. ROOME TO GOVERNOUR TRUMBULL.

Norwich Gaol, October 2, 1776.

SIR: I must request it as a particular favour that I may be indulged with the liberty of attending your Honour with Mr. *Samuel Loudon*, either on my parole or with such person as your Honour shall think proper, on particular business, before your Honour and Council remove to *New-Haven*.

I am with the greatest respect, your Honour's most obedient, humble servant,

JOHN L. C. ROOME.

To the Hon. *Jonathan Trumbull*, Esq.

EXTRACT OF A LETTER TO A GENTLEMAN IN LONDON, DATED BOSTON, OCTOBER 2, 1776.

Yesterday a *French* ship with sixty-two guns arrived in this harbour, from *Toulon*. She brought her guns in her hold, by way of ballast, and was purchased by Mr. *Silas Deane*; she was navigated to this place by *French* seamen, who, in a few days, will return home in a schooner appointed for that purpose.

Since this once flourishing city has been evacuated by his Majesty's forces, commanded by General *Howe*, several additional new works of strength have been raised, one in particular, a new battery near the entrance of the harbour, which is mounted with twenty pieces of heavy cannon, and is garrisoned by a number of experienced soldiers, and some foreign engineers. The greatest ardour imaginable is still using by several hundred troops arrived here from *Cambridge*, and the inhabitants, to render, if possible, this place impregnable, as the Congress expect next spring it will be the seat of war.

SILAS DEANE TO C. W. F. DUMAS.

Paris, October 3, 1776.

DEAR SIR: Since my last, in which I mentioned the King of *Prussia*, I have obtained a method of sounding that monarch's sentiments more directly through another channel, which, voluntarily offering, I have accepted, and therefore waive writing on the subject for the present any thing, save that you may undoubtedly serve the *United States of America* most essentially in this affair in a few weeks from this. The attention to my business here, which is not merely political, but partly commercial, the critical situation of affairs at this Court, and the anxious suspense for the events at *New-York* and *Canada*, have actually fixed me here, and the having received no intelligence for some time past has well-nigh distracted me. I have, however, favourable prospects, and the most confirmed hopes of

FIFTH SERIES.—VOL. II.

effecting my views in *Europe*. I am too much engaged to say more in this, and will be more particular in my next.

I am, &c.,

SILAS DEANE.

WILLIAM AYLETT (DEPUTY COMMISSARY-GENERAL) TO JOHN ADAMS.

Virginia, Williamsburg, October 3, 1776.

HONOURABLE SIR: I have reason to believe I can get the Continental troops in the Commonwealth victualled at seven-pence half-penny per ration. A Commissary who has two of the regiments has offered it. I therefore request you to inform me immediately whether I am to contract or employ Commissaries, as the time for engaging pork and other provisions is now at hand, and, if contracts are admitted, they must be entered into immediately, or the terms above mentioned will not be obtained, as the present contractors will only lay in a sufficiency to bring about their year, which ends the 1st of *March* next. If Commissaries are to be employed, and the troops victualled on the Continental account and risk, I shall be glad to know for how many troops I am to provide, or whether it will not be prudent, as I imagine beef and pork will be cheaper here than to the northward, to lay in all that can be obtained on reasonable terms, that we may have to spare to the Northern Commissaries.

I must also request the favour of you, sir, to inform me respecting the other matter contained in my representation to the *Virginia* Delegates, which was laid before Congress and referred to your Board. The want of those regulations respecting the rations, forage, &c., embarrasses me exceedingly in my business, as the parties who are entitled to drawbacks are perpetually teasing me to settle them. To some I have paid, though not so many as they think themselves entitled to, particularly the Artillery officers, who claim four rations for Captain and three for Lieutenants.

I will here beg leave again to repeat those others which I have never yet been informed of, and which neither the Commissary-General at *New-York* or the Secretary to Congress could inform me of, and therefore suppose no regulation respecting them has been agreed to, viz: the Deputy Adjutant-General, Deputy Quartermaster-General, Deputy Commissary-General, Deputy Judge-Advocate, Mustermaster-General of the Southern District, Regimental Surgeons and Mates. Though I have been obliged to settle with them, and allow them the same that are allowed to Surgeons and Mates of the Hospital; and whether I am, as Deputy Commissary-General, allowed a clerk, how much to allow him as to wages and rations; and whether I am not allowed forage for my horses, and rations for my servants who attend them, for the necessity of keeping horses, not only to go upon duty here, but to attend at *Philadelphia* to settle my accounts, is so obvious that I have no doubt but a reasonable allowance will be made, as well as for a clerk, who I am obliged to keep in my office at Head-Quarters in my absence, to settle the various accounts for recruits, troops on their march, &c. With such of the contractors who may apply, it may be proper to observe, that if contracting is adopted the contractors expect that when the camp moves, or detachments sent out, they are to be found wagons for transporting their provision.

I intended to have sent a copy of my accounts by this opportunity, to show how the various sums of money that have been paid me have been applied; but there are two contractors whose accounts are not finally settled, but will be in a few days, and the accounts shall be immediately forwarded; and at such time as your Board will be pleased to appoint, I will attend with my vouchers, to settle my accounts finally.

I have hitherto been obliged to advance the contractors considerable sums of money to enable them to comply with their engagements, which they have nearly repaid by their ration returns. I wish to know whether I am justifiable in so doing; in short, unless it is allowed there can be no contracts, for no individual who engages in this business has a sufficient sum of money of his own to answer the large engagements they are obliged to make.

I have the honour to be, respectfully, sir, your most humble servant,

WILLIAM AYLETT, D. C. G.

To the Hon. *John Adams*, Esq., President of the Board of War, at *Philadelphia*.

PRESIDENT OF CONGRESS TO JOSEPH TRUMBULL.

Philadelphia, October 3, 1776.

SIR: The enclosed resolve demands, and I beg leave to request you will pay the greatest attention to it, and exert yourself to comply with it in the fullest manner in your power.

I am, sir, your most obedient and very humble servant,
JOHN HANCOCK, *President*.

To Joseph Trumbull, Esq., Commissary-General.

COMMITTEE OF SECRET CORRESPONDENCE TO WILLIAM HODGE, JUN.

Philadelphia, October 3, 1776.

SIR: We deliver you herewith copies of the letters and credentials you had from us when you sailed on your late unfortunate voyage, the originals whereof we understand you destroyed on being taken by the *Orpheus* man-of-war. We have since that time taken other measures for procuring arms and ammunition, which probably may have succeeded; therefore we request you will lay those copies and this letter before Silas Deane, Esq., at Paris, and follow such advice and directions as he may give respecting arms and ammunition; but with respect to the cutters we approve much of that plan, and wish it to be executed, and even enlarged. We therefore propose that you should consult with Mr. Deane and Mr. Thomas Morris on this subject, and if you find it will be in your power to procure seamen and obtain liberty to arm and fit out vessels in France, Spain, or Holland, that you should, if possible, buy a frigate of twenty to forty guns, have her completely fitted, armed and manned, putting in a gentleman of unexceptionable good character, being also an able seaman, to command her, for which purpose we give you herewith a blank commission, to be filled up with his and the ship's name, which may be the *Surprise*. The Captain and you may appoint the officers necessary for this ship, giving to each a certificate showing his station.

When this ship is completed you must give orders to the Captain, signed by Mr. Deane, to cruise in the Channel against the enemies of the United States of America, making prize of all British property as he can meet with. He may send his prizes into such ports in France as may be most convenient, and you will there demand protection for them, or rather let Mr. Deane demand this, and also liberty to make sale of such goods as he, Mr. Morris, and yourself, may think best to sell there. Direct the Captain to take out any dry goods he finds on board his prize into his own ship, and when by this means he has got a considerable quantity on board, let him come away for this coast, and get into the first place of safety he can in the United States of America.

The Captain must, before he goes, give bond duly to observe all the rules and regulations of Congress; and herewith we deliver you a blank bond, with a book of those rules and a list of the Continental agents. Any prize that he sends into France you must send forward from thence to some of these States, unless Mr. Deane, Mr. Morris, and yourself agree it is more for the publick good to sell in France; and if you sell them there apply the net proceeds to pay the debts you contract in this business.

Besides this ship, we approve also of the two cutters, as mentioned in our former letters. You may arm, fit and man them, and despatch them hither soon as possible, either with arms, ammunition, or such other goods as Mr. Deane and Mr. Morris may recommend or provide. We deliver you commissions, &c., for these vessels also, and recommend to you to be very attentive to the choice of Captains. They should all be good seamen, men of good character and principles, strongly attached to this country and its cause; and prefer Americans, thus deserving, to any other country. If such Americans are not to be found, seek for good men of other countries that have been here or have connexions among us. We know that there are many such in Europe that would be glad of the employ.

The ship must make but a short cruise in the Channel and a short one will do the business, for she will daily meet prizes; but if she is long there, they will have men of war in quest of her. We hope you'll meet with some fine, fast-sailing ship for this purpose, and be able to purchase and fit her on reasonable terms. We shall desire Mr. Deane and

Mr. Morris to join you in the necessary assurances to those you deal with of being faithfully reimbursed. We again repeat that we shall make remittances in the produce of this country for that purpose.

We will also make you a proper compensation for your trouble and services hereafter, when they can be better ascertained. Therefore, wishing you success, we remain, sir, your humble servants.

To Mr. William Hodge, Jun.

P. S. It is absolutely necessary that you observe the utmost secrecy in all this business, and make use of every cloak or cover you can think of to hide the real design.

COMMITTEE OF SECRET CORRESPONDENCE TO WILLIAM HODGE, JUN.

Philadelphia, October 3, 1776.

SIR: We commit to your care sundry despatches delivered you herewith, and you are immediately to repair on board the sloop *Independence*, John Young commander, now waiting for you between this and Reedy Island. This sloop will carry you and said despatches, with the utmost expedition, to the Island of Martinico, where you must apply to William Bingham, Esq., delivering to him all the letters and packages directed for him. This gentleman will assist in procuring you an immediate passage from thence to some port in France, on board a French vessel. Choose a good one if you have a choice, and a man-of-war or a packet, in preference to a merchantman. The General of Martinico will give you a letter to the commander of the port you sail for, requesting him to grant you a passport, and to expedite you immediately to Paris. On your arrival there, you must find out Silas Deane, Esq., and Mr. Thomas Morris, and deliver to each the letters and packages directed for them.

If you arrive at Nantz, apply to Mr. John Daniel Schweighauser; at Bordeaux, to Messrs. Samuel and John Hans Delap; at Havre-de-Grace, to Mr. Andrew Limozin; at Dunkirk, to Messrs. P. Stival & Son, in the name of Willing, Morris, & Co., to furnish you with the address of Mr. Deane and Mr. Morris, at Paris, as it will be well known to them all, and they will also render you any other services you may stand in need of. Should you go to Paris without previously finding out the address of these gentlemen, apply to Messrs. , bankers in Paris, who can direct you to Mr. Deane.

The letters and packets directed for him and Thomas Morris you are to consider as despatches of the utmost importance. You must never suffer them to be out of your possession one moment until you deliver them safe, with untouched seals, to those two gentlemen, unless you should unfortunately be taken, and in that case you must throw them overboard, always keeping them ready slung with a weight to sink them if that measure should be necessary, and for your faithful discharge of this trust, you are answerable to your God, your country, and to us that have reposed this confidence in you.

We have desired Mr. Bingham to supply you with what money you want at Martinico, and to transmit us your receipts for the amount. Mr. Deane will supply you with any sum not exceeding one hundred and fifty pounds sterling in France. You will keep an account of your expenses, which will be paid by the Congress, who will also compensate you generously hereafter for your time, trouble, and risk, in this voyage. Should Mr. Deane think proper to send you immediately back with despatches for us, you will no doubt take charge of them and proceed according to his instructions.

You must cautiously avoid letting any person whatever know what is your business, or that you have the least connection with publick business.

We wish you a safe and successful voyage, and are, sir, your obedient, humble servants.

To Mr. William Hodge, Jun.

Philadelphia, October 3, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: The bearer hereof, Mr. William Hodge, Jun., is a young gentleman we esteem; he now goes for France, via the West-Indies, and is uncertain at what port he may land. He has business with Silas Deane, Esq., and Mr. T. Morris; we beg, therefore, you will furnish

him with their address, and render him any other service he may stand in need of. If he wants money for expenses, please to advance it, and his draft on Mr. *Deane* will be honoured. Your compliance will oblige, gentlemen, your obedient, humble servants.

To Mr. *John Daniel Schweighauser*, at *Nantz*; Messrs. *Samuel & J. H. Delap*, at *Bordeaux*; Mr. *Andrew Limozin*, at *Havre*; Messrs. *P. Steval & Son* at *Dunkirk*.

MARINE COMMITTEE TO MESSRS. HEWES AND SMITH.

Philadelphia, October 3, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: You will receive this from Lieutenant *Thomas Albertson*, commander of the schooner *Muskeeto*, now employed in the Continental service as an advice-boat. She carries but few letters this voyage, but what there are must be put in the post-office, and the same price charged for carriage as if they had gone from hence by land, which you will please to see done. Mr. *Hewes* having fitted this schooner himself before he left this, you will take care to receive the cargo, which consists altogether of Continental stores, sent for the use of the Continental troops in your State, and deliver the same to the proper officers, granting Lieutenant *Albertson* a receipt for what he delivers, and you'll please also to supply him with what money may be absolutely necessary to defray the charges and expenses of his vessel, but no more, taking his accountable receipts for what you pay him, one of which you'll transmit by the vessel.

We desire you to ship back by this vessel one hundred barrels coal tar, two tons tallow in barrels, and twelve barrels rosin, for the use of our navy. If the schooner will carry more, put it on board; if not so much, you must leave out a little of each. We beg you will despatch Mr. *Albertson* back immediately; don't allow him to stay on any account. If he wants a few men, pray assist him in getting them, and your drafts on the Chairman of the Marine Committee for the cost of the goods ordered and of the schooner's disbursements, will be duly honoured.

We are, sirs, your very humble servants.

To Messrs. *Hewes & Smith*.

P. S. You have enclosed a manifest of the cargo, and Mr. *Hewes* must allow a handsome freight for his goods, which you'll credit in the schooner's account.

GOVERNOUR LIVINGSTON TO THE PRESIDENT OF CONGRESS.

[Read October 5th; referred to Mr. *Lynch*, Mr. *Ross*, and Mr. *Floyd*, who are directed to take into consideration the case of the Prisoners in the Gaol of *Philadelphia*.]

Princeton, October 3, 1776.

DEAR SIR: The signers of the enclosed petition are part of a number of prisoners who were sent to me while stationed at *Elizabethtown*, as one of the Brigadier-Generals of this State, by the Committee of *Newark*, to whom they were sent by General *Washington*. That Committee not being able to confine them in the gaol of *Newark*, which was already filled with prisoners, desired me to confine them in the gaol of *Elizabethtown*; but as that was in the same condition, and the place was upon other accounts improper to keep prisoners, I sent them to *Somerset* gaol, at *Milston*. I believe they are in deplorable circumstances for want of clothes, and especially clean linen. I wrote some time since to General *Washington* for their baggage, which was left at *New-York*, but from the multiplicity of business the General has not been able to answer me, and probably their baggage is lost. As they are Continental prisoners, I would wish the Congress would be pleased to give such directions concerning them as to their wisdom and humanity shall seem fit, which this State will cheerfully order to be carried into execution.

I am, sir, your most humble servant,

WILL. LIVINGSTON.

To the Hon. *John Hancock*, Esq.

COLONEL GRAYSON TO GENERAL HEATH.

Head-Quarters, October 3, 1776.

SIR: His Excellency has commanded me to acquaint you that he conceives it to be highly expedient that the

different officers in your division should be thoroughly and perfectly acquainted with the grounds between your several posts and *Morrisseana*, and the other points or landings where you conceive there is any probability the enemy will attempt an impression. In order to obtain this desirable end, his Excellency thinks it will be advisable in you to send a few officers every day, as the nature of duty will admit to reconnoitre those grounds to the end that they may be entirely acquainted with them.

I am, sir, your most obedient servant,

WILLM. GRAYSON, A. D. C.

To Major-General *Heath*.

COLONEL GRAYSON TO GENERAL HEATH.

Heights of Harlem, October 3, 1776.

SIR: His Excellency has desired me to inform you that on looking over your letter of the 30th of *September*, he has discovered a passage respecting Colonel *Trumbull*, which he thinks has not yet been answered. He has no objection to Colonel *Trumbull's* inlisting the number of men out of the Militia which you have mentioned; indeed he looks upon it as a proper step. I have it further in command from him, that he conceives it to be of the last importance that you should be well acquainted with the grounds leading from *Morrisiana* and other places where you suspect the enemy may land to your several posts. I wrote you to-day of the necessity there was that your several officers should reconnoitre them also. It is the opinion of the General that you should form and digest proper dispositions for your troops to take effect eventually on their landing at this or that place, as the case may happen to be. He imagines it will be too late after the enemy have actually landed, to consider of and digest a proper disposition for your forces.

I am, sir, your most obedient servant,

WILLM. GRAYSON, A. D. C.

To the Hon. Major-General *Heath*.

His Excellency cannot imagine what has been the occasion why the regiment ordered to the heights opposite to this, are not yet arrived there; he desires you may forward it with all possible despatch; they may be furnished with tents from the Quartermaster here.

TENCH TILGHMAN TO EGBERT BENSON.

Head-Quarters, Harlem Heights, October 3, 1776.

DEAR SIR: We had an alarm this morning at four o'clock; we had our men instantly under arms, but it turned out a mistake of our patrols, who conceived they had seen a large body of the enemy advancing to our lines.

By a letter from Mr. *Derby*, of *Boston*, we are informed that one of our cruisers had taken and carried into *Piscataqua* a transport, one of six that sailed from *New-York* the 1st *September*, for the *West-Indies*, to bring from thence what troops might be there. Does not this look as if General *Howe's* army was not so strong as we have apprehended? Or would he drain the Islands of their weak garrisons, considering how matters stand affected in the *French* Islands? They have already insulted the *British* flag, by affording an asylum to Captain *Weeks* in a Continental ship-of-war, and refusing to give her up to the *Pomona* frigate.

Captain *Cook* is now up the river cutting timber for chevaux-de-frise. As he is much wanted here to sink the old vessels, the General begs that you would immediately send him down. We are at a stand for want of him; for, as he has superintended the matter from the beginning, he best knows the properest places to be obstructed. If the new ships should be found necessary to our salvation, you need not fear their being sacrificed; but our publick money goes fast enough without using it wantonly.

I am sorry that your Convention do not think themselves legally authorized to make examples of those villains they have apprehended; if that is the case, the well-affected will be hardly able to keep a watch upon ill. The General is determined if he can bring some of them in his hands under the denomination of spies, to execute them. General *Howe* hanged a Captain of ours belonging to *Knowlton's* Rangers, who went into *New-York* to make discoveries. I don't see why we should not make retaliation.

I am, with much esteem, dear sir, your most obedient servant,

TENCH TILGHMAN.

EXTRACT OF A LETTER FROM HARLEM, DATED OCTOBER 3, 1776.

Yesterday morning eleven hundred men were ordered to parade at day-light, to bring off the corn, hay, &c., which lay on *Harlem Plains*, between the enemy and us. This property has lain for a fortnight past unmolested, both sides looking at it, and laying claim to it until to-day, when it was brought off by us. A covering party were within musket shot of the enemy, but they made no other movements than to man their lines; and three thousand of our men appearing, the enemy struck their tents, expecting an attack. Our fatigue party finished the business, and not a single shot was fired. These plains would afford an excellent field for a fight. I really expected an action, but the enemy declined it.

Opinions here are various with respect to the enemy's designs. This is the best month in the year for fighting. The enemy must be near twenty thousand effective, and the taking of *York* is not a sufficient compensation for the expense of so vast an armament as the *British King* has sent out this year. Thence it is thought General *Howe* will attempt to give us a defeat, at least to get complete possession of the island and the adjoining heights. General *Washington* has, in publick orders, assured the whole army, he intends, at every hazard, to defend the ground the army now occupies. The other opinion is, that the enemy will wait for the disbanding of our army, which takes place the last of *December*, and then obtain a bloodless victory by getting possession of our present works, as there may then be nobody to defend them.

We have had five *French* officers come to camp this week; they come from Old *France*, last from *Philadelphia*, and are in Continental pay. Two of them are Engineers. Three of them are very genteel men, and all come well recommended.

GENERAL HEATH TO COLONEL CHESTER.

King's Bridge, October 3, 1776.

As it is indispensably necessary that a disposition of the troops should be made previous to action, the following order is to be observed, in case the enemy should make an attack on this post, viz:

The advance-guard, if possible, is to prevent the enemy from landing, but if this cannot be effected, they are to fight on the retreat, disputing every spot of ground which they can to advantage, taking care to avoid being surrounded by the enemy. Colonel *Hand's* battalion are immediately to advance and attack the enemy in front and right flank. The piquets of the division are instantly to turn out and form. Those of General *Parsons's* brigade being nearest to the advance-guard, are to advance without delay. If one of the Field Officers of the piquet should be in that brigade, he is to command them. If there should be no Field Officer of the piquet there, the senior Captain of the piquet will march them to support the guard; the other piquets commanded by the Field Officers are to follow as fast as possible. The whole to be under the Brigadier-General of the day.

The line is to form immediately, General *Parsons's* brigade on the right, on the hill on which Colonel *Prescott's* regiment encamped, leaving one hundred men to man the redoubts, lines, &c. General *Clinton's* brigade (except Colonel *Thomas's* regiment, who are to take post in *Fort Independence*, and the lines on the east of the fort) to form on the left of the line in the road to the east of the stone bakehouse, formerly a church. General *Scott's* brigade, leaving one hundred men to man the lines on the hill to the right of their barracks, are to take post in the centre between General *Parsons's* left and *Clinton's* right. Colonel *Sargent's* brigade, with Colonel *Brewer's* artificers, Colonel *Chester's* regiment, and the two established companies of Colonel *Ely's* regiment, are to be a reserve, (except fifty men of Colonel *Sargent's* regiment, who are to be left at the redoubt of his own encampment,) and are to march at the distance of one hundred paces in the rear of the line to support such parts of the line as may stand in need of aid, or to follow such directions as may be given by the commanding officer of the division. A detachment of the Artillery, with one brass three-pounder, to march with each brigade, as far as the ground will admit of it with safety.

Colonel *Ely's* regiment, (except the two before-mentioned companies,) and Colonel *Douglas's* regiment to take post at the redoubt and works, near Colonel *Ely's* encampment. The Light-Horse to assemble in the road between *Valentine's* tavern and *Williams's*, (except such as may be wanted to ride express,) ten of whom, on the first alarm, will attend on the Major-General for that purpose. Each regiment is to have four good axe-men, who are to march with their fire-locks slung, each carrying an axe. A stout able-bodied man of a company is to be appointed, who with the camp colour-men and musick, are to assist the wounded men.

Should the line advance into the wood and broken ground, upon coming up with the advance-guard and piquets, the guard and piquets are to pass through the intervals between the battalions and halt, and form with the reserve. Colonel *Hand's* battalions will then form on the left of our line, and will endeavour if possible, to flank the enemy's right. Colonel *Throop's* and Colonel *Smith's* Militia are on the side of *Harlem* river, to flank the enemy's left.

This order supposes that one attack only is made, and that to the westward of the brook running down by *Delancy's* Mills. But if two attacks are made, and one of them should be to the eastward of that stream, Colonel *Hand* will send one of his battalions that way for a skirmish with the enemy through the broken ground, and General *Clinton's* brigade will file off to the left to support them. The Militia at *Chester, Marenneck, &c.*, will march with all expedition to attack the enemy in flank, on that side. In this case, one of the troops of Light-Horse will repair to that quarter, from whom expresses are to be constantly riding to give intelligence of the enemy's advancing or retreating, and of their numbers as nearly as can be ascertained, to the commanding officer of the division. The best judgment of the number of the enemy before they land, may be formed from the number of boats, which all officers on the out-posts are desired to ascertain as nearly as possible, and mention in the express.

The foregoing disposition to be communicated to the Field Officers and Captains of their several regiments in the division, by their respective Brigade-Generals, by giving copies to each regiment, or in such other way as they may think proper.

W. HEATH, Major-General.

To Commandant *Chester*.

GENERAL JAMES CLINTON TO NEW-YORK CONVENTION.

Fort Montgomery, October 3, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: I received a letter from the Congress about the last of *November*, or some time in *December*, 1775, with an order enclosed to stop £27 11s. 2d., being expenses for taking up thirteen men of Captain *Johnston's* company and my regiment. But as those men were chiefly discharged, except such as listed the second time, I could not stop it out of their wages, but as they were tried by a Court-Martial, and each fined a month's pay, I stopped that from the Captain, and it was stopped out of their wages, which I intended should answer the expenses of taking them up as soon as he could get a settlement for his company. But it appears by a certificate produced to me which Captain *Johnston* has, which he can show you, that the Paymaster has stopped the same sum, notwithstanding I desired it might not be stopped, as I had already stopped it and was answerable for it. However, Captain *Johnston* should not have that sum twice stopped from him. Therefore, if it be agreeable to the Congress to order me to pay back the money to Captain *Johnston*, I will do it freely, as one of us must in justice return the money.

I am, gentlemen, your most obedient humble servant,
JAMES CLINTON, Brigadier-General.

To the President of the Provincial Congress of the State of *New-York, Fishkill*.

To whom it may concern:

This may certify that Captain *Robert Johnson* has allowed on settlement of his account, the sum of £34 13s. 4d., *New York* currency, for one month's wages of thirteen men of his company who deserted and returned to their duty, which was forfeited by judgment of Court-Martial.

Witness: JOHN PIERCE, Jun., Assistant-Paymaster.
Albany, June 18th, 1776.

Fort Constitution, June 27, 1776.

I do hereby certify that I have stopped in my hands one month's pay of thirteen men in Captain *Johnston's* company, who deserted and was taken up, and sent back to their regiment, and was forfeited by judgment of a Court-Martial to pay the expense of taking them up, as may be seen by an order from the *New-York* Provincial Congress, dated *November 4th*, 1775, which expenses amounted to £27 11s. 2d., and must not be stopped, nor any part, from Captain *Johnston*, as I am answerable.

JAMES CLINTON, Col. 2d New-York.

Albany, August 12, 1776.

Mr. *Turnbull* cannot suffer this money to go out of his hands, without the General's orders.

WILLIAM M'KERMEN TO RICHARD PETERS.

Sopus, October 3, 1776.

SIR: I arrived here last night, after a great deal of fatigue and trouble, and was fixed upon starting this morning to *Albany*, with the wagons; but the Committee came to me, and told me it was very dangerous to travel by land without an enlargement of my guard to at least sixty or seventy men, with which could not supply me, and their reasons were, an express has arrived, that the *Indians* are breaking out on the frontiers, which has occasioned all the people to fly in the town, many of whom I have seen. Another reason of their stopping me was, that a sloop could be hired, for eighteen or twenty pounds, to carry the whole, and that it was by much the safest, and by a vast deal the cheapest way. The arguments being so strong against me, I was forced to give way, and am just going down to unload the wagons, and discharge them.

Sir, from your humble servant,

WM. McKERMEN.

To Captain *Peters*, Secretary at War, *Philadelphia*.

GENERAL SCHUYLER TO PRESIDENT OF CONGRESS.

[Read October 9th; referred to Board of War.]

Albany, October 3, 1776.

SIR: Colonel *Nicholson* delivered me the enclosed list, which contains the rank and names of the officers of his regiment, and begs commissions may be sent for them.

If Congress has not determined that I never should be honoured with a line from them, I shall hope one acknowledging the receipt of mine of this day. I have ordered the express to wait one day for an answer, and then to return. If I do not hear from Congress on the subject of my former letter, before or by him, I shall esteem myself perfectly disengaged from attending to the duties of those offices which I have resigned.

I am, sir, respectfully, your obedient, humble servant,

PH. SCHUYLER.

To the Hon. *John Hancock*.

Return of Officers of Colonel NICHOLSON's Regiment.

Head-Quarters before *Quebeck*, April 15, 1776.

As it has been necessary to make some alteration in the arrangements of the Captains and sub-officers in Colonel *Nicholson's* Regiment, the following is to take place:

John Nicholson, Esq., Colonel; *Frederick Weissenfels*, Esq., Lieutenant-Colonel—appointed in the Third Regiment *Yorkers*; *John Visher*, Esq., Major; *John Brogdon*, Adjutant; *Israel Evans*, Chaplain; *Joseph Mirvin*, Surgeon's Mate.

First Company: *Gershom Mott*, Captain; *Benjamin Pelton*, First Lieutenant, appointed in Third Regiment *Yorkers*; *Isaac Nichols*, Second Lieutenant; *Charles F. Weissenfels*, Ensign.

Second Company: *Elisha Benedict*, Captain; *Digby Odum*, First Lieutenant; *Nathaniel Henry*, Second Lieutenant; *Francis Shaw*, Ensign.

Third Company: *John Graham*, Captain; *John G. Lansingh*, First Lieutenant; *Francis Brindley*, Second Lieutenant; *Esia Holmes*, Ensign.

Fourth Company: *Robert Johnston*, Captain; *William Martin*, First Lieutenant; *Thomas Nicholson*, Second Lieutenant; *Peter Katan*, Ensign.

Fifth Company: *Ezekel Cooper*, Captain; *Timothy Hughes*, First Lieutenant; *William Bellknapp*, Second Lieutenant; *Thomas Pennington*, Ensign, a prisoner taken in *Canada*.

Sixth Company: *Benjamin Evans*, Captain; *Isaac Hubbell*, First Lieutenant; *Thomas Maclelan*, Second Lieutenant; *Samuel Prebble*, Ensign.

Seventh Company: *Derick Hansen*, Captain; *William Tapp*, First Lieutenant, appointed in First Regiment *Yorkers*; *Isaac Guion*, Second Lieutenant; *William Blackney*, Ensign.

Eighth Company: *John Copp*, Captain; *John Brogdon*, First Lieutenant; *William Colbreath*, Second Lieutenant; *Thomas Logan*, Ensign.

Approved by General *Wooster*, Commander-in-Chief of the Continental forces before *Quebeck*, as taken from Brigade-Major *Blagdon's* Orderly Book, by my order.

FREDERICK V. WEISSENFELS, Lieut. Col.

GENERAL SCHUYLER TO THE PRESIDENT OF CONGRESS.

[Read October 9th; referred to Board of War.]

Albany, October 3, 1776.

SIR: I have this moment received a letter from General *Gates*, enclosing a copy of one from General *Arnold*. Copies of both I do myself the honour to enclose.

I have, in a former letter, already remarked the situation we are in respecting nails.

As active an assistant Deputy Quartermaster-General as I could procure superintends the business at *Cheshire's*. I shall immediately inquire of him what is become of the boards. I believe he sends them down as fast as they are sawed.

General *Gates* gives the reason why the road to *Cheshire's* is not completed. The Assistant Quartermaster has also complained; but I have no other troops to send, as there are none here that can be spared from the necessary guards, and the *Canadians* whom I had employed on the roads, left them, and will not do any kind of duty.

The cables are by this time arrived at *Ticonderoga*. They were made at *Poughkeepsie*, and with despatch, and forwarded without a moment's delay.

If I move *Dayton's* regiment from *Fort Stanwix*, it must be replaced by *Elmore's* and *Nicholson's*, and the *Mohawk* river left exposed to the incursions of the enemy. I wish it was certain that no attempt would be made by the enemy in that quarter. Whether a removal of these troops would be prudent, Congress will be able to judge from the enclosed copy of a letter from Colonel *Dayton*, and from the information given by one of the prisoners from *Canada*; and the *Cayugas* have even brought away our blacksmith.

The prices of the shirts and clothing sent from here I will order to be immediately transmitted to General *Gates*. I mentioned the extravagant price that had been paid for all these articles, in some of my former letters, and begged an abatement, in behalf of the soldiers, in a former letter to Congress. The soldiers will be ruined by the high price of the clothing.

No carpenters are to be procured here. The far greater part of the great numbers I sent up in the course of the campaign, have sickened and returned home.

On the subject of increasing our navy on *Lake Champlain*, I have already wrote to Congress.

The barracks ordered by the resolution of Congress of the 14th ultimo, will be built as soon as nails are sent up. Perhaps it might have been proper to have determined for what number of troops barracks should be erected.

Lieutenant-Colonel *Buel* came down to settle his business. As the Commissioners were not ready, I gave him leave to go to his family for a few days. He made no stay, and is already gone up. I never heard such a disadvantageous report as General *Gates* mentions to prevail of him. I must do him the justice to declare that it was with much entreaty that I could prevail upon him to be employed in the civil line, and that he frequently pressed me for leave to join his regiment, before I could find a proper person to relieve him at *Fort George*.

I am, sir, with great respect and esteem, your most obedient, humble servant,

PH. SCHUYLER.

To the Hon. *John Hancock*.

Fort Schuyler, September 22, 1776.

DEAR GENERAL: Since I had the honour of writing to you last, I have caused *Thomas Mayres's* conduct as a Tory to be examined into by a Court of Inquiry. The witness they collected I have enclosed. I looked upon it to be sufficient to order *Mayres* from this place; accordingly I sent him under guard to Colonel *Elmore*, requesting he would forward him to the Chairman of *Tryon* County Committee.

I have also sent down one *Armstrong* at the same time, who had repeatedly disobeyed my orders, by selling rum to the *Indians* and my men. The *Indians* he has frequently made drunk, and from one he took a gun for a gallon of rum. Yesterday the chiefs and warriors from *Kanonwarohare*, *Hanajhsorage*, *Onoghquage*, amounting to forty, came here in order to establish with me some sure method of speedily conveying intelligence to each other, and show their disapprobation of their men going on scouts with ours; but they very readily agreed that their men should go alone for that purpose.

In the evening, two runners came from the Castle with the war-whoop, who brought, as they said, certain intelligence of Sir *John Johnson's* arrival at *Oswego*, on *Thursday* last, with a large force. They say the person who brought the news to *Onondaga* stayed at *Oswego* until a number of soldiers were landed, and the cannon fired from the vessels, and then run immediately off with the news. The *White Skin*, chief of the *Oneidas*, insisted on my giving this intelligence immediately, and not looking upon it to be false, as the last accounts proved. He gave it me as his opinion that parties would soon be along the *Mohawk* river, and cut off all communication with our friends below. Messengers and parties from *Oneida* are frequently coming in, who undoubtedly expect we should find them provision. As I have not had particular directions on that head, should be glad to know the General's pleasure.

24th. This day *Sconado* came here from the *Oneida* Castle, and informs us that the vessel which was seen at *Oswego* several days ago, fired her guns there, went immediately off, and that she had not any soldiers on board of her. I now send Lieutenant *Gifford* and Ensign *Thomas* and two soldiers to *Albany*, to be examined respecting the embezzlement at *Johnson Hall*.

I am, dear General, your most obedient, humble servant,
ELIAS DAYTON.

To General *Schuyler*.

GENERAL SCHUYLER TO GENERAL GATES.

Albany, October 3, 1776.

DEAR SIR: Your favour of the 30th ultimo came to hand at ten this morning. The shingle nails made here are sent off as fast as they can be procured. I imagined that the boards, which are sawed at *Cheshire's*, were regularly sent to *Skenesborough* to be used there, or if not wanted, forwarded to you. Captain *Varick* goes up to-morrow on a visit to *Tyonderoga*, and will take that route.

It is really astonishing that no further advances should be made in the road to *Cheshire's*, but you have given the reason in your letter, and we have no men to send; part of the *Yorkers* are upon the road between this and *Fort Edward*, and the *Canadians* will not do any duty of any kind. The cables, I hope, are arrived before this, and all the last requisition of cordage is gone or going to-day.

I have directed *Taylor* and *Rensselaer* to transmit you the accounts. I was in hopes Congress would have ordered an abatement on the first coil, as the price is so extravagantly high; but I have not been able to obtain an answer to my request for that purpose.

Whenever the powder or any other military stores come to hand, they shall be forwarded without delay. I have sent an express to Congress with copies of your and General *Arnold's* letters. No carpenters are to be had here.

Lieutenant-Colonel *Buel* came down to settle his accounts. The Commissioners were not ready, and he had my leave of absence for a few days. He is already returned and gone up. I cannot account for the declaration you mention to be made by him. It was with reluctance that he undertook to be an Assistant Deputy Quartermaster-General, and he has repeatedly entreated me for leave to join his regiment, before I could find a person to supply his place.

I cannot think of moving Colonel *Dayton's* corps from *Fort Stanwix*. If I had any troops to spare, I would strengthen that quarter, as all my intelligence agrees that some blow is meditated. The *Cayugas* have already brought away our blacksmith, and the *Oneida Indians*, our friends, are collecting together for their better protection.

As it will be necessary for Colonel *Lewis* to go to *Cheshire's*, to see how things are carrying on there in his department, I wish him to prosecute his journey to this place, that I may give him directions which I trust he will find of service to him in conducting his business, of which he will have plenty as soon as I quit the command; for then the whole of your supplies must depend upon him and Mr. *Avery*.

I suppose in a few days I shall become a private citizen. You will, however, at all times command my best efforts. Adieu.

I am, dear General, your most obedient, humble servant,
PH. SCHUYLER.

To the Hon. General *Gates*.

COLONEL CORTLANDT TO GENERAL GATES.

Skenesborough, October 3, 1776.

DEAR GENERAL: I have at present a slow intermitting fever and jaundice, occasioned by my want of exercise, (I believe,) riding, and change of air, which I formerly much accustomed myself to. And as the hurry of business is at present over at this place, I shall esteem it a great favour, if I may be permitted to take a tour down as far as *Saratoga* or *Albany*, which will take me about six or seven days. I may also have an opportunity to find out the state of the remainder of Colonel *Wynkoop's* regiment, and perhaps purchase some clothes or blankets for my men.

Colonel *Wynkoop*, I fear, will not join us in some time, as the last accounts I had from him were unfavourable.

I may perhaps find it necessary to pay the Colonel a visit, which will take me three days extraordinary. Should it be agreeable to the General, Colonel *Trumbull* will inform me, which will oblige, most sincerely, your obedient, humble servant,
PH. CORTLANDT.

GENERAL GATES TO GENERAL ARNOLD.

Tyonderoga, October 3, 1776.

DEAR GENERAL: Last night I received your letter of the 1st instant by Lieutenant *Calderwood*. Captain *Hawley* carried with him all the seamen that were to be had here when he went from hence. Those who have been procured since, sailed yesterday in the two row-galleys under General *Waterbury's* command, to which were added one hundred and ten men, officers included. Besides the number you determined upon, for the full complement of each row-galley, not one of the two hundred seamen promised from *New-York* has yet arrived here. I now give up the hopes of seeing them for this year.

As to the equipment of the *Trumbull*, I am not answerable for any deficiency. General *Waterbury*, who had the entire management of rigging and arming the galleys, will satisfy all your questions upon that head. I know not how much cordage you wrote for in *July*, or whether it is yet half arrived; but this I know, that General *Waterbury* assured me there was not more than half the quantity necessary, and we shall have much to do to furnish the galley which came last night from *Skenesborough*. Not a cable yet arrived from *Albany*, and those here too bad for use. Captain *Dow*, who perfectly understands fitting of vessels, has my orders to assist Captain in getting his galley equipped with the utmost possible expedition. I am told she will sail in a week, being much better fitted when she left *Skenesborough*, than those who came before her from thence. Colonel *Trumbull* and Mr. Conductor *Lane*, assure me they have put every article that you demanded in your last letter, on board the *Liberty* schooner, except what is not to be had here; where it is not to be had, you and the princes of the earth must go unfurnished. As to any unnecessary delays made by the Captain of the *Liberty*, I refer you to General *Waterbury*. I am told the man was diligent, and that the vessels wanted more caulking than you suspected.

All the clothing we have goes in the *Liberty* schooner, to be delivered to your order.

I have represented to General *Schuyler* and to Congress, the absolute necessity of taking immediate measures to augment our fleet upon this Lake. I suppose so important a business will not be deferred or delayed.

I take it for granted you will consult with General *Waterbury* and Colonel *Wigglesworth*, and with them determine when it is proper season to retire up the Lake. I am confident your and their zeal for the publick service will not suffer you to return one moment sooner than in prudence and good conduct you ought to do it. Perhaps some station nearer *Crown-Point* may, about the time you mention, be proper to be taken; but this must be submitted to your better judgment in maritime affairs.

The Commissary sent, in the galleys which sailed yesterday, fourteen barrels of rum. Six more go now in the *Liberty*; a quantity of fresh beef and other, &c., &c., went by the same conveyance, which Mr. *Yancey* acquainted you with particularly by letter. If you think proper to keep the *Lee* gondola, or any other, to go between *Ty* and the fleet, we can be able to send you supplies in as ample a manner as *Ty* will afford.

I have read and noticed Sergeant *Stiles's* examination. By the enemy's building a battery for heavy cannon at river *La Cole*, I am inclined to suspect they are rather acting upon the defensive; but until the middle of the next month arrives, I shall not entirely give up the probability of seeing them this year.

Colonel *Trumbull* gave you the best account in his power of the transactions in the neighbourhood of *New-York*, as I have constantly done, and as I shall continue to do. Therefore, be satisfied, when you do not hear all you wish, it is because all you wish is not come to my knowledge. There is not a syllable of news, good or bad, since I wrote you yesterday. My affectionate compliments to General *Waterbury* and Colonel *Wigglesworth*, and believe me, dear General, your affectionate, humble servant,

HO. GATES.

To General *Arnold*.

GOVERNOUR TRUMBULL TO COMMODORE HOPKINS.

Lebanon, October 3, 1776.

SIR: I wrote you day before yesterday on the plan for Naval operations, with an eye to what we had conversed upon, in relation to the same then mentioned. Last night received General *Washington's* letter, and one from General *Lincoln*. Have conversed freely with our mutual good friend, *Thaddeus Burr*, Esq., and desired him to communicate any of my thoughts more fully than I have time by writing. Am putting every thing forward in the best manner. Please to promote the forwarding the whale-boats, and give me intelligence as you see fit.

Sir, your obedient, humble servant,

JONATHAN TRUMBULL.

To Commodore *Hopkins*.

PHILIP SKENE TO GOVERNOUR TRUMBULL.

New-Haven, October 3, 1776.

SIR: I was honoured with your letter on *Sunday*, the 30th of *September*, before my matters were regulated for a march. I missed the opportunity of acknowledging the receipt of it, and that I am, sir, your most obedient, humble servant,

PHILIP SKENE.

To Governour *Trumbull*.

GENERAL WARD TO GENERAL WASHINGTON.

Boston, October 3, 1776.

SIR: Several persons who were employed to purchase arms for the Continent, and received money for that purpose, have applied to me to settle their accounts, but, as I was not possessed of the receipts which they gave for the money they received, I could not settle with them.

If your Excellency inclines that I should settle those accounts, you will be pleased to forward copies of those receipts which are necessary for that purpose.

I am your Excellency's obedient, humble servant,

ARTEMAS WARD.

To General *Washington*.

Memorandum of Moneys paid to purchase Arms.

1776.			
January 30.	Colonel <i>Hutchinson</i>	\$	200
February 1.	do. do.....		300
15.	Colonel <i>James Barrett</i>	\$	1000
	<i>Amos Singletary</i>	1333	1-3
	<i>John Hovey</i> , Esq.....	200	
	<i>Joshua Hathaway</i> , Esq.....	1000	
	<i>Drummer Jewett</i> , Esq.....	1000	
	<i>Noah Goodman</i>	1300	
	Captain <i>Abner Ellis</i>	1000	
	Colonel <i>Edward Mitchell</i>	1000	
		7,833	1-3
16.	Major <i>Putnam</i>	800	
19.	Colonel <i>Paterson</i>	302	18-72
20.	do. do.....	400	
22.	Colonel <i>James Reed</i>	383	1-6
23.	Colonel <i>Starks</i>	300	
13.	Messrs. <i>Cranson, Caldwell, and Ellis</i>	632	
		\$	11,150 54-72
27.	Colonel <i>Wyllis</i>	\$	500
	Colonel <i>Little</i>	500	
	Colonel <i>Paterson</i>	500	
	Lieut. Col. <i>Poor</i> , for Col. <i>Starks</i>	500	
		2,000	
28.	Colonel <i>Phinney</i>	500	
March 1.	Major <i>Knowlton</i>	\$	500
	Colonel <i>Wyllis</i>	1049	6-72
	Colonel <i>Varnum</i>	500	
		2,049	6-72
2.	Colonel <i>Sargent</i>	500	
	Colonel <i>Bond</i>	500	
		1,000	
4.	Colonel <i>Parsons</i>	500	
6.	Colonel <i>Hitchcock</i>	500	
9.	Colonel <i>Poor</i>	500	
12.	Lieutenant-Colonel <i>Seth Reid</i>	400	
13.	Colonel <i>Huntington</i>	500	
14.	Colonel <i>Greaton</i>	500	
	Colonel <i>Nixon</i>	161	1-6
	do. do.....	759	68-72
	Major <i>Crane</i>	588	1-2
	Colonel <i>Webb</i>	500	
		2,509	44-72
15.	Colonel <i>Bailey</i>	826	5-8
	Colonel <i>Bond</i>	47	1-6
		873	57-72
16.	Colonel <i>Prescott</i>	491	22-72
20.	Colonel <i>Baldwin</i>	662	38-72
20.	Colonel <i>Glover</i>	500	
22.	Major <i>Ezra Putnam</i>	51	
23.	Colonel <i>Bailey</i>	289	5-6
		1,994	2-3
29.	Lieutenant <i>Nason</i>	98	2-3
	Lieutenant-Colonel <i>Putnam</i>	497	2-3
	Colonel <i>Baldwin</i>	400	
	Colonel <i>Ward</i>	400	
	Colonel <i>Glover</i>	1000	
19.	Colonel <i>Read</i>	339	66-72
		2,736	18-72
April 1.	Captain <i>Bacon</i>	150	5-6
3.	Colonel <i>Ebenezer Learned</i>	439	
		\$	27,803 71-72

Drawn out and transmitted to Colonel *Warren*.

1776.			
May 16.	Colonel <i>Daniel Hitchcock</i>	\$	750
June 15.	Colonel <i>James Mitchell Varnum</i>	1,000	

Memorandum of sundry payments for Arms, viz: stopped from the Reg. old Establishment.

1776.			
January 2.	31st Regiment, <i>Phinney's</i>	\$	1303 34-36
	1st do., Lieut. Col. <i>Bricket's</i>	863	5-6
	10th do., Major <i>Wood's</i>	94	1-3
		\$	2,262 6-72
4.	27th do., Colonel <i>Bridges's</i>	448	7-18
7.	30th do., Colonel <i>Scammons's</i>	472	1-6
8.	36th do., Colonel <i>Greaton's</i>	711	1-2
	28th do., Colonel <i>Sargent's</i>	538	
16.	38th do., Colonel <i>Baldwin's</i>	199	4-9
	25th do., <i>Woodbridge's</i> , paid Captain <i>Pearl</i> ..	39	1-2
20.	38th do., <i>Baldwin's</i>	241	6-72
22.	5th do., <i>Nixon's</i>	711	4-9
		5,623	44-72
12.	26th do., <i>Paterson's</i>	\$	1017 1-3
February 1.	3d do., <i>James Reed's</i>	394	20-72
		1,411	44-72
5.	11th do., <i>Poor's</i>	\$	355 26-72
	14th do., <i>Hitchcock's</i>	1882	2-3
		2,238	2-12
6.	15th do., <i>Church's</i>	\$	622 1-2
13.	39th do., <i>Webb's</i>	2248	21-72
		2,870	57-72
21.	34th do., Major <i>Knowlton's</i>	2,517	1-2
23.	37th do., Colonel <i>Bond's</i>	1,454	5-6
24.	29th do., Colonel <i>Huntington's</i>	\$	1572
	13th do., Colonel <i>Parsons's</i>	2664	66-72
		4,236	66-72
26.	Captain <i>Trowbridge</i>		\$
27.	Colonel <i>Wiley's</i>	2389	1-6
March 9.	Colonel <i>Little</i>	1569	2-3
14.	Colonel <i>Hutchinson</i>	889	1-6

March 15.	Colonel Bailey.....	834	
16.	Colonel Learned.....	1075	1-2
23.	Colonel Walter.....	127	1-6
	Colonel Glover.....	237	1-18
27.	Colonel Pitkin.....	270	
29.	Colonel Ward.....	1077	1-2
		8,469	16-72
		29,253	49-72
29.	Major Thomas Pearce.....	114	1-2
30.	Colonel Varnum.....	1684	5-6
	do. do.....	132	2-3
		1,932	
		31,185	49-72
19.	Colonel Joseph Reed.....	872	61-72
		\$32,057	61-72
Drawn out and transmitted to Colonel Warren.			

Boston, October 3, 1776.

Yesterday was sent into this harbour, by the *Columbus* ship-of-war, Captain *Whipple*, a brig from *Antigua*, bound for *Europe*, with two hundred and fifty hogsheads of rum.

A ship from *Jamaica* was also sent into *Cape Ann* last Monday, said to have been taken by a *Rhode-Island* privateer.

Monday last was sent into *Cape Ann*, a prize ship, three-decker, from *Barbadoes*, bound to *London*, taken by Captain *Coas*, in the *Warren*. She has on board three hundred and ninety-four hogsheads sugar, one hundred and eighty puncheons rum, twenty casks indigo, seventy live tortoise, six casks tortoise shell, fifty bags cotton, some cash and plate, and a quantity mahogany.

ROBERT GORDON TO THOMAS WHITE.

Cork, Ireland, October 4, 1776.

SIR: I beg leave to send you the following information, which may be depended upon: Three *American* privateers sailed from *Salem* in *July* last, for the Western Islands of *Madeira*, to wait for the outward-bound *West-Indiamen*; one sailed the same time to the Straits, and two others to our *Irish Channel*, to intercept the linen ships; the latter carry eight guns each, and seventy-five men. I request you will lay this letter, with my humble duty, before his Excellency the Lord Lieutenant, and request a copy may be sent forward to *England*.

I am, sir, &c., ROBERT GORDON, Commissary.

To Thomas White, Esq.

CAPTAIN COOKE TO MARYLAND COUNCIL OF SAFETY.

Ship-of-war Defence, at Sea, October 4, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: I have the pleasure to inform you by Captain *Brown*, whom I've sent prize-master of a snow belonging to *Glasgow*, from the Bay of *Honduras*, loaded with mahogany and some logwood, bound to *Cork*, which we this morning made a prize of; at the same time took a sloop from *St. Augustine*, bound to *Liverpool*. She has no cargo on board, except a little indigo. Their papers, with a large packet of letters, belonging to the sloop, you'll receive per Mr. *Walker*, who I've made prize-master.

I'm informed by Captain *Bolton*, master of the snow, that he was boarded by a boat belonging to a twenty-two gun ship, the 1st of this instant, who inquired of him if the *Jamaica* fleet had sailed; he likewise says there was another ship of twenty-four guns, the names of neither he does not remember. We are also informed by two passengers from the sloop, that the *Otter*, *Squires*, and tender, the schooner *Kinderhook*, *Elliss*, and three small schooners, with four and six guns, are stationed off *St. Augustine*. The *Cherokee*, of six four-pounders, the *Raven*, of sixteen six-pounders, and the *Sphinx*, of twenty nine-pounders, stationed off *Coxspur*, in *Georgia*. Which is all the intelligence I have got at present.

I have the honour to be, gentlemen, your most obedient and humble servant,

GEO. COOKE.

To the honourable Council of Safety of Maryland, at Annapolis.

P. S. The two passengers above mentioned, I've sent in the sloop, and am in hopes they'll be able to give you some satisfactory intelligence.

G. C.

PRESIDENT OF CONGRESS TO GENERAL WASHINGTON.

Philadelphia, October 4, 1776.

SIR: The enclosed resolves will inform you of the steps the Congress are taking to provide for the army. They are so explicit that I need only refer your attention to them; and indeed this is all I have time to do at present. By General *Mifflin*, who will set out to-morrow or next day, I shall do myself the pleasure to write you fully.

I have the honour to be, with the greatest esteem, sir, your most obedient and very humble servant,

JOHN HANCOCK, President.

To His Excellency General Washington.

Enclosed you have Colonel *Shephard's* commission. The vacancy of Colonel, in room of the late Colonel *Stephenson*, is ordered to be kept for Mr. *Morgan*, agreeable to your recommendation.

PRESIDENT OF CONGRESS TO GENERAL SCHUYLER.

Philadelphia, October 4, 1776.

SIR: It is with the greatest pleasure I transmit the enclosed resolves, in which you will perceive that the Congress have fully expressed their sense of your past conduct, and their determination to do your character that justice which you have a right to expect from them. At the same time Congress cannot give their consent to your retiring from the army in its present situation. Such a step would give your enemies occasion to exult, as they might suppose you were induced to take it from an apprehension of the truth and reality of their charge against you. The unmerited reproaches of ignorance and mistaken zeal are infinitely over-balanced by the satisfaction arising from a conscious integrity. As long, therefore, as you can wrap yourself in your innocence, I flatter myself you will not pay so great a regard to the calumnies of your enemies as to deprive your country of any services which you may have it in your power to render her.

I have the honour to be, with the greatest esteem and respect, sir, your most obedient and very humble servant,

JOHN HANCOCK, President.

To General Schuyler, Albany.

MARINE COMMITTEE TO WILLIAM BINGHAM.

Philadelphia, October 4, 1776.

SIR: You have herein a memorandum from the Commissioners of the Continental Store for sundry articles wanted for our navy. If you can send the whole or any part back by the sloop *Independence*, do; but if you cannot get them, send forward this list and the files to Mr. *Thomas Morris*, with this letter, requesting him to ship as soon as possible and charge the amount to the Secret Committee.

We are, sir, your humble servants.

To William Bingham, Esq.

JOHN ADAMS TO MRS. ADAMS.

Philadelphia, October 4, 1776.

I am seated in a large library-room, with eight gentlemen round about me, all engaged in conversation. Amidst these interruptions, how shall I make it out to write a letter?

The 1st day of *October*, the day appointed by the charter of *Pennsylvania* for the annual election of Representatives, has passed away, and two Counties only have chosen members, *Bucks* and *Chester*. The Assembly is therefore dead, and the Convention is dissolved. A new Convention is to be chosen the beginning of *November*. The proceedings of the late Convention are not well liked by the best of the Whigs. Their constitution is reprobated, and the oath with which they have endeavoured to prop it, by obliging every man to swear that he will not add to, or diminish from, or any way alter that constitution, before he can vote, is execrated.*

* TO THE PEOPLE OF PENNSYLVANIA: I do not mean to take up your time in pointing out the injustice, tyranny, and cruelty of several of the ordinances of the late Convention of this State, much less shall I dwell upon the absurdities and danger of their visionary Constitution. I beg your attention only to the oath which they have prescribed for us in their last ordinance, for appointing a day for the election of an Assembly. It is as follows: "I. A. B., swear (or affirm) that I never will do any act or thing prejudicial or injurious to the Constitution or Government of *Pennsylvania*, as established by the Convention."

We live in the age of political experiments. Among many that will fail, some, I hope, will succeed. But *Pennsylvania* will be divided and weakened, and rendered much less vigorous in the cause by the wretched ideas of government which prevail in the minds of many people in it.

NEW-JERSEY.

An Act to punish Traitors and Disaffected Persons.

Whereas, in the present time of danger, the safety of the people more especially requires that all persons who are so wicked as to devise the destruction of good government, or to aid or assist the enemies of the State, shall suffer condign punishment. And whereas all persons abiding within this State, and deriving protection from the laws thereof, do owe allegiance to the Government of this State, established under the authority of the people, and are to be deemed as members thereof: and all persons passing through, visiting, or making a temporary stay in this State, being entitled to the protection of the law during such passage, visitation, or temporary stay, do owe, during the same time, allegiance to this Government:

1. *Be it enacted by the Council and General Assembly of this State, and it is hereby enacted by the authority of the same,* That every person who is a member of, or owes allegiance to this Government as before described, and who, from and after the publication hereof, shall levy war against this State within the same, or be adherent to the King of *Great Britain*, or others the enemies of this State within the same, or to the enemies of the *United States of North America*, giving to him or them aid or comfort, or by giving to him or them advice or intelligence, either by letters, messages, words, signs, or tokens, or in any way whatsoever, or by procuring for, or furnishing to him or them any kind of provisions or warlike stores, and thereof shall be probably attainted of open deed by people of his or her condition,

In the Commonwealth of *Virginia* the Convention adjourned after publishing a plan of their Government, and did not ordain it to be final, till they found, by consulting their constituents in every state, that it was agreeable to them. Even by the new Constitution of *Pennsylvania*, no law can be proposed and passed in the same session, although that law is afterwards liable to be repealed in less than a year. But by the foregoing test a frame of Government is forced upon us without our consent, and without the interval of an adjournment to consider of it. Every man of sense in the State complains of its imperfections, and yet in order to entitle himself to the privilege of an elector, he must swear or affirm that he will never "directly" or "indirectly" expose these imperfections, or propose an amendment of them. The present situation of our affairs requires union and vigour in all our proceedings, and an uncommon degree of tenderness to the ancient prejudices and habits of the people of *Pennsylvania*. But alas! the Constitution of *Pennsylvania* excludes them all. The *British* Parliament held up slavery to us, but it never enacted a law to forbid our complaining of it. We are now bound to submit to a Government full of dangerous experiments, wholly unlike our former Constitution, for seven years, or forfeit the greatest privilege of a freeman—the privilege of choosing his rulers. I hope the virtue and good sense of *Pennsylvania* will be roused by such proceedings. The honour of the cause in which we have embarked with our sister States is at stake. The voice of the people can abrogate tyrannical frames of Government, as well as tyrannical laws. Remember, my countrymen, that slavery is a potion equally bitter, whether it comes to us through the hands of Lord *North*, Lord *Howe*, or my Lords the members of the Convention.

PHILADELPHIA, October 2, 1776.

BRUTUS.

TO BRUTUS.

SIR: You assert that the several ordinances passed by the honourable Convention, are unjust, tyrannical, and cruel, and that their frame of Government is absurd, dangerous, and visionary. I have examined both with some degree of attention, and cannot perceive what part you allude to. You will oblige much in pointing out the particulars, and assigning your reasons for thinking them such. *Brutus* would not have us take all he says for gospel, though he asserts it in as warm a tone as *Jonas* did his resentment against the Almighty for smiting his gourd. Truth and calmness will prevail over heat and error; therefore prove your assertions coolly, and it will have a much greater effect on the people of *Pennsylvania* than blustering noise without meaning. I call upon you to prove your assertions, or acknowledge your fault like a gentleman.

You assert, for you deaf in assertion, that the oath of allegiance prescribed in the frame of Government, amounts to swearing that we "never" will, directly nor indirectly, expose its imperfections, nor propose an amendment, though every man of sense complains of these imperfections. Passing by the artful insertion of the word "never," into your copy of the oath, which is not to be found elsewhere, I would beg your indulgence, while I show to the people whom you address, how little you regarded truth and the fact in this comment.

The Constitution of *Pennsylvania* consists of a Declaration of Rights and Frame of Government, each of which contains several sections. Now, an oath to the whole Constitution, is an oath to each and every particular part of it; what is true of the whole, being true of the parts composing it. Let us then apply your comment to the fact, and take the oath to any one section.

The oath applied to the second section in the Declaration of Rights

FIFTH SERIES.—VOL. II.

shall be adjudged guilty of high treason, and be punished accordingly, saving the corruption of blood.

2. *And be it enacted by the authority aforesaid,* That if any person who is a member of this State, or owes allegiance to this Government as before described, shall, from and after the publication hereof, by any speech, writing, open deed or act, advisedly and wittingly maintain and defend the authority, jurisdiction, or power of the King or Parliament of *Great Britain*, heretofore claimed or used within this State, or shall attribute any such authority, jurisdiction, or power to the King or Parliament of *Great Britain*, the persons so offending, being duly convicted thereof, shall be punished by fine and imprisonment at the discretion of the Court, so that the fine exceed not three hundred pounds, nor the imprisonment the term of one year. And if any such offender, after such conviction as aforesaid, shall commit the said offences, or any of them, in manner and form aforesaid, and be thereof duly convicted, he or she shall be set in the pillory, and imprisoned for any term not exceeding one year.

3. *And be it enacted by the authority aforesaid,* That any person who shall maliciously and advisedly revile or speak contemptuously of the Government of this State, or of the honourable Congress of the *United States of America*, or of the measures adopted by the said Congress, or by the Legislature of this State, or who shall maliciously and advisedly say or do any thing whatever which will encourage disaffection, or manifestly tend to raise tumults and disorders in the State, or who shall maliciously and advisedly spread such false rumours concerning the *American* forces, or the forces of the enemy, as will tend to alienate the affections of the people from the Government, or to terrify or discourage the good subjects of this State, or to dispose them to favour the pretensions of the enemy; every person so offending shall be punished with fine and imprisonment in manner aforesaid.

would run thus: "I do swear (or affirm) that I will be true and faithful to the Commonwealth of *Pennsylvania*; and that I will not, directly or indirectly, do any act or thing prejudicial or injurious to the natural and unalienable right which all men have of worshipping Almighty God according to the dictates of their own consciences and understandings," &c. Does this admit of your comments?

If taken to the twelfth article of the same, which is exactly in point, it will run thus: "I do swear," &c., "that I will not, directly or indirectly, do any act or thing prejudicial or injurious to the right of the people to freedom of speech, and of writing and publishing their sentiments; nor will I restrain the freedom of the press." And so for any other article in the Declaration.

Let us try the Frame of Government, &c. Take it to the second article, and it will be as follows: "I do swear," &c., "that I will not, directly or indirectly, do any act or thing prejudicial or injurious to the supreme legislative power being vested in a House of Representatives of the freemen of the Commonwealth or State of *Pennsylvania*, unless it shall hereafter, on experience, be found to require improvement or stand in need of amendment, in which case I will, as the Constitution directs in the forty-seventh section of the Frame of Government, lend my aid and assistance to effect such improvement as far as is necessary for the preservation of the rights and happiness of the people." Thus let the oath be taken to any or every article of the Constitution, and it will be so far from favouring your commentary, that it enforces the very contrary.

Experience begets wisdom, and provision is made to men by experience; for it is not only expressly provided in the Constitution that every article which experience shall prove to be defective or improper, shall be improved and amended, but the declaration of its establishment runs in these remarkable words: "We, the Representatives of the freemen of *Pennsylvania*, met for the express purpose of framing a Government on the authority of the people only, do, by virtue of the authority vested in us by our constituents, ordain, declare, and establish the following Declaration of Rights and Frame of Government, to be the Constitution of this Commonwealth, and to remain in force forever, unaltered, except in such articles as shall hereafter on experience be found to require improvement, and which shall, by the same authority of the people, fairly delegated as this Frame of Government directs, be amended, or improved for the more effectual obtaining and securing the great end and design of all government herein before mentioned;" viz: the happiness of the people.

As well, therefore, might *Brutus* make his inference, as some people do, that the Convention has denied the God of the Christians, by establishing the divinity of the Scriptures of the Old and New Testament, as if there was no account of the Christian's God to be found in the Bible.

The Constitution is now formed and the Convention dissolved; the last attempt to defeat all our measures is to prevent an election. Other Conventions either resolved themselves into Assemblies, and undertook to appoint the officers of State, though not appointed for that purpose; or sat until it took place. Our Convention trusting to the virtue of their countrymen, on finishing their work dissolved themselves. Our enemies, if they could prevent an election under the new form, would gain their point, as all things must in consequence run into immediate confusion. *Brutus* appeals to the people, and hopes to prevail on them by misrepresentation and artifice to effect this, by making them believe that an oath which can prevent none but our enemies from voting, is arbitrary and criminal. I leave it to them to whom you appeal, to form a judgment of your principles and designs.

A FRIEND TO TRUTH AND THE PEOPLE.

4. *And be it further enacted by the authority aforesaid,* That any two Justices of the Peace shall, and they hereby are empowered and directed to convene, by summons or warrant, any person whatsoever, whom they shall suspect to be dangerous or disaffected to the present Government, and to tender and administer to him the oaths of abjuration and allegiance, set forth in an act entitled "An act for the security of the Government of *New-Jersey*," passed the 19th of *September*, 1776. And if any person to whom the said oath shall be tendered, shall neglect or refuse to take the same, the said Justices shall bind him over, with sufficient sureties, to appear at the next Court of General Quarter Sessions of the Peace, and to be in the meanwhile of good behaviour, and in default of sufficient sureties, or on refusal to be bound, the said Justices are hereby empowered and directed to commit such offender to close gaol, and certify the same, with the cause of commitment, under their hands and seals, to the next Court of General Quarter Sessions of the Peace, where, if such offender refuse to take the said oaths, he shall continue bound to his good behaviour, or be fined, or imprisoned, as the said Court shall deem necessary.

EXTRACT OF A LETTER FROM HEAD-QUARTERS AT BERGEN,
DATED OCTOBER 4, 1776.

To-morrow we evacuate *Bergen*, a measure which will at first be condemned, and afterwards approved of. For my own part, I am sorry that the enemy should possess another inch of *American* ground, but prudence requires a further sacrifice. The reasons of leaving this place I take to be these: *Bergen* is a narrow neck of land, accessible on three sides by water, and exposed to a variety of attacks in different places at one and the same time. A large body of the enemy might infallibly take possession of the place whenever they pleased, unless we kept a stronger force than our numbers will allow. The spot itself is not an object of their arms: if they attacked, it would be to cut off those who defended it, and secure the grain and military stores. These have been removed; and when we are gone, a naked spot is all they will find. No other damage will follow, except a depression of some people's spirits, who, unacquainted with places, circumstances, and the secret reasons of such relinquishments, are apt to despond as if every thing was lost. We go to *Fort Constitution* as soon as we have seen the troops marched off. We shall leave a guard of observation behind us: this may prevent the enemy's discovering our removal for a day or two.

GENERAL WASHINGTON TO PRESIDENT OF CONGRESS.

[Read October 8, 1776.]

Harlem, October 4, 1776.

SIR: Before I knew of the late resolutions of Congress, which you did me the honour to enclose in your letter of the 24th, and before I was favoured with the visit of your Committee, I took the liberty of giving you my sentiments on several points which seemed to me to be of importance.

I have no doubt but the Committee will make such report of the state and condition of the army as will induce Congress to believe that nothing but the most vigorous exertions can put matters upon such a footing as to give this Continent a fair prospect of success. Give me leave to say, sir, (I say it with due deference and respect, and my knowledge of the facts, added to the importance of the cause and the stake I hold in it, must justify the freedom,) that your affairs are in a more unpromising way than you seem to apprehend.

Your army, as I mentioned in my last, is upon the eve of political dissolution. True it is, you have voted a larger one in lieu of it; but the season is late, and there is a material difference between voting of battalions, and raising of men. In the latter there are more difficulties than Congress are aware of, which makes it my duty, as I have been informed of the prevailing sentiment of the army, to inform them that unless the pay of the officers, especially that of the Field Officers, is raised, the chief part of those that are worth retaining will leave the service at the expiration of the present term, as the soldiers will also, if some greater encouragement is not offered them than twenty dollars and one hundred acres of land.

Nothing less in my opinion than a suit of clothes, annually given to each non-commissioned officer and soldier, in addition to the pay and bounty, will avail; and I question whether that will do, as the enemy, from the information of one *John Nash*, who with six others were taken by our guards, are giving ten pounds bounty for recruits, and have got a battalion under Major *Rogers* nearly completed, upon *Long-Island*.

Nor will less pay, according to my judgment, than I have taken the liberty of mentioning in the enclosed estimate, retain such officers as we could wish to have continued. The difference per month in each battalion will amount to better than one hundred pounds; to this may be added the pay of the Staff Officers, for it is presumable that they will also require an augmentation; but being few in number, the sum will not be greatly increased by them, and consequently is a matter of no great moment; but it is a matter of no small importance to make the several offices desirable. When the pay and establishment of an officer once become objects of interested attention, the sloth, negligence, and even disobedience of orders, which at this time but too generally prevails, will be purged off; but while the service is viewed with indifference, while the officer conceives that he is rather conferring than receiving an obligation, there will be a total relaxation of all order and discipline, and every thing will move heavily on, to the great detriment of the service, and inexpressible trouble and vexation of the General.

The critical situation of our affairs at this time will justify my saying that no time is to be lost in making of fruitless experiments. An unavailing trial of a month to get an army upon the terms proposed, may render it impracticable to do it at all, and prove fatal to our cause, as I am not sure whether any rubs in the way of our enlistments, or unfavourable turn in our affairs, may not prove the means of the enemy recruiting men faster than we do. To this may be added the inextricable difficulty of forming one corps out of another, and arranging matters with any degree of order in the face of an enemy who are watching for advantages.

At *Cambridge*, last year, where the officers (and more than a sufficiency of them) were all upon the spot, we found it a work of such extreme difficulty to know their sentiments, each having some terms to propose, that I despaired once of getting the arrangements completed, and do suppose that at least a hundred alterations took place before matters were finally adjusted. What must it be, then, under the present regulation, where the officer is to negotiate this matter with the State he comes from, distant perhaps two or three hundred miles, some of whom, without leave or license from me, set out to make personal application the moment the resolve got to their hands? What kind of officers these are, I leave Congress to judge.

If an officer of reputation—for none others should be applied to—is asked to stay, what answer can he give, but in the first place, that he does not know whether it is at his option to do so, no provision being made in the resolution of Congress even recommendatory of this measure, consequently that it rests with the State he comes from (surrounded perhaps with a variety of applications and influenced probably by local attachments) to determine whether he can be provided for or not. In the next place, if he is an officer of merit, and knows that the State he comes from is to furnish more battalions than it at present has in the service, he will scarcely after two years' faithful services, think of continuing in the rank he now bears, when new creations are to be made, and men appointed to offices (noways superior in merit, and ignorant perhaps of service) over his head. A committee sent to the army from each State may, upon the spot, fix things with a degree of propriety and certainty, and is the only method I can see of bringing matters to a decision, with respect to the officers of the army; but what can be done in the meanwhile towards the arrangement in the country, I know not. In the one case you run the hazard of losing your officers, in the other of encountering delay, unless some method could be devised of forwarding both at the same instant.

Upon the present plan I plainly foresee an intervention of time between the old and new army, which must be filled with Militia, if to be had, with whom no man who has any regard for his own reputation can undertake to be

answerable for consequences. I shall also be mistaken in my conjectures if we shall not lose the most valuable officers in this army, under the present mode of appointing them; consequently, if we have an army at all, it will be composed of materials not only entirely raw, but if uncommon pains is not taken, entirely unfit; and I see such a distrust and jealousy of military power, that the Commander-in-Chief has not an opportunity, even by recommendation, to give the least assurances of reward for the most essential services. In a word, such a cloud of perplexing circumstances appear before me, without one flattering hope, that I am thoroughly convinced, unless the most vigorous and decisive exertions are immediately adopted to remedy these evils, that the certain and absolute loss of our liberties will be the inevitable consequence, as one unhappy stroke will throw a powerful weight into the scale against us, enabling General Howe to recruit his army as fast as we shall ours, numbers being disposed, and many actually doing so already. Some of the most probable remedies, and such as experience has brought to my more immediate knowledge, I have taken the liberty to point out; the rest I beg leave to submit to the consideration of Congress.

I ask pardon for taking up so much of their time with my opinions; but I should betray the trust which they and my country have reposed in me, were I to be silent upon a matter so extremely interesting.

With the most perfect esteem, I have the honour to be their and your most obedient and most humble servant,

Go. WASHINGTON.

To the Hon. John Hancock, President of Congress.

GENERAL WASHINGTON TO GENERAL SCHUYLER.

Head-Quarters, Harlem Heights, October 4, 1776.

DEAR SIR: I last night received the favour of your letter of the 30th ultimo, and am happy that you have got the directions of Congress upon the subject of barracks, as it is high time they should be begun where they are wanted. The nails that are necessary I cannot supply.

In respect to Major Edmondston's request, I cannot consent to his coming here. You may inform him that a general exchange of prisoners is now in agitation, and when it is ready to be executed, he, no doubt, will have proper notice of it.

I am in hopes that the expedition by way of Oswego, that was talked of, is not intended, as the season begins to grow late.

The situation of our affairs here is much the same as when I last wrote, which leaves me only to add that I am, dear sir, &c.,

Go. WASHINGTON.

To Major-General Schuyler, Northern Department.

COLONEL HARRISON TO GENERAL HEATH.

Head-Quarters, Harlem Heights, October 4, 1776.

SIR: I am commanded by his Excellency to inform you that you may permit Captain Douglass, with the part of the company he has with him, to join the battalion to which he belongs, directing him, however, to apply to General Mercer for his particular orders, and a different disposition, if he should conceive it necessary.

I am, sir, your humble servant,

ROB. H. HARRISON.

To Major-General Heath.

COLONEL REED TO GENERAL HEATH.

October 4, 1776.

SIR: Captain Maroney, the late Provost-Marshal, having abdicated his office and absented himself without leave from camp, another person is appointed in his stead. As he has a horse, saddle, and bridle, belonging to the publick, and some effects belonging to prisoners, in his possession, I should be much obliged to you to have inquiry made after him, and order him either down here or to deliver up what he has. Zedwitz's cane, sword, and some other things, are in his possession.

I am, sir, your most obedient, humble servant,

JOS. REED, Adjutant-General.

To Major-General Heath.

TENCH TILGHMAN TO WILLIAM DUER.

Head-Quarters, Harlem Heights, October 4, 1776.

DEAR SIR: If the enemy do not make some move soon, our materials for carrying on a correspondence will be exhausted, for I think the sum and substance of most of my letters is that things remain *in statu quo*. If we can keep them at that point, our business will be effectually done. General Lee may be hourly expected. I shall not be surprised to see Mifflin, who has taken a start to Philadelphia on business, return with him in his hand. You have a very just idea of Greene's importance. He is, beyond a doubt, a first rate military genius, and one in whose opinions the General places the utmost confidence. He is so near us that he can give every assistance in the way of advice, and should the enemy relinquish their plan against the Jersey side, he can also be spared to attend in time of action.

There are now five ships in the North River, opposite Greenwich. What their intentions are, cannot be descried from any thing that has yet appeared. The season for ships to leave the river and seek docks approaches fast. I suppose the men-of-war will not choose to remain in the Bay of New-York the whole winter. If we could once get rid of them, I should not value their land forces.

I am your most obedient servant,

TENCH TILGHMAN.

RETURNS OF OFFICERS.

A list of the Officers in Colonel CHESTER's Regiment, returned agreeable to general orders of the 3d instant.

Capt. Bacon,	- - -	Present, fit for duty.
Capt. Sedgwick,	- - -	do.
Capt. Welles,	- - -	Sick, present.
Capt. Seymour,	- - -	Fit for duty.
Capt. Lyon,	- - -	do.
Capt. Marcy,	- - -	Sick, absent.
Capt. Isham,	- - -	Fit for duty.
Capt. Barrows,	- - -	Sick, present.
First Lieut. Bacon,	-	In the Ranging Regiment.
First Lieut. Hurbut,	-	Present, under an arrest.
First Lieut. Bulkley,	-	Present, fit for duty.
First Lieut. Bernard,	-	do.
First Lieut. Childs,	-	On command, in the mason's employment.
First Lieut. Chamberlain,	-	On command, in the carpenter's work.
First Lieut. Dunham,	-	On command, overseeing the sick.
Second Lieut. Rust,	-	Present, fit for duty.
Second Lieut. Skinner,	-	Sick, present.
Second Lieut. Wright,	-	do.
Second Lieut. Curtis,	-	Present, fit for duty.
Second Lieut. Kimball,	-	do.
Second Lieut. Marcy,	-	On command, in carpenter's work.
Second Lieut. Trumbull,	-	Present, fit for duty.
Second Lieut. Campbell,	-	do.
Ensign Cleveland,	- -	In the Ranging Regiment.
Ensign Winchel,	- -	Present, fit for duty.
Ensign Mason,	- -	do.
Ensign Knowlton,	- -	In the Ranging Regiment.
Ensign Sessions,	- -	Present, fit for duty.
Ensign Ransom,	- -	do.

N. B. Two Ensigns have been lately discharged.

TOTAL, AS MENTIONED ABOVE.

Present, fit for duty,	- -	5 Captains and 11 Subalterns.
Sick, present,	- - -	2 ditto, - - 2 do.
Sick, absent,	- - -	1 do. - - 0 do.
Rangers,	- - -	0 - - - 3 do.
In arrest,	- - -	0 - - - 1 do.
On command,	- - -	0 - - - 4 do.
Total,	- - -	8 - - - 21

Test:

B. TALLMADGE.

Camp near King's Bridge, October 4, 1776.

FIELD OFFICERS.

Colonel Chester,	- - - - -	Present, fit for duty.
Lieut. Colonel Willes,	- - - - -	do.
Major Ripley,	- - - - -	Absent on furlough.

STAFF OFFICERS.
Adjutant Abbey, - - - - - Present, fit for duty.
Quartermaster Bulkley, - - - - - do.
Surgeon Crocker, - - - - - do.
Mate Cobb, - - - - - do.

A list of the names of all the Commissioned Officers in Colonel NEWCOMB'S Regiment, in General HAND'S Brigade, now in camp, October 4, 1776.

CAPTAINS.	FIRST LIEUTENANTS.	SECOND LIEUTENANTS.	ENSIGNS.
Abram Dubois, William Kelsey, Samuel Ogden, George Anderson, Allen Congleton, Benjamin Whitall.	Sithan, Mills, - Kinsey, Holmes, Hametts.	Smith, Mulford, Sheppard, Jones, Loyd, Mitchell, Inskip.	Harris, Peck, Tyrell, Weyman, McFarland, Comron, Hampton.

Sick, unfit for duty, Capt. Whitall and Capt. Anderson.
Sick, unfit for duty, Lieut. Loyd, Lieut. Inskip, Lieut. Sheppard, Ensign Tyrell, Ensign Hampton.
Captain Matlack, sick, absent; Lieut. Shaw, sick, absent; Lieut. Borden, sick, absent.

A list of the names of the Officers in Colonel NICOLL'S Regiment, 4th October, 1776.

Col. Isaac Nicoll, - - - - - Present, fit for duty.
Col. Gilbert Gasper, - - - - - Present, sick..
Major Thomas Moffat, - - - - - Present, fit for duty.
Capt. Joshua Brown, - - - - - Present, sick.
Lieut. Henry Brewster, absent on command to get clothes for Capt. Brown's Company.
Lieut. Adj. Stephen Howells, - - Present, fit for duty.
Capt. Samuel Raymond, - - - - - Present, fit for duty.
Lieut. Richard Langdon, - - - - - Present, fit for duty.
Lieut. William Horton, - - - - - Absent, sick.
Capt. John Wood, - - - - - Present, sick.
Lieut. Jacob Dunning, - - - - - Present, fit for duty.
Lieut. Israel Wells, - - - - - Present, fit for duty.
Capt. William Blain, - - - - - Present, fit for duty.
Lieut. Thomas Sears, - - - - - Present, fit for duty.
Lieut. David Rogers, - - - - - Absent, wounded.
Capt. John Little, - - - - - Present, fit for duty.
Lieut. John Nantill, absent on command to get clothes for the Company.
Lieut. Samuel Cole, - - - - - Present, fit for duty.
Capt. James Smith, - - - - - Present, fit for duty.
Lieut. Barent Martin, - - - - - Present, fit for duty.
Capt. John Wisner, - - - - - Present under arrest.
Lieut. Abraham Dolson, - - - - - Present, fit for duty.
Lieut. Obediah Gore, - - - - - Present, fit for duty.
Capt. Underdonck and Capt. Deronder, with the subalterns and companies under their command, at Peekskill.
Stephen Howell, Adjutant,
Benjamin Walworth, Quartermaster, } Present.
Henry White, Surgeon.

STEPHEN HOWELL, Adjutant.

King's Bridge, October 4, 1776.

A true state of the Officers belonging to Colonel JACOBUS SWARTWOUT'S Regiment, viz :

Lieut. Col. Thompson, - On command at Peekskill.
Major William Mott, - - In camp.
Captain Colkin, - - - In camp.
Captain Van Wyck, - - - do.
Captain Veal, - - - - On furlough.
Captain Ludenton, - - Absent, on whose order unknown.
Captain Pearce, - - - On furlough.
Captain Swartwout, - - In camp.
Captain Duryee, - - - do.
Captain Schenck, - - - At Morris Sea.
Captain Godwin, - - - In camp.
Captain Lane, - - - - In camp, and just arrived from furlough.
Lieutenant Crane, - - - In camp.
Lieutenant Hill, - - - In camp.

Lieutenant Smith, - - - Sick in camp.
Lieutenant Bayly, - - - On furlough.
Lieutenant Plat, - - - In camp.
Lieutenant Hyat, - - - do.
Lieutenant Towsend, - - do.
Lieutenant Munrows, - - At Morris Sea.
Lieutenant Butler, - - - On furlough.
Lieutenant Eliot, - - - In camp.
Lieutenant Mott, - - - do.
Lieutenant Dodge, - - - At Morris Sea.
Lieutenant Lawrence, - - In camp.
Lieutenant Horton, - - - Main Guard.
Lieutenant Langdon, - - Sick in camp.
Lieutenant Ostander, - - In camp.
Lieutenant Bunschouten, - do.
Lieutenant Garrison, - - In camp.
Lieutenant Berry, - - - Just arrived.

N. B. The Field Officers and others I refer to the general return of the 3d instant.

NICH. EMC. GABERCLE, Adj't.

A return of Officers fit and unfit for duty in the Tenth Regiment, commanded by Colonel TYLER.

Fit for Duty :

Captain Sill. Lieutenant Baldwin.
Captain Eldridge. Lieutenant Selden.
Captain Danow. Lieutenant Avery.
Captain Gallop. Lieutenant Reed.
Captain Ely. Lieutenant Prentice.
Lieutenant Nevins. Ensign Wait.
Lieutenant McGrager. Ensign Bulkly.
Lieutenant Lee. Ensign Hill.
Lieutenant Richards. Ensign Clift.

Unfit for duty.—Lieutenant Hall.

N. B. Captain Sill on General Court-Martial.
JAMES DAY, Adj't.

Officers in Colonel GRAHAM'S Regiment, fit for duty.

Morris Graham, - - - Colonel,
Roswell Hopkins, - - - Lieutenant-Colonel,
William Barker, - - - Major,
Captain Paine,
Lieutenant Waters, } On command at New-Rochelle.
Lieutenant Meade. }
Captain Stoughtenburgh,
Lieutenant Wm. Dennison,
Lieutenant Ebenezer Mott.
Lieutenant Ezra St. John, } Captain Barlow's Company.
Lieutenant Ebenezer Carter, }
Captain Israel Platt,
Adjutant, Lieutenant Reuben Hopkins,
Lieutenant Jonas Parks.
Captain Andries Haermame,
Lieutenant Herman J. Knickerbacker,
Lieutenant George Sharpe.
Captain William Stewart,
Lieutenant John L. Hardenbergh,
Lieutenant John Seaton.
Captain John Van Steenberg,
Lieutenant Stephen Eget,
Lieutenant Benjamin Bogardus.
Captain James Teller,
Second Lieutenant Paul Van Anden,
Captain Charles Graham.
Captain Barlow, sick, absent.
Lieutenant Tremper, in Captain Teller's company, sick in camp.
Captain Stewart, on command to Fishkill with Tories.
A list of Officers in Colonel THOMAS THOMAS'S Regiment, as well of the present fit for duty, as of the unfit and absent, 4th October 1776.
Captain William Dutcher,
First Lieutenant Daniel Martling, } Present fit for duty.
Second Lieut. Gershom Sherwood, }
Captain Abraham Ledew, present fit for duty.

First Lieutenant Isaac Van Wert, in the Artillery at *Fort Independence*.
Second Lieutenant Daniel Williams, present fit for duty.
Captain Nathaniel Delivan, sick, absent by leave of General Clinton, to recruit himself, but soon expected to camp.
First Lieutenant Samuel Lawrence, present fit for duty.
Second Lieutenant John Crissey Miller, went from camp yesterday afternoon by leave of Major-General Heath, to see his wife who is at the point of death.
Captain James Cronkhyte, present fit for duty.
First Lieutenant Obadiah Purdy, returned yesterday, deserted.
Second Lieutenant Joshua Drake, present fit for duty.
Captain Benoni Platt, } Present fit for duty.
First Lieutenant Hezekiah Gray, }
Second Lieutenant Caleb Merritt, at *Morrisania*, on advanced guard.

Captain Abijah Gilbert, sick, absent by leave of General Clinton, to recruit himself, and from information will not be able to return to camp this three months.
First Lieutenant William Fanshier, sick, absent about ten days since, but a few days ago procured a person of equal rank to do his duty in his absence.
Second Lieutenant Thaddeus Crane, present fit for duty.
Captain Elijah Hunter, } Present fit for duty.
First Lieutenant Henry Piers, }
Second Lieutenant Nathaniel Olmstead, }
Captain Samuel Townsend, present fit for duty.
First Lieutenant Richard Hatfield, present, and Adjutant of the above Regiment.
Second Lieutenant William Woodward, present fit.
Captain David Dan, } Present fit for duty.
First Lieutenant Reuben Weed, }
No Second Lieutenant to Captain Dan appointed.

Return of the Officers present and absent of the First Regiment of the Flying-Camp from LANCASTER County, in the State of PENNSYLVANIA, in the service of the UNITED STATES OF AMERICA, commanded by Colonel CUNNINGHAM. WESTCHESTER, October 5, 1776.

OFFICERS PRESENT AND FIT FOR DUTY.			
Captains.	First Lieutenants.	Second Lieutenants.	Third Lieutenants.
John Reed, George Graff, Robert Clark, Daniel Olinbrook, Joseph Work, John McCowan.	James Coiler, Conrod Connor, William Steel, Ludwick Mire, William Alon, Thomas Robinson, Thomas Lindsay.	Thomas Johnson, Dorington Wilson, James Turner, William McClough, —— Wiser, John Bishop, John Camble.	John Coughran, William Calhoon, William Nilson, Benjamin Fickle, John Barnet, Andrew Boggs, Mathew Swan.
Colonel, <i>James Cunningham</i> ; Major, <i>Thomas Edwards</i> . Staff: Adjutant, <i>John Davis</i> ; Quartermaster, <i>James Porter</i> , pro temporary ; Quartermaster, <i>Mathew Swan</i> , at <i>Fort Constitution</i> , with the three companies there.			
THE STATIONS OF THE SEVERAL COMPANIES.			
Captain <i>Graff's</i> at <i>Westchester</i> ; Captains <i>Reed's</i> , <i>Watson's</i> , <i>Cloatz's</i> , <i>Green's</i> , <i>Clark's</i> , at <i>De Lancey's Mills</i> ; Captains <i>Olinbrook's</i> , <i>Work's</i> , <i>McCowan's</i> , at <i>Fort Constitution</i> .			
OFFICERS ABSENT.			
Names and rank.	Since what time.	The reasons why they are absent.	
Lieutenant Colonel William Hay, Captain Timothy Green, Second Lieutenant John Galgrust, } of Captain Reed's company, }	September 27th. September 16th. August 14th.	On furlough. Absent without leave. By a wound received in the right arm.	
VACANT OFFICERS, AND BY WHAT MEANS.			
Captain <i>Cloatz</i> , promoted ; Captain <i>Watson</i> , resigned ; First Lieutenant <i>Patrick Hay</i> , Third Lieutenant <i>Richard Keys</i> , discharged, and recommended by the doctor ; Second Lieutenant <i>William Paterson</i> , either killed or taken prisoner, <i>Long-Island</i> .			

JAMES CUNNINGHAM, Colonel.

List of Officers' names in Colonel ANDREW WARD's Regiment.

IN CAMP, FIT FOR DUTY.

Field Officers: Colonel Andrew Ward, Lieutenant-Colonel Obadiah Johnson, Major Cook.
Captains: Abner Prior, James Dana, James Stedman, Ozias Pettibone, Benoni Cutler, Daniel Allen.
First Lieutenants: William Green, Samuel Granger, Andrew Fitch, George Griswold, William Maning, Samuel Barker.
Second Lieutenants: Nathaniel Wales, Uriah Holmes, Jos. Durkee, Joshua Bottom, James Peek.
Ensigns: Benjamin Holcomb, Joseph Hale, Daniel Reed, Simon Gains, Obadiah Child, Jonathan Nicols, Levi Gaylord.

SICK, PRESENT.

Captains: Noah Phelps, Jehiel Meigs.
First Lieutenant: Elias Weld.
Second Lieutenants: Elisha Chapman, Samuel Carver, Jeremia Stanley.
Ensign: Benjamin Henshaw.

DEAD.

First Lieutenant, Nathaniel Morgan.
ANDREW WARD, Colonel.

A Return of the Field Officers, Commissioned, and Staff Officers of the Sixteenth Regiment of Foot, commanded by Colonel PAUL D. SARGENT, specifying those fit for duty, sick present, absent, on command, and furlough.

Paul D. Sargent, Colonel, fit for duty.
Michael Jackson, Lieutenant-Colonel, wounded, present.
Jon. Williams Austen, Major, fit for duty.
Capt. Frederick Pope, }
Lieut. Fuller, - - } Present, fit for duty.
Lieut. Thayre, - - }
Ensign Fuller, - - }
Capt. Scott, - - - Under arrest.
Lieut. Holmes, - - - On command, Ranging service.
Lieut. Morrow, - - On command as Adjutant.
Ensign Cleveland, - - Present, fit for duty.
Capt. Barnes, - - - Present, fit for duty.
Lieut. Cleveland, - } On command in the Ranging service.
Lieut. Stratten, - - }
Capt. Vinton, - - - Sick, present.
Lieut. Hollis, - - - Fit for duty.
Lieut. Holbrook, - - On command with sick.
Ensign Hartshorn, - - Fit for duty.
Capt. Perry, - - - Fit for duty.
Lieut. Drown, - - - Sick, present.

Lieut. Doliver, - - - On command as Major of Brigade.
 Ensign Snow, - - - Fit for duty.
 Capt. Heath, - - - } Fit for duty.
 Lieut. Thomas, - - - }
 Lieut. Carlton, - - - On command as Quartermaster.
 Ensign Eddy, - - - Fit for duty.
 Capt. Farrington, - - - }
 Lieut. Doubleday, - - - } Fit for duty.
 Lieut. Dusten, - - - }
 Ensign Welch, - - - }
 Capt. Wiley, - - - Fit for duty.
 Lieut. Scott, - - - On command in Ranging service
 Lieut. Wiley, - - - Fit for duty.
 Ensign Fish, - - - Sick, present.

PAUL DUDLEY SARGENT, Colonel.

King's Bridge, October 4, 1776.

Colonel LASHER's list of Officers, October 4, 1776.

Capt. Van Dyke, - - - Prisoner at New-York.
 First Lieut. Brewvort, - - - Prisoner do.
 Second Lieut. Harsen, - - - Present.
 Capt. Wilcox, - - - Present.
 Lieut. Dunscomb, - - - Prisoner at Long-Island.
 Lieut. Thurman, - - - Gone to fetch clothes.
 Capt. Beekeman, - - - }
 Lieut. Lawrence, - - - } Present.
 Lieut. Sickles, - - - }
 Capt. Dickson, - - - Present.
 Lieut. Troop, - - - Taken prisoner on Long-Island.
 Lieut. Harton, - - - Present.
 Capt. Dickenson, - - - Present.
 Lieut. Masur, - - - }
 Lieut. Warner, - - - } Sick, absent.
 Capt. Wright, - - - }
 Lieut. North, - - - } Present.
 Lieut. Ricks, - - - }
 Capt. Rapleye, - - - Prisoner in New-York.
 Lieut. Carpenter, - - - Sick, absent.
 Lieut. Viedenburgh, - - - Present.
 Capt. Banker, - - - }
 Lieut. Beekeman, - - - } Present.
 Lieut. Codwas, - - - }
 Pryme Hoghland, Adjutant, taken prisoner on Long-Island.
 Gerardus Hardenbrook, Adjutant, present.

Colonel HARDENBERGH's list of Officers, October 4, 1776.

Colonel Hardenbergh, - - - Sick, present.
 Capt. De Witt, - - - Under an arrest.
 First Lieut. Abraham Smeedy, - - - }
 Second Lieut. Abraham Van Aker, } Fit for duty.
 Capt. John Gillespy, - - - }
 First Lieut. Jacob Lawrence, - - - } Present, fit for duty.
 Second Lieut. Cornelius De Bois, }
 Capt. James Robinson, - - - Sick, present.
 First Lieut. John Van Buren, - - - }
 Second Lieut. John McArthur, } Present, fit for duty.
 Capt. John Hasbrook, - - - Discharged by reason of long sickness.
 First Lieut. John Hunter, - - - Sick, absent.
 Second Lieut. Jacob Rosecrantz, - - - Sick, present.
 Capt. William Faulkner, - - - Sick, present.
 First Lieut. Robert Munnell, - - - }
 Second Lieut. Moses M. Cantine, } Present, fit for duty.

Return of the Field Officers in Colonel SARGENT's Brigade, signifying those present, absent, on command, &c.

Present, fit for duty: Colonel Sargent, Major Austin, Colonel Ward, Lieutenant-Colonel Johnson, Major Cook.
 Sick, present: Lieutenant-Colonel Johnson.

P. DOLLIVER, M. B.

King's Bridge, October 5, 1776.

Return of the names of the Officers of the Twenty-Second Regiment, commanded by SAMUEL WYLLYS, Esq., as per the general orders of 3d instant.

Captain fit for duty: Ebenezer Huntington.
 First Lieutenants fit for duty: Henry Champion, Eliphalet King, Jonathan Pettibone.
 Second Lieutenants fit for duty: Warren Huntley, Jonathan Hart, Dudley Wright, Roger Hooker, Elias Stillwell, Bezh. Achley.
 Ensigns fit for duty: Richard Duff, Simeon Belding, Hezekiah Hubbard, Charles Miller, Samuel Richards.
 Captains unfit for duty: Abel Pettibone, Jedediah Hyde, Ezekiel Scott, Ebenezer Sumner, Samuel Wright, Amasa Mills.
 First Lieutenants unfit for duty: Nathaniel Humphreys, Robert Warner, Stephen Goodrich.
 Second Lieutenants unfit for duty: Benjamin Adams, Charles Butler.
 Ensign unfit for duty: Thomas Phelps.
 Henry Champion, Adjutant, present, fit for duty.
 Simeon Belding, Quartermaster, present, fit for duty.
 Nathan Strong, Chaplain, sick, absent.
 Ebenezer Beardsly, Surgeon, on furlough.
 John R. Watrous, Surgeon's Mate, at the Hospital in the Jerseys.
 Marcus Cole, a First Lieutenant, Assistant Engineer.
 Ensign Pownal Deming in the Commissary business.
 N. B. Captain Sumner, on furlough; Captain Pettibone, sick, absent; Nathaniel Humphreys, a First Lieutenant, and Charles Butler, a Second Lieutenant, and Ensign Thomas Phelps, sick, absent.

HEZA. HOLDRIDGE, Major.

October 4, 1776.

A Return of the names of the Commissioned and Staff Officers in the Twenty-First Regiment, and the respective duties, commands and places they are in.

Jonathan Ward, Colonel; present, fit for duty.
 Benjamin Tupper, Lieutenant-Colonel; on command.
 James Mellen, Major; present, fit for duty.
 William King, Captain; sick, absent.
 Job Alverd, First Lieutenant; present, fit for duty.
 William Watson, Second Lieutenant; present, fit for duty.
 Simeon Hurlbut, Ensign; sick present.
 Daniel Barnes, Captain; present, fit for duty.
 William Boyd, First Lieutenant; Quartermaster.
 James Hart, Second Lieutenant; Adjutant.
 Henry Brigham, Ensign; present, fit for duty.
 Jonathan Allen, Captain; on a General Court-Martial
 Joshua Benson, First Lieutenant; sick, absent.
 Jacob Pope, Second Lieutenant; Ranging party.
 Elihu Root, Ensign; present, fit for duty.
 Earl Clapp, Captain; on command.
 Jesse Stertevant, First Lieutenant; on command.
 George Dunham, Second Lieutenant; on command.
 Samuel Eldred, Ensign; on command.
 Samuel Bartlet, Captain; purchasing clothes for the Regiment.
 Samuel Allen, First Lieutenant; present, fit for duty.
 William Ashley, Second Lieutenant; sick, present.
 Vacant, Ensign.
 Ephraim Burr, Captain; on command.
 Elihu Lyman, First Lieutenant; present, fit for duty.
 Obadiah Mann, Second Lieutenant; sick, absent.
 John Kennedy, Ensign; on guard.
 Vacant, Captain.
 Ebenezer Cleveland, First Lieutenant; present, fit for duty.
 Baxter How, Second Lieutenant; sick, absent.
 Jonathan Champney, Ensign; sick, present.
 Vacant, Captain.
 Nahum Ward, First Lieutenant; present, fit for duty.
 Samuel Shelden, Second Lieutenant; sick, absent.
 Samuel Claflin, Ensign; sick, present.
 Ebenezer Cleveland, Chaplain; on furlough.
 James Hart, Adjutant; present, fit for duty.
 William Boyd, Quartermaster; present, fit for present.
 Elihu Wright, Surgeon; sick, absent.

— Whiton, Surgeon's Mate ; present, fit for duty.
John Porter, Paymaster ; present, fit for duty.
Per J. HART, Adjutant.
Westchester, October the 4th, 1776.

Return of Commissioned Officers belonging to the Seventeenth Regiment, in camp, fit for duty, Oct. 4, 1776.
Jed. Huntington, Colonel, Lieut. Eben. Perkins,
Capt. Abraham Tyler, Lieut. Simeon Newill,
Lieut. Simeon Huntington, Lieut. Jona. Humphry,
Lieut. Abraham Wright, Ensign Joshua Tracy,
Lieut. John Harris, Ensign Elisha Brewster.
JED. HUNTINGTON, Colonel.
N. B. One sub. doing Adjutant's duty. One sub. doing Quartermaster's duty.

Return of Officers absent in the Seventeenth Regiment ; commanded by Colonel JED. HUNTINGTON, Esq.

OFFICERS' NAMES.	Absent by reason of sickness.	On command.	Time when had leave of absence.	Number of days liberty of absence.
Capt. Elilza. Hubbard, Lieut. Thomas Haydon, Lieut. A. Hail,* absent by leave of Brig. Gen. Parsons, Lieut. Tebed. Farnham,	sickness sickness - - sickness	- - on com'd Oct. 3, 1776	- - -	- - no limited time

JED. HUNTINGTON, Colonel.
Camp, King's Bridge, October 5, 1776.
* Gone into the country to purchase blankets.

Return of the names of the Officers, fit and unfit for duty, in Colonel FORMAN's Battalion, October, 5 1776.

- OFFICERS FIT FOR DUTY.
1. Ralph Mash, First Lieutenant, - - }
David Edgar, Second Lieutenant, - }

2. Robert Nixon, First Lieutenant, - }
James Patten, Ensign, - - - }

3. Jacob Seaburn, Ensign, in Camp.

4. Tunis Vendervier, First Lieutenant, }
Elisha Walton, Second Lieutenant, }

John Walton, Ensign, - - - }

5. John Mesorall, First Lieutenant, - }
James Day, Ensign, - - - }

6. Gilbert Longstreet, First Lieutenant, on furlough.

7. John Burrows, Captain, - - - }

Jonathan Forman, First Lieutenant, }

Jacob Tice, Second Lieutenant, - }

Jonathan Holmes, Ensign, - - - }

8. John Brindley, First Lieutenant, - }
James Green, Second Lieutenant, }

John Eaton, Ensign, - - - }

UNFIT FOR DUTY.

1. Thomas Hadden, Captain, - - - }

John Martin, Ensign, - - - }

2. Vincent Wetherill, Captain, - - - }

John Kinnan, Second Lieutenant, - }

3. John Webster, Captain, - - - }

Jacob Martin, First Lieutenant, - }

Hugh Dunn, Second Lieutenant, - }

4. John Henderson, Captain, - - - Sick absent.

5. Captain Gordon, promoted to Brigade-Major.
Joseph Skelton, Second Lieutenant, sick in Hospital.

6. Peter Wikoff, Captain, - - - Sick absent.
Ephraim Jinkins, Second Lieutenant, }
John Hutchins, Ensign, - - - }

8. Abraham Woolley, Captain, - - - Sick absent.

A true state of Colonel Forman's Regiment of Officers.
SAM. F. PARKER, Major.

A list of the Field Officers in the Brigade under the command of Brig. Gen. WADSWORTH, Oct. 3, 1776.
Colonel Silliman.
Lieut. Colonel Chandler, October 6th, taken sick this day.
Major Mead.
Colonel Bradley, - - - - - at Bergen.
Lieutenant-Colonel Hobby, - - - - - do.
Major Dimon, - - - - - do.
Colonel Gay, - - - - - Dead.
Lieutenant-Colonel Hart, - - - - - Captivated.
Major Mott.
Colonel Sage.
Lieutenant-Colonel Russell.
Major Buell.
Colonel Seldon, - - - - - Captivated.
Lieutenant-Colonel Lattimore.
Major Cleft, - - - - - on the Works.
Colonel Douglass.
Lieutenant-Colonel Arnold.
Major Porter, - - - - - Captivated.
Colonel Chester, - - - - - at Eastchester.
Lieutenant-Colonel Wills, - - - - - do.
Major Riply, - - - - - do.
JAMES WADSWORTH, Brigadier-General.

A Return of Officers in Colonel HALLER's Battalion.

COMPANIES.	OFFICERS PRESENT.										Officers lost in the Engagement on Long-Island.		
	Commissioned.					Staff.					Commissioned.		
	Colonel.	Lieut. Colonel.	Major.	Captains.	Lieutenants.	Ensigns.	Chaplains.	Adjutants.	Quartermasters.	Surgeon.	Mate.	Colonel.	Lieut. Colonel.
Captain Hiester.....	1	-	-	2	2	-	-	1	-	1	1	1	1
Captain Crowle.....	-	-	-	1	2	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
Captain May.....	-	-	-	1	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
Captain Mauser.....	-	-	-	1	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
Captain Ludwig.....	-	-	-	1	2	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Captain Old.....	-	-	-	1	3	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Captain Douglass.....	-	-	-	1	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Total.....	1	-	-	4	14	3	-	1	-	1	1	1	3

ABSENT OFFICERS, BY LEAVE OF COLONEL HALLER.			
NAMES AND RANK.	Since what time.	For what time.	For what reason.
Nicholas Broun, Ensign in Capt. Hiester's Company	10th Sept.	To return as soon as well.	Sickly, and unfit for duty.
John King, Lieut. in Capt. Douglass's Company....	20th Sept.	Twelve days.	His family being in great distress.
Paul Kerber, Quartermaster and Lieutenant.....	26th Sept.	No time limit.	Recruiting at Amboy.

HENRY HALLER, Colonel.
October 5, 1776.

Return of the Officers of the Second Battalion PENNSYLVANIA Rifle Regiment, October 4, 1776.

PRESENT FIT FOR DUTY.

Major John Patton.
Capt. John Murray.
Capt. Jno. Marshall.
1st Lt. B. Bowen.
2d Lt. Robt. Burns.
2d Lt. Jacob Maise.
Adjutant Bowen.
Quartermaster Power.

Capt. Peter Grubb.
Capt. Henry Christ.

3d Lt. Abm. Smith.
3d Lt. Abner Davis.
3d Lt. Wm. Brown.
Surgeon Rieger.

SICK PRESENT.

Lt. Colonel Brodhead.
1st Lt. Jno. Clark.

1st Lt. Jno. Carpenter.
2d Lt. Jas. Hamilton.

SICK ABSENT.

1st Lt. Jno. Stoner.
3d Lt. Robt. Campble.

3d Lt. Stephen Hanna.
3d Lt. Wm. Moore.

ON COMMAND AFTER DESERTERS.

Captain Jno. Erwin.
2d Lieutenant Thomas Gourley.
Surgeon's Mate Buck, tending sick absent.

A Return of the names of the Officers in Colonel SELDEN's Regiment, that are now in camp, that are fit for duty and unfit for duty.

Lieutenant-Colonel, Jonathan Latimer.
Major, Waterman Cleft.
1st Company: Captain, Abel Sprier.
Second Lieutenant, Park Avery.
Ensign, Jabez Smith.
2d Company: First Lieutenant, Jacob De Witt.
3d Company: First Lieutenant, Elijah Wade, Adjutant.
Second Lieutenant, William Raymond.
Ensign, David Bill.
4th Company: Captain, Eliphalett Holmes, sick, in camp.
First Lieutenant, Isaac Spencer.
5th Company: Captain, William Belcher.
Ensign, Asa Story.
6th Company: Captain, Elisha Chapman.
First Lieutenant, John Hart.
Second Lieutenant, Job Wright.
7th Company: Ensign, Richard Douglass, Quartermaster.
8th Company: Captain, Ebenezer Witter.
First Lieutenant, Elias S. Palmer.
Second Lieutenant, Joseph Smith.
JONA. LATIMER, *Lieutenant-Colonel.*

Names of Officers of the Fifth PENNSYLVANIA Battalion, commanded by Colonel ROBERT MAGAW, fit and unfit for duty, October 4, 1776.

Captains fit for duty: John Beaty, John Miller, Christopher Stuart, John Sphon, Peter Decker, John Richardson.
First Lieutenants fit for duty: John Lawrence, Robert Wilkins, John Morgan, Charles Phile, John Helm.
Second Lieutenants fit for duty: Thomas Janney, Richard Collier, John Finley, William Standley, John Rudolph, Andrew Dover, Edward Young.
Ensigns fit for duty: John Savage, Isaac Vanhorne, James Maloy, Edward Hovendon, William Dement, Reading Beaty.
Captains unfit for duty: Samuel Benezett, sick, absent; Nathaniel Vansandt.
First Lieutenants unfit for duty: John Priestley, Richard Seward, sick, absent.
Second Lieutenant unfit for duty: William Crawford, sick, absent.
Ensigns unfit for duty: John Gansell, James Gibbons, sick, absent.

FIELD AND STAFF OFFICERS FIT AND UNFIT FOR DUTY.
Present, fit for duty: Colonel Robert Magaw, Major George Neagle, Adjutant William Dement, Quartermaster Richard Collier, Doctor James McKenry.
Unfit for duty: Doctor Hole.
On furlough: Lieutenant-Colonel Joseph Penrose, at Philadelphia; Doctor John Lynd, D. D.

A Return of the Officers of the First Battalion of the PENNSYLVANIA Rifle Regiment, October 4, 1776.

Present, fit for duty: Captain Albright, Captain Shade, Captain Weitzel, Second Lieut. Robb, Second Lieut. Finley, Second Lieut. Boyde, Third Lieut. Stake, Third Lieut. Grant, Third Lieut. Homes, Third Lieut. Hargus, Third Lieut. McGowan.
On command: First Lieut. Moore, First Lieut. Thompson.
Sick, present: Lieutenant-Colonel Broadhead.
Sick, absent: Captain Farmer.
Captain Long, absent without leave.
Staff Officers present: Adjutant McGowan, Quartermaster Swiler, Chaplain Mr. Rogers.

A LIST OF THE OFFICERS SICK.

Captain Leonard Deakins.
Captain Meroney, on furlough.
Second Lieutenant John Courts Jones.
Ensign David Linn.
First Lieutenant Moses Chaplain.
Ensign Nathan Williams.
First Lieutenant Greenberry Gaither.
Second Lieutenant Richard Anderson.

October 4, 1776.

Adj't BATLY.

Return of Officers of late Colonel SELDEN's Regiment, October 4, 1776.

Who are absent, and on what account.	Captains.	First Lieuts.	Second Lieuts.	Ensigns.	Chaplain.	Surgeon.	Mate.
Sick, absent, - - - - -	2	1	1	3	1	-	1
Gone to provide clothing, - - -	-	-	1	1	-	-	-
On command with the sick, - - -	1	-	-	-	-	-	-
Discharged, - - - - -	-	-	-	-	-	1	-
Missing, - - - - -	-	2	2	-	-	-	-

N. B. One Captain sick, present.
ELISHA WADE, *Adjutant.*

A list of the names of the within-mentioned persons:

Capt. Joshua Huntington, - - Sick, absent.
Capt. Elijah Bingham, - - Sick, absent.
Capt. Richard Dejhon, - - With the sick.
First Lieut. Jonathan Palmer, - Sick, absent.
Second Lieut. Isaac W. Stanton, Sick, absent.
Ensign Nathaniel Jones, - - Sick, absent.
Ensign John Williams, - - Sick, absent.
Ensign Jonah Brainard, - - Sick, absent.
Reverend Thomas Brockway, - Sick, absent.
Elias Norton, Surgeon's Mate, - Sick, absent.
Gibeon Jewitt, Surgeon, - - Discharged.
Second Lieut. John Hallam, - - Gone after clothing.
Ensign Charles Fanning, - - Gone after clothes.
First Lieut. Jonathan Bruster, }
First Lieut. John Comstock, } Missing.
Second Lieut. Charles Williams, }
Second Lieut. John Wheatley, }

The above missing were killed or taken on the 15th September.

A List of the Officers' Names, in Camp, belonging to Col. WILLIAM DOUGLASS's Regiment, October 4, 1776.

FIT FOR DUTY.

Colonel Douglass.	Lieutenant Hine.
Lieut. Colonel Arnold.	Lieutenant Potter.
Captain Johnson.	Lieutenant Bronson.
Captain Prentice.	Lieutenant Humaston.
Lieutenant Parsons.	Lieutenant Fuller.
Lieutenant Baldwin.	Ensign Beach.
Lieutenant Bryant.	Ensign Hitchcock.
Lieutenant Warner.	Mr. Trumbull, Chaplain.
Lieutenant Mansfield.	Adjutant Barker.
Lieutenant Hart.	

UNFIT FOR DUTY.

Captain Higgins.	Ensign Norton.
Lieutenant Arnold.	Doctor Potter, Surgeon.

A Return of the Officers that are absent in Colonel JONATHAN SMITH's Regiment, October 4, 1776.

Capt. Jonathan Houghton, -	} Sick, over King's Bridge.
Capt. Samuel Sawyer, -	
Capt. Aaron Rowley, -	
First Lieut. Ebenezer Bennet,	} Sick, on the Jersey side.
Ensign John Stocking, -	
First Lieut. Ebenezer Cook, -	
First Lieut. Salmon Godfrey, -	} Sick, over the Bridge.
Second Lieut. Benjamin Wilson,	
Second Lieut. Ebenezer Newell,	
First Lieut. Ebenezer Colburn,	
Ensign Elijah Browner, -	
First Mate Jonas Prescott, -	} At Horse Neck, taking care of the sick.
Capt. Oliver Root, -	
First Lieut. Ebenezer Inglesbee,	
Second Lieut. George Sloan, -	} Gone into the country after clothing.

ROBERT LONGLEY, *Lieut. Colonel.*

Return of Colonel CADWALADER's Officers, &c.

1. Captain West, - - - On command to Philadelphia.
2. Captain Graydon, - - Fit for duty.

3. Captain Lenox, - - Fit for duty.

4. Captain Byles, - - - Not fit.

5. Captain Hubley, - - Fit for duty.

6. Captain Davenport, - Taken prisoner at *New-York*.

7. Captain Edwards, - - Fit for duty.

8. Captain Tudor, - - - Fit for duty.

1. Lieutenant Knox, - - Not fit.

2. Lieutenant Broadhead, Fit for duty.

3. Lieutenant Bettin, - - Fit for duty.

4. Lieutenant Davidson, - Absent at *Philad'a* by leave.

5. Lieutenant Tilton, - - Fit for duty.

6. Lieutenant Bicker, Adjutant, fit for duty.

7. Lieutenant Duguid, - - Fit for duty.

8. One First Lieutenant wanting.

1. Lieutenant Forrist, - Fit for duty.

2. Lieutenant Conneley, - Not fit.

3. Lieutenant Woodside, - Fit; absent with the sick.

4. Lieutenant Bicker, Jun., Fit for duty.

5. Lieutenant Armitage, - Fit for duty.

6. Lieutenant Hunter, - - Not fit.

7. Lieutenant Westcoat, - Fit for duty.

8. Lieutenant Stout, - - Fit for duty.

1. Ensign Old, - - - - Not fit.

2. Ensign McIntire, - - Fit for duty.

3. Ensign Shriver, - - - Not fit; absent at *Philadelp'a*.

4. Ensign Dover - - - Fit for duty.

5. Ensign Stediford, and Quartermaster, fit for duty.

6. Ensign Chickley, - - Not fit.

7. Ensign Weaver, - - - Fit for duty.

8. Ensign Graydon, - - Fit for duty.

LAMBERT CADWALADER.

Return of the Names of the Commissioned Officers and the Commissions they bear in the Continental Army, now in Colonel WILLIAM PRESCOTT'S Regiment.

- Captain Hugh Maxwell.

Captain John Nutting.

Captain Joseph Morse, - - - - Sick, present.

Captain Samuel Darby, - - - - On command.

Captain Jonathan Nowell, - - - - Sick, absent.

Captain Samuel Patch.

Captain Samuel Gilbert, - - - - Sick, absent.

Captain Joseph Moors, - - - - Sick, absent.

First Lieut. Zacheus Walker.

First Lieut. Joshua Broun.

First Lieut. Benjamin Proun, - - - - Sick, absent.

First Lieut. John Williams, - - - - Sick, absent.

First Lieut. Ebenezer Woods.

First Lieut. Elezer Spalding, - - - - Sick, present.

First Lieut. Thomas Nowell.

First Lieut. Joseph Gilbert, - - - - Sick, absent.

Second Lieut. George Marsdin.

Second Lieut. Joseph Baker, - - - - Sick, absent.

Second Lieut. Isack Dodge, - - - - Sick, absent,

Second Lieut. Nathaniel Sewtle.

Second Lieut. Benjamin Ball.

Second Lieut. Jeddiah Sanger, - - - Sick, present.

Second Lieut. Edmond Bancroft.

Ensign Simeon Lord.

Ensign William Taylor.

Ensign Samuel Nason.

Ensign Obadiah Whetherell, - - - - Sick, present.

Ensign Samuel Lawrence, - - - - On command.

Ensign Joseph Shead, - - - - Sick, absent.

Ensign Ephraim Proctor, - - - - Sick, absent.

George Marsdin, Adjutant.

Samuel Nason, Quartermaster.

Cook, Chaplain, - - - - Sick, present.

John Hart, Surgeon, - - - - Sick, present.

Bacon, Mate, - - - - On command

in the *Jerseys*.

WILLIAM PRESCOTT.

October 4, 1776. •

COLONEL HASLET TO THOMAS RODNEY.

Camp at Mount Washington, October 4, 1776.

On Sunday, the 25th of August last, my regiment was
FIFTH SERIES.—VOL. II.

ordered to *Long-Island*, in Lord *Stirling's* brigade, composed mostly of the Southern troops, by whom we were much caressed, and highly complimented on our appearance and dexterity in the military exercise and manoeuvres. On Tuesday, the 27th, his brigade, consisting of five regiments, and a few of *Sullivan's*, not exceeding five thousand men, were ordered to advance beyond the lines and repulse the enemy. To oppose this small band were seventeen thousand regulars, much better furnished with field-pieces and every other military appointment than we. Several of the regiments were broken and dispersed soon after the first onset. The *Delawares* and *Marylanders* stood firm to the last; and, after a variety of skirmishing, the *Delawares* drew up on the side of a hill, and stood upwards of four hours, with a firm, determined countenance, in close array, their colours flying, the enemy's artillery playing on them all the while, not daring to advance and attack them, though six times their number, and nearly surrounding them. Nor did they think of quitting their station till an express order from the General commanded their retreat through a marsh and over a creek, the only opening left, which they effected in good order, with the loss of one man drowned in passing. The *Delawares* alone had the honour of bringing off twenty-three prisoners.

I must also do Colonel *Smallwood's* battalion the justice to say, that the spirited attack made by them on the enemy, at the time the *Delawares* and themselves were retreating, greatly facilitated the escape of both. Twenty-seven of the *Delawares* next morning were missing. In that number were Lieutenants *Stewart* and *Harney*; the latter a prisoner, the other not yet heard of. Major *Mc Donough* was wounded in the knee; a ball passed through the sleeve of his coat without wounding the arm or his body. Lieutenant *Anderson* had a ball lodged in his throat; Lieutenant *Corn* a ball still in his back; they are recovered. The standard was torn with shot in Ensign *Stephens's* hand, who is now in his element, and a most excellent officer. Such is our fate. The *Delaware* battalion, officers and men, are respected throughout this army. We are now in General *Mifflin's* brigade, who a few days since was appointed Quartermaster-General, and by special order we encamp on the lines, near the General's house. In the retreat from *Long-Island*, which was conducted with great prudence, Colonels *Shee*, *Swallowwood*, *Hand*, and some others I do not recollect, were called into Council, and requested to take the defence of the lines upon us, while the main body of the army crossed the *East River* to *New-York*, which was accepted; and last of all crossed ourselves, thank God, in safety.

Proceedings of a Court-Martial held the 4th day of October, 1776, at MOUNT WASHINGTON, at the BLUE-BELL, for the trial of Mr. CHAMPNEY, Wagonmaster-General, arrested by Dr. MARTIN, viz:

Major Samuel F. Parker, President.

Members.

- Captain Luce,

Captain Vanclicf,

Captain Houton,

Captain G. Anderson,
- Captain Congleton,

Captain J. Anderson,

Lieutenant Pearson.

The aforesaid Mr. *Champney* being arrested for abusing Dr. *Martin*, the Court after hearing the parties, and duly examining the evidences on both sides, are of opinion that Mr. *Champney* is not guilty of a breach of any of the articles of war of the *United States of America*, and ought to be acquitted, and do therefore acquit him accordingly.

SAM'L F. PARKER, President.

I approve of the above sentence, and order Mr. *Champney* to be discharged from his arrest.

PHILIP V. CORTLANDT,
Colonel, acting Brigadier-General.

GENERAL HEATH TO CAPTAIN STEWART.

King's Bridge, October 4, 1776.

SIR: You will take into your custody one Justice *Palmer*, Mr. *Read*, and Mr. *Underhill*, now confined at the main guard, on suspicion of being unfriendly to the State of *America*. You are carefully to conduct them to the town of *Fishkill*, and deliver them to the Convention of

this State. The Light-Horsemen are to return immediately. You may then proceed yourself to the *Nine Partners*, from whence you are to return to this place on *Wednesday* next.

W. HEATH, Major-General.

To Captain *William Stewart*.

GENERAL COURT-MARTIAL.

Proceedings of a General Court-Martial held in Major-General HEATH's Division, October 4, 1776, whereof Colonel LASHER is President.

Ensign *Benjamin Snow*, of Colonel *Sargent's* Regiment, confined by Colonel *Sargent* for leaving his guard when on duty, and absenting himself from camp without leave.

The prisoner pleads, "Not Guilty."

The following evidences after being sworn, deposed as follows:

Lieutenant *Dustin*, deposes: That Ensign *Snow* came to his tent, and told him that he had some friends he wanted to visit, and asked him to go with him. I asked him whether he was not on guard. He said he was, but had got an officer to take his place. We went away about three o'clock, P. M., and came back about dark. We went about two miles from camp. It was a chance whether we could hear the drums if they beat to arms in our camp.

Sergeant *McInties*: I was Sergeant of the guard with Ensign *Snow*. He told me he was going a little way, and if any thing happened, I should apply to Ensign *Fisk*. While the Ensign was absent the Adjutant came, and finding no officer, put one in his room. The Ensign came back about seven o'clock.

Captain *Wyleys*: I heard Ensign *Snow* ask Ensign *Fisk* to take the guard. He told him he was too unwell; but if any thing happened, and the Sergeant came, he would go with the Ensign. I told him he took too great—

PRISONER'S DEFENCE.

Lieutenant *Wyleys*: The Ensign came to Ensign *Fisk*, and asked him to take his place. He said he was unwell; but if any thing happened he would go to the guard. The distance from the guard-house and Ensign *Fisk's* tent is about seven or eight rods. It has been the practice in our regiment to take an officer's place in this manner. It was a Brigade guard.

The Court upon mature consideration, adjudge the prisoner to be not guilty of the charge laid against him, and order him to be released.

Approved:

JOHN LASHER, *Presd.*

NOTIFICATION TO CALL A TOWN MEETING.

To notify the freeholders of the inhabitants of this town to meet at the dwelling-house of Mr. *Jonas Whitneys*, on the 15th of *October*, current, at twelve o'clock in the afternoon:

To choose a Moderator to order said meeting to consider the contents of a letter from the Chairman of the Committee of this County, directed to the sub-Committee of this town, requesting to know the mind of this town on account of revolting from *New-York*.

To hear the report of Captain *Whitmore* from the Convention at *Dorsett*.

This above being requested by the Committee of this town to me, I do hereby appoint the time and place as aforesaid.

Dated at *New-Marlbrough*, *Cumberland County*, *New-York*, *October 4th*, 1776.

WILLIAM MATHER, *Town Clerk*.

This notification was taken from the tin of a publick house at *New-Marlbrough* by me. JOHN TAYLOR.

WILLIAM MILLER TO CAPTAIN OSBORNE.

Harrison Precinct, October 4, 1776.

SIR: I received an order from a Committee appointed by the Convention, for the purpose of defeating all conspiracies against the States, in which I was told that you had informed them of two companies raising; and I was ordered and empowered to call on Captain *Delavan* to take them. In consequence of which I wrote to Captain *Delavan* to hold

himself in readiness, and at the same time wrote to you for further information, which to my grief and surprise I have not received.

I hereby acquaint you I have since received an order more urgent for detecting them and others, and am empowered to call out any part of the Militia to my assistance. By virtue of which order I now send to you, desiring you will advise with the bearer, who may be confided in, and will give you all the assistance in his power.

I have sent him also to Captain *Delavan*, with a request for him to advise and assist you in taking up all the conspirators. I would inform you that this night we are to strike below, and hope you will at the same time; and be sure to send a guard to the bridge. Our rendezvous is intended at *Stephen Davenport's*, in *North-Castle*, where you may send at any time. Your compliance with the above may do great service, and much oblige the Convention and your humble servant,

WILLIAM MILLER.

To Captain *Joseph Osborn*.

NEW-YORK CONVENTION TO THE PRESIDENT OF CONGRESS.

[Read October 8, 1776.]

In Convention of the Representatives of the State of New-York, }
Fishkill, October 4, 1776. }

SIR: This Convention have had the pleasure of receiving information through their Delegates that a resolution has passed the honourable Congress of the *United States of America*, for advancing to this State one hundred thousand dollars.

They are highly sensible of this seasonable relief, which amidst a crowd of difficulties and accumulating expenses, may enable them to support the publick credit, alleviate the sufferings of their fellow-citizens, and continue their strenuous exertions in the common cause.

They have, sir, directed me to present in the most respectable terms, their thanks to the honourable Congress for this fresh instance of their confidence and regard; which I beg you will be pleased to communicate.

I have the honour to be, with the utmost regard, your most obedient, and very humble servant,

PETER R. LIVINGSTON, *President*.

To the Hon. *John Hancock*, Esq., President of the Congress of the *United States of America*.

COLONEL SETH WARNER TO THE PRESIDENT OF CONGRESS.

[Read October 15, 1776.]

Albany, October 4, 1776.

SIR: Agreeable to directions from Congress, I have waited on the Commissioners for liquidating accounts in the Northern department, and presented them my petitions, which were referred to their consideration. To my surprise they inform me they are not instructed, and do not consider themselves authorized to act on the matter, by which means I am again disappointed of settlement of my accounts. The repeated delays I have met with are a great prejudice to the raising the new regiment for which I have orders. Some of the men who were in service the last winter's campaign are in great necessity for their pay. It is really surprising that an order interdicting my pay should be given, without any particular crime alleged or any return made to Congress of mal-conduct in me; more surprising still that I cannot be remedied at this distant day. Mr. *Chase* and Mr. *Carroll* are the persons who desired General *Schuyler* to give the order respecting me. They can, perhaps, explain their intentions. Let me entreat Congress that this matter may be brought to an issue, that I may be punished or acquitted for any supposed crimes, and that my people may no longer be delayed their pay which may be justly due to them, however culpable I may have been in my own conduct. Captain *Hopkins* and Captain *Brownson* beg that their petition exhibited to Congress may be referred to the Board of Commissioners, or some resolution be passed thereon, and they informed of it.

I have the honour to be, sir, your most obedient and very humble servant,

SETH WARNER.

To the Hon. *John Hancock*, Esq., President of the Continental Congress, *Philadelphia*.

GENERAL GATES TO GENERAL SCHUYLER.

Tyonderoga, October 4, 1776.

DEAR GENERAL: Last night I received your letter of the 1st instant, with a copy of General *Washington's* letter of the 27th ult., with the paper of intelligence therein enclosed. I am convinced that paper contained such information as the enemy wished him (as he very sensibly suspects) to believe; but it is our business to act as if the intelligence was strictly true. By my last return you will clearly see one-half of this army are sick; one-third of the other half are feeble, or poorly. I can, therefore, spare no men from hence. I conclude you will, of course, comply with my request, and immediately order Colonel *Dayton's* regiment to *Fort George*. When they have done what may be expected from them there, they will be ordered to compose part of the winter garrison at this post.

Yesterday I received a letter from General *Arnold*, of the 1st instant. All then well with the fleet, and my apprehensions from the storm perfectly quieted.

Enclosed I send you the examination of Sergeant *Stiles*, lately returned from a scout towards *Isle-aux-Noix*. This will confirm my opinion of the impropriety of parting with any troops from hence at this critical juncture, as you may easily furnish the two hundred men wanted for winter garrison at *Fort Stanwix* from the troops on *Mohawk* river; and, as it is not possible an attack can this winter happen in that quarter, no good reason can retard the immediate march of Colonel *Dayton's* regiment to *Fort George*. I am astonished the enemy have given our army so much time to strengthen themselves at *King's Bridge*. I hope *Howe*, like many abler Generals, has missed his opportunity.

This will be delivered to you by the Rev. Mr. *Gordon*, a particular friend of mine, and a gentleman in whose acquaintance you will receive a singular pleasure.

I am, dear General, your most obedient, humble servant,
Ho. GATES.

To General *Schuyler*.

GENERAL GATES TO JOHN CARTER.

Ticonderoga, October 4, 1776.

SIR: I wrote some time ago to Major-General *Schuyler*, to desire he would signify to the gentlemen commissioned by the most honourable the Congress of the *United States of America*, for adjusting and comptrolling the accounts of the army in the Northern department, that their presence was necessary at this post. Since then I am informed that you and your brethren in office conceive you are, by your instructions, confined to the limits of *Albany*. I again request your presence here, and should wish you would, without further application, come to *Ticonderoga*. If that request is not complied with, I shall be under the necessity of acquainting Congress that their order is wanting to bring you here.

I am, sir, your most obedient, humble servant, •

Ho. GATES.

To *John Carter, Esq.*, one of the Commissioners of Publick Accounts, at *Albany*.

MIDDLETOWN (CONNECTICUT) COMMITTEE.

In Committee of Inspection, Middletown, }
October 4, 1776. }

Reuben Plum appeared upon a citation and complaint before this Committee, for acting and speaking at diverse times against the liberties of *America*. The citation was read, to which he pleaded, "Not guilty." Many evidences were examined and heard on the matters of said citation or complaint, and the said *Plum* was likewise heard through, and the same being fully considered, it was fully proved, and appears:

1. That said *Plum* hath cursed particular members of the honourable Continental Congress, and villified and traduced the whole body.

2. That he hath not only refused to do his duty as an officer of the Militia, when commanded by his superiour officer, but discouraged others from engaging in the service of their country, and villified and imprecated mischiefs on those that did.

3. That he hath termed the resistance made by the *United States of America*, against tyranny and oppression,

"a damned cause," and in the bitterest terms reviled the same, and wished and prayed they may be subdued by their enemies.

4. That he hath declared himself a Tory, understanding and explaining himself to mean by said term, an enemy to the *United States of America*.

Whereupon it is *Resolved*, by this Committee, That said *Reuben Plum* appears to be, and is an enemy to the *United Independent States of America*, and that he be held up and published to the world as such. And all persons are required to break off and decline all dealings and correspondence with him.

Voted, Nemine contradicente.

A true extract from the Records.

Test: BENJAMIN HENSHAW, Clerk.

New-London, Friday, October 4, 1776.

Last Lord's day se'nnight Captain *Rowe*, with a party of men, landed at a place called the *Old Man's*, near *Brookhaven*, on *Long-Island*, in order to remove his family from *Corum Main*, where he met one *Richard Miller*, a native of *East-Hampton*, who had taken a commission under General *Howe*, and was inlisting men for the regular army, and as he was riding by Captain *Rowe's* door, where a sentry was placed, *Miller* was hailed and ordered to stop, which he refused to do, and rode the faster, and after being repeatedly called upon to stop, and he not regarding, the guard fired at him, when a ball entered his body, and he died the next morning.

Last *Wednesday* a prize ship from *Jamaica*, bound to *London*, was sent into port by the armed brig *Defence*, belonging to the State of *Connecticut*, commanded by Captain *Seth Harding*; she sailed from *Montego* bay in company with two hundred sail, under convoy of two men-of-war, who had parted with them and returned into port. Her cargo consists of three hundred and six hogsheads of sugar, one hundred and fifty-eight hogsheads of rum, sixteen bales of cotton, a quantity of coffee and mahogany, and has two turtle on board. She is about three hundred tons, called the *John, McDonald* master, was taken twelve days ago. An embargo being laid on the shipping in *Jamaica*, on account of the insurrection among the negroes for want of provisions, detained the above fleet, who, when they sailed, were at short allowance of provisions.

MASSACHUSETTS COUNCIL TO GENERAL WARD.

Watertown, October 4, 1776.

SIR: We have received your favour of the 30th *September*, relative to the cannon removed from the heights on *Dorchester Point*. They were removed by the Committee for fortifying the harbour of *Boston*; and the Council, agreeable to your desire, have directed the said Committee without delay to supply the forts from which they have taken any cannon with others as good in their room. We agree with you that the heights of *Dorchester* are important posts, and ought not to be left destitute of proper ordnance.

The Council apprehending that it is absolutely necessary for the keeping up good order and regular discipline among the three regiments raised for the defence of this State to put them under some General officer, and being also convinced of the utility and vast importance of the troops stationed here in the pay of the Continent, and those in the pay of this State, being under one and the same direction, in order to make a regular and effectual stand against the enemy, in case of an attack in these parts, we have thought fit to put the three regiments before mentioned under your direction, and have issued an order for that purpose, a copy of which you have, enclosed. We hope this measure will be agreeable to your Honour, and that you for the service of the common cause will take these troops under your command and direction.

In the name and behalf of the Council, I am, with great respect, your most humble servant.

To Major-General *Ward*.

MARYLAND COUNCIL OF SAFETY TO JESSE HOLLINGSWORTH.

[No. 201.]

Annapolis, October 5, 1776.

SIR: We desire you will purchase and have ready as

soon as possible, on account of this Province, nine hundred barrels of superfine flour, and twenty hogsheads tobacco. The tobacco and three hundred and fifty barrels of the flour must be put on board of the schooner *Resolution*, and the remainder of her cargo must be made up of the bread belonging to the Province, now at your town. We shall send you some money by the first opportunity.

We are, &c.
To Mr. Jesse Hollingsworth.

MARYLAND COUNCIL OF SAFETY TO MESSRS. LUX AND BOWLEY.
[No. 202.] Annapolis, October 5, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: We have received your favour of the 1st instant; and provided you will engage to begin making the cordage for the armed vessels within ten days from this time, and will continue in that business till a sufficient quantity is supplied, we desire you will immediately come down and contract with us for it; if you cannot, be pleased to signify it to us by the first safe opportunity.

We are, &c.
To Messrs. Lux & Bowley.

PETITION TO THE CONVENTION OF MARYLAND.
The humble Petition of a majority of Captain RICHARD CHEW's Company of Militia, belonging to Colonel JOHN WEEMS's Battalion:

These humble petitioners doth petition this honourable house of Convention for a new choice of commissioned officers to serve under in the Militia, as they thinking themselves ill used by the present ones, for the reasons hereafter mentioned: First, we do complain of an unfair election for a Second Lieutenant, on Friday, the 9th day of August last: two judges being appointed to take down the votes, and one of the candidates desiring to see the poll after it was closed, was denied the sight of it, for which reason he thought himself ill used. Secondly, we can and are ready when called upon to prove our officers have been partial in regard to fines upon the people for not attending on field days, and offering to clear all their back fines, that would vote for Mr. Richard Harrison to be Second Lieutenant. And thirdly and lastly, we do complain of our Captain and Ensign speaking in publick company against the poor people in general, as you do see in Mr. Gilbert Hamilton Smith's form of deposition above mentioned.

Signed:

John Birkhead, Jr.,	his	Hopewell X Wood, Lancelot X Stallings,	his
Gilbert H. Smith,	mark.	mark.	mark.
Nehemiah Birkhead,	his	Benj. X French,	Wm. X Larkins,
Gideon Shoemaker,	mark.	mark.	mark.
Thomas X Turner,	his	Abrah. X Turner,	Samuel X Hare,
Francis Whittington,	mark.	mark.	mark.
William Whittington,	Joseph Birkhead.	Richard Joice,	
F. Whittington, Jr.,	his	his	
Isaac X Tucker,	Morgan X Wood,	Abrah. X Janquay.	
mark.	mark.	mark.	
his	Thomas Lance,	his	
Seaborn X Tucker,	Samuel Lewin,	Wm. X Wood,	
mark.	his	mark.	
his	John X Wood,	Lewis Stevens,	
William X Turner,	mark.	John Birkhead,	
mark.	his	F. Birkhead, Jr.,	
Francis Birkhead,	Basil X Guess,	Morgan Jones,	
Nehemiah Birkhead,	mark.	his	
of Saml.,	Math. Birkhead,	John X Griffith,	
West Ward,	Richard Randall,	mark.	
	Daniel Searles,	William Fisher,	
	John Skinner,	Robert Young.	

And your humble petitioners will be in duty bound to pray, &c.
October 5, 1776.

The form of a Deposition which Mr. GILBERT HAMILTON SMITH is ready and willing to swear to if called upon.

ANNE ARUNDEL County:

This is to certify that I, *Gilbert Hamilton Smith*, of the County above mentioned, heard Captain *Richard Chew*, of the said County, say, that no poor man was entitled to a vote, and those that would insist upon voting, if he had his way, should be put to death; and I do affirm also that I heard his brother, *Samuel Chew*, say that a poor man was not born to freedom, but to be a drudge on earth.

Given from under my hand in the presence of *John Birkhead, Jr.*, and *Nehemiah Birkhead*.
GILBERT HAMILTON SMITH.

GENERAL THOMPSON TO GENERAL WASHINGTON.
Philadelphia, October 5, 1776.

SIR: The wants of the prisoners being many, I procured them credit with Mr. *Truman*, at *Quebeck*, for £630 9s. 8½d. *Halifax*, equal to £945 14s. 6¾d. *Pennsylvania* currency, for which I have received the following bills and cash, viz:

	Halifax.
Colonel Green's bill for	- - - - £335 2 6½
Captain Morgan's bill for	- - - - 105 6 9½
Captain Lamb's bill for	- - - - 57 6 0½
Messrs. Nichols & Steel's bill for	- - - - 40 0 1
Doctor McKenzie, cash,	- - - - 12 3 4
Mr. Duncan, cash,	- - - - 8 13 9
Colonel Green, for the sick, (still due,)	63 3 10½
Captain McClean, cash,	- - - - 8 13 3
	£630 9 8

Colonel Green took up for the use of the sick soldiers belonging to the *New-England* Colonies, sundry articles amounting to £63 3s. 10½d. *Halifax*, which he has not included in his bill. Your Excellency will please to direct whether it is to be charged to the poor soldiers or the publick.

I have also drawn five months' pay for the officers, and three months' pay for the soldiers, belonging to the *Pennsylvania* and *Jersey* regiments, who have returned with me from *Canada*. I enclose the account, that stoppages may be made in the regiments to which they belong.

I have made myself liable for the goods supplied by Mr. *Truman* to Messrs. *Meredith & Clymer*, of this city, and must request that you will order the bills to be paid, that I may be released from that obligation.

I have the honour to be your Excellency's most obedient humble servant,
WM. THOMPSON.

To His Excellency General *Washington*, *King's Bridge*.

Philadelphia, October 5, 1776.

Major-General *Lee* is daily expected in town from the southward, on his way to the *American* camp, near *New-York*.

Monday last (*September 30*) arrived in this city, from the *American* camp at *Haerlem*, Brigadier-General *Mifflin*.

PHILADELPHIA COUNTY (PENNSYLVANIA) COMMITTEE.
Philadelphia County Committee, October 5, 1776.

The inhabitants of the County of *Philadelphia* are hereby acquainted that each Township in the said County is, by the allotment of the City Committee, entitled to the proportion of between nine and ten bushels of the Salt belonging to *Joshua Fisher & Sons*, and *Joseph Shewel*, at the moderate price of three shillings for the fine, and seven and sixpence for the coarse, per bushel. It is requested that the County committee-man of each township will attend at the *Conestoge Wagon*, on *Friday*, the 18th instant, at ten o'clock in the forenoon, to receive the proportion allotted to his township. And it is also expected that those townships where no committee-man has hitherto been chosen, will appoint proper persons to give their attendance at the same time and place, for the like purpose. Should any township neglect applying on that day, its proportion will be divided among the rest.

GENERAL WASHINGTON TO GOVERNOUR HENRY.
Head-Quarters, Heights of *Harlem*, October 5, 1776.

DEAR SIR: Your obliging favour of the 20th ultimo came duly to hand, and demands my best acknowledgments. I congratulate you, sir, most cordially, upon your appointment to the Government, and, with no less sincerity, on your late recovery. Your correspondence will confer honour and satisfaction; and, whenever it is in my power, I shall write to you with pleasure. Our retreat from *Long-Island*, under the peculiar circumstances we then laboured, became an act of prudence and necessity, and the evacuation of *New-York* was a consequence resulting from the

other. Indeed, after we discovered the enemy instead of making an attack upon the city were endeavouring (by means of their ships and superiour land force) either to intercept our retreat, by getting in our rear, or else by landing their forces between our divisions at *King's Bridge* and those in the town, to separate the one from the other, it became a matter of the last importance to alter the disposition of the army.

These measures, however, although of the most evident utility, have been productive of some inconvenience; the troops having become in some measure dispirited by these successive retreats, and which, I presume, has also been the case among several of our friends in the country. In order to recover that military ardour, which is of the utmost moment to an army, almost immediately on my arrival at this place I formed a design of cutting off some of the enemy's light troops, who, encouraged by their successes, had advanced to the extremity of the high ground opposite to our present encampment. To effect this salutary purpose, Colonel *Knowlton* and Major *Leitch* were detached, with parties of Riflemen and Rangers, to get in their rear, while a disposition was made as if to attack them in front. By some unhappy mistake, the fire was commenced from that quarter rather on their flank than in their rear, by which means, though the enemy were defeated and pushed off the ground, yet they had an opportunity of retreating to their main body. This piece of success, though it tended greatly to inspire our troops with confidence, has been in some measure embittered by the loss of those two brave officers, who are dead of the wounds they received in the action. Since this skirmish, excepting the affair at *Montresor's Island*, where Major *Henly*, another of our best officers, was slain, there has been nothing of any material consequence. Indeed, the advantage obtained over the enemy's light troops might have been improved, perhaps, to a considerable extent, had we been in a proper situation to have made use of this favourable crisis, but a want of confidence in the generality of the troops has prevented me from availing myself of that, and almost every other opportunity which has presented itself.

I own my fears that this must ever be the case when our dependence is placed on men inlisted for a few months, commanded by such officers as party or accident may have furnished, and on Militia, who, as soon as they are fairly fixed in the camp, are impatient to return to their own homes; and who, from an utter disregard of all discipline and restraint among themselves, are but too apt to infuse the like spirit into others. The evils of short inlistments, and employing militia to oppose against regular and well appointed troops, I strongly urged to Congress before the last army was engaged. Indeed, my own situation at *Cambridge*, about the close of the last campaign, furnished the most striking example of the fatal tendency of such measures. I then clearly foresaw that such an armament as we had good reason to expect would be sent against us, could be opposed only by troops inlisted during the war, and where every action would add to their experience and improvement, and of whom, if they were unsuccessful in the beginning, a reasonable hope might be entertained that in time they would become as well acquainted with their business as their enemies. This method, I am convinced, would have been attended with every good consequence; for, besides the Militia's being altogether unfit for the service when called into the field, we have discovered, from experience, they are much more expensive than any other kind of troops; and that the war could have been conducted on more moderate terms, by establishing a permanent body of forces, who were equal to every contingency, than by calling in the Militia on imminent and pressing occasions.

I would not wish to influence your judgment with respect to Militia, in the management of *Indian* affairs, as I am fully persuaded the inhabitants of the frontier Counties in your Colony are, from inclination as well as ability, peculiarly adapted for that kind of warfare; at the same time I should think it would be highly advisable, in case you should conceive yourselves to be in danger from any detachment from the *British* army, or from their marines, not to depend on any troops but such as are well officered and inlisted during the war.

I make no doubt but your State have turned their views towards forming some obstacles against the enemy's ships

and tenders, who may go up your rivers in quest of provisions, or for the purpose of destroying your towns. If they have depended on batteries to prevent them, without any other obstructions, a trial of the matter has taught us to believe it will be altogether ineffectual; as, when under sail, with wind and tide in their favour, any damage they may receive from a battery will be of very little consequence. At the same time, I must observe, that this kind of opposition is exceedingly proper for the defence of a town, or in any case where it is necessary the ships should come to anchor before the batteries for the purpose of silencing them. In the first instance, I would strongly recommend row-galleys, which, if officered with brave and determined men, and conducted with prudence, would, in my opinion, be productive of the greatest advantage, and be the most likely means, in your situation, of securing your towns and houses on the navigable water from any impression of the shipping.

I imagine, before this, Congress has made you acquainted with their resolutions for raising the new army, and that your Colony is to furnish fifteen battalions, to be inlisted during the war. As this will occasion the choosing a number of new officers, I would in the most urgent manner, recommend the utmost care and circumspection in your several appointments. I do not expect that there are many experienced gentlemen now left with you, as, from what I have understood, those who have served in the last war are chiefly promoted; however, I am satisfied that the military spirit runs so high in your Colony, and that the number of applicants will be so considerable, that a very proper choice may be made; indeed, the army's being put upon such a permanent footing will be a strong inducement for them to step forth on the present interesting occasion. One circumstance in this important business ought to be cautiously guarded against, and that is, the soldier and officer being too nearly on a level. Discipline and subordination add life and vigour to military movements. The person commanded yields but a reluctant obedience to those he conceives are undeservedly made his superiours. The degress of rank are frequently transferred from civil life into the departments of the army. The true criterion to judge by (when past services do not enter into the competition) is, to consider whether the candidate for office has a just pretension to the character of a gentleman, a proper sense of honour, and some reputation to lose.

Perhaps, sir, you may be surprised at my pressing this advice so strongly as I have done in this letter; but I have felt the inconveniences resulting from a contrary principle in so sensible a manner, and this army has been so greatly enfeebled by a different line of conduct, that I hope you will readily excuse me.

I am, sir, with sincere regard, your affectionate, humble servant,

GO. WASHINGTON.

To his Excellency *Patrick Henry*, Esq., Governour of the State of *Virginia*.

GENERAL WASHINGTON TO THE PRESIDENT OF CONGRESS.

[Read October 8, 1776.]

Head-Quarters, Heights of Harlem, October 5, 1776.

SIR: I was last night honoured with your favour of the 2d, with sundry resolutions of Congress. The officers that concurred in the acquittal of Ensign *Macumber* shall be called upon to assign their reasons for their first judgment, which shall be sent as soon as they are collected.

In respect to the exchange of prisoners, I fear it will be a work of great difficulty, owing to their dispersed and scattered situation throughout the States. In order to effect it, I have wrote to the Eastern Governments to have them collected, and to transmit me an account of their number, distinguishing the names and ranks of the field and commissioned officers, and the corps they belong to. I have also wrote to Governour *Livingston*, of the *Jerseys*, upon the subject, and must take the liberty of requesting Congress to give directions that a similar return may be made of those in *Pennsylvania* and *Maryland*, and for their being brought to *Brunswick*, that they may be ready to be exchanged for an equal number, and those of the same ranks. I observe by the resolve of the 26th ultimo, that the exchange is particularly directed to be made of the officers and soldiers taken

off *Long-Island*. But should not that follow the exchange of those officers and men who have lately returned from *Quebeck*, whose imprisonment has been much longer, and whose service has not been less severe, and in many instances, conducted with great intrepidity? I have had many applications since their arrival, by which they claim a kind of preference, as far as their number and the circumstances of their rank will allow, and which I thought it my duty to mention, that I may obtain some direction upon the subject.

You will observe by a paragraph of a letter received yesterday from General *Howe*, a copy of which you have at length, that the non-performance of the agreement between Captain *Forster* and General *Arnold*, by which the latter stipulated for the return of an equal number of officers and prisoners in our hands for those delivered him, is considered in an unfavourable light, and entirely imputed to me, as having the chief command of the armies of the States, and a controlling power over General *Arnold*. The pointed manner in which Mr. *Howe* is pleased to express himself could not personally affect me, supposing there had been no good grounds for the treaty not being ratified, having been nothing more than an instrument for conveying to him the resolutions formed upon the subject; but as there were but too just reasons, his censure could have no weight was it not directed against me. However, I would beg leave to observe from the letters from the hostages; from what has been reported by others respecting Captain *Forster's* having used his endeavours to restrain the savages from exercising their wonted barbarities, though in some instances they did; his purchasing some of the prisoners for a pretty considerable premium; but above all, from the delicate nature of such treaties, and because the non-observance of them must damp the spirits of the officers who make them, and add affliction to the misfortunes of those whom necessity and the nature of the case force into captivity, to give them a sanction by a long and irksome confinement: for these reasons and many more that will readily occur, that I could wish Congress to reconsider the matter, and to carry it into execution. I am sensible the wrong was originally in their employing savages, and that whatever cruelties were committed by them should be esteemed their own acts, yet perhaps in point of policy, it may not be improper to overlook those infractions on their part, and to pursue that mode which will be most likely to render the hardships incident to war most tolerable, and the greatest benefits to the State. I have ventured to say thus much on the subject from a regard to the service, and because such gentlemen of the army as I have heard mention it, seem to wish the treaty had been ratified rather than disallowed.

Enclosed is a list of vacancies in the Third Regiment of *Virginia* troops, in part occasioned by the death of Major *Leitch*, who died of his wounds on *Tuesday* morning, and of the gentlemen who stand next in regimental order, and who are recommended to succeed to 'em. You will observe that Captain *John Fitzgerald* is said to be appointed to the duty of Major. This I have done in orders, being the eldest Captain in the regiment, and I believe an officer of unexceptionable merit, and as it was highly necessary at this time to have the corps as well and fully officered as possible. There is also a vacancy in the First Continental Battalion by the promotion of Lieutenant *Clark* to a majority in the Flying-Camp, which Colonel *Hand* has recommended *William Patten* to succeed, as you will perceive by his letter enclosed.

I have taken the liberty to transmit a plan for establishing a corps of Engineers, Artificers, &c., sketched out by Colonel *Putnam*, and which is proposed for the consideration of Congress. How far they may incline to adopt it, or whether they may choose to proceed upon such an extensive scale, they will be pleased to determine. However, I conceive it a matter well worthy of their consideration, being convinced from experience, and from the reasons suggested by Colonel *Putnam*, who has acted with great diligence and reputation in the business, that some establishment of the sort is highly necessary, and will be productive of the most beneficial consequences. If the proposition is approved by Congress, I am informed by good authority that there is a gentleman in *Virginia*, in the Colony service, *John Hadler*, Esq., a native of *Germany*, whose abilities in this way are by no means inconsiderable. I am told he was an Engineer in

the army under General *Stanwix*, and is reputed to be of skill and ingenuity in the profession. In this capacity I do not know him myself; but am intimately acquainted with him in his private character, as a man of understanding and of good behaviour. I would submit his merit to the inquiry of Congress, and if he shall answer the report I have had of him, I make no doubt but he will be suitably provided for.

The Convention of this State have lately seized and had appraised two new ships, valued at £6,229 *York* currency, which they have sent down for the purpose of sinking, and obstructing the channel opposite *Mount Washington*. The price being high and opinions various as to the necessity of the measure, some conceiving the obstruction nearly sufficient already, and others that they would render it secure, I would wish to have the direction of Congress upon the subject by the earliest opportunity, thinking myself that if the enemy should attempt to come up, that they should be used, sooner than to hazard their passing. I must be governed by circumstances, yet hope for their sentiments before any thing is necessary to be done.

Sundry disputes having arisen of late between officers of different regiments and of the same rank, respecting the succession to such vacancies as happen from death or other causes: some suggesting that it should be in a Colonial line and governed by the priority of their commissions, others that it should be regimentally, and there being an instance now before me between the officers of the *Virginia* regiments, occasioned by the death of Major *Leitch*, it has become absolutely necessary that Congress should determine the mode by which promotions are regulated: whether colonially or by priority of commissions, or regimentally; reserving a right out of the general rule they adopt to reward for particular merit, or of withholding from office such as may not be worthy to succeed. I have only proposed two modes for their consideration, being satisfied that promotions through the line, as they are called, can never take place without producing discord, jealousy, distrust, and the most fatal consequences. In some of my letters upon the subject of promotions, and one which I had the honour of addressing the Board of War on the 30th ultimo, I advised that the mode should be rather practised than resolved on; but I am fully convinced now of the necessity of settling it in one of the two ways I have taken the liberty to point out, and under the restrictions I have mentioned, or the disputes and applicants will be endless, and attended with great inconvenience.

I have the honour to be, with great esteem, sir, your most obedient servant,

GO. WASHINGTON.

Perth-Amboy, September 16, 1776.

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR EXCELLENCY: By a commission dated the 14th of this instant, which I have received from the Convention of the State of *Pennsylvania*, am appointed a Major in the Second Battalion whereof *Richard McCaltster*, Esq., is Colonel, in the Flying-Camp. Therefore beg leave to resign my commission as Lieutenant, and hope it will be agreeable that some other person be appointed in my stead.

I am your Excellency's most obedient, humble servant,
JNO. CLARK, JUN.,

Lieutenant in First Continental Regiment.

To his Excellency *George Washington*, Esq., Commander-in-Chief of the United Forces in *America*.

SIR: I beg leave to recommend Mr. *William Patten* to succeed to the Third Lieutenantcy, vacant in my regiment by the promotion of Lieutenant *Clark*.

I am, sir, with much respect, your Excellency's most obedient servant,

EDWARD HAND.

To his Excellency the Commander-in-Chief.

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR EXCELLENCY: The following establishment of artificers, &c., are in proportion to the eighty-eight battalions of Infantry as one company to five and a half battalions, which I think is as small a proportion as will answer the ends proposed. The battalions in general may give fifty each for the works; the miners and sappers are in proportion to these nearly as one to ten. The carpenters

will not exceed, if we are to consider they have in charge the making of platforms, chevaux-de-frise gates, guard-houses, ordnance stores and barracks within the fortifications or necessary for the garrison of each place, and many other things in the Engineer department. I have had no regard to carriages, beds, boxes, and other matters belonging to the Artillery; nor wagons or other carriages belonging to the Quartermaster's Department or barracks for the quartering of troops in general, nor any stores for the Commissary (except for the different fortresses, these only come within the Engineer department.) However, if the carpenters are thought to exceed, there may be a part of them attached to the Artillery, and the same with regard to smiths, and they may also be employed in any other department, when the fortifications do not require their labour. For my own part I should rather choose to increase their number than lessen them some; if the service does not require their labour they are not to be paid more than other troops, and subject to like duty.

I am, sir, your Excellency's most obedient, humble servant,

RUFUS PUTNAM.

October 3, 1776.

To His Excellency G. Washington, Esq., General, &c.

An establishment for a corps of Engineers, Artificers, &c., to consist of two Battalions of eight Companies each, one hundred men in a Company, including officers.

Field and Staff Officers in each Battalion.	Their pay per month in dolls.	Their extra allowances. Dollars per month.
1 Colonel or Chief Engineer, - -	60	15 for a clerk.
1 Lieut. Col. or Chief Director, -	50	15 for ditto.
1 Major or Sub-Director, - -	40	15 for ditto.
1 Surveyor, - - - - -	33½	30 for 2 clerks.
1 Adjutant, -	} Their pay the same as in the Battalion service.	
1 Chaplain, -		
1 Surgeon, -		
1 Mate, - -		
1 Quartermaster, -		
1 Paymaster, -		

Each Company to consist of the following Officers, Artificers, &c., their pay the same as in the Battalion service:

	Their extraordinary allowance per day when employed in the works.
1 Captain or Engineer in ordinary, - -	1-2 dollar.
1 Capt. Lieut. or Engineer extraordinary, - -	3-8 of a dollar.
1 Lieutenant or Sub-Engineer, - - -	1-3 do.
1 Ensign or Practitioner Engineer, - -	1-4 do.
4 Sentinels or Train men of Band, each, -	1-6 do.
4 Corporals or 2 do. - - -	1-7 do.
2 Drums and Fifes, - - -	do. - do.
30 Carpenters or Wheelwrights, - -	1-8 do.
5 Smiths, - - - - -	1-8 do.
6 Masons, - - - - -	1-8 do.
25 Miners and Sappers, - -	1-8 do.*
20 Labourers, - - - - -	1-12 do.

* In time of siege one-fourth of a dollar.

GENERAL SIR WILLIAM HOWE TO GENERAL WASHINGTON.

Head-Quarters, York-Island, October 4, 1776.

SIR: Having heard, by report, of Governour Browne's vicinity in Connecticut, I have been in daily expectation of his arrival for the exchange of Lord Stirling; but as the Governour is not in the military line, and as I proposed the exchange to gratify your desire for the return of Lord Stirling, whose services would take place with you some days sooner were I to comply with your request for his immediate dismission, you will excuse my detaining his Lordship until the arrival of Governour Browne.

With relation to the non-performance on your part of the agreement between Captain Forster and General Arnold, that General being immediately under your command, from your situation made known to me by your own subscription, it rests with you to see them fulfilled, agreeable to the plighted faith of the General, which, no doubt, to save his honour, he has a right to expect; or that you will return the prisoners given up by Captain Forster. In the meanwhile I trust, from the declaration in yours of the 23d last past, that you will not allow of any delay in the exchange

of the officers and soldiers in your possession belonging to his Majesty's troops.

Brigadier-General Woodhull was yesterday reported to me to have died of his wounds.

The enclosed note from Mrs. De Lancey I have taken the liberty of sending for your determination upon the contents.

I am with due respect, sir, your most obedient servant,
W. Howe.

To General Washington, &c., &c.

Mrs. De Lancey's compliments to General Washington; is concerned, that she is obliged to be troublesome to him, but hopes an appeal to his feelings will convince him that her case deserves some attention. Some regard is surely due to a woman, who without the smallest influence on publick affairs, feels deeply for the distresses of her country, and who has been so great a sharer in its calamities.

Some time before the British troops landed on Long-Island, Mrs. De Lancey came on a visit to her father. His illness, and the unhappy situation of affairs, obliged her to prolong her stay beyond the time she intended. Her daughters and herself being in want of clothes, she sent a servant with a note to General Mifflin, (who she heard was commanding officer at West-Chester,) requesting the favour to allow of safe conveyance for some necessary apparel. The servant was seized and confined, and no answer returned. Since that the death of her father (the Lieutenant Governour) and the fire at New-York, has destroyed much the greatest part of her property there, makes her anxious to return to West-Chester, to try if she can yet preserve what she has in that place. What she has to request of General Washington is, that he would be so obliging as to inform her whether she and her daughter may be permitted to return home; and if so, that he would be so kind as to order them a safe conduct. If this cannot be, may she not hope that he will take some method to prevent the destruction of her property.

Spring-Hill on Long-Island, October 1, 1776.

To General Washington.

GENERAL WASHINGTON TO GENERAL JAMES CLINTON.

Head-Quarters, on Harlem Heights, October 5, 1776.

SIR: Your letter of the 1st instant, enclosing one from the Committee of New-Windsor and a deposition against Mr. Conner, is duly received. They say the butter was intended for this army. I would therefore advise its being immediately sent to Colonel Trumbull, Commissary-General, who will pay the current price. This step cannot but be agreeable to Mr. Conner, if he is innocent of the charge; if otherways, will be secured from going to the enemy. The Committee should take upon them the further examination of Conner and Montgomery, and deal with them according to their crimes. If found guilty, the same steps ought to be taken in regard to the flour you mention to be in store at New-Windsor.

In respect to intrenching tools, much time elapses in sending them from here. Besides, we have not more than are wanted for present use. You must apply to the several Committees in the country, or send an officer to pick up such a number as may be necessary. For the amount, you may draw on the Quartermaster-General.

I am, sir, &c.,

GO. WASHINGTON.

To Brigadier-General James Clinton, Fort Montgomery.

GENERAL WASHINGTON TO GOVERNOUR LIVINGSTON.

Head-Quarters, Harlem Heights, October 5, 1776.

SIR: The Congress having directed me, by a resolve of the 26th September, to procure, as soon as possible, an exchange of the officers and soldiers taken on Long-Island, for the same number of British officers and privates now in the United States, it becomes necessary for me to be informed of the numbers and ranks of the prisoners in the different States, in order to carry the same into execution. You will therefore oblige me by having made out and transmitted to me an exact return of the number of officers in New-Jersey, their ranks, names, and the corps to which they belong. The numbers of the non-commissioned offi-

cers and privates, without their names, will be sufficient. They should also be collected from the different places where they are stationed, and brought together to some convenient place, (*Brunswick*, I should think,) from whence they may be sent to General *Howe*, when the cartel is fully settled.

I am, sir, your most obedient servant,

GO. WASHINGTON.

To His Excellency *William Livingston*, Esq., Governour of the State of *New-Jersey*.

COLONEL REED TO GENERAL BEALL.

Head-Quarters, October 5, 1776.

SIR: The General being so much engaged in other business that he cannot finish the observations he proposed to lay before the Court-Martial, on the trial and sentence of Captain *Weisner*, has directed me to request the Court to reconsider the matter, and to remark that the discretionary power of the Court seems to have been exercised rather from some motive of compassion than any circumstance appearing on the face of the proceedings. He would therefore wish the Court to point out the circumstances which have induced them to mitigate a sentence which seems to have been generally expected by the army.

Had the Court, upon the contrariety of evidence, acquitted the prisoner, the General apprehends the same consequences would not have remitted to the publick, and he should have acquiesced in the opinion, though it differed from his own. But to convict an officer of the crime of cowardice, and in a case where the enterprise failed on that account, where several brave men fell because they were unsupported, and to impose a less punishment than death, he is very apprehensive will discourage both officers and men, and render it, hereafter, difficult, if not impossible, to make an exemplary punishment, and especially in the case of a common soldier, who will suppose distinctions are made by officers in the case of an officer.

I have laid before you, as near as I can recollect, the General's sentiments and directions, and enclose you the proceedings; and am, respectfully, sir, your obedient, humble servant,

JOS. REED, *Adjutant-General*.

To Brigadier-General *Rezin Beall*, President of General Court-Martial.

GENERAL BEALL TO COLONEL JOSEPH REED.

Camp near Head-Quarters, October 6, 1776.

SIR: This Court-Martial, with equal surprise and concern, considered your letter which contains his Excellency's remarks on the opinion of the Court in the trial of Captain *Weisner*.

We flatter ourselves the following observations will justify the Court in the opinion of his Excellency or the publick, and at the same time discover their feelings, as well as the impropriety of a reëxamination of the matter, as his Excellency's sentiments that the Court so far deviated from their duty (when under the most solemn ties) as to exercise a discretionary power, rather from motives of compassion than from any circumstance appearing on the face of the proceedings.

As no new testimony is mentioned to be offered to the Court, they conceive the judgment they have given in the case consistent with their duty as officers and the rules for the government of the army.

You, sir, must be sensible of the very great diversity between written evidence and that given *viva voce*. The manner, the behaviour, and a number of circumstances in the conduct of a witness, which may enforce credit, doubt, or discredit, before a Court, cannot possibly be reduced to writing, so as to enable a reader to judge with any degree of certainty or precision. Upon those principles, we contend we are the best, the sole judges.

If his Excellency is of opinion, from the written testimony, that the miscarriage of that unfortunate enterprise was owing principally to Captain *Weisner's* misbehaviour before the enemy, it far exceeds the amount of the evidence in the minds of the Court.

The only evidence which stands uncontradicted is that relative to the prisoner's conduct before the firing from the

enemy began; and here the testimony of some of the witnesses suffered much, in point of credibility, by their after-testimony. On this ground the Court proceeded in finding the prisoner guilty under the seventeenth of the articles of war, where a species of cowardice is plainly implied different from that in the twenty-seventh. His life was in question on this article. The testimony was contradictory. On the part of the States, the witnesses produced were considered interested. Their lives, in some measure, were at stake. Throwing the fault on some one or more persons might be essential to their own justification and preservation.

REZIN BEALL, *President*.

ROB'T MAGAW,
SILAS NEWCOMB,
LAMB'T CADWALADER,
GILES RUSSEL,
EZRA PUTNAM,
WM. HOPEWELL,

EDWARD MOTT,
ELEZ. WINSHIP,
JNO. BEATTY,
ALEXANDER GRAYDON,
CHRIST'R SWART,
CAS. WEITZEL.

TENCH TILGHMAN TO WILLIAM DUER.

Head-Quarters, Harlem Heights, October 5, 1776.

DEAR SIR: *Marsh* shall be immediately sent up to you, and I hope he will answer the end proposed.

We sent down a party last night, to bring off a parcel of boards from *Harlem*, which they effected. The enemy, I fancy, think we have got more than our share from that town, for they this morning sent a small party over and took possession. They have been throwing up a breast-work to-day; but we must try to drive them away to-night.

I hope you will succeed in apprehending *Palmer*. We have done nothing yet with the persons apprehended in company with *Marsh*; nor can we, till he returns to give evidence.

I am, sir, your most obedient servant,

TENCH TILGHMAN.

To *William Duer*, Esq., *Fishkills*.

EXTRACT OF A LETTER FROM COLONEL JOHN HASLETT TO GENERAL CÉSAR RODNEY, DATED CAMP NEAR MOUNT WASHINGTON, OCTOBER 5, 1776.

SIR: I know you have already sacrificed a large share of private property to the evil and unthankful. In this you resemble the Supreme Manager, who makes his sun to shine on the evil and the good, and, bad as times are, you have a few friends still of the latter character. And, my dear sir, who can better afford it? Providence has blessed you with a fortune to your prudence inexhaustible, by which you are enabled to live where you please, and to keep the first company where you do live, and all this with few drawbacks upon it. How, then, can you lay out a part of it to more noble purposes than in serving your country, guarding her rights and privileges, and forcing wretches to be unhappy against their will? In this you will act as an agent of the sovereign goodness, and coöperate with Heaven to save a wretched race; and though you may not effect the righteous purpose, the testimony of an approving conscience, the applause of conscious virtue, and the approbation of all good beings, will more than balance the sacrifice. A thousand things might be urged to the same purpose. But a word to the wise.

GENERAL HEATH TO CAPTAIN PAIN.

King's Bridge, October 5, 1776.

SIR: Being informed that one *Samuel Smith*, of *Poughkeepsie*, has lately come from *Long-Island* and gone to that place, and it is suspected that he may have intentions prejudicial to the interest of the States of *America*; and being also informed that your health is such as to render you unable to do duty in camp at present, would therefore have you immediately proceed to *Poughkeepsie*, and, if possible, apprehend the said *Samuel Smith*, and convey him here for examination. You will take care to search his pockets for inlisting papers. You will also take the advice of the Committee, and ask their aid if needful.

I am, sir, yours, &c.,

W. HEATH.

To Captain *Brenton Pain*.

Return of the Officers present and absent of the First Regiment of Foot, in the service of the UNITED AMERICAN STATES, commanded by Colonel EDWARD HAND; WEST-CHESTER, October 5th, 1776.

PRESENT AND FIT FOR DUTY.

Colonel, - - - - - Edward Hand.
Lieutenant-Colonel, - - - - - James Chambers.
Major, - - - - - James Ross.

Captains.	First Lieutenants.	Second Lieutenants.	Third Lieutenants.
Robt. Clugage..	John Holliday..	Wm. Willson..	John Dick.
Henry Miller...	Samuel Craig...	Thos. Buchanan	Jno. Dougherty.
Charles Craig...	James Matson...	Jasper Ewing..	Wm. Magaw.
James Grier....	M. McConnell..	Thomas Armor..	Abram Skinner.
David Harris...	Benj. Chambers	William Cross..	Alex'r Wilson.
James Parr.....	Mich. Simpson.	Benjamin Bird..	Jas. Holliday-6
Jas. Hamilton-7	James Willson.	Peter Weiser-7	
	Fred. Hubley-8		

STAFF.

Chaplain, - - - - - Samuel Blair.
Adjutant, - - - - - Jasper Ewing.
Quartermaster, - - - - - Fred. Hubley.
Surgeon, - - - - - William Magaw.
Mate, - - - - - Christian Reinick.

OFFICERS ABSENT AND HOW LONG.

First Lieutenant Archibald Steel, } Prisoners of war,
Second Lieutenant Francis Nicholas, } Dec. 31, 1775.
Third Lieutenant David Zeizble, wounded 26th Aug., 1776.

OFFICERS ON DUTY AND WHAT DUTY.

Captain Matthew Smith, - Recruiting, 1st July, 1776.

VACANT OFFICERS AND BY WHAT MEANS.

Captain James Ross, - - - - - } Promoted.
Third Lieutenant John Clark, - - - - - }
Second Lieutenant Jacob Zank, - - - - - } Resigned.
Third Lieutenant George Francis, - - - - - }

EDWARD HAND, Colonel.

Return of the Field-Officers of the MARYLAND Flying-Camp, Camp MORRIS's Heights, October 5, 1776.

	Fit for duty.			Sick in camp.			Sick out of camp.			
	Colonels.	Lieut. Colonels.	Majors.	Colonels.	Lieut. Colonels.	Majors.	Colonels.	Lieut. Colonels.	Majors.	Absent.
Col. Charles G. Griffith, -	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-
Lieut. Col. Henry Shryock,	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Major Mantz, - - -	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-
Col. Jo. C. Hall, - - -	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Lieut. Col. William Hide,	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1*	-	-
Major Cradock, - - -	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-
Col. Thomas Ewing, - -	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-
Lieut. Col. John Addison,	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Major John Eden, - - -	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-
Col. William Richardson,	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1†
Lieut. Col. Wheatly, - -	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Major William Hopewell, -	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-
	1	3	4	2	-	-	-	1	-	1

REZN. BEALL, Brig. General.

* Had leave to return to Philadelphia till he recovered his health.
† Has never been in camp.

Return of the Field-Officers, absent and present, of the Regiment stationed at DE LANCEY's Mills, in WEST-CHESTER, under the command of Colonel EDWARD HAND, October 5, 1776.

PRESENT AND FIT FOR DUTY.

Continental Regiment: Colonel, *Edward Hand*; Lieut. Colonel, *James Chambers*; Major, *James Ross*.
Berks County Flying-Camp: Colonel, *Henry Haller*.
Lancaster County Flying-Camp: Colonel, *James Cunningham*.

FIFTH SERIES.—VOL. II.

ABSENT AND ON WHAT ACCOUNT.

Henry Lutz, prisoner, 26th August, 1776.
William Hay, on furlough in *New-Jersey*, 27th Sept., 1776.
Edward Burd, prisoner, 26th August, 1776. (*Berks* County Flying-Camp.)
Thomas Edwards, on command at *Fort Constitution*. (*Lancaster* County Flying-Camp.)
EDW'D HAND, Colonel First Regiment.

A Return of General FELLOWS's Brigade, present, and fit for duty; September 14, 1776.

REGIMENTS.	Colonels.	Lieut. Colonels.	Majors.	Captains.	Subalterns.	Sergeants.	Drums and Fifes.	Rank and File.
Holman's, - - - - -	1	1	1	5	18	23	12	367
Cary's, - - - - -	1	-	1	8	16	26	12	322
Smith's, - - - - -	1	1	1	7	17	25	14	369
Total, - - - - -	3	2	3	20	15	74	38	1058

FIELD OFFICERS.

Col. Holman, - - - - - }
Lieut. Col. Raymond, - - - } Present, fit for duty.
Maj. Sears, - - - - - }
Col. Smith, - - - - - }
Lieut. Col. Longly, - - - } Present, fit for duty.
Maj. Whelock, - - - - - }
Col. Cary, - - - - - Present, fit for duty.
Lieut. Col. Richardson, - - Sick, present.
Maj. Payen, - - - - - Present, fit for duty.

A Return of the Officers of the DELAWARE Regiment, October 4, 1776.

PRESENT, FIT FOR DUTY.

Capt. Stedham, Lieut. Popham,
Capt. Caldwell, Lieut. McCall,
Capt. Hall, Lieut. Anderson,
Capt. Darbey, Lieut. Perkins,
Capt. Pope, Ensign Stevens,
Capt. Smith, Ensign Hazzard,
Capt. Vaughan, Ensign Inquet,
Lieut. Howell, Ensign Wilson,
Lieut. Patton, Ensign Nixion,
Lieut. Kirkwood, Ensign Carty,
Lieut. Moore, Ensign Vaughan,
Lieut. Dixon, Lieut. and Adj. Holland.
Lieut. Trewett,
Col. Haslet, - - - - - Sick, absent.
Capt. Adams, - - - - - Sick, absent.
Ensign Course, - - - - - Sick, absent.
Lieut. Gordon, - - - - - Sick, present.
Quartermaster Bale, - - - Sick, present.
Chaplain, Mr. Montgomery, Gone to Philadelphia.
Lieut. Col. Bedford, }
Maj. McDonough, } - - Fit for duty.

A Return of the Field Officers in the PENNSYLVANIA Battalions encamped near Head-Quarters, Oct. 5, 1776.

THIRD PENNSYLVANIA BATTALION.

Col. John Shee, - - - - - Resigned.
Lieut. Col. Lambert Cadwallader, Present, fit for duty.
Maj. Henry Becker, - - - - - Present, fit for duty.

FIFTH PENNSYLVANIA BATTALION.

Col. Robert Magaw, - - - - - Present, fit for duty.
Lieut. Colonel Joseph Penrose, gone to Philadelphia, since 29th September, to purchase clothes for the battalion.
Maj. Geo. Nagle, - - - - - Present, fit for duty.

DELAWARE BATTALION.

Col. John Haslet, sick, beyond *King's Bridge*.
Lieut. Col. Gunning Bedford, - Present, fit for duty.
Maj. John McDonough, - - - Present, fit for duty.

PENNSYLVANIA RIFLEMEN.
Col. Samuel Mills, taken prisoner at *Long-Island*.
First Battalion: { Lieut. Col. James Piper, taken at
 Long-Island.
 Major Enion Williams, gone on com-
 mand to *Philadelphia*.
Second Battalion: { Lt. Col. Daniel Brodhead, sick, present.
 Maj. Patton, present, fit for duty.

PENNSYLVANIA MUSKET BATTALION.
Col. Samuel John Atlee, taken prisoner at *Long-Island*.
Lieut. Col. Parry, killed, at *Long-Island*.
Maj. James Potts, resigned at *Philadelphia*.
 ROBERT MAGAW,
 Col. 5th Penn. Batt'n, eldest officer.

Return of Officers fit for duty in Colonel MARTIN's Regiment, made the 5th day of October, A. D. 1776.

Captain,	- - - - -	John Seward.
First Lieutenant,	- - - - -	John Martin.
Ensign,	- - - - -	John Welling.
Captain,	- - - - -	Robert Gaston.
Ensign,	- - - - -	Tophier Carn.
Captain,	- - - - -	Nathan Luse.
Second Lieutenant,	- - - - -	George Hager.
Ensign,	- - - - -	Joseph King.
Captain,	- - - - -	Abraham Skinner.
First Lieutenant,	- - - - -	Jacob Rosecrans.
Second Lieutenant,	- - - - -	Aaron Westbrook.
Ensign,	- - - - -	Safrine Westbrook.

Ensign John Miller, of Captain Bates's Company.
First Lieutenant John Piper, of Captain Seely's Company.
First Lieutenant Cyrus Beckworth, of Captain Bond's do.
Ensign Schooly, of Captain Bond's do.

Colonel Ephraim Martin, wounded, on *Long-Island*, went home, and is not got well yet.

Lieutenant-Colonel John Monson, taken sick at *Fort Washington*, went home sick, and, by accounts, suppose him to be yet sick.

Major Cornelius Ludlow, went home sick from *New-York*, soon after our retreat from *Long-Island*, and have heard that he has had a severe fit of sickness, but getting better.

Captain Sylvanus Seely, went home on furlough thirteen days ago, to get clothes for his men present, and to look up those who were absent. His furlough supposed to be out, and, by accounts from him, expect him in this day.

Captain David Bates, went away day before yesterday, to get winter clothes for his men present and look up those absent; is expected in camp again on *Tuesday* next.

Captain William Bond, sick, in camp.

Captain Abraham McKinney, sick, in camp.

Enos Goble, Second Lieutenant in Captain Seward's Company, went away sick from *New-York* about a month ago, and have heard that he has got better, and expect him in camp again very soon.

Joseph Luse, Second Lieutenant in Captain Gaston's Company, went away unwell on *Thursday* last.

Daniel Gard, First Lieutenant in Captain Bates's Company, went home sick from *New-York* soon after our retreat from *Long-Island*, and from accounts from him, hear that he is not got well yet.

Joseph Harker, Second Lieutenant in Captain Bates's Company, went away two days ago, but know not by what leave, but expect him back very soon.

William Corwin, First Lieutenant in Captain Luse's Company, went home sick about three weeks ago, and have heard that he remained sick.

John Harker, Second Lieutenant in Captain Bond's Company, left the regiment about the middle of *August*, very sick, and, by accounts from him, he remains yet sick.

Richard Atten, Second Lieutenant of Captain McKenney's Company, went away with the sick (being very sick himself) from *New-York* soon after the retreat from *Long-Island*, and, by accounts, he remains yet very sick.

Robert Beavens, First Lieutenant of Captain McKinney's Company, went away sick about ten days ago, and, by accounts, hear that he is sick yet.

William Carr, Ensign of Captain McKinney's Company, went away about ten days ago, after clothes for the company. Not yet returned.

Bethnell Farrand, Second Lieutenant of Captain Seely's Company, went away unwell about ten days ago; not heard of since.

John Roberts, Ensign of Captain Seely's Company, went away as an assistant to some sick about nine days ago. Expected in on *Monday* next.

The Rev. Mr. Chapman, Chaplain, from *Newark Mountains*, in *Essex County*, has been unwell some time, and has not been with us but very little. We have received word from him that when we let him know that we have good accommodations for him he will come. We have sent him no such word yet.

Joseph King, Adjutant, present, fit for duty.

Joseph Sproul, Quartermaster, present, fit for duty.

Jonathan Horton, Surgeon, present, fit for duty.

Guston, Surgeon's Mate, present, fit for duty.

The above is a true and just return of the officers in Colonel Martin's Regiment, made the 5th of *October*, 1776.

JOHN SEWARD, Captain Commandant.

A Return of the Officers of Colonel RICHARDSON's Regiment, October 5th, 1776.

Colonel,	- - - - -	William Richardson, not joined.
Lieut. Colonel,	- - - - -	Wheatley, } Fit for duty.
Major,	- - - - -	Hopewell, }
Captain Isaac Perkins,	- - - - -	sick.
Captain Thomas Smyth,	- - - - -	on G. Court Martial.
Captain John Dames,	- - - - -	on picket.
Captain John Dean,	- - - - -	on picket.
Captain Philip Phiddeman,	- - - - -	
Captain Joshua George,	- - - - -	on G. Court Martial.
Captain Walter Alexander,	- - - - -	
Captain Thomas Bourk,	- - - - -	on G. Court Martial.

FIRST LIEUTENANTS.	SECOND LIEUTENANTS.
Abram Falconer,	Jesse Cosden,
Thomas Lane Emory,	Nathaniel Rinnard,
John Hawkins, (sick,)	Samuel William Thomas,
Henry Downes,	John Neville,
William Veazey,	John Reynolds, (sick,)
Andrew Porter,	John Stockton, (sick,)
Brisket Talcon, (sick,)	Harman Arrants,
	John Lynch.

ENSIGNS.

James Henry,	Thomas Mason,
Josiah Johnston,	Richard Bird,
John Jackson,	George Hamilton, (sick,)
Samuel Earl,	A 3d Lt. J. Woodford Gray.

TOTAL NUMBER OF OFFICERS JOINED.

1 Lieutenant-Colonel, 1 Major, 8 Captains, 16 Lieutenants, 1 Ensign, 1 Adjutant, 1 Quartermaster, 1 Surgeon, 1 Mate.

OF WHICH ARE SICK,

1 Captain, 5 Lieutenants, 1 Ensign.

ROBERT CAMPBELL, Adjutant.

A list of the Officers belonging to Colonel PHILLIPS's Battalion of JERSEY levies in General HEARD's Brigade.

OFFICERS PRESENT FIT FOR DUTY.

Joseph Phillips,	- - -	Colonel.
	- - -	Lieutenant-Colonel.
Platt Bayler,	- - -	Major.
Captain Joel Houghton.		Captain Jno. Anderson.
Captain B. Vancleve.		Captain Jos. Badcock.
		Captain Jer. Dunn.
Lieut. Jno. Clifford.		Lieut. Anderson.
Lieut. Holcomb.		Lieut. Low.
Lieut. Taylor.		Lieut. Lane.
Ensign Jos. Clunn.		Ensign Hallet.

OFFICERS SICK IN CAMP, AS WELL AS THOSE THAT ARE
ABSENT, NOT SICK.

Captain D. Frazer, gone to procure winter clothes for his company.
Lieutenant N. Hunt, absent with leave.
Lieutenant Wikoff, sick in camp.
Lieutenant Pyatt, absent without leave.

Jos. PHILLIPS, Colonel.

Camp at Mount Washington, October 5, 1776.

Duty return of General WADSWORTH's Brigade.

REGIMENT'S.	Colonels.	Lieut. Colonels.	Majors.	Captains.	Subs.	Sergeants.	Corporals.	Drums and Fifes.	Privates.
Colonel Silliman, - - -	1	1	1	3	8	7	15	13	105
Colonel Gay, - - - -	-	-	-	2	10	18	14	11	144
Colonel Sage, - - - -	1	1	1	2	12	7	12	11	127
Colonel Selden, - - - -	-	1	-	4	11	10	17	10	197
Colonel Douglass, - - -	1	1	-	1	13	15	14	12	155
Total, - - - - -	3	4	2	12	54	57	72	57	728

FIELD OFFICERS FIT FOR DUTY.

Colonels Silliman, Sage, and Douglass.
Lieutenant-Colonels Chandler, Russell, Lattimer, and Arnold.
Majors Meade and Buell.

A Return of Field Officers, First VIRGINIA Regiment.

Colonel Isaac Read, present fit for duty.
Lieutenant-Colonel Eppes, sick in Virginia.
Major Green, present, fit for duty.

October 5, 1776.

A list of the Field Officers in General HEARD's Brigade,
fit and unfit for duty.

PRESENT FIT FOR DUTY.

Col. Van Cortlandt. Major Day.
Lieut. Col. Brearley.
Col. Newcomb. Major Howell.
Lieut. Col. Reed.
Major Parker, of Colonel Forman's Battalion.
Col. Phillips. Major Bayles.

ABSENT.

Col. Martin, - - - - - Wounded.
Lieut. Col. Munson, - - - - - Sick.
Major Ludlow, - - - - - Sick.
Col. Forman, - - - - - } Without leave.
Lieut. Col. Henderson, - - - - }

PHILIP V. CORTLANDT, Colonel.

Camp at Mount Washington, October 5, 1776.

A Return of the names of the Officers in the Twenty-seventh Regiment, commanded by Colonel ISRAEL HUTCHINSON.

Capt. Ezra Newhall, on command, purchasing clothes for the regiment.
Capt. Benjamin Kimball, sick, present.
Capt. Enoch Putnam.
Capt. Nathan Brown.
Capt. Addison Ritcheson.
Capt. John Law.
Capt. John Baker, on command on board the galley.
Capt. Billy Porter.
First Lieut. Job Whipple.
First Lieut. Ephraim Emerton.
First Lieut. Nath'l Cleves, on command on board galley.
First Lieut. Archelaus Batchelder.
First Lieut. Thomas Downing.
First Lieut. Hatfield White, Adjutant.
First Lieut. John Peirce.

First Lieut. Richard Cox, left sick at Salem when the regiment marched, and remains sick.

Second Lieut. Benjamin Gardner.
Second Lieut. Frederick Breed.
Second Lieut. Samuel Cutter, on command, purchasing clothes for the regiment.
Second Lieut. David Poore.
Second Lieut. Joseph Herrick.
Second Lieut. Thomas White.
Second Lieut. Joseph Killam.
Second Lieut. Jonathan Trask, on furlough, given by General Heath.

Ensign John Wats.
Ensign Elisha Hutchinson.
Ensign John Tucker.
Ensign Gibson Clough.
Ensign Jeremiah Putnam, on command on board the galley
Ensign Leuck Roundy.
Ensign Ezekiel Cooper.
Ensign Eliphalet Perley.

A true Return of the above Regiment:

ISRAEL HUTCHINSON, Colonel.

Mount Washington, October 5, 1776.

Col. Hutchinson, - - - - - }
Lieut. Col. Holden, - - - - - } Fit for duty.
Major Putnam, - - - - - }

A list of the names of the Field Officers in General FELLOWS's Brigade, October 5, 1776.

Col. Holman, - - - - - }
Lieut. Col. Raymond, - - - } Sick, present.
Major Sears, - - - - - } Present, fit for duty.
Col. Cary, - - - - - }
Lieut. Col. Richardson, - - } Present, fit for duty.
Major Payne, - - - - - }
Col. Smith, - - - - - } Sick, absent by leave.
Lieut. Col. Longly, - - - - } Present, fit for duty.
Major Wheelock, - - - - - }

JOHN FELLOWS, Brigadier-General.

A Return of the names of the Officers in the late Colonel GAY's Regiment, whether present or absent, with or without leave.

Colonel Fisher Gay, - - Dead.
Lieut. Colonel Hart, - - Missing.
Major Edward Mott, - - Present, sick.
1st Captain Gad. Stanley, - Present, fit for duty.
First Lieut. Ambers Stoler, On furlough.
Second Lieut. John Allyn, - On command.
Ensign Titus Bunnel, - - Present, fit for duty.
2d Captain Jonah Gillett, - Present, sick.
First Lieut. David Phelps, - Absent, sick, without leave.
Second Lieut. Phens. Drake, Present, sick.
Ensign Wing, - - - - - Absent, sick, with leave.
3d Captain Edward Roger, Present, sick.
First Lieut. Nath. Hamlin, - Absent, sick, without leave.
Second Lieut. Hezk. Andruss, Present, fit for duty.
Ensign Joel Hinman, - - Present, fit for duty.
4th Captain Abraham Bradley, Absent, on command.
First Lieut. Tilley Blakesley, Present, sick.
Second Lieut. Thomas Catling, Missing on the 15th of September last.
Ensign James Morris, - - Present, fit for duty.
5th Captain Stephen Goodwin, Present, fit for duty.
First Lieut. Timo. Gaylard, Missing on the 15th of September last.
Second Lieut. Scovel, - - Present, fit for duty.
Ensign Wright, - - - - - On furlough.
6th Captain Simeon Walcott, Present, sick.
First Lieut. Charter, - - Present, fit for duty.
Second Lieut. Hezk. Welles, Present, fit for duty.
Ensign Eaton, - - - - - Present, fit for duty.
7th Captain Saml. Wells, - Missing on the 15th of September last.
First Lieut. Thos. Hollister, Present, fit for duty.
Second Lieut. Buell, - - Present, sick.

Ensign Phelps, - - - - On furlough.
8th Captain Amos Wilson, Discharged.
First Lieut. Rockwell, - - Absent, sick, with leave.
Second Lieut. Abner Wilson, Absent, sick, without leave.
Ensign Goodwin, - - - Present, fit for duty.
Rev. Stoers, - - - On furlough.
Adjutant John Allyn, - - Present.
Quartermaster Elijah Lewis, Present.
Surgeon Conant, - - - Present, sick.
Mate William Richards, - Absent, with the sick.
EDWARD MOTT, Major Commandant.
Harlem, October 5, 1776.

Return of Officers in Colonel EWING's Battalion of MARYLAND Forces, raised for the Flying-Camp, October 5, 1776.

Names	Fit for duty or otherwise.	Where sick.
Colonel Ewing, - - -	Sick.	In camp.
Lieut. Colonel Addison,	Fit for duty.	
Major Edin, - - -	Fit for duty.	
Captain Posey, - - -	Sick.	In Hospital.
First Lieuts. Forest, - -	Fit for duty.	
Young, - - -	Sick.	At Hackinsack.
Tillard, - - -	Fit for duty.	
Lowe, - - -	Sick.	In Hospital.
Hanson, - - -	Fit for duty.	
Magruder, - - -	Fit for duty.	
Bowie, - - -	Sick.	In camp.
Second Lts. Bowman, - -	Fit for duty.	
Wm. Bond, - - -	Fit for duty.	
Bond, - - -	Fit for duty.	
Chew, - - -	Fit for duty.	
Burgess, - - -	Fit for duty.	
Dent, - - -	Fit for duty.	
Bowie, - - -	Fit for duty.	
Brooks, - - -	Fit for duty.	
Forbes, - - -	Sick.	In Hospital.
Tabbs, - - -	Fit for duty.	
Smith, - - -	Fit for duty.	
Belt, - - -	Fit for duty.	
Duval, - - -	Fit for duty.	
Jones, - - -	Sick.	In camp.
Contee, - - -	Fit for duty.	
Beall, - - -	Fit for duty.	
Ensigns Fooke, - - -	Fit for duty.	
Mattingly, - - -	On command.	
Tool, - - -	Fit for duty.	
Kiltee, - - -	Fit for duty.	
Claggett, - - -	Fit for duty.	
Adams, - - -	Fit for duty.	
Trueman, - - -	Fit for duty.	
Beans, - - -	Fit for duty.	
Adjutant Powell, - - -	Fit for duty.	
Quartermaster Tool, - -	Fit for duty.	
Surgeon Dorsey, - - -	Fit for duty.	
Assistant Welch, - - -	Fit for duty.	

JOHN ADDISON, Lieut. Colonel.

Return of the absent Officers in the Tenth Regiment, with leave, without leave, and of those who outstaid their time, October 5, 1776.

With leave.	On what account.
Capt. Abraham Waterhouse, -	Sick, absent.
Capt. Ebenezer Brewster, - -	Providing for the sick.
Lieut. Oliver Badcock, - - -	With the Rangers.
Lieut. Richard Hewit, - - -	Sick, absent.
Lieut. Daniel Collins, - - -	Providing for the sick.
Ensign Daniel Billings, - - -	On command at Dobb's Ferry.
Ensign David Dorrance, - - -	Sick, absent.
Ensign Benjamin Haskell, - -	Sick, absent.

OUTSTAI'D THEIR TIME.

Lieut. Stephen Keys, sixty days; on account of sickness.
Ensign Nathaniel Pendleton, fifty days; reason unknown, but I supposed to be preferred in another regiment.
None absent without leave.
SAM'L PRENTICE, Lieut. Colonel.

A list of the names of the Officers in Colonel SAGE's Regiment in camp.

Captain James Clark, sick.	Captain Hezekiah Parsons.
Lieut. David Patten.	Lieut. Joseph Booth.
Ensign Ichabod Bozworth.	Ensign Josiah Blakslee.
Captain John Dixson, sick.	Lieut. Wm. Edmunds, sick.
Lieut. Abraham Shepherd,	Ensign John Chamberlain.
Captain Jonathan Birge.	Lieut. Nathaniel West.
Lieut. Edward Pain.	
Lieut. Josiah Robbins, sick.	Ensign Sylvanus Perry.
Lieut. Ichabod Hinkley.	Ensign Joseph Rider.
Lieut. Timothy Holt, sick.	
Captain Edward Eells.	Lieut. Jacob Whitmore.
Ensign Oliver Hubbard.	Lieut. Timothy Clark.

Officers absent in Colonel SAGE's Regiment.

Lieut. Ebenezer West, sick.
Lieut. Josiah Converse, without leave.
Ensign George Hubbard, sick.
Lieut. Jonathan Buck, dead or taken.
Captain Parker, gone for clothes for the regiment.
Lieut. David Smith, sick.
Lieut. Ebenezer Phelps, without leave.
Captain Joseph Churchill, sick.
Ensign Titus Carrier, sick.
One Captain dead.

COMFORT SAGE, Colonel.

October 5, 1776.

Return of Officers in Colonel SILLIMAN's Regiment.

First Company.	Fifth Company.
Capt. Benjamin, sick, absent.	Captain Brown,
Lieut. Thompson, sick, absent.	Lieut. Webb,
Lieut. Lacy,	Lieut. Weed,
Ensign Odell, sick, absent.	Ens. Waterbury, sick, present.
Second Company.	Sixth Company.
Captain Read, sick, absent.	Capt. Northrop, sick, absent.
Lieut. Hendrick,	Lieut. Betts, sick, absent.
Lieut. Banks,	Lieut. St. John, sick, present.
Ensign Silliman, discharged.	Ensign Olmsted.
Third Company.	Seventh Company.
Captain Hobbes,	Captain Bostwick,
Lieut. Penfield, sick, absent.	Lieut. Deforest, sick, present.
Lieut. Abbot, on command.	Lieut. Ruggles,
Ensign Hecock.	Ensign Canfield, sick, present.
Fourth Company.	Eighth Company.
Captain Mead, dead.	Captain Hurd, sick, absent.
Lieut. Engorson,	Lieut. Brace, discharged.
Lieut. Waring,	Lieut. Judson,
Ensign Hobby.	Ensign Clark, sick, present.

STAFF OFFICERS.

Chaplain, - - - - - On furlough.
Adjutant, Comstock.
Quartermaster, Lacy.

A return of the Officers that are absent in Colonel JONATHAN SMITH's Regiment.

Captain Jonathan Houghton,	} Sick, over King's Bridge.
Captain Samuel Sawyer,	
Captain Aaron Rowley,	} Sick on the Jersey side.
First Lieut. Ebenezer Bennet,	
Ensign John Stocking,	} Sick at the Bridge.
First Lieut. Ebenezer Cook,	
First Lieut. Salmon Godfrey,	
Second Lieut. Benjamin Wilson,	
Second Lieut. Ebenezer Newell,	
First Lieut. Ebenezer Colburn,	
Ensign Elijah Browner,	} Sick at the Bridge.
First Mate Jones Prescott,	
Captain Oliver Root, at Horse-Neck, taking care of the sick	
First Lieut. Ebenezer Inglesbee,	} Gone into the country after clothing.
Second Lieut. George Sloan,	
ROBERT LONGLEY, Lieutenant-Colonel.	

October 4, 1776.

Surgeon Coggshal, - - - Sick, absent.
Surgeon's Mate, Rogers, - - Sick, absent.
G. SELLECK SILLIMAN, Colonel.
October 5, 1776.

A Return of the Commissioned Officers in the Twenty-first Regiment, who are absent, and the cause of their absence.

Names.	Rank.	Reason of Absence.
Benja. Tupper,	Lieut. Col.,	On command.
Wm. King, - -	Captain,	Sick, absent.
Jos. Benson, -	1st Lieut.,	Sick, absent.
Jacob Pope, -	2d Lieut.,	With the Rangers.
Earl Clapp, -	Captain,	On command.
John Stustevent,	1st Lieut.,	On command.
George Dunham,	2d Lieut.,	On command.
Samuel Eldred,	Ensign,	On command.
Samuel Bartlett,	Captain,	Purchasing clothes for the regiment.
Ephraim Burr, -	Captain,	On command.
Obah. Mann -	2d Lieut.,	S.
El. Cleavland,	Chaplain,	On furlough.
Elihu Wright, -	Surgeon,	Sick, absent.

Per order of Colonel J. Ward:
J. HART, Adjutant.

West-Chester, October 5, 1776.

A List of the Officers' names absent, belonging to Colonel WILLIAM DOUGLASS's Regiment.

Captain Russell, - With the baggage belonging to the regiment above King's Bridge.
Captain Lewis, - - - Sick at Horseneck.
Captain Bracket, - - Sick at Stamford.
Captain Bunnet, - - At Horseneck to provide necessities for the sick.
First Lieutenant Potter, Sick at Horseneck.
Second Lieut. Dickerman, Sick at Horseneck.
Second Lieut. Gilbert, - Sick at Horseneck.
Second Lieut. Hull, - Sick at Horseneck.
Ensign Shaylor, - - With the boats against Mount Washington.
Ensign White, - - - With the boats at King's Bridge.
Ensign Mix, - - - Sick at Horseneck.
Ensign Scovil, - - - Sick at Horseneck.
October 5, 1776.

Company in the Regiment of Artillery in the service of the UNITED STATES, commanded by HENRY KNOX, Esq.
Colonel, - - - - - Knox.
Lieutenant-Colonel, - - - - - Mason.

Captains.	Capt. Lieuts.	First Lieuts.	Second Lieuts.	
Crafts...	Treadwell...	Symonds...	Dane.....	Machin.
	Sargent.....	Pachard....	Preston.....	Blake.
	Horton.....		Jackson.....	
Burbeck..	Rumsey....	King.....	Niles.....	
Dana.....	Seward.....		Savage.....	Thomas.
Morton...		Briant.....	Lillie.....	Parker.
Perkins...	Allen.....	Treat.....	Loring.....	Pierce.
	Frothington..		Brown.....	Carnes.
			Chandler....	Freeman.
Bawman..		Fleming....	Swartswout...	Reed.
Hamilton.	Moore.....	Gilliland...	Beane.....	Thompson.
		Burbeck....		Howard.
	Wool.....			Fenno.
	Randall.....			Geno.
	Briant.....			Sutton.

Chaplain, - - - - - Leonard.
Adjutant, - - - - - Shaw.
Quartermaster, - - - - - Treat.
Surgeon, - - - - - (Vacant.)
Mate, - - - - - Van Waggener.

Sick, present: Captains Newell and Drury, First Lieutenant Slewman, Ensign Steel.
Sick, absent, wounded: Major Crane, Captain Pierce, First Lieutenant Stevens.
Sick, absent without leave: Captain Foster, Captain-Lieutenant Crane.
Captain Crafts, Captain-Lieutenants Treadwell and Bryant, Lieutenants Dane and Fleming, on command on the Heights beyond King's Bridge.

Captain Dana and Lieutenant Thomas on command at Bergen.
Captain-Lieutenant Seward, Lieutenants Sutton and Mackin on command at Fort Montgomery.
Captain-Lieutenant Allen, Lieutenants Price, Burbeck, Symonds, and Parker on command in General Greene's Division.
HENRY KNOX, Colonel, Artillery.

A Return of the Officers of the First VIRGINIA Regiment, whereof JAMES READ, Esq., is Commandant, October 5, 1776.

Captains, present, fit for duty.	Lieutenants, present, fit for duty.	Ensigns, present, fit for duty.
Markham.....	Cunningham.....	Yates.
Seayres.....	Scott, Adjutant.....	
	Crump.....	Burwell.
Ballard.....	Smith.....	
Dickirson....	Lewis and Petters.....	Minnis, Jun.
Taylor.....	Moss and Archer.....	Minnis, Sen.
	Quarles.....	Godwin.
	Culp, Kirkpatrick, and Moody....	Berwick.
	Woodson, Quartermaster.....	Thompson.

Sick, present: Captain Fleming, Lieutenant Pelham, Ensign Shannon.
On command: Captain Gibson, Lieutenants Eustace and Lynn, Ensigns Lawson, Payne, and Blackwell.
Absent, sick: Captains Davis, Nelson, and Croghan, Lieutenants Garland, Boyakin, Cummings, and Higgins.
Absent without leave: Captain Campbell, Lieutenants Wilson, Godwin, Trigg, and Clayton, Ensign Lambert.

Return of Officers in Col. SAMUEL DRAKE's Regiment, fit and unfit for duty, October 5, 1776.

Lieutenant-Colonel Hulbert, absent, without leave.
Captain David Pearson, present, fit for duty.
First Lieut. Stephen Howell, on command, after clothing for the men.
Second Lieut. Thomas Baker, sick, absent, without leave.
Captain Johannes Blauvelt, sick, absent, on furlough.
First Lieut. James Rumsey, on command, after clothing for the men.
Second Lieut. Walter Cure, on command, at work on Colonel Drake's house.
Captain Josawah Rogers, on command, after clothing for his men.
First Lieut. William Clark, sick, absent.
Second Lieut. Philips, present, fit for duty.
Captain John R. Thomas, sick, absent by leave of the Doctor.
First Lieut. Zephaniah Mills, present, fit for duty.
Second Lieut. David Dutcher, present, fit for duty.
Captain John Hyatt, present, fit for duty.
First Lieut. John Drake, present, fit for duty.
Second Lieut. Smith Hiddie, sick, absent by leave of the Doctor.
Captain Seth Marvin, sick, present.
First Lieut. Abraham Hanford, present, fit for duty.
Second Lieut. William Bradley, deserted.
Captain Gilbert, on command, overseeing the sick at Dobb's Ferry.
First Lieut. Sybert Acker, present, fit for duty.
Captain Jonathan Bailey, after clothing for the men.
First Lieut. David Horton, sick, present.
Second Lieut. Benjamin King, sick, absent by leave of the Doctor.
Captain John Jackson, sick, absent by leave of the Doctor.
First Lieut. Hutchins, after clothing.
Second Lieut. George Vance, present, fit for duty.
Captain Henry Hawson, present, fit for duty.
First Lieut. Noah Doutten, sick, present.
Second Lieut. Ephraim Lockwood, present, fit for duty.
James Cock, Adjutant, present, fit for duty.
Thomas Stillwell, present, fit for duty.
The Doctor and Mate, fit for duty.
Seven Sergeants, sick, absent.
Five Sergeants, sick, present.
Nine Sergeants upon command.
One Sergeant upon furlough.

SAML. DRAKE, Colonel.

Weekly Return of the Regiments of Horse and Foot in the service of the UNITED STATES OF AMERICA, under the immediate command of His Excellency GEORGE WASHINGTON, Esq., General and Commander-in-Chief, &c., &c., HARLEM HEIGHTS, October 5, 1776.

REGIMENTS.	OFFICERS PRESENT.													RANK AND FILE.					Wanting to complete.	Alterations since last Return.								
	Commissioned.					Staff.				Non-Com'd.																		
	Colonels.	Lieut. Colonels.	Majors.	Captains.	First Lieutenants.	Second Lieut'ns.	Ensigns.	Chaplains.	Adjutants.	Quartermasters.	Paymasters.	Surgeons.	Mates.	Sergeants.	Drums and Fifes.	Present, fit for duty.	Sick, present.	Sick, absent.	On command.	On furlough.	Total.	Sergeants.	Drums and Fifes.	Rank and File.	Initiated.	Dead.	Discharged.	Deserted.
<i>General Parsons's Brigade.</i>																												
Colonel Prescott's.....	1	-	1	3	4	4	3	-	1	1	-	-	1	18	15	193	52	71	73	-	389	-	-	251	-	-	-	-
Colonel Tyler's.....	1	1	-	5	5	6	4	1	1	1	1	-	-	19	11	243	62	91	149	5	550	-	1	85	-	1	1	1
Colonel Huntington's.....	1	-	-	1	2	5	2	1	1	1	1	-	-	15	8	97	47	87	95	-	328	14	2	312	-	-	1	1
Colonel Ward's.....	1	-	1	2	6	4	5	-	1	1	1	-	1	23	9	171	24	80	209	2	486	-	3	154	-	1	1	-
Colonel Wylls's.....	1	-	1	5	5	7	5	-	1	1	1	-	-	18	9	189	27	140	149	-	505	2	1	135	-	1	-	-
Total.....	5	1	3	16	22	26	19	2	5	5	3	-	2	93	52	893	212	469	675	7	2258	16	7	937	-	3	3	4
<i>General Clinton's Brigade.</i>																												
Colonel Thomas's.....	1	1	1	6	5	5	-	-	1	1	-	1	-	26	15	246	32	12	19	2	311	-	-	99	-	-	-	39
Colonel Graham's.....	1	1	1	6	7	7	-	-	1	1	-	1	-	21	15	135	31	5	50	1	226	-	-	145	-	-	-	-
Colonel Swartwout's.....	1	-	1	6	7	9	-	-	1	1	-	1	1	26	13	201	80	9	45	9	334	1	2	141	-	-	-	1
Colonel Nicoll's.....	1	1	1	7	6	4	-	-	1	1	-	1	-	21	13	208	71	4	-	2	285	1	1	72	-	-	-	-
Colonel Pawling's.....	1	1	1	8	7	5	-	-	1	1	-	1	-	19	13	271	61	9	25	11	377	-	3	101	-	-	-	-
Total.....	5	4	5	33	32	30	-	-	5	5	-	5	1	113	69	1061	275	39	139	25	1533	2	6	558	-	-	-	40
<i>Commandant Hands's Brigade.</i>																												
Colonel Hands's.....	1	1	1	7	8	7	5	1	1	1	-	1	1	25	15	252	46	20	30	6	354	6	3	366	41	-	-	1
Colonel Haller's.....	1	-	-	4	7	7	3	-	1	-	-	1	1	27	10	318	16	2	-	2	338	1	4	119	4	1	-	-
Colonel Cunningham's.....	1	-	-	3	9	8	-	-	1	1	-	-	-	23	7	375	57	1	4	19	430	-	-	-	-	1	1	1
Total.....	3	1	1	14	24	22	8	1	3	2	-	2	2	75	32	945	119	23	34	27	1122	7	7	485	45	2	1	2
<i>Commandant Sargent's Brigade.</i>																												
Colonel Sargent's.....	1	-	1	6	4	3	6	-	1	1	-	-	-	16	12	250	65	91	97	-	503	1	-	137	-	-	-	-
Colonel Ward's.....	1	1	1	7	6	5	7	1	1	1	-	1	1	23	14	241	125	7	57	-	430	1	-	211	2	-	2	-
Total.....	2	1	2	13	10	8	13	1	1	2	-	1	1	39	26	491	190	98	154	-	933	2	-	348	2	-	2	-
<i>General Scott's Brigade.</i>																												
Colonel Lasher's.....	1	1	1	8	7	6	-	1	1	1	-	1	1	22	9	154	34	13	22	15	238	8	11	432	1	-	-	2
Colonel Malcom's.....	1	1	1	9	8	8	-	-	1	1	-	1	-	23	5	151	9	4	12	1	177	8	15	493	1	-	1	-
Colonel Drake's.....	1	1	-	10	10	10	-	-	1	1	-	1	1	29	9	153	72	152	44	16	447	1	11	223	17	-	-	-
Colonel Humphreys's.....	-	1	-	4	5	5	-	-	1	1	-	1	-	15	6	142	45	18	16	4	225	-	4	110	-	-	8	-
Total.....	3	4	2	31	30	29	-	1	4	4	-	4	2	89	29	600	160	187	94	26	1087	17	41	1258	19	-	9	2
<i>General Nixon's Brigade.</i>																												
Lieutenant-Colonel Nixon's.....	-	1	1	6	6	6	6	-	1	1	-	1	-	22	11	253	76	17	71	-	417	-	1	223	-	1	1	-
Colonel Varnum's.....	-	1	1	5	6	5	7	-	1	-	-	1	-	26	11	224	113	7	42	-	386	-	-	254	-	-	-	1
Colonel Hitchcock's.....	1	1	1	6	7	6	6	-	1	1	-	1	1	16	13	187	108	4	64	-	363	-	-	277	-	4	-	1
Colonel Little's.....	1	1	1	6	5	5	6	-	-	1	-	1	1	26	14	273	62	13	106	-	454	-	-	186	-	1	-	-
Colonel Bailey's.....	1	1	1	3	4	3	5	-	1	1	-	1	1	19	10	196	162	2	147	-	507	1	1	133	-	4	-	-
Total.....	3	5	5	26	28	25	30	-	4	4	-	5	3	169	59	1133	521	43	430	-	2127	1	2	1073	-	10	1	2
<i>General McDougall's Brigade.</i>																												
Colonel Webb's.....	-	-	-	1	5	-	3	1	-	1	-	1	-	16	5	185	96	40	210	2	533	-	3	106	-	3	-	-
Late McDougall's.....	-	-	1	3	4	5	1	1	1	1	-	1	1	9	10	153	30	67	78	-	331	11	5	309	12	113	27	19
Colonel Ritzema's.....	1	1	1	4	4	6	1	-	1	1	-	1	-	18	10	217	34	57	72	6	386	1	3	254	-	1	3	27
Colonel Smallwood's.....	-	-	-	6	7	8	10	-	1	1	-	2	3	14	15	322	190	191	71	-	836	10	12	320	-	5	5	5
Total.....	1	1	2	12	19	18	19	2	3	4	1	3	3	77	41	867	350	355	431	8	2086	22	23	989	12	5	21	51
<i>General Beall's Brigade.</i>																												
Colonel Griffith's.....	1	1	1	9	9	9	9	-	1	1	-	1	1	36	16	441	199	5	-	-	644	-	2	76	-	2	-	1
Colonel Ewing's.....	-	1	1	4	8	6	7	-	1	1	-	1	1	30	9	300	213	21	-	-	542	2	7	108	-	-	-	-
Colonel Richardson's.....	-	1	1	7	11	6	-	1	1	-	1	1	1	34	13	393	180	48	-	4	625	-	3	26	-	-	-	-
Colonel Hall's.....	1	-	1	7	7	6	7	-	1	1	-	1	1	37	13	431	110	-	-	3	483	-	-	-	-	-	-	2
Total.....	2	3	4	27	35	32	29	-	4	4	-	3	4	137	51	1565	712	74	4	3	2334	2	12	200	-	2	-	-
<i>Commandant Glover's Brigade.</i>																												
Late Learned's.....	-	1	1	4	4	3	6	1	1	1	-	1	1	32	14	204	102	6	200	1	513	-	2	127	-	2	-	-
Colonel Reed's.....	1	-	-	6	4	4	7	-	1	1	-	1	1	30	16	226	136	8	126	-	496	2	-	144	-	4	-	-
Colonel Glover's.....	1	-	1	5	6	7	6	-	1	1	-	1	-	20	15	179	30	8	141	-	360	-	-	280	-	-	-	1
Colonel Baldwin's.....	1	1	1	5	6	8	6	1	1	1	-	1	1	25	12	234	122	34	74	-	464	-	1	176	-	1	1	3
Total.....	3	2	3	20	20	22	25	2	4	4	-	4	3	107	57	843	390	56	541	1	1833	2	3	727	-	7	1	4
<i>General Heard's Brigade.</i>																												
Colonel Van Cortlandt's.....	1	1	1	6	6	4	4	1	1	1	-	1	1	22	4	195	46	20	4	4	269	2	8	164	-	-	-	-
Colonel Martin's.....	1	1	1	8	8	8	8	-	1	1	-	1	1	32	8	198	37	150	-	-	385	-	8	190	11	-	-	-
Colonel Newcomb's.....	1	1	1	7	7	7	7	1	1	1	-	1	1	28	6	253	53	23	-	-	332	-	8	172	-	1	-	-
Colonel Forman's.....	-	-	1	6	4	6	1	-	1	1	-	1	1	13	10	190	32	119	17	6	364	2	4	213	6	2	-	10
Colonel Phillips's.....	1	-	1	6	4	4	3	-	1	1	-	1	-	22	5	159	24	5	14	2	204	5	8	303	-	2	-	5
Total.....	4	3	5	28	31	27	28	3	5	5	-	5	4	117	33	995	192	317	38	12	1554	9	36	1038	17	3	-	15
<i>General Wadsworth's Brigade.</i>																												
Colonel Silliman's.....	1	1	1	3	3	8	7	-	1	1	-	-	-	32	15	152	83	105	49	-	389	-	1	275	-	-	-	1
Colonel Gay's.....	-	-	1	6	7	7	8	1	1	1	-	1	1	30	15	189	63	137	40	2	431	2	1	233	-	1	-	-
Colonel Sage's.....	1	1	1	7	8	6	8	-	1	1	-	1	1	31	14	162	194	155	62	-	494	1	2	170	3	2	-	-
Colonel Sheldon's.....	-	1	1	8	6	6	8	1	1	1	-	-	1	31	14	240	73	107	73	-	476	-	-	188	1	2	-	1
Colonel Douglass's.....	1	1	-	3	7	5	5	1	1	-	-	1	-	32	17	201	62	120	93	-	476	-	-	188	1	2	-	1
Colonel Bradley's.....	1	1	1	8	8	8	8	1	1	1	-	1	1	32	15	423	80	40	27	-	570	-	1	68	-	-	1	1
Total.....	4	5	5	35	38	40	44	4	6	5	-	4	4	189	90	1367	555	664	344	2	2836	3	5	1122	5	7	1	4
<i>General Miffin's Brigade.</i>																												
Colonel Hutchinson's.....	1	1	1	4	6	3	7	-	1	1	-	1	-	23	14	202	72	10	224	-	508	-	1	31	-	1	-	1
Late Colonel Shee's.....	-	1	1	5	4	6	5	-	1	1	-	1	1	19	9	276	85	107	6	1	475	-	6	165	-	-	2	1
Colonel Magaw's.....	1	-	1	6	5	7	6	-	1	1	-	1	1	20	10	270	57	120	13	4	464	-	6	176	-	-	-	6
Colonel Hazlett's.....	-	1	1	7	6	5	7	-	1	1	-	1	1	22	12	385	6	149	29	-	569	-	1	71	-	-	-	-
1st Pennsylvania Battalion	-	-	-	3	3	5	5	1	1	1	-	-	-	10	3	95	44	33	4	1	17							

RETURN.—Continued.

REGIMENTS.	OFFICERS PRESENT.													RANK AND FILE.							Wanting to complete.	Alterations since last Return.						
	Commissioned.					Staff.			Non- Com'ed.																			
	Colonels.	Lieut. Colonels.	Majors.	Captains.	First Lieutenants.	Second Lieut'n's.	Ensigns.	Chaplains.	Adjutants.	Quartermasters.	Paymasters.	Surgeons.	Mates.	Sergeants.	Drums and Fifes.	Present, fit for duty.	Sick, present.	Sick, absent.	On command.	On furlough.	Total.	Sergeants.	Drums and Fifes.	Rank and File.	Inlisted.	Dead.	Discharged.	Deserted.
General Fellows's Brigade.																												
Colonel Holman's.....	1	1	1	8	7	8	8	1	1	1	-	1	1	32	15	286	148	70	85	-	589	-	-	-	-	1	1	1
Colonel Carey's.....	1	1	1	10	10	9	6	-	1	1	-	1	1	36	18	274	144	75	64	-	557	-	4	-	-	1	-	1
Colonel Smith's.....	1	1	1	8	8	8	8	1	1	1	-	1	1	32	16	327	90	74	48	-	539	-	-	-	-	1	-	1
Total.....	3	3	3	26	25	25	22	2	3	3	-	3	3	100	49	886	382	219	197	-	1685	4	2	169	-	2	1	3
Major Backus's Light Horse	-	-	1	7	7	5	5	-	1	1	-	1	1	27	6	125	20	1	12	-	158	-	-	-	1	-	4	-
Total of the Brigades	41	36	46	317	349	337	275	20	55	55	4	45	36	1373	648	13,239	4409	3032	3389	119	24,106	107	185	11,073	101	47	46	138
Colonel Weedon's.....	1	1	1	10	9	10	10	1	1	1	-	1	2	39	16	364	142	53	43	-	603	2	4	77	-	1	-	2
Colonel Reed's Virginia.....	1	1	1	7	9	7	9	-	1	1	-	1	1	31	12	280	64	101	17	6	483	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
Colonel Chester's.....	1	1	-	8	7	8	6	-	1	1	-	1	1	30	15	262	123	23	133	2	543	-	1	121	3	1	3	1
Total.....	44	39	48	342	374	352	300	21	58	58	4	48	40	1473	691	14,145	4738	3209	3982	127	25,735	109	190	11,271	104	49	49	142

Jos. REED, Adjutant General.

Return of the Regiment of Artillery, commanded by HENRY KNOX, Esq.

DISTRIBUTION.	Colonel.	Lieut. Colonel.	Major.	Captains.	Capt. Lieut'n's.	First Lieut'n's.	Second Lieut's.	Chaplain.	Adjutant.	Quartermaster.	Surgeon.	Mate.	Sergeants.	Corporals.	Bombardiers.	Gunners.	Drums & Fifes.	Matrosses.	Total.
Present, fit for duty.....	1	-	-	5	7	5	15	1	1	1	-	1	25	21	40	33	14	171	341
Sick, present.....	-	-	-	2	-	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	2	2	1	7	-	17	33
Sick, absent.....	-	-	1	2	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	3	7	10	1	33	59
On command.....	-	-	1	2	4	3	9	-	-	-	-	-	7	19	16	17	7	69	144
On furlough.....	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	3	3
Total.....	1	1	1	11	12	10	25	1	1	1	-	1	34	35	64	67	22	293	580

Return of two Brigades of Militia from CONNECTICUT and RHODE-ISLAND, commanded by Brigadier-General SALTONSTALL and Colonel LIPPET.

	OFFICERS PRESENT.													RANK AND FILE.					Wanting to complete.	Alterations since last Return.																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																								
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Jos. REED, Adjutant-General.

N. B. General Lincoln's Militia from Massachusetts, computed at four thousand, so scattered and ignorant of the forms of returns, that none can be got. The magazines of provisions being formed along the Sound, and among people of an inimical disposition, it is absolutely necessary they should be well guarded. Two Regiments of New-Hampshire Militia on command—one at the White-Plains, the other at the Fishkills, under the like circumstances.

The moving state of the Army has prevented returns being made since the above date.

J. REED.

GENERAL SCHUYLER TO GENERAL GATES.
Albany, October 5, 1776.

DEAR SIR: I have not yet had a line from Congress, nor are any of the military or other stores so long since sent for yet arrived.

A letter which I yesterday received from a friend advises me that the Committee appointed to inquire into the causes in Canada, were to report on Monday last. It seems hard that such an inquiry should have been gone into without giving me notice of it, without calling on me to answer for my conduct, or even to explain any matter.

I am informed that Congress has some time since entered into an exculpatory resolve in favour of General Wooster, which has been published in the papers. A total silence with respect to me must therefore indicate to the publick that I am culpable. I shall, however, exculpate myself in a narration, supported by incontrovertible proofs, and leave the publick to judge whether I am, or who is in fault. Until then I wish the candid and ingenuous to suspend their judgment.

Mr. Avery ought to lose no time in coming down. The cold season is rapidly advancing, and much is to be done.

I have given Captain *Varick* directions to inquire what becomes of the boards sawed at *Cheshire's*, and to any thing that may be out of order.

I am, dear General, your most obedient, humble servant,
PH. SCHUYLER.

To the Hon. Major-General *Gates*.

SAMUEL MABBETT TO THE NEW YORK CONVENTION.

October 5, 1776.

GENTLEMEN OF THE CONVENTION OF THE STATE OF NEW-YORK: Whereas I have made a practice for many years past, of taking in large quantities of beef and pork; and whereas it appears that them commodities may be much wanting in the present service, and I have provided a quantity of salt for that purpose, and I have already contracted with a great number of different persons for large quantities of provisions. I have been informed that the Committee have ordered that all the salt that I have shall be sold on *Monday* next, therefore I beg leave to submit the matter to this honourable Convention, whether I may be permitted to keep two hundred and fifty bushels of salt for the above use. Your compliance will much oblige your friend to serve, &c.

SAML. MABBETT.

COLONEL JAMES EASTON TO THE PRESIDENT OF CONGRESS.

[Read October 21, 1776.]

Albany, October 5, 1776.

DEAR SIR: The Commissioners from Congress inform me that their power from Congress to settle accounts from the Northern department is inadequate for that purpose. Officers from various parts, at great expense, have applied for settlements without succeeding. I have spent almost three months at my own expense to settle my own account, and it's not done yet. *Warner's* and *Cady's* regiments have not got their pay, and a general murmuring ensues. I earnestly pray that the Commissioners from Congress may be fully authorized to settle the accounts laid before them.

Colonel *Brown* has applied, agreeable to order of Congress, for a court of inquiry for himself and me, but without success, and it's evident General *Arnold* will evade the trial if possible, as there appears not the least spark of evidence against us. A general complaint among officers of all ranks as well as soldiers, is heard against him, and it's hoped he will, ere long, meet the just demerits of deeds.

By a resolve of Congress I am reserved in pay for future employment, as I suppose. I don't desert this cause, nor think it a bad one, because I have been abused by General *Arnold* and others, but if could, shall exert myself in it, having determined never to yield until my country's liberties are secured. Notwithstanding, as circumstances are with me should gladly take an honourable discharge and my pay, and quit the service. If that's not granted, would beg leave that I might know what I am to do. If it's to raise men for the winter service, it's time I was about it; if it's to fill any vacancy, should be glad to know as soon as may be, where and what.

Sir, I am your most obedient, humble servant,

JAMES EASTON.

To the Hon. *John Hancock*, Esq., at *Philadelphia*.

TRYON COUNTY COMMITTEE TO MESSRS. PARRIS, MOORE, ETC.

In Committee of the County of Tryon, October 5, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: In the other letter of this day's date we forgot to mention to you the absolute necessity we are under for money. The people to whom money is due are daily calling on us. You will therefore, if possible, obtain four hundred pounds *New-York* currency for us, and if one of you do not come up soon send it by the bearer, Lieutenant *Simmonds*, of the Rangers.

We shall have the accounts ready to be sent down to Congress soon.

We again recommend it earnestly to you to obtain an answer to the letters to Congress, so that we have them by the bearer. We are, gentlemen, your humble servants.

By order:

JOHN FREY, *Chairman*.

To Messrs. *Parris*, *Moore*, *Harper*, and *Newkirk*, in Provincial Congress, *Fishkill*.

GOVERNOUR TRUMBULL TO GENERAL GATES.

Lebanon, October 5, 1776.

SIR: Last evening I received your acceptable favour of the 30th of *September* last. I have received from the honourable Congress of the *United States* their resolution for inlisting a new army of eighty-eight battalions, to serve during the present war, with the bounty of money and land therein offered; that the appointment of all officers, and the filling up vacancies, except General officers, be left to the Governments of the several States. The quota assigned this State is eight battalions.

The appointment of suitable officers is agreed to be a matter of the greatest consequence to the States and armies. Have to ask your favour to take some suitable steps to furnish me with the knowledge of such in your army as are willing to undertake and fit for the service. Have requested the same favour of General *Washington*. Please consult Brigadier-General *Waterbury*, and when field officers are agreed on, they may be able to point out the best Captains and subalterns for the several companies in the regiment or regiments in your quarter, subject to your correction.

I shall meet the General Assembly at *New-Haven*, the 11th instant. Have ordered the post-rider to come to me at that place; by him shall expect your information on this subject. I have enclosed one of the resolutions of Congress; that body are extremely busy, which must plead their excuse for not writing to you. I am unacquainted with the road you mention; shall readily join in making the necessary road as good as possible.

The situation of the army on *York Island*, from best information, appears good; their preparations to receive the enemy very considerably advanced. The danger seems most from the want of security against the enemy's entrance of *North River*. The works in the river and the strength at *Fort Washington* are increasing, and hope may prevent the ships from going up the *North River*.

I am, with esteem and regard, sir, your most obedient, humble servant,

JONTH. TRUMBULL.

To Hon. Major-General *Gates*.

BENJAMIN PAINE TO GOVERNOUR TRUMBULL.

Hartford, October 5, 1776.

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR HONOUR: Agreeable to your Honour's requisition, I have enclosed a list of the prisoners of war ordered to this State, and under the care of the Committee for Prisoners here. Have endeavoured to make it as perfect as I can, and am persuaded there are but few errors or omissions, though the materials which I had to form it from were not so correct and descriptive as could wish.

I am sorry that it has been delayed so long beyond your Honour's expectation, which was occasioned by a long illness I have been visited with, and from which I have not yet recovered, though through the goodness of God, the symptoms of my disorder are mitigated, and have now a prospect of a restoration to health.

My attention to this business has greatly fatigued me in my present weak state, but the publick exigency requiring it, I judged it my duty to undertake it, as the other gentlemen of the Committee were absent. Hope it will meet your Honour's approbation.

I have the honour to be your Honour's most obedient humble servant,

BENJA. PAINE.

To Governour *Trumbull*.

GOVERNOUR COOKE TO GENERAL WASHINGTON.

Providence, October 5, 1776.

SIR: Your Excellency's letter of the 17th instant, by the Committee of this State, hath been received.

Deputy Governour *Bradford* informed you that it had been recommended to Colonel *Richmond* to march with his battalion to join your army; since which Mr. *Hopkins*, a member from this State of the Continental Congress, arrived here, by whose advice it was concluded to stop their march, and to permit such of the men as should incline, to enlist into the Continental navy. The reasons that induced the Committee to alter their first intention, were these: eight companies of the twelve of which that battalion consists, were inlisted about the middle of *November* last, for a year;

but part of the regiment of Militia from the *Massachusetts* is yet arrived, and it will be some time longer before the remainder will arrive, so that by the time Colonel *Richmond's* battalion could be got under proper regulations in camp, their enlistments would expire, and it might be expected they would return home to the great discouragement of the troops left behind. In that battalion are a considerable number of seamen, who, it is thought, will enter in the navy, and in the present scarcity of seamen in this State, upwards of twelve hundred being at sea in the different privateers, it is absolutely impossible to supply them with men in any other way.

After the Committee had taken the last-mentioned resolution, Mr. *Burr*, a gentleman of character, arrived here from Governour *Trumbull* with a plan of landing a body of men upon the east end of *Long-Island*, and collecting a considerable naval force in the *Sound*. Upon conference with him and Commodore *Hopkins*, the Committee determined to recommend it to Colonel *Richmond* to proceed with such part of his battalion as should not enter into the sea service, to *New-London*, there to receive orders from such General officers as you should appoint to command in that expedition.

The two row-galleys of this State, with about sixty whale-boats from the *Massachusetts*, and between twenty and thirty belonging to us, will proceed to *New-London* with the battalion and their baggage. The galleys and whale-boats will be under the direction of Commodore *Hopkins*, to assist in the expedition.

I last night received the resolutions of Congress for inlisting eighty-eight battalions in the Continental service during the war, copies of which without doubt have been transmitted to your Excellency. By them a requisition is made of two battalions from this State. At the same time, we are informed by Mr. President *Hancock*, that the troops now in service belonging to the several States who shall enlist for the war, will be considered as part of their quota in the *American* army.

There are four battalions in Continental pay which were originally raised by this State, viz: Colonel *Varnum's*, Colonel *Hitchcock's*, and Colonel *Lippitt's*, who are now in the army under your command, and Colonel *Richmond's*, which is under orders for *New-London*.

I write by this opportunity to the three former to make report to me of the officers in their several battalions who will engage to serve during the war. And by the advice of the Committee, I request your Excellency to transmit to me, to be laid before the General Assembly at their session on the 28th instant, the names of such of them as you shall think merit promotion.

I beg leave to assure your Excellency that this State will give all possible efficacy and despatch to those important resolutions; and that I am, with great sincerity and esteem, sir, your most obedient and most humble servant,

NICH. COOKE.

To His Excellency General *George Washington*, Esquire, General and Commander-in-Chief of the Forces of the *United States of America*.

P. S. This letter will be delivered to your Excellency by Mr. *Jonathan Hazard*, who is a member of the General Assembly of this State, and whom I beg leave to recommend to your attention.

COMMODORE HOPKINS TO GOVERNOUR TRUMBULL.

Providence, October 5, 1776.

SIR: I received yours of the 1st and 3d of this instant, and have laid them before the Governour and Council, and they have passed the enclosed resolves. The *Alfred* and *Hampden* are ready; the two new frigates I expect will be ready in about a week if they can be manned, which none of the four are half at present.

I shall do all in my power to forward your expedition, and join your fleet whenever you give orders so to do, at *New-London*, but expect you will excuse me to Congress, for not putting their orders in execution with respect to some of the fleet.

I am, with great respect, sir, your humble servant,

ESEK HOPKINS.

To the Hon. *Jonathan Trumbull*, Esq., Governour of *Connecticut*, at *Lebanon*.

FIFTH SERIES.—VOL. II.

COMMODORE HOPKINS TO JOHN BRADFORD.

Providence, October 5, 1776.

SIR: Captain *Whipple* showed me a letter from you respecting the agency of the people belonging to the fleet: This is, therefore, to empower you to act as their agent until further orders. Although you are a total stranger, any other ways than being appointed by the honourable Continental Congress, we think it sufficient recommendation to empower you to act as our agent as long as you act to our satisfaction.

In behalf of the officers and men in the navy, I am, sir, your most humble servant,

ESEK HOPKINS.

To Mr. *John Bradford*, Agent for the Continental Fleet at *Boston*.

MASSACHUSETTS COUNCIL TO GENERAL WASHINGTON.

Council Chamber, Watertown, October 5, 1776.

SIR: In consequence of the measures taken by this Government to engage a number of *Indians*, of the *Penobscot*, *St. John's*, and *Mickmack* tribes, in the service of the *United States of America*, agreeable to the desire of your Excellency, seven of the *Penobscot* tribe have enlisted for the term of one year, and have arrived here on their way to *New-York*. As they were very poorly clothed, and would not proceed without some supply, we have furnished them with a few necessary articles, amounting to twenty pounds, four shillings and four-pence, lawful money, which must be stopped out of their wages and their subsistence, which amounts to fifteen pounds, sixteen shillings and five-pence. And we have advanced Mr. *Andrew Gilman*, who has the care of them, twenty pounds, lawful money, in order to subsist them in their way to *New-York*. These were all that could be obtained from that tribe, and whether you can depend upon any from the *St. John's* or the *Mickmacks* tribes, we have not as yet any certain intelligence.

In the name and behalf of the Council, I am, with great respect, your humble servant.

To His Excellency General *Washington*.

LETTER FROM A GENTLEMAN IN BOSTON TO HIS FRIEND IN THE COUNTRY.

October 5, 1776.

SIR: In compliance with your desire, I send you a few thoughts that obviously occurred to me upon reading the late conference between Lord *Howe* and a Committee of the Continental Congress.

As his Lordship was pleased to convey by General *Sullivan* a message to Congress, importing "his being desirous of having a conference with some of its members, whom he should consider for the present as private gentlemen," declaring in said message "that he, in conjunction with General *Howe*, had full powers to compromise the dispute between *Great Britain* and *America*, upon terms advantageous to both," it was the expectation of some, in agreement with the desire of all, that it would have been made evident to the Committee sent by the Congress to his Lordship, that those full powers he spake of were really vested in him, together with the General his brother; and that such proposals, in consequence of such powers, would have been made, as might have laid a foundation, at least, for the settlement of peace between *Great Britain* and *America*. But, by the report which the Committee made to Congress, after their conference with Lord *Howe*, it appears, that they judged "His Lordship's commission contained no other authority of importance than what is expressed in the act of Parliament, viz: that of pardon, with such exceptions as the Commissioners shall think proper to make, and declaring *America*, or any part of it, to be in the King's peace upon submission." Nothing more was therefore opened to them, than what his Lordship had before said in his printed declaration, no authority pointed out to settle the dispute with *America*, but upon the terms specified in the Parliamentary act; which has left us in just the same state with respect to the communication of any new authority, we were in before this conference; making it insignificant to any salutary purpose.

His Lordship, 'tis true, as the report of the Committee says, "entered into a discourse of considerable length, which contained no explicit proposition of peace except one, viz:

that the Colonies should return to their allegiance and obedience to the Government of *Great Britain*. The rest consisted principally of assurances." Of what? An assurance, "that there was an exceeding good disposition in the King and his Ministers to make that government easier to us." Could his Lordship possibly think, that such words of assurance, indirect contradiction to a long series of conduct, expressive of a malevolent disposition to an high degree of excess, would be satisfactory to the Committee, or Congress, or its constituents? After many humble petitions and remonstrances, setting forth the many grievous things *America* lay groaning under, taking rise from this "exceeding good disposition" in the *Britannick* Ministry, all which petitions and remonstrances, instead of being hearkened to, were not only treated with insolent contempt, but repeatedly followed with heavily increased additions to our former hardships. I say, after this to speak in the strong words of assurance, not only of the good, but the exceeding good, disposition of the King and his Ministers, could have no other tendency than to inflame the minds of *Americans*, and fill them with resentment. It is to me very extraordinary, that his Lordship should so much as lisp a word of the good disposition of the King and Ministry towards *America*, when he could not but know, from what they were now doing, as well as from what they barbarously had done, that notwithstanding its pretended goodness, it was rather to be dreaded, than relied on for safety. Another assurance, or rather insinuation was, "that in case of our submission, they (that is the King and his Ministers) would cause the offensive acts of Parliament to be revised, and the instructions to Governours to be reconsidered." And why? Says the report of the Committee, "that so if any just causes of complaint were found in the acts, or any errors in government were perceived to have crept into the instructions, they might be amended or withdrawn." 'Tis strange his Lordship should bring in the qualifying supposition "if:" "If there be any just causes of complaint." With *Americans* there is no "if" in the case. They are universally convinced, and from what they have unhappily felt, that they had just cause of complaint against those acts and instructions. And had his Lordship considered but a moment, he would, or might have known, that a revisal of those acts, and a reconsideration of the instructions to Governours for amendment, if there was need of it, were not the things we desired, or could be satisfied with. Nothing short of a total, everlasting repeal of those acts, as unfit on account of their barbarity and cruelty to be in force, and an absolute withdrawal of many of these instructions, as inconsistencies with that liberty we have a right to, would or could give content.

The truth is, notwithstanding the assurances and insinuations of his Lordship, with respect to the offensive acts and instructions, the Ministry would be left to act their own pleasure, and might have refused a revisal or reconsideration of them, if they saw fit; which sovereign, arbitrary pleasure of the present Ministry is too well known to us, especially as we have unhappily had so much reason to know what it is to have the least dependence on it. Nor would it have been relied on by *America* had she continued in her state of dependence.

Upon the whole it would be undoubtedly the wisdom and for the interest of the *American* States to depend, under the patronage of Heaven, upon themselves and such alliances as they may be able to come into with foreign States, for security in the enjoyment of those liberties we have an unalienable right to as men and as Christians, and not upon the *British* King and his Ministers, from whom we have suffered more than might have been expected had we been under the most arbitrary Government in *Europe*. It very clearly appears to me, as I know it does to many others, notwithstanding the appointment of Commissioners to treat with the *Americans* upon terms of peace, as their appointment is connected with the mission of a much greater force, both by sea and land, than was ever seen in these parts of the world, that the Ministry did not intend to make peace but upon the terms proposed in the act of Parliament, that is, in other words, upon our submission as slaves to an arbitrary and despotick Government. And it is yet further evident to me that the ministerial appointment of Commissioners, with pretended full powers to settle the dispute between *Great Britain* and *America*, was chiefly designed to amuse the people at home, and through misrepresentation to make

them believe that the fault would be wholly ours if matters were not accommodated upon reasonable terms. The Ministry could not expect, they did not expect, our submission, unless upon terms that would secure to us our rights and liberties. They knew they did not intend this, and contrived this expedient that they might have, as they imagined, something plausible to throw among the people of *England* to hurt us and strengthen themselves.

I have now, in a cursory way, given you my sentiments with respect to the conference between Lord *Howe* and the Committee of Congress, and you may make what use of them you please.

Your friend and humble servant,

AMERICANUS.

To Mr. ———

Portsmouth, N. H., October 5, 1776.

Yesterday arrived here the brigantine *Marquis of Kildare*, Captain *Thomas Palmer*, in seven weeks from *Bordeaux*, with a cargo of military stores, &c. He informs us the *French* treated him with the utmost kindness, and seemed ready to do every thing in their power to serve him; that the custom-house officers permitted the *American* vessels to pass without examination, while the *English* were all searched.

SILAS DEANE TO C. W. F. DUMAS.

Paris, October 6, 1776.

SIR: Yours of the 1st instant I received, and observe by the contents that Mr. *Lee* is returned to *London*. I have not seen Mr. *Ellis*. In answer to your queries: First, a reconciliation between *Great Britain* and the *United States of America* is improbable ever to take place; it is absolutely impossible, until after the sitting of Parliament.

Secondly, Admiral *Howe* joined his brother early in *August*, and sent on shore to General *Washington* a letter, which was returned unopened, as no title was given to General *Washington*; a second was sent, and met the same fate. The Congress justified the General in his conduct, and ordered him to receive no letters, except they were directed to him with his proper title. Lord *Howe* sent to the Governours of several Colonies his proclamation, which, by the army and people of *New-York*, was treated with contempt and ridicule. Thus matters continued until the 20th of *August*, when General *Howe* had collected his whole force, and was preparing to attack *New-York*. On the other side, all the eminences and advantageous posts near the city were secured and fortified, and the *Americans* strongly intrenched on them; the city of *New-York* fortified with batteries next to the water, and all the principal streets with barriers across them, and, at the same time, the houses filled with combustibles ready to be set on fire, should the city be found tenable. The two men-of-war, which had passed up the river above the city, were returned terribly damaged by attacking a battery. This, in a word, was the state of affairs in *New-York* on the 20th of *August*, from which important news may be expected every hour.

Thirdly, I know what Dr. *Franklin's* sentiments were when I left *America*, and that nothing but a miracle could convert him to wish for an accommodation on other terms than the independence of the Colonies. Depend upon it, my good friend, the Ministry of *Great Britain* labour incessantly to propagate stories of an accommodation, for it is well known, that they despair of reducing the Colonies by arms this campaign; at the close of which, the national debt will amount to nearly £150,000,000 sterling, part of which will remain unfunded; and where are their resources for supporting the next campaign? He that can discover the philosopher's stone can answer.

To your fourth query, you will excuse my answering more, than that your conjecture is not far out of the way. My letter will inform you why I must still delay sending what I promised you the 14th ultimo. In the mean time, sir, you may add to indigo and rice, tobacco, logwood, redwood, sugar, coffee, cotton, and other *West-India* produce, which pass through the hands of the *North-Americans*, in payment for their supplies to the *West-India* Islands, which cannot exist without their produce. Also, in course of trade, spermaceti oil and salt-fish may be supplied to *Prussia* and *Germany* as cheap, or cheaper from

the Colonies, than from *Holland* and *Germany*. The *United Colonies* exported to *Europe*, chiefly indeed to *Great Britain*, fish-oil, whalebone, spermaceti, furs and peltry of every kind, masts, spars, and timber, pot and pearl ashes, flax-seed, beef, pork, butter and cheese, horses and oxen; to the *West-Indies* chiefly, wheat-flour, bread, rye, Indian corn, lumber, tobacco, iron, naval stores, beeswax, rice, and indigo, &c., &c., to the amount of more than £4,000,000 sterling annually, and for some years past, and received the pay in *European* manufactures; and when I remind you that the inhabitants of that country double their number every twenty years, and inform you that this exportation has increased for the last century in the same ratio, you will be able to form some idea of this commerce, and of how much importance it is to *Europe*. I hope, by the coming post, to send you some favourable news from *America*; and I may not add to this without missing the post.

I am, with the most sincere esteem, dear sir, your most obedient servant,

SILAS DEANE.

EXTRACT OF A LETTER FROM BILBOA, DATED OCTOBER 6, 1776.

By this time we judge the capital events of the *American* armies are over, and from the silence observed in the Court of *London*, every body imagines the King's troops have been worsted. All *Europe* is in expectation of what has happened on your side, and we in hourly hopes of some arrival. May God Almighty bring it soon, and to our entire satisfaction, is the hearty wish of those that are and will be with true esteem.

We are now on the 14th instant, and your favour 22d *August*, per *Lee*, is come to hand, after thirty-nine days' passage, in which he took five prizes, so that he will make a fine voyage if they get in safe. On his arrival one Mr. *Gomaz*, who receives some *Newfoundlanders*, applied to the Commissary to stop the vessel, on account of her being an illegal privateer; and said Commissary granted it, and ordered the master to present his commission, which we had him comply with, with a proper protest and petition, insisting on his being set at liberty; upon which it was ordered that the vessel should remain until his Majesty should give instructions how to proceed about it. As soon as we heard of it, we drew out a fine petition for his Majesty, and despatched an express for the purpose, and, notwithstanding the power and activity of the *British* Ambassador, we have obtained a charming order from his *Catholic* Majesty, a copy whereof you have herein translated into *English*, by which you see the point is now settled for the future, and all *American* vessels are allowed to enter into our ports without distinction, whether privateers or merchantmen. On sight hereof our Commissary released Captain *Lee's* vessel immediately, and is now getting things in order to proceed home. Some great news are just come to hand.

In consequence of the express sent to *Madrid*, we find the Commissary has received orders from his Majesty to inform Captain *Lee*, and all other *Americans*, that all their vessels, viz: privateers and prizes, will have all manner of assistance in the *Spanish* ports; to say, they will be safe and unmolested, and will be provided with every thing but the articles prohibited in such cases. In short, that a strict neutrality will be observed by his *Catholic* Majesty, so that you may henceforward be quite easy, and send your vessels freely, as well as prizes from any quarter whatsoever. You ought to improve this fine opening, and your worthy rulers ought to send over somebody, or empower some person.

We are with joy, but in haste.

MARQUIS OF GRIMALDY, PRIME MINISTER IN SPAIN, TO D. MANUEL DE MOLLINEDO, COMMISSARY OF MARINE.

St. Ildephonso, October 7, 1776.

By your letter of the 4th instant, and the testimony that accompanied it, his Majesty is acquainted with what has occurred respecting the *American* schooner *Hawk*, Captain *John Lee*, from the time of his entry to the time of your laying her under a formal embargo, by obliging her to deliver up the tiller; all at the instance of Don *Vera Fran-*

cisco *Gomez de la Terra*, inhabitant of your place. His Majesty has likewise seen the protest of said *American* Captain, against all the damages that might ensue. In consequence of which, says to you, that whereas his Majesty, from the great friendship he possesses for his *Britannick* Majesty, maintains a perfect neutrality in the present war, not giving to the Colonists any of these aids prohibited in like cases, so likewise it corresponds to the same neutrality, not to deny them entrance into his ports, which they have been always used to enjoy, so long as they respect the territories of his Majesty, in proper terms.

Besides the above, his Majesty thinks Mr. *Gomez* an unqualified, improper person to solicit a proceeding of this nature. You will therefore be pleased immediately to put said *American* in full liberty, returning him all his papers, and permitting him to purchase what provisions and goods he needs to return to his own country, but without assisting in any prohibited articles.

Signed:

MARQUIS OF GRIMALDY.

GENERAL LEWIS TO THE PRESIDENT OF CONGRESS.

[Read October 28, 1776: referred to the Board of War.]

Williamsburg, October 6, 1776.

SIR: Captain *Charles Harrison*, commanding the train of Artillery, will do himself the honour of waiting on you, in order to obtain instructions from the honourable the Congress respecting his company. He will give a proper return, by which not only his number of officers and men, but the number of cannon, and the different stations will be pointed out, with the distances the batteries are from each other, which will discover the necessity of having his company augmented. His number is certainly too small to man the different batteries, as the several stations are very wide of each other.

I am, with great respect, honourable sir, your most obedient and very humble servant,

ANDREW LEWIS, *Brigadier-General*

To Hon. *John Hancock*, Esq.

COLONEL PATTERSON TO CÆSAR RODNEY.

Head-Quarters, Amboy, October 6, 1776.

SIR: Your three favours came to hand last evening. For answer, I am extremely sorry for your situation, and fear your disorder. As soon as I received yours, went about the inquiry for the root. There is so few of the inhabitants in town, that it was some time in the night before I got to hear of such. At last found an old lady who I gave money to, to send off this morning for some. As yet she has not arrived, or should have sent it by this hand, Doctor *Spencer*, of *New-Castle*. She says it is never got till *November*, and then used to be brought into town to sell; used as a tea; and to her knowledge has cured many that came here on purpose. I shall not fail of forwarding it to-day to *Woodbridge*; to go by post.

As to the other parts of your letters, have not full time to answer. As to Mr. *Watson*, have not seen him. Shall let him know the answer to his; but believes he does not want to resign, as he begins to know, like all the rest, that money can be made in that way; and if so, believes he will acquiesce in small bluffs.

Captain *Caldwell's* company and Colonel *Hodgson* arrived here about the 1st instant. They are all here now but what Captain *Mitchell's* men are to follow him.

I received a letter from the Hon. *George Read*, acquainting me another battalion is to be raised with us. I cannot see the propriety of such an attempt, when mine is not near full and full officered, to save expenses. I should thought, as we are not more than four hundred and fifty men, officers included, instead of six hundred, and at this season, so far advanced, is, in my humble opinion, hurting the intention. If any such should come, they must be mostly of the Militia kind; and half a month will cure them for ever going again, and persuade others not, if you should be ordered to raise one in the spring. They can only say they go up the hill and down, at this season, as the time is so short.

We left Captain *Mitchell's* drum at the maker's, by accident. I can sell all our drums and I believe colours, at

the end of our campaign, if ordered. This you can consult, and let me know.

My compliments to Mr. *Read* and Mr. *McKean*.

I am, sir, your most humble servant,

SAM. PATTERSON.

Captain *Woodgate* is sick. Three men dead in our battalion, from below. About seventy now sick. S. P.

GENERAL WASHINGTON TO GENERAL HOWE.

Head-Quarters, Harlem Heights, October 6, 1776.

SIR: I beg leave to inform you that in consequence of my directions, founded on your favour of the 21st ultimo, Governours *Browne* and *Skene* are arrived within the neighbourhood of this place, and will be conveyed to-morrow, between the hours of one and two, to one of the ships of war in the *North River*, when it is hoped that my Lord *Stirling* will be permitted to return, as also Mr. *Lovell*, if he is come from *Halifax*.

The particular manner in which you rest upon me, by your letter of the 4th instant, a performance of the agreement between General *Arnold* and Captain *Forster*, was entirely unexpected, as I enclosed you, some time ago, the resolutions of Congress upon the subject, by which you would perceive that they, to whom I am amenable, had taken upon themselves the consideration of the matter.

As to the prisoners mentioned in my letter of the 23d, their exchange shall be effected as soon as the circumstances I made you acquainted with will admit of.

The enclosed note for Mrs. *De Lancey* you will be pleased to have conveyed by the earliest opportunity.

I am, sir, with great respect, &c., GO. WASHINGTON.

To Lieutenant-General *Howe*.

COLONEL WEBB TO GENERAL HEATH.

Head-Quarters on Harlem Heights, October 6, 1776.

SIR: I am directed by his Excellency to inform you, that in the night, about twelve o'clock, our men distinctly heard the enemy throwing tools into boats from *Montresor's* and *Blackwell's* Islands, and that boats were moving up the *Sound* most of the night. About daylight twenty boat-loads of men rowed up, and landed on one of the islands called the *Two-Brothers*.

The General thinks the above manœuvre should not, in the least, draw your attention from *Morrisiana*, though a good look-out should be kept on all their movements; and at the same time bids me add that no time should be lost in taking possession of the hill you yesterday mentioned to him, below the gut.

I am, sir, your most humble servant,

SAM'L M. WEBB, A. D. C.

To Major-General *Heath*.

GENERAL SCOTT TO GENERAL HEATH.

Camp near King's Bridge, October 6, 1776.

MY DEAR GENERAL: I received your order of battle last night just going to bed, with which I am highly pleased in every respect, except that of my being placed in the centre. I think I ought to take the right, as I know but two Brigadiers in the army, Lord *Stirling* and General *Mifflin*, that rank before me. Of this I am sure I shall be able to convince you, by showing you that I have been a Continental Brigadier-General since the 9th *June* last, yet at Head-Quarters and elsewhere Generals *Parsons*, *Pierson*, and *McDougall*, and even General *Clinton*, who claims rank of me in consequence of a commission from our Convention of an older date than mine, but merely constituting him Brigadier of the Militia of *Ulster* County, are preferred to me. I urge this not to induce you now to a change, especially in General *Clinton's* absence: I only mean to put in my claim, and leave the change of disposition, if we should have leisure for it, to some future time.

I have accounts from Mrs. *Scott* of her being at *Tapan*, with her whole family in one room, she overwhelmed with distress and continually in tears, not knowing how to dispose of all that are dear to her except myself. She cannot be comforted till she sees me, and receives my directions for her future disposal. I have a light skiff that rows with four

oars, which will be the most expeditious way of going to her, and I promise you, unless accidents should happen, not to sleep till I return. I shall set off in an hour, if I do not receive your orders to the contrary, which shall in all cases be obeyed by, sir, your most obedient servant,

JNO. MORIN SCOTT.

TENCH TILGHMAN TO WILLIAM DUER.

Head-Quarters, Harlem Heights, October 6, 1776.

DEAR SIR: The enemy did not give us the trouble of removing them from *Harlem* last evening. They went off themselves. They had been levelling some small works we had thrown up there when our troops quartered in that town, and not throwing up new, as we thought.

Our troops have evacuated *Bergen* and the places adjacent, and will form an entire body, under General *Greene*, in *Jersey*, opposite to this post. When *Lee* arrives, I think we may form a fine disposition: *Greene* in *Jersey*, the General on this side *Harlem*, in the centre, and *Lee* on the other side. A bridge of boats is to be thrown over *Harlem River*, just at this place, which will form a fine, easy communication between, should the attack be made either on one side or the other.

I have not to add but that Lord *Stirling's* exchange takes place to-morrow, Governour *Browne* being arrived.

I have the honour to be, sir, your most obedient servant,

TENCH TILGHMAN.

To William Duer, Esq., *Fishkill*.

JOSEPH TRUMBULL TO THE PRESIDENT OF CONGRESS.

King's Bridge, October 7, 1776.

SIR: I received yours of the 3d instant, enclosing resolve respecting salt and salted provisions; and Mr. *Mease* purchasing one hundred hogsheads rum for me. As to the last I had an agent at *Philadelphia* purchasing for me, I wish they mayn't interfere; rum and other *West-India* articles are now becoming plenty, brought from the eastward to *Buy Run* river, within seventeen miles of this place, for sale, where I have lately purchased large quantities on very good terms. As to salt and salted provisions, I have and shall immediately take effectual care. The only danger I apprehend is for want of salt. This matter I mentioned to Mr. *Sherman*, *Gerry*, and *Lewis*, when here, and pointed out to them fully what I proposed, and what I thought necessary to be done by Congress, and hoped by this time to have received the needful orders, but am yet disappointed. I find the resolve of Congress is antecedent to their getting to *Philadelphia*.

What I mentioned to the Committee was, that a very considerable part of the salt in the country is in the hands of Continental agents, on whom I ought to have orders for the delivery of it to me or my order; and I apprehend that all the salt in the country will fall very short of a sufficiency. I proposed that Congress should give me such orders as would indemnify me in sending abroad and bringing in, or encouraging persons to bring in a sufficient quantity for Continental use, as might be necessary for salting provisions for the army; by which means I may be sparing of salt at first salting, and repack and pickle as I can get the salt in afterwards. A bare authority to purchase I suppose will not be sufficient for this purpose. I have already engaged proper persons from *Philadelphia* to *New-Hampshire*, in every proper place in each State, to purchase up every bushel of salt to be had, and to prepare casks and take in salt and cure pork and beef.

These matters need an immediate attention, and I propose going into *New-England* for the purpose as soon as I can have orders from Congress on their agents, and the proposed indemnification, if thought proper by Congress. I would have gone ere this, but for want of them; going is of no importance till I have them. I must first know what salt I can be sure of before I purchase provisions, and adopt my orders to the circumstances of the case. I really grudge every moment that is lost in this matter. I shall exert myself, and fear nothing but what I mention.

I am, most respectfully, sir, your most obedient, humble servant,

JOS. TRUMBULL.

Messrs. *Stockton* and *Clymer* left this yesterday morning. They beg me to press the matter of salt.

CAPTAIN CLUGGAGE TO COLONEL HAND.

Camp at De Lancy's Mills, October 6, 1776.

SIR: It is with great concern I am to request you'll please to accept of my resignation of the commission of eldest Captain, which I have had the honour to hold in the regiment under your command.

A constant attention to every part of duty in the service which my commission demanded, from the earliest raising of the regiment to this time, I flattered myself would ever be the surest means to secure me the favour of the *United States*, at least so far as by my rank in the service I had reason to expect. But, sir, from the late promotion of an officer over my head, so much my junior, to the rank of Major, I find my mistake, and therefore think myself called upon to quit the service, which shall, however, have my most hearty wishes for its success; as it shall ever be the rule of my conduct to disengage myself from any service I may be engaged in, in which promotion must be often considered as the marks of interest and not the reward of merit.

I must beg that you'll please to forward this account of my resignation to his Excellency General *Washington*, as soon as convenient, in order that an officer may be appointed in my room.

I have the honour to be, with great respect, your most obedient, humble servant,

ROBERT CLUGGAGE.

To Colonel *Edward Hand*, commanding the First Regiment at *De Lancy's Mills*.

EXTRACT OF A LETTER FROM JOHN JAY TO GOUVERNEUR MORRIS, DATED FISHKILL, OCTOBER 6, 1776.

Had I been vested with absolute power in this State, I have often said and still think that I would last spring have desolated all *Long-Island*, *Staten-Island*, the City and County of *New-York*, and all that part of the County of *Westchester* which lies below the mountains. I would then have stationed the main body of the army in the mountains on the east, and eight or ten thousand men in the highlands, on the west side of the river. I would have directed the river at *Fort Montgomery*, which is nearly at the southern extremity of the mountains, to be so shallowed as to afford only depth sufficient for an *Albany* sloop, and all the southern passes and defiles in the mountains to be strongly fortified. Nor do I think the shallowing of the river a romantick scheme. Rocky mountains rise immediately from the shores. The breadth is not very great, though the depth is. But what cannot eight or ten thousand men well worked effect? According to this plan of defence the State would be absolutely impregnable against all the world on the sea side, and would have nothing to fear except from the way of the lake. Should the enemy gain the river, even below the mountains, I think I foresee that a retreat would become necessary, and I can't forbear wishing that a desire of saving a few acres may not lead us into difficulty.

GENERAL SCHUYLER TO THE PRESIDENT OF CONGRESS.

[Read October 15, 1776.]

Albany, October 6, 1776.

SIR: At six last night, I had the honour to receive from you four bundles of papers, all directed to me; but on opening, reading, and examining the directions at bottom, I found one of them was intended for General *Gates*. The papers it contained I shall enclose and forward to him, together with the articles of war that were in one of the other bundles.

In your favour of the 27th ultimo, you advise me that the Committee of Congress were to confer with me. I apprehend this mistake crept into your letter by the variety of business which claims your attention; for I find, by the resolution of Congress of the 25th ultimo, that the Commissioners are to confer with General *Gates*. My name is not so much as mentioned in any of the resolutions of that day, except in the second, and by that it would seem as if I acted under General *Gates*. Indeed, from the resolutions of that day, it seemed unnecessary to have sent me any of the other papers, as it strongly implied that I do not any longer command in this department. I only mention this because, when I resigned my offices, I observed that I should

continue to act for such a reasonable time that a general officer might be sent here, and had therefore some reason to expect that the pleasure of Congress would have been conveyed to me, on that head, in a manner less liable to objection.

Although the above-quoted resolution would fully justify me if I forbore every act as Commander-in-Chief of this department, yet the principle which alone induced me to accept the command, on which I have acted whilst in it, and which I trust will mark every action of my life, will not permit me to forbear acting until matters are put into such a proper train, by Congress, as that no detriment may accrue to my country.

When I received no answer to my letter in which the clothing was mentioned, (as, indeed, I have not, a long time since, to any,) I ventured to order all the woollens to be made up; and all the tailors that can be procured here are now employed in that business.

Mr. *Avery*, who succeeds Mr. *Livingston* in the commissary branch in this department, is arrived. The army, as he informs me, is supplied with about forty days' flour, including what is at *Fort George*, and with beef to the first of next month, including what cattle are on their way up. I hope Mr. *Avery* will continue to keep up that stock. He will have my best advice and assistance to do it whilst I command, which I hope will be but a very few days longer.

The postscript to your letter mentions "that Congress will soon determine on the subject of my letters, as they are now in the hands of a special committee." If determining on the subject of them means a determination on the propriety or impropriety of my conduct as an officer, I cannot but think it extremely extra-judicial, as I have not had an opportunity given me of defending myself; for although I have the fullest confidence in the propriety of my conduct and in the honour of the gentlemen who compose the committee, yet things may appear in quite a different point of light to them from what they really are, when uninformed of causes and facts, which, perhaps, none but myself can suggest; and Congress may, perhaps, go into a censure, which, upon better information, they would find unjust. I am, therefore, under the necessity of entreating Congress to suspend their judgments until I shall be heard. This is a request so reasonable in its nature as, I hope, cannot be refused me.

I am, sir, with every sentiment of esteem and respect, your most obedient, humble servant,

PH. SCHUYLER.

To the Hon. *John Hancock*.

GENERAL SCHUYLER TO GENERAL WASHINGTON.

Albany, October 6, 1776.

DEAR SIR: By Mr. *Bennet*, who arrived yesterday, I was honoured with your Excellency's very obliging favour of the 30th ultimo.

I should have been much happier than I am, if the resolutions of Congress of the 25th ultimo had not put it out of my power to be in sentiment with you on the resolution of the 14th of the same month. Without advising me that I am no longer in command, they resolve that "Mr. *Stockton* and Mr. *Clymer* are appointed a committee to proceed to *Tyconderoga*, to confer with General *Gates* with respect to the army under his command."

I believe I shall be able to collect about forty thousand boards. Part of them are already gone from hence, together with a considerable number of rafters. I believe the Committee of this place will be able to procure about twenty thousand boards; and they have employed people to procure the timber Mr. *Ayers* requested of them.

Be so good as to order the Quartermaster-General to send me about two thousand pounds, on account; or if it makes no difference, I will draw on the military chest here.

I am in great hopes that you have so embarrassed the enemy by your movement from *New-York*, that they will find it impossible to form and execute any plan that will materially distress you in the remainder of this campaign.

The army in this quarter is well supplied with provision, and I trust will continue to be so. The three row-galleys are gone to join the fleet, and a fourth will be very soon equipped.

I do not apprehend that the enemy will be able to do

any thing of consequence to the northward, unless they should suspend their operations until the term of enlistment of our troops expires. I confess my hopes of seeing an army speedily raised on the new establishment are not very sanguine. That the soldiers are to pay for their clothing will be a great obstacle, as the price of every necessary is so extremely high. Perhaps it would have been as well if Congress had enumerated the articles each soldier should be furnished with, and determined the stoppage that should be made for it.

I am, dear sir, with every friendly wish and every respectful sentiment, your Excellency's most obedient, humble servant,

PH. SCHUYLER.

To His Excellency General *Washington*.

GENERAL SCHUYLER TO GENERAL GATES.

Albany, October 6, 1776.

DEAR GENERAL: At six last night, I received four bundles of despatches from Congress, all directed to me; but on opening, reading, and examining the directions at bottom, I found Mr. *Hancock's* clerk had made a mistake, and that one was intended for you. The papers it enclosed I now send you, as also a bundle of the articles of war, which were also, it seems, designed for you. Of this I have advised Congress.

I am happy to find, by Mr. *Avery's* return, that you are so well supplied with provisions. I shall advise him by all means to keep up the stock, and afford him my best assistance to do it, which I expect will now be only a very few days longer, as you will see, by the resolutions of the 25th ultimo, that Congress has already implicatively declared me no longer in command.

I must entreat to send Colonel *Lewis* to this place. His office requires that he should be here and on the communication, that things may be kept in train.

The powder, &c., is not yet arrived. I shall order Mr. *Avery* to forward it as soon as it comes to hand.

I am, dear sir, very sincerely, your obedient, humble servant,

PH. SCHUYLER.

To the Hon. General *Gates*, &c.

DR. STRINGER TO GENERAL GATES.

Albany, October 6, 1776.

DEAR SIR: I arrived here last night from *Boston*, where, I have the pleasure to inform you, I met with the greatest success in procuring medicines to upwards five thousand pounds, *York* currency, which I expect will be here by *Thursday* next, when I shall immediately despatch and follow them.

I hope you have had your health well, with all your fatigue. I shall trouble you to deliver the enclosed letters, and, with respect, am, sir, your most obedient, humble servant,

SAM'L STRINGER.

To Major-General *Gates*.

CHRISTOPHER YATES TO GENERAL GATES.

Cheshire's, on Wood Creek, October 6, 1776.

HONOURED SIR: Having been from here a few days, occasioned by my indisposition, and on my return the 3d instant, I found the two companies of Colonel *Mott's* regiment, to wit, Captain *Sharp* and Captain *Norton*, ordered away. They had left Major *Waters*, of Colonel *Swift's* regiment very ill, as also thirty-seven of the sick people of their two companies; the one not able to help the other: no doctor to take care of them, so that I have not one man to carry on the works here, the road not being half done. I am obliged to keep two of my carpenters at the mill, and they can't do half the work that is required, and carpenters to attend the masons. I have just begun my first chimney in the barracks. There are a great number of the tools which I had left in the gentlemen's care when I went away, wanting. If your Honour would be pleased to order Colonel *Van Dyke*, who is now at *Fort Edward*, with part of his regiment, this way, I believe they would answer best on the road and at the mill. I am sure they would, for I have had Captain *Veder* of that regiment there, who did the work extremely well. I shall do my

endeavour to let the few carpenters I have got here labour to the best advantage; and remain your Honour's most obedient, humble servant,

CHRIS. YATES, A. D. Q. Gen'l.

To the Hon. Major-General *Gates*.

HENRY J. VAN RENSSELAER TO GENERAL GATES.

SIR: As I am an officer in the Militia, and look upon it that I am of greater service to my country than by being Commissary of Forage, I beg the General will please to accept of this my resignation of Commissary of Forage, and you will oblige, sir,

Your humble servant,

HY. J. VAN RENSSELAER.

To the Hon. Major-General *Gates*.

JOSEPH HAWLEY TO GENERAL GATES.

Northampton, October 6, 1776.

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR HONOUR: I am so well knowing to your humanity and the goodness of your natural temper, as to be assured that nothing within your power necessary to the safety and health of the troops under your command will be omitted. I only beg leave just to acquaint you that from the declarations of officers in your army and people who visit your camps, the country are made vastly uneasy at being informed that there is scarce any medicines for the sick, and that it is rare that any rations are dealt out to the privates but of meat and bread, or any money paid in lieu of the other articles. They say that there are plenty of doctors, but no medicine. Your Honour knows whether there are any grounds for these complaints, and if there are, whether these defects are chargeable on the Congress, or the neglects, frauds, and dishonesty of such as are employed by them.

I have heretofore suggested to your Honour the speedy need your army will be in of snow-shoes; and as every little helps in any case, I mentioned in one or two former letters that I have by accident, in my custody, between fifty and sixty pair of snow-shoes, in good condition, belonging to the States, purchased last winter by Mr. *Mifflin*.

I have the honour to be, with the greatest respect, your Honour's most obedient, humble servant,

JOSEPH HAWLEY.

To General *Gates*.

GENERAL WARD TO GENERAL WASHINGTON.

Boston, October 6, 1776.

SIR: Yesterday I received from Mr. *Glover*, agent at *Marblehead*, a box of broad swords, which he lately found in the *Scotch* ship *Ann*, that was taken some time since.

Also, received from Mr. *Bradford*, agent for Continental prizes, the enclosed invoice of articles which he has in his hands. The reason which he gave for delaying it so long, was, the plaids were infected with the small-pox, and he thought it necessary to cleanse and air them a considerable time before they were used.

I am your Excellency's obedient, humble servant,

ARTEMAS WARD.

To General *Washington*.

An account of Plaids and Military Stores in the possession of JOHN BRADFORD, Esq., Agent for Continental Prizes, viz:

- 35 pieces short plaid.
- 88 yards of long, do.
- 8 large camp-kettles.
- 16 small, do.
- 5 dozen canteens.
- 2 dozen half-gallon kettles and covers.
- 2 dozen flat tin candlesticks.
- 12 dozen hard metal table-spoons.
- 94 rugs.
- 84 blankets.

October 6, 1776.

GENERAL ARMSTRONG TO THE PRESIDENT OF CONGRESS.

Wilmington, North-Carolina, October 7, 1776.

SIR: Brigadier *Howe* being now at *Charlestown*, permit

me to acquaint you I am this far on my way to the northward, having first obtained the consent of General *Lee*, and shall be happy to find my return may not be disagreeable to Congress; but still more so should my motives be found to be such as to meet the approbation of that honourable body.

As the military affairs of this State are not in so much forwardness as could be wished, I shall stay one day here and one in *Halifax*, in order to represent to the Council of Safety now sitting at that place, several matters of importance to the future defence of these States, particularly that of *South-Carolina*; and if health permits shall make but a short stay at *Carlisle*, and wait your further commands at *Philadelphia*. The *English* shipping which lay at *Cape Fear* are entirely gone off, having first burnt three vessels unfit for service. A negro who deserted them says he heard they were bound to *New-York*.

I am, sir, with perfect respect, your most obedient, humble servant,

JOHN ARMSTRONG.

To the Hon. *John Hancock*.

COLONEL HAWKINS TO MARYLAND COUNCIL OF SAFETY.

Charles County, October 7, 1776.

SIR: I am sorry to be under the necessity of informing you of the misbehaviour of the Twelfth Battalion, and hope you will lay the same before the honourable Convention. On the 23d ultimo the said battalion was ordered to attend at the usual place of meeting; and those that attended, though it was not a full meeting, were drawn up in line to perform the manual, but immediately upon the Adjutant giving the word of command, a great number of the soldiers broke their ranks and collected together in a crowd. Upon which I instantly went amongst them to inquire into the reason of such extraordinary behaviour, and some of them objected to their being mustered by a *Scotchman*; but the greater part declared that they would not be mustered by any Adjutant at all; alleging that the Province was run to a very heavy expense by employing Adjutants, and they thought it the duty of the officers to muster the battalion. I said every thing I could, (and so did many other of the officers,) to show them the absurdity of such conduct, but to no purpose. I then ordered them to be dismissed until I should hear from Convention, and hope it will not be long before some step is taken to reduce them to order.

I am with great esteem and regard, sir, your most obedient servant,

JOSIAS HAWKINS.

To the Hon. *Matthew Tilghman*, Esq., President of Convention.

BALTIMORE COMMITTEE.

At a meeting of the Committee, October 7, 1776,

Present: *Samuel Purviance*, Jun., Chairman, *A. Buchanan*, *W. Aisquith*, *T. Sollers*, *A. Britain*, *E. Talbot*, *T. Rutter*, *D. Lux*, *T. Gist*.

The fine imposed on *Robert McCallister*, as a Non-Enroller is remitted, it appearing that he had enrolled with Captain *Philips* some time ago.

A list of the Assessments on the Non-Enrollers in *Middle River*, Upper, and an additional one of *Back River*, Upper, were made out, and sent to the Collectors.

Mr. *Benjamin Merryman* entered a complaint against Captain *John Foster*, that though he has returned an enrolment, yet it is incomplete, and he does not muster his company according to the resolves of Convention, and further that he never would take up arms during the present contest.

Upon motion, *Resolved*, n. c. d., That Messrs. *John Foster*, *Solomon Cross*, Sen., and *Benjamin Merryman*, be ordered to attend this Committee on *Monday* next.

Attest:

GEO. LUX, Secretary.

COMMITTEE OF CONGRESS TO NEW-YORK CONVENTION.

Philadelphia, October 7, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: The Committee appointed to carry into execution the enclosed resolve can think of no method so proper for the State of *New-York* as to apply to the Convention; and, for that purpose, we send you ten thousand dollars, and desire you to appoint proper persons in the

several districts to execute the same; and if, upon trial, you find that more clothing may be had than this money will purchase, you may have more by applying to this Committee.

ROB. TREAT PAINE,	ARTHUR MIDDLETON,
JOSIAH BARTLETT,	WM. FLOYD,
WILLIAM ELLERY,	LYMAN HALL,
WM. WILLIAMS,	GEO. ROSS.
GO. WYTHE,	

To the honourable Convention of the State of *New-York*.

In Congress, September 25, 1776.

Resolved, That a Committee of Congress consisting of one delegate from each State, be appointed with authority to employ proper persons to purchase in their respective States, a sufficient number of blankets and woollens fit for soldiers' clothes; and that they take the most effectual and speedy methods for getting such woollens made up, and distributed among the regular Continental army, in such proportion as will best promote the publick service; and that they also purchase all other necessary clothing for the soldiers, in such proportion as they judge, upon the best information will be wanted; and that the said Committee be authorized to draw on the President of Congress for the sums necessary to execute this business, they to be accountable for the amount of their drafts and disbursements.

The Committee are: Mr. *Bartlett*, Mr. *Paine*, Mr. *Ellery*, Mr. *Williams*, Mr. *Floyd*, Mr. *Stockton*, Mr. *Ross*, Mr. *McKean*, Mr. *Paca*, Mr. *Wythe*, Mr. *Hawes*, Mr. *Middleton*, and Mr. *Hall*.

Extract from the minutes:

CHAS. THOMSON, Secretary.

COMMITTEE OF CONGRESS TO NEW-YORK CONVENTION.

Philadelphia, October 7, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: Mr. *Livingston* wrote you a few lines the 28th *September*, acquainting you that we had obtained a vote of Congress on the Treasurer for one hundred thousand dollars, which it was not in our power to send you before this time.

Enclosed you have Mr. *Hunter's* receipt for the same. The gentlemen who carry this money are of the Light Horse of this city, and of respectable characters. We request you will pay attention to them as such.

The Committee of Congress to whom your papers respecting General *Schuyler* were committed, have reported, we hope to your satisfaction. Mr. *Rutledge* informs us that he had transmitted a copy to *Robert R. Livingston*, Esq., and a certified copy shall be sent you per post, which will probably come to your hands before this letter.

On the 5th instant we were going to move Congress, that they would direct General *Washington* to propose to General *Howe* the exchange of Brigadier-General *Woodhull* for Brigadier-General *McDonald*, when a *Pennsylvania* newspaper of same date was handed to us, by which it would appear that Brigadier-General *Woodhull* had taken such a part as would put it out of our power to move for his exchange. Should be glad you would inform us if there be any truth in this conjecture, and direct it us as to our conduct therein.

We are respectfully, gentlemen, your very humble servants,

FRA. LEWIS,
PHIL. LIVINGSTON,
WM. FLOYD.

To the honourable the Convention of *New-York*.

Received, *Philadelphia*, October 7, 1776, of the honourable the Delegates of *New-York*, a box containing one hundred thousand dollars, the which to be delivered to the honourable the Convention of *New-York*, now sitting at the *Fishkills*, for which given two receipts of equal tenour and date.

The contents unknown.

JAS. HUNTER.

Philadelphia, October 7, 1776.

We are informed by authentick intelligence that an *American* sloop-of-war of twelve guns and seventy men, sailed

from the *Delaware* the 21st of *August*. She cruised between the latitudes of 39° and 33° north, and went to the eastward as far as the longitude of 50° west, having taken three prizes, a whaler, and two *West-Indiamen*, and having had a very narrow escape from an *English* frigate after a six hours' chase, part of the time within pistol shot. On the 14th *September* she bent her course for *Nova-Scotia*, and on the 20th had another action with an *English* frigate, and in the course of an eight hours' chase ridiculed the enemy, and answered his broadside with only a single musket.

The next day she went into *Canso* and took three *English* schooners, with a *Scotch* Tory's flag, although the *Savage* and *Dawson's* brig were within a few leagues distance. The day following she took five sail of *Jerseymen*, in *Narrow-Hook*, and four more in *Peter de Great*. It is remarkable, that though their men were ten to one, they were so panick struck that they not only gave up their ships but even assisted to rig and carry them out of their harbour. The sloop then proceeded to the westward, took another whaler on *St. George's Bank*, and on the 7th *October* arrived safe at *Rhode-Island*, having manned and sent in eight prizes, viz: six brigantines, one ship, and one sloop, and sunk, burnt, and destroyed eight more, viz: six schooners, one ship, and one brigantine, and finished her cruise in six weeks and five days.

GENERAL WASHINGTON TO THE PRESIDENT OF CONGRESS.

[Read 11th October. Referred to Board of War.]

Head-Quarters, Heights of Harlem, October 7, 1776.

SIR: I do myself the honour of transmitting to you a copy of a letter from the *Compte d'Emery*, Governour-General of the *French* part of *St. Domingo*, which I received yesterday, and also my answer, which I have enclosed, and left open for the consideration of Congress, wishing that it may be sealed if they approve of the *Sieur De Chambeau's* releasement, and which I think may be attended with many valuable consequences. If Congress concur in sentiment with me, they will be pleased to give direction for his passage by the first opportunity to the *French* Islands. If they do not, I shall be obliged by your returning my letter.

I have also the pleasure of enclosing a copy of a letter from *Monsieur P. Penet*, which came to hand last night, and which contains intelligence of an agreeable and interesting nature, for which I beg leave to refer you to the copy. The polite manner in which *Monsieur Penet* has requested to be one of my Aids-de-Camp demands my acknowledgments. As the appointment will not be attended with any expense, and will show a proper regard for his complaisance and the attachment he is pleased to express for the service of the *American* States, I shall take the liberty of complying with his requisition, and transmit him a brevet commission, provided the same shall be agreeable to Congress. Their sentiments upon the subject you will be kind enough to favour me with by the first opportunity.

The enclosed letter for the *Seigneur De Chambeau* you will be pleased to forward to him, if he is to be enlarged, after closing it.

Before I conclude I must take the liberty to observe, that I am under no small difficulties on account of the *French* gentlemen that are here, in consequence of the commissions they have received, having no means to employ them, or to afford them an opportunity of rendering that service they themselves wish to give, or which perhaps is expected by the publick. Their want of our language is an objection to their being joined to any of the regiments here at this time, were there vacancies, and not other obstacles. These considerations induce me to wish that Congress will adopt and point out some particular mode to be observed respecting them. What it should be, they will be best able to determine. But to me it appears that their being here now can be attended with no valuable consequences, and that as the power of appointing officers for the new army is vested in the Conventions, &c., of the several States, it will be necessary for Congress to direct them to be provided for in the regiments to be raised, according to the ranks they would wish them to bear, or I am convinced they will never be taken in, let their merit be what it may; or to form them into a distinct corps, which may be increased in time. They seem to be genteel, sensible men, and I have no doubt

of their making good officers, as soon as they can learn as much of our language as to make themselves well understood; but unless Congress interfere with their particular direction to the States, they will never be incorporated in any of the regiments to be raised; and without they are, they will be entirely at a loss and in the most irksome situation for something to do, as they now are.

I have the honour to be, sir, your most obedient servant,

GO. WASHINGTON.

St. Domingo, August 4, 1776.

SIR: Although I have not the honour to be known to your Excellency, I hope you will be good enough to release a *French* officer who, like an inconsiderate man, was taken in *Canada*, serving in the *English* army against your troops. I entreat you to set him at liberty, and suffer him to embark in some vessel bound to the *French* Colonies, from whence he may get a passage to *France* and rejoin his regiment. He is called the *Sieur De Chambeau*, and is an officer in a regiment of infantry in the service of his Crown.

Although this officer has fallen into an error by taking part in a quarrel in which he ought by all means to have been a neuter, either considered as an officer of *France* or a *Canadian*, I could not, seeing he had wrote to me, refuse to use my interest with your Excellency to suffer him, by an act of generosity, to regain his liberty and join his regiment in *Europe*. I hope your Excellency will not think my demand impertinent, and that you will pay regard to it. I took the earliest opportunity to assure you that I esteem myself happy in having it in my power to prove the high esteem with which your reputation has inspired me.

I have the honour to be, with the greatest respect, your Excellency's most humble and most obedient servant,

COMPTE D'EMERY,

Governour-General of the *French* part of *St. Domingo*.
To General Washington.

Nantes, August 3, 1776.

MY GENERAL: I am pleased to present you my respects, and to inform you of the success of my operations in *France*. I can assure you, you need not fear the want of ammunition. I have found the means to furnish your armies, and to provide your garrisons. There will go to you immediately four subjects, two of which are of distinction and great merit, and who will deliver into proper hands the political state of *France*, *England*, *Spain*, and *Portugal*. We wish every success to your arms, and also if possible that we may lend a hand. The letter which will be sent you by one of these gentlemen, will inform you well of interesting and advantageous circumstances, which I cannot communicate to you but by them.

I have, my General, a demand to make of you for a favour which I desire to obtain, and which I hope to merit. I have wrote concerning it to *Dr. Franklin*. It is that you would grant me the honour of the title of your first Aid-de-Camp, and that you would permit me to wear the uniform and also the ribbon. I ask no pay, but the honour only of being in your service. I hope you will grant me that favour in consideration of my attachment and the desire I have to serve with fidelity the nation of the thirteen *United Colonies of North America*. I shall make my residence in *Nantes*, and don't intend to return to the Continent before the end of the war, my presence being necessary for your operations, and not being able to trust such secret affairs but to myself. If I can be so happy as to be of any use to you, I am entirely at your disposal. *Dr. Franklin* can forward your letters to me, and also the brevet of Aid-de-Camp, which I hope you will not refuse me, and which I shall receive with the greatest pleasure.

I beg my best respect to *Madame Washington*; and assure her that I have the honour to be, my General, her and your most obedient servant,

P. PENET & Co.

To General Washington.

Head-Quarters, Haerlem Heights, ten miles from }
New-York, October 7, 1776. }

SIR: I yesterday had the honour of receiving your letter of the 4th *August*, and I take the earliest opportunity of testifying the pleasure I have in complying with your request,

by immediately ordering the release of Monsieur *Dechambault*. He shall be accommodated with a passage in the first vessel that sails from *Philadelphia* to the *French Colonies* in the *West-Indies*.

Had it not been for your interposition, Monsieur *Dechambault* must have remained a prisoner till released by a cartel; but I could not hesitate to comply with a request made by a nobleman, who, by his publick countenance of our cause, has rendered such essential services to the thirteen United Independent States of *America*, whose armies I have the honour to command.

I have the honour to be, sir, with the highest esteem, your most obedient servant,

GO. WASHINGTON.

To Monsieur Le Compte d'*Emery*, Gouverneur-General of the *French* part of *St. Domingo*.

Proceedings of a Court-Martial of the Line, held on the Heights of HAERLEM, by order of his Excellency General WASHINGTON, Commander-in-Chief of the Forces of the UNITED STATES OF AMERICA, for the trial of all Prisoners to be brought before them; October 7, 1776.

Colonel *Weedon*, President.

Members.

Lieut. Colonel <i>Richardson</i> ,	Captain <i>Wolcott</i> ,
Major <i>McDonnough</i> ,	Lieutenant <i>St. John</i> ,
Captain <i>Hoit</i> ,	Lieutenant <i>Janney</i> ,
Captain <i>Byles</i> ,	Lieutenant <i>Lane</i> ,
Captain <i>Bracon</i> ,	Lieut. <i>Drake</i> ,
Captain <i>Gaston</i> ,	Lieutenant <i>Clarke</i> .

William Tudor, Judge-Advocate.

The Court being duly sworn proceeded to the trial of Sergeant *George Douglass*, of Captain *Forbes's* Company, in General *McDougall's* late Regiment, brought prisoner before the Court and accused "of mutinous conduct and of exciting mutiny, and also of speaking disrespectfully of the Commander-in-Chief, and of the General Officers of the Army of the *United States*."

The prisoner being arraigned on the aforesaid charge, pleads "Not guilty."

Ensign *Bonner* deposes: That the prisoner was confined in the quarter guard of the regiment for disobedience of orders, while the regiment was stationed on *Haarlem* Common. I was officer of the guard and heard the prisoner say to part of the guard and some other prisoners who were confined with him, "that the Generals had sold the troops upon *Long-Island*, and had brought the army up to *Haarlem*, to sell them there."

Captain *Forbes* deposes: In the morning of the same day which Ensign *Bonner* mentions, I was walking near the quarter guard, and heard somebody singing, "God save the King." I came up to the person, and found it to be Sergeant *Douglass*. After he had finished the song he said "he was his King, and he would have no other King, which we should soon see." This he said to a soldier who was with him. The prisoner is a Sergeant in my company, and has been repeatedly mutinous.

The Court are of opinion that the prisoner is guilty of mutinous speeches, and speaking disrespectfully of the Commander-in-Chief; and the Court sentence the prisoner to be whipped thirty-nine lashes on his bare back for said offence.

G. WEEDON, President.

The Court proceeded to the trial of *George Harris*, of Captain *Hoel's* Company, in Colonel *Winds's* Regiment, brought prisoner before the Court and accused of desertion.

The prisoner being arraigned, pleads guilty, and confesses "that he deserted from the regiment last *May*, when the regiment was at *Albany*, and about three weeks ago was taken up at *Brunswick* and sent a prisoner to the camp at *Haarlem*."

The Court find the prisoner guilty of a breach of the eighth article of the rules and regulations for the government of the Continental troops, and sentence him to be whipped thirty-nine lashes on his bare back for said offence.

G. WEEDON, President.

The Court order *Patrick McCollister*, of Col. *Hallett's* Battalion, and *George Stephens*, of General *McDougall's* late Regiment, confined for being found outside the lines,

FIFTH SERIES.—VOL. II.

to be dismissed; there being no evidence against them, and the Court upon inquiry, finding the prisoners to have been in liquor, and wandering about without design, rather than with a view of desertion.

G. WEEDON, President.

The Court adjourns to *Wednesday* morning, 9th *October*, at nine o'clock.

Proceedings of a General Court-Martial held by adjournment, October 7, 1776, by order of Major-General HEATH.

Colonel *Lasher*, President.

Lieut. Colonel <i>Prentice</i> ,	Captain <i>Dana</i> ,
Major <i>Austin</i> ,	Captain <i>Dixen</i> ,
Captain <i>Sill</i> ,	Captain <i>Brazier</i> ,
Captain <i>Barnes</i> ,	Captain <i>Townshend</i> ,
Captain <i>Keith</i> ,	Captain <i>Platt</i> ,
Captain <i>Allen</i> ,	Captain <i>Hardenburgh</i> .

The Court proceeded to the trial of Lieutenant *John Hulburt*, of *Sedgwick's* Company, in Colonel *Chester's* Regiment, for having deserted the camp in time of danger, and being absent twenty-six days without leave.

The prisoner pleads, "Not guilty."

Captain *Sedgwick* being sworn deposes: That after the retreat from *Long-Island*, while they were at *New-York*, the Colonel was suspicious their baggage was in danger. I desired the Lieutenant to go two or three miles with it. He went. The Colonel asked me soon after, where the Lieutenant was, as he had not returned? I said I knew not. I was afterwards informed by Captain *Wells* he was beyond *King's Bridge*. The Captain thought he looked better than he had done. I wrote to him to come back, which letter did not reach him till he got home, he having pushed on. He lives one hundred and twenty-six miles off. He was absent twenty-one days.

Adjutant *Abbe*: When the ships were drawn up, I was ordered by the Colonel to parade the regiment and man the lines. I told the Lieutenant of it. He then went off. I thought him in tolerable health.

Prisoner's Defence.

Pleads the Captain's orders for absenting himself from the regiment at first, and his ill state of health for proceeding home.

The Court find the prisoner not guilty of having deserted the camp in time of danger, but find him guilty of absence without leave twenty-four days, and unanimously adjudge him to be cashiered and mulcted one month's pay.

JOHN LASHER, President.

The Court next proceeded to the trial of *Abraham Smedes*, a Lieutenant in Captain *De Witt's* Company, in the regiment commanded by Lieutenant-Colonel *Hardenburgh*, for spreading a false and malicious report concerning Colonel *Hardenburgh's* conduct on the day of the retreat from *New-York*; also for absenting himself from the regiment without leave.

The prisoner pleads, "Not guilty."

Colonel *Hardenburgh* sworn: Produces a letter from his son-in-law at home, which he swears to. The Colonel then says, that on reading this letter to the prisoner, he denied the whole except the following paragraph, which he confessed and said Lieutenant *Lawrence* told him so. The paragraph is: "Lieutenant *Lawrence* and a Sergeant hunted for you, and found you hid away, and brought you out, and after that you hid again among some potatoes in a yard, where they fetched you out again." As to absence without leave, he went away contrary to my express orders.

Lieutenant *Van Orcher*. Confirms what the Colonel says with respect to the prisoner's confessing as above.

Lieutenant *Lawrence*. I utterly deny my saying any such thing of the Colonel as the prisoner alleges. The Colonel was in the intrenchments and behaved well.

Prisoner's Defence.

He says Lieutenant *Lawrence* did say the Colonel was at the left of the intrenchments, in an hollow ground, out of danger. As to absence, he was unwell, and thought he could slip away.

The Court unanimously adjudge the prisoner to be guilty of both charges; and order him for the first charge, to beg

the Colonel's pardon at the head of the regiment, and confess that the whole was a scandalous, malicious lie, without the least foundation, and that this confession be inserted in the publick paper. For the second charge, they order him to be cashiered and mulcted one month's pay.

JOHN LASHER, *President*.

Both of the foregoing judgments are approved by
GO. WASHINGTON.

TENCH TILGHMAN TO WILLIAM DUER.

Head-Quarters, Harlem Heights, October 7, 1776.

DEAR SIR: I have Mr. *Benson's* letter of the 5th, by which I find you are laid up with a sprained leg. I hope it will not be of long continuance.

Anchors and cable will be wanting to moor the boats, in order to throw a bridge over *Harlem* River; all those belonging to the vessels that were sunk, are sent up the river, I believe to *Poughkeepsie*. His Excellency desires that you would immediately send down six anchors and cables of the size that are commonly used by sloops. As they are very much wanted, pray let no time be lost.

We have nothing new from the enemy. We took a drum and fife, rambling in *Harlem*, this morning, but they are entirely ignorant of their own numbers, plans, or any thing else.

I am, dear sir, your most obedient servant,

TENCH TILGHMAN.

To *William Duer*, Esq.

JOHN FIELD TO NEW-YORK CONVENTION.

Dutchess, South-East Precinct, October 7, 1776.

SIR: We esteem it our duty to suggest to your honourable House, that we think the raising a company of Rangers, or County guards, in the southern part of *Dutchess* County, is very necessary. Our external enemies seem to strain every nerve to carry their insidious plans into execution. We have too much reason to believe we have daily spies from the *British* army in our neighbourhood. We are now, sir, in pursuit of two persons whom we have lately discovered, of whose villainous purposes we have sufficient evidence. Our treacherous neighbours are in a continual agitation. We wish they and their connection may be now labouring under the last expiring struggles of that inhuman spirit which has so long possessed them. However that may be, we beg leave to say that a strict attention to their motions is our duty, and that the concurrence of the Convention with what is above recommended, we think may serve to detect them in a great degree.

If the honourable House should honour us with their concurrence, we beg leave to recommend *Nathaniel Seribna*, of *Fredericksburgh* Precinct, as Captain, and *Joseph Field*, in *Southeast* Precinct, as Lieutenant, of the company, and that they are authorized to enlist their company as soon as possible. For further intelligence in this matter, we would refer the House to our worthy friend *Doctor Crane*.

We are, sir, yours, and the Convention's very humble servants,

JOHN FIELD.

JONATHAN PADDOCK.

To the President of the Convention of the State of *New-York*.

NEW-YORK CONVENTION TO ALBANY COMMITTEE.

In Convention of the State of New-York, Fishkill, }
October 7, 1776. }

GENTLEMEN: I am directed by Convention to request of you to apply to the gentleman that has the superintendency of the *Presbyterian* Church in your city, for the use of the iron stove, with the pipes and other fixtures thereto belonging. They will either return the same, or order another to be cast with all despatch, as suits the gentlemen concerned.

The Convention here sits in the *Dutch* Church, which, being built of stone, is so very damp that many of the members cannot attend. They therefore request that your Board would apply immediately for it, and send it down to *Fishkill* Landing for the use of the Convention by the first conveyance. They will pay all expenses attending the same.

GENERAL SCHUYLER TO GENERAL WASHINGTON.

Albany, October 7, 1776.

DEAR SIR: I am to acknowledge the honour of your Excellency's favour of the 4th instant.

I have long since written to Congress for a supply of nails. All I can procure in this quarter are insufficient for the works at *Tyconderoga*, so that I fear no barracks will be built in this quarter, unless a speedy supply arrives from *Philadelphia*.

We have nothing new in this quarter worthy communicating.

I am, dear sir, most unfeignedly and sincerely, your Excellency's most obedient, humble servant,

PH. SCHUYLER.

To His Excellency General *Washington*, &c., &c.

GENERAL SCHUYLER TO ROBERT YATES.

Albany, October 7, 1776, six o'clock, A. M.

DEAR SIR: Your favour of the 4th instant, enclosing the resolutions of Congress for raising a new army, were delivered me just now.

I shall cause returns to be made out of *Van Schaick's*, *Wynkoop's* and *Nicolson's* regiments, and transmit them to you by the first conveyance, which will probably be to-morrow, together with the terms on which they were engaged.

You will perceive by a letter of mine, this date, to Convention, that I have presumed to give them a hint on the subject of the new army. Had I received yours before I wrote that, I should have enlarged, which I shall do in my next to you. The post waits, and I must conclude.

I am, dear sir, with the greatest esteem, you obedient, humble servant,

PH. SCHUYLER.

To *Robert Yates*, Esq.

From *McDougall's*, *Clinton's*, and *Ritzema's* corps, I have never had a return.

GENERAL SCHUYLER TO NEW-YORK CONVENTION.

Albany, October 7, 1776.

SIR: On *Saturday* last I received sundry despatches from *Philadelphia*. Copy of Mr. *Hancock's* letter, and of the resolutions of Congress of the 25th ultimo, I do myself the honour to lay before the Convention. By the contents of the former, it would appear as if Congress still considered me as commanding in this department, and correspondent to this idea was the direction of the letter; if so, nothing could be more insulting than that Commissioners should be sent to confer with any officer under my command, with respect to the army in this department, or any part of it. This treatment would fully justify me if I forbore every act as Commander-in-Chief of this department. Yet the principles which induced me to accept the command, on which I have acted whilst in it, and which, I trust, will mark every action of my life, will not permit me to forbear acting until matters are put into such a proper train by Congress as that no detriment may accrue to my country. Of this I have advised Congress, and signified my wish that I may be speedily relieved.

Convention will perceive by the postscript to Mr. *Hancock's* letter, that Congress has referred an inquiry into my affairs to a special committee. Although I have the fullest confidence in the propriety of every part of my conduct, and in the honour of the gentlemen who compose the committee, yet things may appear in a quite different point of view from what they really are, to persons uninformed of causes and facts, which perhaps none but myself can suggest. I have therefore entreated Congress to suspend their judgment until I shall have had an opportunity given me of being heard, a request so reasonable that I hope it will not be refused me; but if it is, I must, in justification of my conduct, publish my letters to Congress, with their answers, whatever may be the consequences, for I cannot sacrifice my honour to any consideration whatever.

By the resolutions of Congress to enlist eighty-eight battalions during the war, I perceive that this State is to raise four of them. The Convention will pardon my presumption in venturing a thought on the subject. By the resolutions of Congress the soldiers are to pay for their clothing, the price of which is now so excessively high, that I fear that condition will greatly impede the levies. Perhaps it

would be best to determine the several articles of clothing that should be given to each soldier, and ascertain what stoppages he should be put under for it; but these, I think, ought very little to exceed the price that clothing was sold at before the present troubles arose. This, with the bounty offered and paid immediately, I believe would induce men to engage with alacrity. That State which is foremost in publishing their terms, and in appointing recruiting officers in both armies, to enlist men, I conceive will meet with the least difficulty in doing it.

I should imagine that many of the *New-Jersey* and *Pennsylvania* soldiers, whose terms of enlistment expire on the last of this month, would reengage.

I am, sir, respectfully, your most obedient, humble servant,

PH. SCHUYLER.

To Hon. *Abraham Yates*, Esq., President, &c.

SAMUEL MOTT TO GOVERNOUR TRUMBULL.

Mount Independence, October 7, 1776.

HONOURED SIR: There is nothing new to inform your Honour of. I wrote by Mr. *Brown*, and mean to write by the next post again; and also to send a true state of my regiment. I have only time now to inform your Honour that I received the letter by *Bozworth*, and expect to have the things of Colonel *Alden's* sent to my care from *Skeensborough*; but don't know what to do with them, for Colonel *Alden* is gone away sick towards *Albany*. The regiment is yet sickly. We hear of no material movement of our northern enemy, and if they don't come soon, I expect the General will begin to discharge the sick. But I find the General yet expects them. I am extremely anxious to hear the particulars of the several actions at *New-York*, since our army left the city. There is so many sick, and in so many places, it was impossible for the doctors to attend them all properly, so that I have been obliged to appoint Lieutenant *Machure*, of Captain *Robinson's* company, who is a physician, to assist as a physician in attending the sick.

Am, with great respect, your Honour's humble servant,
SAML. MOTT.

To Hon. Governour *Trumbull*.

GENERAL ARNOLD TO GENERAL GATES.

Valcour, October 7, 1776.

DEAR GENERAL: I received your favour of the 2d instant, and copy of yours of the 23d ultimo, yesterday, by General *Waterbury*, who arrived with the two galleys about two o'clock. I fully expected by him to have all the particulars of the evacuating *Long-Island* and *New-York*. He seems to know little of the matter, and General *Washington's* letter seems not very explicit. The affair of *Long-Island* seems still in obscurity. I am very anxious for our army and friends below. Lord *Howe's* desiring a conference and neglecting his appointments, seems not very favourable. It appears to me our troops or officers are panick struck, or why does a hundred thousand men fly before one quarter of their numbers? Is it possible my countrymen can be callous to their wrongs or hesitate one moment between slavery or death? What advantage can we derive by blockading the enemy when they are in possession of a part of the country sufficient to support them? It appears to me coercive measures should be adopted. However, I will say no more, lest I incur the censure we passed on their council last spring for judging too rashly of our measures. That Being in whose hands are all human events, will doubtless turn the scale in favour of the just and oppressed.

Nothing worth notice has occurred in this quarter since my last. The weather is very severe here and gales of wind frequent. If the enemy do not make their appearance by the middle of this month, I have thought of returning to *Button-Mould Bay*, as I think they will not pretend to cross the lake after that time. We are prepared for them at all times, and if they attempt crossing the lake, I make no doubt of giving a good account of them.

I am, dear General, your affectionate, humble servant,

B. ARNOLD.

To Hon. Major-General *Gates*.

GOVERNOUR TRUMBULL TO GENERAL SCHUYLER.

Lebanon, October 7, 1776.

SIR: I received your agreeable favour of the 2d instant on *Friday*. Your intention to do nothing prejudicial to our common cause reflects honour upon you, and will be the best defence when every thing is impartially considered, which cannot be expected in this day of great searchings of heart.

I have enclosed one of the resolutions for raising a new army, lest you have not yet received them. The appointment of suitable officers is a matter of the greatest consequence to the States and armies. Have to ask your favourable assistance to furnish me with the knowledge of such from this State in your army as are willing to undertake and fit for the service. I know it to be a delicate affair. Shall treat what you say upon it accordingly.

I am, with sincere esteem and regard, sir, your most obedient, humble servant,

JONTH. TRUMBULL.

To Major-General *Schuyler*.

JOHN SLOSS HOBART TO NEW-YORK CONVENTION.

Fairfield, October 7, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: I wrote to Convention from the camp at *King's Bridge*, giving an account of the progress I had made in negotiating the exchange of General *Woodhull*, since which have received the melancholy intelligence of his death. The wound in his arm mortified; the arm was taken off, but the mortification still continued, and in a few days put an end to that useful life. He was attended in his dying moments by his lady, who was permitted to remove the corpse to his seat, where it was interred about the 23d ultimo. These particulars I have from Captain *Strong*, of *Islip*, by whose door the procession passed in its way to *St. George's*.

In a day or two after my arrival here General *Clinton* called upon me, by desire of General *Washington*, to attend at a council of war to be held at *New-Haven*, from whence I returned not till *Saturday* evening. I shall unavoidably be detained two or three weeks in order to get my family fixed for the winter; but in the mean time shall send *Ketchum* to the *Fishkills* as soon as a guard can be procured. At present every one is employed in forwarding the Militia from *New-Hampshire* and *Massachusetts*, who are marching to the number of near six thousand to join the grand army.

By some late accounts from *Long-Island*, I learn that two hundred Infantry and one hundred Cavalry were at *Huntington*, in order to force the people who had been in our army to join the *British* troops. This measure will drive the people to desperation, and, if it can be accomplished, most of them will quit the country. I hope General *Washington* will attempt to assist them in it. Much has already been done by Lieutenant-Colonel *Livingston*, who with the zeal and activity of an excellent officer, has greatly assisted the people at the east end of the island in removing their families and effects; but many of them cannot bring the means of support with them, which will occasion great difficulties. Should a number more, under the same circumstances, come over, it will be too great a charge upon the charity of individuals in this State.

The provision made by Convention is inadequate to the purpose of maintaining the indigent from the island, even supposing they were to remove into our own State, for certificates of indigency from the Chairmen of Committees being necessary to entitle to maintenance, such cannot be had, for as soon as the necessity of removing took place the Committees universally declined acting, so that the resolve intended for their relief becomes of no effect, and they would fail of the intended relief in any part of *New-York* but here, where the purity of intention wherewith the Convention was actuated is not known. If the resolve stands in its present form, I fear it will be construed into a design to delude both the refugees and the persons who shall entertain them. Some further regulations are necessary if any thing is intended to be done for those unhappy sufferers. The Assembly of this State are to sit in a few days at *New-Haven*, and I trust will, upon application, give all the assistance we can reasonably ask.

I hope Convention will not think me impertinently troublesome upon this subject. My heart aches at every

pore when I consider the deplorable situation to which the people whom I have the honour to represent are reduced; a people who, without boasting, were as warmly attached to the common cause, and who as cheerfully obeyed the orders of Convention, as any in the State. Upon the retreat of the army from the island they viewed themselves as abandoned by the Continent, and expecting the enemy hourly among them, a general removal appeared impracticable; besides, to quit their pleasant habitations and throw themselves with their tender connexions upon the charity of an unknown world, was a degree of apathy to which they had not yet arrived. In a fit of despair they laid down their arms and made an unconditional submission to what they supposed the conquering army.

The people at large being thus brought to terms, they found it less difficult, by threats, to induce the individuals who had formerly held commissions under the Crown of *Great Britain* to resume the execution of their offices. Being once led into the snare, every measure tended to draw the net closer about them; notwithstanding which I am from the best authority informed that they are accused by Mr. Tryon and his minions of having submitted only the better to cover their intention of removing, and that unless the young men do voluntarily take up arms against their country, an inveterate and disappointed soldiery will be let loose upon them.

These considerations induce me earnestly to wish that some measures may be taken to induce the people to quit the island, by offering a support to those who cannot maintain themselves. The aged and infirm might be maintained at the publick expense. A regiment of *Long-Island* refugees would provide a support for many of the young men. Should the Convention adopt the idea, there are many officers in General *Scott's* brigade, who, together with some of Colonel *Smith's* regiment, now on this side, would make an exceeding good corps.

Should General *Washington* send a body of troops on to the island, it will be necessary to destroy every thing that would be of service to the enemy, to prevent its falling into their hands. I beg leave to submit whether it will not be proper to hold out the prospect of compensation in order to induce the people the more cheerfully to assist in destroying their own property.

Give me leave, before I conclude this long letter, to suggest the propriety of filling up the two vacant regiments, late *McDougall's* and *Clinton's*. Your officers, by the delay, will lose the opportunity of rising so fast in the Continental army as those of the other States. There is some little uneasiness in the First Regiment on the subject of rank. That matter may now be accommodated to general satisfaction.

I have the honour to be, with the greatest respect, gentlemen, your most obedient, humble servant,

JNO. SLOSS HOBART.

To the honourable the Convention of *New-York*.

Hartford, October 7, 1776.

Edward Smith, of *Newfain*, in the County of *Cumberland*, in the State of *New-York*, being convicted of counterfeiting certain bill or bills of credit emitted by the Colonies, before the Committee of *Brattleborough*, in said County, he is, by their order, here published as a notorious enemy to the rights of the *American* States. Also,

Lieutenant *Daniel Brunday*, of *Skeenesborough*, *Charlotte* County, having been found guilty of violating the Continental Association, it is desired by the Committee for the town of *Skeenesborough*, before whom he was convicted, that he may be treated with the contempt he justly merits.

Newport, October 7, 1776.

Last *Thursday* a prize brig, loaded with rum and sugar, went up the *East Passage*. She was bound from *Antigua* for the *British* fleet and army at *New-York*, and taken by the privateer *Industry*, Captain *Thomas Child*, who had taken another large brig from *Jamaica*, loaded with sugar, mahogany, and logwood, which, we hear, is safe arrived at the eastward.

The *Lady Washington*, privateer, Captain *James Godfrey*, has sent a fine ship into a port in the *Massachusetts*

State, loaded with four hundred and twenty-five hogsheads of sugar, some rum, cotton, &c.

A ship loaded with dry goods, bound to *Quebeck*, and taken by Captain *Crawford*, went into a safe port yesterday. About the same time another ship from *Jamaica*, with sugar, rum, &c., taken by Captain *Coffin*, went into a secure harbour.

We hear that last *Wednesday*, as Captain *Harding*, in a *Connecticut* brig-of-war, was going up the *Sound* from a cruise, he was attacked by the *Merlin* ship-of-war, when a very warm engagement ensued, but another ship, supposed to be the *Cerberus*, coming up, and endeavouring to cut Captain *Harding* off from the land, he made from them, and got safe into *Stonington*. We don't learn what damage was sustained on either side. At the same time a third ship was seen near *Block-Island*.

Boston, October 7, 1776.

The prize taken by Captain *Greely*, and sent first into *Marblehead*, has since come round here. She has papers to the middle of *August*, which give particular accounts of the *Spaniards* invading the Kingdom of *Portugal*, and taking several towns. The inference is plain: war is or must be declared.

The mate of a *London* ship, brought up this evening by Captain *Atkins*, informs that the Ministry are so suspicious of plots and conspiracies being laid, that four persons dare not be seen conversing together in *London*, but they are immediately dispersed.

A privateer is just arrived at *Salem*, after taking three prizes, one of which is loaded with dry goods to the amount of £37,000 sterling. This fine prize has not yet arrived. A day seldom passes without provision vessels, *Jamaica-men*, *Londoners*, or something is taken.

SUTTON (MASSACHUSETTS) TOWN MEETING.

Sutton, October 7, 1776.

At a legal town meeting of the town of *Sutton*, upon the handbill sent out by the House of Representatives, to see if towns will consent that the present House of Representatives and Council should form and ratify a Constitution for this State,

Resolved, That this town can by no means consent to what is there proposed, for the following reasons, viz:

1. Because we think it irrational for us to consent to the setting up any constitution unknown to us, or to vote for any thing before we see what it is we vote for.

2. Because we look upon the present House of Representatives, not only to be a very unequal representation of the State, also an illegal one, many of them being chosen by virtue of a pretended law made after the precepts went out for the election of the House.

3. Because we look upon it irrational and unjust for us to act any thing that shall operate in any measure for such an extensive and everlasting effect, while so many of our neighbours and brethren are gone into the army, and would be plainly voting away their rights in their absence.

A true extract from the minutes.

Attest: BENJAMIN MORSE, Town Clerk.

OXFORD (MASSACHUSETTS) TOWN MEETING.

Oxford, October 7, 1776.

Whereas the Great and General Court of this State, have, on the 17th day of *September* last, recommended it to the male inhabitants of each town in this State, upwards of twenty-one years of age and free, that being assembled in town meeting, they should determine whether they consent that the present General Court (both Houses being agreed) enact such a Constitution of Government for this State as shall appear to them most conducive to the peace, safety, and happiness of this State for the future:

The town of *Oxford* met pursuant to the above resolve, *September* 30th, last, and chose a committee to consider and report on said resolve, on the 7th of *October* then next, to which time said meeting was adjourned. The said committee, having met and attended said service, do report as follows, viz:

1st. It appears that if the present General Court are properly constituted to act in any matter, since the Declaration

of Independency, (which is disputed,) yet there is a very unequal representation of the several towns in this State at present, in that some towns are allowed to send such a large number of members, barely in consideration of numbers, without any regard had to lands and real estates, which appears to be in consequence of an act passed in a former General Court, when there was a very thin House. And therefore, that the present General Court, are not in a proper situation to act on matters of such importance as forming a Constitution of Government for after successions and generations in this State; and whereas mature consideration and deliberation appears to be necessary to be used in a case of such importance, we apprehend it not safe that it should be proceeded upon unless there is more equal representation, and taking some further time for consideration and information touching said matter.

The town of *Oxford* met upon adjournment, and after the above report had been repeatedly read, it was put to vote whether the same be accepted, and it passed unanimously in the affirmative.

Attest: SAMUEL HARRIS, Town Clerk.

SILAS DEANE TO THE SECRET COMMITTEE.

Paris, October 8, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: Your Declaration of the 4th of *July* last has given this Court, as well as several others in *Europe*, reason to expect you would, in form, announce your independency to them, and ask their friendship; but a three months' silence on that subject appears to them mysterious, and the more so as you declared for foreign alliances. This silence has given me the most inexpressible anxiety; has more than once come near frustrating my whole endeavours, on which subject refer you to mine of the 1st instant.

Employ must be found for the forces of *Great Britain* out of the *United States of North America*. The *Caribbs* in *St. Vincent*, if set agoing, may be supplied through *Martinico* with stores. The mountain negroes in *Jamaica* may employ a great number of their forces. This is not employing slaves, which, however, the example of our enemy authorizes. Should there arise trouble in these two islands, which a very little money would effect, the consequence would be, that *Great Britain*, which can by no means think of giving them up, would be so far from being able to increase her forces on the Continent, that she must withdraw a large part to defend her islands.

I find every one here acquainted with *Bermuda* is in my sentiments; and by the officiousness of the treacherous *Hopkins*, the Ministry here have got it by the end. This makes me the more solicitous that the island should be fortified this winter, if practicable.

Tobacco in *Holland* is at the enormous price of seven stivers, and will soon be as dear in *France*, *Germany*, &c. I have promised that you will send out twenty thousand hogshead this winter, in payment of the articles wanted here. Let me advise you to ship the whole to *Bordeaux*, after which it may be shipped in *French* bottoms to any other port; the price will pay the convoy, therefore I would recommend the vessels in which it should be shipped should be armed, and that each ship sail under convoy of one of your frigates, which may also ballast with it: this will be safer than coming in a fleet. On your arrival, Messrs. *Delap*; whose zeal and fidelity in our service is great, will be directed by me, or, in my absence, by Mr. *B. M.*, or ostensibly Messrs. *Hortalez & Co.*, where to apply the money.

Eight or ten of your frigates, thus collected at *Bordeaux*, with a proper number of riflemen as marines, where they might have leisure to refit and procure supplies, would strike, early next season, a most terrible blow to the *British* commerce in *Europe*, and obtain a most noble indemnity. The appearance of *American* cruisers in those seas has amazed the *British* merchants, and insurance will now be on the war establishment. This will give the rival nations a great superiority in commerce, of which they cannot be insensible; and as our vessels of war will be protected in the ports of *France* and *Spain*, the whole of the *British* commerce will be exposed.

I hope to have a liberty for the disposal of prizes here, but dare not engage for that. The last season, the whole coast of *England*, *Scotland*, and *Ireland*, has been, and still

remains unguarded. Three or four frigates, arriving, as they certainly might, unexpectedly, would be sufficient to pillage *Port Glasgow* or other western towns. The very alarm which this would occasion might have the most surprising and important effects, and in this method it might be effected with the utmost certainty, if entered upon early next spring: but should that be laid aside, the having five or six, or more, of your stoutest ships in these ports, where you may every day receive intelligence of what is about to sail from *England*, would put in our power to make great reprisals.

I wrote for blank commissions, or a power to grant commissions to ships of war: pray forward them, as here are many wishing for an opportunity of using them in this way; they will take a cargo in an armed vessel for *America*, and if they meet with any thing in their way take it with them. The granting commissions against *Portugal* would insure the friendship of *Spain*.

Grain will bear a great price in this kingdom and the south of *Europe*; and I have made application to the Minister of the Marine to supply masts and spars from *America* for the *French* navy: pray inform me how, and on what terms, the *British* navy formerly used to be supplied from *New-England*.

I am fully of opinion that war must break out soon, and become general in *Europe*.

I need say no more on the situation I am in for want of your further instructions. I live in hopes, but should I be much longer disappointed, the affairs I am upon, as well as my credit, must suffer, if not be absolutely ruined. My most respectful compliments to the honourable Congress.

I am, gentlemen, your most obedient and very humble servant,
SILAS DEANE.

COLONEL GADSDEN TO JOHN LEWIS GERVAIS.

Sullivan's Island, October 8, 1776.

SIR: We have now not one barrel of pork left; therefore desire you will send us down a month's salt provisions as soon as possible for a store. The Adjutant, Mr. *Hamilton*, will tell you the reason of this. I should also be glad you would send me a hogshead of rum for the regiment by the first opportunity. I am obliged to give a great deal of rum to the labourers about the bridge.

I am, sir, your most humble servant,

CHRIST. GADSDEN.

To John Lewis Gervais, Esq., Commissary-General, Charlestown.

SAMUEL BOONE TO MARYLAND COUNCIL OF SAFETY.

GENTLEMEN: By orders of supervisors of the gun-lock factory in *Frederick* town, I have sent you seventy-nine locks, and have a quantity more all ready to put together. If you must have all the locks sent to you that is made in the factory, please to let me know by the bearer, *George Bear*.

I am, gentlemen, your humble servant,

SAML. BOONE.

To the Council of Safety of Maryland.

JOHN ADAMS TO MRS. ADAMS.

Philadelphia, October 8, 1776.

I ought to acknowledge with gratitude your constant kindness in writing to me by every post. Your favour of 29 *September* came by the last. I wish it had been in my power to have returned your civilities with the same punctuality, but it has not. Long before this you have received letters from me, and newspapers containing a full account of the negotiation. The communication is still open, and the post-riders now do their duty, and will continue to do so.

I assure you we are as much at a loss about affairs at *New-York* as you are. In general, our Generals were out-generated on *Long-Island*, and *Sullivan* and *Stirling*, with a thousand men, were made prisoners, in consequence of which, and several other unfortunate circumstances, a council of war thought it prudent to retreat from that island and *Governour's Island*, and then from *New-York*. They are now posted at *Haerlem*, about ten or eleven miles from the

city. They left behind them some provisions, some cannon, and some baggage. Wherever the men-of-war have approached, our Militia have most manfully turned their backs and run away, officers and men, like sturdy fellows; and their panicks have sometimes seized the regular regiments. One little skirmish on *Montresor's Island* ended with the loss of the brave Major *Henley*, and the disgrace of the rest of the party. Another skirmish, which might, indeed, be called an action, ended in the defeat and shameful flight of the enemy, with the loss of the brave Colonel *Knowlton* on our part. The enemy have possession of *Paulus Hook* and *Bergen Point*, places on the *Jersey* side of *North River*. By this time their force is so divided between *Staten-Island*, *Long-Island*, *New-York*, *Paulus Hook*, and *Bergen Point*, that I think they will do no great matter more this fall, unless the expiration of the term of inlistment of our army should disband it. If our new inlistments fill up for soldiers during the war, we shall do well enough. Every body must encourage this.

You are told that a regiment of *Yorkers* behaved ill, and it may be true; but I can tell you that several regiments of *Massachusetts* men behaved ill too. The spirit of venality you mention is the most dreadful and alarming enemy *America* has to oppose. It is as rapacious and insatiable as the grave. We are in the *face Romuli non republica Platonis*. This predominant avarice will ruin *America*, if she ever is ruined. If God Almighty does not interpose by his grace to control this universal idolatry to the mammon of unrighteousness, we shall be given up to the chastisements of his judgments. I am ashamed of the age I live in.

You surprise me with your account of the prayers in publick for an abdicated King, a pretender to the crown. Nothing of that kind is heard in this place, or any other part of the Continent, but *New-York* and the place you mention. This practice is treason against the State, and cannot be long tolerated.

Don't leave off writing to me. I write as often as I can. I am glad Master *John* has an office so useful to his mamma and papa as that of post-rider.

COUNCIL OF SAFETY OF PENNSYLVANIA TO THE CONGRESS.
[Read October 10: referred to the Board of War; Board of War to confer.]

In Council of Safety, October 8, 1776.

As it is not improbable that General *Howe* might detach part of his army by water from *New-York* to invade this State, and as we should be unable to make any defence against them by land, in our present unarmed condition, and as not only the safety of this State, but the preservation and security of great part of the military stores belonging to Congress is thereby endangered:

Resolved, That Mr. *Rittenhouse*, Colonel *Bayard*, and Mr. *Biddle*, be appointed to confer with a Committee of Congress on the expediency of having a body of Troops stationed near the City of *Philadelphia*, for the defence of this State, and that a General officer of some experience be appointed to have the command of said force.

Extract from the minutes:

JACOB S. HOWELL, *Secretary*.

CARLISLE (PENNSYLVANIA) COMMITTEE.

At a meeting of the Committee of the town of *Carlisle*, at the Court-House, the 8th day of *October*, 1776:

Resolved, unanimously, That the inhabitants of this town at large be called together, to meet at the Court-House, at two o'clock this afternoon, to consider of the oath directed by an ordinance of the late Convention of this State, passed at *Philadelphia*, the 26th day of *September* last, to be taken by every elector in this State, at the ensuing election, before his vote for Representatives shall be received.

At a meeting of the inhabitants of the town of *Carlisle*, in the afternoon of the same day, on notice given, in pursuance of the above resolve, *Robert Miller*, Esq., was appointed Chairman.

After the occasion of the meeting was opened to the people, the oath above referred to was read and considered, and the question was put, viz.: Whether the inhabitants present will take the oath aforesaid, on the 5th day of *November* next, at the ensuing general election, previous to

their delivering their votes for Representatives to the Inspectors? It was

Resolved, nemine contradicente, That they would not take that oath.

Resolved, nemine contradicente, That the above proceedings be printed in the newspapers.

Extract from the minutes:

ROBERT MILLER, *Chairman*.

TO THE FREEMEN OF PENNSYLVANIA.

FRIENDS AND FELLOW-CITIZENS: The affairs of our State now wear a most gloomy aspect. The Convention have risen, and without consulting the prejudices, habits, or even inclinations of their constituents, have forced a Government upon us big with anarchy and slavery.

The people of the neighbouring States, we are told, are now enjoying the sweets of Governments founded upon their own authority, and are employing their whole wisdom and strength in promoting their own safety and happiness. The reason is plain: They removed those parts of their constitutions only which were derived from the Crown, and substituted in their stead an executive power founded upon an authority derived from themselves. They have all reserved the inestimable pillars in a free government, a Legislative Council or Governour. Such a government would have been most agreeable to the people of *Pennsylvania*, and if they have spirit or sense remaining they will never be happy without it.

A people who could be free and happy with one Legislature, might be equally free and happy without any Government. Both situations suppose equal degrees of virtue in a people. The history of all countries shows us that power has done as much mischief when lodged in the hands of one assembly, as it has done when lodged in the hands of one man. The arbitrary Rump Parliament, which sat eighteen years without dissolving itself, was a single assembly or legislature.

But it is unnecessary to travel into past ages to find examples of the danger of trusting power into the hands of a single legislature. The conduct of the late Convention of *Pennsylvania* seems intended by Divine Providence to awaken our fears upon this subject, and to point out to us the mischiefs which have arisen from the exercise of power by a single assembly.

What body of men has disposed of our liberty, property, and lives, without our consent, by cruel and tyrannical ordinances? The Convention. What body of men paid themselves above three thousand pounds for sitting above two months for doing business which might have been transacted in ten days? The Convention. What body of men published a constitution for a State, deficient in perspicuity, grammar, and *English*?* The Convention. What body of men appointed Justices of the Peace wholly unacquainted with the business of their offices, and equally unfit and unwilling to execute them? The Convention. What body of men secured to themselves a perpetuity of their power, by fencing it in with oaths unprecedented in any free country? The Convention.

If this is not enough to show us the danger of a single Legislature, we deserve to be slaves. SCIPIO.

Philadelphia, October 8, 1776.

* "No Justice of the Peace shall sit in the General Assembly unless he first resign his commission."—Section 30.

Head-Quarters, Perth-Amboy, October 8, 1776.

Colonel *Slough's* Battalion of *Pennsylvania* Associators having done their duty as good soldiers, are hereby dismissed the service of the States, and are permitted to return home from *Elizabethtown* on *Monday* next.

SAMUEL GRIFFIN, *Dep. Ad. Gen.*

Head-Quarters, Elizabethtown, October 14, 1776.

Colonel *Slough* will be so good as to return my thanks to the officers and soldiers of the battalion under his command, for their decent and orderly behaviour since their occupying the post at the Point House. As his battalion is now discharged from further duty at this post, I take this opportunity to wish them safe home to their respective families and friends.

MATTHIAS WILLIAMSON, *Brig. Gen.*

Head-Quarters, Elizabethtown, October 14, 1776.

Sir: I request the favour of you to return my sincere thanks to the officers and soldiers of Colonel *Slough's* battalion that turned out volunteers with you yesterday, and joined us in our excursion to *Staten-Island*, for their orderly and soldier-like behaviour while on that service; and they may depend I shall always mention them with that regard

and honour which their spirited conduct, on that occasion, entitles them to receive.

I am, with the greatest esteem, your most obedient servant,

M. WILLIAMSON, *Brig. Gen.*

To Major *Philip Brussell*, of Colonel *Slough's* Battalion, *Lancaster*.

A General Return of the Army in New-Jersey, under the command of the Honourable HUGH MERCER, Esq., Brigadier-General in the service of the AMERICAN STATES, PERTH-AMBOY, October 8, 1776.

REGIMENTS.	OFFICERS PRESENT.														RANK AND FILE.						Total Officers and Privates.	WHERE STATIONED.	FROM WHAT STATE.	
	Commissioned.							Staff.			Non-Com'ed.													
	Colonels.	Lieut. Colonels.	Majors.	Captains.	First Lieutenants.	Second Lieut'ns.	Ensigns.	Chaplains.	Adjutants.	Quartermasters.		Paymasters.	Surgeons.	Mates.	Sergeants.	Drums and Fifes.	Privates, fit for duty.	Sick.	On furlough.	Deserted.				Total Privates.
Lieutenant-Colonel Tea...	-	1	2	4	5	5	4	-	1	1	-	1	-	13	9	108	25	1	5	139	185	South-Amboy....	Pennsylvania Militia.	
Colonel Patterson.....	1	-	1	7	6	6	5	1	1	1	1	1	1	27	12	268	74	-	-	342	-	Perth-Amboy....	Delaware Flying-Camp.	
Colonel Moore.....	1	1	1	8	8	8	7	-	1	1	1	-	-	26	8	231	51	5	24	311	-	do.	Pennsylvania do.	
Colonel McCalister.....	1	-	1	9	8	7	8	1	2	2	-	2	-	35	8	369	61	8	-	438	-	do.	do.	
Colonel Clottz.....	-	-	1	3	3	3	2	-	-	1	-	-	-	10	2	103	18	-	4	125	-	do.	do.	
Colonel Read.....	-	1	-	3	3	2	2	-	-	-	-	1	-	8	4	98	10	1	-	109	-	do.	Jersey Militia.	
Colonel Ellis.....	1	1	2	5	5	5	4	-	1	1	-	1	-	22	2	113	19	1	3	136	-	do.	do.	
Colonel Shipman.....	1	1	1	9	8	8	5	-	1	1	-	-	-	1	-	246	-	-	-	246	-	do.	do.	
Colonel Allison.....	1	1	2	4	4	4	2	1	1	1	-	-	-	15	1	92	13	2	-	107	-	do.	Pennsylvania do.	
Colonel Savitz.....	-	-	-	2	2	1	2	-	-	1	-	-	-	6	4	50	-	-	-	50	-	do.	do.	
Colonel Henderson.....	-	-	-	2	2	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	4	-	22	-	-	-	22	-	do.	do.	
Total at Amboy.....	6	5	9	52	49	40	37	3	7	9	1	6	1	154	41	1592	246	17	31	1886	2306	Total at Perth-Amboy.		
Colonel Smith.....	1	-	1	4	4	-	4	-	1	1	-	-	-	15	7	193	25	3	-	221	-	Woodbridge.....	Jersey Militia.	
Colonel Potter.....	1	1	2	6	6	6	6	-	1	1	-	1	-	25	12	138	39	2	1	180	-	do.	do.	
Colonel Holmes.....	1	1	2	5	4	5	3	1	1	1	-	1	-	20	8	152	16	-	-	168	-	do.	do.	
Total at Woodbridge.....	3	2	5	15	14	11	13	1	2	3	-	2	-	60	27	483	80	5	1	569	727	Total at Woodbridge.		
Lieutenant-Col. Lawrence.	-	-	-	2	2	2	2	-	1	-	-	-	-	7	2	65	7	-	1	73	-	Elizabeth-Town..	Pennsyl'a Flying-Camp.	
Colonel Slough.....	-	1	2	5	5	4	4	-	1	1	-	-	-	15	10	171	-	-	-	171	-	do.	do. Militia.	
Colonel Drake.....	1	-	1	9	7	7	7	-	1	1	-	1	-	33	12	368	-	-	-	368	-	do.	Jersey Militia.	
Colonel Smith.....	1	-	2	10	7	7	7	-	1	1	-	1	1	35	8	405	52	8	13	478	-	do.	do.	
Colonel Metteln.....	1	1	-	4	4	3	3	-	1	1	-	1	-	16	8	189	-	-	-	189	-	do.	do.	
Total at Elizabeth-Town.	3	3	5	30	25	23	23	-	5	4	-	3	1	106	40	1198	59	8	14	1279	1550	Total at Elizabeth-Town.		
Colonel Nelson.....	1	1	2	6	6	-	6	1	1	1	-	1	-	18	10	236	14	6	-	256	310	New-Ark.....	Jersey Militia.	
Colonel Swope.....	1	1	1	8	8	7	8	-	1	1	-	1	1	30	14	314	32	1	12	359	-	Fort Constitution.	Pennsyl'a Flying-Camp.	
Colonel Cunningham.....	1	-	1	3	8	-	1	-	1	-	1	-	-	12	1	121	13	4	-	138	-	do.	do.	
Colonel Montgomery.....	-	1	1	7	7	6	6	-	-	1	-	-	-	24	5	224	44	1	36	305	-	do.	do.	
Colonel Watt.....	1	-	1	6	7	7	7	-	-	-	-	-	-	27	8	368	63	-	4	435	-			
Total at Fort Constitution.	3	2	4	24	30	20	22	-	1	3	-	2	1	93	28	1027	152	6	52	1237	1470	Total at Fort Constitution.		
Total number.....	16	14	27	131	129	99	105	5	17	21	1	15	3	444	155	4644	576	43	103	5366	6548	At the different posts.		

GENERAL WASHINGTON TO THE PRESIDENT OF CONGRESS.

[Read October 11. Referred to Board of War.]

Head-Quarters, Heights of Harlem, October 8, 1776.

Sir: Since I had the honour of writing you yesterday, I have been favoured with a letter from the honourable Council of *Massachusetts-Bay*, covering one from *Richard Derby, Esq.*, a copy of which is herewith transmitted, as it contains intelligence of an important and interesting nature.

As an exchange of prisoners is about to take place, I am induced from a question stated in a letter I received from Governour *Trumbull*, this morning, to ask the opinion of Congress in what manner the States that have had the care of them, are to be reimbursed the expenses incurred on their account. My want of information in this instance, or whether any account is to be sent in with the prisoners, would not allow me to give him an answer, as nothing that I recollect has ever been said upon the subject. He also mentions another matter, viz: whether such privates as are mechanics and others, who may desire to remain with us, should be obliged to return. In respect to the latter, I conceive, there can be no doubt of our being under a necessity of returning the whole, a proposition having been made on our part for a general exchange, and that agreed to. Besides the balance of prisoners is greatly against us; and I am informed it was particularly stipulated by General *Montgomery*, that all those that were taken in *Canada* should be exchanged, whenever a cartel was settled for the purpose. Under these circumstances, I should suppose the several Committees having the care of them, should be instructed to make the most exact returns of the whole, however willing a part should be to continue with us. At the same time I should think it not improper, to inform them of the reasons leading to the measure, and that they should be

invited to escape afterwards, which in all probability they may effect without much difficulty, if they are attached to us, extending their influence to many more, and bringing them away also.

The situation of our affairs, and the present establishment of the army requiring our most vigorous exertions to engage a new one, I presume it will be necessary to furnish the Paymaster-General, as early as possible, with money to pay the bounty lately resolved on to such men as will enlist. Prompt pay perhaps may have a happy effect, and induce the continuance of some who are here; but without it, I am certain that nothing can be done, nor have we time to lose in making the experiment. But then it may be asked who is to recruit, or who can consider themselves as officers for that purpose, till the Conventions of the different States have made the appointments.

Yesterday afternoon the exchange between Lord *Stirling* and Governour *Browne* was carried into execution, and his Lordship is now here. He confirms the intelligence mentioned by Captain *Souther*, about the transports he met, by the arrival of the *Daphne* man-of-war, (a twenty gun ship,) a few days ago, with twelve ships under her convoy having Light Horse on board. They sailed with about twenty in each, and lost about eighty in their passage, besides those in the vessel taken by Captain *Souther*. He further adds, that he had heard it acknowledged more than once, that in the action of the 16th ultimo, the enemy had a hundred men killed, about sixty *Highlanders* of the Forty-Second Regiment, and forty of the Light Infantry. This confession coming from themselves, we may reasonably conclude did not exaggerate the number.

In pursuance of the resolve, which you were pleased to transmit me, I called upon the members who concurred in

the acquittal of *McCumber* to assign their reasons. Enclosed you have their answer, by which you will perceive the direction has given them great uneasiness, and from the information I have received, it has become a matter of much more general concern than could have been expected, in so much that I will take the liberty to advise that it may rest where it is, having heard that most of the officers have become party to it, and consider that the resolve materially affects the whole.

October 9th. About eight o'clock this morning two ships of forty-four guns each, supposed to be the *Roebuck* and *Phoenix*, and a frigate of twenty guns, with three or four tenders, got under way from about *Bloomington*, where they had been laying some time, and stood with an easy southerly breeze towards our chevaux-de-frise, which we hoped would have interrupted their passage, while our batteries played upon them; but to our surprise and mortification, they ran through without the least difficulty, and without receiving any apparent damage from our forts, though they kept up a heavy fire from both sides of the river. Their destination or views cannot be known with certainty; but most probably they are sent to stop the navigation, and cut off the supplies of boards, which we should have received, and of which we are in great need. They are standing up, and I have despatched an express to the Convention of this State, that notice may be immediately communicated to General *Clinton*, at the *Highland* fortifications, to put him on his guard in case they should have any designs against them, and that precautions may be taken to prevent the craft belonging to the river falling into their hands.

I have the honour to be, with great esteem, sir, your most obedient servant,

Go. WASHINGTON.

MASSACHUSETTS COUNCIL TO GENERAL WASHINGTON.

Council Chamber, Watertown, October 3, 1776.

SIR: I now transmit you a copy of a letter the Council of this State have just received from the Hon. *Richard Derby*, Esq., containing some intelligence which the Board apprehend your Excellency ought to be made acquainted with, and have therefore directed me to furnish you with a copy of the same. The Council would be glad your Excellency would inform them at what place the particular regiments that were composed of men enlisted out of this State, are now stationed, with the names of the officers that command the respective regiments.

I am, with great respect, your most humble servant.

To His Excellency General *Washington*.

MASSACHUSETTS COUNCIL TO RICHARD DERBY.

Council Chamber, October 3, 1776.

Your favour of this day has been considered by the Board, and I am to inform you the officers mentioned in your letter are to be put upon their parole, and sent to the town of *Bradford*, in the County of *Essex*, in case they sign the parole herewith enclosed. Their names you will please to insert in the blanks left for that purpose, in the said paroles, and also in the orders to the Sheriff. The soldiers, or sailors, that are made prisoners, are to be confined in the gaol in *Salem* till further order, and treated as prisoners of war, unless they or either of them incline to go out to labour, in which case such as incline to labour, the Sheriff is directed to put out. And you are directed to give all possible despatch to Captain *Souther*, that he may immediately proceed on another cruise.

In the name and by the order of Council.

To the Hon. *Richard Derby*, Esq.

Salem, October 3, 1776.

SIR: Last evening, the *Massachusetts*, Captain *Souther*, commander of the brigantine belonging to this State, arrived here, and informs me that a few days after he sailed, he fell in with and took a brigantine of about two hundred and fifty tons, from *Falmouth*, in *England*, mounting six three-pound cannon, and having on board a Captain and about twenty privates of the Sixteenth Regiment of Dragoons, with their horses and accoutrements. The chaplain of the regiment is also with them.

With respect to news, I can only inform you that this

vessel sailed from *Falmouth* on the 27th July. Just a month after they embarked, in company with twelve others, under convoy of the *Daphne*, of thirty-two guns, from whom they parted but a day or two before, they were taken. They all had the same kind of cargo, making in the whole two hundred and thirty horses. A fleet of about seventy sail, sailed about three days before them, under a strong convoy, having on board the remainder of the Sixteenth Regiment of Dragoons, and the last Division of *Hanoverians*, as he says, about five thousand men, bound for *New-York*. They were short of horse provisions, and some of the horses have died of the staggers, and he supposes that the late gales have destroyed many more. He says the people of *Britain* know nothing what is passing in *America*, and Captain *Souther* informs me the chaplain has told him the people in *England* begin to grow very uneasy.

Not a single newspaper or letter has as yet been found. If there should be any more news transpire, you shall soon be informed of it. I think you may depend on the account he gives of the sailing of the fleets, and that they are now near, if not arrived at *New-York*. A privateer sloop belonging to this place is just arrived, who fell in with the fleet of twelve sail, and was so closely pursued by the *Daphne* that the enemy fired musket balls into them; but by heaving overboard all her guns, water, and provision, and by sawing down her upper works, barely made her escape.

I am, with all due respect to the honourable Board, your most obedient servant,

RICHARD DERBY, JUN.

A true copy. Attest:

JOHN AVERY, Deputy Secretary.

In pursuance of an order from Congress, the members now in camp who sat on the Court Martial before which Ensign *McCumber* was tried for plundering and mutiny, as well those who found him guilty of plundering as those who acquitted him of that charge, met at Colonel *Sage's* and took the resolve of Congress into consideration. After mature deliberation, it is the unanimous opinion of the members, that we ought not to assign any reasons for the verdict of that court. It has ever been an established maxim that judges should be free from all influence, that their opinions should proceed from the dictates of an honest and upright mind, and that no bias to any particular party, or fear of censure, should have weight in their judgments.

Should we consent to assign reasons for our verdict on *McCumber's* trial, we think it would be establishing a precedent of the most dangerous consequences. Whenever the sentence of a Court Martial is disagreeable to a Commander-in-Chief, or any other power, the members who do not concur in opinion with them are exposed to their resentment. This certainly must influence some persons, and be of dangerous tendency. Men of spirit will not attend the courts, and servile, cringing men, should not be entrusted with the lives of their fellows. We do not mean absolutely to refuse complying with the order of Congress. Let us be convinced that we ought to do it, and reasons shall be given. We are young and inexperienced in these matters, and are only guided by the natural impropriety of the thing. Have not the Congress thought it improper? They have. By the last articles of war, every member is to be sworn not to disclose the opinion of any particular member. Are laws to be made which are not binding on legislators?

COMFORT SAGE, President.

DAVID BREARLY, Lieutenant-Colonel.

EBN. HOWELL, Major.

SAM. SMITH, Captain.

THOMAS BOURK, Captain.

CORNELIUS HIGGINS, Captain.

JACOB GOOD, Captain.

LEONARD BLEECKER, Lieutenant.

JACOB DE WITT, Lieutenant.

Heights of Harlem, October 7, 1776.

GENERAL ORDERS.

Head-Quarters, Harlem Heights, October 5, 1776.

(Parole,)

(Countersign,)

The General conceiving it to be his indispensable duty to lay before the Congress the proceedings of the General

Court-Martial, on the trial of Ensign *McCumber*, has received the following orders from them, which he desires those members who were favourers of the first judgment would immediately comply with.

"In Congress, September 30, 1776.

"Resolved, That General *Washington* be directed to call upon such of the members of the Court-Martial as sat in the trial and concurred in the acquittal of Ensign *McCumber*, to assign the reasons for their first judgment, together with the names of such of the said members who were for the acquittal, to be returned to Congress."

For the greater ease and convenience of doing the duty, the General directs that the two *Virginia* regiments be formed into a brigade, and for the present be under the command of the eldest Colonel thereof; also that the regiments lately from *Rhode-Island*, and the Militia regiments from *Connecticut*, under the command of Lieutenant-Colonel *Storrs* and Major *Graves*, be formed into another brigade, and at present be under the command of Colonel *Lippett*; proper persons to do the duty of Brigade-Majors to be recommended by the Colonel who commands them, who will be paid during the time of their acting in that office. It is expected that gentlemen capable of doing the duty will be recommended and none others; as it is a melancholy thing to have the business of the army conducted with irregularity and sloth, when every thing should put on the face of activity and life.

After *Monday*, no Adjutant on the east side of *Hudson's* river, will be allowed to take orders at Head-Quarters, but they must attend their Brigade-Majors, and receive 'em from them. If any Brigade-Major is sick, or otherwise unable to attend, the Brigadier, or Colonel commanding, is to signify it to the Adjutant-General, and recommend some suitable person to act in his stead.

Head-Quarters, Harlem Heights, October 6, 1776.

(Parole, .)

(Countersign, .)

Forty men, one Captain, two subs., to be furnished by the regiments at *Mount Washington*, to assist in ballasting the vessels. They are to take orders from *Andrew Ober*, on board the sloop *Nightingale*. This party to be continued till the business is done. Besides, the above regiments stationed at *Mount Washington* are to furnish men in proportion to their strength for the works there.

Colonel *Lippett's* brigade is to furnish men for the works opposite *Mount Washington*, to be laid out by Colonel *Putnam*, from whom they are to take orders.

Head-Quarters, Harlem Heights, October 7, 1776.

(Parole, .)

(Countersign, .)

Captain *William McWilliams*, of the Third *Virginia* regiment, is to do the duty of Brigade-Major in Colonel *Weedon's* brigade, till further orders.

Representation having been made to the General that numbers of the picket guard are absent from their posts, under pretence of fetching provisions and water, he positively orders that every man, as well officers as soldiers, shall carry provisions with, or have it brought to them at their posts, by their messmates; as the safety of the army depends too much on their diligence and attention to admit of such practices. It is moreover expected of the officer commanding the picket, that he does not, under any pretence whatever, suffer the men to straggle from their respective posts, without they are sent upon scouting parties by himself; but always to have them in readiness to give such effectual opposition as to allow time to their line to turn out; which being the end and design of guards, is defeated if the men who mount are not in a posture to give instant opposition.

The Quartermaster-General is immediately to provide twenty wood axes for the picket guards in front of our lines. When provided he is to deliver them to the officer commanding the picket, who is to see that they are delivered over to the officer relieving, and so from one to the other; the officer failing will be answerable. These axes are intended for the purpose of providing wood and erecting huts for the guards, which last ought not to be delayed.

The Brigadiers and officers commanding regiments are to prevent the irregular and promiscuous placing of huts, and to see that they are built in such a manner as to stand the

weather and weight of snow which may lodge on them, that no accident may befall the men.

Sergeant *George Douglass*, of Captain *Foster's* company, late *McDougall's* regiment, being convicted by a General Court-Martial, whereof Colonel *Weedon* is President, of "embezzling and selling provisions belonging to the company," is sentenced to be reduced to the ranks, and whipped thirty-nine lashes, to be continued under provost-guard for "mutinous speeches and disrespectful language of the Commander-in-Chief." *George Harris*, of Captain *Howell's* company, Colonel *Winds's* regiment, tried by the same Court-Martial, and convicted of "desertion," is ordered to be whipped thirty-nine lashes.

The General approves the above sentences, and the Provost-Marshal is to see the sentence on *Harris* executed tomorrow morning at guard mounting.

Head-Quarters, Harlem Heights, October 8, 1776.

(Parole, .)

(Countersign, .)

The late Sergeant *Douglass*, of Captain *Foster's* company, late *McDougall's* regiment, being convicted by a General Court-Martial, whereof Colonel *Weedon* was President, of "mutinous speeches, and speaking disrespectfully of the Commander-in-Chief," and sentenced to receive thirty-nine lashes, the General approves the sentence, and orders it to be executed at the usual time and place. This offender being a bad character, is to be continued in the provost guard till further orders.

The commanding officer of the Rangers having represented that soldiers are continually straggling down to *Harlem* and other places, frequently without arms, and that when he has apprehended and sent them to their regiments, no further notice has been taken of them. As this is a plain breach of general orders the General hopes there is some mistake in the matter; however, to prevent it in future, he now orders, that no officer or soldier, (Rangers excepted,) go on any pretence beyond the lines, without leave from himself, a Major-General, the Brigadier of the day, or the Adjutant-General, in writing, unless either of those officers are with them in person. And in order to distinguish the Rangers, they are to wear something white round their arms. If any such straggler is found hereafter, he is to be sent to the quarter-guard of the regiment, tried by a regimental court-martial, and receive ten lashes immediately.

There is now an issuing store for ammunition, near General *Spencer's* quarters; the officers of every regiment will be responsible if there is any deficiency in their regiments, as they may now receive a full supply by making a return of the state of their ammunition, and getting an order from the Adjutant-General.

The brigade lately commanded by General *Mifflin* is to be under the care of Lord *Stirling*, who is just returned from his captivity.

The General desires the commanding officers of each regiment, or corps, will give in a list of the names of the officers and men who were killed, taken, or missing, in the action of the 27th of *August*, on *Long-Island*, and since that period. He desires the returns may be correct, and that any persons who have it in their power, will give in the returns of this kind in behalf of any Militia regiments which are discharged.

The General, to prevent any plea of ignorance, again repeats his order against all kinds of gaming, as destructive and pernicious to the service. He hopes the officers will set no examples of this kind, and that they will punish it among the men.

The General is surprised to find that manning the lines every morning is discontinued. He desires that the practice of doing it for the future may not be omitted, unless contradicted by general orders.

The Quartermaster-General is to use the greatest diligence in providing straw for the accommodation of the troops.

Lieutenant *Kidd*, of Colonel *Smallwood's* regiment, convicted by a Court-Martial, whereof Colonel *Ware* was president, of a breach of general orders, in "taking fatigue men from their duty," is sentenced to be dismissed the service. Ensign *Fairly*, of the regiment late *McDougall's*, tried by the same Court-Martial for the same, is acquitted and discharged from arrest. Captain *Hardenbargh*, of Colonel *Ritzema's* regiment, convicted by the same Court-Martial of "defrauding his men," is sentenced to be cash-

iered, and his name, place of abode, and offence, published agreeable to the second and fourth late additional articles of war.

The General approves each of the above sentences, and orders to be executed.

GENERAL WASHINGTON TO GOVERNOUR TRUMBULL.

Head-Quarters, Heights of Harlem, October 8, 1776.

SIR: I was this morning honoured with your favour of the 2d instant, and beg leave to return you my thanks for the measures you have adopted upon my request for obtaining an account of the prisoners in your State, and for your assurance that I shall be furnished with a return as soon as it is procured, in order that I may give further directions about them.

The proposition respecting the prisoners that wish to remain with us, and about the expense that has been incurred for the maintenance of the whole that have been in your State, I shall lay before Congress by the earliest opportunity, and will transmit you the result of their opinion. However, it appears to me that there will be a necessity for returning the whole of their prisoners, not only because the balance is against us, but because I am informed it was particularly stipulated on the part of General *Montgomery* for those that were taken in *Canada*. The case will be hard upon those who want to remain, and who have all become attached to us; and should Congress determine on their being returned, it will be but right that some pains should be used to inform them of the reasons leading to the measure; and I doubt not, if they act with proper caution, that they may afterwards effect their escape, to which they should be encouraged. Indeed I think, if they are heartily disposed towards us, that their exchange may be productive of many good consequences; they may extend their influence to many others, and who, perhaps, will be induced to desert.

I hope the resentment which your State mean to express against those who have scandalously deserted from the defence of our cause will have a happy effect, and prevent a like conduct in future; nothing can be too severe for them.

Before the receipt of your favour, I had desired the General Officers to make out a list of such Field and other officers as are esteemed worthy of command and entitled to commissions in the service. This is a consideration of exceeding importance, for without good officers we can never have troops that will be worthy of the name; and with them we may in time have an army equal to any. We have good materials to work upon. As soon as the list is obtained, I will forward it by the first conveyance that may offer. I have strongly inculcated on the Generals the impropriety of giving in or recommending any but those who are fit for service; and you may rest assured, sir, as you have been pleased to honour me with your confidence on this occasion, that, as far as it shall be in my power, I will only return those that are well spoken of, and who, from report, will answer (what you have ever had in view) the advancement of our common rights and the happiness of the *United States*.

I am, sir, with respect, &c., GO. WASHINGTON.

To Governour *Trumbull*, *Connecticut*.

P. S. The following payments have been made to the Militia of your State, lately here:

1776, September 28, Major *Nathaniel Torry*, for his regiment, - - - - - \$5,185 9-72
1776, September 30, Captain *Amos Barnes*,
15th regiment, commanded by Major *Shaw*, 5,211 38-72

CHARLES C. GRIFFITH TO MARYLAND COUNCIL OF SAFETY.

Head-Quarters, Morris's Heights, October 8, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: Major *Daniel Jenifer Adams* informing me that he is desirous of being in the service of the Continental troops that are to be raised in the State of *Maryland*, beg leave to inform your Honours, from Major *Adams's* good conduct, spirit, and alacrity, on all occasions, both in and out of action, since he has been in this army, leaves me no room to doubt but he is the good soldier, and worthy your attention. I would therefore wish that he could be placed among the first in the present appointment of officers in our State.

I am, gentlemen, with due respect, your most humble servant,
CHAS. C. GRIFFITH.

To the honourable Convention of the State of *Maryland*.

TENCH TILGHMAN TO WILLIAM DUER.

Head-Quarters, Harlem Heights, October 8, 1776.

DEAR SIR: Lord *Stirling* came on shore yesterday evening. As he was on board ship the whole time of his captivity, he can say very little of the situation or intentions of the enemy. He apprehends they are not so strong as they give out, as he often heard them mention the want of their reinforcement. He confirms the account of the bad blood between the *English* and *Hessian* troops. The latter plunder Whig and Tory indiscriminately and without punishment, while the former are under the severest restrictions. One of the prisoners that we took yesterday says the *Hessians* have wounded some of the *British* for only endeavouring to take part of the spoil with them.

By a letter from Mr. *Derby*, of *Salem*, we are informed that a brig belonging to *Massachusetts* had taken and brought in a transport with twenty of Sixteenth Regiment of Light Dragoons, with their horses, &c. This transport was one of twelve sail that have since arrived at *New-York*, each with the same number of men and horses. They had been embarked ever since the 27th *June*, and many of the horses perished on the passage for want. Three days before the fleet of twelve sailed, a fleet of about seventy left *England*, having the remainder of the Sixteenth Regiment of Dragoons on board, and the last division of foreigners, said to be about five thousand, none of which, my Lord *Stirling* says, are received.

Your State has undoubtedly been advised by Congress of their resolution to raise eighty-eight battalions on Continental pay, to serve during the war. His Excellency desires me to remind you of how much consequence the nomination of good officers will be in this reform of the army. As the Congress have left the appointment of all officers except Generals to the different States, his Excellency has wrote to most of them in the most pressing terms to be careful in their choice. The State of *Connecticut* has shown a very good example for procuring suitable persons either to be prepared or continued in command—they having desired the Commander-in-Chief, in conjunction with their own Generals, to make out a list, and transmit it them, of those officers who in their opinion have behaved best, and are most worthy of notice. His Excellency desires me to say further that he has ever avoided recommending officers to preferment, lest he should be taxed with partiality, but that he cannot pass by the merit of Lieutenant-Colonel *Livingston*, of Colonel *Clinton's* regiment, he having upon every occasion exhibited proofs of his activity and zeal for the service. He therefore wishes he may not be overlooked in the preferments that must naturally take place upon the new establishment of your forces. I am just informed that your Convention have already wrote to General *McDougall* upon the subject of new commissions; which I am glad to hear.

I had proceeded thus far to be ready for your express when your favour of the 6th came to hand. I am glad that you go on apprehending the villains in the country above, and gladder to find that you have powers to establish a proper court for their trial. I mistook the matter before.

I am, dear sir, respectfully yours,

TENCH TILGHMAN.

To William Duer, Esq.

Proceedings of a General Court-Martial held by adjournment OCTOBER 8th, 1776, by order of Major-General HEATH.

Colonel *Lasher*, President.

Lieut. Colonel <i>Prentice</i> ,	Captain <i>Dana</i> ,
Major <i>Austin</i> ,	Captain <i>Bickman</i> ,
Captain <i>Sill</i> ,	Captain <i>Brazier</i> ,
Captain <i>Pope</i> ,	Captain <i>Duryee</i> ,
Captain <i>Allen</i> ,	Captain <i>Platt</i> ,
Captain <i>Keith</i> ,	Captain <i>Hardenbergh</i> .

The Court proceeded to the trial of Captain *De Witt*, of Colonel *Humphrey's* Regiment, charged with liberating *James McCormick*, a soldier in Colonel *Sargent's* Regiment, on the 1st instant, from the main guard, who was then under sentence of death.

The prisoner being called, pleads, Not guilty.

Gorden Spencer, being sworn, deposeth: I was on the

guard with the Captain about half an hour before the relief, and heard the Captain say he would release all prisoners that had no crimes. Afterwards I saw *McCormick* out requesting permission of the Captain to treat the prisoners.

The prisoner now confesses the fact, and in defence saith: That the evening before, a man with a white cockade, which he therefore supposed a Captain's, inquired for a prisoner he had confined. He asked his advice what to do with *McCormick*, as he had no crime against him. The officer told him to let him out in the morning if no crime appeared. He did so in the morning, as no crime appeared, and permitted him to treat some with cider.

The Court, after consideration, unanimously think the prisoner not guilty of any crime in discharging the prisoner *McCormick*, as there was no crime alleged against him, and none appeared in the return of the prisoners, &c., delivered him by the officer he relieved.

JOHN LASHER, *President*.

PETITION OF DANIEL WALKER.

Fishkills, October 8, 1776.

SIR: In behalf and at the request of a number of *Scotch* prisoners, quartered at *Goshen*, *Orange* County, beg leave to inform the Convention that they have resided there since the 2d day of *July* last. That they consider themselves as prisoners of war, entitled to the value of the Continental rations in money, or as much as will pay for their weekly board, and to be at liberty to work at their different trades or occupations, behaving themselves peaceably during the time of their confinement. That as to rations they never received any, except for two men two days, and one woman about one half of the time. That their wages has been very low, and that refused to be paid them in several instances. That the boys is obliged to work for their living only, and one of them has been whipped and abused without sufficient provocation. Therefore pray the Convention would take their case into consideration, and give such direction in the premises as they, in their wisdom, shall think meet.

An answer to the subscriber, who is waiting, will be gratefully acknowledged by the Convention's most obedient, humble servant,

DANIEL WALKER.

To the honourable the Convention of the State of *New-York*.

NEW-YORK CONVENTION TO GENERAL MORRIS.

Fishkill, October 8, 1776.

SIR: The Convention have directed me to inform you, that they were extremely sorry for the necessity that first obliged them to request your immediate return to your brigade, since they hoped that no military officer would choose to be absent when his country was invaded. They are willing to acknowledge the force of those reasons for delaying your return which are derived from the particular situation of your family. These, they hope, by their safety and security, have long since ceased to operate. They now flatter themselves that it will be unnecessary to remind you of the superiour ties which bind every man to his country, more particularly those whom the State have vested with the highest honour.

The *Indian* affairs of the Middle Department should be under the consideration of Congress; yet they hope your attendance may be dispensed with, as the Congress have it in their power to call upon the other Commissioners, without injuring the publick so materially as by detaining a military officer from his station.

The Convention cannot but hope that you have been deceived in your belief that your brigade is reduced to less than a Colonel's command, though the loud and well-founded complaints of the County of *Westchester* has given them reason to fear that it has suffered by your absence.

They are pleased to hear that you have laid aside your design of offering your personal service to General *Washington*, since they cannot conceive that a General officer can with dignity act as a volunteer, when the troops under his command are like to be called into action.

Upon the whole, sir, they have directed me to inform you that they expect your immediate attendance on the duties of your department.

I am, sir, &c.

To Brigadier-General *Morris*, *Fishkill*.

JOHANNES SLEGHT TO THE NEW-YORK CONVENTION.

Kingston, October 8, 1776.

SIR: We have this day received certain information that a man did come to this town with orders to remove the tea which was stored in the house of Captain *John Elmendorph* by Mr. *Grodes Beekman*. When we received this information, a Committee was called, who came to the following resolution, viz:

"Resolved, That the tea which is now stored in this town of *Kingston* shall not be removed from the place wheré it now is, by the owners nor by any other person, till such time as the resolution of the Convention of the State of *New-York* respecting the same, shall be made publick."

And as we have been informed by your letter of the 4th *September*, that the Convention had it in contemplation to pass a general resolve respecting the tea within this State, and that a committee was appointed for that purpose, who were prevented to complete that business by reason that some of the members who were appointed for that committee were not then arrived; I was therefore acquainted that the Convention expected that I should use my utmost endeavours to keep peace and good order among us, till such resolutions were passed, in the best manner I could. I am sorry we must give the honourable Convention so much trouble about this affair, and beg to be excused when I once more desire the favour of your honourable House to make an end to this troublesome business as soon as possible, which we hope will not only restore peace and good order here, but also much oblige your friends and most humble servants.

By order of the Committee:

JOHANNES SLEGHT, *Chairman*.

To the President of the Convention of the State of *New-York*.

JOHN SLOSS HOBART TO MESSRS. BANCKER, HARPER, AND PLATT.

Fairfield, October 8, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: Your favour of the 2d instant, per Captain *Rogers* is come to hand, informing me that Convention have determined to send the *Montgomery* on a cruising voyage again, and had appointed you to expedite the same, and give instructions and grant such supplies as may be necessary, and desiring me to furnish Captain *Rogers* with as much money as may be necessary to fit out said privateer, out of the publick moneys now in my hands, in compliance with which have informed Captain *Rogers* that the money is at his service; though I think that in order to have a proper voucher to the Auditor-General, it is necessary that I be furnished with a certified order of Convention for paying that money, which I beg you will send me by the bearer. But in the mean time, that the business of the privateer may not be obstructed, shall advance money on your letter; but I must beg leave to observe that the Convention will be disappointed if they expect the sloop will go to sea without a supply of cash from the Treasury. The money in my hands amounts only to three hundred and twenty pounds, while near eight hundred pounds is due in wages to the people, as Captain *Rogers* informs me. The prize goods that are saved are but trifling. Mr. *Hallet* is in pursuit of them; but a considerable time will be spent before they can be condemned and sold; so that if Convention mean that the sloop should cruise before the chance of prizes is over, a person should be sent immediately, with cash sufficient to pay off the arrears, and furnish the needful for another voyage. I thought it my duty to mention these matters to you, as perhaps the situation of the property which the publick has in these parts, is not sufficiently known.

I am, with great respect and esteem, your most obedient servant,

JOHN SLOSS HOBART.

To Messrs. *Bancker*, *Harper*, and *Platt*, Members of Convention, *Fishkill*.

WILLIAM COIT TO RICHARD DEVENS.

State of Connecticut, Norwich, October 8, 1776.

SIR: Your favour of the 1st instant, received by the bearer, also your pots and canteens, which turn out something more than was in the receipt, which shall be forwarded without delay, agreeable to your directions, to *Thaddeus*

Burr, Esq., if they are not ordered to *Fairfield* by his Excellency General *Washington*. I should think it would be best to have them sent as near the army as they can go with safety, which is thirty miles nigher than you have ordered these. I only hint this that in case you should forward any thing more, to leave it discretionary, as none of our craft put into that place, unless specially ordered there. Any further commands from you shall be faithfully complied with by your humble servant. In haste,

WILLIAM COIT.

CERTIFICATE OF SELECTMEN OF PEPPERELL.

These may certify that *Benjamin Wood*, who was slain at *Bunker Hill*, belonged to Captain *Asa Lawrence's* Company, and that *Aaron Wood*, of *Pepperell*, has a right to draw his wages and such money as may be allowed for his loss, &c.

NICH. HOBART, }
DAVID BLOOD, } Selectmen for
JON. SHATUCH, } *Pepperell*.
JAMES TARBLE, }

Pepperell, October 8, 1776.

SILAS DEANE TO C. W. F. DUMAS.

Paris, October 9, 1776.

SIR: I wrote you by last post. This comes by Mr. *Carmichael*, a gentleman of *Maryland*, in *America*, who has for some time lived with, and assisted me in my business. You can have the fullest confidence in him, and as he knows I place the most absolute in you, it would be trifling to swell a letter with news or observations, of both which he can *viva voce* satisfy you. He will communicate to you his business in *Holland*, and I am sure you will assist him to the utmost of your power. He can tell you what an anxious and laborious life I lead here; and, what adds to my misfortune, how impossible it is, in the present critical situation of affairs, for me to quit this post for a single day; much more it is as yet impossible for me to leave long enough to visit you in *Holland*, which having long promised to myself, and anticipated with pleasure, the disappointment greatly chagrins me. To have so kind and hospitable, and at the same time, so judicious and safe a friend, inviting me to what must at once yield me the purest pleasure and the most solid advantage, viz. an interview, and not to be able to profit by it at once, is a misfortune I feel most sensibly.

Mr. *Carmichael* can give you the best intelligence of our present affairs in *America*, and his observations and inferences will be from the best grounds, and made with precision and judgment. My most grateful and respectful acknowledgments to your lady, whom I yet may have the honour of waiting on in the course of a month.

I have the honour to be, &c.

SILAS DEANE.

EXTRACT OF A LETTER RECEIVED IN LONDON, DATED LISBON, OCTOBER 9, 1776.

Captain *Emmerson*, a *London* trader, came in last *Saturday*, and brings an account that a ship from *London*, laden with wheat and flour, was taken off this port, with a *Portuguese* pilot on board, by an *American* privateer; and this day we have further advice of another ship being taken, loaded with rice from *America*.

Yesterday two *French* traders arrived, the Captains of which had both been chased by three *American* privateers in the channel, and off *Cape Finisterre*, the one of eighteen guns, and the other of sixteen, which last two came up with them.

EDWARD PENDLETON TO THE PRESIDENT OF CONGRESS.

[Read October 16, 1776.]

Williamsburg, October 9, 1776.

SIR: I had the honour of receiving your two favours directed to the General Assembly of *Virginia*, by express, which I immediately communicated to the House of Delegates, now sitting, who are taking proper measures to be fully represented in Congress without delay, and will proceed in due time to consider the other resolutions you enclosed. Your southern despatches were immediately

forwarded by an express provided by the Committee of this city.

I am, for the House of Delegates, sir, your most obedient, humble servant,

EDWARD PENDLETON, *Speaker*.

MARYLAND COUNCIL OF SAFETY TO JESSE HOLLINGSWORTH.

[No. 203.]

Annapolis, October 9, 1776.

SIR: We have sent to you by Mr. *Stewart*, eight hundred pounds, to be laid out in the purchase of superfine flour. You may dispose of one half of our bread on the best terms you can.

We are, &c.

To Mr. *Jesse Hollingsworth*.

JOHN SCOTT TO MATTHEW TILGHMAN.

George-Town, Frederick County, October 9, 1776.

SIR: Permit me through you to address myself to your honourable House for permission to pass some time among my friends in *Virginia*; or, if the House can be induced so far to relax from their sentence, to permit me to remain there without any limitation of time, under the restraints which they have been pleased to lay me under, and which I have given bond with security to the President of the Council of Safety in the penalty of a thousand pounds sterling to observe. I beg, sir, that you will lay me with all humility before the House, with an assurance that I would have addressed them in the first instance either by petition or through you; but unacquainted as I am with bonds and the forfeitures of them, did not know but it might be going beyond the line of my engagements.

My principal reasons for desiring to go to *Virginia*, are, that I have many near and dear relations there. My fortune, little as it is, lays chiefly in that country, and having lost my living, which has hitherto been my chief support, I wish, by my industry, to do something for the subsistence of my family, which I cannot possibly do while confined to *Frederick County*. I have also, sir, the assurance of several gentlemen of no inconsiderable rank and weight in my native country, that my residence among them will not only give no offence, but that they will even solicit this House, if necessary, for my enlargement. That my situation is a most unhappy one, those acquainted with the human heart will readily conceive, and if my sufferings can be alleviated without any injury to the publick weal, I flatter myself humanity will plead powerfully in my favour. To be held up to the world as an enemy to my native land; to be deprived of my living, in which the laws of my country had taught me to believe I had a permanent estate, must sink deep into the heart of a man less attached to worldly affairs than I profess to be. But the voice of the Representatives of the State has pronounced the sentence, and I must submit to my fate, yet conscious as I am of having never harboured one thought injurious to the rights of mankind.

I cannot but hope your honourable House will remit my too rigorous sentence, and permit me to try my fate in some other land, where, if my inclinations lead me, which I call God to witness they never have done, it will be out of my power to hurt this country. If not for my own, for the sake of those innocents who have me alone to look up to for protection and support, I hope I may gain thus much at your hands, more especially as the common rights of mankind are yet preserved inviolate in the State of *Maryland*, give me some grounds for the hope.

I have the honour to be, with the greatest respect, sir, your most obedient and very humble servant,

JOHN SCOTT.

To the Hon. *Matthew Tilghman*, Esq.

PRESIDENT OF CONGRESS TO GENERAL WASHINGTON.

Philadelphia, October 9, 1776.

SIR: The enclosed resolves, which I do myself the honour to forward, will inform you of the ample provision the Congress have made for the support of both officers and soldiers who shall enter into the service during the war. The pay of the former is considerably increased, and the latter is to receive annually a complete suit of clothes, or in lieu thereof, the sum of twenty dollars, should he pro-

vide the suit for himself. This additional encouragement, besides the twenty dollars bounty, and fifty acres of land formerly granted, the Congress expect will be the means, if any thing can, of engaging troops during the war.

The importance, and indeed the absolute necessity, of filling up the army, of providing for the troops, and engaging them during the war, having induced Congress to come to the enclosed resolves, in obedience to their commands, I am preparing to forward them with all possible expedition to the several States.

Your letters to the 5th of *October*, have been duly received and laid before Congress. I shall immediately transmit all such resolves as may hereafter be passed, any ways relative to your department, or necessary for your information.

I have the honour to be, with every sentiment of respect and esteem, sir, your most obedient and very humble servant,

JOHN HANCOCK, *President*.

To His Excellency General *Washington*.

The several resolves go to the States this day by express.

THE PRESIDENT OF CONGRESS TO THE ASSEMBLIES OF THE
NORTHERN STATES.

Philadelphia, October 9, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: The enclosed resolves, which I transmit in obedience to the commands of Congress, will inform you of the ample provision they have made for the support of both officers and soldiers, who shall enter into the service during the war. The pay of the former is considerably increased, and the latter is to receive annually a complete suit of clothes, or in lieu thereof the sum of twenty dollars, should he provide the suit for himself. This additional encouragement, besides the twenty dollars bounty, and one hundred acres of land formerly granted, the Congress expect will be the means of engaging the troops to serve during the war. For this purpose also, I am to request you will appoint a committee or committees to repair immediately to the army, to induce such of the troops as have been raised by your State, to enlist during the war, and to appoint officers for the same.

The Congress, for very obvious reasons, are very anxious to keep the army together. The dangerous consequences of their breaking up, and the difficulty of forming a new one, are inconceivable. Were this barrier once removed, military power would quickly spread desolation over the face of our country. The importance, and indeed the absolute necessity, of filling up the army, of providing for the troops, and engaging them to serve during the war, is so apparent, and has been so frequently urged, that I shall only request your attention to the resolves of Congress on this subject, and beseech you by that love you have for your country, her rights, and liberties, to exert yourselves to carry them speedily and effectually into execution, as the only means of preserving her in this her critical and alarming situation.

I have the honour to be, gentlemen, your most obedient and very humble servant,

JOHN HANCOCK, *President*.

The printed resolves herewith enclosed, relative to the establishing of Loan Offices in the respective States, for the purpose of borrowing money on Continental security, and the regulations with regard to the same, I beg leave to recommend to your immediate notice and attention, and that you will take the proper steps to comply with them.

To the Assembly of *New-Hampshire*.

[Same to the Assembly of *Massachusetts-Bay*; to the Assembly of *Rhode-Island*; to the Assembly of *Connecticut*; to the Assembly of *New-Jersey*; to the Convention of *New-York*.]

MEMORIAL OF JOHN MELCHIOR NEFF.

[Read October 10, 1776: referred to the Board of War.]

To the honourable the Continental Congress:

The Memorial and Petition of JOHN MELCHIOR NEFF, of the city of PHILADELPHIA, Pin and Needle Maker, humbly sheweth:

That on or about the 30th day of *August* last, your memorialist being freely occupied in manufacturing pins and wool and cotton cards, and instructing poor people in that

useful business, was called upon by your Commissaries, Messrs. *Mease* and *Caldwell*, to make and get ready, within a fortnight, three hundred dozen of gun-brushes and chains for the army, which he undertook to make after a pattern that hung up in his own shop, at the rate of six shillings per dozen. That your petitioner immediately sat about this work, cut and made up in chains his brass and iron wires, bought for thirty pounds of brushes, perfected the Commissaries' whole order within the time limited, and offered his work to the said *Mease* and *Caldwell*, who refused to accept of and pay for the same, alleging the work was not good or strong enough, &c.

May it please your Honours, your memorialist is a very poor man, but, on account of his knowledge in working wires, a useful member of society, and by your Commissaries detaining what is justly due to him, he is obliged to discontinue his trade. He thinks that his brushes and chains are made, first, agreeable to his contract with the Commissaries; second, strong and good enough for the purpose of cleaning a gun-pan; third, that, in the present dearness of materials and labour, they are full worth six shillings per dozen; fourth, that if, upon culling the whole, any number of chains should be found insufficient, it would be more equitable and humane that your petitioner should mend them, than to throw the whole charge upon him; and your petitioner humbly prayeth to order an inquiry of his case, and report thereof to be made to your Honours, so that justice may be rendered to him in mercy. And your petitioner, as in duty bound, &c.

JOHN MELCHIOR NEFF.

Philadelphia, October 9, 1776.

MARINE COMMITTEE TO STEPHEN HOPKINS.

Philadelphia, October 9, 1776.

SIR: We have received from *John Langdon*, Esq., of *Portsmouth, New-Hampshire*, such an extraordinary account of the conduct of the Committee you appointed to superintend the building of two frigates in *Providence*, that we cannot forbear transmitting you a copy of his letter. The respect we all entertain for you, and the justice due to them, induces us to do this; at the same time we impart to you that common fame says many things respecting them which Mr. *Langdon* does not touch upon. We do not, however, pretend to condemn them either on his or her report, but when they exhibit an account of their proceedings, we shall expect these things to be cleared up to the satisfaction of this Committee or of Congress. We have ordered them to supply Mr. *Langdon* with a set of those cannon that have been paid for; and as we find the demands of the owners of your furnace are so extravagant, we now request that you will desire them to give in the terms on which they will cast another set in lieu thereof, to be ready in time for the frigates at *Providence*.

If they persist in these extravagant demands, we shall supply them either from *Hughes's* works, in *Maryland*, or from this State, as we shall soon be able to spare sufficient from either place, and no consideration shall induce us to submit to such extortion as was attempted with Mr. *Langdon*. We hope, sir, that your attachment to the general interests of *America*, your regard to the character of your State and your friend employed therein, and your influence in that State, will all combine to have those abuses rectified that have given rise to reflections and complaints, if any such abuses have really taken place in the management of marine affairs.

We hope for an immediate answer respecting the terms of casting more cannon, and are, sir, your very humble servants.

To *Stephen Hopkins*, Esq.

MARINE COMMITTEE TO COMMITTEE AT PROVIDENCE.

Philadelphia, October 9, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: We have been presented with a letter from *John Langdon*, Esq., Continental Agent at *Portsmouth*, in *New Hampshire*, to *Josiah Bartlett*, Esq., a member of Congress, giving a very extraordinary account of your proceedings in respect to the cannon cast in your State for the use of the Continental frigates. He says that

the frigates at *Providence* cannot be ready to go to sea for two or three months, and that the frigate at *New-Hampshire* waits only for cannon, which, under one pretence or other, you have refused to supply him with, although they are lying useless in *Rhode-Island*, and another set might be cast in time for your ship. He represents your refusal of his reasonable request as having its foundation partly in interested motives, and partly in jealousy of the *New-Hampshire* ship being at sea before yours. We cannot pretend to judge of the propriety of his observations, having only heard one side, but if the representation he has made be a just one, we shall think the Continental interest was much misplaced when put into the hands of those who are capable of acting from such motives against the publick good. You'll observe we do not pretend to decide on your conduct, because we are willing to hear your defence of it. Mr. *Langdon* is a gentleman of character, and puts his name to what he writes; therefore we suppose he will be ready to make good his charge.

However, it is not our present purpose to inquire into your conduct at this time, but to inform you that we have sent Mr. *Langdon* orders to call on you again for a set of cannon suitable for the *New-Hampshire* frigate; and as we understand those cannon are paid for out of the moneys you have received and drawn for, we now direct and insist that a complete set most suitable for that ship be immediately delivered to the said *John Langdon, Esq.*, or to his order, for the use of the Continental frigate the *Raleigh*, now at *Portsmouth*; and we request that you will render him or his agents all the assistance in your power in transporting the said cannon to *Portsmouth*, in the most safe and expeditious manner.

Mr. *Langdon* has said nothing about shot or other stores; but as it is our business to consider and attend to the Continental interest at large, abstracted from jarring interest or jealousy of one State against another, we likewise desire you may supply Mr. *Langdon* with shot, or any other stores you have provided for the Continental service, provided he wants them to expedite the sailing of the *Raleigh*, which is now under orders for immediate service. We also inform you that we shall send an agent to inspect the state of the frigates built under your direction, that we may include them in our intended report to Congress.

We are, gentlemen, your obedient servants.

To the Committee for building Continental Frigates at *Providence*.

MARINE COMMITTEE TO COMMITTEE AT PROVIDENCE.

October 9, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: We, the subscribers, members of the Marine Committee of Congress, being duly authorized to give such directions as may conduce to the service of the *United States of America* in all things relative to this department, are now of opinion that a complete set of the cannon you have had cast for the Continental service, ought to be applied to the immediate use of the *Raleigh* frigate, and therefore do order and direct that you deliver a sufficient number of the most suitable cannon for that ship, to *John Langdon, Esq.*, or to his agent employed for the purpose of receiving and forwarding the same to *Portsmouth*. And for so doing this shall be your warrant.

Given under our hands at the Marine Office, in *Philadelphia*, the day and year above written.

To the Committee for building the Continental Frigates at *Providence*.

MARINE COMMITTEE TO NATHANIEL FALCONER.

Philadelphia, October 9, 1776.

SIR: You are hereby authorized and directed to repair to *Providence*, in *Rhode-Island*, and there view, examine, and inspect two frigates lately built, and now lying at that place. You are to call on the respectable Committee of gentlemen under whose direction they were built, and are to be fitted; give them notice of your arrival and appointment to this service; require from them an inventory of the Continental stores provided for these ships, and examine into the quality of the same, comparing the said stores with the inventory to see that they agree, and you are to make report, as soon as may be, to this Committee of the state

and condition of these ships, as to the strength, workmanship, beauty, and other qualities; also, as to the quality and quantity of stores, number of men and officers belonging to them, and of their forwardness for the sea. And all persons employed in the building or fitting of said frigates are hereby required to aid and assist you, if need there be, in performing the service hereby enjoined you. And for so doing this shall be your warrant.

Given under our hands at the Marine Office, the day and year first above written.

To *Nathaniel Falconer, Esq.*

MARINE COMMITTEE TO JOHN LANGDON.

Philadelphia, October 9, 1776.

SIR: Your friend Mr. *Bartlett* having laid before this Board your letter to him of the 14th ultimo, respecting the conduct of the Committee at *Providence, Rhode-Island*, on your applying to them for cannon for the *Raleigh*, this conduct appears to us in the most extraordinary point of light; but as it is unbecoming of publick bodies to condemn the conduct of any before they are heard in their own defence, we have wrote them of this date, telling the points of which you complain, and ordering them to deliver you a complete set of the Continental cannon in their possession, those that are most suitable for the *Raleigh*; and further, we have directed them to deliver you shot, or any other Continental stores they have, if you think them necessary to expedite the sailing of that ship; we have also requested them to afford you any assistance in their power in transporting the cannon and stores safe and soon to *Portsmouth*.

We may not omit telling you that we have thought it common justice to send Governour *Hopkins* a copy of your letter, as the Committee were all of his appointment. We have said that, deeming you a gentleman of honour, we doubt not but you will support the charge made against them, and under that belief, we think it is justly your due, and return you thanks for the information given us, as well as for your apparent solicitude for the publick good. We are determined to have the frigates inspected, and report made thereon. Before we close, we must request your utmost exertions to get the *Raleigh* out to sea, and the Captain's and other officers' commissions will now go forward immediately.

We are, sir, your obedient humble servants.

To *John Langdon, Esq.*

MARINE COMMITTEE TO NEW-YORK CONVENTION.

Philadelphia, October 9, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: Having received information that some of the enemy's ships-of-war and tenders have passed the obstructions laid in *Hudson's River*, and got above the same, we are very anxious for the fate of the frigates now building in your State. We, therefore, earnestly desire to direct your close attention to some probable means of securing the said ships, either by launching them immediately, if possible, and removing them to some place of greater safety, or by such other methods as your wisdom shall devise.

With great respect, we are, gentlemen, your very humble servants.

To the honourable the Convention of the State of *New-York*.

BOARD OF WAR TO LANCASTER (PENNSYLVANIA) COMMITTEE.

War-Office, October 9, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: A Captain *Hesketh*, a *British* officer, prisoner of war at this place, is in great want of his baggage. I wrote at his request, to Mr. *Yeates* to send it to him, but am informed by letter from Mrs. *Yeates* that he is at *Pittsburg*. If any of your body will be so obliging as to call on Mrs. *Yeates*, and get from her that letter I wrote him, and comply with the request therein made, you will oblige your very obedient servant,

RICHARD PETERS, Secretary at War.

To the Committee of the Town of *Lancaster*.

Captain *Hesketh's* baggage consists of one trunk, one valise, one portmanteau, one pair of canteens.

Charlestown, S. C., October 9, 1776.

We hear from *Savannah* that the men-of-war have left the river; so that there is now not one of the enemy's vessels in *South-Carolina* or *Georgia*. It is said there are some in *Cape Fear* River in *North-Carolina*.

Philadelphia, October 9, 1776.

On *Monday*, the 7th instant, his Excellency General *Lee* arrived here from the southward, and we hear he sets off this day for the army near *New-York*.

TO THE PEOPLE OF PENNSYLVANIA.

As too great a number of the members of this State are the avowed votaries of submission to higher powers on any terms, and as those weak people persuade themselves that the exercise of this Christian virtue, as they esteem it, would restore them again to tranquillity and happiness, I beg leave to make a few observations on the declaration which some of these peaceable men, and all the avowed abettors of unconditional subjugation, would hold out as the olive branch, which nothing but the most desperate madness can tempt us to refuse.

And first I would inquire, what is this constitutional Government; that our wicked Congress so obstinately oppose? Do not the King and his Ministers, and that by the authority of an act of Parliament declare, that they, with the advice and consent of people with whom we have no more political connection than with the *Siberians*, have and ever had a right to make and execute laws for us in all cases whatsoever?

2. Does returning to our allegiance mean any thing less than the acknowledgment of this right in the King, his Ministers, and obsequious Parliament?

3. Does not the admission of this principle form a new Constitution, entirely subversive of the Constitution which even the people called *Quakers* have ever most strenuously endeavoured to support, and which alone can secure us the enjoyment of any thing, the privilege, nay, the unalienable right of having a free, a full, and unbiased representative voice in the body that makes our laws.

If any one can show me that a closure with *R.* and *W. Howe's* proposal does not imply the above acknowledgment and resignation, I will allow myself to have been hitherto misguided; but if absolute power to make, revise, repeal, or confirm laws binding on us in all cases whatsoever, is to be acknowledged to reside in any body of men, in which the whole body of the *American* States have no more weight or influence than the crew of a vessel which might be stranded on a Maroon island, I know nothing of the true principles of the Constitution.

DEMOPHILUS.

GENERAL WASHINGTON TO GOVERNOUR TRUMBULL.

Head-Quarters, Harlem Heights, October 9, 1776.

SIR: Agreeably to your request, and the promise contained in my letter of yesterday, I beg leave to transmit you the enclosed list, comprehending the names of such gentlemen as are recommended by the General officers from your State, as proper persons to be promoted in the regiments you are about to raise, with the ranks which they conceive they ought to bear. Sensible that the very existence, that the well-doing of every army, depends upon good officers I urged, I pressed, the gentlemen to whom the business was confided, and whose situation has given them an opportunity of being better acquainted through the different corps than I am, to pay their most serious attention to the matter, and to return such, and only such, as will, in their estimation, by their fidelity, attachment, and good conduct, promote the great end we have in view—the establishment of our rights and the happiness of our country, by that mode which sad necessity has obliged us to pursue. This I hope they have done; they have taken no notice of any officer in the Northern army, or of those of the *Seventeenth Regiment* (*Huntington's*) who were taken on *Long-Island*, whose imprisonment I should suppose, if they have merit, should be no objection to their having promotion; nor do they mean by the list they have given in, to preclude others of greater merit than those they have mentioned, if they are to be found.

Congress, by a late resolution, have allowed a Paymaster to each regiment; in the appointment of which I would recommend that particular care be had to the choosing men intimately acquainted with, and well versed in accounts, and who will be able to keep them in a fair and distinct manner; as they will have not only to receive the regiments' pay, but to keep accounts of every transaction incident to them—such as respect their clothes, &c. In some appointments lately made by the Field Officers, to whom I submitted the matter, they nominated men who could not write their names legibly.

As our present army is upon the eve of their dissolution, it behooves us to exert every nerve to enlist immediately for the new one. Without, I am convinced, we shall have none to oppose the enemy; and who will have it in their power to spread havoc and devastation wheresoever they will. I would therefore submit it to your consideration, whether it may not be proper, as soon as you have made choice of your officers, and which I think should be effected as early as possible, to appoint a committee, with power to repair to this place and make such arrangements as may be necessary with respect to those who are now in the service, in order that they may begin to recruit out of the present corps without any loss of time.

I perceive the Generals in the list they have made, have set down the Commissary for a regiment. In this I think they have done exceedingly right, and that it is nothing more than a reward justly due his merit, in case he should quit his present department. However, I hope that the apprehensions which have given rise to this step will never become realities, and that he will continue in his office, and upon such terms as may be agreeable to him; but lest he should decline, the provision they have made is extremely proper.

I this minute saw General *Spencer*, who informed me that they had never taken the officers prisoners on *Long-Island* into consideration, in making out their arrangement, not knowing whether they could be noticed in their present situation. I have made out a list of them; and as I have before observed, if they are men of merit, their imprisonment most certainly should not operate to their prejudice, if it can be avoided. If a principle of that sort was adopted, it would give the greatest discouragement, and have a direct tendency to suppress every brave and manly enterprise which might be attended with captivity. I would also mention Major *Sherman*, son of Mr. *Sherman*, of Congress, a young gentleman who appears to me, and who is generally esteemed, an active and valuable officer, whom the General Officers have omitted to set down in their lists, expecting, I suppose, (if they thought of him at all,) that he would be provided for in the *Massachusetts* regiment, because he is one at this time. But as it is probable promotions in that State will be confined to their own people, I should apprehend that he should be properly noticed in your appointments, lest we should lose an officer who, so far as I can judge, promises good services to his country.

On yesterday morning, three ships of war, (two of forty-four and the other of twenty guns,) with two or three tenders, passed up the *North River*, without meeting any interruption from the chevaux-de-frise, or receiving any material damage from our batteries, though they kept a heavy fire at them from both sides of the river. Their views most probably are, to cut off all supplies of boards, &c., which might come down the river, and of which we shall have great need.

I have given directions to proceed as fast as possible in carrying on the obstructions, and I would fain hope, if they allow us a little more time, that they will be so far completed as to render the passage dangerous, if not altogether insecure.

I have the honour to be,

GO. WASHINGTON.

To Governour *Trumbull*, *Connecticut*.

P. S. In respect to the appointment of officers, I would beg leave to add, that the merit of the officers who went through the *Canada* expedition with General *Arnold*, should, in my opinion, be particularly noticed. They are now upon their parole, and cannot act; but should not suitable provision be made for them against their release-ment, which I should suppose ought to be among the first?

PROPOSED APPOINTMENTS OF CONNECTICUT OFFICERS.

A list of officers now in the army recommended for appointments in the troops to be raised by the State of Connecticut.

Those persons to whose names this character * is prefixed are recommended for promotion to the next rank :

<p>COLONELS.</p> <p>Joseph Trumbull, Jedediah Huntington, Andrew Ward, Gold Selleck Silliman, William Douglas, Philip Burr Bradley, John Chester, John Durkee.</p>	<p>Colonel Selden's Regiment.</p> <p>Abel Spicer, Elijah Bingham, Eliphalet Holmes, William Belcher, Richard Deshon.</p>	<p>Colonel Selden's Regiment.</p> <p>Jonathan Palmer, Jacob Dewitt, Elisha Wade, Isaac Spencer, John Hart, Edward Hallam.</p>	<p>Colonel Webb's Regiment.</p> <p>Jesse Grant, Elisha Bostwick, William Clark, Selah Benton.</p>
<p>LIEUTENANT-COLONELS.</p> <p>Samuel Prentice, John Chandler, James Arnold, Thomas Hobby, Giles Russell, Samuel B. Webb, *Samuel McClarren.</p>	<p>Colonel Ward's Regiment.</p> <p>Abner Prior, Noah Phelps, James Dana, Benoni Cutler, Daniel Allen.</p>	<p>Colonel Webb's Regiment.</p> <p>*Joseph A. Wright, Charles Pond, John Shumway, William Green, Robert Lewis.</p>	<p>ENSIGNS.</p> <p>Colonel Tyler's Regiment.</p> <p>*Daniel Wait, *Lemuel Cleft, *Daniel Billings, *David Durance, John Bulkley, Benjamin Haskell.</p>
<p>MAJORS.</p> <p>Hezekiah Holdridge, Thomas Dyer, David Dimon, Matthew Mead, Waterman Cleft, John Ely, John Canfield.</p>	<p>Colonel Webb's Regiment.</p> <p>Joseph Hoit, William Hull, Peter Perrit, Eli Leavenworth, Edward Shipman.</p>	<p>SECOND LIEUTENANTS.</p> <p>Colonel Tyler's Regiment.</p> <p>Enock Reed, *William Richards, *Caleb Baldwin, *Daniel Collins, *Thomas Avery, *Ezra Selden.</p>	<p>Colonel Chester's Regiment.</p> <p>Daniel Knowlton, Elijah Ransom.</p>
<p>CAPTAINS.</p> <p>Colonel Tyler's Regiment.</p> <p>*David Fithen Sill, Christopher Darrow, Ebenezer Brewster, Christopher Ely.</p>	<p>FIRST LIEUTENANTS.</p> <p>Colonel Tyler's Regiment.</p> <p>*David Nevins, *Stephen Keyes, *Oliver Babcock, John McGreger, Elisha Lee.</p>	<p>Colonel Wylls's Regiment.</p> <p>*Roger Hooker, *Jonathan Heart, *Elias Stillwell.</p>	<p>Colonel Huntington's Regiment.</p> <p>*Joshua Tracy, *Elisha Brewster.</p>
<p>Colonel Wylls's Regiment.</p> <p>Amassa Mills, Jedediah Hyde, Ebenezer Huntington.</p>	<p>Colonel Chester's Regiment.</p> <p>*Edward Bulkley, Daniel Dunham, Abner Bacon, John Bernard, Eliphalet Chamberlain, Ebenezer Wright.</p>	<p>Colonel Sagen's Regiment.</p> <p>Ichabod Hinkley, Edward Paine, Joseph Booth.</p>	<p>Colonel Wylls's Regiment.</p> <p>*Samuel Richards, *Thomas Hander, *Simeon Belding, *Charles Miller, Pownal Deming.</p>
<p>Colonel Huntington's Regiment.</p> <p>Abraham Tyler.</p>	<p>Colonel Bradley's Regiment.</p> <p>Lemuel Benedict, William Hawley, Thomas Tanner, Thomas Stevenson, Sylvanus Mead.</p>	<p>Colonel Sage's Regiment.</p> <p>Ichabod Hinkley, Edward Paine, Joseph Booth.</p>	<p>Colonel Webb's Regiment.</p> <p>Benoni Shipman, William Smith, John Ball, Thos. Updike Fosdick, Stephen Betts.</p>
<p>Colonel Durkee's Regiment.</p> <p>Thomas Grosvenor, Stephen Brown, Wills Cleft, John Keys, Daniel Tilden.</p>	<p>Colonel Wylls's Regiment.</p> <p>*Henry Champion, *Robert Warner, *Marcus Cole.</p>	<p>Colonel Gay's Regiment.</p> <p>John Allen.</p>	<p>Colonel Gray's Regiment.</p> <p>Joel Hinman, James Morris.</p>
<p>Colonel Silliman's Regiment.</p> <p>Sylvanus Brown, Gamaliel Northrop.</p>	<p>Colonel Douglas's Regiment.</p> <p>Nathan Parsons, Samuel Baldwin, Joseph Mansfield, Israel Potter.</p>	<p>Colonel Durkee's Regiment.</p> <p>Jonathan Woodworth, Benjamin Durkee, John Waterman, Seth Phelps, Josiah Fuller, Nathaniel Bishop.</p>	<p>Colonel Sage's Regiment.</p> <p>Josiah Blackslée, Jachabod Bosworth, Sylvanus Perry, Oliver Hubbard.</p>
<p>Colonel Sage's Regiment.</p> <p>Hezekiah Parsons, Edward Eells.</p>	<p>Colonel Silliman's Regiment.</p> <p>Joseph Webb, James Betts.</p>	<p>Colonel Ward's Regiment.</p> <p>Samuel Carver, Elisha Chapman, Uriah Holmes, Joshua Bottom, James Peck.</p>	<p>Colonel Ward's Regiment.</p> <p>Benjamin Holcomb, Benjamin Henshaw, jr., Joseph Hale, Daniel Reed, Obadiah Child, Simon Gains, Jonathan Nicholls.</p>
		<p>Colonel Douglas's Regiment.</p> <p>Stephen Potter, Michael Brownson, Ambrose Hine.</p>	<p>Colonel Selden's Regiment.</p> <p>Jabez Smith, Charles Fanning, David Bill, Asa Story, Richard Douglas.</p>

Colonel Durkee's Regiment.	
Silas Goodall,	John Alden,
John Durkee,	John Buell,
Watrous Clark,	Bryant Brown.

Staff Officers.

Samuel Johnston, Adjutant, Colonel Sage's Regiment.
Samuel A. Barker, Adjutant, Colonel Douglas's Regiment.
Elias Mather, Quartermaster to Colonel Tyler's Regiment.
Elijah Humphrey, Paymaster to Colonel Webb's Regiment.
Aaron Comstock, Quartermaster to Colonel Silliman's Regiment.
Richard Sill, Paymaster to Colonel Tyler's Regiment.

Sergeants.

*Elijah Selden, - - - }
*Ezra Lee, - - - } Colonel Tyler's Regiment.
*Jonathan Eldridge, - }
*Ezra Smith, - - - - Colonel Wyll's Regiment.
ISRAEL PUTNAM, Major-General.
JO. SPENCER, Major-General.
SAM. H. PARSONS, Brigadier-General.
JAMES WADSWORTH, Brigadier-General.

October 9, 1776.

TENCH TILGHMAN TO NEW-YORK COMMITTEE.

Head-Quarters, Harlem Heights, October 9, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: About eight o'clock this morning, the *Roebuck* and *Phoenix*, of forty-four guns each, and a frigate about twenty guns, got under way from about *Bloomingdale*, where they have been lying some time, and stood on with an easy southerly breeze towards our chevaux-de-frise, which we hoped would have given them some interruption, while our batteries played upon them. But to our surprise and mortification, they all came through without the least difficulty, and without receiving any apparent damage from our forts, which kept playing on them from both sides of the river.* How far they intend to go up I don't know; but his Excellency thought fit to give you the earliest information, that you may put General Clinton on his guard at the Highlands, for they may have troops concealed on board with intent to surprise those forts.

If you have any stores on the water side, you had better have them removed or secured in time, boards especially, for which we shall be put to great straits if the communication above should be cut off. The enemy have made no move on the land side.

I am, gentlemen, your most obedient servant,

TENCH TILGHMAN.

To the Honourable Committee of Correspondence, State of New-York.

Be pleased to forward this intelligence up the river, and to Albany. The two new ships are put in near Colonel Phillips's. A party of Artillery, with two twelve-pounders, and one hundred Riflemen, are sent up to endeavour to secure them.

* October 9, 1776.—Early in the morning, three ships, two of forty guns, and one frigate, with two or three tenders, stood up the North River. They were briskly cannonaded from Fort Washington and Fort Constitution. They however passed our works and the chevaux-de-frise, the American galleys, small craft, and two large ships standing on before them. The two ships were ran on shore near Phillips's Mills, and two of the galleys near Dobbs's Ferry. The enemy took possession of the two galleys, and got them off. A boat landed a number of men, who plundered a store, stove the casks, and then set the store on fire, and left it. The Americans soon extinguished the fire.

Our General ordered Colonel Sargent, with five hundred Infantry, forty Light-Horse; Captain Horton, of the Artillery, with two twelve-pounders; and Captain Crafts, with a howitzer, to march immediately, with all possible expedition, to Dobbs's Ferry. The enemy took a schooner loaded with rum, sugar, wine, &c., and sunk a sloop which had on board the machine invented by and under the direction of a Mr. Bushnell, intended to blow up the British ships. This machine was worked under water. It conveyed a magazine of powder, which was to be fixed under the keel of a ship, then freed from the machine, and left with clock-work going, which was to produce fire when the machine had got out of the way. Mr. Bushnell had great confidence of its success, and had made several experiments which seemed to give him countenance; but its fate was truly a contrast to its design.

Our General's division was formed in line, with its advance, reserve flank-guards, and artillery, all in order of battle, when they were moved down over the different grounds which it was supposed might be the scene of action. Some of this ground was very broken, and there were many fences. These afforded frequent opportunities for the troops to break off and form, for the pioneers to open avenues, &c., and for the whole to become acquainted with every part of the ground, and the best choice of it, if suddenly called to action.—Heath.

COLONEL TILGHMAN TO GENERAL HEATH.

Head-Quarters, October 9, 1776.

SIR: I have this moment yours of this evening. The party of one hundred men were ordered up to assist a detachment of Artillery in covering the two new ships, should the enemy attempt to cut them out or destroy them. Soon after I got home from Fort Washington, I received a report that the enemy had passed the new ships and were landing at Dobbs's Ferry. I then directed Colonel Reed to desire you, if that should be the case, to send field-pieces and howitzers forward if it should be judged necessary, and as General Clinton best knew the ground, to consult him upon the necessity of sending on the artillery, and if it was sent, that a strong covering party should go with it. Till I received yours, I heard no more of the matter. I am sorry you have been misinformed as to the movement of the other ships below; they have never stirred from their moorings. You will therefore be pleased to order Captain Benson to be as expeditious as possible in getting the new ships afloat and bringing them down to where they may be conveniently ballasted. I will take proper care of the prisoners you are sending down.

While I was writing the above by his Excellency's direction, he went to bed. I thought it a pity to disturb him to sign it. I therefore have the honour to subscribe myself your most obedient servant,

TENCH TILGHMAN.

To General Heath.

COLONEL REED TO GENERAL HEATH.

October 9, 1776.

SIR: Besides the men ordered on the duty in bringing down the ships, the General desires you would order one hundred men from the regiments of your division nearest King's Bridge, immediately, to be employed in ballasting the two hulks which lay at Spiking Devil. These men are not to leave the service till it is completed, and officers who can be depended on are to oversee them, as the work of the army constantly suffers by this means.

I am, sir, your obedient, humble servant,

JOS. REED, Adjutant-General

To General Heath.

No movement below.

ORDERS TO COLONEL SARGENT.

King's Bridge, October 9, 1776.

SIR: The enemy, as it is reported, have landed a number of troops at or near Dobbs's Ferry; and it being thought indispensably our duty to dislodge them, you are immediately to take the command of the detachment designed for that purpose, consisting of five hundred men. You will march without the least loss of time, with the said detachment and forty Light-Horse, to Dobbs's Ferry, taking with you one howitzer and a detachment of the Artillery, now at Phillips's Mills, if you should think it necessary. You will take particular care that the howitzer is properly covered, and defended by the battalion men.

You will, if possible, dislodge the enemy; killing or taking prisoners, as occasion may require. If the enemy should have reëmbarked on board their ships, you will give me notice thereof by express, as you will frequently of every occurrence worthy of notice. Colonel Drake will march with you, and afford you every assistance in his power. You will also take command of the company commanded by Captain Darrow, and also the guard now at Dobbs's Ferry. If you should find upon conference with the commanding officers of the Artillery, that they have no express orders from the Commander-in-Chief, you will give them such orders as you may think proper for the good of the service.

I am, sir, with respect, your most humble servant,

W. HEATH.

To Colonel Sargent.

GENERAL PUTNAM TO GENERAL HEATH.

General Putnam's compliments to General Heath, and begs he will please to furnish fifty men to assist in bringing the ships from Phillips's, under command of Mr. Benson.

Wednesday, noon.

JOSEPH TRUMBULL TO THE PRESIDENT OF CONGRESS.

[Read October 15, 1776.]

King's Bridge, October 9, 1776.

SIR: I have this moment received your favour of 7th instant, enclosing a resolve of Congress directing the Continental agents to deliver me for the use of the army all the salt in their hands belonging to the Continent. I wish to know who all the Continental agents from *New-York*, (that is *Hudson's* river,) eastward, are, that I may call on them. I know some of them, but very possibly not all. I fear, nay I know, the whole quantity will fall vastly short of what will be necessary, and hope speedy and effectual care will be taken to procure what is needful for this and another year, which will not fall short of eighty or a hundred thousand bushels, beside what I know now to be in the country and what will be needed for family consumption.

My idea is to put up pork with a small quantity of salt, and depend on getting more in season to repack and pickle early in the spring. This will be necessary, for want of salt. This will also show the necessity of being in season with a sufficient quantity of salt, or lose all.

I am, most respectfully, sir, your most humble servant,
JOS. TRUMBULL.

To the Hon. *John Hancock*, Esq.

LIEUTENANTS PUTNAM AND CLEAVES TO GEN. WASHINGTON.

North River, October 9, 1776.

SIR: This is a copy of the proceedings on board the galley *Independence*.

On the 8th Colonel *Tupper* sent orders on board for Captain *Baker* to proceed on shore, and that there was no further business for him on board. On the 9th, at about seven A. M., we observed the ship below to be moving. We immediately called all hands. After seeing the other galley under way, we hove up and stood up the river after them, and when we got above the chevaux-de-frise spoke with *Cook*, and asked what he intended to do. He answered that he did not know; but stood up the river, and said there was not water enough to go into the creek. The wind being moderate we gained ahead of them, which gave us encouragement to keep along. It soon after breezed up, and the ship gained upon us fast, and, at about eleven A. M. they began to fire upon us with their bow-chasers. At about twelve they overreached us, which caused us to bear in shore, and at half-past one P. M. we run her on shore, first above *Dobbs's* Ferry, where we had not time enough to get our people and things on shore in the boat, and the shipping began the fire which obliged us to swim on shore; but no lives lost, but part of their guns and chief of their baggage; and I observed the enemy to haul up their boats and man them, which they immediately dropped on stern and fired a broadside of grapeshot as we lay in the bushes, and immediately sent their boat on board with a warp, and hove her alongside.

From your most obedient servants,

JEREMIAH PUTNAM, }
NATHANIEL CLEAVES, } *Lieutenants.*

To His Excellency General *Washington*.

SAMUEL TEN BROECK TO COLONEL PETER R. LIVINGSTON.

District of Manor Livingston, October 9, 1776.

DEAR SIR: We have received your letter of the 30th *September*; the contents have duly examined. The disaffected begin to be rather more troublesome and daring than formerly, but through proper application don't doubt we shall soon rid ourselves of some or the major part of these villains. We are sorry that we can't send you herewith an authentick account of them, but shall in a few days, as we are about collecting all the materials possible. This day we received a letter from the Committee of *Dutchess* County, informing us that their Militia was ordered to be out to-morrow, in consequence of which four of our companies are ordered out, to be ready to-morrow morning. This body will be ordered to scour well and to surround them if possible, as there is a large number that keep themselves concealed in the woods. Hope that we may be able to give you a favourable account of this in a day or two, together with the particulars of our district in general.

On *Monday* last we had one *Jas. Chissem* before us, who

being examined on oath relative to the Tories, and the outrage committed at Captain *Jamsen's*, reported that on *Monday* last, a fortnight gone, being the night when the outrage was committed, he being in company with a body, in *Number Twenty-Four*, in the woods, about four miles from Captain *Jamsen's*, *Chissem* was taken by some of our men that layed in ambush. We have taken all their names down, and think that we are in a fair way to find out those villains that committed the cruel outrage. We have also taken several more affidavits of those that were suspected in the least, but none of them give so much light in the affair as the one already mentioned.

I shall write you further by the first opportunity. We send this by old Mr. *Power*; beg to hear from you by him, as the post and almost every other convenience is now stopped so that we seldom hear from Head-Quarters. Shall be glad to hear the news from there.

In haste, we remain your most obedient and very humble servants,

By order: SAMUEL TEN BROECK, *Chairman*, p. t.
To Colonel *Peter R. Livingston*, *Fishkills*.

ALBANY COMMITTEE TO THE NEW-YORK CONVENTION.

Albany Committee-Chamber, October 9, 1776.

SIR: We have received yours of the 7th instant, and in consequence thereof have procured the iron stove, pipes, and other fixtures from the members of the *Presbyterian* Church in this city. We shall send it down to-morrow to the place directed, and write you fully how and on what terms we have procured it.

We are, sir, your most obedient servants.

By order: JOHN BARCLAY, *Chairman*.
To *Peter R. Livingston*, President of the Convention of the State of *New-York*, at *Fishkills*.

R. HUGHES TO MR. WINSLOW.

Ticonderoga, October 9, 1776.

SIR: General *Gates* orders you shall to-morrow morning at the meeting of the Court-Martial, deliver over to the President, viz: the Hon. Brigadier-General *St. Clair*, the amount of the sum paid by you to Captain *Jona. Fassitt*, and to desire he will call before him the soldiers of said company and examine whether they have received one month's pay, as Captain *Jona. Fassitt* received one month's pay for a full company from you, each soldier so examined to be on oath.

By the General's command: R. HUGHES.
To Mr. *Winslow*, Paymaster.

COLONEL WINDS TO GENERAL GATES.

Ticonderoga, October 9, 1776.

SIR: Being much indisposed, cannot do myself the pleasure to wait on your Honour in person; therefore take this method to approach you with a request in behalf of my regiment, which is, that your Honour would suffer it as soon as convenient to march for *New-Jersey*, and would beg your patience while I give my reasons for this application.

In the first place, sir, our regiment was raised in consequence of a proposal from the honourable Continental Congress to the Provincial Convention of *New-Jersey*, in which the former expressly declared that "this regiment, when raised, should be for the defence of *New-York*, where they will be wanted this fall or next spring." On which account many persons entered the service who otherwise would not have engaged, as their families and connexions were much exposed, living mostly along the sea-coast, where in all probability attacks would be made; and as the seat of war at present is near our own shores, where our property and connexions are more immediately exposed, and indeed at that very place we were raised to defend, I humbly conceive it would be for the interest of the service to order us thither, especially as an indulgence of this nature might induce some persons to reëngage in the service, which otherwise may not.

Give me leave also to inform your Honour, that our men are in a most wretched condition for want of clothing and blankets to screen them from the inclemency of the nearly approaching season; and what I presume adds the greater

weight to this reason is, that our men are very severely afflicted with the disease called the itch, supposed to be communicated to them in the inoculation for the small-pox in *June* last. This disorder, sir, rages in an uncommon degree among our people; and as their habitations expose them so much to the weather, the doctor deems it highly dangerous to attempt their cure.

I have only to add that our regiment was raised in *October* last; the men enlisted for only one year, and therefore, that their time is now nearly expired.

If these reasons, sir, should operate with you, and your Honour should concur with me in the opinion that all probable expectation of the enemy's approach this fall is over, we would request to be favoured with your Honour's orders to march, as soon as convenient.

I have the honour to be your Honour's obedient, humble servant,

WILLIAM WINDS, *Colonel*.

To the Hon. *Horatio Gates*, Major-General and Commander of the Continental Troops in the Northern Department.

SAMUEL BIRD AND OTHERS TO GOVERNOUR TRUMBULL.

New-Haven, October 9, 1776.

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR HONOUR: We have associated for the purpose of fitting out a privateer, but shall be unable to carry our purpose into execution unless your Honour or the General Assembly will grant us license to take from the *Salisbury* foundry a number of cannon. Our privateer will carry ten four-pounders and twelve swivels. We request your Honour, therefore, to give us an order for so many cannon and swivels, to be delivered on our paying the price affixed by your Honour and the Council of Safety. Your Honour will recollect that this application was made *viva voce* this forenoon at Mr. *Mansfield's*. We hope, therefore, that no application made since that time will deprive us of our chance of being supplied.

We are, with the greatest respect, your Honour's most obedient, humble servants,

SAMUEL BIRD,
ARTHUR JARVIS,
JOHN LOTHROP,
PIERPONT EDWARDS.

To the Hon. *Jonathan Trumbull*.

MARYLAND COUNCIL OF SAFETY TO COL. HOLLINGSWORTH.
[No. 204.]

Annapolis, October 10, 1776.

SIR: By order of the honourable Convention we return you eighty-four bayonets and a gun-barrel, which Mr. *Winters*, of *Chester-Town*, sent here for our inspection, and we are directed to inform you that unless you comply in a short time with your contract with this Board, or give us satisfactory reasons for the delay, that your bond will be put in suit. We enclose you a copy of Mr. *Winters's* letter, and have also given him orders to return you the remainder of the barrels. We are, &c.

To Colonel *Henry Hollingsworth*.

CONRAD HOGMIRE TO MARYLAND COUNCIL OF SAFETY.

Hagarstown, October 10, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: My age and bad state of health has rendered me incapable of serving any longer as an officer in the service. I have therefore enclosed you my commission, and at the same time return you my most sincere thanks for the honour you conferred on, gentlemen, your most obedient, humble servant,

CONRAD HOGMIRE.

VAN BIBBER AND HARRISON TO MARYLAND COUNCIL OF SAFETY.

October 10, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: We beg leave to refer you to ours of the 8th, herewith sent. Since then, we have received here, in exchange for the same quantity we had at *Statia*, one hundred and twenty half-barrels of gunpowder, which we have put on board the brig *Friendship* on your account; and enclosed you will find a bill of lading and invoice for it.

We are, most respectfully, sirs, your obedient, humble servants,
VAN BIBBER & HARRISON.

P. S. Captain *Martin* says that the mistake of the ten barrels powder you mention, was rectified before he sailed.

JESSE HOLLINGSWORTH TO MARYLAND COUNCIL OF SAFETY.

Baltimore, October 10, 1776.

SIRS: I received your orders for purchasing nine hundred barrels superfine flour, and twenty hogsheads of tobacco, and directions to dispose of part of them, which I shall observe as nearly as I can. I have the best flour engaged for the *Resolution* that is made with us, but there is but little superfine made here; it is best for flour weighing one hundred weight three quarters neat, but there is very little superfine to be had nearer than the *Head of Elk*, and there they send it to *Philadelphia*, and at this time get twenty to twenty-two shillings per hundred for it. But I shall get the best flour that is made in this place, and have it fitted for a *French* market, with ten hoops; have sent off the tobacco received. I received from Mr. *Steven Steward* eight hundred pounds, to be laid out for you.

We have a report this evening that there is a fleet at the Capes. Please advise me if that should be the case, if I am to continue the purchase. I am selling the damaged flour that the bakers would not bake at six, seven, eight and ten shillings a barrel—each market day from twelve to twenty barrels. I shall come down soon to show the accounts, as far as I have gone.

From your humble servant,

JESSE HOLLINGSWORTH.

To the honourable Council of Safety.

I consulted Mr. *Stephen Steward* about the flour, and advised me to go on and get the best was to be had, and such as we have here for our best flour.

PETITION OF JAMES CLARKE AND OTHERS.

To the honourable the Council of Safety of MARYLAND: The Memorial of JAMES CLARKE, ROBERT CHRISTIE, Jun., MELCHIOR KEENER, ROBERT CHRISTIE, and OLIVER WHITE, and ROBERT JOHNSTON, sheweth:

That early in the month of *March* your memorialists' vessels were sunk at *Whetstone Point*, for the purpose of preventing any of the *British* ships-of-war from coming up to *Baltimore-Town*. That agreeable to a resolve of Convention, they have already been allowed sums of money for the damage the vessels sustained by being sunk, but that your memorialists have never received any satisfaction for the time their vessels were employed in that service, which was about three and one half months. As that matter is referred to the Council of Safety, we would pray that a day may be fixed for our attendance at *Annapolis*, and that the bearer may be informed what voucher will be necessary to lay before your honourable Board. And your memorialists shall ever pray.

JAMES CLARKE,
ROBERT CHRISTIE, Jun.,
ROBERT CHRISTIE,
OLIVER WHITE,
MELCHIOR KEENER,
ROBERT JOHNSTON.

October 10, 1776.

JAMES CLARKE AND MELCHIOR KEENER TO MARYLAND COUNCIL OF SAFETY.

Annapolis, October 10, 1776.

We, the subscribers, inhabitants of *Baltimore-Town*, beg leave to acquaint the honourable Council that we have been for a number of years purchasers of produce in said town, and being informed that a considerable sum is shortly to be laid out for the use of the Province, do now make an offer of our best services, and should the honourable Council be pleased to employ us in purchasing such produce as may be bought at *Baltimore*, we will do it for a commission of one pound ten shillings on every hundred pounds, and will give the best of security for our faithful performance.

JAMES CLARKE,
MELCHIOR KEENER.

To the honourable Council of Safety of the Province of *Maryland*.

ON THE PRESENT STATES OF AMERICA.

Under the direction of the honourable *American* Congress, conducted by a chain of wonderful and unexpected events, by a most gracious all-ruling Providence, the several Colonies, before unconnected, in spite of their different principles, interests, and prejudices, arose to such a degree of union, strength, credit, and importance, as to excite the wonder and applause of all the nations in *Europe*.

When, from the echo of publick affairs (with which I am only concerned as an individual) I saw that Independence was unavoidable, safe and honourable to the Colonies, I reasoned in my mind, and said to my friends, "There can be no difficulty about new forms of Government;" the experience, wisdom, and circumstances of these States, plainly point out the Congress to be the *primum mobile* and supreme directress of all momentous affairs in peace, as well as war, and the last resort unto which appeals must lie to all who think themselves injured by any Courts or Assemblies below; which Assemblies, therefore, may remain as heretofore, with only some change of names and forms, unless the necessity or justice of things require some small alterations, as the wisdom of Congress, that is, of all the States by their annually-chosen Representatives, may judge necessary. Thus it then appeared to me and others. But when I saw different forms of Government, without so much as taking notice of the Congress, and others only naming it superficially, and none leaving any appeal to it, and some of them even assuming to themselves much of the war department, as appointing all military officers, &c., I concluded my first thoughts must be wrong, and the wisdom of the Colonies must be right, and it was needless to mention my opinion; but last night an occurrence determined me otherwise.

A dream or vision (don't rashly pronounce me superstitious, for it was not a dream from any disorder of body or mind, as both were healthy and clear, and the same was presented to me twice in the same night, though I have not had a dream to be before regarded these twenty years) represented to me a very great luminary (call it the Sun) in the west, under a great but not total eclipse; there being one straight line or stripe across the centre perpendicularly, that was luminous, the upper end giving most light. At the same time, and of the same height, (about forty degrees above the horizon,) I saw several Moons, about southeast, of different magnitudes, (perhaps thirteen, though I did not count them.) These having all derived their light from the great luminary before, were now also eclipsed; their discs, however, by means of the luminous diameter of the Sun, were visible, and appeared like a polished white metal, but giving no light; and in each of them I beheld a very deformed black spot, though in some much larger than others, seeming to corrode and waste the body, &c. Every one must interpret this as I do, viz: The Congress is that great luminary that gave light, beauty, warmth, and usefulness to all the Colonies, which were also represented by the aforesaid moons or planets; for in my dream I called one *Saturn*, another *Jupiter*, &c. The black spots, in some large, and the least three times as large as *Venus's* transit over the Sun, must represent the *American* Tories, or friends of the *English* tyranny, and enemies of the Congress and liberty; traitors in each Colony, completing every little State into a separate policy. These have secretly, and by base intrigues, eclipsed the Sun; and under a pretence of greater liberty in their particular States, prevented the influence of the Congress, in order to produce general darkness and confusion, and to fly to the midnight of eastern slavery.

How far this may be the present situation of affairs, others may be better informed than I. But I have since seen a paper in the *Journal* signed *Brutus*, that speaks the author rather willing to return to the tyranny of *Britain* than the new free Constitution of *Pennsylvania*, though it breathes more political liberty than any of the States, and in which whatever errata may have happened are proposed for amendment, and the whole to be revised after some trial; though perhaps three might have been better than seven years.

In all the forms I have yet seen, there appears to me one dark and dangerous spot: they are too self-sufficient and disconnected from the great whole, while they are generally too complex, and have too many jarring wheels in themselves. No machine composed of many wheels, all

depending on each other, and totally interrupted if one is only warped a little, can be of long duration; thus, watches that show the phases of the moon, the days of the month, &c., are not so durable as the plainer, which only point out hours and minutes; and the smaller the works, the weaker. This is easily applied to some States, as that on *Delaware*,* which contains only three Counties, and yet has no less than four distinct legislative bodies, an Assembly, Legislative Council, President, and his Privy Council. All these opposite and incoherent powers (in that small and greatly divided handful) must produce endless jars and confusions, till one of these powers becomes an aristocracy, and like *Aaron's* serpent swallows up the rest, or betrays the whole to some foreign Power, which we know the present Representatives of two of these Counties, who have been accounted all along enemies to the cause of *America*, would, if they durst, presently do. However, they have the nomination of members of Congress, and may thereby effect it, if such discoloured parts of other States prevail. They have also made their form of Government, without any appeal to the people, or hearing any objections, or giving any appeal to Congress, though one whole County was not represented in Convention, except only the Tories in it.

But the other faulty part of most new constitutions appears to me yet more dangerous, viz: their too great self-sufficiency, and want of connection with the great whole. These States must be one government, or we are undone. There can be but one supreme head. Monsters of many heads in the natural world can live but a very short time. It would be very easy to trace this same truth in the civil policies of all nations. This was the true cause of the dissolution of all the ancient free Republicks.

Before our little States became independent of each other, and only looked to the Congress as the animating soul of one great *American* republick, how great the union, how happy the whole! But now, how changed! The Congress eclipsed; every little State almost separate from the rest, and every bird of the night utters its ill-boding sound; Tories triumph, and those who were in arms against their country last *June*, are now again openly reading letters to the people, which they say are from Lord *Howe*, full of encouragement to the disaffected, and desiring them to send only the King's friends to Assembly, and he will make peace with them, &c., &c.

The people here accordingly will send only Tories; and I am satisfied, unless some great change of affairs, (which can be effected only by Congress,) they will never elect any other members to any of the four or five *Delaware* branches of government, for many years to come, except men who wickedly pretend the Church is in danger, and who bribe their votes; but no men of sense, patriotism, or virtue, at least in this generation. Perhaps something like this may happen in other counties of other governments. By such constitutions, what can be expected? Must not one State fall into contention with another State, and every degree of anarchy and confusion arise, and the States, thus weakened, become an easy prey to some foreign kingdom, or some fortunate ruffian at home?

Instead, therefore, of leaving ignorant men to contend about forms of government, endangering our all at stake, by disunion among ourselves, why do we not remove the eclipse, and restore the Congress to the supreme power of all affairs at once? This is a simple government. The most simple is the best. We cannot be afraid of our liberty in such hands; they are representatives of all *America*, (themselves being bound by every law they make is sufficient security,) removed from every little local prejudice, under no temptation to be partial. Let them be chosen every year, and changed every three years, but gradually, and not all at once: then what need for all this costly parade of governours, councils, and privy councils? Cannot every Assembly do all the little common affairs within itself, and in all greater matters receive orders from the grand Council or Congress, which should also be the *dernier ressort* to settle all greater difficulties of an internal nature? But it will be said, this would give endless trouble, and make too much business for that venerable body. I answer,

*There are some good things in the *Delaware* Constitution, which are evidently borrowed from the *Pennsylvanian*, but mangled like a school-boy's abridgment of a *Spectator's* paper. Some of their Bill of Rights, explained by Tories, might prevent all *American* defence. Justices of the Peace may also be Assemblymen, i. e., "make and execute laws, which destroys all liberty."—*Montesquieu*.

they will be chose of men of ability and leisure; and let their support be decent and honourable; then what though they sit half the year or more? Their supreme power, which may be able to call forth the army in times of war, and the militia in times of peace, would easily settle all affairs, give general satisfaction, and unite all the most distant *American* States in one strong, honourable, and lasting chain.

It is true there are many united States and Republicks in the world, on the same plan which these States are adopting; but is it not certain, too, these have not every liberty? Is there not much tyranny in such particular States, for want of a supreme and impartial tribunal? Monarchies are often lasting, because simple and expeditious in business, and thereby have many advantages over the common republicks; and might not such a republick as I plead for, having their grand council always sitting, with supreme power, ready to determine on every emergence over a whole continent, have all the expedition of a monarchy, and the deliberate counsel of a republick?

On the present plan of these States, there is no one supreme power to connect the divided States, which, by means of new plans, will be internally unhappy, as well as jealous of each other; their union, strength, and happiness lost; they are only connected as a rope of sand crumbling to pieces.

Is it true, that an old Assembly, or some Tory members of it, have met and passed acts in opposition to a new Convention, in one of these States already? Does the same opposition to *American* measures openly declare their expectation of General *Howe's* paying *Philadelphia* a visit before winter? Do not all these things show the imbecility of Government? Where is the supreme active power of *America*, when leading men boldly espouse the cause of our most inveterate enemies, who have deluged our (before peaceful) country in blood?

Our cruel enemies boasted an easy conquest of *America*, because, they alleged, we were cowards: they are convinced to their cost of their mistake in this. But when they shall find the black spots in our constitutions, and the wretched numbers of *American* traitors, who sell their country for a mess of pottage, they may be more encouraged. These wretches are in almost every State, striving, by the little arts of policy, to delude, divide, weaken, and subvert every rational and manly measure, to alarm and terrify us into a tame submission to tyranny. But I am confident there is still so much virtue in *America*, that these cringing candidates for court favour, these sycophants, dissemblers, and false friends, will be detected, displaced, and forever despised.

But it will be objected that I would make the Congress absolute, which might be dangerous as well as a monarchy, unless restricted by a code of laws, &c. I answer, I cannot perceive any danger from rendering them absolute, or restrained by few laws. I would have them be a great court of chancery, governed only by the *eternal laws of equity, patriotism, and reason, in order more effectually to promote the safety, equality, industry, union, virtue, and happiness of *America*. And as to codes of laws, they have had the same effect in all the nations as creeds and confessions, and forms of religion: they have literally and figuratively damned the world.

How happy the *Greeks* with a few laws, and the *Romans* when they had only the twelve tables. In the later ages, equity and justice have been nearly banished from the world, by laws complicated to an unwieldy size. The whole world needs but a few laws, and these simple, clear, sensible, and easy in their application to the actions of men.

A grand Congress, chose annually by the people, (not by their representatives,) would contain the united abilities and virtues of all these Colonies in one great republick, the deputed guardians of our civil rights: this would excite the prompt obedience, the fidelity and publick spirit of a willing people, no longer bent under the yoke of oppression, by little tyrants in their own little and wrangling States. The *American* nation would then raise its head, and universal harmony and joy prevail among all classes and orders of men. This Congress of men of the greatest and most eminent characters, would be a seminary of statesmen and

* A magistrate of good principles needs no other law; and one of bad principles will violate or evade every law of God and man.

heroes, a nursery of truth, knowledge, and virtue, to prepare men of abilities for generals, ambassadors, and the highest offices of State.

This simple and plain system contains no seeds of disease or decay; would connect all *America* in every liberty that freemen wish for, and would probably last as long as time itself.

PHILO-ALETHIAS.

Delaware, October 10, 1776.

MARINE COMMITTEE TO COMMODORE HOPKINS.

Philadelphia, October 10, 1776.

SIR: We learned some days ago, with much concern, that the expedition we had planned for you to execute would prove abortive, as the ships had gone out a cruising, under the sanction of Governour *Trumbull's* recommendation, with which we cannot be well satisfied, although, in this instance, we are disposed to pass it by in silence, being well convinced both he and the several Captains meant to perform service at a time the ships were idle. Supposing, therefore, that you will have been obliged to lay aside the expedition to *Newfoundland*, we now direct that you immediately collect the *Alfred*, the *Columbus*, *Cabot*, and *Hampden*, take them under your command, and proceed for *Cape Fear*, in *North-Carolina*, where you will find the following ships of war: the *Falcon*, of eighteen guns, the *Scorpion*, of sixteen guns, and the *Cruiser*, of eight guns, and a number of valuable prizes, said to be forty or fifty in number, and other vessels under their protection, the whole of which you will make prize of with ease. We understand they have erected a kind of a fort on *Baldhead*, at the entrance of *Cape Fear* river; but it being only manned with a few people from these ships, we expect you will easily reduce it, and put the same in possession of *North-Carolina*, or dismantle it, as may appear best. When you have performed this service, you had best deliver to the Continental agents there such of your prizes as may sell well, or be useful in *North-Carolina*; others you may convoy into *Virginia*, or this place, for we don't recommend your remaining at *North-Carolina*, for fear of being blocked up there. Perhaps you will receive advice that will render it eligible to proceed farther southward to rout the enemies' ships at *South-Carolina* and *Georgia*; and if that is practicable, you have not only our approbation, but our orders for the attempt.

We hope, sir, you will not lose one single moment after the receipt of this letter, but proceed instantly on this expedition.

We are, sir, your humble servants.

To *Esek Hopkins*, Esq.

P. S. Should the *Cabot* be still on a cruise, or, if returned, cannot be ready to proceed upon the above expedition as early as one of the frigates lately launched at *Rhode-Island*, you will proceed with the latter in lieu of the *Cabot*, as soon as she can be prepared for the sea, or you may take both the *Cabot* and the frigate if to be done without delay. We wish your plan for manning this fleet from the State of *Rhode-Island*, may prove effectual; and we do, in the warmest manner, urge you to omit nothing on your part which may tend to promote so important a purpose, and which we have most earnestly at heart. The commissions for the officers of the frigates will be forwarded immediately.

MARINE COMMITTEE TO HENRY TUCKER AND THOMAS GODET.

October 10, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: We have occasion for a quantity of salt to cure beef and pork the ensuing season, for the use of our fleet, and don't care to lay up what arrives here transiently, as the people are much in want of that article, and would murmur were it to be bought off their hands. We therefore request that you will immediately on receipt of this letter, charter five or six good, fast sailing large sloops, schooners, or brigantines, and either load them with salt at *Bermudas*, or send them to *Turk's Island* for it, just as you may find safest and best. Send one of them to *Edenton*, in *North-Carolina*, consigned to Messrs. *Hewes & Smith*, one to *Baltimore*, in *Maryland*, consigned to our order, and the others have addressed to us. Perhaps it will be most prudent to load part in *Bermudas*, and part in *Turk's*

Island; but our great object is to get the salt soon and safe here.

You will charter these vessels on the best terms in your power, by the month or other ways. Have them valued, and we agree to ensure them for so long as they remain in our service; and if the terms are reasonable, that may probably be a long time. You'll buy the salt as cheap as you can, and give them the utmost despatch, or it will be too late for our purpose. We must depend on you to advance the money for the cost of the salt until we can reimburse you, which shall be done by returning some of these vessels to you with cargoes of provisions, and probably a convoy with them. Should any of the vessels be taken or lost, we will either pay you in provisions, or undoubted good bills on *Europe*, or the *West-Indies*, as may best suit the owners. We hope you will be able to comply with these orders immediately, for which we shall allow you reasonable commission, interest for the advance of your money and commissions on the goods we shall consign you hereafter; and for your security, we pledge you the faith and credit of the *United States of America*, being so authorized to do by the honourable the Continental Congress, of which we are members, and are, gentlemen, your very humble servants.

To Messrs. *Henry Tucker*, of *Somerset*, and *Thomas Godet*, *Bermuda*.

P. S. If you cannot send six, send as many vessels as you can, short of that number.

WILLIAM ATLEE TO JOHN COX.

Philadelphia, October 10, 1776.

DEAR SIR: After waiting in town a week, I am under the necessity of returning home without finishing my business. The company who came with me in the carriage want to go, and I understand that the workmen and labourers employed by the Committee at *Lancaster*, are clamorous and want money. I have, therefore, drawn some more cash, to wit: three thousand pounds from Mr. *Hillagas*, for the stockade and guards, &c., in *Lancaster*; and one thousand pounds from Messrs. *Mease* and *Caldwell*, to pay for billeting the marching companies, &c., &c. And having taken up my accounts and vouchers from the several offices, beg leave to trouble you with them, and to ask the favour of you to have them settled for me as soon as possible. The account relative to the stockade, barracks, and company's pay on duty in *Lancaster*, will be settled at the Treasury Board at Mr. *Gibson's*; and the account relative to the moneys advanced to the marching companies, and for victualling them, at Messrs. *Mease* and *Caldwell's*. The vouchers have been examined in both offices, so that I think very little remains to be done but to fix my commissions and strike the balances. I expect a generous (but not extravagant) allowance for my trouble with respect to the account with *Mease* and *Caldwell*. I have had the mustering of the companies, entering a muster roll of each in a book which is deposited with them, and furnishing two copies, one for the office and one for a voucher, chief of which I had to do myself to expedite business; and the settling of the tavern-keepers' bills is very troublesome. And with respect to the accounts to be settled with the Treasury Board, I have to settle the pay bills of the companies on guard in *Lancaster*, and pay them monthly, to settle with and pay the carpenters, masons, bricklayers, labourers, and others employed, at the stockade and barracks as they bring in their accounts for their daily and weekly labour; besides purchasing materials, &c., and taking a share in the direction of the works. These matters have required more of my attention, and kept me more constantly engaged than ever my own business did, (or ever shall,) which I have been obliged entirely to neglect. Therefore (*entre nous*) I should chuse to know in time, before I proceed much farther, what is to be my allowance, and not leave it to a final settlement of my accounts, when perhaps a thank you sir, or little better, may be thought sufficient.

Besides these things, I have my share of publick duty, which the publick are welcome to, having the whole trouble of the business of the committee as chairman, secretary, &c., which claims our attendance daily, and sometimes from morning till night. The sums last drawn may be added to the accounts, or left to a future account, as shall

be thought best. Mr. *Ross* will oblige so much as to attend you, and afford every assistance in having the accounts expeditiously settled. I have spoke with him. Less than two and a half per cent. I don't intend to accept, and much more I don't desire, though the same attention to my own business would have produced me double or treble the money.

I hope you will excuse the trouble I ask you to take for me, and be assured I always take pleasure in executing your commands, being, dear sir, your affectionate humble servant,

WILLIAM ATLEE.

To Mr. *John Cox*, *Philadelphia*.

GENERAL LEE TO THE PRESIDENT OF CONGRESS.

[Read October 15th: referred to the Board of War.]

Princeton, October 10, 1776.

SIR: The ridiculous idea, that Lord *Howe* has some reasonable terms to offer, and that the Congress are desirous of their being communicated to the people, gains ground every day. This idea is strengthened by the industry of the disaffected, and does infinite mischief; I would, therefore, with submission, offer it to the consideration of Congress, whether it would not be politick, in order to efface these impressions, suffer some gentlemen in the simple character of individuals who are supposed to have influence, to propose a conference with his Lordship on this subject, and demand what terms he has to offer. He most assuredly has none but unconditional submission. His publick declaration ought, it is true, to satisfy every reasonable man of this being the ultimatum; but in our present circumstances, the unreasonable and weak must be satisfied, as well as the sensible and reasonable. A committee deputed from the Congress after what has happened, would be highly improper, as it would convey an idea that they themselves did not consider independency absolutely fixed, for which reason it would be more prudent that they should suffer one or two persons in whom they can confide, to propose the conference in their private characters, who may afterwards relate, explain, and command at large on the circumstances. I perhaps may be wrong in my conjectures, but as I am persuaded it would have a salutary effect, I cannot reconcile it to my conscience to withhold my opinion, an opinion, I can assure you, sir, in which I am not singular, for many very sensible men, and the most active friends to the cause in this Province and the others I have passed through, concur with me. At all events, I hope the Congress will not think me impertinent, and presuming in intruding it, but impute it to my anxiety and zeal for the publick welfare.

This Province is so much weaker in numbers than I imagined in leaving *Philadelphia*, that the sooner the *Virginia* battalions march, at least as far as *Brunswick*, the better. You must, sir, excuse the blots of this letter as I have not paper for a more legible copy.

I am, sir, with the greatest respect, your most humble, obedient servant,

CHARLES LEE.

To the President of Congress.

GENERAL MERCER TO THE PRESIDENT OF CONGRESS.

[Read October 14, 1776.]

Perth-Amboy, October 10, 1776.

SIR: Yesterday evening a part of the enemy's fleet, to the number of twenty-two sail, fell down to *Sandy-Hook*, and this morning stood out to sea an easterly course. Five of the ships appear to be men-of-war. A Mustermaster is much wanted here. Captain *Smith* who had that appointment from Congress, has left us several weeks; if he has resigned, it will be necessary to appoint and order on some gentleman to succeed him. Otherwise it will be impossible to prevent frauds in making out the pay rolls. No new movements of the enemy are discoverable on this quarter.

I have the honour to be, sir, your most obedient servant,

H. MERCER.

To the Hon. *John Hancock*, Esq.

THOMAS RANDALL TO THE NEW-YORK CONVENTION.

Elizabethtown, October 10, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: I here send you by the bearer, Mr. *Little*, the letter I received by him from the Lieutenant of your

schooner *General Putnam*, which you'll please to have read and consider the contents. I am well assured they must want provisions and necessaries. I some time ago forwarded to you a petition from them, which I would beg your consideration, with respect to Captain *Cregier's* conduct. I make no doubt but you'll order a supply of provisions and money for them.

I am, gentlemen, your most obedient, humble servant,
THOS. RANDALL.

To the honourable Provincial Congress for the State of *New-York*.

GENERAL WASHINGTON TO GENERAL SCHUYLER.

Head-Quarters, Harlem Heights, October 10, 1776.

DEAR SIR: I am now to acknowledge your favour of the 1st instant, and to inform you that the two Sachems of the *Caughnuagas*, with Mr. *Deane*, the interpreter, have been with me, and spent three or four days. I showed them every civility in my power, and presented them with such necessaries as our barren stores afford and they were pleased to take. I also had them shown all our works upon this island, which I had manned to give 'em an idea of our force, and to do away the false notions they might have imbibed, from the tales which had been propagated among 'em. They seemed to think we were amazingly strong, and said they had seen enough without going to our posts in *Jersey*, or to the other side of *Harlem* river. They took their departure yesterday morning, and I hope with no unfavourable impressions.

Your favour of the 6th came to hand this day by Mr. *Bennet*. I have communicated the contents, so far as it respects the boards, to General *Mifflin*, who has resumed the office of Quartermaster-General, on Mr *Moylan's* resignation and the application of Congress. He will write you to-morrow about them, and will send the sum you require by the return of Mr. *Bennet*.

It gives me great pleasure to hear the army is so well supplied with provision, and I would fain hope, that if the enemy do not effect any thing in this or the next month, that they will not attempt to pass the lakes till early in the spring, by which time perhaps we may be able to recruit our army, though I have my fears that the business will not go on with the ease and expedition that I could wish. I have done all I could, and urged strongly the propriety of giving the soldiers a suit of clothes annually; how Congress will determine on the subject I know not. I have also advised the raising of the officers' pay.

We are again deprived of the navigation of this river by three ships of war, two of forty-four and the other of twenty guns, with three or four tenders, passing our chevaux-de-frise yesterday morning, and all our batteries, without any kind of damage or interruption, notwithstanding a heavy fire was kept up from both sides of the river. I have given directions to complete the obstructions as fast as possible, and I flatter myself if they allow us a little time more, that the passage will become extremely difficult, if not entirely insecure. Their views I imagine are chiefly to cut off our supplies, and probably to gain recruits.

I am, dear sir, &c,
Go. WASHINGTON.
To Major-General *Schuyler*, Northern Department.

COLONEL REED TO GENERAL HEATH.

October 10, 1776.

SIR: The General desires you would immediately order a sufficient party of men under Captain *Cook* to get off and bring down the vessel which is grounded above; and that in the mean time the ballasting the rest be proceeded in with all possible expedition. It is of so much consequence, that his Excellency begs the utmost attention may be paid to it.

I am, sir, your most obedient, and very humble servant,
Jos. REED, *Adj. Gen.*

To Major-General *Heath*.

GENERAL GREENE TO THE PRESIDENT OF CONGRESS.

[Read October 15: referred to the Medical Committee.]

Camp at Fort Constitution, October 10, 1776.

SIR: The sick of the army, who are under the care of the regimental Surgeon, are in a most wretched situation, the Surgeons being without the least article of medicine to

assist nature in her efforts for the recovery of health. There is no circumstance that strikes a greatest damp upon the spirits of the men, who are yet well, than the miserable condition the sick are in. They exhibit a spectacle shocking to human feelings, and as the knowledge of their distress spreads through the country, will prove an insurmountable obstacle to the recruiting the new army.

Good policy as well as humanity, in my humble opinion, demands the immediate attention of Congress upon this subject, that the evil may be sought out, and the grievance redressed. The sick in the army are too numerous to be all accommodated on the contracted plan of the General Hospital. The Director-General says he has no authority by his commission to supply the demand of the regimental sick, and the General Hospital being too small to accommodate much more than one-half, the remainder lies without any means of relief, than the value of the rations allowed to every soldier. Many hundreds are now in this condition, and die daily for want of proper assistance; by which means the army is robbed of many valuable men, at a time when a reinforcement is so exceedingly necessary. Both officers and men join in one general complaint, and are greatly disgusted at this evil, which has prevailed so long. Some measures should be taken to justify the Director-General, or to empower the Commander-in-Chief to qualify him, to furnish the regimental Surgeons, under the direction of the Colonel of the regiment, with such supplies as the state of the sick may demand.

Great complaints have been made that the regimental Surgeons abuse their trust, and embezzle the publick stores committed to their care; this among others is a reason urged why the regimental sick suffer as they do. The Surgeons, it has been said, cannot be trusted with the necessary stores.

Whether this complaint be well or ill-founded, I am not a judge of; perhaps in some few instances it may have been the case; but I am far from thinking they are deserving the charge in general. Besides which the injury arising from a few abuses of this kind, were they even more common, is trifling compared with that which the army and publick suffers in the present state of things.

The Director-General complains of the want of medicine, and says his stocks are but barely sufficient for the General Hospital. I can see no reason either from policy or humanity, that the stores for the General Hospital should be preserved for contingencies which may never happen; and the present regimental sick left to perish for want of proper necessaries. It is wholly immaterial, in my opinion, either to the States or the army, whether a man dies in the General or Regimental Hospital.

The platform of the General Hospital should be large enough to receive all the sick that are unfit to continue in quarters, or else to supply the Regimental Hospital with such medicines and necessaries as the state of the sick requires.

I am, with due respect, your obedient servant,
NATHANAEL GREENE.

To the Hon. *John Hancock*, Esq.

P. S. I do not mean to censure the conduct of the Director-General, nor to complain of his activity; but I mean to point out the defect of the present establishment, and to show the necessity of giving the Director some further power, and much more assistance to enable him to satisfy the numerous wants.
N. GREENE.

TENCH TILGHMAN TO ROBERT R. LIVINGSTON.

Head-Quarters, Harlem Heights, October 10, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: Since I wrote you yesterday we have nothing from the men-of-war, but that they are lying at *Tarrytown*. I imagine the intent of their being sent up is to stop supplies from coming down the river. The two new ships are going to be sunk immediately, to endeavour to stop the channel, and try if we cannot hinder the men-of-war already up from coming down, or more going up. Enclosed you have an account of expenses incurred by the guard who carried up and brought down *Marsh*. As it seemed more a Provincial than Continental charge, I paid it.

I am, gentlemen, your most obedient servant,
TENCH TILGHMAN.
To *Robert R. Livingston*, or *Wm. Duer*, Esqs.

JOHN SLOSS HOBART TO PETER R. LIVINGSTON.

Fairfield, October 10, 1776.

SIR: In pursuance of the order of Convention of the 20th ultimo, I send *Israel Ketchum* under the guard of the bearers, *William Wakeman* and *Albert Sherwood*. As he is manacled I think two men will be sufficient; besides I was apprehensive that the Convention would think him scarcely worth the price had I employed more men, as I am obliged to allow them five pounds each, supposing it will employ them five days.

We have an excursion to *Long-Island*. The troops marched to the harbour last night, but an unfavourable wind prevented their embarkation; hope we shall be more successful to-day.

I have the honour to be, with the greatest respect, sir, your most obedient servant,

JOHN SLOSS HOBART.

To Hon. P. R. Livingston, President of the New-York Convention, at *Fishkill*.

GENERAL SCOTT TO THE NEW-YORK CONVENTION.

Camp near King's Bridge, October 10, 1776.

SIR: Mr. *Thomas Lawrence*, the bearer hereof, is in deep distress on account of the situation of his family, which he was obliged, by his precipitate flight, to leave on *Long-Island*. He is known to me, and I suppose others in Convention, to be a friend to *American* liberty. The design of his application to Congress is to procure a sanction from them for visiting his family without having his character hereafter subject to doubtful construction. He is best able to explain his particular views, and the Convention the best judges of what is expedient in the case. The design of this letter is merely to state his character in a just point of light. No news worth communicating.

I am, sir, with all imaginable respect, yours and the Convention's most obedient servant,

JNO. MORIN SCOTT.

To the Hon. the President of the Convention of the State of *New-York*.

GENERAL HEATH TO CAPTAIN BENSON.

King's Bridge, October 10, 1776.

DEAR SIR: You will, if possible, (if it be not already done,) get off the ships this tide and send them down. You will call upon the detachment on shore for all the assistance they can afford you.

I am, dear sir, yours, &c.,

W. HEATH.

To Captain *Benson*.

GENERAL GEORGE CLINTON TO THE PRESIDENT OF THE NEW-YORK CONVENTION.

King's Bridge, October 10, 1776.

DEAR SIR: The money I received from Convention for the second moiety of the bounty of the men belonging to my brigade, by the accounts returned to me by the different Colonels, appears to have fell short of the sum due for that purpose about eight hundred dollars. Such of the men, who on account of the above deficiency have not yet been paid their full bounty, are exceedingly discontented. I have, therefore, thought it advisable to send the bearer, Lieutenant Colonel *Hammon*, for the sum due, that they may be paid, and have no just cause of complaint. I have not yet been able to have the men mustered by the Continental Muster-master-General, though I have frequently mentioned it to his Excellency General *Washington*. I am not, however, apprehensive the State can labour under any disadvantage on this score, as the General has ordered them paid up till the last of *August*, and they have received their pay to that time accordingly.

Yesterday morning three of the enemy's shipping, to wit, a forty, forty-four, and twenty-gun ship, and three tenders, passed by in shore east of our obstructions, in the river opposite *Fort Washington*, receiving but little damage, and are now up the river as far as *Dobbs's Ferry*. They took two or three of our small river sloops of little value, and I am informed now lay opposite two of our galleys, which run aground, and I suppose are in their power. The two ships to be sunk run ashore near Colonel *Phillips's*; we

sent a party to bring them down last night, so that I hope they are safe. The bearer will inform you of any other particulars respecting military matters.

I am, with due respect, your most obedient servant,

GEO. CLINTON.

To the Hon. the President of the Convention of the State of *New-York*, at *Fishkill*.

ORDERS TO COLONEL SARGENT.

King's Bridge, October 10, 1776.

DEAR SIR: Upon receipt hereof, unless affairs should appear different from what I think they are by your letter of this morning, you will leave Captain *Darrow's* company with the guard at *Dobbs's Ferry*, and if it should appear necessary to leave a Captain and fifty men more there or in that neighbourhood, you will do it, and also ten or twenty of the *Light-Horse*, as may appear most needful; with the remainder of your detachment, both *Horse* and *Foot*, you will return to this post without loss of time. You will leave one or two boxes of cartridges with Captain *Darrow*, and such provisions as you do not want for immediate use; the remainder of the ammunition you will bring back with you. Major *Crafts* will also return with the howitzer, at least as far as the place where our ships lie, and if he is not wanted there, to this post. You will direct Captain *Darrow* to send frequent expresses, as matters worthy of notice may occur.

I am, dear sir, yours affectionately,

W. HEATH.

To Colonel *Sargent*.

COLONEL SARGENT TO GENERAL HEATH.

Half-past two o'clock at night, *Dobb's Ferry*, }
October 10, 1776. }

SIR: I have just arrived at *Dobbs's Ferry*. Very peaceable here; can see nothing of the enemy. There is not any of the enemy landed. We have no ammunition on the road for the small arms. The ships are about three miles above this place, where I shall order a party immediately.

I am your most humble servant,

PAUL D. SARGENT.

To Major-General *Heath*.

COLONEL CARY TO GENERAL HEATH.

Head-Quarters, October 10, 1776.

DEAR SIR: Agreeable to his Excellency's commands, I am to acknowledge the receipt of your favour of this morning, and to acquaint you the General wishes you to be well informed on every occasion, and in the speediest manner, of the movements of the enemy up the *North River*, in order to frustrate any designs they may have in view. As General *Clinton* is supposed to be perfectly well acquainted with the situation of the ground, and the most advantageous posts, &c., adjacent to *Dobbs's Ferry*, or wherever the enemy may intend a diversion, General *Lincoln* is therefore referred to him for advice and direction respecting the number, and in what manner to post his men, so as to harass the enemy and effectually prevent any communication between them and the inhabitants in the country. The General has ordered the proceedings of the Court-Martial to be returned, and says he leaves the matter entirely with you, though the conduct of the Captain in releasing the prisoner appears extraordinary.

I am, with due respect, sir, your very humble servant,

RICHARD CARY, Jun., A. D. C.

To Hon. Major-General *Heath*, *King's Bridge*.

You will please to communicate to the General as early as possible such intelligence as you may from time to time receive relative to the motions of the enemy.

COLONEL ANN HAWKES HAY TO THE NEW-YORK CONVENTION.

Haverstraw, October 10, 1776.

DEAR SIR: Yesterday three of the enemy's ships-of-war, and some other vessels, passed our forts at *King's Bridge*, and are now anchored off *Nyack*.

My regiment consists only of three hundred men, and very near one half of them are without arms. I should be very glad to know what I am to do, and where I must apply

for a reinforcement in case they should attempt a landing on the west side of *Hudson's* river.

We are destitute of provisions for the guards I now have out, and I must therefore request that the Convention will be so kind as to send me per the bearer a sum of money to purchase the provisions.

I am, dear sir, your most obedient servant,

A. HAWKES HAY.

To Col. *Peter R. Livingston*, President of the Convention of the State of *New-York*, at *Fishkill*.

SAMUEL TEN BROECK TO THE NEW-YORK CONVENTION.

District of Manor Livingston, October 10, 1776.

SIR: Since the letter wrote yesterday we have seen another instance of the cruel, unnatural intention of our domestic enemies, by their firing again last night a gun at two young men that were walking decently to their homes; and about an hour after six guns were fired in the house of *Jacob Power*; but through the interposition of Providence no lives lost, nor a single person wounded. We take it a duty incumbent on us to advise with you on this important matter, and submit it to your serious consideration and superiour judgment. Agreeable to the orders issued yesterday, some of our men have marched this morning. We are in hopes they may take them; but as the men are uncertain with regard to their receiving pay, they seem to be rather tardy; besides, taking them by companies, and in every one they are more or less disaffected, which render our plans commonly exposed before executed. We are sincerely of opinion that unless there is some other method taken very soon, (than to take the Militia companies as they run,) we shall be a ruined people. Daily we hear of more and more threatenings, and indeed it's very evident they mean to annoy us by skulking about until a favourable opportunity presents, when no doubt they will strike a blow, as they in reality increase daily. In consequence of this momentous matter, we beg that you will be pleased to apply to the Convention to grant us a company of sixty men. We are of opinion that a less number would not be able to do the business effectually. Captain *Gaasbeck* has offered his service to take the command of the men. We judge it to be essentially necessary for the publick safety to have this body of men; otherwise should not request it. If the Convention thinks proper to grant these men, beg you will please to detain the bearer and send the necessary orders by him. If you think proper to leave the appointment of the subaltern officers to this Board, beg you will send blank commissions for them. We earnestly entreat that you will despatch the bearer as speedy as possible, so that we may know how to regulate.

In haste we remain, dear sir, your most obedient and very humble servants,

By order: SAMUEL TEN BROECK, *Chairman p. t.*

To Col. *Peter R. Livingston*, in Convention, *Fishkills*.

PETRUS VAN GAASBECK TO PETER R. LIVINGSTON.

Manor Livingston, October 10, 1776.

HONOURED SIR: Your favour of 7th instant have now before me. You may depend upon that I shall keep our exact accounts of all the expenses relative to the apprehending the villains that fired in Captain *Jansen's* house. But 'tis a new instance we have seen again last night of their inhumanity, by making the other attempt for destroying the lives of the well-wishers of our noble cause. Our Committee this morning agreed to request of you to apply to the Convention to grant them a company of men. In this case I thought it my duty to offer my service to take the command of the men, which, if agreeable to you, and liberty is given to inlist them, I hope we then shall be able to purge our place effectually. I am of opinion that a less number than what is specified in the letter from the Committee would hardly be advisable. However, this must be left to your superiour judgment. I think I might be able to raise a company of hearty young men, in a few days, that may be depended upon.

In case this meets with your approbation, I should beg to have *Samuel I. Ten Broeck* and *Samuel Thorn* for Lieutenants; but as it's uncertain whether leave will be

obtained, I have not yet spoken to them, though don't doubt but they will accept.

I should have sent you herewith the expenses accrued on my last jaunt, but am at a loss to make out the roll, as I don't know whether Continental pay is allowed. Beg you will inform me of this. As we have not finished with all the delinquents yet, thought best to suspend until I could give you the full account. The remainder are to come before the Committee on *Monday*.

Bishop has not been before us yet. Shall with the greatest pleasure embrace every opportunity to let you know how we come on. Captain *Jansen* is not yet returned from his *New-England* jaunt. Before he went from home we concluded to have advertisements drawn and printed; and as there is no printer about here, beg the favour of you to employ some able hand to draw them properly, and please to have them printed, and convey them to us by the first opportunity. The expenses will repay very readily. At the other side have put the time down when the outrage was committed.

I remain, dear sir, your very humble servant,

PETRUS VAN GAASBECK.

On *Wednesday*, 23d *September*, 1776, in the night, the outrage was committed. One hundred dollars reward to him that discovers the person or persons. You will please to have it drawn in such form as you think will answer the end best. Twenty-four printed will be plenty, I think.

Yours, &c.,

P. V. GAASBECK.

PETER SCHUYLER TO NEW-YORK COMMITTEE OF SAFETY.

Fort Constitution, October 10, 1776.

SIR: In consequence of yours, just come to hand, I have made the most diligent inquiry I could obtain.

This morning a number of vessels arrived here from the bridge, by all which I am informed that yesterday morning three men-of-war, one of them a large one, and three or four tenders, passed our chevaux-de-frises, which report is confirmed in a more particular manner by Captain *Grindle*, who says that one man-of-war and two frigates passed the works close under the east shore, drove the two new ships ashore just below *Philips's*, and chased two of our row-galleys until they were forced ashore between *Dobbs's* Ferry and *Tarry-Town*, at or near which town the ships of war came to, and kept a constant fire for about one hour at our row-galleys, and supposes them destroyed.

I remain yours,

PETER SCHUYLER.

To *Peter R. Livingston*, President Provincial Congress, *Fishkill*.

NEW-YORK CONVENTION TO THE PRESIDENT OF CONGRESS.

[Read October 28, 1776.]

Fishkill, October 16, 1776.

SIR: The Convention were honoured with yours of the 2d instant, enclosing some resolves relative to Surgeons in the army, and urging the necessity of a full representation at Congress.

If by a full representation, nothing more is intended than such a number of Delegates from every State as will entitle each of them to a vote, this Convention hopes that the recommendation is complied with by this State. They have always directed so many gentlemen to remain at *Philadelphia* as will answer that purpose; if on the other hand, it is expected that all the Delegates of this State should attend this Convention, though fully satisfied of the propriety of such a requisition, must beg the Congress to excuse their non-attendance at present, the critical situation of this State, equally endangered by open and secret enemies, rendering it extremely improper to deprive the Convention of the assistance of any gentlemen whose abilities may be of service to it, at least till the army is arranged, and measures are taken to form and establish some more permanent Government than we now enjoy. These considerations, we flatter ourselves, will have some weight with Congress, and not only induce them to admit our excuse for not permitting such of our Delegates as are now here to attend at *Philadelphia*, but to defer any matter in which this State is particularly interested, when the general cause of *America* will safely admit of such delay, till they are more fully represented.

Doctor *John Jones*, *Samuel Bard*, and *Malachi Treat*, were appointed by this Convention to examine all Surgeons and Surgeon's Mates that entered into the service of this State. No warrant or commission have been given to any in that capacity, unless they produced a certificate of their examination signed by at least two of those gentlemen, setting forth that they were fully qualified to discharge their duty in their stations, excepting a few late instances, when they could not be obtained by reason of these gentlemen being dispersed in different parts of the country and could not attend, in which case five or six have been admitted on the examination of one only.

Am, respectfully, your very humble servant,
PETER R. LIVINGSTON, *President*.

To the Hon. *John Hancock*, Esq.

NEW-YORK COMMITTEE OF SAFETY TO GENERALS SCHUYLER
AND CLINTON.

Fishkill, October 10, 1776.

SIR: I am directed by the Committee of Safety of this State to inform your Excellency that yesterday three of the enemy's frigates passed the obstructions opposite *Mount Washington*, and got up *Hudson's* river; that we have made from time to time such large drafts from the Militia of the four Counties adjoining that river, that the remaining well-affected are reduced to a small number; and most of the disaffected in this State are on the east side of *Hudson's* river. A Committee specially appointed for the purpose, by the Convention of this State, are sitting daily to frustrate their machinations; and several who had enlisted, or engaged to enlist with the enemy, have been discovered, apprehended, and are sent to the westward. Many perhaps remain undiscovered. Should the enemy and the disaffected be able to concert measures so as to form a junction of the latter with a party from on board the ships in the river, the Committee of Safety are apprehensive of the want of a very speedy assistance without a diminution of the main army, and have therefore taken the liberty to despatch a copy of the enclosed resolution to each of the Counties therein mentioned, and have directed me to request that your Excellency would be pleased to give such directions as in case of necessity may afford the most speedy succour.

I have the honour to be, with the greatest respect.

NEW-YORK COMMITTEE OF SAFETY TO GOVERNOUR TRUMBULL.

Fishkill, October 10, 1776.

SIR: Three of the enemy's ships of war having passed our fortifications near *King's Bridge*, and proceeded up *Hudson's* river within a few miles of the Highlands, and from the number of disaffected persons in this and *Westchester* County, we have reason to apprehend they meditate the landing some troops in this neighbourhood, and by that means give those deluded wretches an opportunity of joining them, and thereby forming a body superiour to the few well-affected Militia, who are not drafted into the service.

The zealous attachments of your Militia to the common cause of *America*, and the readiness with which they stepped forth to the assistance of this State, when called upon on a late occasion, renders any arguments unnecessary to induce them to hold themselves in readiness to come to our aid on the shortest notice, when requested.

Resolved, That Letters be written to the Commanding Officer of the Counties of *Fairfield* and *Litchfield*, in the State of *Connecticut*, informing him of the reasons that we have to apprehend insurrections in this State, if the measures of the disaffected should be seconded by the enemy, who are now in *Hudson's* river, and requesting that they will hold their Militia in readiness to lend us every necessary assistance in case of such an event.

Resolved, That a copy of the above Resolution be sent to his Excellency Governour *Trumbull*, and that he be requested to order the same to be carried into effect.

COMFORT SANDS TO THE NEW-YORK CONVENTION.

Fishkill, October 10, 1776.

SIR: Some time ago I applied to the Convention for a

Committee of the Convention to join with me in a settlement of a large account with Mr. *Abraham Livingston*, upon which Mr. *Evert Bancker* and Mr. *John Brown* were appointed, but as those gentlemen are both absent, and Mr. *Livingston* now waiting, I beg the Convention will appoint two other gentlemen immediately, authorized with me to settle the account finally, which will greatly forward the publick accounts.

I have the honour to be, sir, your most humble servant,
COMFORT SANDS.

To *P. R. Livingston*, Esq., President of the Convention of the State of *New-York*.

HUBERT OSTRANDER TO CHARLES DE WITT.

Hurley, October 10, 1776.

SIR: Agreeable to the resolves of Congress, the Committee of *Hurley* have purchased three guns and one cartridge-box, amount £7 9s. If the Congress should think proper to pay the money for those guns whilst you are there, the Committee beg the favour of you to receive it for them, and send it up when an opportunity offers.

I am, very respectfully, sir, by order of the Committee, your most obedient servant,

HUBERT OSTRANDER, *Chairman*.

To *Charles De Witt*, Esq., in Congress convened at *Fishkills*.

H. GLEN TO GENERAL SCHUYLER.

Schenectady, October 10, 1776.

DEAR SIR: Last evening I received Mr. *Henry B. Livingston's* letter by your order, concerning the baggage of Colonel *Dayton's* regiment to come down, and part of Colonel *Elmore's* to go up from the *Flats*. I shall send off the batteaus this evening, and load them light on that occasion. I have purchased as much flour as will load them this trip, and am in hopes by the time they come back, to have as much more as to load, and I believe will not want a barrel of flour from *Albany* this fall, so that the Deputy Commissary-General gives the same price here that he does to the *Albany* merchants.

As to the carpenters, I have been with *Kooman* and *Van De Bogart*, two bosses that have been up this summer, but are unwell, and have sent in other men to try to get twenty hands, and am afraid won't be able to get them, as mostly all of them that have been up are unwell with some disorder or another. I would be glad to know if twelve or fifteen won't do, and how long they are to stay. I have partly agreed with a man for the ground to build the barracks upon; it's just outside of the town, and water near and plenty. I now just wait your answer how much of the ground I must take, and in what manner the deed must be wrote, in whose name, the plan of the barracks, whether two or three story high, and when I must begin to take down the old fort. There is wood enough and stone for the foundation. I have engaged all the bricks in town for the chimneys.

I am, dear sir, yours, &c.,

H. GLEN.

To Major-General *Ph. Schuyler*, *Albany*.

H. GLEN TO GENERAL SCHUYLER.

Schenectady, October 10, 1776.

DEAR SIR: Yours of yesterday's date I received last evening about six o'clock, with the letter enclosed for Colonel *Dayton*, which I sent off about two hours after I received it, by express. By the best calculation I can make since the batteau-men have been gone for the baggage of the *New-Jersey* regiment, under the command of Colonel *Dayton*, I expect the regiment here about *Monday*, and you may depend on it I shall have the carriages ready for their baggage the moment they arrive; so I expect they will stay here a few hours only, to victual them. As to spades or shovels, there is none to be had. Six crow-bars I shall send you this day.

I have purchased two acres of ground for the barracks, and have carried almost all the timber and stone of our old fort to the place I intend building the barracks; but the Militia being ordered up disappoints me entirely of the carpenters and masons, so that I have not one. I was to begin

to-morrow. I shall get some more materials ready while the carpenters and masons are gone, such as lime and boards, &c. I was in a fine way with the barracks, had not this alarm come; but it seems this is the scene of war. I am sorry to hear of our bad success, that our fleet is much shattered and some lost, but still hope for the best. Should the matter turn out so that there is no occasion for the Militia, you will remember I have no carpenters or masons to carry on the barracks here.

I remain, dear sir, your most obedient, humble servant,
H. GLEN.

To Major-General Schuyler, at Saratoga.

COLONEL HARTLEY TO GENERAL GATES.

Crown-Point, October 10, 1776.

HONOURED SIR: Since the junction of the galleys with the rest of your formidable armada on *Lake Champlain*, nothing has occurred in my department worthy of troubling you about, and from the present appearance of things, Mars will have little to do above *Split-Rock* this fall.

I take notice of the winds. My *American* standard, erected upon my citadel, informs me at once which way they blow, and I keep my people busy at such work as I apprehend will conduce to the publick service. If we have done little, our force could do no more.

If I am not mistaken, I understood from you and General *St. Clair*, that it was intended two or three companies should be stationed here this winter. You were pleased to approve of some small essays of buildings I was making. I have, with a few carpenters and other tradesmen, erected a sufficient number of convenient barracks (when finished) for the men proposed to be stationed here. This you will find more proper than attempting to repair the barracks in the old fort, which could not be effected without many hands and much labour, and the party stationed in the old fort it would not have been secure, with the works in their present ruins.

I have had a few nails from you; perhaps we shall need no more. We have consumed some boards from a saw-mill which I got repaired and carried on with my own men. Some more will be necessary. Your army and fleet have got four thousand feet from the mill. After the present week you may have at least two thousand feet a week from there, to supply you at Head-Quarters. The expense will be very trifling. I hope my conduct in this business will meet your approbation. I know you have daily matters of consequence to transact, and are too frequently troubled with affairs of little moment. My applications generally fall among the latter. I am going to reform. They shall really be very seldom.

Wood is necessary: wood must be cut; and had the last axes sent me been worth a farthing, I should not have desired my Ensign yesterday to call for more. Colonel *Lewis* some time since sent eighteen. I got them helved. They flinch at the first attack. Nothing can be done with them. If I could have twelve more, without distressing you at Head-Quarters, I would be glad of it. If that would put you to any inconvenience, there are some smiths of this regiment, who came from *Skenesborough*, and are now at *Ticonderoga*, if they were sent here with a little steel and iron, all will be well.

I am pleased to hear part of *New-York* is burnt. I hope we shall have intelligence that the rest of that nest of Tories, and sink of *American* villany, has shared the same fate. That cursed town from first to last has been ruinous to the common cause.

It was generally deemed that *Ticonderoga* was much more healthy than *Crown Point*. There are no less than one hundred and forty sick present of this regiment, besides those sent to *Fort George*. They are almost all ill of the fever and ague. I hope they will soon be well. The northwester I presume will brace them up.

The bakers want some casks to pack their biscuit in for the fleet. Forty or fifty barrels ought to be sent them as soon as possible.

I am, honoured sir, with the greatest respect and regard, your most obedient, humble servant,

THOS. HARTLEY.

To General Gates.

P. S. I hope to have the pleasure of seeing you come

down in the next galley. A few days' notice would be very agreeable.

P. S. *Extra*. I must acquiesce in *Pope's* doctrine "whatever is, is right." The tin-man was sick first; he got well enough to make some canisters; a few were sent me by the Captain of the first galley, but really he carried them off. I suppose they will give some of the enemy their quietus, if our fleet should be attacked. The tin-man is got sick again. In short, I begin to believe that bag-shot will do almost as well as canister-shot. Should any party of the enemy pay me a visit, I shall give them a few solid ball in the bargain. Yours, &c., T. HARTLEY.

GENERAL ARNOLD TO GENERAL GATES.

Valcour, October 10, 1776.

DEAR GENERAL: Your favour of the 3d instant was delivered me the 7th by Captain *Premier*. I am greatly obliged to you for the attention paid to us, and the number of &c., as sent us, which were greatly wanted.

I am much surprised so little attention is paid to us by the good people below. I should have imagined two hundred seamen could have been sent us in three or four months, after they were so pressingly wrote for. I make not the least doubt there has been the greatest industry used at *Ty* in fitting out the fleet. I am glad to hear the other galley is so forward. I expect to see her the first fair wind. The clothing which is arrived is a sufficient supply of the kind. We much want one hundred pair shoes and hose, one hundred watch-coats, fifty pair breeches, and twenty blankets and hats, or caps. We are victualled for about ten days.

You may depend I shall do nothing of consequence without consulting General *Waterbury* and Colonel *Wigglesworth*, both of whom I esteem judicious, honest men, and good soldiers. We cannot at present determine how long it will be requisite to remain here. It may depend on the intelligence we may receive. We shall not return one minute sooner than is prudent and necessary. I have received no late intelligence from the northward; the loss of two small canoes (all we had) has prevented my sending out small parties. I have wrote Colonel *Trumbull* to send me three or four, which may be procured at *Ty* or at *Crown Point*.

I am of opinion with you respecting the battery building at *Point-à-Cole*, that the enemy are acting on the defensive. They are at the same time exerting themselves to augment their navy; and if they hear in time that Lord *Howe* is in possession of *New-York*, they will doubtless attempt a junction with him. If they think it practicable, their fleet, I make no doubt, in the course of this month will be very formidable, if not equal to ours.

I have taken two four-pounders from the *Liberty* for the *Trumbull*, and three of her small guns. There is others at *Crown Point* suitable for her, and Colonel *Hartley* may be supplied with large ones for his castle, from *Ty*. The schooner goes up for provisions; I wish she may be immediately despatched back. Her guns may be ready when she returns; at present she does not want.

I am extremely glad you have represented to Congress and General *Schuyler* the absolute necessity of augmenting our navy on the lake. It appears to me to be an object of the utmost importance. I hope measures will be immediately taken for that purpose. There is water between *Crown Point* and *Point-aux-Fer* for vessels of the largest size. I am of opinion that row-galleys are of the best construction, and cheapest for this lake. Perhaps it may be well to have one frigate of thirty-six guns; she may carry eighteen pounders on the lake, and will be superiour to any vessel that can be built at and floated from *St. John's*. Carpenters ought to be immediately employed to cut timber and plank, and three hundred set at work at *Skenesborough*, the 1st of *February*. Of these matters I hope we shall have time to confer hereafter.

General *Waterbury* and Colonel *Wigglesworth* join me in affectionate compliments.

I am, with great esteem and regard, dear General, your obedient and humble servant,

B. ARNOLD.

To Hon. Major-General Gates.

P. S. If you have read *Price's* pamphlet, sent you by Mr. *Franklin*, I will take the loan of it a favour. B. A.

ADDRESS TO THE ASSEMBLY OF CONNECTICUT.

To the General Assembly of the State of CONNECTICUT,
now sitting in NEW-HAVEN:

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR HONOURS: In this day of general calamity, when we are surrounded with enemies at home and abroad, when our all is at stake, and the sons of *America*, one and all, are loudly called upon to stand forth in defence of their most invaluable privileges, I say in such a day as this we might reasonably expect that there would be no hesitation in the breast of any man; but immediately on the call of our rulers, each one would strive to appear the most forward in going forth to serve his country; but, alas! fatal experience proves the contrary. When his Honour the Governour issued his orders for the Militia to march to *New-York*, he, at the same time, strongly invited the gentlemen householders to join them, which invitation had but little effect, for sure I am that but very few, if any, of those gentlemen were ever seen in *New-York*. And what was the reason? Because the law of the State did not oblige them to go. One had been a Justice of the Peace under his late Majesty; another had wore a Captain's commission till he was near forty years of age; another had been to college; and another had been a constable; and all had some apology to make, whereby to excuse themselves from going into the service. These and many other important reasons hindered thousands from going into the war from the State of *Connecticut*.

But as I am best acquainted with my own town, I will state the matter as near according to truth as I can. Of the Militia that lately went to *New-York* there was about one hundred and forty, and much the greater part of them were men of little property. Of those other gentlemen that stayed at home, more than one hundred under fifty years of age, all men of interest, and pray what have they done to defend it? Why, they paid their rates, and may be have given forty shillings to encourage men to enlist; but what is that compared with his poor neighbour, who is called forth when in the midst of his business, has no money, receives but twenty shillings, and that advance pay, not as a bounty, obliged to go and leave all his affairs running to ruin? I ask, are these things equal and just? No. Surely no man of common sense will pretend they are; and as this is a war far different in its nature and consequences from any that ever was in *America*, I pray that the burdens of it may be more equally borne, that every man from sixteen to sixty might be obliged to bear an equal part, ministers only excepted, which I imagine would invigorate the poor soldier, strengthen our army, and be the means of establishing peace and harmony in the State; which is the hearty wish of

A MILITIA-MAN.

WILLIAM BARTLETT TO GENERAL WASHINGTON.

Beverly, October 10, 1776.

HONOURED SIR: I once more take the liberty to write your Excellency, which at this time when you are so deeply engaged against our unnatural enemies, would gladly omit did I not think it my duty; therefore beg you to excuse it.

I wrote your Excellency some time since concerning those prizes taken by Commodore *Manly*, viz: the ordnance brigantine *Nancy*, ship *Concord*, and ship *Jenny*. General *Mifflin* having received a part of each cargo, agreeable to your order, without any price being stipulated, prevents their being settled, and the poor captors are kept out of their money, some of which being in the army while their families are here almost suffering for want of the necessaries of life. Your Excellency's answer I received with the greatest pleasure, in which you informed me you would order General *Mifflin* to have a valuation made upon those goods and transmitted me in order for settlement, but have not as yet received it. Beg your Excellency will excuse me, and not receive this as dictating. As I well know your Excellency to be full of humanity, am well assured it would have been done long since had not your time been taken up in matters of more and greater importance.

If your Excellency will please to order me to charge the *United States* for the coals out of ship *Jenny* at the same rate the remainder was sold for, being about eleven dollars per chaldron, that ship may be settled.

Your Excellency was pleased to appoint or have appointed a committee to appraise the ordnance stores. They

have presented their bill to me for payment, but have put it off until I should receive your Excellency's orders, they having charged one hundred pounds lawful money for their trouble.

When your Excellency finds it convenient to have transmitted me the value received out of ship *Concord*, and the valuation of the ordnance stores, with orders for settlement, beg you to give me orders to draw for what money I may want, together with what remains in my hands, to be sufficient to pay the captors. Your Excellency may rely on my fidelity in not drawing for any more than will be sufficient for that purpose.

Captain *Bradford*, of *Boston*, who has superseded me in my agency, says he has orders to settle with all the old agents. Beg your Excellency's orders with respect to it.

I shall forever acknowledge with gratitude to your Excellency that honour you was pleased to confer on me in appointing me agent for this department, and hope have transacted the business to your Excellency's satisfaction. The reflection joined to the impeachment which is generally implied or at least understood by a dismissal from any office under Government, has, I confess, given me very sensible pain. If your Excellency thinks me capable or worthy of being reinstated in the office of agency for this department, hope shall do honour in my station, and shall ever acknowledge the favour with the greatest gratitude.

Hope that Being who governs all things, both in heaven and in earth, will preserve and protect you from falling into the hands of those unnatural enemies, and that you may be the means under Him of driving them back to their native land, ashamed.

Wishing your Excellency all that happiness that can be enjoyed in this life, beg leave to subscribe myself your Excellency's most obedient, humble servant,

WILLIAM BARTLETT.

To His Excellency General *Washington*, Head-Quarters,
near *New-York*.

JOHN BRADFORD TO THE PRESIDENT OF CONGRESS.

Boston, October 10, 1776.

SIR: I beg leave to introduce to you *Samuel Horlock*, and *Livingston*, Esqrs., who were lately taken on their passage from *Jamaica* to *London*. They are gentlemen who have been from the beginning warm partisans in our favour. They will give you a particular account of the unhappy situation they at present are in, by their effects being captured and themselves prevented from pursuing their voyage to *England*.

I flatter myself those gentlemen will meet with every indulgence from the honourable Congress which they can consistently grant them, and more they don't wish for.

I have the honour to be, with the greatest respect, sir, your most obedient and very humble servant,

J. BRADFORD.

To the Hon. *John Hancock*, Esq., *Philadelphia*.

BENJAMIN DAVIS, JR., TO JAMES BOWDOIN.

Boston Prison, October 10, 1776.

SIR: My present confinement to close prison, with the very severe restrictions laid on me, by which I am debarred the privilege of pen, ink, paper, or candle, and ordered to be kept in an apartment by myself, and that no person whatever be suffered to converse with me but in presence of the keeper of the prison, I understand was in consequence of an order to the jailor, by a number of gentlemen who it is said act as Councillors for the *Massachusetts-Bay*. Never has any reasons been assigned to me for said restrictions, although it is now upwards of fifty days since it took place. It is almost eleven weeks since my first commitment to close prison in a felon's apartment. As I have no particular acquaintance with the gentlemen who consented to the aforementioned order, I therefore take the liberty to address you on the subject, assuring you that I have not the least intention of offending you in what I shall offer.

I had prepared a petition to Council in order to have the same preferred, but when I came to consider of a direction necessary to it, I was greatly difficulted in my mind, and finally found myself obliged to give over all thoughts of it, and came to a determination that if no other just method

could be devised for obtaining my just liberty, to content myself with my present situation, grievous as it is. Every deviation from what a person knows to be truth, is a crime of so high a nature as the thought is sufficient to make a sober person tremble; therefore I dare not, if I act consistent with the principles of my profession, act a double part, which would be the case, was I, in order to obtain some temporary relief, to model and dress up a petition in such form as might be acceptable to the Council, and at the same time so conceal my true sentiments as to deceive them.

There is a proverb that it will be well for me to attend to, as it is applicable to one in my present situation: "The fear of man bringeth a snare." I consider myself now to be wholly in the power of the people, and that there is no legal authority for me to apply to for relief. The present distressed situation I am in, and the method pointed out to me in order to get relieved, are such as makes it necessary for me to be much on my guard, lest I get ensnared. I am bound by God's law to "be subject to the higher power;" and I have much more to dread from the disobedience of his commands, than I can have to fear from those who may be offended at me because I cannot in conscience be "subject" to an authority founded on the late Declaration of Independence. I am very sorry I am placed in such a situation, as though designed to compel me to take such a step for my enlargement as would be in me a breach of God's law. To compel me to act or do, contrary to the dictates of my conscience, any one thing that shall carry with it any authority founded on the Declaration of Independence, until the same be recognized and fully settled so as to become my duty to be "subject," would be the same, and I see no odds, as if I was in *Spain* or *Portugal* and committed to the Inquisition as a heretick, and they were to inflict on me the most cruel tortures in order to compel me to deny the faith. I think my conduct must appear in several glaring instances to be consistent with the aforementioned principles; as I never laid any claim to my property on board the ship I was taken in, the value being at least fifteen hundred pounds sterling, nor do I make application for the property which I left in my store in *Boston*, in *March* past, worth about a thousand pounds sterling, which goods I am told are sequestered. It is from this same principle that I do not think myself at liberty to sue for any debts due to me, of which I have a large sum outstanding. I hold myself obligated, and stand ready to pay all I owe; and if I was to be sued for a debt, shall think it very unjust to make a plea against the jurisdiction of any court, in order to evade payment of a just debt, but should think myself bound to pay the same, with all costs that should arise.

I profess myself a liege subject of his Majesty King *George III.*, founded on this principle, that all who are born within his dominions or realm he has a claim upon as his rightful and lawful subjects; that the Provinces and Colonies in *North America* make a part of his realm. I was born in this Province; of course allegiance is due from me to him, nor can it be dissolved but by his consent, or by a revolution taking place within the Kingdom, or the Government fixed and established, in which case it would be dissolved. I am bound by God's law to "honour the King," and to be subject to the legislative authority of *Great Britain* as "the higher power." I cannot, in any way, be aiding or assisting in any plan or scheme for bringing about any revolution in the Empire, upon any pretence whatsoever, without breaking a positive law of God. But whenever any revolution does take place within the Kingdom, and the Government becomes fixed and established, be the cause that brings it about what it may, I shall then be bound in conscience to be "subject" to its authority, for they will then become the "higher power" in the Apostle's sense.

When I consider that I have for a long time enjoyed one of the greatest of earthly blessings, under the mildness and lenity of the *British* Government, namely, liberty of conscience, gratitude, aside from any other consideration, ought to lead me to speak affectionately of the King, and to be strongly attached to the *British* constitution, and to be waiting for an opportunity of living in such a part of his dominions where I may again enjoy that great blessing uninterrupted. However unpopular these principles of mine may be, I think they never can be hurtful in any society

where there is settled Government. All who are led to obey the Gospel, and hold the aforesaid principles, are also bound by the command of the same Gospel to "do good unto all men," and to "live peaceably with all men," and to be "subject to the higher power;" such will be the peaceable and quiet inhabitants, and will have from Kings and all in authority, "praise" for their "well doing." As I would not wish to give offence to any, I have avoided petitioning the Council, as I should have been under a necessity of denying their jurisdiction, which might have offended them, and I would not choose to run the risk of its consequences; especially as I am not called upon by the Council, in any way that makes it necessary for me to open my principles at all risks. I see no harm in letting all those gentlemen who ordered my imprisonment and restrictions, read this letter in their private capacities. I am not desirous of being abroad, or to appear in publick with any view of busying myself to make proselytes to my principles of government; or to be spying out what is doing in the town, or gaining information of any plans, or schemes carrying on, and so to be an informer, or "busybody in other men's matters;" such conduct would be against the spirit of my profession, and would be as unbecoming as to be an informer against my neighbour, who may be concerned in an illicit trade; it is enough for me if I can have the privilege of enjoying my own sentiments.

I was taken in *July* past, by two armed vessels belonging to this place. I was bound from *Halifax* to *New-York* on my lawful business, and was brought to *Boston* a prisoner of war; I consider myself now in that light, and know no reason why I am more severely dealt by than others of his Majesty's subjects, who unfortunately fell into the hands of the *Americans*, and became their prisoners. I have not since *March* last looked upon myself as an inhabitant of this Province, or of the town of *Boston*; I left it with my family with a determination of settling in some other part of his Majesty's dominions, and shall think it a great privilege, when I may be indulged with the liberty of prosecuting my lawful designs, till which time I shall be glad to be released from my present grievous imprisonment, and to take lodgings in town; or if my son, together with myself and servant, could be exchanged for any prisoners in the hands of his Excellency General *Howe*, at *New-York*, it would be agreeable to me.

I am, with great respect, sir, your most humble servant,
BENJ^A DAVIS, Jun.

To the Hon. *James Bowdoin*, Esq.

Boston, October 10, 1776.

A letter from a gentleman at *Providence*, to his friend in this town, dated *October 5th*, has the following paragraph:

"The two Continental frigates here have fallen down, got their guns, and will be ready to sail in ten days. One carries twelve eighteen-pounders, fourteen twelve-pounders, eight nine-pounders; the whole thirty-four. The other, twenty-eight guns; their names are the *Warren* and *Providence*. Captain *Hopkins* commands one, and *Whipple* the other."

COUNCIL OF VIRGINIA TO THEIR DELEGATES IN CONGRESS.

In Council, Williamsburg, October 10, 1776.

HONOURABLE GENTLEMEN: Having this moment received from Mr. *Calloway*, manager of the lead mines, a return of what lead he has on hand, and the post being just ready to set out, I have only time to inform you, that there are now ten tons of lead, which are ready to be delivered for the use of the Continental army. The quantity would have been greater, if there had not been lately a considerable demand for supplying our army sent on the *Indian* expedition. By Christmas, or perhaps sooner, we may be able to spare as much more.

I should be glad to be informed in what manner you would choose to have it conveyed. If wagons come from *Philadelphia*, Mr. *Calloway* will have orders to load them, but as this country is obliged to make great remittances to *Pennsylvania*, for goods supplied from thence, and at a price far beyond what such goods have usually borne, it is reasonable that we should embrace every opportunity of enabling ourselves to bear so heavy a burthen. If, there-

fore, I should give orders to send the lead by wagons belonging to this country, I should be glad to have instructions where, and to whom they are to deliver their loads.

I am, gentlemen, your most obedient and very humble servant,

P. HENRY, *President*.

To the Honourable the *Virginia* Delegates at Congress, *Philadelphia*.

THOMAS JEFFERSON TO THE PRESIDENT OF CONGRESS.

[Read October 16, 1776.]

Williamsburg, October 11, 1776.

HONOURABLE SIR: Your favour of the 30th, together with the resolutions of Congress of the 26th ult., came safe to hand. It would argue great insensibility in me, could I receive with indifference so confidential an appointment from your body. My thanks are a poor return for the partiality they have been pleased to ascertain for me. No cares for my own person, nor yet for my private affairs, would have induced one moment's hesitation to accept the charge; but circumstances very peculiar in the situation of my family, such as neither permit me to leave nor to carry it, compel me to ask leave to decline a service so honourable, and, at the same time, so important to the *American* cause. The necessity under which I labour, and the conflict I have undergone for three days, during which I could not determine to dismiss your messenger, will, I hope, plead my pardon with Congress; and I am sure there are too many of that body to whom they may with better hopes confide this charge, to leave them under a moment's difficulty in making a new choice.

I am, sir, with the most sincere attachment to your honourable body and the great cause they support, their and your most obedient, humble servant,

TH. JEFFERSON.

To the Honourable *John Hancock*.

P. S. The bearer, *Henry Frick*, being in want of money, has a warrant from General *Lewis* on the Paymaster for six dollars, with which he must therefore be charged.

EDMUND RANDOLPH TO GENERAL WASHINGTON.

Williamsburg, October 11, 1776.

DEAR SIR: I congratulate your Excellency, as a friend to the reputation of *Virginia*, and the interests of the Continent, that Colonel *Harrison* is again restored to the councils of *America*. During his absence at the northward, he had been appointed one of our Privy Council, but refused to qualify as such. This afforded him an opportunity to vindicate himself from those malicious insinuations which first brought about his disgrace: for he informed the Assembly, that his honour, which had been so deeply wounded on a former occasion, forbid him to accept any office whatever, until the stigma, impliedly fixed upon his character by recalling him home, was wiped away.

His defence, if that could be called a defence the object of which was to efface unworthy impressions made by accusers, who whispered poison, and dared not show themselves in open day, was spirited, without any degree of bravadoing, and satisfactory even to those who were prejudiced against him. With this happy revolution in their opinion of an honest and able statesman, the Senate and House of Delegates, in the whole amounting to seventy-four members, have sent him back to Congress, in the room of Mr. *Jefferson*, who has resigned, with a ballot of sixty-nine to five. These five are supposed to be the remains of a certain party not unknown to your Excellency.

Nor is this all: they further thanked him for his past services, *nem. con.* In short, his late disappointment has served to raise his credit to a higher pitch.

Our soldiery are in a situation truly distressing to themselves and the country. To themselves, as they are now labouring under severe autumnal disorders, many of which prove mortal; and to the country, as we are apprehensive that the upland people, on whom we chiefly depend for recruits, should be disgusted with the service in the lower parts, which engender such maladies. From what cause the present general sickness proceeds I know not, but *Williamsburg*, which has hitherto been proverbial for general health, is now notorious for the contrary.

The Assembly talk out of doors upon the subject of new levies; but, for God's sake, from whence are they to be obtained? I hear that our Second Regiment, whose term of enlistment expired in *September* last, has little prospect of renewal. An ungenerous neglect prevails in the upper Counties concerning the defence of the lower. To be ingenuous, I am afraid we can get neither clothing nor arms for any more troops.

I am, dear sir, your Excellency's much obliged, affectionate servant,

EDM. RANDOLPH.

To His Excellency General *Washington*, *New-York*.

Williamsburg, Va., October 11, 1776.

On *Monday* last, the General Assembly of this Commonwealth met at the Capitol, agreeable to adjournment and the plan of government adopted at the late Convention, when the Hon. *Archibald Cary*, Esq., was elected Speaker of the Upper House, or Senate, and the Hon. *Edmund Pendleton*, Esq., Speaker of the House of Delegates.

The honourable House of Delegates have been pleased to continue the officers of the late Convention to be officers to their House; and the Senate have chosen *John Pendleton*, Esq., to be their Clerk.

Colonel *Benjamin Harrison*, of *Berkeley*, was yesterday chosen a Delegate to represent this State in General Congress, in the room of *Thomas Jefferson*, Esq.; and *James Mercer*, Esq., a member of the Privy Council, in the room of Colonel *Harrison*.

Williamsburg, October 11, 1776.

The gentlemen, soldiers of the First Company of the Second *Georgia* Battalion are desired to repair to *Louisa* Court-house, by the 15th day of *November*, which I have appointed the place of rendezvous.

ROBERT WARD, *Captain*.

MARYLAND COUNCIL OF SAFETY TO COLONEL BOND.

[No. 205.]

Annapolis, October 11, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: By Mr. *Norris* you will receive three hundred pounds, to be laid out in the purchase of arms, blankets, and linen for tents, for the use of Captain *Harris's* company. One hundred pounds for the use of the *Harford Greens*, has been transmitted to Mr. *Garrett*. The *Harford Greens* being first made up, will be first entitled to the arms and blankets lying now at *Harford*, deducting first about forty blankets for the use of the Hospital here. If they leave any, as from their being well furnished with these articles themselves there is likelihood they will, Captain *Harris* may be furnished with an order for them, if he stands in need. You may go as high as twenty shillings for good new blankets, and three shillings six pence for country linen fit for tents, of which one will be allowed for every six men. Twenty-one and a half yards will make a tent, if the linen is a yard wide, and *Johnson*, at *Baltimore-Town*, will make them in a few days after sending linen.

You will hereby receive an order in favour of Captain *Harris* for as many cartouch-boxes, belts, camp-kettles, canteens, or wooden bottles, haversacks, and knapsacks, as he will want for his company, and when they are ready to march, on sending a line acquainting this Board of their readiness, they will receive marching orders. It has not been in our power to purchase linen and blankets, and we are in hopes you can, or we would not have given you this trouble. Expedition must be made use of, or Captain *Harris* will not get up in time. If Mr. *Kean* will take a reasonable price per day, his wagon may carry the baggage to *Christeen*. When the troops arrive at *Philadelphia*, the Congress are to take care of them. When you have expended the money, please to render an account thereof to, gentlemen, yours, &c.

WILLIAM LUX TO MARYLAND COUNCIL OF SAFETY.

Baltimore, October 11, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: The privateer *Harlequin* being now ready to sail, and Captain *Benjamin Handy* appointed commander, he now waits on you to obtain a new commission, the former one being in the name of Captain *William Wolsey*,

and he being now on the Eastern Shore, we cannot procure it to return it to you, but we hereby engage and pledge our honours that it shall be returned immediately on his getting here, hoping you will not on that account detain our vessel, as she is now rather late for the *Jamaica* fleet, some of which we flatter ourselves with bringing in.

I am, in behalf of the concern, gentlemen, your most obedient servant,

WILLIAM LUX.

To the honourable Council of Safety of *Maryland*.

LUX AND BOWLEY TO MARYLAND COUNCIL OF SAFETY.

Baltimore, October 11, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: We are favoured with your letter of the 5th instant. Mr. *Stewart* is now here, and we are making some cordage for him, and hope to accomplish the whole order in time for your vessels. We are well assured that we can furnish you on a greater certainty than any body else, and mean to do it, but we will not contract to deliver it to a certain day. The vessels now furnishing must be completed. We propose waiting on you some day next week, either *Tuesday* or *Wednesday*. In the mean time, we are, most respectfully, gentlemen, your obliged, obedient servants,

LUX & BOWLEY.

To the honourable Council of Safety, at *Annapolis*.

RICHARD HENRY LEE TO SAMUEL PURVIANCE, JR.

Philadelphia, October 11, 1776.

DEAR SIR: Among the inconveniences of this busy scene, I esteem it not the least to be so often prevented from acknowledging the favours of my friends sooner than I do. It has been owing to much business that your letter of the 27th has not received an answer before now. I have the pleasure to acquaint you that in ranking the Captains of our Continental ships, the Congress have placed Captain *Nicholson* at the head, he being the first Captain. I wish it were in my power to give you a satisfactory answer about the building another frigate. Hitherto nothing has been determined on this subject, the Committee having been prevented by an infinite multiplicity of other business; and to the same cause has it been owing that no orders have been sent concerning the frigate *Virginia*. I have no doubt but that another frigate will soon be directed, and that the builder of greatest merit will be preferred. It would give me the greatest pleasure to hear that the *Virginia* was ready for sea, and I am happy in being satisfied that the managers of this business in *Baltimore* will not lose a moment in effecting so salutary a work. I suppose a want of anchors will be the greatest obstruction, as I take it for granted no time will be lost in getting the guns down from Mr. *Hughes's* works, and having the carriages made. I shall be glad to have an exact state of the frigate, and what she wants to complete her. I refer you to the papers for news, and am, sir, your most obedient servant,

RICHARD HENRY LEE.

To *Samuel Purviance, Jr., Esq., Baltimore*.

WILLIAM ELLERY TO GOVERNOUR COOKE.

Philadelphia, October 11, 1776.

SIR: The President of Congress hath sent you, by express, all the resolves which have passed since my last, which he had in charge to communicate to you. You will receive by this post a letter from the committee to procure clothing for the army, enclosing two resolves of Congress on that subject. I hope the General Assembly will take effectual care that our quota of new levies shall be in the field in season, well equipped at all points, and well officered; and that suitable persons in each County be appointed to collect clothing immediately, agreeable to the request of the aforesaid committee.

A naval expedition is on foot, which if carried into execution, will be very advantageous to the *United States*, and to the officers and seamen in the navy. If the *Cabot* should not be in port, the Marine Committee have ordered that one of the frigates should be employed in it.

Commodore *Hopkins*, in a letter to that Committee, hath informed them that one of the frigates could soon be got ready, and intimated that he could man her with drafts

from our troops. I hope that the General Assembly will countenance this measure, and give every other assistance in their power to forward the sailing of the fleet.

On the 6th instant, General *Lee* arrived here, and on the 8th set out for the camp on the Heights of *Harlem*. He brings the good news, that the *Carolinians* had utterly defeated the *Cherokee* tribe of *Indians*, had burnt their towns, killed two hundred and fifty of their warriors, got seventy-five scalps, and that the remainder of that tribe had fled to the *Mississippi*. This expedition, the sickness of the troops, and the strong garrison at *Augustine* had prevented an attempt upon *East-Florida*. That the garrison at *Augustine* consisted of eighteen hundred *German* and one thousand *British* troops. That the *Sphinx* and *Raven* were at *Georgia*, and that the Governour of that State had ordered all the stock on the islands on that coast to be moved off to prevent its falling into the hands of the enemy. The *Scorpion*, *Falcon*, and *Cruiser*, are at *Cape Fear*.

The Committee have not returned from *Ticonderoga*. By the last accounts from thence, they expected to be attacked very soon, and were preparing to give the enemy a proper reception. I saw General *Mifflin* lately, and he informed that in the fight the day after the enemy took possession of *New-York*, by the best accounts he could get, and from the appearance of the field of battle, they lost between four and five hundred killed and wounded; and that we lost about one hundred killed and wounded. In the first part of this account, *Jared Hopkins*, son of the minister in *Newport*, who saw the fight, agrees with the General, but says, that he saw our killed and wounded, and that they were much short of that number. They both, too, agree that some of our men who had behaved shamefully the day before fought gallantly there, and that with equal numbers we drove the enemy from the field. I believe they think the *Americans* will fight, notwithstanding we have retreated and retreated.

General *Washington*, as I am told, played off a pretty manœuvre the other day. Determined to remove the grain and the furniture of the houses from *Harlem*, he drew out into the field a party of seventeen hundred. The enemy turned out as many. They approached within three hundred yards and looked at each other. While they were thus opposed front to front, our wagons carried off the grain and furniture. When this was accomplished, both parties retired within their lines. It is said that our men preserved very good faces. It would be of use to draw out our men in battle array frequently, to let them look the enemy in the face, and have frequent skirmishes with them.

General *Washington* in a letter of the 8th instant, informed Congress that two forty-gun and one twenty-gun ship with some tenders had passed the chevaux-de-frise and *Fort Washington* without interruption or damage, and between the latter and *Fort Constitution*. How the chevaux-de-frise came to be insufficient, I know not; but I am afraid that the enemy's ships will cut off the communication by the *North River*.

Thus, sir, I have given you all the news I can recollect, with a few observations. I wish I had more—I mean good news—to communicate, for it would give me great pleasure to gratify the Assembly. Whenever I shall receive any intelligence that is well authenticated, and I can be at liberty to transmit it, you may depend upon having it.

I continue to be, with great respect, your Honour's and the State's sincere friend and humble servant,

WM. ELLERY.

To the Hon. *Nicholas Cooke, Esq.*

GENERAL WASHINGTON TO THE PRESIDENT OF CONGRESS.

[Read October 15: Referred to Board of War.]

Head-Quarters, Harlem Heights, October 11, 1776.

SIR: I beg leave to inform you that since my letter of the 8th and 9th instant, which I had the honour of addressing you, nothing of importance has occurred, except that the ships of war, which I then mentioned, in their passage up the river took a sloop that was at anchor off the mouth of *Spiten Devil*, and two of our row-galleys, which they out-sailed. The crews finding that they could not prevent them falling into the enemy's hands, run them near the shore and effected their own escape. From the intelligence I have received, the ships are now laying at *Tarrytown*, without

having landed any men, which seemed to be apprehended by some, nor attempted any thing else. Their principal views in all probability are, to interrupt our navigation, and to receive such disaffected persons as incline to take part against us. The former they will effect beyond all question, and I fear that their expectations respecting the latter will be but too fully answered.*

October 12th. The enclosed copy of a letter received last night, from the Convention of this State, will show you the apprehensions they are under on account of the disaffected among them. I have ordered up part of the Militia from the *Massachusetts*, under General *Lincoln*, to prevent, if possible, the consequences which they suggest may happen, and which there is reason to believe the conspirators have in contemplation. I am persuaded that they are upon the eve of breaking out, and that they will leave nothing untried that will distress us and favour the designs of the enemy, as soon as their schemes are ripe for it.

October 13th. Yesterday the enemy landed at *Frog's Point*, about nine miles from hence, farther up the *Sound*. Their number we cannot ascertain, as they have not advanced from the point, which is a kind of island; but the water that surrounds it is fordable at low tide. I have ordered works to be thrown up at the passes from the point to the main. From the great number of sloops, schooners, and nine ships that went up the *Sound* in the evening full of men, and from the information of two deserters who came over last night, I have reason to believe that the greatest part of their army has moved upwards, or is about to do it, pursuing their original plan of getting in our rear, and cutting off our communication with the country. The grounds from *Frog's Point* are strong and defensible, being full of stone fences, both along the road and across the adjacent fields, which will render it difficult for artillery, or indeed a large body of foot, to advance in any regular order, except through the main road. Our men, who are posted on the passes, seemed to be in good spirits when I left them last night.

I have the honour to be, with great respect, sir, your most obedient servant,

GO. WASHINGTON.

Committee of Safety for the State of New-York, }
Fishkill, October 10, 1776. }

SIR: We received from Mr. *Tilghman* an account of the enemy's ships having gone up the river, and have despatched expresses to General *Schuyler* and General *Clinton*, agreeable to your Excellency's request.

Nothing can be more alarming than the present situation of our State. We are daily getting the most authentic intelligence of bodies of men enlisted and armed in order to assist the enemy. We much fear that they, coöperating with the enemy, may seize such passes as will cut off all communication between the army and us, and prevent your supplies. We dare not trust any more of the Militia out of this County. We have called for some aid from the two adjoining ones; but beg leave to suggest to your Excellency the propriety of sending a body of men to the Highlands or *Peekskill*, to secure the passes and prevent insurrections, and overawe the disaffected. We suppose your Excellency has taken the necessary steps to prevent the landing of any men from the ships, should they be so inclined, as no reliance at all can be placed on the Militia of *Westchester* County.

We are, most respectfully, your Excellency's most obedient and very humble servants. By order,

PETER R. LIVINGSTON, President.

To His Excellency General *Washington*.

GENERAL ORDERS.

Head-Quarters, Harlem Heights, October 9, 1776.

(Parole, .) (Countersign, .)

The General positively forbids covering the bottoms of tents with earth, as, in a few days, that situation must render them totally unfit for service. The Commanding officer

* *October 11, 1776.* There was a considerable movement among the British boats below. This afternoon, General *Washington's* pleasure-boat coming down the river with a fresh breeze, and a topsail hoisted, was supposed by the artillerists at *Mount Washington* to be one of the British tenders coming down; a twelve-pounder was discharged at her, which was so exactly pointed as unfortunately to kill three Americans, who were much lamented. The same day, several of General *Lincoln's* regiments arrived, two of which were posted on the *North River*.—*Heath*.

of each corps will take care to see that this order is strictly complied with in his own encampment. In order that the regiments may get out of tents as soon as possible, the Brigadiers may apply to the Quartermaster-General for boards, and under his direction employ the spare time of their men in building barracks, or huts, fit for winter use. These huts, or barracks, are to be built with regularity. The works of defence are not to be retarded by these buildings: they are to be advanced by the men off duty, if tools are to be had for them to work.

The respective Brigadiers are to inquire into the state of the ammunition of their brigades, and every Colonel is to have a box of spare cartridges to supply occasional deficiencies.

Edward Sherburne, Esq., is appointed Aid-de-Camp to General *Sullivan*, and is to be obeyed and respected accordingly.

David Dexter, Esq., is appointed to act as Brigade-Major to the brigade under Colonel *Lippett*.

Head-Quarters, Harlem Heights, October 10, 1776.

(Parole, .) (Countersign, .)

If the weather is favourable to-morrow morning, the General purposes to visit the troops at their alarm-posts. Commanding officers of regiments, and others, are desired to make themselves well acquainted with their alarm-posts, and the best ways to them, and also with the ground in general, upon which they may be called to act, so as to avail themselves of every advantage. If officers do not acquire this knowledge, they will miss the best opportunity of distinguishing themselves and serving their country.

If there should be any bad weather, the greatest care is to be taken of the arms and ammunition; and officers must attend to it themselves, or from experience we know there will be great danger of their being unfit for action.

Whenever any Field officer is sick, leaves the camp, or by any other means becomes incapable of duty, his Brigade-Major is desired to signify it to the Adjutant-General; otherwise it is impossible to have the duty regularly done.

Daniel Murphey, of Captain *Edward's* Company, Third *Pennsylvania* Battalion; *Thomas Dickens*, of Captain *Hobby's* Company, Colonel *Ritzema's* Regiment; *John Stone*, of Captain *Grubb's* Company, Colonel *Brodhead's* Battalion; all having been tried by a Court Martial, whereof Colonel *Weedon* is President, and convicted of "desertion," are sentenced to receive thirty-nine lashes each. The above *Daniel Murphey* having been convicted by the same Court-Martial of "enlisting into another Regiment," is sentenced to receive thirty-nine lashes for that offence.

The General approves the above sentences, and orders them to be executed at the usual time and place.

Head-Quarters, Harlem Heights, October 11, 1776.

(Parole, .) (Countersign, .)

Colonel *Ewing*, Lieutenant-Colonel *Penrose*, Major *Fitzgerald*, Captains *Thorne*, *Ballard*, *Packay*, and *Yates*, to sit as a Court of Inquiry into the conduct of Colonel *Van Cortlandt* and Major *Dey* towards each other; to meet this afternoon, at three o'clock, at the Court-Martial room, and make report, as soon as possible, to the General. Brigade-Majors to give them immediate notice.

Talmadge, Esq., is appointed Brigade-Major to General *Wadsworth*, and is to be obeyed and respected accordingly.

As there is an absolute necessity for the business of the army to be carried on with regularity, and to do this, that the officers of each department should have the regulation and direction of matters appertaining to their respective offices, in order that they may become amenable to the publick, or the Commander-in-Chief, when called upon, it is hereby directed by the General, that no horse or wagon shall be taken by any officer, of whatever rank, without an order from Head-Quarters, the Quartermaster-General, or Wagonmaster-General. But when either are wanted for regimental uses, the application shall go from the Commanding officer of the regiment, in writing, to the Quartermaster-General, or Wagonmaster-General, who will issue his orders therefor; and if wanted for the despatch of publick business, the application to be made by the Engi-

neer in writing. All teams belonging to the publick, or in their pay, are to be delivered to the Quartermaster-General, registered, and under his direction.

The Quartermaster-General is to take especial care of all grain and hay belonging to the publick, and see that none of it is delivered but by his order; and as these articles are scarce, it is ordered, that all officers whose duty does not oblige them to be on horseback, dispose of the horses, or send them out of camp, immediately, as provender cannot be spared for them on any pretence.

No boards are to be taken for the use of any brigade or regiment without orders, nor delivered but by order of the Quartermaster-General, who is to make as equal a distribution among the regiments as may be, and see they are put to the best use possible, and with as little waste, as there may be difficulty in getting them.

Mutual complaints having been made by Mr. *Fisk*, the Engineer, and Mr. *Kinsey*, the Wagonmaster, against each other, a Court of Inquiry of three Captains and four Subs. from General *McDougall's* Brigade, to sit, and report the matter, with their opinion thereon, to meet to-morrow afternoon, at three o'clock, at the Court-Martial room.

The General being accidentally prevented from going to the alarm-posts this morning, if the weather is fair he will visit the troops to-morrow morning, accompanied by the General Officers. He hopes the whole line will turn out as full as possible.

The time of the Fatigue-men going out is altered to eight o'clock instead of seven. The men are to breakfast before they go, as they are not to leave work on that account. The General hopes the officers will exert themselves to complete the works as fast as possible, that the men may be the sooner covered.

Head-Quarters, Harlem Heights, October 12, 1776.

(Parole, .) (Countersign, .)

The General orders that one man from every mess be kept cooking till there are provisions dressed for three days. The butchers are also to keep killing.

RECRUITING INSTRUCTIONS.

Head-Quarters, Harlem Heights, October 11, 1776.

SIR: You are immediately to inlist such of your regiment, or any other troops raised in the Province of *Pennsylvania*, as are able of body and willing to enter into the service of the *United States of America*, upon the following terms:

1st. You are not to inlist any but freemen, able of body, and under the age of fifty, carefully avoiding all persons labouring under any lameness or other defect of body prejudicial to the service. If any such persons, or any boys, or decrepit persons are brought into the service, the officer inlisting them will be chargeable with the expense they may be to the publick.

2dly. You are not to inlist any deserters from the army of the King of *Great Britain*, or persons of disaffected and suspicious character, the *American* service having already suffered greatly by the desertion of such persons.

3dly. You are to inlist men to serve during the continuance of the present war between *Great Britain* and the States of *America*, unless sooner discharged by proper authority.

4thly. The men inlisted by you are to be subject to the rules and articles for the government of the army published by Congress the 20th *September*, 1776, and are to sign those articles.

As an encouragement to such persons as shall inlist in the above service, you are authorized to engage, besides the pay and provisions now allowed:

1st. Each soldier shall receive twenty dollars bounty money, on being approved by a Major-General, a Brigadier-General, or Colonel-Commandant of a Brigade.

2dly. He shall also be entitled to one hundred acres of land at the expiration of his inlistment, and in case of his death in the service, his representatives will be entitled thereto.

When any person is inlisted, you are, as soon as convenient, to take him to some person duly authorized by the above articles, to take the oath there prescribed.

I am, &c.,

Go. WASHINGTON.

To Colonel *Edward Hand*.

FIFTH SERIES.—VOL. II.

GENERAL WASHINGTON TO GENERAL SCHUYLER.

Head-Quarters, Heights of Harlem, October 11, 1776.

DEAR SIR: I this morning received your favour of the 7th instant, and am to inform you that it is not in my power to supply you with a single nail, nor are they to be procured in *Philadelphia*, as General *Mifflin* tells me, who has just returned from thence. For want of them, we are building here huts of sods, logs, &c., to cover the troops, and which I am in hopes will make a tolerable good shift.

Since my letter of yesterday, nothing has occurred, and I have only to add, that I am, &c.,

Go. WASHINGTON.

To Major-General *Schuyler*, Northern Department.

COLONEL REED TO MRS. REED.

Head-Quarters, October 11, 1776.

I wrote you some time ago, that I had acquainted Congress with my intention to resign my office of Adjutant-General. Every succeeding circumstance has confirmed this sentiment, and I hope ere long to hear that my successor is appointed. If my personal services were of such weight in the scale as to make it preponderate, no consideration would make me quit the service, but as I am of opinion that some person may be found more skilled in military matters, and of more temper to bear the rubs and obstacles which ignorance and imprudence are constantly throwing in my way, I think I may with a safe conscience resign it into other hands. To attempt to introduce discipline and subordination into a new army must always be a work of much difficulty, but where the principles of democracy so universally prevail, where so great an equality and so thorough a levelling spirit predominates, either no discipline can be established, or he who attempts it must become odious and detestable—a position which no one will choose. It is impossible for any one to have an idea of the complete equality which exists between the officers and men who compose the greater part of our troops. You may form some notion of it when I tell you that yesterday morning a Captain of Horse, who attends the General from *Connecticut*, was seen shaving one of his men on the parade near the house.

I have not yet any answer to my application, but expect it, as I have expressed myself of and to some people here with such freedom, after the affair of the 15th of last month, that I believe many of them wish me away.

You ask me what I propose to do. It is a difficult question to answer. My idea is, shortly, this: that if *France* or some other foreign Power does not interfere, or some feuds arise among the enemy's troops, we shall not be able to stand them next spring. If we keep our ground this fall, which we may do if a good supply of blankets and clothing can be had, and there is no disappointment in the provision to be made for the camp from the northward; but if the enemy should make a vigorous push, I would not answer for our success at any time. In the course of this winter it will be seen what expectations can be had of the interference of a foreign Power, in which event I have no doubt the liberties of *America* may be established on the most permanent footing. Should this happen, as I never meant to make arms a profession, my duty to you and my dear children will lead me to pursue that course of life which will contribute most to their and your happiness; for though I would wish to serve my country, and not spare myself in the work, I have not the least desire to sacrifice you and them to fame, even if I was sure to attain it. Should there be no such interference, my estate is no object of confiscation: my rank is not so high as to make me an example, and at all events, I have only to set out in the world anew.

The accounts I have from *Philadelphia* are very unfavourable. From what I can learn, there is a considerable party for absolute and unconditional submission. *Jemmy Allen* was here the other day, to discover I suppose what prospects we had, so that the party might take their measures accordingly. I fancy things did not please him, as a person must be in the secret to know the worst of our affairs. This letter, my dearest love, is written only for your own eye. I shall write to Mr. *Cox*, and give him what little news we have. I am happiest when I have none to send you, as I have so little expectation of sending you what is good. My most sanguine views do not extend

further than keeping our ground here till this campaign closes. If the enemy inclines to press us, it is resolved to risk an engagement, for if we cannot fight them on this ground, we can on none in *America*. The ships are the only circumstance unfavourable to us here. We do not see or hear any thing from the enemy which indicates a speedy attack; but it is certain that if they intend it this fall, they must do it soon.

GENERAL WADSWORTH TO GOVERNOUR TRUMBULL.

Camp near Harlem, October 11, 1776.

HONOURED SIR: Yesterday I received your letter of the 22d of *August*, and am now to inform your Honour that previous to the arrival of the Militia I had sent recruiting officers into *Connecticut*, but the marching of the Militia in many places prevented the inlisting recruits. Soon after the arrival of the Militia, after advising with the Commander-in-Chief, I gave orders for inlisting from the Militia into the regiments in my brigade; but as they did not expect to be held for a long time, they soon grew uneasy and very few inlisted. At the time Major *St. John* arrived, one regiment of my brigade was in the *Jerseys*, and has remained there ever since, one was on *Long-Island*, and very soon the residue was sent there; on the retreat, for some days were in a very unsettled state; Major *St. John* was taken sick and returned home, so that none of the troops have been mustered since we arrived here. The pay abstracts have been called for and have heard of no objection, therefore believe no disadvantage will arise therefrom.

I herewith transmit to your Honour a return of my brigade, made the 4th instant, by which you will see the great number of sick, who are some of them in the *Jerseys*, some in camp in tents and huts, others scattered along the road as far as *Norwalk*, many of them very illy provided with covering, medicine, or even comfortable food for weak persons. Have with me at the lines five regiments of the brigade, and only one Surgeon's Mate present. Doctor *Cogswell* and Mate, of Colonel *Silliman's* regiment, gone home sick; Doctor *Crocker*, of Colonel *Sage's* regiment, gone out with the sick to *Maroneck*, his Mate sick in *Jersey*; Doctor *Jewet*, of Colonel *Selden's* regiment, dismissed, his Mate *Norton* gone home without leave; Doctor *Potter*, of Colonel *Douglas's* regiment, gone out sick, his Mate in camp; must, therefore, beg your kind interposition in making some provision for the sick, as well officers (who are many of them sick) as the soldiers, and were great sufferers, and extremely fatigued in the retreat from *New-York*, which provision if seasonably made, I cannot but think may have a happy tendency to encourage the inlisting the new army.

Am informed by Doctor *Morgan* he has wrote to your Honour to procure and forward some Hospital stores, to be delivered agreeable to his orders. Must beg if any are procured it may be put into the hands of some gentleman in whom confidence can be placed for the delivery, and that Doctor *Morgan* may not have the least concern with or about them.

I am, with great truth and regard, your Honour's most obedient, humble servant,
JAMES WADSWORTH, Jun.
To Hon. Governour *Trumbull*.

JOSEPH TRUMBULL TO GENERAL GATES.

October 11, 1776.

MY DEAR GENERAL: The enclosed I received last evening, under cover from our mutual good friend Mr. *Gerry*. The Tory interest is for General *Schuyler*. *Walter Livingston* is to be nominal contractor, and *Philip Schuyler*, Major-General, real contractor. That *Livingston* will take the contract, is now ascertained by his letter to me the 8th instant.

I am, with great esteem and affection, dear General, your most humble servant,
JOS. TRUMBULL.

General *Lee* is to be here this evening. He left *Philadelphia* the 8th.

EBENEZER HAZARD TO GENERAL GATES.

Heights of Harlem, October 11, 1776.

DEAR GENERAL: I have at last received a letter from

you, and am obliged to you for it, but I could not find the man from whom I was to receive all the intelligence. Another misfortune is that General *Lee* has been to the southward for several months past, so that I could not apply to him for any. He is expected here to-day. I expect our friend *Gordon* will be with you by the time this reaches you. The history of the enemy's landing on *Long-Island*, their making regular approaches to our weak lines, which a council of war declared untenable, and determined to evacuate, our excellent retreat from *Long-Island*, and the evacuation of *New-York*, you have doubtless had already. We are now here, and if general orders may be credited, here we are determined to stand.

The enemy appear rather shy since a drubbing they got some weeks ago. The *Hessians* and *British* troops disagree, and are kept entirely separate. The latter do not like the former's being allowed to plunder while they are prohibited from doing it. Those rascals plunder all indiscriminately; if they see any thing they like, they say, "Rebel, good for *Hesse-mans*," and seize it for their own use. They have no idea between the distinctions of Whig and Tory. I have been credibly informed that a Tory complained to General *Howe* of his having been plundered by the *Hessians*, and that the General said, "there was no avoiding it, it was their manner of fighting."

All the accounts we have from abroad agree in the friendly disposition of *France* and *Spain* towards *America*. Tell my friend *Tennent* to show you my letter to him; there are some articles of intelligence in it, which, as the post waits, I have not time to write here.

Much love to the Vicar of *Roxbury*, and believe me to be, dear sir, yours affectionately,

EBEN. HAZARD.

To Major-General *Gates*.

GENERAL GREENE TO GOVERNOUR COOKE.

Fort Constitution, October 11, 1776.

SIR: His Excellency General *Washington* will transmit you a list of officers to constitute the two regiments to be raised by your State. The most of those officers are gentlemen whose conduct has been approved by those under whom they served. The success of the cause, the defeat of the enemy, the honour of the State, and the reputation of the army, altogether depends upon the establishing a good corps of officers. My little experience has fully convinced me that without more attention is paid by the different States in the appointment of the officers, the troops never will answer their expectation. I hope, as every thing that is dear and valuable is at stake, that no popular prejudices, nor family connexions, will influence the House in the election of the officers for the new army. I am sensible that *America* has as good materials to form an army as any State in the world. But without a good set of officers, the troops will be little better than a lawless banditti, or an ungovernable mob. The *Americans* possess as much natural bravery as any people upon earth, but habit must form the soldier. He who expects men brought from the tender scenes of domestick life can meet danger and death with a becoming fortitude, is a stranger to the human heart. There is nothing that can get the better of that active principle of self-preservation but a proper sentiment of pride, or being often accustomed to danger. As the principle of pride is not predominant enough in the minds of the common soldiery, the force of habit must be called in to its aid to get the better of our natural fears, ever alarmed at the approach of danger.

There has been, it must be confessed, some shameful conduct in this army this campaign, in a great measure owing to the bad conduct of the officers. I have neither seen nor heard of one instance of cowardice among the old troops where they had good officers to lead them on. In the last action every regiment behaved with a becoming spirit, especially Colonel *Hitchcock's*, and Colonel *Namun's*. I don't wish to see an officer in the army but such as have a regard for their reputation, who feels a sentiment of honour, and is ambitious of distinguishing himself. Such will answer the publick expectation, and be an honour to the State that sent him.

Colonel *Varnum*, from the treatment he has met with from Congress, has taken the resolution of leaving the army.

The Colony are generally acquainted with his abilities, that he stands in no need of recommendation. Perhaps the House may think proper to reëlect him, and give him the opportunity to refuse the appointment, as a compliment due to his past services. Colonel *Cornwall* and Colonel *Carey*, you observe, are both left out in the General's arrangement; they were both in the late action, and behaved exceedingly well, but as there is a reduction of regiments, 'tis not possible to accommodate the whole, and there is a preference given by the under officers, though they never have been consulted upon this occasion. His Excellency has put down only such as appears deserving, without consulting them upon the subject, to know whether they would serve or not. The House will appoint such, and so many, of those recommended as they shall think proper, and fill the vacancies of their own choice. But I hope there will be none in the arrangement but men of merit.

The several retreats and evacuations that have taken place this campaign, without doubt has alarmed the fears of the timid and aroused their apprehension of an approaching ruin. The source of these misfortunes have originated from several causes. The strength of the enemy far exceeded the expectations of Congress, the late season that they attempted to call in a reinforcement to our aid, the many delays that took place among the different States in furnishing their proportion, protracted the time of collecting the forces together to such a degree that when the enemy had their whole strength together, ours in different detachments were far inferior to theirs. With a force inferior to the enemy in number, with troops that were mostly raw and undisciplined, with young and ignorant officers, what could be expected against old, experienced officers with veteran troops to command, short of what has taken place, especially when you take in the idea of the extent of ground we had to guard, and the assistance the enemy received from their ships, owing to the situation of the posts we occupied? The Militia has come and gone in such shoals, that his Excellency could never tell scarcely two days together the strength he had at any one post.

If the different States complete the establishment agreeable to the resolves of Congress, and the troops come well officered, (for on that the whole depends,) I have not the least doubt in my own mind, but that in a few months we shall be able to seek the enemy instead of they us. I know our men are more than equal to theirs, and were our officers equal to our men, we should have nothing to fear from the best troops in the world. I do not mean to derogate from the worth and merit of all the officers in the army. We have many that are in the service deserving the highest applause, and has served with reputation and honour to themselves and the State that sent them; and I am happy that I have it to say that the *Rhode-Island* regiments hitherto are amongst this number.

Three of the enemy's ships passed the *chevaux-de-frise*, in the *North River*, and went up to *Topan-Bay*. Our army are so strongly fortified, and so much out of the command of the shipping, we have little more to fear this campaign. The troops have been and still are exceeding sickly. The same disorder rages in the enemy's camp as does in ours, but is much more mortal. Nothing new from the Northern army.

I am, with great esteem, your obedient servant,
NATH. GREENE.

GENERAL JAMES CLINTON TO NEW-YORK CONVENTION.

Fort Montgomery, October 11, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: As the officers in the Second *New-York* have never received their commissions, I have sent Lieutenant *Smith* for them, agreeable to a list I formerly gave to Mr. *McKesson*, Secretary. I know of no alteration to be made, except that *Gilbert Livingston* is appointed Ensign in Captain *Swartwout's* company, in the room of Mr. *Finch*, who resigned. His commission ought to bear date the 1st of *September* last. If you approve of the young man, I believe he is deserving of the same.

I am, gentlemen, your most obedient, humble servant,
JAMES CLINTON, *Brigadier-General*.

To the President of the Provincial Congress of the State of *New-York*.

PETER R. LIVINGSTON TO THE NEW-YORK DELEGATES IN CONGRESS.

Fishkill, October 11, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: The Convention pleased themselves with the expectation of receiving one hundred thousand dollars, advanced by the honourable Continental Congress to this State, by the 3d instant, agreeable to your favour of the 20th ultimo. Such is the state of our finances and of the public claims, that we severely feel a disappointment for which we are unable to account.

The Committee of Safety have therefore resolved to dispatch their Deputy Treasurer, Mr. *Bancker*, accompanied by Colonel *Birdsall*, to receive and conduct the money to this place with all possible expedition; and I am directed to request you to give them all the despatch in your power. The enclosed resolution of the Committee of Safety will sufficiently authorize the gentlemen to transact this business.

I am, with great respect, gentlemen, your most obedient servant,

PETER R. LIVINGSTON.

To the honourable the *New-York* Delegates at Continental Congress.

In Committee of Safety for the State of New-York, }
Fishkill, October 11, 1776. }

Resolved, and Ordered, That Mr. *Gerard Bancker*, the Deputy Treasurer of this State, proceed to *Philadelphia*, and apply to the Delegates of this State to receive the money lately voted to this Convention by Congress. That Mr. *Bancker's* receipt shall be a sufficient discharge for such sum as he may receive on account of this State in pursuance of this order.

That Mr. *Bancker* take to his assistance Colonel *Birdsall*, and that he be and is hereby authorized from time to time to procure any other guard or further assistance he shall think necessary for the safe conveyance of the said money to the Treasury of this State.

Extract from the Minutes:

JOHN McKESSON, *Secretary*.

COMFORT SANDS TO THE PRESIDENT OF THE NEW-YORK CONVENTION.

Fishkill, October 11, 1776.

SIR: Some days ago I applied to the Convention to fix the allowance for Colonel *Palmer* and Colonel *Nicoll's* services for superintending the transportation of the cannon. I was told by the Secretary that the Convention considered them as members in their service, and as such they would of course be paid by the County; that they had agreed to allow them ten shillings per day for extra services. Colonel *Palmer* is now here in order to settle that account. I told him the resolution of the Convention. He answered that he had not charged the County for the time he was in that service, and that he thought it would be unjust to charge the County for services done the Continent. I beg your direction how I must settle this matter, and am, sir, your very humble servant,

COMFORT SANDS.

To *Peter R. Livingston, Esq.*, President of the Convention of the State of *New-York*.

JOHN JAY TO EDWARD RUTLEDGE.

Fishkill, October 11, 1776.

DEAR RUTLEDGE: Be so kind as to forward the enclosed by the first opportunity to your brother. It is in answer to one from him to Messrs. *Duane*, *William Livingston*, and myself, mentioning the losses sustained by General *Lee* in consequence of entering into the *American* service, and recommending a compliance with the resolution of Congress for indemnifying him. As he has doubtless written to you on the subject, I forbear enlarging on the propriety, policy, or justice of the measure. I am, for my own part, clear for it, and wish with all my heart that it may take place. I shall write to my colleagues on the subject.

Let no considerations induce you to excuse General *Mifflin* from the office of Quartermaster-General. *Moylan* acted wisely and honestly in resigning. Try no new experiments. You have paid for the last. Let me repeat it, keep *Mifflin*.

Although extremely anxious to be with you, the circumstances of this State will not admit of my leaving it. Governour Tryon has been very mischievous, and we find our hands full in counteracting and suppressing the conspiracies formed by him and his adherents.

What is your fleet and noble Admiral doing? What meekness of wisdom, and what tender-hearted charity! I can't think of it with patience. Nothing but more than ladylike delicacy could have prevailed on your august body to secrete the sentence they passed upon that pretty genius. I reprobate such mincing, little, zigzag ways of doing business. Either openly acquit or openly condemn.

If General Lee should be at *Philadelphia*, pray hasten his departure—he is much wanted at *New-York*. I wish our army well stationed in the Highlands, and all the lower country desolated. We might then bid defiance to all the further efforts of the enemy on that quarter.

I am, my dear Rutledge, your friend,
JOHN JAY.

GENERAL SCHUYLER TO GOVERNOUR TRUMBULL.

Albany, October 11, 1776.

SIR: I am honoured with your favour of the 7th instant. As I have not any list of the officers' names from your Colony, except those of Colonel Burrell's regiment, any thing I can say must be confined to them; and shall in a few days transmit you some account of them.

I find by private letters from gentlemen in Congress to their friends, that they approve of the step I have taken in resigning, because of the ill treatment that has been given to me, a treatment which Congress ought not to have given, even if there had been no doubt of my guilt, until I had been heard. But I thank my God that I have a soul above that resentment which would involve in it a prejudice to my country, and I hope to teach my countrymen by my conduct under this unjust persecution, that it is the duty of a good citizen only to justify himself, and not to sacrifice the weal of the State to any considerations whatever.

I am, with every wish that flows from esteem and regard, sir, your most obedient, humble servant,

PH. SCHUYLER.

To Hon. Jonathan Trumbull, Esq., &c.

GENERAL SCHUYLER TO GENERAL GATES.

Albany, October 11, 1776.

DEAR SIR: On Tuesday morning, Mr. Gordon delivered me your letter of the 4th instant. I have been so much indisposed with a violent rheumatick attack in the head and stomach that I have not been able to write since.

By Sergeant Stiles's information, it seems probable that the enemy still mean to attempt crossing the lake this campaign. They have not above three weeks, however, to do it in; at least I should think so.

In mine of the 3d instant, I gave you my reasons for not moving Dayton's, or any troops from the Mohawk river. On Tuesday I received a letter from Colonel Dayton; by the intelligence it contained, and by the information Major Barber gave me, who brought the letter, I hope the necessity of keeping Dayton's corps in that quarter is superseded, and he is ordered to Fort George with the utmost despatch. Had I not received this information, I certainly should not have moved a man from that quarter, notwithstanding you say "that no good reason could retard the immediate march of Colonel Dayton's regiment to Fort George." Because I well knew that for want of proper information, you could be no judge whether they were or were not necessary there.

I was excessively alarmed at that paragraph in your letter, where you say, "by my last return you will clearly see one half of this army are sick," &c., until I recurred to the return, which convinced me of your mistake; for by it it appears that to the northward of Fort George and Skenesborough were at that time near nine thousand effectives, officers included, if Phinney's joined.

I have just received a letter from Captain Yates, Assistant Deputy Quartermaster-General. He informs me that the troops that were employed on the road to Cheshire's are all ordered away; if so, the road will not be finished this campaign, for I have repeatedly assured you that there are no men here. Dayton's, at the very soonest, cannot be there

in less than a fortnight; you will therefore send two hundred men to Cheshire's without delay, with orders to put themselves under the command of Colonel Wynkoop, who is going up to-day.

The powder is passed this, and I hope will arrive safe. It was sent in a very bad condition from Philadelphia.

Please to send an Engineer to Cheshire's, to give directions for a picket fort round the store and barracks. If he cannot be spared for any considerable time, he need not remain. It will suffice to give instructions to Colonel Wynkoop.

You will please to order the depth of the lake in the channel, from Skenesborough to the bay in front of Crown Point, to be carefully sounded, that we may be able to determine what vessels may be borne on it. As I have long since mentioned to Congress the necessity of constructing large vessels on Lake Champlain, you will probably receive their orders to prepare for it. It is pity, therefore, that such of the ship carpenters as were fit for service are discharged. I suppose they could not be prevailed on to stay.

Pray send Colonel Lewis down with all despatch, as the service will greatly suffer if he should not arrive here before I go to Philadelphia, which will probably be in a very few days, at most not above a fortnight.

I promise you if I am in Congress, you, or whoever may command in this department, will have more attention paid you than I have had, if I can in anywise induce others to be of my opinion.

I am, dear General, very sincerely, your obedient, humble servant,

PH. SCHUYLER.

To Hon. General Gates.

GENERAL GATES TO GENERAL SCHUYLER.

Tyonderoga, October 11, 1776.

DEAR GENERAL: Your favours of the 3d and 5th instant are now before me. Nothing remarkable has lately happened in this quarter. Enclosed is a letter I received last night from General Arnold; by that you will find the fleet were well the 7th instant. The fourth row-galley will sail from hence on Monday, as all the rigging, cables, &c., are arrived. When she joins the fleet, our whole naval force will be collected. The nights are getting long and cold, and if General Carleton is not with us in a fortnight, I suspect he will take up his winter quarters in Canada. Two of our prisoners have lately escaped from the enemy; they went to Cohos, from whence I daily expect them; as soon as they come here I shall despatch them to Albany.

Surely General Howe does not mean to stop at Harlem; if he does, his ruin is not very far off. I must desire you to urge it with the Commissioners from Congress to order barracks for six hundred men to be built at Schenectady, and double that number at Albany, provided there is not already sufficient covering for that number there. Three thousand men, officers included, are as few as ought to be posted for the winter upon the Mohawk river, Albany, and the different posts between Ty and Fort Stanwix.

I shall write to you more fully in a few days, being too much employed at present to add more than to assure you, dear General, I am your affectionate, humble servant,

HO. GATES.

To Hon. Major-General Schuyler.

COLONEL HARTLEY TO GENERAL GATES.

Crown-Point, October 11, 1776.

HONOURED SIR: I understand General Arnold has wrote to you for the guns I have here. It is well known to your Honour that we had the greatest search after them. We spent much time and labour in digging them from under ruins of wood and earth, where they lay long, and might have remained there had it not been for us. We cut a road, and with much trouble have got the necessary apparatus to work them. Though they may not be so useful as is generally imagined, yet it gives confidence to troops to have artillery, and the want of it has a contrary effect, especially among young troops. The little experience I have had has given me to understand so much. I have a battery and platform for six guns, and which guns of this size best suit.

All my expectations are in some measure blasted if the artillery is taken from us. I shall consider that we have spent much time and labour to the great inconvenience of my men, to very little purpose, if we lose our guns now. I know what we have done is not considered of great consequence; I do not mean it should, but this I am confident of, that the little works we have, with the artillery, will be sufficient to secure one hundred or one hundred and fifty men against any party of light troops that might be sent here this fall or winter, or at least till they could be relieved.

I understand they talk of replacing them with six-pounders. They will be the refuse, I presume. They will probably not suit my battery. I hope the fleet may be supplied in another way. I make no doubt you will do what is proper in this affair. General *Arnold* could not have been acquainted with these circumstances.

I am willing to do any thing in my power for the public good, but I cannot conceive that though the works here are not strengthened, they should be weakened by taking away the guns we have, or by replacing them with guns which perhaps we might do as well without. I beg you will not be offended at my freedom, as I consider myself and my people much interested.

I am, with the greatest respect, your most obedient, humble servant,

THOS. HARTLEY.

To General *Gates*.

GOVERNOUR TRUMBULL TO GENERAL WASHINGTON.

New-Haven, October 11, 1776.

SIR: In consequence of your favour proposing a descent on *Long-Island*, although I was so unhappy as not to be able to meet Generals *Clinton* and *Lincoln* at this place as requested, I applied to the State of *Rhode-Island* and obtained their consent and orders that Colonel *Richmond*, and such part of his battalion as shall not enlist on board the Continental vessels, should assist in the enterprise. Colonel *Richmond* will accordingly begin his march this day for *New-London*, and bring with him the whale-boats collected in *Massachusetts-Bay* and *Rhode-Island*, to the number of between eighty and ninety, which it is apprehended will be of great use to the troops ordered on this service, especially to secure and assist their retreat should it be attempted to be cut off. When Colonel *Richmond* arrives at *New-London*, he has orders to put himself under the command of such General Officer as your Excellency shall appoint.

I have this day conferred with Colonels *McIntosh* and *Livingston* on the subject; they inform me that they are supplied with provisions and ammunition for their purpose, and only want such a number of water-craft as, with the whale-boats divided into three parts, that in the whole may be sufficient to transport twelve hundred men, as he means each division to be so placed at the inlets to the island, as if cut off from one he may resort to the other to make his retreat sure, if necessary. These I have ordered for him, and dare say will be provided, and ready without delay. The number of men he proposes to set out with will doubtless be sufficient for his first attempts, but what reinforcements will be necessary soon to follow to answer every purpose, your Excellency will judge. They may be thrown over from *Stamford* or *Norwalk* very soon if placed there.

I am apprehensive lest some difficulties may arise with respect to the command of this detachment. Colonel *McIntosh* is a superiour officer to Lieutenant-Colonel *Livingston*, and *Richmond* is superiour in rank to both. Colonel *Livingston* appears to be a young gentleman of real spirit and abilities, and has every advantage in his knowledge of the island and the people there. The other gentlemen have also their merits. May not a difficulty arise as to the command? I hope there will not, as the gentlemen are all well disposed. I hope they will all coöperate to the best advantage of the whole. What is further necessary to render their operations effectual, you will please to consider and direct.

Our naval expedition against the ships of the enemy in the *Sound* is still in contemplation, and preparations are making for the same as fast as we can. Commodore *Hopkins* writes me the 5th instant, that the *Alfred* and *Hampden* are ready, and that the two new frigates there would be ready in about a week, if they can be manned,

neither of them having more than half of their complement at that time. Our ship and brigantine will, we trust, be ready to join them, and when they are equipped it is proposed that they first attack the two frigates that infest the coast and *Sound*, if they, or either of them, shall appear in their way. Otherwise they will proceed directly up the *Sound* and give the best account they can of the ships this side of *Hell-Gate*, which is the principal object.

I am now informed that the two frigates and the *Alfred* are manned from Colonel *Richmond's* regiment, which I hope will prove true; but if not, am in hopes they may be completed by volunteers from *Richmond* and *New-London*. But if they should still fall short of their full complement, I beg leave to suggest to your Excellency, whether they could not without inconveniency be filled up from some parts of your army, unless the row-galley men, by the enemy's ships passing up *North River*, are rendered useless, in which case they may be ordered to some proper place along *Sound* for Commodore *Hopkins* to take them in. I have given Commodore *Hopkins* the utmost assurance to give him all possible intelligence from time to time, of the enemy's ships of force this side of *Hell-Gate*, that he may be apprised what he has to encounter. To that purpose I beg leave to suggest to your Excellency to give orders to such commanders of the guards or posts in sight of the enemy's ships, to give me intelligence of their force, situation, and motions, or whether and when joined by any other of the enemy's ships through *Hell-Gate*. I have heard that one twenty-four gun ship of the enemy has already passed through to them.

Since my last from Commodore *Hopkins*, am informed that the *Columbus*, Captain *Whipple*, has arrived in port at *Rhode-Island*. Have wrote to him to take her with him, which will make considerable addition to his force. Please to afford me your advice and fullest information. I cannot but flatter myself with strong hopes of advantages to be derived from this adventure of our ships, as well as the expedition to *Long-Island*; secrecy in both is of utmost importance.

I am, with great esteem and regard, sir, your most obedient humble servant,

JONTH. TRUMBULL.

To His Excellency *George Washington*, Esq., Head-Quarters, Heights of *Harlem*.

CONNECTICUT COUNCIL OF SAFETY.

At a meeting of the Governour and Council of Safety of *Connecticut*, at *New-Haven*, October 11th, 1776, present, his Honour the Governour, his Honour the Deputy Governour, *Eliphalet Dyer*, *Jabez Huntington*, *Titus Hosmer*, *William Hillhouse*, *Benjamin Huntington*, Esqrs.

A consultation was had concerning the expedition of Colonels *Richmond* and *Livingston* to *Long-Island*, and a mode of preparation adopted, which his Honour the Governour took in hand, to give the necessary orders, &c. with all possible secrecy; and Mr. *Shaw* was sent home with orders to forward said expedition as fast as possible.

GOVERNOUR TRUMBULL TO COMMODORE HOPKINS.

New-Haven, October 11, 1776.

SIR: Your favour of the 5th instant came safe to hand, in which you inform me that the *Alfred* and *Hampden* are ready, and the two new frigates you expect will be ready in about a week. I hope no attention or diligence will be wanting to have them prepared by that time, and shall endeavour that there be no delay as to ours, though am necessitated to apply to you or your State, to furnish a quantity of shot for our ships. We have the round, but double-headed chain sliding, and star shot we have none; hope you can supply what will be wanting for the present. We have sent to our furnace for them, but fear it will be impossible to have them ready at *New-London* by the time they may be wanted for the present expedition, but may be ready to be replaced if necessary, very soon after. The size of the cannon for which we shall want them are nine-pounders. I understand the *Columbus* is now in port; if so, cannot she join your squadron? for no force ought to be omitted which human foresight can devise to render our ships as sure as may be at this critical time with our army, as this expedition, if successful, may much disconcert the enemy.

Since my last to you, there has been two more frigates up the *Sound* as far as against *Saybrook*, but suppose are now returned towards *Block-Island*; how far they or either of them may be the object of your attention, shall submit. No doubt, there ought to be a spy upon them out from *New-port* or *New-London*, or both, to watch and give intelligence of their motions, and if they, or either of them, may be decoyed in so as to fall in your way, and the force from *New-London* to join you at an appointed time or signal given, perhaps you may first give a good account of them before you proceed up the *Sound*, which by the way, is the main object.

I have employed Captain *Shaw*, the bearer hereof, to confer with you on the subject, and acquaint you from time to time, with every occurrence, and see that every preparation is made on our part, and give every necessary intelligence and assistance, as it will be difficult for me to do by letters, and at this distance, where I may be detained with the Assembly for a fortnight or three weeks.

The expedition on *Long-Island* set forward by General *Washington*, will be conducted by Colonels *McIntosh* and *Livingston*, and *Richmond* if he joins them. I have requested Colonel *Livingston* as soon as he arrives on *Long-Island*, to employ trusty spies along the south side to watch the motion of the enemy's ships from *New-York*, and give speedy intelligence, if there is any appearance of their coming round the island, that you may have the earliest notice if any such matter should happen.

We hear that your ships are now manned from Colonel *Richmond's* regiment; if any failure on that account, I hope numbers of volunteers may be found at *Rhode-Island* and *New-London*; but if still wanting, there may possibly be a complement thrown aboard from General *Washington's* army upon a sudden occasion, and for so short a time as they might be wanted if timely notice is sent forward to General *Washington* of their being wanted. I understand there is a twenty-four gun ship got through *Hell-Gate*, and joined the two frigates, though now one lies at *Huntington*, a considerable distance. I shall endeavour to gain every intelligence in my power, and acquaint you with any alteration or reinforcement which may happen there.

I am, with esteem and regard, sir, your obedient, humble servant,

JONTH. TRUMBULL.

To Hon. Commodore *Hopkins*.

P. S. Shall yield you my assistance of excuse to Congress; the good of the service is their object, as I am sure it is yours.

MEMORIAL OF STONINGTON (CONNECTICUT) COMMITTEE.

To the honourable the General Assembly now sitting at NEW-HAVEN:

The Memorial of the Committee of Correspondence and Inspection of the town of STONINGTON, and sundry of the inhabitants of said town, most humbly sheweth:

That whereas your Honours thought fit, in your last session in *May*, to grant for the defence and protection of this place, a Captain and ninety men, since which, one half have been ordered to *New-London*. Your Honours may remember, that this town is the only one in this State that has received any damage from those sons of tyranny and despotism, sent by that more than savage tyrant *George III.*, to deprive us of those inalienable rights that the Supreme Governour of heaven and earth has invested us with:

Your memorialists therefore pray that the number of men ordered and destined as above, may still be continued; and the two eighteen-pounders and four twelve-pounders, and shot, &c., that were ordered in your former session for this place, may be delivered as soon as possible, as the harbour is perhaps more used by coasters, and vessels bound to sea, than any harbour in this State; and is a place of great consequence, not only to this, but other States. We therefore beg leave to inform your Honours that several vessels have lately been chased into this harbour by the King's ships, and have here been protected.

Your memorialists further pray, that the three large cannon, (now at *New-London*,) belonging to this town, be likewise ordered to this place; and the two field-pieces that were lent by this town to the town of *New-London*, be ordered back to the town of *Stonington*. We therefore

flatter ourselves that this our most reasonable request will be granted. And your memorialists, as in duty bound, shall ever pray.

Stonington, October 11, 1776.

NATHANIEL MINOR, JOHN DENISON,
PAUL WHEELER, HENRY BABCOCK,
JOHN BROW, JUN., SIMON RHODES,
Committee.

Joseph Denison,	John Hancox,	John Denison,
Alexander Bradford,	Sam'l Chesebrough,	Joseph Champlin,
Robert Stanton,	Moses Brumley,	Walter Palmer,
Nathan Palmer,	Jonathan Gray,	Jedediah Thompson,
Nathaniel Palmer,	William Stak,	Thomas Palmer,
Nathan Palmer, Jr.,	Henry Burtich,	David Thompson,
John Daviss,	Wm. Chesebrough,	Charles Thompson,
Andrew Palmer,	James Palmer,	William Thompson,
Michael Ash,	Nathaniel Crandall,	Joseph Vincent,
Lemuel Dewey,	Jared Crandall,	Nathaniel Fanning,
John Ratbun,	Rufus Palmer,	Thomas Leeds,
John Ratbun, Jr.,	Elijah Palmer,	Phineas Stanton, Jr.,
Peleg Brown,	Thomas Stanton, 4th,	Stephen Babcock,
Elisha Denison,	Asa Lewis,	Joseph Page,
Asa Palmer,	Nathan Hinckley,	Gilbert Fanning,
Edward Hancox, Jr.,	Elijah Hinckley,	Daniel Hobart,
Oliver Hilliard,	John Rock,	John Cotton Rossiter,
John Dodge,	James Noyes, Jr.,	Eliphalet Hobart,
Peter Crary,	Edward Crosby,	James Hancox,
Clement Minor,	Wiatt Hinckley,	John Hailey,
Naboth Chesebrough,	Elihu Babcock,	Peleg Chesebrough,
John Minor, 2d,	George Batolph,	Nathaniel Fellows,
John Newmon,	Abel Hinckley,	Nathl. Fellows, Jun.,
Andrew Brown,	James Noyes,	Simeon Hiscoc,
Elkanah Cobb,	Peleg Noyes,	Thomas Hiscoc,
Samuel Salterlee,	John Randall,	Israel Lewis,
Sands Niles,	Eliphalet Budington,	Sylvester Pendleton,
Thomas Robinson,	James Cornish,	Akors Sheffield,
John Denison, 5th,	John Breed, Jr.,	William Palmer,
Elijah Utley,	Isaac Brown,	Eliph. Budington, Jr.,
James Tripp,	Fish Brown,	Charles Welch,
Edward Ellis,	Hemsted Minor,	Job Taylor,
Zeb'n Chesebrough,	Thomas Randall,	William Scovill.

Rejected in both Houses.

Attest: BENJAMIN HUNTINGTON, Clerk.
Test: GEORGE WYLLYS, Secretary.

PETITION OF THE TOWN OF GROTON, CONNECTICUT.

To the honourable General Assembly of the State of CONNECTICUT, to be held at NEW-HAVEN, on the second THURSDAY of OCTOBER, A. D. 1776.

We, your Honours' petitioners, being often alarmed by the appearance of more or less of the King of *Great Britain's* ships coming near the harbour of *New-London*, and do not know how soon they will come into our harbour, or land a number of troops, and ravage the country near it; and as your Honours are fully acquainted with the sea-coast near this harbour being very much stripped of men, both for the army and navy, for which reasons we, your Honour's petitioners, beg leave to entreat of your Honours to give the necessary orders for the First Company of Militia belonging to this town to return home, that both their and our wives and children may be partly relieved from the very great anxiety they are now in. And your humble petitioners, as in duty bound, will ever pray, &c.

Groton, October 11, 1776.

John Williams,	Ebenezer Ledyard,	Elisha Brown,
Ezekiel Barley,	Edward Jeffrey,	Thomas Lester,
Luke Perkins,	James Street,	Benjamin Bill,
Vine Starr,	William Ledyard,	Samuel Lester,
Richard Starr,	Ebenezer Avery, 3d,	Nicholas Starr,
Nathan Forsith,	Elnathan Perkins,	William Wood,
James Starr,	Joseph Latham,	Daniel Latham,
Jasper Latham,	Jonathan Latham,	Thomas Chester,
Walter Budington,	Christopher Latham,	David Avery,
Ebenezer Budington,	Ebenezer Avery,	James Avery.

New-London, October 11, 1776.

A ship, burden two hundred and twenty-five tons, taken by Captain *Thomas Nickerson*, in the privateer sloop *America*, belonging to *Plymouth*, was last week brought into a port in this State. The privateer had been only seven days out when she took this prize, and was left in chase of another. The cargo of this ship is as follows, viz: two hundred hogsheads of sugar, one hundred puncheons of rum, twenty casks of *Madeira* wine, a quantity of logwood and mahogany.

COMMODORE HOPKINS TO DANIEL TILLINGHAST.

Newport, October 11, 1776.

SIR: The bearer is a lady on board the *Cabot's* prize,

Lowther. Should be glad you will take care to provide her such lodgings as are suitable to her, and see that she is treated every other way as a woman of character, and you will oblige yours, at command,

ESEK HOPKINS.

To *Daniel Tillinghast, Esq.,* Agent for the Continental Fleet.

Mrs. *Briggs* presents her most respectful compliments to Admiral *Hopkins*, returns him her best thanks for his polite offer of providing her a lodging; but being a little indisposed, and Captain *Hamilton* proposing to sail with the first fair wind, thinks it best to go up with him, as he has behaved in the kindest manner. Mrs. *B.* will be much obliged to Admiral *Hopkins* if he will take the trouble of writing a line with her to *Providence*.

Thursday afternoon.

JOHN AVERY TO E. THOMPSON.

Council Chamber, Watertown, October 11, 1776.

SIR: I am directed by the honourable Council of this State to apply to you for a number of commissions for commanders of armed vessels, authorizing them to cruise upon the enemies of *America*, signed by the President of Congress. As this office is exhausted of those important papers, please to send me by the bearer as many as you can spare, and as many bonds, and they shall be refunded as soon as a sufficient number shall arrive from *Philadelphia*, which are hourly expected.

I am, sir, with great esteem, your very humble servant,
JOHN AVERY, *Deputy Secretary*.

To the Secretary of the State of *New-Hampshire*.

JOHN HANSON, JUN., TO MARYLAND COUNCIL OF SAFETY.

Frederick-Town, October 12, 1776.

SIR: The money sent for the support of the prisoners is very nearly expended, and as this will be a good opportunity by Mr. *Saw* to send up some more, I hope it will be done; and am, sir, your most humble servant,

JOHN HANSON, Jun.

To the honourable Council of Safety.

BALTIMORE COMMITTEE.

At a special meeting of the Committee on *Saturday*, 12th *October*, 1776,

Present: *Samuel Purviance*, Chairman; *William Lux*, Vice Chairman; *W. Buchanan*, *B. Nicholson*, *T. Rutter*, *W. Aisquith*, *J. Calhoun*.

Information being given to the Committee on oath, by Mr. *David Evans*, that *Francis Sanderson* had, in a conversation with him, spoken words "tending to disunite the good people of this State in the present opposition to *Great-Britain*;" by order of the Committee, *October 12*, 1776, *Francis Sanderson* is required to attend this Committee at Mr. *Purviance's*, immediately, to answer a complaint exhibited against him for several words spoken by him, and tending to disunite the people of this State in their present opposition to *Great Britain*. And in case he don't attend, Captain *Cox* is directed to bring him by force.

Per order: W. LUX, *Vice Chairman*.

The said *Francis Sanderson* appeared in consequence of the warrant, and having nothing to offer in vindication of the charge, he was committed to the custody of the guard for this night, in order to be sent to the Council of Safety, agreeable to the resolves of Convention in *July*, 1775.

Attest: GEO. LUX, *Secretary*.

The Deposition of *David Evans*, of *Baltimore-Town*, aged twenty-five years, who being duly sworn on the Holy Evangelists of Almighty God, deposeth and saith, that on *Monday* or *Tuesday* last, *Francis Sanderson*, of *Baltimore-Town*, coppersmith, called him into his house as he was going past the door, and asked him to take a glass of spirits; on which he went in, and the said *Sanderson* told him, this deponent, he understood that he had taken a commission in the *American* army, which he was sorry to hear, as he looked upon it as dangerous, as all opposition was in vain, and that he imagined the estates would be confiscated, and

he was afraid for his own house. That he had lately seen a gentleman from *England*, who told him the *English* did not regard the *Americans* a snap of the fingers, and that there were four or five other Powers ready to join them, but they were refused, as the *English* thought themselves strong enough to conquer without their assistance. He then asked this deponent if he knew the reason why General *Lee* was gone to the southward. This deponent answered, because the Congress had appointed him to the command there. He said no, that was not the reason, but that he looked on it when *Howe* came to *New-York* with his army, he expected nothing less but to be conquered if he staid there. That General *Lee* had advised the members of Convention at *Annapolis* that now was the time to make up with *Great Britain*, as he knew now they were in earnest, and that he would go to Congress and use his influence there to settle it. And further said that many officers in *Pennsylvania* were resigning their commissions, knowing all opposition was in vain; and that the Congress, the Convention, the Assembly, and Council of Safety in *Pennsylvania*, were all sitting together, some making laws and others disannulling them. And further this deponent saith not.

Sworn in Committee, 12th *October*, 1776.

DAVID EVANS.

Witness: S. PURVIANCE, Jr., *Chairman*.

Attest: GEO. LUX, *Secretary*.

CAPTAIN HINDMAN TO MARYLAND COUNCIL OF SAFETY.

Philadelphia, October 12, 1776.

DEAR SIR: About four days ago I arrived here in search of necessary clothing for the *Maryland* regular troops, which am much afraid shall not be able to procure at present, particularly shoes and stockings, of which we are in great want, and unless they can be got will render many soldiers unfit for duty. I suppose between this and *Christmas* they may be procured, but at a most extravagant rate. Common yarn here are now at six pounds ten shillings the dozen pair, and every kind of goods in the like proportion. I applied to Congress in hopes of being supplied from the Continental store, but can get nothing from thence. Am in great hopes your Honours will order us back to the Province to get recruited and furnished with the clothing we now are in immediate want of. Colonel *Smallwood* wrote me he had wrote down to the Convention for that purpose. I can assure you the very thoughts of keeping our troops at camp all winter disheartens them very much; nor is it to be wondered at from the severe duty and great fatigue they have undergone ever since they have been at *New-York*. A sufficiency of provisions we do not complain of, if a constant succession of beef and flour from day to day will do, and that sometimes without salt; and one day in the week we get salt pork. No kind of vegetables does the Commissary furnish us with, and such our situation we can get none; being the nearest to the enemy's lines, any thing of that kind coming from the country being taken up by the eastern troops over *King's Bridge*. Think not, sir, I mean to complain on my own account, or that I wish to be recalled; it is for the men in general, who are much discontented for fear they should be kept the whole winter through.

The bearer, Mr. *Hopkins*, who I believe goes down to solicit favours from your House, and who has been a cadet with our troops, can give you a very good account of our treatment and situation at present; and shall say nothing further on that subject.

Am informed the army is to be put on a new establishment, and the whole in the Continental service. Could wish to know what is to be done with the Provincial Regulars of our Province, as they seem to think they cannot be kept in the Continental service without their consents; and if the contract they have entered into for the Provincial service be once dissolved, I doubt they will not enter very freely into the Continental service. Such is also the case with the *Flying-Camp*. The hard usage they have met with will greatly discourage them from inlisting again under the new establishment struck out by Congress; which I wish had been earlier fallen upon, as by that means we might at this day have had a well-disciplined army, and which I now despair of being raised very soon.

Are the *Maryland* Independent Companies to be formed

into battalions? It is the desire of all the officers belonging to them they should. It is very inconvenient so many companies acting together in one battalion, and subject to the command of one man. Do not suppose I am speaking for myself in hopes of promotion, but that would be better for the service they should. I think that melancholy day on *Long-Island* convinced us of the want of Field Officers, having none but Major *Gist* to command us, who behaved as well as men could do; therefore do again repeat I think they should, as soon as possible, be formed into battalions, and if your honourable House should not think the services I have done and the line of promotion I now stand in sufficient for my advancement, shall submit to your determination. I take the liberty, however, of recommending my First Lieutenant, *A. Anderson*, as a man worthy of promotion and as good an officer as any in the *Maryland* service, and have no doubt when his character is inquired into, you will find I say no more of him than he deserves. We are informed that a committee is to go from each State to the camp, to know what officers will serve, and their merit. I think they will generally find the *Maryland* officers merit the trust and confidence heretofore reposed in them. I must beg the favour of your notice and attention to *James Morgan*, first sergeant in my company, for promotion. Am satisfied he will merit any favour that may be shown him in that way, and have no doubt of his making a good officer. He has acted as such ever since he has been with me. Shall return with the sundry articles I can procure in two or three days. Am very sorry to hear from my brother that a report is spread among Captain *Stone's* friends that my company, the day we were engaged on *Long-Island*, behaved very ill. I gave him by the earliest opportunity as true a state of the whole affair as I could recollect, which he informs me he showed to Mr. *Chamberlaine*, and which I believe the officers under me can aver to the truth of, as can the officers under Captain *Stone*. I cannot judge him guilty of writing any thing of the kind. Have not had an opportunity of seeing him since I received my brother's letter, being gone to the country very sick. Such aspersions are base and ungenerous, and not giving men a fair chance of vindicating themselves. I have had the vanity to think the company I have had the honour to command have behaved themselves as well as any in the service, notwithstanding the dark insinuations that have been thrown out to their prejudice, and will refer to Colonel *Smallwood* for their behaviour and conduct since they have been under his command. I lost only three men on *Long-Island*. My company wants but few men to complete it. They have been and still are very sickly, as are all our troops.

I am your much obliged, humble servant,

JAMES HINDMAN.

RESOLVE OF PENNSYLVANIA COUNCIL OF SAFETY.

In Council of Safety, Philadelphia, October 12, 1776.

Whereas it has been represented to the Council that some persons in this State, preferring their own private emolument to the duties of humanity and the publick good, have monopolized and engrossed whole cargoes or large quantities of Salt, and as it is the practice of every well-regulated State, not only to discourage, but even to punish all monopolizers of the necessaries of life, and as such evil practices at this time are pernicious and very unjustifiable, as for the want of an established Government provision cannot be made against them, and being desirous to give every reasonable encouragement to the importers of such article, this Council do

Resolve, That they will allow the generous price of fifteen shillings per bushel, for every bushel of Salt that may be imported into this State and delivered to them, until the 15th day of *November* next; the same to be sold out to the publick in small parcels at the first cost, by such person or persons as they may hereafter appoint, in order that the necessities of the good people may be supplied at as reasonable a rate as possible, and the rapacious practices of avaricious men defeated. It is therefore earnestly recommended to said importers not to demand a higher price than is here offered, and to make report to this Council of the quantities they have, or may import, that they may be treated with for the purchase of the same.

Extract from the Minutes:

JACOB S. HOWELL, *Secretary*.

LANCASTER (PENNSYLVANIA) COMMITTEE.

At a meeting of the Committee of Observation, Inspection, and Correspondence, at the house of *Adam Reigart*, the 12th *October*, 1776,

Present: *William Atlee*, *Lodwick Lowman*, *Adam Reigart*, *Sebastian Graff*, *Henry Dehuff*, *John Witmer*, *Edward Shippen*, *Casper Shaffner*, *John Miller*. *William Atlee* in the Chair.

William Patton, of the Twenty-Sixth Regiment, is permitted to go to *York-Town* to attend on Captain *Livingston* there, and the Chairman is requested to grant him a pass for that purpose.

The Chairman read a Letter from Mr. *Peters*, Secretary at War, requesting that Captain *Hesketh's* Baggage, which is in the care of Sergeant *Cooper*, may be sent down to him; and it is agreed that the Chairman order Sergeant *Cooper* to produce the Baggage of Captain *Hesketh*, and that he forward it to the care of Mr. *Peters* as expeditiously as possible.

Mr. *Atlee* is directed, out of the moneys in his hands for the relief of the poor families of Associators, to pay to *Anna Maria Peter*, the wife of *Casper Peter*, an Associator in Captain *Klatz's* Flying-Camp Company, £1 10s.; and to *Deborah Hardy*, the wife of *Isaac Hardy*, an Associator in Captain *Harman's* Company, £1 2s. 6d., to assist them in the support of themselves and children in the absence of their husbands at the army.

William Frenniman, of the Seventh Regiment, is permitted to work with *Jacob Graeff*, Gunsmith, he here in Committee engaging, &c.

Peter Howell, *Michael Stanley*, put in the guard-house *September* 25th, by Captain *Boyd*, for being drunk, &c., in a tavern at nine o'clock. Ordered to be sent to the Barracks with the next relief.

John Jacks, worked with *Peter Hollingen*; *John Brown*, worked with *Peter Helm*—Met with at the creek with a knapsack, supposed to be going off, and sent to the guard-house, by Captain *William Amer*. Ordered to the Barracks with the next relief.

David Murphy, of the Seventh, weaving with *Christian Myer*, about one and half miles from town.

GENERAL LEE TO THE PRESIDENT OF CONGRESS.

Amboy, October 12, 1776.

SIR: The *Hessians* who were encamped opposite this post, last night disappeared, and there is the greatest reason to think that they have quitted the island entirely, which announces some great manœuvre to be in agitation. I am confident they will not attack General *Washington's* lines: such a measure is too absurd for a man of Mr. *Howe's* genius; and unless they have received flattering accounts from *Burgoyne* that he will be able to effectuate a junction, (which I conceive they have not,) they will no longer remain kicking their heels at *New-York*. They will put the place in a respectable state of defence, which with their command of the waters may be easily done, leave four or five thousand men, and direct their operations to a more decisive object. They will infallibly proceed either immediately up the river *Delaware* with their whole troops, or what is more probable, land somewhere about *South-Amboy* or *Shrewsbury*, and march straight to *Trenton* or *Burlington*. We must suppose every case. On the supposition that this will be the case, what are we to do? What force have we? what means have we to prevent their possessing themselves of *Philadelphia*? General *Washington's* army cannot possibly keep pace with them. The length of his route is not only infinitely greater, but his obstructions almost insuperable; in short, before he could cross *Hudson* river, they might be lodged and strongly fortified on both banks of the *Delaware*. I shall make no apologies to Congress for thus so freely offering my opinion; the importance of the matter is a sufficient apology. For Heaven's sake, rouse yourselves; for Heaven's sake, let ten thousand men be immediately assembled and stationed somewhere about *Trenton*. In my opinion your whole depends upon it. I set out immediately for Head-Quarters, where I shall communicate my apprehension that such will be the next operation of the enemy, and urge the expediency of sparing a part of his army (if he has any to spare) for this object.

I am, sir, with the greatest respect, your most obedient,
humble servant,

CHARLES LEE.

To the President of Congress.

Head-Quarters, Perth-Amboy, October 12, 1776.

Colonel *Allison's* battalion of *Pennsylvania* Associators having done their duty while in camp as good and orderly soldiers, and furnished their full complement for the Flying-Camp, are hereby dismissed the service of the States, and permitted to return home.

SAMUEL GRIFFIN, *Deputy Adjutant-General*.

Newark, New-Jersey, October 12, 1776.

Last *Thursday* se'nnight, Captain *Coffin* and *Grennell*, with a boy, made their escape from *Staten-Island* in a canoe, and got safe to *Bergen Point*, and from thence came to this place *Saturday*. The former was taken going from *New-York* to *Nantucket*, some months since; and the latter, on the 28th of *August*, in latitude 33° 30', longitude 66° 20', in a brig from the *Western Islands* for *Nantucket*, by a new *English* twenty-gun ship, called the *Galatea*, *John Jones*, Esq., commander, sheathed with copper, and a most extraordinary sailer, being part of a convoy for some ships from *London* bound to *New-York*, some of which are arrived at *Sandy-Hook*.

GENERAL WASHINGTON TO GOVERNOUR COOKE.

Head-Quarters, Harlem Heights, October 12, 1776.

SIR: The situation of our affairs, and the approaching dissolution of the present army, calling for every possible exertion on our part to levy a new one, and presuming that your State are about to make an arrangement of officers for the quota of troops they are to furnish, and that they may wish to know those belonging to them who have served with reputation and bravery, I have thought it expedient to obtain a return by such means as seemed most likely to be well founded. To this end I have made inquiry, and the enclosed list, which I have the honour to transmit you, comprehends the names of those who, in publick estimation, and that of the Generals under whom they have more particularly acted, have behaved themselves well and to good acceptance; and whose past conduct gives a reasonable hope that their future will render material services to their country.

The advantages arising from a judicious appointment of officers, and the fatal consequences that result from the want of them, are too obvious to require arguments to prove them. I shall therefore beg leave to add only that as the well-doing, nay, the very existence, of every army to any profitable purposes, depend upon it, that too much regard cannot be had to the choosing of men of merit, and such as are not only under the influence of a warm attachment to their country, but who also possess sentiments of principles of the strictest honour. Men of this character are fit for office, and will use their best endeavours to introduce that discipline and subordination which are essential to good order, and inspire that confidence in the men which alone can give success to the interesting and important contest in which we are engaged. I would also beg leave to subjoin that it appears to me absolutely necessary that this business should have your earliest attention, that those who are nominated may employ their interest and influence to recruit men out of your corps that are now here, without loss of time.

In respect to the officers that were in the *Canada* expedition, their behaviour and merit, and the severities they have experienced, entitle them to a particular notice, in my opinion. However, as they are under their paroles, I would recommend that vacancies should be reserved for such as you think fit to promote, not wishing them to accept commissions immediately, or to do the least act that may be interpreted a violation of their engagement.

Their releasement, I hope, will be soon obtained, as I think them entitled to the first exchange, and which I have mentioned to Congress.

I flatter myself that the freedom I have taken in the instances above, will have the indulgence and pardon of your State, when I assure you that the list you will receive is not intended to exclude gentlemen of greater merit, or trans-

FIFTH SERIES VOL. II.

mitted with other views than to assist you, and of promoting the general good; and also, that the measure has been recommended by a Committee of Congress who were pleased to honour me with a visit. I have done the same to Governour *Trumbull*, at his particular request; and the officers are making out a return to be laid before the *Massachusetts* Assembly, of the same nature, so far as it concerns the officers from their State.

On the morning of the 9th instant, three of the enemy's ships, two of forty-four guns and one of twenty, with three or four tenders, ran up the *North River*, without receiving any interruption from our chevaux-de-frise or apparent damage from our batteries, though a heavy fire was kept up against them from each side of the river; they are laying at *Tarrytown*, from twenty-five to thirty miles above this, and out-sailing two of our row-galleys in their passage up, they fell into their hands; the crews escaped.

I had like to have omitted mentioning of a Paymaster to each regiment, who, I perceive, are not noticed in the list transmitted you. Congress, by a late resolution, have allowed such an officer, with Captain's pay; and as their duty will be not only to receive the regiment's pay, but to keep accounts of their clothing and every other incidental charge, I would beg leave to recommend that attention should be had to their appointment, and that persons may be nominated who are well versed in accounts, and who can keep them in a fair and proper manner. I am led to advise this precaution to be used because it will be an office of a good deal of consequence, and because in several instances in the present army, where the appointments were made in consequence of recommendations from the Field Officers, persons have been put in who, so far from being accountants and answering the designs of Congress, can scarcely write their own names.

October 13.—Yesterday the enemy landed at *Frog's Point*, about nine miles from hence up the *Sound*; their number we cannot ascertain, as they have not advanced. The point is rather an island, as it is surrounded by water every high tide. From the great movements of ships and other vessels up the *Sound* in the evening, with troops within, and the information of two deserters who came out last night, there is strong reason to believe they mean to land, and to pursue their former scheme of getting in our rear and cutting off the communication with the country. I have ordered some works to be thrown up on the passes leading from the *Sound*, where they are landed; and from the situation of the grounds through which they must pass, if they pursue their plan, I would fain hope they will sustain considerable loss, if not a repulse.

I have the honour to be, &c.,
GO. WASHINGTON.
To Governour *Cooke*, *Rhode-Island*.

GENERAL WASHINGTON TO COLONEL PHILIPS.

Head-Quarters, October 12, 1776.

SIR: I have it in charge from his Excellency the Commander-in-chief, to return you his most thankful acknowledgment for the proposition contained in your address, and to inform you that he not only approves of the same, but wishes you to proceed with the works which you have mentioned. The generous motives which induced you to lay the measure before him, in his estimation do you the highest honour, and are such as he would be happy to see prevail generally through the army.

I am, &c.,
R. H. HARRISON.
To Colonel *Joseph Philips*, *New-Jersey* Militia.

COLONEL HARRISON TO GENERAL HEATH.

Head-Quarters, October 12, 1776.

SIR: His Excellency this minute received your's giving intelligence of the enemy's movements. He has given orders for all the regiments to be under arms here, that they may be ready to act as occasion may require. He wishes you to make such disposition of the troops on your side, and of the two Militia regiments that are posted opposite to this, as you think necessary, and begs and trusts that every possible opposition will be given to the enemy.

God bless and lead you on to victory.
Yours, &c.,
ROB. H. HARRISON.

His Excellency would beg your attention to one thing, viz: that you will take proper precautions against a feint, and watch the enemy's motions. They perhaps may make a feint to land at *Frog's Point*, to draw your attention that way, and slip down when it is high water towards *Morrisiana*, with a view of gathering in your rear. Guard against that.

To General *Heath*.

JOSEPH TRUMBULL TO THE PRESIDENT OF CONGRESS.

King's Bridge, October 12, 1776.

SIR: I have employed Mr. *Carpenter Wharton* to purchase and receive all the salt westward of *New-Jersey*, and salt and cure as much pork for use of the army, as salt can be had for. I expect about eight or nine thousand barrels. I expected to have seen him before I set off for *New-England* on the same errand; but am disappointed. I must request you on receipt hereof, to furnish him with such sums of money as may be necessary for this purpose, from time to time, as he may want, taking his receipt, to account to me for the expenditure, and charge the same to my account accordingly.

I am, most respectfully, sir, your most humble servant,
Jos. TRUMBULL.

To the Hon. *John Hancock*, Esq., President of Congress.

Any directions he may want and ask for, I doubt not Congress will give him.

GENERAL BEALL TO MARYLAND COUNCIL OF SAFETY.

York Island, October 12, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: In obedience to your orders of the 11th *September* and 3d *October*, have enclosed you an account of arms and accoutrements received of the State of *Maryland* by the troops under my command, with a monthly return to the 10th instant of the number, state, and condition of said troops. I have had some trouble in getting an account of the arms, &c. Some Captains have not kept a regular account of what they received, which makes me think the enclosed account is not so correct as it ought to be, though the best I could get.

Captain *Richardson* and Captain *Goldsberry*, of Colonel *Richardson's* regiment, with their companies, and Captain *Brooke* and company, of Colonel *Ewing's* regiment, have not yet joined their respective regiments, so that I cannot yet procure an account of the arms, &c., they received of the State of *Maryland*; but will transmit you an account of them as soon as they join their respective regiments.

I have the honour to subscribe myself, gentlemen, your most obedient servant,

REZIN BEALL.

To the honourable Council of Safety.

A Return of Field Officers fit for duty in General BEALL's Brigade.

- | | |
|----------------------------|--------------------------|
| 1. Colonel Griffith, | 3. Lieut. Col. Anderson, |
| 2. Colonel Hall, | 1. Major Mantz, |
| 3. Colonel Ewing, | 2. Major Cradock, |
| 1. Lieut. Colonel Shryock, | 3. Major Eden. |
| 2. Lieut. Colonel Hyde, | |

DAN'L JENIFER ADAMS, B. M.

Harlem Heights, October 12, 1776.

COLONEL SMALLWOOD TO MARYLAND CONVENTION.

Camp of the Maryland Regulars, Head-Quarters, }
October 12, 1776. }

SIR: Through your hands I must beg leave to address the honourable Convention of *Maryland*, and must confess not without an apprehension that I have incurred their displeasure for having omitted writing when on our march from *Maryland* for *New-York*, and since our arrival here. Nor shall I, in a pointed manner, urge any thing in my defence, but leave them at large to condemn or excuse me, upon a presumption that, should they condemn, they will at least pardon, and judge me perhaps less culpable when they reflect, in the first instance, on the exertions necessary to procure baggage-wagons, provisions, and house-room for seven hundred and fifty men, marched the whole distance

in a body, generally from fifteen to twenty miles per day, as the several stages made it necessary; and in the latter I trust they will give some indulgence for this neglect, for, since our arrival at *New-York*, it has been the fate of this corps to be generally stationed at advanced posts, and to act as a covering party, which must unavoidably expose troops to extraordinary duty and hazard, not to mention the extraordinary vigilance and attention in the commandant of such a party in disposing in the best manner, and having it regularly supplied; for here the commanders of regiments, exclusive of their military duty, are often obliged to exert themselves in the departments of Commissary and Quartermaster-General, and even directors of their Regimental Hospitals.

Perhaps it may not be improper to give a short detail of occurrences upon our march to *Long-Island*, and since that period.

The enemy, from the 21st to the 27th of *August*, were landing their troops on the lower part of *Long-Island*, where they pitched a large encampment, and ours and their advanced parties were daily skirmishing at long shot, in which neither party suffered much. On the 26th, the *Maryland* and *Delaware* troops, which composed part of Lord *Stirling's* brigade, were ordered over. Colonel *Hasslet* and his Lieutenant-Colonel, *Bedford*, of the *Delaware* battalion, with Lieutenant-Colonel *Hare* and myself, were detained on the trial of Lieutenant-Colonel *Zedwitz*; and though I waited on General *Washington*, and urged the necessity of attending our troops, yet he refused to discharge us, alleging there was a necessity for the trials coming on, and that no other Field Officers could be then had. After our dismissal from the Court-Martial, it was too late to get over, but, pushing over early the next morning, found our regiments engaged, Lord *Stirling* having marched them off before day to take possession of the woods and difficult passes between our lines and the enemy's encampment. But the enemy, the overnight, had stole a march on our Generals, having got through those passes, met and surrounded our troops on the plain grounds, within two miles of our lines. Lord *Stirling* drew up his brigade on an advantageous rising ground, where he was attacked by two brigades in front, headed by the Generals *Cornwallis* and *Grant*, and in his rear the enemy's main body stood ready drawn up to support their own parties, and intercept the retreat of ours. This excellent disposition, and their superior numbers, ought to have taught our Generals there was no time to be lost in securing their retreat, which might at first have been effected, had the troops formed into a heavy column and pushed their retreat; but the longer this was delayed, it became the more dangerous, as they were then landing more troops in front from the ships. Our brigade kept their ground for several hours, and in general behaved well, having received some heavy fires from the artillery and musketry of the enemy, whom they repulsed several times; but their attacks were neither so lasting or vigorous as was expected, owing, as it was imagined, to their being certain of making the whole brigade prisoners of war; for, by this time, they had so secured the passes on the road to our lines, (seeing our parties were not supported from thence, which, indeed, our numbers would not admit of,) that there was no possibility of retreating that way. Between the place of action and our lines there lay a large marsh and deep creek, not above eighty yards across at the mouth, (the place of action upon a direct line did not much exceed a mile from a part of our lines,) towards the head of which creek there was a mill and bridge, across which a certain Colonel *Ward*, from *New-England*, who is charged with having acted a bashful part that day, passed over with his regiment, and then burnt them down, though under cover of our cannon, which would have checked the enemy's pursuit at any time, otherways this bridge might have afforded a secure retreat. There then remained no other prospect but to surrender or attempt to retreat over this marsh and creek at the mouth, where no person had ever been known to cross. In the interim I applied to General *Washington* for some regiments to march out to support and cover their retreat, which he urged would be attended with too great risk to the party and the lines. He immediately afterwards sent for and ordered me to march down a *New-England* regiment, and Captain *Thomas's* company, which had just come over from *York*, to the mouth of the

creek, opposite where the brigade was drawn up, and ordered two field-pieces down to support and cover their retreat, should they make a push that way. Soon after our march they began to retreat, and, for a small time, the fire was very heavy on both sides, till our troops came to the marsh, where they were obliged to break their order, and escape, as quick as they could, to the edge of the creek, under a brisk fire, notwithstanding which they brought off twenty-eight prisoners. The enemy, taking advantage of a commanding ground, kept up a continual fire from four field-pieces, which were well served and directed, and an heavy column advancing on the marsh must have cut our people off: their guns being wet and muddy, not one of them could have fired; but having drawn up the musketry, and disposed of some Riflemen conveniently, with orders to fire on them when they came within shot, however, the latter began their fire too soon, being at two hundred yards distance, which, notwithstanding, had the desired effect, for the enemy immediately retreated to the fast land, where they continued parading within six hundred yards, till our troops were brought over. Most of those who swam over, and others who attempted to cross before the covering party got down, lost their arms and accoutrements in the mud and creek, and some poor fellows their lives, particularly two of the *Maryland*, two of the *Delaware*, one of *Atlee's Pennsylvania*, and two *Hessian* prisoners, were drowned. *Thomas's* men contributed much in bringing over this party. Have enclosed a list of the killed and missing, amounting to two hundred and fifty-six, officers included. It has been said the enemy, during the action, also attacked our lines, but this was a mistake. Not knowing the ground, one of their columns advanced within long shot without knowing they were so near, and upon our artillery and part of the musketry's firing on them, they immediately fled.

The 28th, during a very hard rain, there was an alarm that the enemy had advanced to attack our lines, which alarmed the troops much, but was without foundation.

The 29th, it was found, by a council of war, that our fortifications were not tenable, and it was therefore judged expedient that the army should retreat from the island that night; to effect which, notwithstanding the *Maryland* troops had had but one day's respite, and many other troops had been many days clear of any detail duty, they were ordered on the advanced post at *Fort Putnam*, within two hundred and fifty yards of the enemy's approaches, and, joined with two *Pennsylvania* regiments on the left, were to remain and cover the retreat of the army, which was happily completed under cover of a thick fog and a southwest wind, both which favoured our retreat; otherwise the fear, disorder, and confusion of some of the Eastern troops must have retarded and discovered our retreat, and subjected numbers to be cut off.

After remaining two days in *New-York*, our next station was at *Harlaem*, nine miles above, at an advanced post opposite to *Montresore's* and *Bohana's* Islands, which in a few days the enemy got possession of without opposition, from the former of which we daily discoursed with them, being within two hundred yards, and only a small creek between.

It being judged expedient to abandon *New-York*, and retreat to our lines below *Fort Washington*, the military stores, &c., had been removing some days, when, on the 15th *September*, the enemy effected a landing on several parts of the island below, and, it is cutting to say, without the least opposition.

I have often read and heard of instances of cowardice, but hitherto have had but a faint idea of it till now. I never could have thought human nature subject to such baseness. I could wish the transactions of this day blotted out of the annals of *America*. Nothing appeared but fright, disgrace, and confusion. Let it suffice to say, that sixty Light Infantry, upon the first fire, put to flight two brigades of the *Connecticut* troops—wretches who, however strange it may appear, from the Brigadier-General down to the private sentinel, were caned and whipped by the Generals *Washington*, *Putnam*, and *Mifflin*, but even this indignity had no weight, they could not be brought to stand one shot.

General *Washington* expressly sent and drew our regiment from its brigade, to march down towards *New-York*, to cover the retreat, and to defend the baggage, with direction to take possession of an advantageous eminence near the enemy, upon the main road, where we remained under

arms the best part of the day, till *Sargent's* brigade came in with their baggage, who were the last troops coming in upon which the enemy divided their main body into two columns, one, filing off on the *North River*, endeavoured to flank and surround us. We had orders to retreat in good order, which was done, our corps getting within the lines a little after dusk.

The next day, about one thousand of them made an attempt upon our lines, and were first attacked by the brave Colonel *Knowlton*, of *New-England*, who lost his life in the action, and the Third *Virginia* Regiment, who were immediately joined by three independent companies under Major *Price*, and some part of the *Maryland Flying-Camp*, who drove them back to their lines, it is supposed with the loss of four hundred men killed and wounded. Our party had about one hundred killed and wounded, of the former only fifteen; since which we have been viewing each other at a distance, and strongly intrenching till the 9th *October*, when three of their men-of-war passed up the *North River*, above *King's Bridge*, under a heavy cannonade from our batteries, which has effectually cut off our communication, by water, with *Albany*.

I must now break off abruptly, being ordered to march up above *King's Bridge*, the enemy having landed six thousand men from the *Sound* on *Frog's Point*. Fifty ships are got up there, landing more troops. There is nothing left but to fight them. An engagement is generally expected, and soon. Have enclosed a copy of a general return of the battalion and *Veazy's* company, being all the troops I marched from *Maryland*, with the accoutrements and camp equipage taken in *Philadelphia*, to be rendered the Congress, together with our weekly general return.

The Independents are about their returns of arms, accoutrements, and camp equipage, brought by them from *Maryland*, but not having time to finish, they must hereafter be returned to the Council of Safety.

We have upwards of three hundred officers and soldiers of the *Maryland* Regulars very sick, which you will observe by the return, and, I am sorry to say, it's shocking to humanity to have no more care taken of them. This must hurt the service upon the new establishment.

Majors *Price* and *Gist*, and Captain *Stone*, are in the *Jerseys* very sick, and Colonel *Ware* and myself are very unfit for duty, though we attend it. Many more officers are very unwell.

I am, very respectfully, your obedient and very humble servant,

W. SMALLWOOD.

Sunday, October 13, 1776.

SIR: Colonel *Smallwood*, with the troops, having marched, and not having time to make a fair copy of the rough draft from which the above is copied, desired me to do it, and sign his name, which I have done accordingly, and am your obedient and very humble servant,

CHRIS'R RICHMOND, Adj't.

P. S. It is now near sunset, and we have heard no firing, or any news of an action above *King's Bridge*, which has been hourly expected.

To the Hon. *Matthew Tilghman*, Esq., President Convention of *Maryland*.

ROBERT R. LIVINGSTON TO GENERAL WASHINGTON.

Fishkill, October 12, 1776.

DEAR SIR: I should do great injustice to the polite attention with which your Excellency has listened to the undigested opinions which I have some times offered, if I did not (without any apology for my sentiments) freely, on the present alarming state of this Colony, submit to your Excellency's better judgment such measures as will, in my idea, be most likely to ensure success.

Since upon experiment (contrary to the general sentiment) it appears that the passage of the river is not effectually obstructed, the present situation of the army, though not exactly similar, bears some resemblance to that in which it was at *New-York*. The enemy may land above and reduce your Excellency to the necessity of attacking them at their landing, or of suffering them to seize upon passes from which it will be impossible to dislodge them, for such is the peculiar situation of the Country, and the vicinity of

the *Sound*, will it be very difficult so to station themselves as to render every supply going to our camp extremely precarious? This, too, may be done with a part of their forces, while the remainder having their retreat secured, may, at their leisure, ravage the open country beyond the Highlands, encourage the disaffected, and by their assistance carry their arms to *Albany*, which would, while it distressed the troops in your Excellency's camp, inevitably destroy the Northern army. To stay at *Ticonderoga*, without daily supplies, would be impossible; to march to *Albany* would be equally so, without carriages or horses to carry their provisions and stores, or a sufficient number of boats to transport them in time across *Lake George*. No other means would be left them but to retreat into *New-England*, without stores, artillery, or provisions, in which case their strength would soon be dissipated by desertions, or the whole body be separated through want of necessities. These fears may appear ideal to those who do not reflect that the distance from the Highlands to *Albany* is but one hundred miles, that from *Ticonderoga* to *Albany* is equally distant, through a broken and almost uninhabited country; that most of the Militia of this State, that can be armed or depended on are in your Excellency's camp, and that all the men which we have at present ventured to call upon, in addition to those in service, do not exceed three hundred, and even these, we have little reason to expect that we shall obtain. Add to this, that bodies of men are already enlisted throughout this State, and we have reason to fear are already collecting under the direction of disguised officers in the Highlands.

These evils might, in my humble opinion, be fully guarded against, by sending a single regiment, with a good Engineer, to take possession of the passes in the Highlands, and be forming two camps, the one to secure the passes into *Connecticut*, (which might be done by the Militia of the *New-England* States,) the other, at or near the place where their ships now lie on the *North River*, which would reduce the enemy to the necessity of attacking the lines in front, or expose them if they landed above to the danger of being surrounded. The very reputation of such camps being formed, will prevent their making any such attempt, and in case of any misfortune at *New-York*, will afford a secure retreat, and effectually prevent the enemy from pushing their advantage, more especially if all stores which are not absolutely necessary for the army are removed to this place.

Your Excellency has, I dare say, seen the necessity of laying up magazines of provisions, and collecting materials for barracks at or near this place, that the want of them should not, in case of a defeat, oblige the army to separate.

Were not the Treasury of this State exhausted by the uncommon expense to which we have been put by the disaffection of our own people, the debt due from the Continent, and the disappointment we have met with in striking money, the Convention of this State would have done something therein at their own risk.

Mr. *Hubbard* promised to give your Excellency some information relative to the forts in the Highlands, and the General that commands. The subject is too delicate for a letter.

Your Excellency sees the opinion I have of your patience and good nature, by venturing to obtrude upon them these crude and hasty remarks, which I have not even leisure to copy. Perhaps I might find some excuse for them in my anxiety for the great cause which your Excellency supports, and my knowledge of a country which you have had no opportunity to explore.

I have the honour to be, with the greatest respect, your Excellency's most obedient, humble servant,

ROB'T R. LIVINGSTON.

To His Excellency General *Washington*.

GENERAL GREENE TO GENERAL WASHINGTON.

Fort Constitution, October 12, five o'clock, 1776.

DEAR GENERAL: I am informed a large body of the enemy's troops have landed at *Frog's Point*. If so, I suppose the troops here will be wanted there. I have three brigades in readiness to reinforce you. General *Clinton's* brigade will march first, General *Nixon's* next, and then the troops under the command of General *Roberdeau*. I

don't apprehend any danger from this quarter at present. If the force on your side are insufficient I hope these three brigades may be ordered over, and I with them, and leave General *Ewing's* brigade to guard the post. If the troops are wanted over your side, or likely to be in the morning, they should be got over in the latter part of the night, as the shipping may move up from below, and impede, if not totally stop the troops from passing. I wait your Excellency's further commands. Should be glad to know where the enemy has landed, and their numbers.*

I am, with great respect, your Excellency's obedient servant,

N. GREENE.

To His Excellency General *Washington*, Head-Quarters.

N. B. The tents upon *Staten-Island* have been all struck, as far as discovery has been made.

PRESIDENT OF THE NEW-YORK COMMITTEE OF SAFETY TO SAMUEL TEN BROECK.

In Committee of Safety for the State of New-York, }
Fishkills, October 12, 1776. }

SIR: Yours of the 9th and 10th instant have been received and laid before the Committee. They had some days before been convinced that more effectual measures were necessary to be taken for the safety of your district, and had come into the enclosed resolutions, copies of which were sent forward on the 8th instant.

It is hoped instead of the number of men you request, the company ordered to be raised will be sufficient to answer every purpose intended. In the mean time I am directed to assure you that the Committee will afford you every necessary assistance in their power.

I am, sir, &c.,

PETER R. LIVINGSTON.

To Samuel Ten Broeck, Esq.

GENERAL SCHUYLER TO ROBERT YATES.

Albany, October 12, 1776.

SIR: Since I wrote you on *Monday* last I have been confined to my bed, by very severe rheumatick pains, which attacked me in the head and stomach, and although I am very unfit to write on any subject which requires much reflection, yet as no time is to be lost in raising the new army, I shall venture to give you a few hints.

I need not with gentlemen urge the necessity of discipline and subordination in an army, nor need I point out the variety of evils an army without them are incident to. These I doubt not must occur to every person who has seen disciplined and undisciplined troops, as those of the *American* States are. In some measure to remedy which, and introduce order, I would propose:

1st. That all recruiting officers should have orders not to enlist men for any particular company or regiment, but engage them for any of the regiments of this State, to be disposed of as Convention should direct.

2dly. That drilling officers should be stationed at *Albany*, or any other convenient place, to whom every recruiting officer should without delay send his recruits as fast as he gains them.

3dly. That the drilling officers keep the recruits at constant exercise.

4thly. That the men should be so disposed of as to be commanded by officers whose usual residence is most remote from the men's.

5thly. Every recruiting officer to take the age, size, com-

* October 12, 1776.—Early in the morning, eighty or ninety *British* boats, full of men, stood up the *Sound* from *Montresor's Island*, *Long-Island*, &c. The troops landed at *Frog's Neck*, and their advance pushed towards the causeway and bridge, at *West-Chester Mill*. Colonel *Hand's* riflemen took up the planks of the bridge as had been directed, and commenced a firing with their rifles. The *British* moved towards the head of the creek, but found here also the *Americans* in possession of the pass. General *Heath* immediately (as he had assured Colonel *Hand* he would do) ordered Colonel *Prescott*, the hero of *Bunker's Hill*, with his regiment, and Captain-Lieutenant *Bryant*, of the Artillery, with a three-pounder, to reinforce the Riflemen at *West-Chester Causeway*; and Colonel *Graham*, of the *New-York* line, with his regiment, and Lieutenant *Jackson*, of the Artillery, with a six-pounder, to reinforce at the head of the creek. All of which was promptly done to the check and disappointment of the enemy. The *British* encamped on the neck. The Riflemen and Yagers kept up a scattering popping at each other across the marsh; and the *Americans* on their side, and the *British* on the other, threw up a work at the end of the causeway. Captain *Bryant*, now and then, when there was an object, saluted the *British* with a field-piece. In the afternoon, forty or fifty sail of vessels passed up, and came to anchor off *Frog's Point*. The same evening, General *McDougall's* brigade joined our General's division.—*Heath*.

plexion, colour of hair and eyes, and natural or artificial marks of every recruit, with an account of the place of his birth and occupation.

In order speedily to raise the men, I would propose that recruiting officers should be immediately sent into both armies, furnished with money to pay the bounty, a premium to the officer who shall enlist most men, and a certain allowance for each man enlisted.

As clothing is at present so high that it takes almost a year's pay completely to clothe a soldier in the manner he ought to be, would it not be well if the State was to pay the difference between a moderate price and the present excessive high price, and let the soldiers be only put under stoppage for the first; thus to determine the price of the clothing, which I think should be uniform, and consist of one hat, two shirts, two rollers, one pair of woollen breeches, two pair stockings, one pair shoes, one pair gaiters, one pair buckles, a coat, and waistcoat. What other necessities they may at any time want, to be ordered by the Colonel, with the advice of his Lieutenant-Colonel, Major, and Captains, or a majority of them, and the men put under stoppages for it.

The rank of officers in Colonel *Van Schaick's* and Colonel *Nicholson's* stands in the order in which they are in the enclosed roll. The rank of Colonel *Winkoop's* has never been sent me. I do not know if Congress has fixed it.

Three regiments from *Pennsylvania* and *New-Jersey* will leave *Tyonderoga* by the first of next month. I believe many of those would be recruited.

As the Convention may not be able to procure clothing, it may be asked how they can determine the price. Congress have taken measures to supply clothing; a good deal is collected here by my order, and now making up. This is to be delivered to any soldiers that will engage in the new army; an account is kept of the expense, and Convention can pay the difference into the Pay Office here, or stand charged with it in account with Congress. The recruiting officers can be supplied with the bounty money out of the military chest here.

I am, sir, most respectfully, your most obedient, humble servant,

PH. SCHUYLER.

To *Robert Yates, Esq.*, and the gentlemen of the Committee of Convention, &c.

GENERAL GATES TO GENERAL SCHUYLER.

Tyonderoga, October 12, 1776.

DEAR GENERAL: I have received your favours of the 7th and 10th instant, and am pleased to find you and your armada ride in *Valcour* bay in defiance of the power of our foes in *Canada*. The *Liberty* arrived last night, and sails this moment with the provisions you wrote for, and some of Mr. *Yancey's* best beef. I have long ago urged the necessity for continuing to increase our naval strength upon the lake, and shall now send your letter to General *Schuyler*, and desire him to make such extract from it as is further requisite to induce Congress to direct the forwarding that useful work.

No news is good news; for except what is in the enclosed paper, I know none to send you. I firmly believe that the beating the enemy received from our troops upon *Monday* the 16th ultimo, and the fire of *New-York*, have cooled their ardour so much, that it remains a doubt with me whether General *Howe* will make another attempt before he gets succours from *England*. Perhaps his foreign and national troops have disagreed. Perhaps he waits fresh instructions from his master. Whatever is the cause of his inaction, it is quite certain he has given our army three weeks to form their blockade of *New-York*, and to strengthen their posts in such a manner as not to be forced but with greater loss than I think General *Howe* can afford.

Enclosed is a resolve of Congress, which, when put in execution, will establish their independency, and effectually and forever put a period to the domination of *Great Britain*.

My respectful compliments to General *Waterbury* and Colonel *Wigglesworth*.

I am, dear General, your affectionate, humble servant,

HORATIO GATES.

To General *Schuyler*.

[Duplicate of the above to Brigadier-General *Arnold*.]

COLONEL HARTLEY TO GENERAL GATES.

Crown-Point, October 12, 1776, five o'clock, P. M.

DEAR GENERAL: I have so frequently troubled you with false alarms that I am almost loth to trouble you on the present occasion, but as in war the minutest circumstances should be attended to, I send you an express by land, and enclose you two depositions. By these there must have been an action down the lake yesterday. The deponents are men of character. I make no doubt if the enemy have attempted to come up, they have got a flogging. I have heard nothing from the fleet to-day. The wind was so strong no boat could come up.

I am desirous of knowing what action it was, and in order to give you proper information, shall immediately despatch a boat towards the fleet. It is by boating, I believe, so many of my people get the ague.

I am, honoured sir, with the greatest respect, your most obedient, humble servant,

THOS. HARTLEY.

P. S. Present my compliments to General *St. Clair*. I enclose you a return of this regiment.

The schooner is just in sight. I shall not send my boat.

MAJOR HOISINGTON TO GENERAL GATES.

Newbury, October 12, 1776.

Intelligence given by four deserters from *Canada*, who enlisted out of prison at *Quebeck* into the Royal Emigrant Regiment, commanded by Colonel *McLean*, is, that on the 25th of *September* they left *Montreal*, and before they left the above place Sir *John Johnson*, with the *Indians* and *Canadians*, and Eighth Regiment, had marched to attack the inhabitants on the *Mohawk* river, and meet General *Burgoyne* at *Albany*, who has ordered all the forces from *Chamblé* and *Sorrel* to *St. John's*, with the marines and train of artillery, and sailors, to but three men in each vessel. Likewise, as they passed on the east side of the lake on *Sunday*, the 6th instant, heard a very heavy cannonade on the lake, supposed to be with the fleet. The above deserters were found by one of my scouts about forty miles out, destitute of provisions, and very weak. They being desirous to go to Head-Quarters, near *New-York*, I have passed the above deserters for that place.

I am, sir, your most obedient, humble servant,

JOAB HOISINGTON.

To His Excellency Major-General *Gates*.

COLONEL CUSHING TO MASSACHUSETTS COUNCIL.

Camp at *Newport*, in the State of *Rhode-Island*, }
October 12, 1776. }

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR HONOURS: According to your orders I have marched my regiment to this State. When I came, found Colonel *Richmond* (whose commission bears an earlier date than mine) here encamped, and all things went well. But he has orders to march and join the army near *New-York*; his regiment has this day decamped, and when he himself is gone, my commission takes place. But Colonel *Cook*, who commands a regiment of Militia lately raised in this State, claims rank though his commission is of later date, contrary, as I think, to an express rule and determination of the General Congress. He founds his claim on a particular order of a Committee chose by the Court of this State, and vested with extensive authority to transact matters during the recess of the Court. Hence arises a difficulty between Colonel *Cook* and myself; he can't resign the rank the Committee has given him, and it appears to me not proper or right for me to resign the rank that the Congress have determined. Though with regard to myself personally considered, and considering the shortness of my time here, the matter in dispute is a matter of indifference to me; but I would by no means do or cede any thing contrary to Congress, or dishonourary to our State, or to my regiment. Colonel *Hall*, the bearer of this, is to go by way of *Providence*, and Colonel *Cook* desires he would call upon the Secretary there for a copy of the proceedings of the above-named Committee relative to this affair, which copy, if he preserves, will exhibit to your Honours; likewise Colonel *Hall*, if desired, can give you a more particular account of this matter. I humbly desire your Honours will be pleased to give me your orders or direction how I shall con-

duct with respect to this difficulty, and favour me with the same soon as may be.

I am your Honours' most obedient, humble servant,
JNO. CUSHING, JUN.

To the honourable Council and the honourable House of Representatives of the State of *Massachusetts-Bay*.

Providence, October 12, 1776.

Captain *Arthur Crawford*, of this place, has taken and sent into a safe port, a ship from *London*, bound for *Quebeck*, laden with blankets, woollen cloths, *Irish* linens, sheeting, dowlas, shoes, stockings, boots, brandy, port-wine, bottled porter, cheese, &c. Her cargo, when she started, was estimated at fifteen thousand pounds sterling. He has likewise taken two ships from *Jamaica*.

Tuesday last arrived from a cruise, the sloop *Providence*, Captain *Jones*, in the service of the *United States*. During her cruise she took thirteen prizes, most of them fishermen; six of which she burnt or sunk, after taking out the hands, and ordered the others to different ports. One of them is arrived at the eastward.

Captain *Coffin*, in the *Favourite* privateer, of this port, has taken a ship from *Jamaica*, bound for *London*, laden with sugar, rum, limes, pimento, &c. This prize is also arrived in a safe harbour.

Thursday last arrived the privateer *Industry*, Captain *Child*, of this port. About a fortnight since, he fell in with a very large *Jamaica* ship, mounting ten carriage-guns, which he engaged for several hours; but the sea running high, and his vessel making much water, he could only bring two of his guns to bear, and was finally obliged to quit her. Captain *Child* had two men killed, and five or six wounded.

We hear that the *Cerberus* frigate has this week retaken two valuable prizes, that had been captured by some of our privateers. The hands that were put on board one of them escaped in their boat.

Exeter, N. H., October 12, 1776.

Wednesday next, the General Assembly of this State are to meet in this town, by desire of the Committee of Safety, in consequence of the resolve of Congress relative to forming a new army. Circular letters to all the members for this purpose, were sent off by express last *Saturday*.

Last *Friday*, Captain *Thomas Palmer*, of *Portsmouth*, arrived there in seven weeks from *France*, with a valuable cargo of powder, small-arms, flints, lead, &c.

On the 16th of *September* he met with a large fleet of thirty-three sail of *English* transports, among which he took three to be men-of-war, and being so near, that he and a gentleman, passenger on board, who is going to *South-Carolina*, were both obliged to throw over all their papers and letters of consequence, expecting every moment to be taken.

These gentlemen also inform that the *French* have two fleets at sea, one of nine and the other of eleven sail-of-the-line, who are supposed to cruise, in order to prevent the progress of the *Russian* fleet in the *Baltick*. In all *French* ports *American* vessels are received with the utmost indulgence imaginable, and the *French* are daily in expectation of hearing the Colonies had declared their independency of *Great Britain*; that an embargo had been laid three months on all shipping outward bound in *Spain*, expecting daily a declaration of war with *Portugal*.

Should a war between *Spain* and *Portugal* take place, *France* will inevitably assist *Spain*; and *England*, being by treaty obliged to assist *Portugal* with a certain body of troops, will have both the Powers of *Spain* and *France* to fight.

Thursday last, Captain *Parker*, in a privateer, who sailed from *Portsmouth* about three weeks ago, sent in a prize schooner, loaded with fish and oil; and in pursuit of several more, in sight, when he despatched the above.

Portsmouth, N. H., October 12, 1776.

Last *Wednesday* arrived at *Falmouth*, a prize ship of between three and four hundred tons, from *Portsmouth*, in *England*, to *Quebeck*, laden with powder, nails, beef, butter, &c.; had sixteen carriage guns, eight of which were

mounted. She was taken by a privateer from *Newbury*, by stratagem.

SILAS DEANE TO C. W. F. DUMAS.

Paris, October 13, 1776.

SIR: Before the receipt of this, you will have seen Mr. *Carmichael*, to whom I refer you on many subjects. Yours of the 8th I received since his departure, and have only to ask of you to procure the proper testimonials of this very extraordinary and cruel proceeding at *H*, respecting Mr. *Shoemaker*, a family of which name I knew in *Philadelphia*. These testimonials will be a proper ground to go upon in demanding satisfaction, which I do not think, however, had best be asked until the independence of the Colonies has been formally announced; and proper powers for this step have been delayed strangely, or, perhaps, interrupted. Your zeal in this cause reflects honour on your private as well as publick sentiments of justice and rectitude, and I will transmit to the honourable Congress of the *United States* in my first letters a copy of your memoir. I am still without intelligence of any kind from *America*, save that on the 20th of *August*, a battle was hourly expected at *New-York*. No prospect of reconciliation. The *British* forces in *Canada* are not likely to effect any thing this season; and, consequently, all hopes in *England* rest on the event of a single action at *New-York*, which the publick are made to believe will prove decisive; and so it may, if the fate of the day should be for us, and the enemy have no retreat or resources in *America*; but by no means decisive if it incline the other way. I trouble you with the enclosed for Mr. *Carmichael*.

I am, with great respect, &c.,

SILAS DEANE.

WILLIAM FITZHUGH TO GENERAL WASHINGTON.

Annapolis, Maryland, October 13, 1776.

DEAR SIR: I had the honour to receive your favour of the 5th instant, and am much obliged to you.

I hope you will forgive the trouble I have given and may hereafter give you by recommendations, and show no more regard to them than you think, or may know, they deserve, as in my situation I have many applications which might be thought unfriendly to reject. You may, however, be assured that I will not name to you a man whom I do not know or believe to be worthy.

I suppose Lieutenant *Steward*, if he deserves it, will be promoted in the corps to which he belongs; and with respect to *Wilkinson*, who I verily believe is a young fellow of great merit, I will endeavour, as you are pleased to advise, to get him provided for in the battalions to be raised here. But in the interim, as I presume you have frequent communication with General *Gates*, or the commanding officer of the Northern department, I should be much obliged to you for making mention of him, referring to his conduct and behaviour.

This Convention have now sent Commissioners to your camp, to incorporate our Independent companies, and to form into battalions such of our Flying-Camp as will enter on the terms and conditions directed by Congress for the Continental army, and carrying with them blank commissions for such officers who will continue, or may be promoted. I cannot say that conferring such a trust was entirely agreeable to me; but as it could not be avoided, I moved for and carried an instruction, "that the Commissioners be instructed to consult with and take the advice of his Excellency General *Washington* respecting the promotion or appointment of officers." This I imagine will guard against an evil which their want of experience and knowledge in military affairs perhaps could not have been avoided.

As my particular friend General *Beall* is of the Flying-Camp, and the term of their service will expire on the 1st day of *December* next, I could wish to have had him appointed Colonel of the incorporated Independent companies; but it was thought it might be injurious to the Field Officers of Colonel *Smallwood's* regiment. However, if a battalion is formed out of the Flying-Camp and remainder of the Independent companies now with you, for the Continental service, the Brigadier (if he will accept of it) ought, of course, to have the command. It would be a pity, and a real loss to the service, if so valuable an officer as *Beall* should be discharged from it, as must be the case at the

expiration of the term of the Flying-Camp unless some provision is made for him. I believe this gentleman had the honour to be known to you in former service, and therefore will not say more of him at present. His Brigade-Major is a brave young man, and I hope will be provided for in the new corps.

I am glad your loss on evacuating *New-York* was not greater than you mention. It is less than I feared and expected. I never looked on *New-York* as a place tenable against an enemy commanding the water, even if their land force had been inferior to what it was, and I heartily rejoice at your having made so good a retreat from it; but am still distressed to think of your winter quarters, considering the want of tents, warm-clothing, &c. Yet, as many reinforcements are going to you, and I trust will be provided with every thing necessary, I doubt not but that you will be able to keep your adversaries within due bounds this campaign, and that they will be sick of their enterprise before the middle of next summer. I am sorry to find that the delay of Congress to settle a Confederation has created some jealousy and uneasiness; but hope it will not be attended by any evil consequences.

I believe our Convention now sitting will remonstrate with Congress on the subject of Crown lands in the different States, not already granted or located, as there is an opinion held up that all such lands ought to be applied to defray the general expense of the *United States* in the war.

We have ordered eight battalions for the Continental army, including our troops already sent, or such of them as will engage during the war, to be raised immediately, and have no doubt of their being completed in proper time, as the inhabitants of this State appear to me to have a warm zeal for the cause of *America*.

I was applied to by many members of Convention to go as one of the Commissioners to *New-York*, and should have been exceedingly happy in the opportunity of paying my personal respects to you, but am so very blind that I can scarcely walk across a room, and as matters of importance must come on, in the formation of a new Government, which is now under consideration, I did not think myself at liberty, or that it would be prudent, to leave the Convention at this time, and therefore declined it.

Mrs. *Fitzhugh* is now with me, and joins in affectionate compliments and best wishes for your health and success.

I have the honour to be, with sincere regard, your Excellency's affectionate and obliged humble servant,

WILLIAM FITZHUGH.

P. S. Permit me to recommend to your countenance and favour Captain *Thomas Smyth, Jun.*, of Colonel *Richardson's* battalion, Flying-Camp, formerly a Lieutenant in Colonel *Smallwood's* regiment. He is a son of my particular friend, *Thomas Smyth, Esq.*, of *Chester-Town*, who is now a member of our Council of Safety and Convention, and is a brave and worthy young gentleman.

This will be delivered to you by *Thomas Contee, Esq.*, who goes to the camp as one of our Commissioners. I beg leave to introduce him to your usual civility.

The enclosed is a part of our Commissioners' instructions, referred to in this letter.

Dear sir, yours affectionately,

WILLIAM FITZHUGH.

"That the Commissioners be instructed to consult with and take advice from his Excellency General *Washington*, respecting the promotion or appointment of officers in Colonel *Smallwood's* regiment, and appointments to be made in the battalions to be formed of the Independent companies and Flying-Camp of this State."

AQUILLA HALL TO MARYLAND COUNCIL OF SAFETY.

October 13, 1776.

SIR: Agreeable to the resolve of Convention of the 10th *September* last, to select a company of volunteers out of the Twenty-Third Battalion in *Harford* County, I now make a return of the officers' names which are appointed to that company, and am of opinion a completer company has not gone from *Maryland*. The officers are: *Francis Holland*, Captain; *John Carlisle*, First Lieutenant; *William Young*, Second Lieutenant; and *Robert Morgan*, Ensign. If their commissions are sent to me shall take care to have

them delivered with despatch. I have advanced to Mr. *William Roe* £3 10s. 4d., for his expenses and trouble in going to *Annapolis* for the money for the company, as per the account enclosed, and beg the favour of your sending the money by the first safe hand, as cash is very scarce with me.

I am, sir, your most obedient and humble servant,

AQUILLA HALL.

To *Daniel of St. Thomas Jenifer, Esq.*, President.

LIEUTENANT BOND TO MARYLAND COUNCIL OF SAFETY.

Baltimore, Sunday Morning, October 13, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: Captain *Norwood* being out of town, I take the liberty of answering your letter. I have eighteen men in the barracks in *Baltimore* which has received their bounty, and some of them a month's advance; and I believe the Second Lieutenant has nine, which is all the men there is enrolled in Captain *Norwood's* company, and I don't think the remainder could be got in less than a month from this time. Twelve of those men are willing to enlist during the war, or be turned over to another company if none of their officers go with them.

Captain *Deems* is likewise out of town; 'tis probable you may not hear from him per this express. He wants a number of his men, perhaps ten or twelve. The expense of our men has been considerable, and I would be glad to know, as they are at my charge, whether they will be turned over to *Deems's* company, or discharged, and go free with what they have. I will forward your letter to Captain *Norwood* as fast as possible, that he may return the money not expended; and in the interim remain, gentlemen, your very obedient servant,

NATHANIEL BOND,

First Lieutenant of *Norwood's* Company.

To the honourable Council of Safety.

P. S. Since writing the above I have seen Captain *Deems*, who has agreed to wait on you himself to-morrow morning; and if Captain *Norwood* does not come in town, I will likewise wait on you with the names of the men that's enrolled.

N. B.

THOMAS HUGHES TO MARYLAND COUNCIL OF SAFETY.

Charles-Town, Cecil County, October 13, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: I was in hopes I should by this day's post have received some instructions from your Board about Captain *Maxwell's* company's marching, as they have been furnished some days with guns and blankets and a few (not above four or five) bayonets, which is all that could be got here. Mr. *Hartshorn* called at *Baltimore* agreeable to your order, and got cartouch-boxes and haversacks, and I am told the canteens have since arrived at the *Head-of-Elk*; but no tents are yet come, and the people here ask such an exorbitant price for their coarse linen, that I think, if there is any probability of getting them in *Philadelphia*, it would be better for the company to go that far without them. However, I shall act in that respect agreeable to your instructions, which I hope you will forward as soon as possible.

I am, gentlemen, your most obedient servant,

THO. HUGHES.

To the honourable Council of Safety.

MARINE COMMITTEE TO CAPTAIN FALCONER.

Philadelphia, October 13, 1776.

SIR: We are in great want of coals to make anchors and other smith's work for the frigates here, and as you are going on publick business into the States of *Connecticut*, *Rhode-Island*, *Massachusetts*, and *New-Hampshire*, you may probably meet with some coals fit for smith's use, that have been or may be taken on board some of the prizes sent into those places. Should that happen, we request you will purchase as many as will load two schooners or sloops, and send them to us immediately. For this purpose we desire you will buy two fast-sailing *Marblehead* schooners or sloops that will sail and carry well. Buy them cheap as possible, and if you get coals send them here directly. If you get the schooners but cannot get the coals, then put some salt, sugars, or rum, on board, as much in value as you think will pay for a load of coals for each, at

about two shillings per bushel, and despatch them with the same immediately for *James river, Virginia*, consigned to the Hon. *Benjamin Harrison, Esq.*, enclosing him an invoice of the goods you send, and advising him to sell those goods and load the vessel with coals immediately, despatching the same to us.

You will take care to procure active, good masters, mates, and men, and manage the whole to the best advantage for the publick; and as you have this and other business to transact, we deliver you herewith four thousand dollars, for which you are to account on your return. We also give you letters of credit and recommendation to the Continental agents in each State, and a warrant authorizing you to survey the Continental frigates at *Rhode-Island*; but since this was agreed to we have heard these frigates are completed and ready for the sea, which we hope may be true.

We are, sir, your very humble servants.

To Captain *Nathan Falconer*.

MARINE COMMITTEE—CIRCULAR.

Philadelphia, October 13, 1776.

SIR: This will be delivered to you by *Nathaniel Falconer, Esq.*, a gentleman in our service, and who has in charge to execute some business for us in yours or the neighbouring States. Should he stand in need of your assistance we hope it will be readily afforded him, and if he wants money you may depend that his drafts will be paid. We recommend this gentleman to your friendly attention, and are, sir, your very humble servants.

To *Nathaniel Shaw, Jun., Esq.*; *Daniel Tillinghast, Esq.*; *John Bradford, Esq.*; *John Langdon, Esq.*

MARINE COMMITTEE TO COMMITTEE AT RHODE-ISLAND.

Philadelphia, October 13, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: We fear our orders of the 9th instant for sending a set of cannon from your State to *New-Hampshire*, may not be so proper as we thought them at the time of signing; because we are since informed through several channels, that the frigates building under your direction are quite or very near fit for the sea, which is a very different account from that which caused us to send that order. Therefore to prevent inconvenience, or disadvantage to the publick service, we despatch this immediately after the other, and desire you may not forward the said cannon for *Portsmouth*, if your ships are actually ready for service, for our view is only to get such of the frigates as are ready into action, and it matters not to us whether it be your's or the *New-Hampshire* frigate that goes first. But you will still answer what we have said to Governour *Hopkins* respecting cannon.

We are, gentlemen, your humble servants.

To the Committee employed in building and fitting frigates at *Rhode-Island*.

MARINE COMMITTEE TO JOHN LANGDON.

Philadelphia, October 13, 1776.

SIR: Since sending you our orders of the 9th instant, we are well informed that the frigates at *Rhode-Island* are ready for sea, and if that is really the case, it would be improper to strip them of the cannon to send them to you. We have now wrote the Committee to keep their cannon if their ships are actually fit for service, for we did not mean by the former order to give a preference; it was our design only to prevent the guns from lying useless there when you wanted them. But we desire them to tell us whether they will not cast another set, and on what terms.

We are, sir, your humble servants.

To *John Langdon, Esq.*

GOVERNEUR MORRIS TO THE NEW-YORK CONVENTION.

Boonton, New-Jersey, October 13, 1776.

SIR: I take the liberty to enclose you a letter which I brought in person to have delivered. Truth is, a series of accidents too trifling for recital, have prevented me the pleasure of attending the Convention according to my serious intention for upwards of a month past. Among the last, let me mention the loss of all my horses. As soon as I can

find any one of them, or purchase another, I shall hasten to the *Fishkills*. Mr. *Lott* is to my knowledge employed in perfecting a state of his accounts for the inspection of the House, and is, I assure you, the remotest degree possible from contravening, disbelieving, or doubting your authority, which, I dare say, he will give you the fullest evidence of. But the disorders of the State have affected the private affairs of every person near to the immediate seat of confusion. Judge then whether intricate accounts can be instantly adjusted from papers hastily thrown together and moved upon the spur of the occasion by any person whatsoever, much less by one who is liable to continual interruptions by those who, being fellow sufferers with him in the general calamity, claim the right of hospitality at his board.

I am, respectfully, sir, yours, GOUV'R MORRIS.

To the honourable the President of the Convention of the State of *New-York*. In the care of *Robert Morris, Esq.*, *Hackensack*.

RICHARD DALLAM TO MICHAEL HILLEGAS.

State of New-Jersey, Brunswick, October 13, 1776.

SIR: I am requested by the Deputy Quartermaster-General to transmit to *Gustavus Risberg*, his assistant at *Philadelphia*, the number of nineteen thousand seven hundred and forty dollars, but having no convenient opportunity of transmitting it by, and thinking it may be of publick service to have it paid in *Philadelphia*, I have taken this liberty to mention it to you, and if you can, consistent with your office, pay the aforesaid sum of nineteen thousand seven hundred and forty dollars, and debit me therewith till I obtain another order on you from Congress, which I must soon apply for, you will oblige me as well as Colonel *Biddle*.

The Congress have pointed out to me no particular mode of transacting such matters as this, though I have requested, which is the reason of my applying to you in this manner.

I expect to be in *Philadelphia* towards the last of this week, on a visit to Mrs. *Dallam*, from whom I never was half so long absent, and will get this in interim.

I am, sir, your very obedient, humble servant,

RICHARD DALLAM, D. P. M. Gen'l.

To *Michael Hillegas, Esq.*, Treasurer.

CAPTAIN SMITH (ENGLISH) TO SAMUEL GLOVER.

Brookhaven, Long-Island, N. Y., October 18, 1776.

SIR: In consequence of instructions I have just received from Head-Quarters, you are forthwith to impress wagons and horses for his Majesty's service. The number is unlimited; therefore do not stint the cause. If you can't get a sufficient number of wagons, teams will answer, a driver for every team, which you'll send without loss of time, to *White Stone*, near *Flushing*. I beg, sir, you'll exert yourself on this occasion. Don't omit one moment, as it seems to be critical.

JACOB SMITH, Capt. 1st Comp. 1st Bat.
De *Lancey's Brigade*.

To *Samuel Glover*.

COLONEL EWING TO MARYLAND COUNCIL OF SAFETY.

Camp near Harlem, October 13, 1776.

HONOURABLE SIRS: I arrived here the 18th ultimo, where I found the three companies I forwarded from *Baltimore*, under the care of Major *Eden*, Captain *Posey, Young*, and *Lowe*, the latter of which I found wounded, which he received in an engagement which happened the *Monday* before I arrived. The next day we were joined by Captain *Hanson* and *Magruder*, the 22d by Captain *Tillard* and *Bowie*, and the 1st instant by Captain *Forrest*, so that I have eight companies here, and am in daily expectation of Captain *Brooks's* company, which will complete my battalion. Sorry I am to inform you that the battalion is very sickly. By the last return, I had two hundred and thirty-seven privates sick, besides officers, owing to our lying on the cold ground, without straw or plank, which is not to be had, and medicine very scarce. Great numbers of the soldiers are badly off for clothing. I have given the Captains

orders on the Continental store for what things they want, but even there they cannot be supplied. Numbers of the soldiers are without blankets. Several who never received any, and some of the first three companies lost theirs in leaving *New-York*.

I have furnished General *Beall* with the account of all the arms and accoutrements received by my battalion from the State of *Maryland*, as delivered me by the Captains, all but Captain *Posey*, who is in the country at sick lodgings.

Yesterday morning we were alarmed here by an express which arrived at Head-Quarters from General *Heath*, who commands over *King's Bridge*, informing his Excellency that the enemy had landed about four thousand troops, with an intent of cutting off our communication with the country; upon which we were all ordered to our alarm-posts, and General *McDougall's* brigade, in which is Colonel *Smallwood* and the Independent companies, were ordered to march immediately to *King's Bridge*. There was a report in the evening that the enemy were in possession of *East* and *West-Chester*; if so, am doubtful the sick and wounded, with a great deal of stores, are fallen into their hands.

There is orders come out for our soldiers to cook three days' provisions, and to hold themselves in readiness for an immediate march, by which it is thought we will evacuate this island.

About four days ago there was three men-of-war, frigates, went up *North River* past all our forts. One gentleman walked the second deck, seemingly in command, as if nothing was the matter, and seven forts keeping a constant fire at the ship. What damage was done is uncertain, but believed to be very trifling.

Our soldiers, what of them are in health, appear to be in good spirits, though ragged, and several without shoes to their feet. The three first companies have gained great honour under command of the Major, who I believe to be a brave man; and I'm in hopes the other companies when tried, will not disgrace them. All the Field Officers here would be much obliged to you for the settlement of the rank of the battalions and the officers of the *Flying-Camp*. It is a very material affair; therefore hopes on receipt of this you will settle it, and inform us how.

I have ordered the Captains to draw out the pay-roll of their several companies agreeable to the mode here, by which those of the officers who have not settled with you will lose mileage. I have assured them that I have no doubt but you will make it good to them.

I am, with due respect, honourable sirs, your most obedient servant,

THOS. EWING.

To the honourable Council of Safety.

Mr. *Parsons*, my Quartermaster, is arrived, who informs me you are angry at my not writing, which is the cause of my sending you so long an epistle, the incorrectness of which you will please excuse.

EXTRACT OF A LETTER FROM HARLEM, DATED OCTOBER 13, 1776.

Yesterday morning, about four thousand of the enemy landed at *Fagg's*, or *Frog's Point*, about six miles above us. A detachment was immediately sent to oppose them; the enemy got possession of the point, but, as I was informed last night, had made no farther progress. Our people, I am told, had taken up a bridge which was there, and felled trees across the road, to obstruct them till a reinforcement could arrive. In the afternoon, forty-two sail passed the mouth of *Harlem* river, in their way to the point. They consisted of sloops, schooners, brigs, and nine ships. I expect there will be bloody work there to-day. From the number of men landed and the ships that went up, I think this can be no feint, but that the main body of *Howe's* army must be there, and that there he intends to make his coup. This week will probably finish the campaign.

The day before yesterday the General's barge, which had run up the *North River* before the ships, returned, and came opposite to *Mount Washington*, where our people mistook her for one of the enemy's boats, fired at her, killed three men, and wounded the Captain.

Upon the ships' arrival at *Dobbs's Ferry*, they landed some men, and plundered a storehouse, which is all the damage I hear of their doing.

FIFTH SERIES.—VOL. II.

GENERAL WASHINGTON TO GENERAL WARD.

Head-Quarters, Harlem Heights, October 13, 1776.

SIR: I have been favoured with your two letters of the 3d and 6th instant. In answer to the first, I am not only willing, but shall be much obliged by your settling with the gentlemen to whom money was advanced for purchasing arms, and for which purpose I have transmitted a list of the warrants that were drawn in their favour. Before I left *Cambridge*, some of the gentlemen (three, four, or more of them) accounted with me; but having sent away my books, in which their names and the balances they paid in were enclosed, some time before the evacuation of *New-York*, I cannot particularize them, and therefore have forwarded a list of the whole.

In respect to the latter, and the invoice it contains, as the articles seem all to be necessary, and many of them are much wanted, I think you cannot do better than to order them to be sent to the Quartermaster-General, for the use of the army here.

We are again deprived of the navigation of the *North River*, and the supplies which used to come through that channel, by means of the enemy's fleet, three of their ships-of-war, with three or four tenders, having passed our batteries and chevaux-de-frise, on the morning of the 9th, without any apparent damage from the former, though a heavy fire was kept up as they went by, or any interruption from the latter. They now lay at *Tarrytown*, twenty-five or thirty miles above this.

Yesterday the enemy landed a considerable body of men at *Frog's Point*, about nine miles from hence up the *Sound*, and several vessels following in the evening, with troops on board, and from the information received from two deserters who came out last night, we have reason to believe that their main force is now there, and that they have in view the prosecution of their original plan, that of getting in our rear, and cutting off our communication with the country.

The place they are at is rather an island than a point, on every flood-tide being surrounded by water. I have posted a part of our force on the passes leading from it, and have directed some small works to be thrown up for their security.

I am, &c.,

GO. WASHINGTON.

To Major-General *Ward*, *Boston*.

GENERAL WASHINGTON TO COLONEL TASH.

Head-Quarters, October 13, 1776.

SIR: Since I wrote you by Lieutenant-Colonel *Welch*, upon the subject of fixing on quarters for your troops, I have received from the Committee of Safety for this State such an account of its alarming situation, owing to the number of disaffected, together with the little confidence that can be placed on the Militia of some of the Counties, that I find it necessary to order a part of the *New-Hampshire* troops to their assistance, and do therefore direct you to march your regiment with all possible despatch to *Fishkills*, where you will receive further directions from the Committee. I think it will be proper to send an officer forward to give the Committee notice of your coming, that they may assign you the places where it will be most suitable to post your men. I am, sir, &c.,

GO. WASHINGTON.

To Colonel *Thomas Tash*, of the *New-Hampshire* Militia.

P. S. Do not delay your march a moment, nor the sending an officer to the Convention of this State, now sitting at the *Fishkills*.

COLONEL REED TO GENERAL HEATH.

October 13, 1776.

SIR: It being necessary since the late movement of the enemy to form some plan, the General proposes a meeting of the General Officers this day, at twelve o'clock, at or near *King's Bridge*. He desires you would give those in your division notice of it, with as little stir as possible, and by the return of the messenger let him know where you would have them meet, as we are strangers to a suitable place.

I am, sir, in haste, your obedient, humble servant,

J. REED.

To General *Heath*.

COLONEL GRAYSON TO GENERAL HEATH.

Head-Quarters, October 13, 1776.

SIR: I beg leave to inform you that his Excellency (as the enemy did not attempt landing at *Morissania* this morning) thinks it would be advisable to send a stronger force towards the two passes near the enemy, where our men were posted yesterday, and also to throw up some works for their cover and defence. He also recommends strongly to your attention, the keeping a good look-out at *Pell's Point*, at the mouth of *East-Chester* creek, and at *Hunt's* and *Willet's* points, for the sake of gaining intelligence, these posts to be considered as look-outs only. Should the enemy make any movement, you will immediately communicate it to Head-Quarters. You will write to the General by return of this messenger, and let him know what has happened since.

I am, sir, your most obedient servant,

WILL'M GRAYSON, A. D. C.

To the Hon. Major-General *Heath*.

APPOINTMENT OF OFFICERS IN ULSTER COUNTY, NEW-YORK.

October 13, 1776.

At a meeting of the Field Officers of *Ulster* County, at the house of Mrs. *Ann Duboise*, at the *New-Paltz*:

Present: Colonel *Hasbrouck*, Colonel *McClaghry*, Colonel *Elmendorph*, Colonel *Hoornbeck*, Major *Jansen*, Major *Wynkoop*.

Have appointed Major *Wynkoop* to take the command of the two hundred men immediately to be raised in said County, pursuant to the resolves of the Committee of Safety for the State of *New-York*, dated *October* 10th and 11th.

Also, unanimously agreed, that three Captains, three First Lieutenants, and three Second Lieutenants, be appointed by the Field Officers in their respective regiments in said County:

Colonel *Hasbrouck*, one Captain, one First Lieutenant.Colonel *McClaghry*, one Captain, two Second Lieuts.Colonel *Elmendorph*, one Captain, one Second Lieut.Colonel *Hoornbeck*, two First Lieutenants.

JONATHAN HASBROUCK, Colonel.

MAJOR CONKLING'S PAROLE.

I promise, on honour, not in any wise to forward or assist the subjects or allies of the King of *Great Britain*, in their operations against any of the *United States of America*. Neither to correspond or have any connection with them during the present war. I also further promise, that I will return to the State of *Connecticut* when required, and submit to any determination the State of *New-York* may make concerning me.

Given under my hand at *Say-Brook*, this 13th day of *October*, 1776.

THOMAS CONKLING.

GEORGE HOWELL'S PAROLE.

I promise, on honour, not in any wise to forward or assist the subjects or allies of the King of *Great Britain*, in their operations against any of the *United States of America*. Neither to correspond or have any connection with them during the present war.

Given under my hand, this 14th day of *October*, 1776.

GEORGE HOWELL.

JOHN CARTER TO GENERAL GATES.

Albany, October 13, 1776.

SIR: I am favoured with your letter of the 4th instant, requiring me, and the gentlemen joined by Congress in commission with me, to audit the accounts of the Northern department, to repair immediately to *Ticonderoga*. General *Schuyler* had already acquainted me that he had received a letter from you, in which you desired him to order us up to *Ticonderoga*. I informed him that we were sent by Congress to this place for the purpose of examining accounts, and that we were not under the direction of any officer in the army. I conceive that the accounts which

are to be settled at *Ticonderoga* are by no means pressing, and that they may be examined at the end of the campaign as well as at present; but was it absolutely necessary that they should be immediately liquidated, there are accounts here of much greater consequence, which will render it impossible for us to leave this place.

I am, very respectfully, sir, your most humble servant,
JOHN CARTER.

To Major-General *Gates*.

COLONEL HARTLEY TO GENERAL GATES.

Crown-Point, October 13, 1776, half-after 11 o'clock, A. M.

HONOURED SIR: The alarm of yesterday proves to be a true one. The enemy are approaching. The wind is very favourable to them. They have been firing, for two hours past, a few heavy guns. I know not whether our fleet will be able to effect a retreat to this place or not. The enemy, I presume, will be soon on the neighbouring banks. If our fleet should be beat and taken, I shall endeavour to make a retreat, if I have notice in time. I have sent off my sick and heavy baggage. I hope they will be secured and stored.

The want of ball in the fleet may be very unlucky. I am but a young officer, but shall act as well as I can. Captain *Church* is here on a scout, with forty men. I detain him a little. Should a retreat be necessary, he will make it with us.

You depend upon the alarm guns. I have fired them twice to-day.

I am told two sails are just in sight.

I am, in haste, your most obedient, humble servant,
THOS. HARTLEY.

Newark, in East-Jersey, October 21, 1776.

On the 11th instant, a hot engagement commenced on *Lake Champlain*, between the fleet under the command of General *Arnold* and that commanded by General Sir *Guy Carleton*, which continued almost the whole day, and, for the most part, was greatly in favour of General *Arnold*, but terminated to the advantage of General *Carleton*.

William Briggs, a seaman belonging to the *Washington* galley, on the lake, arrived here last *Thursday*. He says that the *English* fleet consists of thirty-six sail, from a twenty-gun ship to a gunboat, the whole commanded by General Sir *Guy Carleton*, General *Burgoyne* being indisposed; that two gondolas belonging to the *English* were sunk, and their crews perished; and that eleven of our vessels out of sixteen were taken, or run ashore and destroyed; that the vessel commanded by General *Arnold* was run ashore and blown up. The *Washington* galley, under the command of General *Waterbury*, and the crew, amounting to one hundred and four, were treated with much politeness, the wounded part taken great care of, all discharged upon their parole, and guarded through the woods by some soldiers, lest they shall fall in with the *Indians*, who were there in great numbers; that the land forces did not come out with the fleet, but were to follow in a day or two, and, it was said, would invest *Ticonderoga* last *Sunday*. Our troops at that post consisted of ten thousand effective men, well supplied, and in high spirits. A bomb-ketch did great damage to our vessels, many of the shells being thrown on board with great exactness. Our loss in the engagement not known; there were four killed, and some wounded, on board the *Washington* galley.

Colonel *Dayton's* battalion is ordered from *Fort Stanwix* to *Ticonderoga*, and is to be replaced by Colonel *Nicoll's*, from the *German Flats*. The Militia of the Counties of *Albany*, *Tryon*, &c., were all in motion.

GOVERNOUR TRUMBULL TO GENERAL WASHINGTON.

New-Haven, October 13, 1776.

SIR: Since mine of the 11th instant by express, have received pretty sure intelligence that a plan is forming by the noted Major *Rogers*, a famous partisan, or ranger, in the last war, now in the service of General *Howe*, on *Long-Island*, where he is collecting a battalion of Tories, with such as he can procure from the main army, many of which we understand have lately stole over to join him, and who

are perfectly acquainted with every inlet and avenue into the towns of *Greenwich*, *Stamford*, and *Norwalk*, where are considerable quantities of Continental stores. The design of *Rogers*, as far as we can learn, is from *Huntingdon* to make a sudden descent in the night more especially on the town of *Norwalk*, not only to take the stores there, but to burn and destroy all before them there. It is to be noted that about two hours will bring them over in the night from *Huntingdon* to *Norwalk*, or the other towns mentioned, in and near which are many Tories expected to join them.

The Militia lately returned into those towns and others near, are mostly sick and infirm. I have understood that the *New-Hampshire* Militia on their way for your army, were ordered to be stationed for a while at *Norwalk* and *Greenwich*, or *Horseneck*, but find now they are all moved forward from *Norwalk*.

I thought it my duty to acquaint your Excellency with every intelligence from the enemy, and of their designs, that you might take such steps as you should think proper to counteract them. The towns mentioned are much alarmed, especially *Norwalk*, who have taken an active part in bringing off inhabitants, stock, and stores from *Long-Island*, and are particularly threatened with reprisals being made upon them.

I have ordered Captain *Niles*, in the *Spy*, to cruise along the *Sound* as far westward as it will be safe for him to go, which is perhaps as far as *Byram* river. He is now in that quarter. I understand there are two small privateer sloops now at or near *Norwalk*, viz: Captains *Rogers* and *Bond*, the one believe belongs to the State of *New-York*, the other Continental, but am informed they are about leaving that station. If they with *Niles* were to cruise back and forward along the *Sound*, and towards the western part, they might be of special service to prevent any sudden incursion of parties of the enemy from *Long-Island*, as well as be safe convoys for your stores along the coast to *Byram*. Colonel *Niles* only can be under my direction. Your plan for a descent on *Long-Island* is ripening as fast as possible to be put in execution, and as far as I can learn by Colonel *Livingston*, he cannot make out of those assigned to him above eleven or twelve hundred men. Whether he ought not to be joined or reinforced by as many as to make up two thousand or more, must submit to your Excellency, on whose knowledge and judgment I can most safely rely.

I have enclosed the copies of two letters discovered or forced from the possessors, for your perusal, but the most particular account of *Rogers's* intentions are from a friendly woman of good character, who made her escape from *Huntingdon* a few nights ago, where *Rogers* with his party then was.

Our Assembly are now sitting at this place, and will have to make out the arrangement of the officers for the new army before they rise; therefore should be glad your Excellency would forward the list desired as soon as may be, as I expect one from General *Gates* of those in his department in a few days.

JONTH. TRUMBULL.

To His Excellency General *Washington*.

September 27, A. D. 1776.

I had a good passage over to the island, where I am at present, and am like to remain. I am under Captain *Fairchild*, in Colonel *Rogers's* battalion of Rangers, and as to news of the Rebel side I find it as false as ever.

I have not heard from home since I came away, and should be exceeding glad if you could send me word. As to my coming away, I must own that my wife as well as all others was ignorant of my coming away, which makes me the more anxious of hearing from home and sending home. The whole say and desire of the army is to have the Rebels stand their ground, and the jig will soon be to an end. I should write to my wife above all others, but be kind enough to let her know that I am well. We expect to remove from *Flushing* to some other part of the island soon. Be good enough to remember my love to my wife and child, and if she has any desire to see this, let her. And you may tell her from me that the *British* troops will never give over until they have gained the victory. And furthermore tell her if she regards her own safety not to forsake her own house when the troops come through the country, for who-

ever leaves home in that sort will have no favour shown to them, but are deemed as Rebels and treated as such.

J. CABLE.

To Mr. *Hezekial Jarvis*, *Norwalk*, to be left at *Jont. Heteburn's*.

The above and foregoing is a true copy from the original. Examined per STEPHEN ST. JOHN, 2d.

New Town, Long-Island, September 28, 1776.

HONoured MOTHER AND BROTHERS AND SISTER, I take this opportunity to Let you know that I are well Thanks be to God Hoping These may Find you well as they Leave me at this present and since it hath pleased God of his Bountiful Goodness amongst y^e rest of abilitys Bestowed on me to give me a small use of y^e Pen the Noblest of Arts that I may convey the Ideas of my mind Tho at ever so Great a Distance, and since it hath been my Misfortune to leave my Native Shoar to Seek on this Island a place of Refuge from wicked and ungodly men,—vizt.—*Eli* is well and likewise I are well, *Caleb* and *Nathan* is well Likewise. My love to my wife and please to send her a Letter and Let her know that I are well and expect soon to see her &c—the 27th of *August* Last the Loss of the Rebels on this Island was 3550 killed and taken Prisoners. The Loss of the *British* that they sustained was 250 men killed and taken prisoners. But our army Consists now of Eighty Thousand Besides Rangers and 200 Transports is expected in every day Loden with men and unless they lay Down their arms and Except of Mercy they will all be Destroyed and cut off, they have Lost since *August* 27, 6000 men in y Rebel Army.

So I remain your Friend and Brother, A I O

STEPHEN FOUNTAIN.

To Mr. *Darias Olmsted*, att *Norwalk* This with care.

The above and foregoing is a true copy of the original. Examined per STEPHEN ST. JOHN, 2d.

GOVERNOUR TRUMBULL TO COLONEL LIVINGSTON.

New-Haven, October 13, 1776.

SIR: I hope every thing will be prepared on my part, and to your mind, that may facilitate your expedition to *Long-Island*, though I cannot but wish your party to be increased to at least two thousand men to go with you, or that you should be reinforced with as many as to make up that number soon after your arrival. I have wrote my sentiments to General *Washington* on that head. Since you left *New-Haven* have received intelligence, which believe may be depended upon, that the infamous Major *Rogers*, now employed by General *Howe*, and who you know was a famous partisan or ranger in the last war, is collecting a battalion of Tories on *Long-Island* and from the main, many of whom have joined him at *Huntingdon*; that he proposes soon to make a sudden attack in the night on *Norwalk*, to take the Continental stores, and lay waste the inhabitants there. Hope we shall be able to frustrate his designs; but thought it on my part to acquaint you with every intelligence I receive from that quarter. Have therefore enclosed you a copy of two letters lately found, and forced from the possessors; but, the most particular account of his plan and intentions are from a friendly woman of good character, who lately made her escape from *Huntingdon* over to the main a few nights ago. I have no need to apprise you of the art of this *Rogers*. He has been a famous scouter, or woods-hunter, skilled in waylaying, ambuscade, and sudden attacks; to lead his men on, and very careful to get himself off, though often leaves his men in the lurch.

I dare say you will guard against being surprised by him or any other party. If he could be surprised and taken with one Captain *Fairchild* and some others, who have joined him, it would be a notable stroke on the Tories at least.

You will be so good as to advise me if any difficulties happen in the way of your preparations, and be assured that nothing shall be wanting in my power to obviate and remove them.

I am, most respectfully, sir, your obedient, humble servant,

JONTH. TRUMBULL.

To Colonel *Henry B. Livingston*, *Saybrook*.

JOS. WHIPPLE TO NEW-HAMPSHIRE COMMITTEE OF SAFETY.

Portsmouth, October 13, 1776.

SIR: The Committee of Safety for this State having by an advertisement bearing date the 25th of July past, very seriously and urgently recommended to the inhabitants and proprietors of the several towns and tracts of land therein, to repair their roads and bridges, so that warlike and other stores might be transported for the defence and use of the inhabitants of the frontier towns, particularly the road leading from *Wolfborough* through *Conway* to the *Upper Cohos*, and the said recommendation having been totally disregarded, excepting only by the *Masonian* proprietors, who have repaired their road from *Wolfborough* toward *Conway*: I therefore, in behalf of myself and the publick, who are great sufferers by said neglect, beg leave with great deference to the judgment of the Committee, to request their immediate consideration on this subject, for as the winter season is now near at hand, it will be a matter of great difficulty to make the repairs a few weeks later. The road which is referred to in the Committee's advertisement, and which is still neglected, leads from the *Upper Cohos* down to *Conway*, where the bridges are lifted out of place by a remarkable freshet, which happened a year past, which renders passing almost impracticable for horses, and totally so for a carriage of any kind, and also many trees (wind-falls) lying across the road.

I humbly conceive that a detachment from the companies now stationed at *Northumberland* and *Conway* might effect this business, without any detriment to the publick good; which, however, I submit to the wisdom of the Committee.

I have the honour to be, with great respect, sir, your most obedient and most humble servant,

J. WHIPPLE.

To the Honourable the Chairman of the Committee of Safety.

Williamsburgh, November 1, 1776.

By a letter from Colonel *William Christian* to his Excellency the Governour, of the 14th October, we have the following intelligence, viz: That on the 12th, a white man came in with a flag from the *Raven* warrior of *Chote*, desiring peace, the night before he crossed *Broad river*; whose reply was that they must first deliver up *Cameron*, the incendiary, and our prisoners in their nation, and lay down the hatchet; otherwise he should cross the river and lay waste their towns, only extending mercy to such as had behaved well to the States of *America*. The Colonel had good reason to believe that this flag was only sent to amuse him, although the real sentiments of three towns under the influence of the *Raven*. The man who came with a flag informed, that the advanced parties of the enemy were then about his camp, and that the whole strength of the nation would be ready to dispute his crossing the river that evening; which determined the Colonel immediately to set about finding a proper ford, which his lookouts were fortunate enough to discover by seeing four *Indians* pass over. However, an unfrequented place, a little below, was pitched upon for the purpose, and at ten at night he set out with between ten and eleven hundred men, two hundred of them on horseback, and by one o'clock in the morning got safely over, not without much danger and difficulty, the river being about half a mile broad, deep and rapid, and the night very dark, so that none of the men could wade, and he was frequently obliged to make lights. About an hour before day he marched to within a mile of the spot where he expected the enemy were encamped, and at sunrise surrounded the place, but found the *Indians* were gone; whereupon he ordered the remaining part of the army, with the provisions and the baggage, to be brought over, which was happily effected. That day the Colonel was informed, by some spies, that the whole force of the nation was near him, with a determined resolution to attack him, and to skirmish with him on his march to the towns. One of their principal views was to destroy the cattle and horses, and in obedience to *Stuart's* orders (now at *Mobile*) they were resolved to make no peace, but to fight and retreat. The Colonel expected it would take him four or five days to reach their towns, as he should march very slow, and in order of battle. It was reported that *Stuart* was sending eight hundred *Creeks*, who were expected at the *Cherokee* towns in a very

few days. He writes, however, that he shall proceed and endeavour to have matters settled before his return.

General *Rutherford*, of *North-Carolina*, he was informed, had returned to about *Keowee*, after laying waste the valley towns.

Captain *James McCall*, of *South-Carolina*, who was taken prisoner the 1st of July last, by the *Cherokees*, was then with Colonel *Christian* in his camp, in good health; and desires this piece of intelligence to be made publick for the satisfaction of his family.

Of the 15th Colonel *Christian* writes, dated *Broad river*, that he was just then preparing to march a little after sunrise. That Captain *Gist* came in the night before with a flag from the *Raven* warrior, to intercede for *Chote*, as from the answer he received to his first flag, he had turned all of his nation that he had influence over, and moved off with his men from the *Indian* camp, upon which the others followed. Captain *Gist* informed, that numbers yesterday morning were moving off their families and corn; that one thousand of the valley and lower settlement *Indians* are now on this side, having quitted their country, and that *Cameron* will try to assemble them all somewhere about *Hywassee*, to defend that place, or bring them to fight. He also says that there are several small parties about our camp, who will do what harm they can; but that no general battle will be fought until our army crosses the *Tennessee*, or towards *Hywassee*, if the Colonel follows the enemy there. Colonel *Christian* supposes that Captain *Gist's* coming with a flag was only an excuse for his leaving the *Indians*, and that he seems sorry for what he has done, although many of the army are much exasperated against him.

BALTIMORE COMMITTEE TO MARYLAND COUNCIL OF SAFETY.

In Committee, Baltimore, October 14, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: Enclosed you have a deposition made by Mr. *David Evans*, a respectable inhabitant of this town, against *Francis Saunderson*, for sundry expressions, which appeared to us of such dangerous tendency that we conceive it to be our duty to transmit him to you for further examination. We have accordingly sent him under a guard of the Militia, accompanied by Mr. *Evans* the evidence against him. The charge against Mr. *Saunderson* enraged the people so much that it was with much difficulty he could be protected from the popular resentment.

By order of the Committee:

SAM'L PURVIANCE, Jun.

To the honourable Council of Safety, *Annapolis*.

WILLIAM DAVIS TO THE PRESIDENT OF CONGRESS.

Philadelphia, October 14, 1776.

SIR: Permit me to request you will please to assure the honourable the Congress of the grateful sense I entertain of their appointment of me to be Deputy Mustermaster General to the Flying-Camp. As my health is better established than I expected, I hope they will accept my resignation of the commission they were pleased to give me, as the apprehension of a bad state of health was the principal cause of my solicitation. The trouble I have given you will, I hope, be excused.

I am, very respectfully, sir, your obliged and most obedient servant,

WILLIAM DAVIS.

To the Hon. *John Hancock*, President of Congress.

MEMORIAL OF THE CHEVALIER D'ANTIGNAC.

[Read October 16, 1776. Referred to the Board of War.]

To the honourable the Delegates from the STATES OF AMERICA in Congress assembled:

The Memorial of the Chevalier D'ANTIGNAC humbly sheweth:

That your memorialist takes the liberty of offering his services for raising a regiment of Light-Horse. No military person is ignorant of the utility of such troops, either for a coup-de-main, for obtaining intelligence, or for surprising an enemy; in short an army unprovided of such troops must be exposed to many hazards and inconveniences.

The knowledge I have in this part of the service induces me to make the following proposal to the honourable Con-

gress; and if they will place so much confidence in me, I flatter myself my conduct will be approved of. Should it be agreeable to the honourable Congress to raise a regiment of Light-Horse, I will undertake to teach the men to ride, exercise and perform all the necessary evolutions in three months; or should a regiment not be approved of at present, I will undertake to do the same with a company of fifty men, flattering myself the Congress will honour me with the rank of Colonel.

I have had the honour of serving in the King of France's First Company of Musketeers, and it is well known that the King frequently grants regiments to those musketeers who can afford the expense, as that corps consists of the first nobility. But my circumstances did not permit me to arrive at that honour, as supporting the rank of a Colonel in France is attended with a heavy expense; but he can supply what is requisite in this country.

It is not from an interested motive that your memorialist is come into America, but from a principle of honour and liberty; therefore does not desire any pay till he has proved himself worthy the esteem of the honourable Congress, but will serve the campaign at his own expense, rank being all he is ambitious of.

All which is humbly submitted to the consideration of the honourable Congress.

CHAMBARON, *Chevalier d'Antignac.*

LANCASTER (PENN.) COMMITTEE TO RICHARD PETERS.

In Committee, Lancaster, Pa., October 14, 1776.

SIR: Our last post brought the Committee your letter of the 9th instant, upon receipt of which I applied to Mr. Yeates for your letter respecting Captain Hesketh's baggage, which is now sent by Christian Schwartz's wagoner, being one trunk, one valise, one portmanteau, one pair of canteens, which Sergeant Cooper says contains all the baggage of Captain Hesketh which was under his care, except the coat and breeches mentioned in the Captain's letter to the Sergeant, which are delivered to Allen's wife by Cooper. Sergeant Cooper desires me to mention that Captain Hesketh's late servant, Allen, is dead.

I have made no agreement with the man about the price he is to have for carriage, but leave that to you.

I am, sir, your very humble servant,

WILLIAM H. ATLEE, *Chairman.*

To Richard Peters, Esq.

To His Excellency GEORGE WASHINGTON, Esquire, Commander-in-Chief of the Troops raised and employed in the service of the FREE, UNITED, AND INDEPENDENT STATES OF AMERICA.

May it please your Excellency:

The honourable House of Assembly of Pennsylvania having, by their commission under their seal bearing date the 6th of April this present year, 1776, been pleased to appoint me a Captain in the First Battalion of the Regiment of Riflemen raised for the protection of that State, and now called out and acting in the Continental service under the immediate command of the Right Honourable Brigadier-General Lord Stirling, I have till now continued to do the duty of my station in the regiment aforesaid; but from the present bad state of my constitution, occasioned by the fatigues and hardships underwent in the present campaign, finding myself unable any longer to sustain the burthen which necessarily attends the command of a company, it is my request that your Excellency will be pleased to accept of my resignation of the commission I bear as aforesaid, (and which I now enclose,) and permit me to pass home to my place of residence.

I am, with the greatest regard, sir, your obedient and very humble servant,

ANDREW LONG,

Captain Third Co. First B. P. Rifle Regiment.

October 14, 1776.

I do certify that Captain Andrew Long has served this campaign with the First Battalion of the Pennsylvania Riflemen, and that he is now reduced by sickness to an infirm state of health, and that he is unfit for the service.

ENNION WILLIAMS, Major,

First Battalion Pa. Regiment of Riflemen.

To His Excellency General Washington.

ROBERT H. HARRISON TO THE PRESIDENT OF CONGRESS.

[Read October 21, 1776: referred to Board of War.]

Head-Quarters, Harlem Heights, October 14, 1776.

SIR: His Excellency having gone this morning to visit our posts beyond King's Bridge, and the several passes leading from Frog's Point and the necks adjacent, I have the honour to inform you, by his command, that no interesting event has taken place since his letter by yesterday's post.

Every day's intelligence from the Convention of this State holds forth the discoveries of new plots and of new conspiracies. Some of the members seem to apprehend that circumstances are upon the eve of breaking out, and have suggested the necessity of seizing and securing the passes through the Highlands, lest the disaffected should do it. Their preservation being a matter of the greatest importance, his Excellency, notwithstanding the situation we are in with respect to troops, has detached Colonel Tash, with his regiment, lately from New-Hampshire, in addition to the Militia mentioned in his last, with directions to receive orders from the Convention as to the station and posts he is to occupy.

There are now in our possession several persons, inhabitants of this State, who had engaged to join the enemy, and who were intercepted in going to them. There are also two who confess they have been with them, and that they had actually engaged in their service, but finding the terms (the bounty, pay, &c.) not so advantageous as they expected from the information they had received, they were induced to return. As the affairs of this Government are in a precarious situation, and such as the Convention themselves seem to think forbid their interposition, further than taking measures to apprehend them, his Excellency would wish to obtain the sentiments of Congress, and their direction upon a subject so extremely critical and delicate, and which in the consideration of it, involves many important consequences.

Your favour of the 9th, with its several enclosures, his Excellency received yesterday morning by the express, who proceeded immediately on his journey.

October 17.—I am desired by his Excellency to acquaint you that we are again obliged to change our disposition, to counteract the operations of the enemy declining an attack upon our front. They have drawn the main body of their army to Frog's Point, with a design of hemming us in, and drawing a line in our rear. To prevent the consequences which would but too probably follow the execution of their scheme, the General Officers determined yesterday that our forces must be taken from hence, and extended towards East and West-Chester, so as to out-flank them. General Lee,* who arrived on Monday, has strongly urged the absolute necessity of the measure. It is proposed to leave a garrison at Fort Washington, and to maintain it, if possible, in order to preserve the communication with the Jerseys. They are landing their artillery and wagons upon the point, and there are now several boats passing up the Sound full of men.

I have the honour to be, with the greatest respect, sir, your most obedient servant,

ROBT H. HARRISON.

P. S. The post not having come in since Sunday, till to-day, has been the occasion of not writing you since that time. He was expected as usual, which prevented an express being sent.

GENERAL LEE TO GENERAL GATES.

Fort Constitution, October 14, 1776.

MY DEAR GATES: I write this scroll in a hurry. Colonel Wood will describe the position of our army, which in my own breast I do not approve. *Inter nos*, the Congress seem to stumble every step. I do not mean one or two of the cattle, but the whole stable. I have been very free in delivering my opinion to 'em. In my opinion, General

* October 14, 1776.—General Heath, with the Generals under his command, reconnoitred the enemy at Frog's Neck; afterwards, the General Officers of the army reconnoitred the various grounds. The same day Major-General Lee was ordered to the command of the troops above King's Bridge, now become the largest part of the American army. But General Washington had desired him not to exercise the command for a day or two, until he could make himself acquainted with the post, its circumstances, and arrangements of duty. A great number of sloops, boats, &c., were passing the Sound eastward, just at dusk, probably conveying ammunition, provisions, &c., to the troops at Frog's Point.—Heath.

Washington is much to blame in not menacing 'em with resignation, unless they refrain from unhinging the army by their absurd interference.

Keep us *Ticonderoga*; much depends upon it. We ought to have an army on the *Delaware*. I have roared it in the ears of Congress, but *caerent auribus*. Adieu, my dear friend; if we do meet again, why we shall smile.

Yours,

C. LEE.

ROBERT H. HARRISON TO PETER R. LIVINGSTON.

Head-Quarters, Harlem Heights, October 14, 1776.

SIR: Your favour of the 12th, addressed to Mr. *Tilghman*, just now came to hand, which I took the liberty to open, as he is out with his Excellency visiting the posts beyond *King's Bridge*, and the several passes leading from *Frog's Point* and the adjacent necks. General *Mifflin* will write you about the boards, &c., which were coming down, and give directions how they are to be disposed of.

The hint you are pleased to mention may prove of infinite importance. I don't know that its authenticity should be doubted. Many circumstances combine to give it a face of probability, if not of entire certainty. The enemy are still on the point. The report which was first brought, and which was current through the camp, was premature, so far as it regarded their disposition and marching in two divisions to *East* and *West-Chester*. Colonel *Tash*, lately from *New-Hampshire*, is ordered up with his regiment to your assistance, and for the security of such posts and passes as the Convention may think necessary.

General *Lee* just now arrived, and is gone after his Excellency. Lord *Stirling* is well.

I am, in haste, and with respect, sir, your most obedient servant,

ROB'T H. HARRISON.

TENCH TILGHMAN TO ROBERT R. LIVINGSTON.

Head-Quarters, Harlem Heights, October 14, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: The enemy have made no move from *Frog's Point* since yesterday; at least we have heard of none. I am just going up with his Excellency to *East* and *West-Chester*, to see how matters stand. I shall therefore be able to give you better information to-morrow.

I am, gentlemen, yours most respectfully,

TENCH TILGHMAN.

To Robert R. Livingston or William Duer, Esq., of the Committee of Correspondence, *Fishkill*.

GENERAL HEATH TO GENERAL NIXON.

King's Bridge, October 14, 1776.

DEAR SIR: His Excellency General *Washington* has directed me to take the command of all the troops on this side of *King's Bridge*, until further order. I therefore desire that you would have the troops which have marched this day to the eastward of the bridge, by *Williams's*, completely ready to turn out in case the enemy should make an attack this night. Should the attack be made towards *Frog's Point*, you will endeavour to support the regiments that are posted at the passes there. Should the attack be made at or near *East-Chester* landing, you will make the best disposition of your troops and repel them. If you should discover any new movement of the enemy, you will please to send me notice thereof immediately by one of the Light-Horsemen.

I am just informed that a guard is absolutely necessary at *Rodman's Point*, next to *East-Chester* creek. Colonel *How* is near the landing-place with a regiment of Militia. Whether he can mount this guard or not, I cannot tell; it would be well to inquire. You will please to acquaint the other brigade, or brigades if General *McDougall's* is got down, with the contents of this.

I am, dear sir, with respect, your most humble servant,

W. HEATH.

To Brigadier-General *Nixon*.

P. S. If there should be no attack your way, and one this way, you will march part of your troops to our assistance, taking care not to weaken your own post too much. We shall do the same to you.

GENERAL HEATH TO COLONEL SARGENT.

King's Bridge, October 14, 1776.

DEAR SIR: As two or three brigades have moved this day beyond *Williams's*, you will not march over to support the regiments near *Frog's Point* without further orders, as this post may be left too bare. This you will mention to Colonel *Chester* in case of alarm, and to Colonel *Hand*, &c.

I have just received information that a large number of boats were seen off *Willfett's Point* about sunset, full of men, and were standing eastward.

I am, dear sir, yours affectionately,

W. HEATH.

To Colonel *Sargent*.

EXTRACT OF A LETTER FROM COLONEL REED TO CHARLES PETTIT, DATED WHITE-PLAINS, OCTOBER 14, 1776.

I had at one time concluded that the enemy would go into winter quarters, satisfied with the summer's business, but I find I was mistaken. They have taken post above the main body of our army, keeping constantly the same object in view: that of surrounding us. We have now every advantage of ground, and if the men will fight, I cannot but hope we shall foil them in any attempt they make. My own opinion is, that if we cannot fight them here we cannot any where.

I am sorry to say too many officers from all parts leave the army when danger approaches. It is of the most ruinous consequences. It breaks the spirit that remains, and we are obliged to do the duty of the absent. They should be ordered back without exception, and even compelled.

Every nerve should be strained to collect and forward provisions from *Pennsylvania* and *New-Jersey*; for if we can keep the enemy at bay but a little time, they must fight us under great disadvantage, or the season will drive them off. I hope our friends there will do what they can for us, while we are exposing our lives for them.

I was much surprised at your mentioning me as one proposed for Governor. I would not on any account consent to it, or any thing of the kind. Pray do all you can to suppress any such measure.

PETER VAN NESS TO PETER R. LIVINGSTON.

Claverack District, October 14, 1776.

SIR: I beg leave to enclose you a pay roll of a detachment of men out of my regiment, who have been upon the publick service in Manor *Livingston* last month. By the directions of Mr. *Yates*, I now take the liberty to request of you to lay the same before the honourable Convention for their approbation, and if they see fit, to order that the same may be discharged at the publick expense of this State. I conceive this requisition will not be thought unreasonable, when I represent to you the exhausted state of my regiment by the voluntary enlistment and repeated drafts that are gone out of the same into the service, as well as the frequent alarms and dangers within and about us to which they are exposed, and upon which occasion they now are and have been frequently called out, to the insupportable damage of many, unless in some measure indemnified at the publick charge. Should the Convention think proper to allow it, give me leave to request of you to acquaint me therewith.

I am your most obedient, very humble servant,

PETER VAN NESS.

To Colonel *Peter R. Livingston*, President of the honourable the Convention of the State of *New-York*.

RICHARD VARICK TO GENERAL GATES.

Albany, October 14, 1776—three o'clock, P. M.

DEAR GENERAL: Yesterday Mr. *Trumbull* and myself returned safe from our tour to *Tyonderoga*. We arrived at *Fort George* about eleven on the night of the day we left you.

I tender you my sincere thanks, my dear sir, for the civilities I have experienced from yourself and the gentlemen of your family during our stay at *Tyonderoga*. I hope I shall have it in my power to make a suitable return of good offices. I shall esteem myself happy in serving you at any

time. Your free and unrestrained commands will lay additional obligations on me.

Agreeable to your directions, I have ordered Captain *Veeder* and his company to the saw-mill, at *Cheshire's*, and have also ordered Captain *Hodge*, with his company, (who were just returning from desertion,) to go on the road, and have requested Colonel *Van Dyke* to attend to it that they do their duty faithfully. My General informs me that he has directed Colonel *Wynkoop* to superintend it.

I have directed Mr. *Rensselaer* to send to you all the nails he can possibly procure. No spades are to be had; the blacksmiths are ordered to make them as fast as possible. No thread for cartridges is in store; I have directed the store-keeper to collect some for your use. Oakum is not to be had. While I am here, I shall do my utmost endeavours to supply your wants.

As soon as I have a little time, I shall endeavour to procure some dishes, and soup and other plates, for your military family. I think it will be more prudent, because eventually less expensive, to purchase pewter dishes. Indeed, I have reason to apprehend that stone dishes or tea-table furniture, are hard to be got at this juncture. On mentioning it to the General's lady, she agreed that my suspicions were by no means ill-founded. However, you may depend on a supply of one or other sort.

Four o'clock. Just this moment I am honoured with a letter from General *Schuyler*, enclosing General *Arnold's* letter to you. I shall transmit a copy to his Excellency by this day's post. I wish the enemy may not have overtaken him ere this, if so, his fleet must undoubtedly fall, if his information be just of the strength of the enemy's fleet, which I cannot doubt at all. He has good reason to render his humble and hearty thanks for saving him from his more than cruel enemies.

I fear the next express will announce something worse. His vessels will not beat to windward. God grant that such gallant officers and men may be preserved for our country's defence. I shall be happy to hear of the fleet's safe arrival at *Crown Point*.

As soon as the General returns from *Saratoga*, where he purposes to remain only four or five days, and I have settled my account with him, I shall enter on the duties of my new office, which I hope to execute with justice to my country, and with honour to my friends and myself. I shall, however, be under obligations to you, my dear sir, for your advice and instructions in such parts as I may be deficient. Congress have sent none, though General *Schuyler* has long since asked it. I shall ever be happy to be taught, especially in matters where my honour as a gentleman is so nicely connected with the duties of the office Congress have been pleased to honour me with.

I wish my most respectful compliments to General *St. Clair*, Colonel *Trumbull*, and the gentlemen of your family.

If you are like to have a sacrifice of some of our enemies at your lines, I should be happy to be at *Tyonderoga* to see them suffer for their temerity.

I am, dear General, with every respectful sentiment, your most obedient and very humble servant,

RICH'D VARICK.

To the Hon. Major-General *Gates*.

Be pleased to deliver the enclosed.

RICHARD VARICK TO NEW-YORK CONVENTION.

Albany, October 14, 1776.

SIR: I do myself the honour to enclose you copy of a letter from General *Arnold* to Major-General *Gates*, which was this day received by General *Schuyler*, when on his way to *Saratoga*, and enclosed to me with directions to send a copy thereof to the Convention.

I congratulate my countrymen on the valour and gallantry our officers and men appear to have evinced on the occasion. This may serve once more to convince our enemies that *Americans* will and dare fight them, &c., &c., though superiour in numbers and strength.

I am, sir, your most obedient and very humble servant,

RICHARD VARICK.

To the President of the Convention of State of *New-York*.

P. S. Our fleet consisted of sixteen sail and about eight hundred officers and men. The vessels lost were of small force.

R. V.

COLONEL VARICK TO GENERAL WASHINGTON.

Albany, October 14, 1776, half-after 3, P. M.

SIR: I do myself the honour to enclose copy of a letter from General *Arnold* to General *Gates*, transmitted by the latter from *Tyonderoga*, and this moment received in General *Schuyler's* absence, who is now on his way to *Saratoga*.

The lead arrived at *Fort George* on *Saturday* last, and was immediately forwarded; the powder left this on the same day, and is probably now at or near *Fort George*, where it will not be delayed a moment, the commanding officer having General *Schuyler's* directions to forward it instantly on its arrival to the army.

I am, very respectfully, your Excellency's obedient and most humble servant,

RICH'D VARICK.

To His Excellency General *Washington*, &c., &c., &c.

Schuyler's Island, October 12, 1776.

DEAR GENERAL: Yesterday morning, at eight o'clock, the enemy's fleet, consisting of one ship mounting sixteen guns, one snow mounting the same number, one schooner of fourteen guns, two of twelve, two sloops, a bomb-ketch, and a large vessel (that did not come up,) with fifteen or twenty flat-bottomed boats or gondolas, carrying one twelve or eighteen-pounder in their bows, appeared off *Cumberland Head*. We immediately prepared to receive them. The galleys and *Royal Savage* were ordered under way: the rest of our fleet lay at an anchor. At eleven o'clock they ran under the lee of *Valcour*, and began the attack. The schooner, by some bad management, fell to leeward, and was first attacked; one of her masts was wounded, and her rigging shot away. The Captain thought prudent to run her on the point of *Valcour*, where all the men were saved. They boarded her, and at night set fire to her. At half-past twelve the engagement became general, and very warm. Some of the enemy's ships and all their gondolas beat and rowed up within musket-shot of us. They continued a very hot fire with round and grape-shot until five o'clock, when they thought proper to retire to about six or seven hundred yards distance, and continued the fire till dark.

The *Congress* and *Washington* have suffered greatly; the latter lost her First Lieutenant killed, Captain and Master wounded. The *New-York* lost all her officers except the Captain. The *Philadelphia* was hulled in so many places that she sunk about one hour after the engagement was over. The whole killed and wounded amounted to about sixty. The enemy landed a large number of *Indians* on the island and each shore, who keep an incessant fire on us, but do little damage. The enemy had, to appearance, upwards of one thousand men in batteaus prepared for boarding. We suffered much for want of seamen and gunners. I was obliged myself to point most of the guns on board the *Congress*, which I believe did good execution. The *Congress* received seven shot between wind and water; was hulled a dozen times; had her mainmast wounded in two places, and her yard in one. The *Washington* was hulled a number of times; her mainmast shot through, and must have a new one. Both vessels are very leaky, and want repairing.

On consulting with General *Waterbury* and Colonel *Wigglesworth*, it was thought prudent to return to *Crown-Point*, every vessel's ammunition being nearly three-fourths spent, and the enemy greatly superiour to us in ships and men. At seven o'clock, Colonel *Wigglesworth*, in the *Trumbull*, got under way; the gondolas and small vessels followed; and the *Congress* and *Washington* brought up the rear. The enemy did not attempt to molest us. Most of the fleet is this minute come to an anchor. The wind is small to the southward. The enemy's fleet is under way to leeward, and beating up. As soon as our leaks are stopped, the whole fleet will make the utmost despatch to *Crown-Point*, where I beg you will send ammunition, and your further orders for us. On the whole, I think we have had a very fortunate escape, and have great reason to return our humble and hearty thanks to Almighty God for preserving and delivering so many of us from our more than savage enemies.

I am, dear General, your affectionate, humble servant,

B. ARNOLD.

P. S. I had not moved on board the *Congress* when

the enemy appeared, and lost all my papers and most of my clothes on board the schooner. I wish a dozen batteaus, well manned, could be sent immediately, to tow up the vessels in case of a southerly wind.
I cannot, in justice to the officers in the fleet, omit mentioning their spirited conduct during the action. B. A.

A List of Armed Vessels in LAKE CHAMPLAIN.

NAMES OF VESSELS AND COMMANDERS.	No. of Guns.	Size of Guns.	No. of Swivels.		No. of Men.
			No. of Swivels.	No. of Men.	
Sloop Enterprise.....Dickenson	12	4-lbs.....	10	50	
Schooner Royal Savage..Hawley..	12	4-lbs., 8 4-lbs.....	10	50	
Schooner Revenge.....Seaman..	8	4 lbs., 4 2-lbs.....	10	35	
Schooner Liberty.....Premier..	8	4-lbs., 4 2-lbs.....	8	35	
Gondola New-Haven.....Mansfield.	3	12-lb., 6 2-lbs.....	8	45	
Gondola Providence.....Simonds..	3	Ditto.	8	45	
Gondola Boston.....Sumner..	3	Ditto.	8	45	
Gondola Spitfire.....Ulmer...	3	Ditto.	8	45	
Gondola Philadelphia....Rice.....	3	Ditto.	8	45	
Gondola Connecticut....Grant....	3	Ditto.	8	45	
Gondola Jersey.....Grimes...	3	Ditto.	8	45	
Gondola New-York.....Reed.....	3	Ditto.	8	45	
Galley Lee.....Daviss...	6	12-lb., 1 9-lb., 4 4-lbs..	10	86	
Galley Trumbull.....Warner..	8	1 18, 1 12, 2 9, 4 6-lbs....	16	80	
Galley Congress.....Arnold..	8	2 8-lbs., 2 12-lbs., 4 6-lbs..	16	80	
Galley Washington.....Thatcher.	8	1 18, 1 12, 2 9, 4 4-lbs....	16	80	
*Galley.....Chapple..	8	2 18-lbs., 2 12-lbs., 4 6-lbs..	16	80	

*This galley was fitting at Ticonderoga on the 12th, and will not be ready till next Saturday.
The above is a true copy taken from Colonel Trumbull's return on the 12th instant, by RICH'D VARICK.

RICHARD VARICK TO THE COMMITTEE OF STOCKBRIDGE.
Albany, October 14, four o'clock, P. M.
GENTLEMEN: By despatches from General Arnold, arrived about half an hour ago, we are advised that on Friday last our fleet on Lake Champlain had an engagement with that of the enemy; that after a five hours' warm action the enemy thought proper to sheer off. We lost a schooner, (which being disabled was run ashore by her crew and set on fire the night after the action,) a gondola, which sunk after the engagement, and about sixty men killed and wounded. Our fleet are returning to Crown Point to refit, many of the vessels being damaged. The General in his letter says: "I cannot, in justice to the officers in the fleet, omit mentioning their spirited conduct during the action." The enemy's naval force is superiour to ours, and it is not improbable that they will renew the attack. General Schuyler (to whom the letter conveying the above intelligence was directed) met the express on his way to Saratoga, and has given me directions to desire you to keep your Militia in readiness to march at a moment's warning.

I am, gentlemen, very respectfully, your humble servant,
RICHARD VARICK,
Secretary to Major-General Gates.
To the Committee of Stockbridge.
The foregoing is a true copy of a letter sent us by express by General Schuyler.
SAMUEL BROWN, JUN.,
ERASTUS SERGEANT,
ASA BEMENT,
Committee of Stockbridge.

GENERAL SCHUYLER TO GENERAL GATES.
Saratoga, October 14, 1776, half-after two.
DEAR GENERAL: Two hours ago I received your letter of yesterday's date, about half way between this and Albany. I have ordered all the Militia of this and the neighbouring States to be ready to march at a moment's warning.
The powder is past this, and I have given such orders, that if they are obeyed, you will receive it some time tomorrow. Lest any accident should happen between the landing at the north end of the lake and your post, I think it would be advisable to send a very strong party to escort it.

Pray send me very frequent and particular intelligence, for by that only can I be enabled to regulate my motions in such a manner as to be of most service.
I hope the army will support your exertions. If they do, I trust you and they will both reap never-fading laurels. That you may, is my sincerest wish.
I am, dear General, yours most sincerely, &c., &c., &c.
PH. SCHUYLER.
To the Hon. Major-General Gates.

COLONEL BREWER TO GENERAL GATES.
October 14, 1776, five o'clock, P. M.
HONOURED SIR: Lieutenant Stone, who has just this minute returned from the scout I sent him early this morning, and says that this day about one o'clock he saw about a dozen of boats, which he took to be ours, going down below Putman's Point; and that he saw nine sail of the enemy's vessels, as near as he could judge, about eight miles below Crown Point, which is all the discovery he has made. I have sent another scout, and shall repeat it, except I have your orders to the contrary. Should be glad of some instructions from you in case of an attack, and am, sir, your Honour's humble servant,
SAMUEL BREWER, Colonel.
To General Gates.

DR. POTTS TO RICHARD VARICK.
General Hospital, October 14, 1776.
MY DEAR MAJOR: It gave me much pain to hear of your illness. I long very anxiously to be with you, especially as the enemy are advancing. Is it possible their fleet can be superiour to ours? No provisions here, nor none on the road that I can hear of. I know there is none at Fort Edward or the Half-Moon. Would to God you could prevail on our good General to order me over immediately. I am making up every rag into bandages. Dr. Stringer is at length arrived at Albany, on the 5th instant. When he will come here, God knows. Strange conduct. He has a large assortment of medicine; but the weather is worth all the Doctors now. Colonel Gansevoort left this very sick. He commanded; my voice had no sway. My compliments to the General, &c. God bless you.
JON'N POTTS.
Have sent the General a saddle venison.

SIR GUY CARLETON TO LORD GEORGE GERMAIN.
On board the Maria, off Crown-Point, }
October 14, 1776. }
MY LORD: The Rebel fleet upon Lake Champlain has been entirely defeated in two actions, the first on the 11th instant, between the Island of Valcourt and the main, and the second on the 13th, within a few leagues of Crown-Point.
We have taken Mr. Waterbury, the second in command, one of their Brigadier-Generals, with two of their vessels, and ten others have been burnt and destroyed; only three of fifteen sail, a list of which I transmit, having escaped. For further particulars I refer your Lordship to Lieutenant Dacres, who will be the bearer of this letter, and had a share in both actions, particularly the first, where his gallant behaviour in the Carleton schooner, which he commanded, distinguished him so much as to merit great commendation; and I beg to recommend him to your Lordship's notice and favour. At the same time I cannot omit taking notice to your Lordship of the good service done in the first action by the spirited conduct of a number of officers and men of the corps of Artillery, who served the gun-boats, which, together with the Carleton, sustained for many hours the whole fire of the enemy's fleet, the rest of our vessels not being able to work up near enough to join effectually in the engagement.
The Rebels, upon the news reaching them of the defeat of their naval force, set fire to all the buildings and houses in and near Crown-Point, and retired to Ticonderoga.
The season is so far advanced that I cannot yet pretend to inform your Lordship whether any thing further can be done this year.
I am, &c.,
GUY CARLETON.

List of the Rebels' Vessels on LAKE CHAMPLAIN, before their defeat.

SCHOONERS.

Royal Savage, eight six-pounders and four four-pounders. Went on shore, was set fire to, and blown up.

Revenge, four six-pounders, and four four-pounders. Escaped.

A sloop, ten four-pounders. Escaped.

ROW-GALLEYS.

Congress, two eighteen-pounders in the bow, two twelve and two two-pounders in the stern, and six six-pounders in the sides. Blew up.

Washington, same force. Taken.

Trumbull, same force. Escaped.

The *Lee*, a cutter, one nine-pounder in the bow, one twelve-pounder in the stern, and four six-pounders in sides. Run into a bay, and not known whether destroyed.

GONDOLAS.

Boston, one eighteen-pounder in the bow, two twelve-pounders in the sides. Sunk.

Jersey, ditto. Taken.

One, name unknown, same force. Run on shore.

Five, ditto, ditto. Blown up.

OTHER VESSELS NOT IN THE ACTION.

A schooner, eight four-pounders. Sent from their fleet for provisions.

A galley, said to be of greater force than those mentioned above, fitting out at *Ticonderoga*. G. C.

GOVERNOUR TRUMBULL TO GENERAL WASHINGTON.

New-Haven, October 14, 1776.

SIR: By Captain *Tinker* am informed of the misfortune and situation of the row-galleys sent into the Continental service from this State; and as circumstances are altered respecting them since my last to you, on the subject of dismissing their crews and arms, must again request your attention to that matter, that the crew of the *Crane*, Captain *Tinker*, who escaped, may be dismissed, and be admitted to return to the employment of this State, and that if the crews of the other two galleys can be of no further service to you, they likewise may be dismissed; of one or both, as you see fit, as we can employ them to advantage on board our armed vessels fitting out, into which service they are desirous of entering. The galleys being employed in the service of the Continent, are esteemed to be at the Continental care and risk. This State readily submit to your Excellency's directions what is requisite and proper relative to the men and their arms.

I am, with esteem and respect, sir, your most obedient, humble servant,

JONTH. TRUMBULL.

To His Excellency General *Washington*.

COLONEL LIVINGSTON TO GENERAL WASHINGTON.

Saybrook, October 14, 1776.

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR EXCELLENCY: Last *Wednesday* I had a conference with Governour *Trumbull* at *New-Haven*. I laid before him the plan I had formed for our expedition, which was as follows:

We were immediately to engage fourteen hundred tons of vessels, seven hundred of which being sufficient to carry our whole detachment, were to be stationed at *Oyster-Pond Point*, with instructions to wait till further orders from us, unless disturbed by the enemy's shipping; when that happened, they were to make some secure port on the Continent, and whenever danger disappeared they were to resume their stations. The other seven hundred tons are to be stationed at *Satucket*, about twenty miles farther westward, with the like instructions, that in case we should be baffled at one place, we may proceed to the other. We will have, as I am informed by Governour *Trumbull*, ninety whale-boats; they will land nine hundred men at a time. They are not yet arrived at *New-London*, but are expected in to-night. To-morrow I fancy they will be here. They are to take in our detachment, and proceed to *Fairfield*, from whence we are to land as many men as we conveniently can on the west side of *Huntingdon*, in order to cut off the communication of three companies of troops stationed

at that place. As soon as this can be effected, the whale-boats are to proceed to *Mill Creek*, and carry across into *Southold* harbour, where they are to wait for us, unless circumstances permit us with safety and secrecy to get them into *South Bay*. If that should be the case, they are to follow us as far as *Huntingdon*, and take in our baggage, in case necessity should oblige us to make a retreat.

Head-Quarters on *Long-Island* are now made at *Flushing*, about twenty-eight miles from *Huntingdon*, where a guard is kept. The inhabitants are much oppressed, being prohibited threshing their grain or selling their hay, which transports are now loading with at *Huntingdon*. All the vessels they could lay their hands on have been taken up and ordered to *Flushing*, where their guard is kept; no other part of the island except that place and *Huntingdon* being guarded, except a few men in the forts opposite *New-York*. Major *Rogers* is at *Huntingdon*, though I cannot hear that he has the command. The accounts I have now given you may be depended on; they are given by a brother to one of our Lieutenants, who has been concealed among them for some time, but has at length made his escape with three others, and got safe to this side. The enemy were in pursuit of him when he came away. I send you by this conveyance my returns and the original papers sent Colonel *Fanning*, of which I formerly sent copies to your Excellency, being informed by General *Clinton* of their consequence.

I sent a party immediately after my leaving *New-Haven*, in order to surprise Colonel *Fanning* and Major *Conkling*, and seize their papers; this was effected. No papers were found on Major *Conkling*, though I was told he had been very active. After giving me his parole, he has been permitted to return again to *Long-Island*. Colonel *Fanning*, at his request, I have permitted to proceed for Convention, in order to clear up his character, after exacting his parole to take with him and deliver to Convention the proofs I had collected of his being inimical to us.

I expect it will be the latter end of the week before our descent will be made. I shall, with all my power, forward it, though Governour *Trumbull* is of opinion the force allowed is not adequate to the undertaking; though I can't help differing from his Honour in this particular.

I enclose your Excellency his letter sent me on that subject, with two others intercepted at *New-Haven*, and alluded to in the Governour's letter. Your Excellency will at once see that they are wrote by some very illiterate persons who are easily made to believe any thing.

I remain your Excellency's most obedient, humble servant,

HENRY B. LIVINGSTON.

To His Excellency General *Washington*.

The County Committee and Committees of Townships in *Suffolk* County met respectively, as soon as possible, by the Governour's permission, for the purpose of revoking all their proceedings under the Congress, and formally to dissolve their unlawful association, the County having now submitted to the King, his laws, and government.

New-York, October 15, 1776.

Note. When the above is accomplished, the Governour will receive the Militia.

The Governour's Order:

We the Committees of the County of *Suffolk*, being thoroughly convinced of the injurious and criminal tendency of our former meetings and resolutions, and willing to manifest our hearty disapprobation of all such illegal measures, do hereby dissolve this Committee, and as far as in us lies revoke and disavow all former orders and resolutions of this Committee. And we do further hereby renounce and disavow the orders and resolutions of all other Committees and Congress, whatsoever, as being undutiful to our lawful Sovereign, repugnant to the principles of the *British* Constitution, and ruinous in the extreme to the happiness and prosperity of this County.

A true copy.

COMMODORE HOPKINS TO CAPTAIN HACKER.

Newport, October 14, 1776.

SIR: You are with the brigantine *Hampden* under your command to go out on a cruise, and endeavour all in your power to distress the enemies of the *United States of Ame-*

rica. You are to take all vessels with goods bound to any of the enemy's ports, and send such of them into port for trial as you shall judge worth your while, and others you may destroy, first taking the people out.

You may cruise as long as you can conveniently keep your vessel fit for that service. I think you will do your country most good by cruising in such places as will be most likely to meet with the store-ships bound to *New-York* for the supply of General *Howe's* army.

My orders was to send you to annoy the trade at *New-foundland*, but I imagine that is too late. If you should think best to go that way, it will be best to steer down in about the latitude of thirty-nine or forty, which I think will be the likeliest to meet with vessels bound to *New-York*.

I am, sir, your friend,

ESEK HOPKINS.

To *Hoystead Hacker*, Esq., commander of the brigantine *Hampden* in the service of the *United States of North-America*.

COMMODORE HOPKINS TO DUNSCOME AND FRAZER.

Newport, Rhode-Island, October 14, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: The bearer, Captain *Israel Ambrose*, who has a letter of credit from Messrs. *Brown, Arnold, Salter and Wall*. If it should suit your convenience to supply the Captain with any goods or money, you may depend that the above merchants are men of estate and veracity, and you may safely give them credit for such sums as they require.

As to news there is none more than you will find in the newspapers the Captain will have with him.

I flatter myself that I have been some service to the inhabitants of your island, by getting your vessels and people left out of the declaration which Congress made against the property of *British* subjects.

I am, with esteem, gentlemen, your humble servant,

ESEK HOPKINS.

To Messrs. *Dunscome & Frazer*, Merchants in *New-Province*.

Newport, October 14, 1776.

Last *Monday* the Continental sloop *Providence*, Captain *Jones*, arrived at a safe port, having, in a cruise of six weeks, captured sixteen sail of vessels, six of which he burnt. Among the others is one ship with three thousand quintals of codfish, which is also arrived at a safe port; some smaller fishermen, and two *West-Indiamen*.

Last *Tuesday* two of the enemy's ships took four vessels off *Montague Point*, three of which were prizes to Captain *Munro* and some other privateers; the other a merchantman belonging to these vessels. The crew, we hear, took to their boats, and got safe ashore near *Stonington*.

A large prize brig, with stores for the army at *New-York*, is sent into *Dartmouth*; and, last *Thursday*, when Captain *Starbuck* left *Nantucket* there were three topsail vessels in sight, supposed to be prizes, but whether bound eastward or westward, we do not learn.

A gentleman, who left *Boston* last *Thursday*, informs that five prize ships were in sight, coming into that harbour, when he came away.

A brig from *France* is arrived at *New-Hampshire*, loaded with warlike stores.

LETTER FROM A GENTLEMAN IN THE COUNTRY TO HIS FRIEND
IN BOSTON.

Marlborough, October 14, 1776.

SIR: Yours of the 5th of this month, I have received, taking the liberty you allowed me to make publick your sentiments relative to the late conference between Lord *Howe* and the Continental Congress, in hopes they might be of some service.

To me it is a matter of wonder that his Lordship should desire the Congress to send any of their members to converse with him in relation to the dispute between *Great Britain* and *America*, when, as it appears, he had no power to mention to you so much as the outlines in order to its settlement, but upon their submission to the Government of *Great Britain*, by which we know is meant submission to the arbitrary pleasure of a corrupt Ministry, who, by bribery,

have the absolute command of as corrupt a Parliament. It must be owing to want of consideration or discernment, if his Lordship did not know, that *America*, holding in contempt such ignoble submission, would venture the loss both of their estates and lives in carrying on the contest they have been unhappily forced into, to prevent their being made slaves to worse than *Egyptian* taskmasters.

I fully join with you in thinking that, notwithstanding the appointment of Commissioners with pretended full powers to settle the dispute with *America*, no such thing was in the intention either of the King or his Ministers, but upon supposition of such submission as I just now spake of. *America*, therefore, have nothing to depend on but their own resolution to oppose, under the God of armies, those tyrants whose aim and endeavours have been, and still are, to exercise absolutely sovereign despotick power over them and all that they possess. From what they have already done, we may easily foresee what they would do. In addition to a long catalogue of lesser evils that might be brought to view, they have, by arbitrary edicts, deprived us not only of our Charter constitutions, but of those liberties we have an unalienable right to from the free absolute gift of the God who gave us existence. They have commenced an unnatural war against us, and for no other reason than that we could not consent, in consistency with justice to ourselves and posterity, they should have it in their power, as influenced by lawless will, to dispose of our and their property. They have in prosecution of the war, so far as they were able, blocked up our harbours, seized our ships, and stopped our intercourse with our fellow-men in all parts of the earth; they have plundered our houses, burnt our towns, and reducing thousands to suffering penury; they have, rather than go on distressing us, hired troops of comparatively despicable Principalities, and upon terms which whenever mentioned, will reflect dishonour upon the name of *Englishmen*; they have basely enticed our negroes to join with them in cutting their masters' throats; they have meanly bribed the *Indian* savages to come upon our frontiers and captivate or scalp the inhabitants of them; they have, in a word, made use of every method they could invent, however unjust or disgraceful, to force us to what they call obedience to Government, but what is in reality unmanly submission to tyranny. From what they have then done, it may be foretold, without a prophetick spirit, what they would do, should they make a conquest of us. They would condemn many of our most valuable men to suffer death by the halter; they would seize the estates of many more, and give them to the vilest among those who have endeavoured the destruction of their country; they would annihilate the present right of all the freeholders in *America* to their houses and lands, not permitting them to possess them any longer, but by a grant from the King, to be held only upon the payment of such a quit-rent as they should see fit; they would pass stamp acts, and lay taxes upon all the conveniences, if not the necessities, of life, hereby making way for the pompous support of worthless pensionary tools, and swarms of Crown officers, who, like so many locusts coming from beneath, would eat up the fruit of our labour; they would, to say no more, station troops in every *American* State, and such a number of them as to constitute, in the whole, a large standing army, which they would oblige us to pay, in order to our being kept in a state of the most abject slavery. This is what we may expect will be the effect of the attempt of the *British* Ministry against us, should they be successful in it. And is there a man in all *America*, not having lost his senses, whose breast is not filled with indignation at the thought of being thus injuriously dealt with? Who among her sons will not venture his all, together with his life, to prevent such an awfully distressed state of things? Nothing will now be effectual to this purpose, but a readiness in all, in all parts of the Continent, to exert themselves, as there may be occasion for it, within their respective spheres, for our defence and safety. This, I trust, is the universal resolution; for all is at stake. If the *British* enemy overcome us, we are undone as to this world. We should no more enjoy our rights as freemen, but be irretrievably fettered with the chains of cruel bondage. In this view of what our condition would be, those who are entrusted with the management of our political affairs, will, in their several departments, as with one heart, suspending for awhile their attention to other matters, devise and prosecute the most effectual

measures for the salvation of the country. Nor can it be doubted, but that our numerous able-bodied men will, with a cheerful readiness, join our new-modelling armies, depending on the Lord of hosts, under their active courageous instrumentality, to drive away, or destroy, those who have risen up against us, and deliver these lands from the ruin that is intended to be brought upon them. I must now break off, lest I should overdo your patience. I only add, you have the same liberty you gave me, that is, you may make what use of this letter you shall judge proper.

I am, with great respect, your very humble servant,

A COUNTRY GENTLEMAN.

To Mr. _____, in Boston.

Testimony of JOHN ROWE, 1775.

John Rowe, of *Boston*, merchant, of lawful age, testifies and says, that in the beginning of *August*, 1775, the *Charming Peggy*, Captain *Duman*, bound from *Philadelphia* to *Lisbon*, was sent into *Boston* by the *Glasgow* man-of-war, commanded by Captain *Howe*. That the necessary papers belonging to the *Peggy* were lodged in the hands of the advocate, *Samuel Fitch*, Esq. Whether Mr. *Fitch* libelled her in the Court of Admiralty, I am not certain; I rather think he did, as Captain *Dowmer* applied to Mr. *Putman* and Mr. *Chipman*, two lawyers, by my advice. After some time, nothing was done in the Admiralty. I drew a memorial to General *Gage*, Admiral *Graves*, and the Commissioners of the Customs, for liberty to unload the ship, and dispose of the cargo. This petition was granted, and part of the cargo was sold by me after appraisement to *Henry Floyd*, Esq., and *Alexander Boymer*, and delivered to them by my clerk, *Archibald McNeill*, who weighed every barrel as it came out of the ship, which took up a good deal of time. Some little time before the whole cargo was delivered, an account was received that a ship had arrived from *London* to *Philadelphia*, with General *Gage's* clothing on board, which clothing was reported to be stopped there. Upon which General *Gage* ordered Mr. *Floyd* and *Brymer* not to pay the money for this flour. I pleaded hard with the General, and thought it a hard case that individuals should suffer for the actions of the community. I could not get him to suffer them to pay it, and just before the General left *Boston*, Mr. *Floyd* and *Brymer* paid General *Gage* the money for what they bought, and I understood gave them a receipt of indemnification. The ship was afterwards under the care and direction of Captain *Dowman*, who left her with the Captain of the port.

JOHN ROWE.

State of *Massachusetts-Bay*, in *New-England*,
Suffolk ss., October 14, 1776:

John Rowe, of *Boston*, in the County of *Suffolk* aforesaid, merchant, appeared before me, and, after being carefully examined and cautioned to tell the whole truth, made oath to the truth of the enclosed deposition by him subscribed, taken at the request of *William Bell*, of *Philadelphia*, in the State of *Pennsylvania*, merchant, to be used in the trial of the capture of the ship *Charming Peggy*, *Dowman* late master, on the libel of *John Skimmer*, commander of the Continental schooner *Franklin*, and others, on an appeal from a judgment of a court maritime in this State, whereof *Timothy Pickering*, Esq., is Judge, and before the honourable Continental Congress, in the City of *Philadelphia* aforesaid.

JOSEPH GREENLEAF, *Justice Peace*.

RICHARD DERBY, JUN., TO RICHARD DEVENS.

Salem, October 14, 1776.

SIR: This morning I received a resolve of Court, directing me to discharge the schooner *Diligent* from the service of this State, and to take into my custody all the cannon and other warlike stores now on board her, the property of this State. I conclude the Court meant nothing more than that I should see them delivered to your care; and as the Maritime Court sits in this town all this week, and causes are to be tried in which the State is interested, I cannot well leave home, and therefore I have sent the bearer, Mr. *Gray*, to see what stores may be on board her, delivered to your care, and to discharge Captain *Lambert* from any further service on board said schooner, agreeable to the

order of Court. If there are any bar shot on board her, or any can be obtained, they are much wanted for the *Tyrannicide*, which is now near ready for sea.

I am, sir, your very humble servant,

RICHARD DERBY, JUN.

To *Richard Devens*, Esq.

CAPTAIN ABIJAH BANGS TO MASSACHUSETTS COUNCIL.

Boston, October 14, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: According to order I have applied to the several towns in the County of *Barnstable*, and acquainted Field Officers with my business, and the Brigadier tells me that he has not power and authority enough to send the men, or to draft them for this detachment. Then, gentlemen, I applied to Mr. *Samuel Crocker*, one of the Committee at *Barnstable*, and he told me that the Committee had never received any orders from the honourable Court to draft any men to this detachment. Then I applied to Colonel *Hallett*, *West Parish*, *Yarmouth*: he informed me that some of the people are waiting to do their duty, providing the other could be made to do their duty. I then applied to *David Thatcher*, one of the Committee of *Yarmouth*: he told me he had never read any orders for a draft for this detachment. Then I applied to Mr. *Caleb Lumber*, one of the Committee of *Wellfleet*, and he told me that he had never received any orders to enlist or draft any men for this detachment; and as there is no officers in commission there, I could not do any thing further. I wrote to Captain *Selen*, of *Truro*, to send the men that were drafted for this detachment to join my company at *Dorchester* as soon as possible. So having done all that lays in my power, I am, gentlemen, with respect, your Honours' most obedient, humble servant,

ABIJAH BANGS, *Captain*.

To the honourable Council of the State of the *Massachusetts-Bay*.

Portsmouth, New-Hampshire, October 14, 1776.

Last Sunday arrived at *Saco* a small prize schooner, sent in by the *Putnam* privateer, *John Harmon* commander, having on board three hundred bushels of salt and some oil. Next day arrived another schooner, taken by the same privateer, having on board three hundred and seventy-five quintals of green fish and some oil: she brings an account of another small vessel taken that is not yet arrived, and one that they took, which was afterwards drove ashore by a frigate, the vessel lost, but the people got on board the privateer again. The frigate drove the privateer into a harbour, and came to anchor, with intention of keeping her in, but Captain *Harmon* got one of his guns ashore on a point of land, and fired on the frigate, when she returned whole broadsides into the woods at them, but did no damage. Captain *Harmon*, after a few shot, was so lucky as to cut away her forestay, which obliged her to come to sail, and put to sea.

Since the 7th instant, arrived in this port two prize schooners, the *Glasgow* and *Neptune*, laden with fish and oil to a considerable amount, taken off the Banks of *Newfoundland*, by Captain *Robert Parker*, of this port.

This morning, a small prize schooner, with two hundred quintals of fish, was sent into this harbour; she was taken by Captain *Calton*, in the *General Gates* privateer, from *Salem*.

EXTRACT OF A LETTER FROM KINGSTON, JAMAICA, DATED
OCTOBER 15, 1776.

We are all very quiet at present, and have been so for some time past. Martial law has been suspended about a month; but parochial guards were kept up throughout the island till within this fortnight. The Militia is now restored to its former state, and I hope there will be no further occasion for martial law being established here.

A few weeks ago, the French frigate *L'Hermione*, commanded by Mons. *Demonteil*, Brigadier-General and Knight of the Order of *St. Louis*, came in here from *St. Nicholas Mole*, in *Hispaniola*, to demand a small American schooner which had been taken by the *Squirrel* a few days before. He alleged that the schooner was taken nearer the land than was permitted by treaty between the two Courts. The

Admiral answered that Captain *Douglas* knew his duty, and if he had acted wrong must answer for it; that he deemed the schooner a lawful prize, and would not deliver her up; but that if there were any differences to be adjusted, they must be settled by the two Courts. The *French* frigate did not remain here forty-eight hours. It is reported that the Admiral further told the Captain that he need not salute his ship when he went away, as he omitted it when he came in; for that, consequently, the compliment should not be returned. There have been five or six prizes brought in here these three weeks.

JUDGE DRAYTON'S CHARGE TO GRAND JURY OF CHARLESTON.

At a Court of General Sessions of the Peace, Oyer and Terminer, Assize and General Gaol delivery, begun and holden at CHARLESTON, for the district of CHARLESTOWN, on TUESDAY, OCTOBER 15th, in the year of our Lord 1776, before the Hon. WILLIAM HENRY DRAYTON, Esq., Chief Justice, and his Associates, Justices of the said Court.

Ordered, That the Charge delivered by his Honour the Chief Justice to the Grand Jury, and their Presentments at this sessions, be forthwith published.

By order of the Court: JOHN COLCOCK, C. C. S.

THE CHARGE TO THE GRAND JURY.

GENTLEMEN OF THE GRAND JURY: The last time I had the honour to address a grand jury in this court, I expounded to them the constitution of their country, as established by Congress on the 26th day of *March* last, independent of royal authority. I laid before them the causes of that important change of our Government—a comparison of these, with those that occasioned the *English* Revolution of 1688—and the law resulting from the injuries in each case. I spoke to that grand jury of the late revolution of *South-Carolina*. I mean to speak to you upon a more important subject—the rise of the *American* Empire.

The great act in *March* last upon the matter constituted our country totally independent of *Great Britain*. For it was calculated to place in our hands the whole legislative, executive, and judicial powers of government; and to enable us, in the most effectual manner, by force of arms, to oppose, resist, and war against the *British* Crown. The act naturally looked forward to an accommodation of the unhappy differences between that Power and *America*. In like manner every declaration of war between independent States, implies a future accommodation of their disputes. But, although by that act we were upon the matter made independent, yet there were no words in it specially declarative of that independency. Such a declaration was of right to be made only by the General Congress; because the united voice and strength of *America* were necessary to give a desirable credit and prospect of stability to a declared state of total separation from *Great Britain*. And the General Congress, as the only means left by which they had a chance to avert the ruin of *America*, have issued a declaration by which all political connection between you and the State of *Great Britain* is totally dissolved.

Carolinians! heretofore you were bound. By the *American* Revolution you are now free. The change is most important—most honourable—most beneficial. It is your birthright by the law of nature—it is even valid by the fundamental laws of your country—you were placed in possession of it by the hand of God—particulars evidencing a subject of the highest import. Gentlemen of the grand jury, it is my duty to mark to you the great lines of your conduct; and so to endeavour to explain the nature of each, that you may clearly see your way, and thereby be animated in your progress to discharge those services which are required at your hands; and hence it is necessary for me to lay before you some observations upon the nature of the *American* Revolution, which by every tie, divine and human, you are bound to support. I shall therefore endeavour to draw your attention to this great subject, necessarily including the lines of your particular conduct.

It is but to glance an eye over the historick page, to be assured that the duration of empire is limited by the Almighty decree. Empires have their rise to a zenith, and their declension to a dissolution. The years of a man,

ay, the hours of the insect on the bank of the *Hypanis*, that lives but a day, epitomize the advance and decay of the strength and duration of dominion! One common fate awaits all things upon earth—a thousand causes accelerate or delay their perfection or ruin. To look a little into remote times, we see that, from the most contemptible origin upon record, *Rome* became the most powerful State the sun ever saw. The world bowed before her imperial *Fascies*! yet, having ran through all the vicissitudes of dominion, her course was finished. Her empire was dissolved, that the separated members of it might arise to run through similar revolutions.

Great Britain was a part of this mighty empire. But, being dissolved from it, in her turn she also extended her dominion:—arrived at, and passed her zenith. Three and thirty years numbered the illustrious days of the *Roman* greatness. Eight years measure the duration of the *British* grandeur in meridian lustre! How few are the days of true glory! The extent of the *Roman* period is from their complete conquest of *Italy*, which gave them a place whereon to stand that they might shake the world, to the original cause of their declension, their introduction of *Asiatick* luxury. The *British* period is from the year 1758, when they victoriously pursued their enemies into every quarter of the globe, to the immediate cause of their decline—their injustice displayed by the Stamp Act. In short, like the *Roman* empire, *Great Britain* in her constitution of government, contained a poison to bring on her decay, and in each case, this poison was drawn into a ruinous operation by the riches and luxuries of the East. Thus, by natural causes and common effects, the *American* States are become dissolved from the *British* dominion. And is it to be wondered at, that *Britain* has experienced the invariable fate of empire! We are not surprised when we see youth or age yield to the common lot of humanity. Nay, to repine that, in our day, *America* is dissolved from the *British* State, is impiously to question the unerring wisdom of Providence. The Almighty setteth up, and he casteth down: he breaks the sceptre, and transfers the dominion. He has made choice of the present generation to erect the *American* empire. Thankful as we are, and ought to be, for an appointment of the kind, the most illustrious that ever was, let each individual exert himself in this important operation directed by *Jehovah* himself. From a short retrospect, it is evident the work was not the present design of man.

Never were a people more wrapped up in a King than the *Americans* were in *George* the Third in the year 1763. They revered and obeyed the *British* Government, because it protected them; they fondly called *Great Britain*, home. But, from that time, the *British* counsels took a ruinous turn; ceasing to protect, they sought to ruin *America*. The Stamp Act, Declaratory Law, and the duties upon tea and other articles, at once proclaimed their injustice, and announced to the *Americans* that they had but little room for hope; infinite space for fear. In vain they petitioned for redress! Authorized by the law of nature, they exerted the inherent powers of society, and resisted the edicts which told them they had no property; and that against their consent, and by men over whom they had no control, they were to be bound in all cases whatsoever. Dreadful information! Patience could not but resent them. However, regardless of such feelings, and resolved to endeavour to support those all-grasping claims, early in the year 1774 the *British* tyranny made other edicts—to overturn *American* charters—to suspend or destroy, at the pleasure of the Crown, the value of private property—to block up the port of *Boston* in terrorism to other *American* ports—to give murder the sanction of law—to establish the *Roman Catholic* religion, and to make the King of *Great Britain* a despot in *Canada*; and as much so as he then chose to be in *Massachusetts-Bay*. And General *Gage* was sent to *Boston* with a considerable force to usher these edicts into action, and the *Americans* into slavery.

Their petitions thus answered even with the sword of the murderer at their breasts, the *Americans* thought only of new petitions. It is well known there was not then even an idea that the independence of *America* would be the work of this generation; for people yet had a confidence in the integrity of the *British* monarch. At length, subsequent edicts being also passed, to restrain the *Americans* from enjoying the bounty of Providence on their own coast,

and to cut off their trade with each other and with foreign States—the royal sword yet reeking with *American* blood, and the King still deaf to the prayers of the people for “peace, liberty and safety;” it was even so late as the latter end of the last year, before that confidence visibly declined; and it was generally seen that the quarrel was likely to force *America* into an immediate state of independence. But such an event was not expected, because it was thought the monarch, from motives of policy, if not from inclination, would heal our wounds, and thereby prevent the separation; but it was not wished for, because men were unwilling to break off old connections, and change the usual form of Government.

Such were the sentiments of *America* until the arrival of the *British* act of Parliament declaring the *Americans* out of the royal protection, and denouncing a general war against them. But counsels too refined, generally produce contrary and unexpected events. So the whole system of *British* policy respecting *America*, since the year 1763, calculated to surprise, deceive, or drive the people into slavery, urged them into independence: and this act of Parliament, in particular, finally released *America* from *Great Britain*. Antecedent to this, the *British* King, by his hostilities, had as far as he personally could, absolved *America* from that faith, allegiance and subjection she owed him; because the law of our land expressly declares these are due only in return for his protection, allegiance being founded on the benefit of protection. But God, knowing that we are in peril by false brethren as well as by real enemies, out of his abundant mercy has caused us to be released from subjection, by yet a better title than the mere oppression of a man in the kingly office. This title is singular in its kind. It is the voluntary and joint act of the whole *British* Legislature, on the 21st day of *December*, 1775, releasing the faith, allegiance and subjection of *America* to the *British* Crown, by solemnly declaring the former out of the protection of the latter; and thereby, agreeable to every principle of law, actually dissolving the original contract between King and people.

Hence an *American* cannot, legally, at the suit of the King of *Great Britain*, be indicted of high treason; because the indictment cannot charge him with an act *contra ligentiam suam debitam*; for, not being protected by that King, the law holds that he does not owe him any faith and allegiance. So an alien enemy, even invading the Kingdom of *England*, and taken in arms, cannot be dealt with as a traitor, because he violates no trust or allegiance. In short this doctrine, laid down in the best law authorities, is a criterion whereby we may safely judge whether or not a particular people are subject to a particular Government. And thus upon the matter, that decisive act of Parliament *ipso facto* created the United Colonies free and independent States.

These particulars evidence against the royal calumniator in the strongest manner. Let him not with unparalleled effrontery, from a throne continue to declare that the *Americans* “meant only to amuse, by vague expressions of attachment and the strongest professions of loyalty, whilst they were preparing for a general revolt, for the purpose of establishing an independent empire.” On the 1st of *September*, 1775, *Richard Penn* and *Arthur Lee*, Esqs., delivered to Lord *Dartmouth*, he being Secretary of State, a petition from the Congress to the King, when Lord *Dartmouth* told them, “no answer would be given.” The petition contained this remarkable passage, that the King would “be pleased to direct some mode by which the united applications of his faithful Colonists to the Throne, in presence of their common councils, might be improved into a permanent and happy reconciliation, and that in the mean time measures might be taken for preventing the further destruction of the lives of his Majesty’s subjects.” Yet, notwithstanding this, on the 26th of *October* following, from the throne, the King charged the *Americans* with aiming at independence! The facts I have stated are known to the world; they are yet more stubborn than the tyrant. But let other facts be also stated against him. There was a time when the *American* army before *Boston* had not a thousand weight of gunpowder—the forces were unable to advance into *Canada*, until they received a small supply of powder from this country, and for which the General Congress expressly sent—and when we took up arms a few months before, we

begun with a stock of five hundred weight! These grand magazines of ammunition demonstrate, to be sure, that *America*, or even *Massachusetts-Bay*, was preparing to enter the military road to independence! On the contrary, if we consider the manner in which *Great Britain* has continued her irritating and hostile measures, we cannot but clearly see that God has darkened her counsels, and that with a stretched-out arm he himself has delivered us out of the house of bondage, and has led us on to empire.

In the year 1774, General *Gage* arrived at *Boston*, to awe the people into a submission to the edicts against *America*. The force he brought was, by the oppressors, thought not only sufficient to compel obedience, but that this would be effected even at the appearance of the sword. But the Continent being roused by the edicts, General *Gage*, to his surprise, found that he had not strength sufficient to carry them into execution. In this situation things continued several months; while on the one hand the General received reinforcements, and on the other the people acquired a contempt for the troops, and found time to form their Militia into some order to oppose the force they saw accumulating for their destruction. Hence in the succeeding *April*, when the General commenced hostilities, he was defeated. The victory produced the most important effects. The people were animated to besiege *Boston*, where it soon appeared that the *British* troops were too weak to make any impression upon them, thus acquiring military knowledge by the actual operations of war. The *United Colonies* were roused to arms. They new-modelled their Militia, raised regular troops, fortified the harbours, and crushed the Tory parties among them. Success fired the *Americans* with a spirit of enterprise.

In the mean time, the King passed such other edicts as, adding to the calendar of injuries, widened the civil breach, and narrowed the band of the *American* Union. And such supplies were, from time to time, sent for the relief of *Boston*, as not in any degree sufficient to enable General *Gage* to raise the siege, answered no other ends but to increase the number, heighten the spirit, advance the discipline of the *American* army, and to cause every member of the Union to exert every ability to procure arms and ammunition from abroad. Thus trained on evidently by the Almighty, these troops, reproached by General *Gage* when they first sat down before *Boston*, that “with a preposterous parade of military arrangements, they affected to hold the army besieged,” in less than eleven months compelled the *British* army, although considerably reinforced, to abandon *Boston* by stealth, and to trust their safety, not to their arms, but to the winds. The *British* Ministry have attempted to put a gloss upon this remove of their army. However, the cannon, stores, and provisions, they left in *Boston*, are in our hands, substantial marks of their flight.

Thus there appears to have been a fatality in their counsels respecting *Boston*, the grand seat of contention; their forces being inadequate to the enterprise on which they were sent. And under the same influence have their attacks been directed against *Virginia* and *North-Carolina*, *Savannah*, and this capital. Such a series of events is striking. It surely displays an overruling Providence that has confounded the *British* counsels, to the end that *America* should not have been at first shackled, and thereby prevented from acquiring a knowledge of, and confidence in her strength, to be attained only by an experimental trial and successful exertion of it, previous to the *British* rulers doing acts driving her either into slavery or independence. The same trace of an overruling Providence is evident throughout the whole transaction of the *English* Revolution of 1688. King *James* received early information of the Prince of *Orange*’s intention to invade *England*, and *Louis* the XIV. offered the King a powerful assistance. But his counsels were confounded from on high. He paid little attention to the first—he neglected the last. The winds blew, and how opportunely have they aided us; the winds detained *James*’s fleet at anchor, while they, directing the course of the Prince, enabled him without any loss to land in *England*, at a time when no person thought of a revolution, which was destined to take place within but a few weeks. Unexpected, wonderful, and rapid movements, character the *British* and *American* Revolutions. They do not appear to have been premeditated by man. And from so close a similitude, in so many points, between the two revolutions,

we have great reason to hope that the *American*, like the *British*, will be stable against the tyrant.

As I said before, in my last charge, I drew a parallel between the causes which occasioned the *English* Revolution, and those which occasioned our local revolution in *March* last; and I examined the famous resolution of the Lords and Commons of *England*, at *Westminster*, declaring the law upon *James's* conduct. The two first points of it applied to our own case in the closest manner, and in applying the third, treating of *James's* withdrawing, I pointed out that the abdication of the regal Government among us, was immediately effected, not only by the withdrawing of the regal substitute, with the ensigns of government, but that King *George* had withdrawn himself, "by withdrawing the constitutional benefits of the kingly office, and his protection out of this country." Thus couching my thoughts upon the article of the withdrawing, in order that the parallel should be continued throughout as close as the subject would admit, without attempting to extract the essence from the substance of the resolution, to demonstrate that such a parallel was necessary; a mode which, the subject being new, might not then perhaps have been so generally satisfactory. But, as the *American* Revolution leads me again to mention that resolution, which in the strongest manner justifies it, I make no scruple now to say, that the resolution, though appearing to point out several kinds of criminality, yet has only one idea thus variously represented:

"Resolved, That King *James* the Second having endeavoured to subvert the Constitution of the Kingdom, by breaking the original contract between King and people; and, by the advice of Jesuits and other wicked persons, having violated the fundamental laws, and having withdrawn himself out of the Kingdom, has abdicated the Government, and that the throne is thereby vacant."

But before I make any further observation upon this resolution, allow me to show you the sense of *Scotland* in the last, and of *America* in the present century, touching an abdication of government; and you will find that the voice of nature is the same, in either extremity of the globe, and in different ages.

The estates of *Scotland* having enumerated King *James's* mal-administration, and in which there was no article of withdrawing, they declared, that "thereby he had forfeited the rights of the crown, and the throne was become vacant." And the Representatives of the *United States of America*, stating their grievances under King *George* the Third, decreed, that "he has abdicated government here, by declaring us out of his protection, and waging war against us." And that "a prince whose character is thus marked by every act which may define a tyrant, is unfit to be the ruler of a free people."

Thus in each case it is apparent the abdication or forfeiting took place from but one and the same cause—the failure of protection. And this is the single idea that, I apprehend, is in the resolution of *Westminster*. Search to understand what is a breach of the original contract—what a violation of the fundamental laws wherein consisted the criminality of *James's* withdrawing? Your inquiry must terminate thus—a failure of protection. Independent of the nature of the subject, the history of that time warrants this construction upon the withdrawing in particular. For upon *James's* first flying from *Whitehall*, quitting the administration without providing a power to protect the people, he was considered by the Prince of *Orange*, and the heads of the *English* nation, as having then absolutely abdicated the Government, and terminated his reign; and they treated him accordingly upon his sudden return to *Whitehall*, from whence he was immediately ejected. In short, a failure of protection being once established, it necessarily includes and implies a charge of a breach of original contract—a violation of fundamental laws—and a withdrawing of the King. I do not mean the individual person, but the officer so called. For the officer being constituted to dispense protection, and there being a failure of it, it is evident, *prima facie*, that the officer is withdrawn; and in reality, because the law will not admit that the officer can be present and not dispense protection, as the law ascribes to the King in his political capacity absolute perfection; and therefore it will intend a withdrawing and abdication, in exclusion of any idea of his being present and doing wrong. Protection was the great end for which mankind formed

societies. On this hang all the duties of a King. It is the one thing needful in royalty.

Upon the whole, what is civil liberty, or by what conduct it may be oppressed, by what means the oppression ought to be removed, or an abdication or forfeiting of the Government may be induced, cannot precisely be ascertained and laid down as rules to the world. Humanity is interested in these subjects. Nature alone will judge, and she will decide upon the occasion without regard to precedent. In *America*, nature has borne *British* oppression so long as it was tolerable; but there is a load of injury which cannot be endured. Nature felt it. And the people of *America*, acting upon natural principles, by the mouths of their Representatives in Congress assembled, at *Philadelphia*, on the 4th day of *July* last, awfully declared—and revere the sentence!—"That these *United Colonies* are, and of right ought to be, free and independent States; that they are absolved from all allegiance to the *British* Crown; and that all political connection between them and the State of *Great Britain* is, and ought to be, totally dissolved."

A decree is now gone forth, not to be recalled! And thus has suddenly arisen in the world, a new empire, styled the *United States of America*. An empire that as soon as started into existence, attracts the attention of the rest of the universe, and bids fair, by the blessing of God, to be the most glorious of any upon record. *America* hails *Europe*, *Asia*, and *Africa*. She proffers peace and plenty.

This revolution, forming one of the most important epochs in the history, not of a nation, but of the world, is, as it were, an eminence from which we may observe the things around us. And I am naturally led to explain the value of that grand object now in our possession and view, to state the *American* ability by arms to maintain the acquisition, and to show the conduct by which a patriotick grand jury may aid the establishment of our infant empire.

To make men sensible of the value of the object now in our possession, we need no ingenuity of thought, or display of eloquence. To him who doubts of the meridian sun, it is sufficient to point to it. So in the present case, as well to demonstrate the value of the object as the justice of our claim to it, we need only hold it up to view. It is, to maintain among the powers of the earth, the separate and equal station to which the laws of nature and of nature's God entitle us. A few months ago we fought only to preserve to the labourer the fruits of his toil, free from the all-coveting grasp of the *British* tyrant, *alieni appetens, sui profusus*, and to defend a people from being, like brute beasts, bound in all cases whatsoever. But these two last ingredients to make life agreeable, are now melted into, inseparably blended with, and wholly included in the first, which is now become the object for which *America*, *ex necessitate*, wars against *Britain*. And I shall now point out to you the Continental ability, by arms, to maintain this invaluable station.

When, in modern times, *Philip* of *Spain* became the tyrant of the Low Countries in *Europe*, of seventeen Provinces which composed those territories, seven only effectually confederated to preserve their liberties, or to perish in the attempt. They saw *Philip* the most powerful prince in the Old World, and master of *Mexico* and *Peru* in the New—nations incessantly pouring into his territories floods of gold and silver. They saw him possessed of the best troops, and the most formidable navy in the universe, and aiming at no less than universal monarchy. But these seven Provinces, making but a speck upon the globe, saw themselves without armies, fleets, or funds of money; yet seeing themselves on the point of being by a tyrant bound in all cases whatsoever, nobly relying upon Providence and the justice of their cause, they resolved to oppose the tyrant's whole force, and at least deserve to be free. They fought, they bled, and were often brought to the door of destruction. They redoubled their efforts in proportion to their danger. And the inhabitants of that speck of earth compelled the master of dominions so extensive that it was boasted the sun was never absent, to treat with them as a free and independent people!

For a moment, and with the aid of a fearful imagination, let us suppose that the *American* States are now as defenceless as the *Hollanders* then were, and that the King of *Great Britain* is now as powerful as *Philip* then was. Yet even such a state of things could not be a plea for any

degree of submission on our part. Did not the *Hollanders* oppose their weakness to the strength of *Spain*? Are not the *Americans* engaged in as good a cause as the *Hollanders* fought in? Are the *Americans* less in love with liberty than the *Hollanders* were? Shall we not in this, a similar cause, dare those perils that they successfully combated? Shall we not deserve freedom? Our past actions presage our future achievements, and animate us in our military efforts for "peace, liberty, and safety." But see the real powers of *Great Britain*.

Staggering beneath the load of an enormous debt, the very annual interest of which, in the year 1775, amounted to upwards of four millions eight hundred and eighty thousand pounds sterling, *Great Britain* scarcely supports the weight which is yet rapidly increasing. During the present year, she prosecutes the war at a charge of more than nineteen millions sterling, incurred by actual expenses, and by loss of revenue in consequence of the war. Her trade, her only resource for money, is now in a manner destroyed; for her principal trade, which was to this Continent, is now at an end; and she sustains heavy, very heavy, losses by the *American* captures of her *West-India* ships. Her manufactures are almost at their last morsel. Her publick credit is certain to fail even by a short continuance of the war. Her fleets are not half manned. And she is so destitute of an army, that she is reduced to supplicate even the petty German princes for assistance, and thinks it worth her while to make a separate treaty to procure only six hundred and sixty-eight men!—a last effort to form an army in *America*. But, after all this humiliating exertion, she has even upon paper raised a *German* army of only sixteen thousand eight hundred and sixty-eight men, who, with about fourteen thousand national troops and a few *Hanoverian* regiments, compose the whole military force that she can collect for the *American* service. Nay, so arduous a task was even this, that her grand army of but twenty-six thousand men, could not open the present campaign before the end of *August* last. Add to these particulars, the troops are unaccustomed to the sudden vicissitudes of the *American* climate and the extremes of cold, heat, and rain. They cannot proceed without camp equipage, because they are used to such luxuries. The very scene of their operations is a matter of discouragement to them, because they know not the country; and for their supplies of men, stores, and the greatest part of their provisions, they must look to *Great Britain*—and there is a vast abyss between. Hence their supplies must be precarious at best; and failing, they may be involved in ruin. A check may affect them as a defeat—a defeat in battle may annihilate their very army. Such seems to be the situation of *Great Britain*, while only the *American* war is on her hands. But do we not see *France* and *Spain*, her inveterate enemies, now watching for the critical moment when they shall swallow up her *West India* Islands? When this crisis appears, which, from the now quick arrivals of *French* vessels in *America*, and from the forces already collected, and others now daily poured into the islands by those Powers, cannot be far distant, what will be the situation of *Great Britain*?

On the other hand, *America* is possessed of resources for the war which appear as soon as inquired after; are found only by being sought for; and are but scarce imagined even when found. Strong in her union, on each coast and frontier she meets the invaders, whether *British* or *Indian* savages, repelling their allied attacks. The *Americans* now live without luxury. They are habituated to despise their yearly profits by agriculture and trade. They engage in the war from principle. They follow their leaders to battle with personal affection. Natives of the climate, they bear the vicissitudes and extremities of the weather. Hardy and robust, they need no camp equipage, and they march with celerity. The common people have acute understanding; and there are those in the higher stations who are acquainted with the arts and sciences, and have a comprehensive view of things equally with those who act against them. In short, the *American* armies meet the war where they may be constantly recruited and subsisted, comforted by the aid of their neighbours, and by reflections upon the justice of their cause, and animated by seeing, that they are arrayed in the defence of all that is, or can be, dear to them.

From such a people every thing is to be hoped for,

nothing is to be doubted of. Such a people, though young in the practice of war, ever were superiour to veteran troops. To prove this, shall I direct your attention to *Europe*, *Asia*, and *Africa*, in their histories to point out to you numberless instances of this sort? No, gentlemen, *America* now attracts the eyes of the world: she deserves our whole attention; let us not search abroad, and in remote or modern times, for instances of such a kind as we can find at home and in our own day. Need I mention that such a people, young in the art of war, beat veteran troops at *Lexington*, slaughtered them at *Bunker's Hill*, and drove them out of *Boston*! or remind you of *Sullivan's Island*, where, in an unfinished wooden fort, on a flat coast, such men, during eleven hours, and at the distance of five hundred yards, stood the whole and unintermitted fire of a *British* squadron of two ships of the line, five frigates, and a bomb; and, with fifteen pieces of cannon, caused the enemy to burn one of their largest frigates, and to fly with the rest of the squadron in a shattered condition, from before our capital!

Such a contrasted state of the powers of *America* and of *Britain* is, I apprehend, a just representation of their abilities with regard to the present war; and if *America* behaves worthy of herself, I see no cause to fear the enemy. However, in such a conflict, we ought to expect difficulties, dangers and defeats. "What, shall we receive good at the hand of God, and shall we not receive evil?" *Job's* perseverance in his duty under every calamity, at length raised him to the height of human felicity; and, if we are firm, even our defeats will operate to our benefit. Let us remember that it was to the danger in which the *Roman* State was reared that she owed her illustrious men and imperial fortune. The *Roman* dignity was never so majestic, her glory never so resplendent, her fortitude and exertions never so conspicuous and nervous, as when *Hannibal*, in the successive battles of *Trabia*, *Thrasymenus* and *Cannæ*, having almost extirpated their whole military force, the very State was on the brink of dissolution. The *Romans* deserved, and they acquired victory.

And now, gentlemen of the grand jury, having in this manner considered the nature of the *American* Revolution upon circumstances of fact and principles of law, I am to mark the conduct which you ought to pursue, and which will enable you to aid the establishment of our infant empire. But, that I may naturally introduce this subject, I shall first state and explain to you the principal articles of the inquiry which you are sworn to make on the part of the State, and for the body of this district; and these articles I shall arrange under two heads. The one relating to crimes and misdemeanours immediately injurious to individuals, the other relating to such as are injurious to the State.

Those criminal injuries that affect individuals respect either their persons, habitations, or property. Of these injuries the most important are such as affect the person, and of such, the act depriving the person of life is the most enormous.

In the contemplation of law, every taking of life is a homicide; and, according to the particular circumstances of each case, this homicide is purely voluntary, including the cases of felony, as self-murder, murder respecting another, and manslaughter: Or, the homicide is purely involuntary, as *per infortunium*, misadventure: Or, of a mixed kind, *ex necessitate*; as *se defendendo* inducing a forfeiture; or being under the requisition or permission of law and not inducing any. And thus, homicide is either justifiable, excusable, or felonious.

It is justifiable in all cases *ex necessitate*; as when life is taken by the legal execution of a criminal, or for the advancement of justice, or for the prevention of some atrocious crime.

It is excusable in cases *per infortunium*, misadventure; as when life is taken by the doing a lawful act without any evil intention. So in cases *se defendendo*; as a man being attacked without any provocation on his part, and having *bona fide* retreated as far as he safely could, when for self-preservation he kills the aggressor. And although this last arises *ex necessitate*, and it would therefore seem to be rather justifiable than excusable, yet the law entitles it *necessitas culpabilis*, and thereby distinguishes it from the other. For the law so highly respects the life of a man, that it always intends some misbehaviour in the person who

takes it away without an express legal command or permission.

But homicide is felonious in all cases of manslaughter, murder, and self-murder. In cases of manslaughter, as killing another without any degree of malice, and this killing may be either voluntary by a sudden act of revenge on a sudden provocation and heat, or it may be, yet not strictly so, involuntary, being in the commission of some unlawful act under the degree of felony; for this killing being the consequence of the unlawful act voluntarily entered upon, the law, because of the previous intent, will transfer this from the original to the consequential object.

In cases of murder; as killing another person, *ex malitia præcogitata*. And here it is necessary that I particularly explain what the law considers as malice prepense. Malice prepense then, is an inclination of the mind, not so properly bearing ill will to the person killed, the commonly received notion, as containing any evil design, the dictate of a wicked and malignant heart. The discovery of this secret inclination of the mind must arise, because it cannot any otherwise, only from the external effects of it; and by such evidence the malignity of the mind is held either express in fact or implied in law. Thus, malice prepense is held to be express in fact, when there is evidence of a laying in wait, or of menacings antecedent, grudges, or deliberate compassings to do some bodily harm. Even upon a sudden provocation, the one beating or treating another in an excessive and cruel manner, so that he dies, though he did not intend his death, the slayer displays an express evil design, the genuine sense of malice. This is evidence of a bad heart; and the act is equivalent to a deliberate act of slaughter. So any wilful action, likely in its nature to kill, without its being aimed at any person in particular: For this shows an enmity to all mankind. So if two or more come to do any felony, or any unlawful act, the probable consequence of which might be bloodshed, and one of them kills a man, it is murder in them all, because of the unlawful act, the *malitia præcogitata*, or evil intended. But malice prepense is held to be implied in law, when one kills an officer of justice in the execution of his office, or any person assisting him, though not specially called. Or when without sufficient provocation, and no affront by words or gestures only is a sufficient provocation, a man suddenly kills another. Or when, upon a chiding between husband and wife, the husband strikes the wife with a pestle or other dangerous weapon, and she presently dies. These and similar instances, are evidences of a malice prepense on the part of the slayer; and he shall be held guilty of murder. In cases of self-murder, there must be a voluntary and deliberate putting an end to one's existence; or doing some unlawful malicious act, the consequence of which is his own death. In a word, all homicide is presumed to be malicious, until the contrary is made to appear in evidence.

There is a regular gradation of importance in the component parts of the universal system; and, therefore, there must be a scale marking the degrees of injury. We have examined the highest injury that can be committed or perpetrated upon the person of an individual—let us now turn our attention to such injuries against the person, as are of an inferior nature.

Of these the first in degree is mayhem, which is the cutting out, with malice prepense, or disabling the tongue, putting out an eye, slitting the nose, cutting off a nose or lip, or depriving another of the use of such of his members as may render him the less able to defend himself, or annoy his adversary. The next is rape. Then the infamous crime against nature. These are felonies. But there are yet other injuries against the person which, being of a less flagrant degree, are, by the tenderness of the law, described under the gentler term of misdemeanours. Such are assaults, batteries, wounding, false imprisonment, and kidnapping. Here, in a manner, terminates the scale of injuries against the person. We will now state such as may be perpetrated against his mansion, or habitation.

By the universal consent of all ages, the dwelling-house of man was and is endowed with peculiar immunities and valuable privileges. Among the ancients, if even an enemy reached the fire-place of the house, he was sure of protection. Thus we find *Coriolanus* at the fire-place of *Tullus Aufidius*, chief of the *Volscian* nation, discovering himself to *Aufidius*, his publick and private enemy, and supplica-

ting and receiving his protection against *Rome* from whence he was banished. And, on this subject of a dwelling, *Cicero*, the great *Roman* lawyer, orator, and statesman, thus pathetically expresses himself: "What is more inviolable, what better defended by religion than the house of a citizen? Here are his altars, here his fire-hearths are contained—this place of refuge is so sacred to all men, that to be dragged from thence is unlawful." In like manner we find, that at *Athens* the habitation was particularly protected by the law. Burglary was there punished with death, although theft was not. And our law hath so special a regard to a man's dwelling-house, that it terms it his castle, and will not suffer it to be violated with impunity. The law ranges the injuries against it under two heads—arson, and hamesecken or housebreaking: And this last it divides into legal or proper burglary, which is nocturnal housebreaking, and housebreaking by day.

Arson is an injury that tends by fire to annihilate the habitation of another person, or other house, that being within the curtilage or homestall, may reasonably be esteemed a parcel of it, though not contiguous. So a barn in the field, with hay or corn in it. But this injury by fire must be done with a malicious intent, otherwise it is only trespass.

Burglary is a breaking and entering in the night time the mansion-house of another, with intent to commit some felony therein, whether the felonious intent be executed or not. And all such houses are the objects of burglary, and of housebreaking, as are described in the case of arson.

But, to violate this place of protection in the day, by robbing therein, and putting any dweller in fear, although there be no actual breach of the house; or by breaking and robbing in the house, a dweller being therein, and not put in fear; or by robbing or breaking the house, actually taking something, none being in the house; or by feloniously taking away something to the value of thirty-five pounds currency, or upwards, no person being in the house; or by breaking the house with intent to commit a felony, any person being in the house and put in fear, though nothing be actually taken—any such violation is called housebreaking—a crime not of so atrocious a nature as burglary. For, in the contemplation of our law, as well as of all others, violence perpetrated in the night, are of a more malignant tendency than similar ones by day: Because attacks in the night occasion a greater degree of terror; and because, they are in a season by nature appropriated to the necessary rest and refreshment of the human body, which is then, by sleep, disarmed of all attention to its defence.

With respect to injuries against a man's personal property, they are to be considered under three heads: larceny, malicious mischief, forgery. And larceny, the first of these, is either simple or mixed.

Simple larceny, or common theft, is a felonious and fraudulent taking and carrying away the mere personal goods of another—here no violence or fear is implied. If goods so taken are above the value of seven shillings currency, the offence is termed grand larceny; but if they are not exceeding that value, the act is petit larceny. Mixed larceny has in it all the ingredients of simple larceny; but it is aggravated by a taking from the house or person; and this taking is yet aggravated if it is under the impression of violence or fear. Such a taking in the house, with or without violence or fear, may or may not fall within the crimes of burglary or housebreaking, according to the circumstances. And such a taking from the person, without, or with violence or fear, will be but simple larceny in the first case; in the other, it is a robbery, and the value is of no consideration.

Malicious mischief is a species of injury that bears a near relation to the crime of arson. A dwelling is the object of arson; but other property is the subject for malicious mischief to operate upon; and indeed this spirit of wanton cruelty has a wide field of action. This horrible spirit displays itself by burning or destroying the property of another, as a stack of rice, corn, or other grain; or any tarr-kiln, barrels of pitch, turpentine, rosin, or other growth, product or manufacture of this State; or killing or destroying any horses, sheep, or other cattle.

At length the crime of forgery, concludes the calendar of publick offences against the property of an individual. I need only define the crime: it is a fraudulent making or alteration of a writing to the prejudice of another person.

Having in this manner marked out to you the distinguish-

ing features of the principal crimes and injuries against the person, habitation and property of an individual, I now desire your attention, and I shall not long detain it, while I delineate those against the State; objects which ought most carefully to be observed wherever they appear. I have purposely thus reserved this subject, as well because it is of the most important nature, and virtually includes the other, as that by being the last described, you may be the more likely to retain the impression of it. Every outrage and violence against the person, habitation or property of an individual, is a crime, a misdemeanor, or a contempt, and therefore an injury against the State, bound by original compact to protect the individual in his rights. For no man, conceiving himself injured, has any authority, or shadow of it, to redress himself; because the State has established courts which are *vindices injuriarum*. Hence, every criminal injury against the individual must ultimately wound the State; and be included in the offences against the body politic, which must be more important in their nature than those relating to the individual, because they are more extensive, and of a higher degree of criminality. It behoves you, therefore, to watch for the publick safety; for this is to be attentive to your private security.

It is not by any means necessary that I trace these crimes, as they are branched by the law. The present publick service requires your immediate particular attention to offences done against only four acts of Assembly—the patrol and negro laws; the law against counterfeiting the certificates issued by the late Houses of Assembly, or the currency issued by the Congress of the Continent, or of this country; and the law to prevent sedition, and to punish insurgents and disturbers of the publick peace.

The two first laws are calculated to keep our domesticks in a proper behaviour. The two last were expressly formed as two pillars to support our new Constitution; and therefore, these last are your most important objects. I shall fully explain them.

The act against counterfeiting extends to all persons who counterfeit, raze or alter, or utter, or offer in payment, knowing the same to be counterfeited, razed or altered, any certificate or bill of credit, under the authority of the late Commons House of Assembly, or the Congresses of this country, or of the continent.

The law to prevent sedition guards against those actions as, in such a crisis as this, might reasonably be expected to operate against our present honourable and happy establishment. And the variety and importance of those actions, make it necessary for me to particularize them to you.

This salutary act touches all persons taking up arms against the authority of the present Government; or who, by violence, words, deeds, or writings, cause or attempt to cause, induce, or persuade any other person to do so. In like manner, all persons who give intelligence to, or hold correspondence with, or aid or abet any land or naval force sent by *Great Britain*, or any other force or body of men within this State with hostile intent against it. So those who compel, induce, persuade, or attempt to do so, any white person, *Indian*, free negro, or slave, to join any force under authority derived from *Great Britain*. And so all persons who collect, or procure them to be assembled, with intent in a riotous and seditious manner, to disturb the publick peace and tranquillity; and by words, or otherwise, create and raise traitorous seditions or discontents, in the minds of the people against the publick authority.

Thus having stated to you such criminal injuries against an individual, or the State, as may be most likely to come within your notice, it is a natural consequence, that I describe the person by law held capable of committing such injuries.

In the first place, the party must be of sound memory at the time of committing the offence, and it is the leading principle in every case. If the party is under seven years of age, no evidence can possibly be admitted to criminate; because the law holds, that the party cannot discern between good and evil. But if the accused is above seven and under fourteen, he is liable to be criminated, if at the time of his committing the injury, his understanding was so ripe as to occasion him to show a consciousness of guilt, the rule being *malitia supplet aetatem*. And if the party is of the age of fourteen, which is the age of discretion, the law

prima facie considers him capable of committing offences as a person of full age. Also a lunatick for crimes perpetrated in a lucid interval. Also a man for crimes done in a state of drunkenness voluntarily contracted; and so far is this artificial insanity from excusing, that it tends to aggravate the offence.

All those particulars relating to the person, habitation and property of an individual; those respecting the safety, peace and tranquillity of the State; and these describing the perpetrator of criminal injuries, are so many proper heads for your diligent inquiry. And such offenders and offences being within your knowledge, you must make due presentment of them. You are to hear evidence only on the part of an information to you of an offence; for an indictment by you is only in the nature of a solemn and publick accusation, which is afterwards to be tried and determined by others. You are only to examine whether there be sufficient cause to call upon the party to answer. Twelve of you, at least, must agree in opinion that the accused ought to undergo a publick trial; so twelve other jurors are to declare him innocent or guilty. Happy institutions! whereby no man can be declared a criminal, but by the concurring voices of at least four and twenty men, collected in the vicinage by blind chance, upon their oaths to do justice; and against whom, even the party himself has no exception!

Thus, gentlemen of the grand jury, with the best intentions for the publick service, however executed, having declared to you that you are not bound under, but freed from the dominion of the *British* Crown, I thought myself necessarily obliged, and I have endeavoured to demonstrate to you, that the rise and fall of empires are natural events; that the independence of *America* was not, at the commencement of the late civil war, or even at the conclusion of the last year, the aim of the *Americans*; that their subjection to the *British* Crown, being released by the action of *British* oppression, the stroke of the *British* sword, and the tenour of a *British* act of Parliament, their natural rise to empire was conducted by the hand of God; that the same strong hand, by proceedings equally unexpected, wonderful and rapid as in our case, conducted the *English* Revolution of 1688; that the Revolutions in *England* and *Scotland* at that period, and in *America* now, giving a new epocha to the history of the world, were founded in the same immediate cause, a failure of protection; that those revolutions concurred in one grand evidence of the feelings of nature on such a subject; that every species of mal-administration in a King is to be traced to a failure of protection, which is the only instrument working his abdication; that the object for which we contend, is just in its nature and of inestimable value; that the *American* Revolution may be supported with the fairest prospect of success by arms; and that it may be powerfully aided by a grand jury.

Gentlemen, I do most cordially congratulate you, placed as you are in a station honourable to yourselves, and beneficial to your country. Guardians of the innocent, you are appointed to send the robber, the murderer, the incendiary, and the traitor to trial. Your diligence in inquiring for such offenders is the source of your own honour, and a means of your country's safety; and, although no such offenders be found, your laudable search will yet tend to curb a propensity to robbery, murder, sedition, and treason. See, gentlemen, what great advantages may result from your vigilant and patriotick conduct! Your ears ought to be shut to the petitions of friendship, and to the calls of consanguinity; but they ought to be expanded to receive the complaints of your injured country, and the demands of impartial justice. *Brutus* inflicted upon his sons the *ultimum supplicium*, for conspiring to reëstablish the regal government in *Rome*. And, if a similar occasion should arise in *America*, which God forbid, I trust a *Brutus* will not be wanting. Let those, if there are any such, who treacherously or pusillanimously hanker after a return of regal government, remember such things and tremble. Let us ever remember, rejoice, and teach our children, that the *American* Empire is composed of States that are, and of right ought to be, free and independent; "that they are absolved from all allegiance to the *British* Crown;" and that all political connection between them and the State of *Great Britain* is, and ought to be, totally dissolved.

THE PRESENTMENTS OF THE JURY.

SOUTH-CAROLINA:

At a Court of General Sessions of the Peace, Oyer and Terminer, Assize and General Gaol Delivery, begun to be held at CHARLESTON, for the District of CHARLESTON, on TUESDAY, OCTOBER 15th, in the year of our Lord one thousand seven hundred and seventy-six:

Presentments of the Grand Jury for the said District:

I. It is with most cordial satisfaction we embrace this opportunity of offering our congratulations on the late Declaration of the Continental Congress, constituting the *United Colonies of North America* independent States, an event, however once dreaded as repugnant to those hopes of peace and friendship with the *British State*, which was then ardently entertained, yet which every *American* must now most joyfully embrace, as the only happy means of salvation and security, and the surest prevention to the treacherous and cruel designs of a wicked and detestable enemy.

II. As the kind and beneficent hand of a wise and bounteous Providence has so ordered and disposed of human events, that, from calamities which were dreaded as the most miserable and destructive to *America*, benefits the most advantageous, honourable, and desirable, have arisen to her, which now gives a very joyful prospect to liberty and happiness, we think our grateful sense of such peculiar care and protection cannot be manifested in a way more acceptable and proper than in a strict regard to the duties which mankind owe to their God.

III. We present the growing evil of many churches established by law falling to decay, and some remaining without ministers to perform divine service, in divers parishes in this district, by which means the spirit of religion will decline, and become prejudicial to the manners of the people.

IV. We present and recommend a proper militia law to be made, in such manner as to compel impartially and equally all degrees of persons liable to do the duty therein required, so as to enable the good people of this State (who are now become principally the guardians thereof) to repel any domestick or foreign enemy as far as possible.

V. We present and recommend, that care may always be had, that none but gentlemen of weight and influence, and good example, be prevailed on to qualify and act in the commission of peace, by whose influence licentiousness, sedition, and profligacy may be suppressed, and good order maintained.

VI. We present and recommend, that some office may be created in this district, whereby executions and sales by the Sheriff may be recorded, so that, on the death or removal of the Sheriff, recourse may be had to such records by those concerned.

VII. We present and recommend, that *Jews* and others may be restrained from allowing their negroes to sell goods in shops, as such a practice may induce other negroes to steal and barter with them.

VIII. We present the ill practice of *Jews* opening their shops, and selling of goods on *Sunday*, to the profanation of the Lord's day.

IX. We present the barrack-master, *Philip Will*, for seizing of firewood on the wharves, under pretence of the publick, when he applies the same to his own use, to the distressing of the inhabitants. By information of Mr. *Patrick Hinds*, one of the grand jurors.

X. We present the want of more constables in this district, we being informed that there are only four in this town.

XI. We return our thanks to his Honour the Chief Justice, for his excellent charge delivered at the opening of the sessions, and desire that the charge and these presentments be forthwith printed and published.

JOSEPH GLOVER, Foreman,	[L. s.]
BENJAMIN BAKER,	[L. s.]
BENJAMIN DART,	[L. s.]
JOHN FULLERTON,	[L. s.]
CHRISTOPHER FITZSIMONS,	[L. s.]
WILLIAM HOPTON,	[L. s.]
WILLIAM HALE,	[L. s.]
PATRICK HINDS,	[L. s.]
CHARLES JOHNSTON,	[L. s.]
ANDREW LORD,	[L. s.]
JOHN MILES,	[L. s.]
WILLIAM RUSSEL,	[L. s.]
STEPHEN TOWNSEND,	[L. s.]

A Return of the names of the Officers in the Second Battalion of General SCOTT's Brigade, October 4, 1776.

William Malcom, Colonel,	- - -	Lame, present.
Isaac Stoughtenburgh, Lieut. Col.,	- - -	Sick, absent.
James Alner, Major,	- - -	Fit for duty.
John Laboyteaux,	- - -	Captain, - On furlough.
Jeremiah Wool,	- - -	do. - Present, fit for duty.
Jonathan Blake,	- - -	do. - Present, fit for duty.
Dewitt,	- - -	do. - Present, fit for duty.
Henry Brasher,	- - -	do. - On Court-Martial.
Robert Smith,	- - -	do. - Present, fit for duty.
Edward Meeks,	- - -	do. - Present, fit for duty.
John Meeks,	- - -	do. - Present, fit for duty.
Thomas Mitchell,	- - -	do. - Present, fit for duty.
Jas. Stewart,	- - -	do. - Present, fit for duty.
John Fish,	- - -	Lieutenant, - On furlough.
John Thompson,	- - -	do. - On furlough.
Henry Rutgers,	- - -	do. - Fit for duty.
John Elliot,	- - -	do. - On furlough.
Joseph Cheesman,	- - -	do. - Fit for duty.
James Black,	- - -	do. - Fit for duty.
John Fought,	- - -	do. - On furlough.
Prentice Brown,	- - -	do. - Fit for duty.
Walter Moffatt,	- - -	do. - Fit for duty.
Robert Coles,	- - -	do. - Sick, present.
John Myers,	- - -	do. - Fit for duty.
Daniel Neavens,	- - -	do. - Fit for duty.
Samuel Fleming,	- - -	do. - Fit for duty.
John Santford,	- - -	do. - Adjutant.
Aspenwall Cornwal,	- - -	do. - Sick, present.
Oliver Lawrence,	- - -	do. - Fit for duty.
John Santford, Adjutant,	- - -	- Fit for duty.
Aaron Gilbert, Quartermaster,	- - -	- Fit for duty.
William Adams, Surgeon,	- - -	- Fit for duty.

WM. MALCOM, Colonel.

Return of the First Regiment of Foot in the service of the UNITED COLONIES, commanded by late Colonel now General McDougall, October 4, 1776.

Colonel,	- - -	Vacant.
Lieutenant-Colonel,	- - -	Vacant.
Captain Wiley,	- - -	On Court-Martial.
Captain Ledyard,	- - -	On Court-Martial.
Captain Lyon,	- - -	Sick, in camp.
Captain Johnson,	- - -	On command at King's Bridge.
Captain Hyat,	- - -	Sick, absent.
Captain Forbes,	- - -	Sick, absent.
Captain Steenrod,	- - -	Present, on duty.
Commandant Bleeker,	- - -	Present, on duty.
Lieut. Lefoy,	- - -	Sick, absent.
Lieut. Dunn,	- - -	On command.
Lieut. Johnson,	- - -	On command at the Bridge.
Lieut. Trip,	- - -	On command with sick.
Lieut. Titus,	- - -	Sick, present.
Lieut. Taylor,	- - -	On command.
Lieut. Van Hook,	- - -	Adjutant.
Ensign Poynier,	- - -	Sick, absent.
Ensign Jones,	- - -	Absent in pursuit of deserters.
Ensign Fairley,	- - -	Under arrest.

Return of the Third Regiment of Foot of NEW-YORKERS, in the service of the UNITED COLONIES, commanded by Colonel RITZEMA.

Captain Denton,	- - -	Sick, absent.
Captain Riker,	- - -	Sick, absent.
Captain Hardenbergh,	- - -	Present, on duty.
Captain Horton,	- - -	Sick, absent.
Captain Hobby,	- - -	On command in pursuit of deserters.
Captain Hutchings,	- - -	Present, on duty.
Captain Pelton,	- - -	Present, on duty.
Lieut. Hallett,	- - -	Adjutant.
Lieut. Benedict,	- - -	On command in pursuit of deserters.
Lieut. Dusenbery,	- - -	Absent without leave.
Lieut. Whood,	- - -	Absent without leave.
Lieut. Baldwin,	- - -	Commands Pearce's company.
Lieut. Miller,	- - -	Sick, present.
Ensign Cole,	- - -	Absent, without leave.
Ensign More,	- - -	Absent, without leave.

Ensign Brundridge, - Sick, absent with leave.
 Ensign Johnson, - - On command after deserters.
 Ensign Clark, - - Sick, present.
 Ensign Holmes, - - On command with the sick cross the
North River.

Ensign Thornton, - Discharged.
 RUDOLPHUS RITZEMA, Colonel.

October 4, 1776.

*Return of six Companies of Independent Regular and First
 Battalion of MARYLAND Troops in the service of the
 UNITED COLONIES, under the command of Colonel SMALL-
 WOOD.*

Colonel W. Smallwood, Sick.
 Lieutenant-Colonel, Sick.
 Captain Gunby, - - Present, on duty.
 Captain Hindman, - - On command to *Philadelphia* for
 clothing.

Captain Thomas, - - Sick.
 Captain Woolford, - - Present, on duty.
 Captain Bracco, - - Sick.
 Captain Stone, - - Sick.
 Captain Lucas, - - Sick.
 Captain Ramsay, - - Present, on duty.
 Captain Adams, - - Sick.
 Captain Scott, - - Present, on duty.
 Captain Smith, - - Present, on duty.
 Captain Sym, - - Present, on duty.
 Captain Bowie, - - Present, on duty.
 Captain Ford, - - Sick.

October 4, 1776.

*Return of the Ninth Regiment of Foot in the service of the
 UNITED COLONIES, commanded by J. M. VARNUM, Esq.*

Colonel Varnum, - - Sick at *East-Chester*.
 Lieut. Colonel A. Crary, Present.
 Captain Ebr. Flagg, - Present.
 Captain Eb. Lewis, - Present.
 Captain N. Hawkins, - Present.
 Captain O. Clarke, - Present.
 Captain T. Cole, - Present.
 Captain Gooch, - Present.
 Captain J. Varnum, - Present.
 Lieut. Chambers, - - Sick at *East-Chester*.
 Ensign Jerauld, - - Sick at *East-Chester*.
 Ensign Blake, - - Sick in *Orange County*.
 Ensign Eustace, - - On command in Gen. *Greene's*
 Guard.

Ensign Remington, - - In charge of the sick in Hospital.
 Surgeon, Joseph Joslyn, With the sick in Hospital.
 Surgeon's Mate, D. Brown, Sick, absent.

True return: A. CRARY, Lieut. Colonel.
 Fort Constitution, October 5, 1776.

SAMUEL DUVALL TO MARYLAND COUNCIL OF SAFETY.
 Henrico County, Virginia, October 15, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: I have delivered to one *Thomas Foster*, at
Hanover town, on *Pamunkey river*, twenty-seven hundred
 and eighty-one bushels of good pit coal, agreeable to my
 contract with Mr. *Tobias Rudolph*, at 1s. 4d. per bushel,
 our currency, who by the last of *March* was to have paid
 the money or given an order on our Treasurer, both of which
 he has failed to do. Mr. *Rudolph* has not wrote, nor in
 any manner complied with his engagement. Although I
 could not supply the several orders for coal, have not dis-
 posed of the above quantity. By the enclosed you'll see
 what he tells Mr. *Samuel Parsons*, a gentleman from my
 neighbourhood. If I had conceived that Mr. *Rudolph*
 would have put me to the trouble he has, I would not have
 sold him a bushel of coal. Neither did he ever hint that
 your honourable Board was to have paid for them. Mr.
Neuman told me, as Mr. *Rudolph* had given no order, he
 could pay no money. No vessel has arrived for that coal.
 I hope your honourable Board will direct *Ro. C. Nicholas*,
 Esq., to make payment and send for the coal, as I am in
 want of the money.

I am, gentlemen, with great respect, your most obedient
 servant,

SAMUEL DUVALL.

To the honourable Council of Safety.

RICHARD SMITH TO MARYLAND COUNCIL OF SAFETY.

George-Town, October 15, 1776.

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR HONOURS: Enclosed you have a
 list of the men now enrolled under my command, and I
 apprehend that my Lieutenants and Ensign may have a few
 more, but this I am uncertain of.

There are only a very few guns and blankets yet belong-
 ing to the company, and I am fearful not many more can
 be procured in this County, so as to be ready for this com-
 pany in any reasonable time. But if it is your opinion that
 I should march with these already enrolled in our present
 condition, you will be pleased to transmit me your orders,
 and they shall be obeyed.

In the mean time, with the assistance of *Magruder*, I
 shall try to purchase all the arms and other necessities I can
 hear of, and also to enlist more men.

I am, may it please your Honours, your most obedient
 servant,

RICHARD SMITH.

To the honourable Council of Safety.

MONTGOMERY County to wit:

List of non-commissioned Officers and Privates enrolled
 into a company of Militia for the service of a Flying-Camp,
 under Captain *Richard Smith*, Lieutenants *Walter White*
 and *Thomas Hayes*, and Ensign *Thomas Sprigg*, com-
 mencing the 19th of *September*, 1776, to each of whom
 the bounty money and one month's pay has been advanced
 at that time, and at several dates since, as per list now in
 possession of

RICHARD SMITH, Captain.

Levi Hayes,	Matthew Read,	Samuel Q. Windsor,
Henry Clagett,	William Morris, Sen.,	John Bennett,
John Patrick,	of Bena.	John Hinton,
Matthias Hernstone,	William Wallace,	John Gibson,
Andrew Hughes,	Levin Hayes,	William Sutton,
Jesse Harris,	John Raynolds,	John Harris,
William Sommers,	Robert Moore,	John Fitzgerald,
Joseph Lewis,	Henry Kuhnes,	John Carroll,
William Johnston,	Anthony Murpely,	John Burgess,
John Bowen,	Jacob Trissler,	Nehemiah Leitch,
Robert Macleroy,	William Veal Stewart,	Dennis Mareman,
William Pollard,	Michael Clancy,	Nicholas Rodes,
Jacob Hesse,	James Long,	Zephaniah Wallace,
William Preston,	Charles Stewart,	Nicholas Rodes, Jun.,
Thomas Fanning,	John Nolland,	William Pruett,
Ezekiel Harris,	George Windom,	Alexander Mason,
Herbert A. Wallace,	Peter Night,	James Jordon,
John Davis,	William Madden,	John Hermes,
John Smith,	Henry Atcheson,	Robert Robinson,
Alexander Read,	Andrew Keath,	Thomas Hays.

Sixty men at £5 10s. each, £330.

Certified by

RICHARD SMITH.

October 15, 1776.

NICHOLAS MACCUBBIN TO MARYLAND COUNCIL OF SAFETY.

October 15, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: I having committed my proposals to your
 consideration, should esteem it a singular favour if you would
 please to inform me if they will be agreeable. The currier
 whom I deal with is going to the northward to purchase
 leather, and before he goes I must let him know what quan-
 tity I want, that he may purchase accordingly. I want to
 go to *Baltimore* to-morrow morning early, and entreat the
 favour of your answer.

Am, honourable gentlemen, your most obedient and
 humble servant,

NICH'S MACCUBBIN.

To the honourable Council of Safety for *Maryland*.

BOARD OF WAR TO GENERAL WASHINGTON.

War Office, October 15, 1776.

SIR: The Board of War have endeavoured to form an
 exact account of ordnance stores in the several departments,
 as well as of those in the magazine under their immediate
 notice here. But from the want of accurate returns, they
 have not yet been able to accomplish their design. If these
 returns were made monthly, the Board would be enabled
 in some degree to anticipate the wants of ammunition in the
 army, and keep up the supply as far as may be in their
 power. I have it in direction to request your Excellency
 will order a return to be forthwith made of all ordnance
 stores in your department, and that you would be pleased
 to direct as exact returns to be made monthly as the situa-
 tion of the army will admit; as well as accounts of the
 men, as to their numbers and capacity, to do duty. Returns

should, if possible, be made of their arms and accoutrements, and also of the rations drawn from the Commissary of Provisions, as it has been said that regiments not half full draw their rations as if they were complete. With how much justice this has been said cannot be clearly known, but if monthly returns were made from the Commissary's office of the rations drawn by each regiment, the returns from the Adjutant-General would show whether they had exceeded in their number of rations what they were justly entitled to.

A list of the army is making out, wherein at one view every thing relating to each regiment will be seen. But the fluctuating state of the army has prevented that accuracy which it is hoped will be shown in the military affairs of the continent, when they shall, by the new establishment, be put upon a more permanent, and of course a more respectable footing.

I have the the honour to be, with the greatest respect, your very obedient, humble servant,

RICHARD PETERS, *Secretary.*

To His Excellency *George Washington, Esq.*

JOSIAH BARTLETT TO JOHN LANGDON.

Philadelphia, October 15, 1776.

DEAR SIR: As I received no letter from Colonel *Whipple* or you last week, I am in hopes he is on the road here, and will bring your letter with him. I wait with some impatience for his return, as it is very hard for one delegate to constantly attend Congress and the several Committees, where one delegate is appointed from each State, especially if unwell, as has been my case for some time past. However, I am now much better, and hope to be able to ride home in a short time on horseback.

Yesterday, the Committee appointed to hear the appeal from the Maritime Court in *New-Hampshire*, concerning the *Elizabeth*, made their report, which was accepted. They have reversed the sentence of our court, and have ordered a salvage of one-tenth part to be paid by the claimants, as she did not come under the order of Congress of *November* and *December* last. Afterwards, the Congress, by a vote, gave up to the said claimants their share of the said tenth, so that they will have but one-twentieth part to pay, beside the costs.

The same Committee have had Mr. *Sheafe's* petition under their consideration, but have made no report. By what I have conversed with them, I believe they will not think themselves authorized to do any thing in that affair, as there is no appeal from the court to the Congress, and the opposite party not present to be heard in the case, and nothing but the petition, without any thing more before them. They all say the case appears to be hard, but know not how to remedy it, without more proofs than they have at present, and without the opposite party being heard, and the case brought properly before them.

Before this reaches you, you will see the several orders of the Marine Committee about guns for your ship, and the reasons of those orders. The rank of the Captains is settled. Captain *Thompson* is the sixth. Captain *Manley* is uneasy about his being the third, and has desired leave to resign: whether his resignation will be accepted, or his rank altered, I am uncertain. Captains *Manley* and *Roche* are got pretty hearty again as to their health. As to news, you will see what is passing here by the enclosed paper. By letters from *France* of the 3d of *August*, we have some favourable advices.

In haste, my friend, adieu.

JOSIAH BARTLETT.

MEASE AND CALDWELL TO GENERAL GATES.

Philadelphia, October 15, 1776.

SIR: On the 8th instant we had the pleasure to send forward, by two wagons, *via* the camp at *King's Bridge*, two chests, three cases, and three hogsheads, containing two thousand three hundred and eighty white linen shirts, and nine hundred and nineteen pairs of men's shoes, being by order of Congress, for the use of the army under your command, and properly directed for you at *Ticonderoga*. They were recommended to the care of General *Mifflin*, Quartermaster-General, at Head-Quarters, by the Secretary at War, to be forwarded from thence as circumstances may render

most proper, and hope they will get safe and speedily to hand.

We herewith, by three wagons, send you twenty casks of nails, two hogsheads, containing five hundred and sixty-eight pairs of men's shoes, three cases, containing fifteen hundred *Russia* linen shirts, and one case, containing nine hundred and sixty pairs milled yarn hose, under the same direction, and for the same purpose. The wagons will be escorted by an officer's guard, with proper orders from the Board of War.

We hope, in a short time, to have a further supply of shoes, stockings and breeches to forward, though it is become exceedingly difficult, owing to the scarcity of materials and the great demand for those articles, to procure them at almost any price. When we can strike the average, we shall furnish the prices of the whole. Interim we are, very respectfully, sir, your most obedient servants,

MEASE & CALDWELL.

To Major-General *H. Gates.*

GENERAL WASHINGTON TO GOVERNOUR TRUMBULL.

Head-Quarters, Harlem Heights, October 15, 1776.

SIR: I was last night favoured with your letter of the 6th instant, with the return of prisoners in your State, for which I thank you. It is properly made out.

Every day's intelligence from the Convention of this State mentions plots and conspiracies that are in agitation among the disaffected. The enclosed copy of a letter, which I received yesterday from *Robert R. Livingston, Esq.*, one of the members, and who is of the Continental Congress, will show you his idea of the situation of affairs in this Government, and their apprehensions of insurrections. The observations he has been pleased to favour me with, through the whole of his letter, seem to me to be too well founded. The movements of the enemy; their having sent up some of their ships in the *North River*; their landing a large proportion, if not the main body, of their army on *Frog's Point*, (or rather island, as it is surrounded by water every flood tide,) nine miles above this, on the *Sound*; added to these, the information of deserters, all afford a strong presumption, nay, almost a certainty, that they are pursuing their original plan of getting in our rear, and cutting off all our supplies. Our situation here is not exactly the same as it was at *New-York*; it is rather better. However, as we are obliged to divide our force, and guard every probable place of attack as well as we can; as most of our stores are here and about *King's Bridge*, and the preservation of the communication with the States on the other side of *Hudson's River* a matter of great importance, it will not be possible for me to detach any more assistance than what I have already done for the purpose of securing the passes in the Highlands. I have sent Colonel *Tash*, lately from *New-Hampshire*, with his regiment, upon the business; and as it is of the utmost consequence to possess those passes, and to hold them free and open, I would beg leave to submit to your consideration whether you can spare any aid upon this interesting occasion. I know your exertions already are great; I know you have a large number of men engaged in the service, in this and the Northern army; and nothing could have induced me to mention this matter to you, were it not for the alarming and melancholy consequences which will result from the enemy's possessing themselves of those communications. The regiment I have ordered up are to receive directions from the Convention as to the posts they are to occupy, supposing them to be much better acquainted with the places where they should be stationed than I am. If it is in your power to afford any assistance in this instance, you will be pleased to give such instructions to those you send as you shall judge necessary. I am just despatching an Engineer to the Convention to throw up some small works.

I have the honour to be, &c.,

GO. WASHINGTON.

To Governour *Trumbull, Connecticut.*

P. S. I have sent two regiments of the *Massachusetts* Militia up the river to watch the motions of the ships, and to oppose any landing of men that they may attempt. I am also extending every part of my force that I possibly can towards *East* and *West Chester*, to oppose the enemy, and prevent their effecting their plan, if it shall be practi-

cable; but our numbers being far inferior to the demands for men, I cannot answer for what may happen: the most in my power shall be done.

Proceedings of a General Court-Martial of the Line, held on the Heights of HAERLEM, by order of His Excellency GEORGE WASHINGTON, Esq., General and Commander-in-Chief of the Forces of the UNITED STATES OF AMERICA, for the trial of all Prisoners to be brought before them. OCTOBER 15, 1776.

Colonel Ewing, President.

Lieutenant-Colonel Reed,	Captain Christ,
Major Seers,	Captain Campbell,
Captain Benezet,	Lieutenant Caldwell,
Captain Wallace,	Lieutenant Ripley,
Captain Anderson,	Ensign Bayham,
Captain Huntington,	Ensign Clark.

William Tudor, Judge-Advocate.

The Court, being duly sworn, proceeded to the trial of Lieutenant Pope, of the detachment of Rangers commanded by Major Coburn, brought prisoner before the Court, and accused of "plundering, and encouraging the men under his command to do so, by sharing the plunder with them."

The prisoner, being arraigned on the above charge, pleads "Not guilty."

John Bushing. My house is down by the eight-mile stone. The day after the army had retreated from York I left the house, and left most of our articles in the house. I heard that the Rangers had a number of things, and applied to Lieutenant Pope to get them. Pope appeared quite willing to have the men searched. I found an old chest, twenty pounds yarn, a pot, an axe, and two or three other trifles, in the quarters of the men. I took them away without opposition. Lieutenant Pope told me he had taken away a gun out of the house, but told me I should not have it unless I gave him five dollars, or gave an order for it from the General. I accordingly got an order, and then Lieutenant Pope told me he had sent the gun beyond King's Bridge, and gave me an order to get it. Lieutenant Pope appeared quite willing to have me take away every thing I found except the gun, which he made no difficulty about after I had the General's order.

George Wilson. I was one of the party that went into Mr. Bushing's house; and it lying very near the enemy, and being deserted, we thought it best to take away what things we could, and save them for the owners. What we brought off were immediately delivered up to the quarter-guard.

Captain Holmes. Lieutenant Pope informed me that our sentries had drove off the enemy from Mr. Bushing's house, and that, as there was a number of articles, Lieutenant Pope proposed that a party should go and fetch them off, and save them for the owners or the continent. When the things were brought up, Lieutenant Pope desired the officers to go over and take an inventory of them. We accordingly did, and Lieutenant Pope bid the men deliver every thing up, that they might be inventoried; after they were so, they were put under the quarter-guard, and the next day they were sent to Head-Quarters. Lieutenant Pope showed me a gun, and said he thought that was his property.

Sergeant Hemstead. The night after the party returned from Bushing's house with the things, Corporal Wilson had a coat and jacket, and gave them to Lieutenant Pope, who gave him five dollars. Wilson said he had rather keep the coat and jacket himself.

Adjutant Fosdick. Was present, and confirms Sergeant Hemstead's deposition, and adds that he saw Lieutenant Pope throw the coat and jacket across his arm.

The prisoner admits that he bought a coat of Wilson, but denies that he knew it to be plunder.

The prisoner produces no witnesses.

The Court are of opinion that the prisoner is guilty of conniving at plundering; and the Court sentence the prisoner to be cashiered for said offence, and he is accordingly hereby cashiered.

THOS. EWING, President.

The Court adjourns to 16th October, at ten o'clock.

October 16.—The Court met according to adjournment, and proceeded to the trial of Corporal George Wilson, of the detachment of Rangers, brought before the Court, and accused of "plundering."

The prisoner, being arraigned on the above charge, pleads guilty, and confesses that he went, with two or three others, one night about three weeks ago, into Mr. Bushing's house, and they took away several things; amongst others, he took a coat and jacket, which he brought to his quarters, and sold to Lieutenant Pope for five dollars.

The Court sentences the prisoner to be whipped thirty-nine lashes on his bare back, and that in future he do duty as a private sentinel for said offence.

THOS. EWING, President.

WILLIAM FLOYD TO THE NEW-YORK CONVENTION.

Head-Quarters at Harlem, October 15, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: Enclosed I send you some resolves of Congress, with a newspaper agreeable to your desire. I yesterday sent you by Mr. Wisner, ten thousand dollars for the purpose of paying for the blankets and clothing to be purchased in this State, all which I hope will come safe to hand.

I am now going to try to get off some of my effects from the island if it is possible, and shall be absent from Congress a few days. I beg you would excuse me, as it is the first time I have absented myself, but it happens at a time when no important matter was like to come before us.

I am, gentlemen, with the greatest esteem, your most obedient servant,

WM. FLOYD.

To the honourable Convention.

COMMITTEE OF POUNDRIIDGE TO NEW-YORK CONVENTION.

Poundridge, October 15, A. D. 1776.

HONOURED SIRS: We, the Sub-Committee of Poundridge, in West-Chester County, beg leave to inform your Honours that we are apprehensive that there is danger of our prisoners leaving us and going to the Ministerial army, as we are not more than nine or ten miles from the water where the Sound is full of the Ministerial ships and tenders. One of our number is already gone to Long-Island, and numbers are gone from other places, which are no doubt now with the Ministerial army. There are disaffected persons daily going over to them, which gives us much trouble. Therefore, we humbly beg your Honours would give us some directions concerning them, that they may be speedily removed at some farther distance. We would also inform you that for the misdemeanors of one of them, and our own safety, we have been obliged to commit him to gaol at the White-Plains.

These, with all proper respects, from yours to serve,

JOSHUA AMBLER, Chairman of Committee.

To the Honorable Convention of the State of New-York.

COLONEL A. HAWKES HAY TO THE NEW-YORK CONVENTION.

Haverstraw, October 15, 1776.

DEAR SIR: I am to acknowledge the receipt of yours of the 12th instant, covering the sum of five hundred dollars, and the resolve of the Committee of Safety ordering a reinforcement of one hundred men from the north side of this County, to protect the shore on the south side of the mountains as soon as levied. I fear this supply will come too late, and be insufficient for the purpose intended. The ships attempted a landing at Nyack, on Sunday last, but was prevented by a party of men under my command. Some damage was done to the house and barn of Ph. Servant. Two of the cutters fired several shot through them, but none of my men were hurt, though one of the shot from the cutters passed so near my head as to carry away a piece of my hat. We are in daily expectation of their proceeding up the river, and I am sorry to inform the Committee of Safety that should they attempt to land with one barge, I cannot command a force sufficient to prevent their penetrating the country. I have exerted myself to muster the Militia, but have not been able to raise a guard of more than thirty-eight men of my regiment at any one time at

Nyack. The wood-cutters employed by order of General *Heath* have been with me, but have received orders to proceed in cutting wood for the army, and I have not, at present, but eleven men to guard the shore between *Verdudigo Hook* and *Stoney-Point*. In this situation, I leave the Committee of Safety to determine what can be expected from me in a way of opposition. My whole regiment consists of but three hundred men; most of them are without arms, they having been taken for the Continental troops. Most of my men refuse to attend the service, though repeatedly summoned. Many reasons are assigned for this desertion of the service, such as that the troops last raised were by the Convention expressly levied for the purpose of protecting the shore; that this induced many of their people to enlist, but have been drawn off from the immediate defence of their wives, children and property to guard the eastern shore of the river, contrary to their expectations. Others declare that if they leave their business, their families must starve, as they have all their corn and buckwheat to secure, and have been so called off during the summer by the publick troubles, as not to have been able to put in the ground any winter grain, and would therefore as leave die by the sword as by famine. A third set, and the most numerous, declare that the Congress have rejected all overtures for a reconciliation inconsistent with the independency; that all they desire is peace, liberty, and safety, and if they can procure that, they are contented.

I thought it my duty to give the Committee of Safety this information, that ways and means might be immediately provided for the defence of this part of the country. I have wrote to General *Clinton*, at *Fort Montgomery*, for assistance, but can get none, and I have no reason to expect any from the *English* neighbourhood, as I hear two brigades are drawn off from there to the eastern side of the river.

If the enemy should land here with any considerable force, they would, with the assistance of proper guides, proceed through the mountains and attack our forts in the Highlands with great ease. In this view, *Haverstraw* is of more importance than it otherwise would be, and nothing but a desire to support our present glorious struggle for liberty, induces me to wish an immediate support without which I can promise but a feeble resistance. I am ashamed to assure you, sir, that I am obliged to send this by my own negro, as I cannot spare a white man to send express. I beg you will lay this before the Committee of Safety, and despatch the bearer as soon as possible.

I am, dear sir, with esteem, your very humble servant,
A. HAWKES HAY.
To Colonel *Peter R. Livingston*, President of the Convention of the State of *New-York*, at *Fishkill*.

N. B. The troops last raised out of my regiment are now stationed at *Peek's Kill*. Please give the negro a permit to return back to this place.

ROBERT YATES TO GENERAL SCHUYLER.
Fishkill, October 15, 1776.
SIR: In consequence of the enclosed resolves, we are appointed by the Convention a Committee to devise the best means to carry into execution the requisition therein contained.

As the officers now in the service of this State exceed the number necessary for the command of the four battalions intended to be raised, it becomes necessary that Convention should be furnished with a rank-roll of the whole, and the terms whereon the troops have been enlisted. To obtain these particulars, we apply to you for information; and as it is a matter of the utmost importance to have good officers, we shall esteem it as a favour to have your sentiments at large upon the subject.

By order, &c.
ROB'T YATES, Chairman.
To General *Schuyler*.

COLONEL BAYLEY TO GENERAL WASHINGTON.
Fishkills, October 15, 1776.
SIR: I was determined to have waited on your Excellency before this, but am detained here, being a member of the Convention of this State. I send by the hand of Mr. *William Wallace* an account of the expenses of the road

from *Newbury* to *St. John's*, until we retreated with the stores provided to complete the same, which were moved on the road thirty miles. I only charge what was expended until our return; the remainder I expended in the defence of our frontiers, which to us was much needed. What tools we had provided are kept in store, which I will make a return of and dispose of as directed. Two horses also remaining I will make the best of I am able when I return.

As I engaged the hands immediate payment, should be glad the account sent, or so much as appears reasonable, might be paid Mr. *William Wallace*, whose discharge or receipt I allow as my own.

I am, sir, your Excellency's most obedient, humble servant,
JACOB BAYLEY.

To His Excellency *George Washington*, Esq., Commander of the Forces of the *United States of America*, *King's Bridge*.

The UNITED STATES OF AMERICA,		To JACOB BAYLEY, Dr.
To the supply of making a Road from <i>Coos</i> to <i>St. John's</i> , in the Province of <i>Canada</i> :		
To 110 men engaged at £3 per month, and found in provisions, with half pint of rum per man each day.		
To 110 men, 45 days each, 495.	£490	0 0
To 6 overseers, 45 days each; at £4 per month.	36	0 0
To <i>James Whilelan</i> , surveying, 40 days, at 6s. per day.	12	0 0
To <i>Abel Chamberlin</i> , as pilot, 40 days, at 3s. per day.	6	0 0
To <i>John Shaw</i> , 37 days' baking, at 4s. per day.	7	8 0
	£551	8 0
To 5,300 lbs. salt pork, at 6d. per lb.	132	10 0
To 132 bushels wheat, at 6s. per bushel.	39	12 0
To 12 bushels of peas, at 6s. per bushel.	3	12 0
To 40 lbs. of chocolate, at 2s. per lb.	4	0 0
To 50 lbs. of sugar, at 1s. per lb.	2	10 0
To 80 gallons of rum, at 6s. per gallon.	24	0 0
	£757	12 0
To 554 lbs. of bar iron, at 30s. per cwt. at <i>Hartford</i> .	8	6 6
To 49½ lbs. of German steel, at 2s. 6d., from ditto.	6	4 7½
To 32 narrow axes, at 6s. 8d. per axe, ditto.	10	13 4
To 3 grindstones, from <i>Hartford</i> , cost.	1	1 6
To 12 pots, cost.	4	16 0
To expense in carrying the five last articles to <i>Coos</i> .	8	12 0
	£797	5 11½
To 20 axes, making, at 4s. each.	4	0 0
To 30 spades, making, at 4s. each.	6	0 0
To 30 hoes, making, at 3s. 3d. each.	4	17 6
	£812	3 5½
To 2 pack horses, bought to carry stores after the men, not disposed of.	22	10 0
To 1 pack horse and a man, hired for 6 days, at 6s. p. day	3	12 0
To 14 journeys, 30 miles into the wood, with a cart and 4 oxen, carrying out stores and bringing the same home again at the return of the men from the road.	36	0 0
	£874	5 5½
To billeting the men from their homes to <i>Coos</i> , at 2d. per mile:		
To 8 men, for 50 miles.	£3	6 8
To 8 men, for 80 miles.	5	6 8
To 19 men, for 40 miles.	5	18 4
To 7 men, for 100 miles.	5	16 8
To 20 men, for 120 miles.	20	0 0
To 13 men, for 140 miles.	15	3 4
To my own time and expenses in raising the men and superintending the work.	30	0 0
To <i>William Wallace</i> , time and expense as clerk and commissary.	22	10 0
	£982	6 5½
By cash received by the hands of <i>William Wallace</i> .	250	0 0
	Sum due.	£732 6 5½
Errours excepted.		Per JACOB BAYLEY.

ELISHA AVERY TO GENERAL GATES.
Albany, October 15, 1776.
SIR: I this morning received a bag of specie from Colonel *Trumbull* for you, which I send by the bearer. Also two letters: one taken out of the post office, the other received from Colonel *Trumbull*.

I have received no returns of the number of men at the garrisons on the western communication. According to the best account I can get, Colonel *Dayton's* regiment, at *Fort Schuyler*, consists of about six hundred men, which are ordered to *Ticonderoga*. Colonel *Elmer's* regiment, Colonel *Nicoll's* regiment, and about two companies of Colonel *Wynkoop's* regiment, are at *Johnstown* and the *German Flats*. The number of men they consist of, I don't know; perhaps seven hundred. I will make you a more particular return as soon as I am able. In the mean time, I am your Honour's most obedient and most humble servant,
ELISHA AVERY.

To Major-General *Gates*.

COLONEL WYNKOOP TO GENERAL GATES.

Skenesborough, October 15, 1776.

DEAR GENERAL: I can now inform you that after a long and tedious sickness, I am at last recovered my health so far that I am returned to this place. I arrived here last night. Though I am as yet very weak, am in hopes of recovering.

I received a letter at *Fort Ann* from General *Schuyler*, directed to Colonel *Yates*, wherein was orders that I should take the command at that post to see that the roads were made, and build a fort round the store-house and barracks, and take one company of my men with me.

Your Excellency will do me a favour to send your directions in the matter, whether I am to stay at this place or proceed directly to *Fort Ann*.

I send you by the bearer hereof one hundred boards.

I am, dear General, your most obedient, humble servant,
CORNELIUS WYNKOOP.

PETITION OF OFFICERS.

To the Hon. Major-General GATES:

The Petition of the under subscribers, Officers in the late Lieut. Colonel WAIT's Regiment, humbly sheweth:

That Captain *Ebenezer Green's* company being at present vacant of any officers, the whole charge of the said company being under the care of a Sergeant, the Captain being hostage, First Lieutenant sick on furlough, Second Lieutenant dead, and Ensign broke, we do recommend *Frederick Aubrey*, a volunteer in this regiment, (who has already been of great service to the *United States*;) to your Honour, as a proper person to be Second Lieutenant, he being a person who is acquainted with the nature of the service.

JAMES OSGOOD, Captain.

JASON WAIT, Captain.

SAMUEL YOUNG, Captain.

N. B. With the consent of the subalterns.

Mount Independence, October 15, 1776.

CAPTAIN THOMAS PRINGLE TO MR. STEPHENS, SECRETARY OF THE ADMIRALTY.

On board the *Maria*, off Crown-Point, October 15, 1776.

It is with the greatest pleasure that I embrace this opportunity of congratulating their Lordships upon the victory completed the 13th of this month, by his Majesty's fleet under my command, upon *Lake Champlain*.

Upon the 11th I came up with the Rebel fleet, commanded by *Benedict Arnold*; they were at anchor under the Island *Vallcour*, and formed a strong line, extending from the island to the west side of the continent. The wind was so unfavourable, that for a considerable time nothing could be brought into action with them but the gun-boats. The *Carleton* schooner, commanded by Mr. *Dacres*, who brings their Lordships this, by much perseverance, at last got to their assistance; but as none of the other vessels of the fleet could then get up, I did not think it by any means advisable to continue so partial and unequal a combat; consequently, with the approbation of his Excellency General *Carleton*, who did me the honour of being on board the *Maria*, I called off the *Carleton* and gun-boats, and brought the whole fleet to anchor in a line as near as possible to the Rebels, that their retreat might be cut off; which purpose was however frustrated by the extreme obscurity of the night; and in the morning the Rebels had got a considerable distance from us up the lake.

Upon the 13th, I again saw eleven sail of their fleet making off to *Crown-Point*, who, after a chase of seven hours, I came up with in the *Maria*, having the *Carleton* and *Inflexible* a small distance astern; the rest of the fleet almost out of sight. The action began at twelve o'clock, and lasted two hours, at which time *Arnold*, in the *Congress* galley, and five gondolas ran on shore, and were directly abandoned and blown up by the enemy, a circumstance they were greatly favoured in by the wind being off shore, and the narrowness of the lake. The *Washington* galley struck during the action, and the rest made their escape to *Ticonderoga*.

The killed and wounded in his Majesty's fleet, including the artillery in the gun-boats, do not amount to forty; but

from every information I have yet got, the loss of the enemy must indeed be very considerable.

Many particulars which their Lordships may wish to know I must at present take the liberty of referring you to Mr. *Dacres* for; but as I am well convinced his modesty will not permit him to say how great a share he had in this victory, give me leave to assure you that during both actions nothing could be more pointedly good than his conduct. I must also do the justice the officers and seamen of this fleet merit, by saying that every person under my command exerted themselves to act up to the character of *British* seamen.

COMMODORE HOPKINS TO GOVERNOUR TRUMBULL.

Newport, October 15, 1776.

SIR: I received yours of the 11th instant, and can assure you there is no sort of shot to be had in this State, as they sent to *Boston*, and could get but a bare sufficiency for the new ships. Have ordered the *Hampden* out to gain intelligence. The *Columbus* is now graving. The new ships and *Alfred* are ready, all but men, which we must have three hundred at least for them, and one hundred for the *Columbus*, before we are able to engage ships of equal force; and it will be with difficulty the officers can be got willing to go out without being full manned, and I see but little encouragement of getting them manned in this State. If you will use your influence that we may get some men out of the army soon, as we wait for nothing else, it will be of great service. I have been down here ten days, in order to enlist men out of the forces here, and have not been able to get more than about one hundred and twenty, nor don't see any possibility of getting more. Mr. *Shaw* will be able to give you any further information as to the circumstances of the ship here, and when the present appearance alters shall acquaint you.

I am, with great respect, sir, your humble servant,

ESEK HOPKINS.

To the Hon. *Jonathan Trumbull*, Esq., Governour of the State of *Connecticut*, at *Lebanon*.

MASSACHUSETTS COUNCIL TO GOVERNOUR COOKE.

State of Massachusetts-Bay, Council Chamber, }
October 15, 1776. }

SIR: It having been represented to this Board by Colonel *Cushing*, commander of a regiment lately ordered from this State to the State of *Rhode-Island*, that some difficulty is likely to arise respecting the command of the forces in the Continental pay stationed in *Rhode-Island*, by reason of Colonel *Cook*, commander of a regiment in your State, claiming the command, notwithstanding his commission is of later date than Colonel *Cushing's*, we should be very sorry there should be any difficulty respecting this matter, but do not think we are authorized to determine any other ways than what has been agreed upon by the honourable Congress, in their rules for regulating the army of the *United States*, at section thirteen, article twenty-six, to which we refer your Honour, not doubting you will give such orders to Colonel *Cook* and all other officers in command, as are conformable to the resolves of the honourable Congress.

In the name and by the order of the Council, I have the honour to be, with great respect, your most obedient, humble servant.

To the Hon. *Nicholas Cooke*, Esq., Governour of the State of *Rhode-Island*.

COMMITTEE OF FRAMINGHAM TO MASSACHUSETTS COUNCIL.

Framingham, October 15, 1776.

HONOURABLE GENTLEMEN: We, the Committee of Correspondence, Inspection and Safety, for the town of *Framingham*, in obedience to a resolve of the Great and General Court, have taken into our custody the personal estate of *Nathaniel Brinley*, who deserted said *Framingham*, and the farm he occupied here, fled to *Boston*, and was there the whole time that the *British* troops were at open hostilities with this State, also signed the address to General *Gage*, &c.; which estate consisted of quick stock, household furniture, and husbandry utensils. The stock having no connection with the farm they were found upon, we made sale

of at publick vendue, on the 27th day of *May* last, advertising the sale in *Edes'* and *Hall's* publick papers, and in seven adjoining towns. The amount of said sale in cash, was one hundred and seventy-one pounds, thirteen shillings, and eight pence, which lies in the hands of Mr. *Ebenezer Marshall*, our Treasurer. The household furniture we have stored, and the husbandry tools we have stored in part, and let out part. This, honoured gentlemen, hath been our procedure with said estate, which we offer to your candid reception.

By order of said Committee:

EBEN'R HEMENWAY, *Clerk.*

To the General Assembly for the State of *Massachusetts-Bay*.

EXTRACT OF A LETTER FROM A GENTLEMAN AT FALMOUTH, CASCO BAY, DATED OCTOBER 15, 1776.

It is surprising sugars continue so dear, when such immense quantities are brought in; but I am informed that the rich merchants are buying it all up to ship to *Spain*. Surely they can't be friends to the country to suffer the common people, the support of the country, to give such exorbitant prices for necessaries, that they may make themselves exorbitantly rich. They may pretend what they will, but it is plain they have little or no regard to the good of the people, therefore no friends to the country, and I hope the Government will interpose to prevent oppression from our own grandees as well as those of *England*.

STEPHEN STEWARD TO MARYLAND COUNCIL OF SAFETY.

October 16, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: As Captain *Patterson's* boat is so near ready to sail, I thought it would be as well for him to come up in her, ready to receive your orders, which will be tomorrow, as the long schooner could be got ready in a few days, with six carriage-guns, if you would consent to swap two field rifles which you have in *Annapolis* for two heavy rifles that I took out of the *Resolution*. The large schooner is pierced for ten guns, three and two-pounders; but as we are obliged to put up four-pounders, six will be nearly equal weight of metal. The schooner is a fine vessel. There is some vessels on the sea-shore to sell. If you want to buy one of them and load them where they are, the danger would be considerable less to get them out than getting them out of the bay. My son will inform you what situation the vessels are here in. I hope you will not think me forward in attempting to dictate for you, as I really do not intend it, but am ready to oblige you in every employment you can set me about; and am your most obedient, humble servant,

STEPHEN STEWARD.

To the honourable Council of Safety.

AMOS GARRETT TO MARYLAND COUNCIL OF SAFETY.

Swan Creek, October 16, 1776.

SIR: I wrote you the 14th, by Captain *Smith*; the same day got three gentlemen of our County to assist me in the collection of blankets, &c., for Captain *Holland's* company, but as that gentleman has received marching orders, they will receive but small assistance, I fear, from our collection. They will have what is in store, and what we can collect, (after the forty blankets ordered from *Harford*, for the hospital;) these I am now sending to *Baltimore*, and to get up all the necessary stores from there to despatch the company. There will be want of publick arms for this company; but as most of them have good guns of their own, expect they will conclude to carry them, till can be better equipped; and should blankets be wanting, I am in hopes they will leave those we have to the most necessitous, and provide for their own selves. As I mentioned to you before, I fear new blankets can't be got at twenty shillings, as it will take five yards of kersey, and this is selling at five shillings per yard, to make a blanket; and as to linen, common tow-linen is selling at three shillings and three shillings and six pence per yard. What we collect from the moneys received that this company don't require, will be stored at *Harford*.

I am, sir, your humble servant,

AMOS GARRETT.

To *Daniel of St. Thomas Jenifer*, Esq., President.

GEORGE WELLS TO MARYLAND COUNCIL OF SAFETY.

Baltimore, October 16, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: As I expect to launch one of the row-galleys in about eighteen days, I should be obliged to you to let me know by bearer, Mr. *John Barry*, how the row-galleys should be masted and rigged, or whether you will leave that matter to Captain *Nicholson* and self. Please also to let me know who is to be the sail-maker, and who is to find the cordage.

Who am, gentlemen, your most obedient, humble servant,
GEORGE WELLS.

To the honourable Council of Safety for the State of *Maryland*.

P. S. Please to let me know what weight of metal they are to carry.

ROBERT PETER AND THOMAS RICHARDSON TO MARYLAND COUNCIL OF SAFETY.

George-Town, October 16, 1776.

SIR: We presume to address you as a member of our Convention, on a matter which we think of the utmost importance to the publick in these times, when despatch at ferries is so very necessary. Colonel *George Mason* is proprietor on the land on the south side of *Potowmack*, and rents his ferry over to *George-Town*, which in *Virginia* is established by act of Assembly. We have also a ferry on the *Maryland* side, and our misfortune is that no ferries in *Maryland* are established by law. This we apprehend occasions the evils we are about to complain of, and which we hope our Convention, with your assistance, will remedy as far as you think it consistent with the publick good.

Our ferryman has always been threatened by Colonel *Mason's* tenant with a suit in *Virginia*, for presuming to land in or bring from *Virginia* any person, so that we are to reap no kind of advantage from our situation on *Potowmack* river, it being wholly claimed by the State of *Virginia*. Yesterday our ferryman was arrested, we suppose at the suit of Colonel *Mason* or his tenant, for this offence, tied by the Sheriff, because he attempted to make his escape, and dragged to *Fairfax* gaol in *Alexandria*, to accomplish which the Sheriff came over to this side, got the *Maryland* boat to put him over, desired the ferryman to come on shore and he would pay him, which he did by serving the writ, and so the matter was concerted, and with a design to prevent *Maryland* from having any right to a ferry over *Potowmack* at all; but as to the right, we submit it to our Legislature, to be determined at any future day; yet, when despatch over ferries is at this time so vastly necessary for the post and for troops that may have occasion to pass, as well as private travellers, we hope for immediate relief, as to our ferryman, so far as it may be thought in the power of our Convention, for it is notorious that unless he is released, our passage over *Potowmack*, either to the southward or northward, will be very much obstructed, the *Virginia* ferryman having no boats, at least not a sufficient number for the purpose.

We look upon this to be a matter of consequence, and hope you will not neglect having done in it what you think right, at least so far as you have it in your power. And we are, very respectfully, sir, your most obedient and humble servants,

ROBERT PETER,
THOS. RICHARDSON.

To the Hon. *Thomas Johnson*, *Annapolis*.

P. S. Since writing the foregoing the ferryman has been admitted to bail, and is returned.

Philadelphia, October 16, 1776.

Yesterday afternoon the Continental armed schooner *Wasp*, Captain *Baldwin*, returned here from a cruise, and brought in with him a large ship, bound from *Jamaica* for *Liverpool*, laden with rum and sugar, which he took about twelve days ago. The prize is got up to *Chester*.

By accounts from the southward, we learn that a *Spanish* brig was arrived from *Havana* at *Virginia*, with ten thousand dollars, to purchase flour, &c. By her we learn that *Spain* had actually declared war against *Portugal*, and that a large armament was expected at *Havana* from Old *Spain* in a short time after he sailed; and that several other

merchant vessels were soon to follow him for this Continent.

Saturday last arrived here the ship taken by the brig *General Montgomery*. She proves to be the ship *Thetis*, Captain *May*, with three hundred and ten hogsheads of sugar, ninety puncheons of rum, &c., from *Montego Bay* for *London*, and belonged to a fleet of near two hundred sail, who left *Jamaica* in *August* last, under convoy of two men-of-war. The above ship in coming up, touched on the *chevaux-de-frise*, where she would have, in all probability, sunk, had it not been for the timely assistance she received from the row-galley men.

GENERAL MERCER TO GENERAL WASHINGTON.

Amboy, October 16, 1776.

SIR: General *Greene* has informed your Excellency that a party passed over last night to *Staten-Island*, with a view to attack the enemy, at the east end near the watering place. As we advanced towards *Richmond* town information was given that some companies of *British* and *Hessian* troops were stationed there. Surprising them was therefore the first object; which was effected this morning, at break of day. Well disciplined troops would have taken the whole without the loss of a man, but we only took about twenty prisoners, partly *Hessians* and *English*: eight *Hessians* and nine *British*, one of those wounded, and besides these, two mortally wounded, left at *Richmond* town. We lost two men in the action. What we have collected of intelligence from the prisoners, is enclosed.

Your instructions of *October* the 15th I shall immediately set about observing with the utmost diligence and punctuality. Colonel *Griffin* received a wound in the heel, in the action of this morning, and Lieutenant-Colonel *Smith*, of the *Flying-Camp*, was slightly wounded in the arm. I shall send the prisoners on to *Philadelphia*.

I have the honour to be, sir, your Excellency's most obedient servant,

H. MERCER.

To General *Washington*.

Head-Quarters, Perth-Amboy, October 16, 1776.

The Examination of two Regular Soldiers and one Hessian, taken prisoners on STATEN-ISLAND, this morning, at the Church.

Robert Holbrook. Says he belongs to the Fourteenth Regiment, commanded by Colonel *Dalrymple*; twenty regulars and forty-five *Hessians* were at the church; there were about fifteen hundred on the island at first; about ten days ago the greatest part of the *Hessians* embarked; Captain *Horton* commanded this morning, and fled; General *Howe* has twenty-two thousand, including *Hessians* and all other troops; some new troops landed last *Monday*; the army in good health and plenty of provisions; all salt on the island; they expect fifteen thousand *Hessians* every day, but no *English* troops; the only reinforcement is the Sixth Regiment, about one hundred and fifty; *Hessians* in the army supposed to be fifteen thousand.

Peter Gee, of the Sixth Regiment, Colonel *Boothby*. Says one hundred and fifty of them landed on *Staten-Island*, last *Monday*, from the *Chambury*, transport; left *England* the 3d *July*; twenty sail came out with them, two men-of-war and eighteen provision vessels; they were making great preparations in *England*, recruited very fast, but expected the press to break out; about seven hundred *Hanoverians* came out, as many more expected; some of them lay at *Plymouth*; the greatest part of the *Hessians* left the island; a great many sick on the island; the number in the fort not known, supposed about six hundred; only two pieces of cannon in the fort; expected a reinforcement of the regulars.

Christian Guiler, a *Hessian* private. Says, 'tis eight years since he left his own country; almost all these troops are with General *Howe*; twelve thousand of them have come; expect more; expected if taken prisoner, to have mercy shown him if we were a Christian people; that he was brought from his country by force; that detachments were sent through their country, and if their parents interfered, were put in jail; were told they were to be garrisoned in *England*, but after three days arrival in *England*, were ordered to embark for *America*, to their great disap-

pointment and against their will; were guarded to their ships; they saw no papers of any kind among them from us; if they knew that they would be well treated by us, would all lay down their arms; have no desire to return to their regiment again; are much pleased and happy with the treatment they have received, and are very thankful for the same.

THOMAS QUIGLEY TO THOMAS RANDALL.

On board the *Putnam*, Cranberry, October 6, 1776.

SIR: I received yours of the 1st of *October*, in which you advise me to keep a good look-out for the enemy's vessels. You may depend there shall none of them pass us through our negligence. We have seen three since my last to you; the first a large snow, which we chased within sight of the *Hook*, but two of the enemy's vessels, tenders, coming out of the *Hook*, was obliged to give over the chase and return. The second, a brig, we took to be a transport, which we likewise chased some hours off *Cranberry Inlet*, but being in sight of four other vessels, and one of them a frigate, who gave us chase, we were obliged to return again. The third, a hermaphrodite, but the wind blowing hard at northeast, could not get out to her.

I have thought fit to send Mr. *Littel* to you to be informed what we are to do for provision, it being very near out. We have, since the Captain went away, broached one barrel of beef and one of bread, entirely spoiled, and at this time there is not above three days' meat on board the vessel. We have not above four foremast-men that is able to stand their watch upon deck, for want of shoes and other clothing. Therefore beg you would endeavour to give us some speedy relief, either by sending us some money, or otherwise, as you shall think most expedient. I had a letter from the Captain of the same date of yours, but he has not mentioned any certain time of his being on board, which makes me conclude that it will not be very soon, as he is no great starter.

I am, sir, your humble servant,

THOMAS QUIGLEY.

To *Thomas Randall*, Esq.

ADDRESS OF INHABITANTS OF NEW-YORK TO LORD HOWE AND GENERAL HOWE.

To the Right Hon. RICHARD LORD VISCOUNT HOWE, of the Kingdom of IRELAND, and to His Excellency the Hon. WILLIAM HOWE, Esq., General of His Majesty's Forces in AMERICA, the King's Commissioners for restoring peace to His Majesty's Colonies in NORTH-AMERICA.

Your Excellencies, by your declaration, bearing date *July* 14, 1776, having signified that "the King is desirous to deliver his *American* subjects from the calamities of war, and other oppressions which they now undergo, and to restore the Colonies to his protection and peace;" and by a subsequent declaration, dated *September* 19th, 1776, having also been pleased to express your desire "to confer with his Majesty's well-affected subjects, upon the means of restoring the publick tranquillity and establishing a permanent union with every Colony, as a part of the *British Empire*."

We, therefore, whose names are hereunto subscribed, inhabitants of the City and County of *New-York*, in the Province of *New-York*, reflecting with the tenderest emotions of gratitude, on this instance of his Majesty's paternal goodness, and encouraged by the affectionate manner in which his Majesty's gracious purposes have been conveyed to us by your Excellencies, who have hereby evinced that humanity is inseparable from that true magnanimity and those enlarged sentiments which form the most shining characters, beg leave to represent to your Excellencies, that we bear true allegiance to our rightful Sovereign, *George* the Third, as well as warm affection to his sacred person, crown, and dignity; that we esteem the constitutional supremacy of *Great Britain* over these Colonies, and other depending parts of his Majesty's dominions, as essential to the union, security, and welfare of the whole empire, and sincerely lament the interruption of that harmony which formerly subsisted between the parent State, and these her Colonies; that many of the loyal citizens have been driven away by the calamities of war, and the spirit of persecution,

which lately prevailed; or sent to *New-England* and other distant parts. We, therefore, hoping that the sufferings which our absent fellow-citizens undergo, for their attachment for the royal cause, may plead in their behalf, humbly pray that your Excellencies would be pleased, on these our dutiful representations, to restore this City and County to his Majesty's protection and peace.

Signed by *Daniel Horsemenden, Oliver De Lancey,* and 946 more persons of the Town and County of *New-York*.*

New-York, October 16, 1776.

ADDRESS OF INHABITANTS OF NEW-YORK TO GOVERNOUR TRYON.

To His Excellency WILLIAM TRYON, Esq., Captain-General and Governour-in-Chief in and over the Province of NEW-YORK, and the Territories depending thereon in AMERICA, Chancellor, and Vice-Admiral of the same.

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR EXCELLENCY: We, the inhabitants of the City and County of *New-York*, beg leave to congratulate your Excellency on your return to the capital of your Government, and to assure you that we feel the sincerest joy on this happy event, which opens a prospect that we shall once more experience the blessings of peace and security under his Majesty's auspicious government and protection, blessings which we formerly enjoyed under your Excellency's mild administration, and which we ardently wish to have renewed.

Persevering in our loyalty and unshaken attachment to our gracious Sovereign, in this time of distress and trial, and anxious to testify our affection for him, we have embraced the earliest opportunity to petition the King's Commissioners, that they would restore this City and County to his Majesty's peace, although many of the most respectable citizens, and a much greater number of the inferior classes, have been drawn off by the calamities of war, or sent prisoners to *New-England* and other distant parts; yet we hope that the numbers still remaining, and who have voluntarily subscribed, may be deemed sufficient to entitle this district to his Majesty's grace, whilst the sufferings which our absent fellow-citizens undergo for the royal cause, plead in their behalf with the Commissioners, from whose well-known humanity, benevolence, and enlarged sentiments, we have the most flattering expectations.

To your Excellency we naturally look up for assistance; we therefore request that you would be pleased to present our petition to the Commissioners, and otherwise exert yourself that the prayer of it may be granted; as it is our fervent desire, and what we esteem the greatest earthly felicity, to remain subjects of the *British* Government, in union with the parent State.

Signed by desire, and in behalf of the inhabitants, by
DANIEL HORSEMANDEN.

New-York, October 16, 1776.

GOVERNOUR TRYON'S ANSWER.

New-York, October 25, 1776.

SIR: The address you delivered to me, in behalf of the inhabitants of the City and County of *New-York*, cannot fail of being highly agreeable to me, as it was accompanied with a dutiful petition and representation from them to the King's Commissioners for restoring peace to his Majesty's Colonies, testifying your loyalty to our most gracious Sovereign, professing a zealous attachment to the *British* constitution, and declaring the warmest desire for a lasting union with the parent State. Still, solicitous as I am for the welfare of the inhabitants of this Colony in general, and earnestly wishing for a restoration of publick harmony and the reestablishment of the ancient constitutional authority of Government, I have cheerfully embraced the opportunity of presenting this day the address to Lord *Howe*, who was pleased to signify to me "he would take the earliest

* The Town and County of *New-York* make *New-York* Island. It has been remarked as extraordinary, that *Richmond* County, which is *Staten-Island*, and *King's*, *Queen's*, and *Suffolk* Counties, which make *Long-Island*, have not any of them presented addresses. And it was further remarked, that the principal expression in this address is only constitutional supremacy, that it is equivocal, that it may be explained either way, and that without explanation it is a nullity.—*Remembrancer*.

opportunity of communicating with General *Howe* on the occasion." The inhabitants may be assured I shall support their wishes with my best endeavours, although the completion of them must be left to the decision of his Majesty's Commissioners, in whom the highest national confidence is reposed.

I am, with great regard, sir, your most obedient servant,
WILLIAM TRYON.

To the Hon. Chief Justice *Horsemanden*.

GENERAL WASHINGTON TO GOVERNOUR TRUMBULL.

Head-Quarters, Heights of Harlem, October 16, 1776.

SIR: I have been favoured with your several letters of the 11th and 13th instant, with their enclosures. The first that I received would have been answered sooner had I been able to have furnished the necessary intelligence respecting the enemy's ships-of-war in the *Sound* above *Hell-Gate*. This induced me to detain the express a day, in expectation of gaining a more certain information of this fact than what had then come to my knowledge. By some deserters, who came ashore from their shipping at *Frog's Point* yesterday, and who (from what I could discover on their examination) I think, in this instance, are deserving of credit, I am acquainted that there are now between *Hell-Gate* and *Frog's Point* five ships-of-war—the *Fowey* of twenty-four guns, the *Le Brune* of thirty-two, the *Carysfort* of twenty-eight, the *Niger* of thirty-two, and *Halifax* of sixteen; and that the *Mercury* and one other ship are cruising off *Block Island*. Whether their number may be augmented or diminished in a short time, is more than I can say; though I must observe that the enemy's frigates of twenty-eight guns (as we have found from experience) are not deterred from passing through *Hell-Gate*. I would therefore strongly advise, in case an attack on the ships-of-war near *Frog's Point* should be determined on, that tenders or other small craft should be sent ahead, for the purpose of discovering with certainty the number and strength of the enemy, who, from the circumstances I have mentioned, may be easily reinforced.

As to furnishing any soldiers from this army towards manning your ships, it is what I am sorry, under the present appearances of things, I cannot comply with, the enemy being too powerful on this quarter to admit of any diminution of the troops who are to oppose them. For this reason, also, I cannot afford any reinforcement to Colonel *Livingston*, to augment his detachment from twelve hundred to two thousand, which you think would be necessary; indeed, as we have received information that the enemy have been considerably reinforced by the arrival of *Hessians*, and as they have, from accounts, drawn almost their whole force to *Frog's Point*, I think it would be highly advisable (unless the expedition to *Long-Island* is in such forwardness as to be carried into execution immediately,) to send forward the two *Massachusetts* regiments, who were detained for that particular service. Should it be determined to proceed to *Long-Island*, I cannot interfere by any means in giving the command to a younger officer.

With respect to the stores at *Norwalk* and the other towns you have mentioned, I have ordered them from thence, thinking this method more eligible than to furnish troops (of which we are in such want) for their defence.

I did myself the pleasure of writing to you a few days ago, which I imagine you have received.

I am, sir, with great respect, your most obedient, humble servant,

GO. WASHINGTON.

To Governour *Trumbull*, *Connecticut*.

P. S. I have just received the examination of another deserter, who says he came away from the *Dolphin*, last *Thursday*, a sixty-gun ship, in the *Sound* above *Hell-Gate*. But this I am in doubt about. At any rate, I imagine, if it is true, it must be known to you, by information of the inhabitants living on the *Sound*.

GENERAL GREENE TO GOVERNOUR COOKE.

Head-Quarters, New-York Island, October 16, 1776.

SIR: Yours of the 5th was delivered me by Mr. *Hazard*, the subject of which I had wrote upon before as fully as is

necessary. The anxiety I felt for the honour of the State and the good of the cause, made me anticipate your wishes relative to recommendations. I had made a collection of the officers belonging to the *Rhode-Island* regiments, and delivered it to his Excellency General *Washington*, to be forwarded to your State. That recommendation and arrangement of officers is the best that I could make or recommend to the General, all circumstances considered. The State will act their pleasure with respect to the appointments. The General only wishes to have good men, such as will discharge their duty in every point of view, and maintain the character of gentlemen. He has no attachment to any person further than his merit recommends him. Men of merit he wishes to be appointed, whether in or out of the army.

General *Howe* has landed at *Frog's Point*, a place a few miles east of *Hell-Gate*. He is collecting his force together at that place with a design to cut off a retreat. His Excellency is making an arrangement to counteract him. The troops appear to be in good spirits, and I am in hopes, if *Howe* attacks us, he will meet with a defeat. A battle is daily, nay hourly, expected. I shall come in for no share of the honour or glory of the day, if victorious; no shame, if defeated—my command being in *New-Jersey*. *Howe's* design evidently appears to be to get in our rear, to cut off our supplies and starve the army out. This reduces us to the necessity of extending our left wing out in the country, to preserve our communication with the County from whence we get our support. A few days may produce some events important to the *American* interests. I was on *Staten-Island* night before last. The greatest part of the *British* troops and *Hessians* are drawn off to support General *Howe's* operations at *Frog's Point*.

I am exceeding happy to hear of the safe recovery of your family from the small-pox. Present my respects to them, and to Mr. *Ward*, the Secretary. I have carefully sent in the letters sent me by the flags.

I am, with great respect, your most obedient, humble servant,

NATHANAEL GREENE.

To the Hon. *Nicholas Cooke*, Esq., Governour of *Rhode-Island*.

TENCH TILGHMAN TO WILLIAM DUER.

Head-Quarters, Harlem Heights, October 16, 1776.

DEAR SIR: I have yours of the 14th, which is principally taken up with pointing out the necessity of securing a proper place of retreat beyond the Highlands, should any accident befall the army. I cannot speak positively, but I am inclined to think the expediency of such a measure is in deliberation before a council of war held this day at *King's Bridge*. I know some of our ablest heads are clearly for it. From every appearance, and from the information of deserters, the main body of the army is above us. One of the deserters, a good, sensible fellow, says a man-of-war lays at the *Hook* ready to sail with the news of the issue of their move to *Frog's Point*. It will seem very strange to the people of *England* that nothing decisive has been effected by a fleet and army superiour to any thing they employed last war. Something must be attempted to satisfy them, for bad news will be more tolerable than a state of suspense. If your information has been true, to-morrow will be a day that either gives liberty or goes a great way towards enslaving *America*.

I hope every man who values the first, or fears the last, will behave as he ought to do. It will give me the greatest pleasure to make you a favourable report.

I am, dear sir, sincerely yours,

TENCH TILGHMAN.

To *William Duer*, Esq.

COLONEL BROOME TO PETER R. LIVINGSTON.

Heights of Harlem, October 16, 1776.

SIR: *John S. Hobart*, Esq., who was at *New-Haven* about a week past, informed me that your Convention had appointed a Committee of Safety to sit at or near the lines, to transact some business of importance, and that I was honoured with being appointed one of the members. Pursuant to which information I have attended at this place in

order to join the Committee, but on inquiry cannot learn that any of the gentlemen have been here. I therefore propose to return home for the present, (as a number of my family are sick,) and shall endeavour to give my attendance whenever I am informed the Committee are convened.

I am yours and the Convention's very humble servant,
JNO. BROOME.

To the Hon. *Peter R. Livingston*, Esq., President of the Convention of the State of *New-York*, at *Fishkills*.

ORDERS TO CAPTAIN OSBURN.

Third Regiment, Westchester County Brigade.

To Captain JOSEPH OSBURN:

You are hereby required to send Major *Joseph Strang* ten men of your company, and from time to time to furnish him with such number of men as he shall require for mending the post road from the south line of *Dutchess County* to *King's Bridge*, (and they designed none other purpose,) agreeable to a resolve of the Convention of this State, and they to receive four pounds per month.

Given under my hand and seal this 16th of *October*, 1776.

GILBERT DRAKE, Lieut. Colonel.

JONATHAN LANDON TO EZRA THOMPSON.

Fishkill, October 16, 1776.

SIR: The Committee for employing people to explore mines, &c., of which I am a member, have entered into a contract with *McDonald* to make a further trial of the lead mines. The contract he will show you. You will do well to come down here, and inform the Committee what lead is in your hands, with your account, that it may be settled, and to give your advice and opinion respecting the mine to the Committee. I am very desirous you would be good enough to attend us as soon as possibly you can, as it will be necessary to have somebody on the spot to have an eye to the business. If it is practicable for you to attend, do not fail. You are likewise to be at the trouble to measure the depth of the pit as Mr. *McDonald* left it, as he is now to be paid by the fathom.

I am, your very humble servant,

JONTH. LANDON.

To Mr. *Ezra Thompson*, *Nine Partners*.

October 22, 1776.—According to orders I have measured twenty-four feet length, containing six feet depth, being the present state of lead mine in the *Great Nine Partners*. The weight of lead ore now on hand is 1646.

EZRA THOMPSON.

GENERAL SCHUYLER TO THE PRESIDENT OF CONGRESS.

Saratoga, October 16, 1776.

SIR: Yesterday I was honoured with your favour of the 4th instant, enclosing a resolution of Congress of the 2d instant. At this very critical juncture I shall waive those remarks which, in justice to myself, I must make at a future day. The calumny of my enemies has arisen to its height; their malice is incapable of heightening the injury. I wish, for the sake of human nature, that they had not succeeded so well. I wish they had not been countenanced by the transactions of those whose duty it was to have supported me. In the alarming situation of our affairs, I shall continue to act some time longer, but Congress must prepare to put the care of this department into other hands. I shall be able to render my country better services in another line, less exposed to a repetition of the injuries I have sustained.

Since the letter from General *Arnold* of the 12th instant, which General *Washington* has doubtless transmitted to you, I have not heard a word from the fleet or *Ticonderoga*.

The ammunition embarked at *Fort George* yesterday morning, and, without doubt, arrived before night at *Ticonderoga*. I am preparing to build barracks for three thousand men at this place and *Stillwater*.

If we do not quite lose the lake this campaign, it will be necessary to employ four hundred carpenters all winter in constructing a strong naval force. Cordage, sails, oakum, and anchors, must be provided somewhere below, and the whole brought up in winter. Fifty whip-saws will be

wanted, and should be sent immediately: they are not to be had in this quarter.

I wish a quantity of crocus, or any coarse linen, to be sent up for sacks for the soldiers' bedding and bolsters: it will be best to have them made up at *Philadelphia*, large enough for two men. A great quantity of intrenching tools must also be provided, and such a quantity of ammunition sent next winter to *Ticonderoga*, as will suffice for the campaign: some should be sent immediately. Cannon of the largest size should be cast in every quarter, and sent up in winter.

The Paymaster advises me that his chest is reduced to less than one hundred thousand dollars: a supply should be sent in time.

I am, sir, most respectfully, your obedient and very humble servant,

PH. SCHUYLER.

To the Hon. *John Hancock*.

GENERAL SCHUYLER TO GENERAL WASHINGTON.

Saratoga, October 16, 1776.

DEAR SIR: I am honoured with your Excellency's favour of the 10th and 11th instant. I am very confident the manner in which you have treated the *Cayuga* sachems will be attended with very salutary consequences.

By a person from your camp, who left it since the ships of war passed your chevaux-de-frise, we were informed that all the craft that could be procured were employed in carrying stone to complete the obstruction in the river. Your letter gives me hopes that those that are passed will be prevented from returning.

Since the letter of General *Arnold's*, transmitted you by Captain *Varick*, I have not had a line from *Tyonderoga*. I have hopes that the enemy will not renew their attack on our fleet. The ammunition arrived at *Tyonderoga* last night.

I shall despatch a messenger to *Boston* for nails, and hope to receive a supply from thence.

I am, dear sir, with every sentiment of esteem and respect, your Excellency's most obedient, humble servant,

PH. SCHUYLER.

To His Excellency General *Washington*, &c., &c.

GENERAL SCHUYLER TO GENERAL WASHINGTON.

Saratoga, October 16, 1776, six o'clock, afternoon.

DEAR SIR: Enclosed you have copies of letters from Generals *Gates* and *Arnold*, announcing the total destruction of our fleet on *Lake Champlain*. I shall write to every State nearest me to march up their Militia to support our army, as the enemy will doubtless very soon attack it, and do every thing in my power to prevent their penetrating into the country, should our army be obliged to give way, which I have good hopes will not be the case.

I am, dear sir, your Excellency's most obedient, humble servant,

PH. SCHUYLER.

To His Excellency General *Washington*.

Ticonderoga, October 15, 1776.

DEAR GENERAL: I make no doubt before this you have received a copy of my letter to General *Gates* of the 12th instant, dated at *Schuyler's Island*, advising of an action between our fleet and the enemy the preceding day, in which we lost a schooner and a gondola. We remained no longer at *Schuyler's Island* than to stop our leaks, and mend the sails of the *Washington*. At two o'clock, P. M., the 12th, weighed anchor with a fresh breeze to the southward. The enemy's fleet at the same time got under way; our gondola made very little way ahead. In the evening the wind moderated, and we made such progress that at six o'clock next morning we were about off *Willsborough*, twenty-eight miles from *Crown-Point*. The enemy's fleet were very little way above *Schuyler's Island*; the wind breezed up to the southward, so that we gained very little by beating or rowing, at the same time the enemy took a fresh breeze from the northeast, and by the time we had reached *Split-Rock*, were alongside of us. The *Washington* and *Congress* were in the rear, the rest of our fleet were ahead except two gondolas sunk at *Schuyler's Island*.

The *Washington* galley was in such a shattered condition, and had so many men killed and wounded, she struck to the enemy after receiving a few broadsides. We were then attacked in the *Congress* galley by a ship mounting twelve eighteen-pounders, a schooner of fourteen sixes, and one of twelve sixes, two under our stern, and one on our broadside, within musket-shot. They kept up an incessant fire on us for about five glasses, with round and grape-shot, which we returned as briskly. The sails, rigging, and hull of the *Congress* were shattered and torn in pieces, the First Lieutenant and three men killed, when, to prevent her falling into the enemy's hands, who had seven sail around me, I ran her ashore in a small creek ten miles from *Crown-Point*, on the east side, when, after saving our small-arms, I set her on fire with four gondolas, with whose crews I reached *Crown-Point* through the woods that evening, and very luckily escaped the savages, who waylaid the road in two hours after we passed. At four o'clock yesterday morning I reached this place, exceedingly fatigued and unwell, having been without sleep or refreshment for near three days.

Of our whole fleet we have saved only two galleys, two small schooners, one gondola, and one sloop. General *Waterbury*, with one hundred and ten prisoners, were returned by *Carleton* last night. On board of the *Congress* we had twenty-odd men killed and wounded. Our whole loss amounts to eighty-odd.

The enemy's fleet were last night three miles below *Crown-Point*; their army is doubtless at their heels. We are busily employed in completing our lines, redoubts, which I am sorry to say are not so forward as I could wish. We have very few heavy cannon, but are mounting every piece we have. It is the opinion of Generals *Gates* and *St. Clair* that eight or ten thousand Militia should be immediately sent to our assistance, if they can be spared from below. I am of opinion the enemy will attack us with their fleet and army at the same time. The former is very formidable, a list of which I am favoured with by General *Waterbury*, and have enclosed. The season is so far advanced, our people are daily growing more healthy.

We have about nine thousand effectives, and if properly supported, make no doubt of stopping the career of the enemy. All your letters to me of late have miscarried. I am extremely sorry to hear by General *Gates* you are unwell. I have sent you by General *Waterbury* a small box containing all my publick and private papers, and accounts, with a considerable sum of hard and paper money, which beg the favour of your taking care of.

I am, dear General, your most affectionate, humble servant,

B. ARNOLD.

To Hon. Major-General *Schuyler*.

List of the Enemy's fleet on Lake CHAMPLAIN.

1 ship,	- - - - -	18 12-pounders.
1 schooner,	- - - - -	14 6 "
1 dó.	- - - - -	12 6 "
1 rideaux,	- - - - -	6 24 } brass.
		12 12 }
		4 8-inch howitz.

Twenty-eight gondolas, with one gun each, 12, 18, and 24-pounders, and one eight-inch howitz.

Two gondolas, three guns each, 12-pounders.

N. B. Two of the above gondolas sunk by our fleet the first day, and one blown up with sixty men.

Ticonderoga, October 15, 1776.

DEAR GENERAL: You will herewith receive General *Arnold's* account of the defeat and almost total ruin of our fleet yesterday morning. It has pleased Providence to preserve General *Arnold*. Few men ever met with so many hairbreadth escapes in so short a space of time. Except the capture of General *Waterbury* and those with him, I do not think we shall lose a great many men. Upwards of two hundred, with their officers, escaped with General *Arnold*.

The ammunition, &c., I so long wrote for is much wanted here. I am distressed to the last degree till it arrives. This moment your favour from *Saratoga* of yesterday afternoon is put in my hands. Part of the lead, about three

tons, is arrived, and you make me happy in acquainting me the other, &c., are so near at hand. The guard you mention, and the wise caution you give, shall be carefully attended to.

I am, in haste, your faithful and affectionate humble servant,

HO. GATES.

P. S. I beg you will send me all the spades you can collect, as fast as possible.

GENERAL ORDERS.

Head-Quarters, Ticonderoga, October 1, 1776.

(Parole, Cambridge.)

(Countersign, Langdon.)

As soon as the vessels sail from the wharf, the carpenters are to be employed in repairing the batteaus. The Batteaumaster is to receive and obey all orders given by Colonel Lewis, Deputy Quartermaster-General, or his Assistant, Major Hay. They will furnish men to collect all the stray batteaus, to draw them up for caulking, to pick oakum, and do all the necessary repairs.

Field officer of the day to-morrow for *Ticonderoga*, Major De Hart. Brigade-Major of the day, Ryan.

Field officer of the day for *Mount Independence*, Colonel Poor. Brigade-Major of the day, Howell.

Head-Quarters, October 2, 1776.

(Parole, Gordon.)

(Countersign, Roxbury.)

At a General Court-Martial held in the Third Brigade, on *Mount Independence*, of which Lieutenant-Colonel Shreve was President, Captain Marston, of Colonel Wingate's regiment, was tried on an accusation of having drawn provision for more men than he had in his company. The Court having duly considered the evidence offered, are unanimously of opinion "that Captain Marston is not guilty," and therefore do acquit him with honour.

Captain Daniel Moor, of Colonel Stark's regiment, tried by the same General Court-Martial for neglect of duty and disobedience of orders. The Court having considered the nature of the offence, and the evidences, are unanimously of opinion that Captain Moor is guilty, and sentence him to be reprimanded by Colonel Starks.

Samuel Blue, of Captain Marston's company, in Colonel Wingate's regiment, and John Powell, of Captain Abbott's company, tried by the same General Court-Martial for desertion, are both found guilty, and sentenced by the Court to receive each thirty-nine lashes on his bare back, and to refund the expenses of bringing them to their duty.

Morris Ferrill, of Captain Stout's company, in Colonel Maxwell's regiment, tried for sleeping on his post when on sentry, is found guilty, and sentenced to receive twenty lashes on his bare back.

John Hickory, of Captain Scott's company, Colonel Maxwell's regiment, tried by the same General Court-Martial for rioting and disturbing Colonel Poor's encampment, and threatening the life of Lieutenant Lyford, is found guilty of both crimes, and sentenced to receive thirty-nine lashes for each.

Lieutenant Benjamin Mooney, of the late Captain Harper's company, Colonel Wyman's regiment, tried by the same General Court-Martial for disobedience of orders and neglect of duty, plead in excuse his being inoculated for the small-pox. The Court considering this circumstance, together with the evidences, unanimously decide that Lieutenant Mooney is guilty, and sentence him to be cashiered and published in the publick papers.

The General confirms all the above sentences, and orders the acquittals to take place immediately. The punishments to be inflicted at such time and place as the commanding officer shall direct. Lieutenant Mooney's crime and punishment to be published by the Judge-Advocate of the Court.

Field officer of the day to-morrow for *Ticonderoga*, Major John G. Frazier. Brigade-Major of the day, Major Brown.

Field officer on *Mount Independence*, Colonel Maxwell. Brigade-Major of the day, Major Rice.

Head-Quarters, October 3, 1776.

(Parole, Cooper.)

(Countersign, Portsmouth.)

At a General Court-Martial at *Ticonderoga*, of which Lieutenant Colonel Johnston was President, one John Rol-

stone, a suttler, was tried "for selling rum to the soldiers, and suffering them to be drunk at his hut at unseasonable hours, contrary to orders." The Court, on examination of the witnesses, find him guilty of selling liquors contrary to orders, and adjudge unanimously that he be immediately ordered off the ground, and prohibited from suttling hereafter to the Northern army.

John Gill, of Captain Stout's company, in Colonel Maxwell's regiment, tried by the same General Court-Martial for defrauding the continent. On examination the Court found that the prisoner fraudulently obtained a discharge from the Director-General of the Hospital, by feigning himself sick, and afterwards returned to camp and enlisted in Colonel Wyman's regiment, where he received sixteen dollars bounty. The Court, therefore, find him guilty, and sentence him to receive thirty-nine lashes on his bare back, refund the bounty he received, and be drummed out of the army with infamy.

Eleazar Smith, charged with counterfeiting the currency of the *Massachusetts-Bay*, tried by the same General Court-Martial, is found guilty, and sentenced to receive thirty-nine lashes on his bare back.

The General approves the above sentences, except that part of John Gill's sentence relating to his being drummed out of the army, which is to be changed to drumming through Colonel Maxwell's and Wyman's regiment, and then returning to his duty in the former. The sentences to be put in execution immediately.

At a continuation of the same General Court-Martial, Major Morris President, in place of Lieutenant-Colonel Johnston, who was taken ill, Amos Towsley, Phineas Babcock, and John Keys, charged with counterfeiting bills of credit. No evidences appearing against the prisoners, they are acquitted.

Lieutenant Whitney, of Colonel Wheelock's regiment, tried by the same General Court-Martial for infamous conduct in degrading himself by voluntarily doing the duty of an Orderly Sergeant, in violation of his rank as an officer, is found guilty, and sentenced to be severely reprimanded by General Bricket at the head of the brigade.

Corporal Jewel, and Neal O'Neal, of Colonel Winds's regiment, tried by the same General Court-Martial for theft. The Court, after a full examination of the evidences, are of opinion that Corporal Jewel and Neal O'Neal are not guilty.

Lieutenant Voorhees and Ensign Costigan, of Colonel Winds's regiment, tried by the same General Court-Martial for ungentlemanlike behaviour, in setting fire to a bow house belonging to Ensign Ross, of the same regiment. The Court considering the evidences, are of opinion that Lieutenant Voorhees is not guilty, and do unanimously acquit him. But that Ensign Costigan is guilty, and adjudge that he be reprimanded by the Colonel in presence of the officers of his own corps.

The General approves the above sentences, and orders them to take place accordingly.

The Court-Martial of which Lieutenant-Colonel Shreve was President, is dissolved.

A General Court-Martial to sit to-morrow morning at the President's tent, taken from the First and Second Brigades, Lieutenant-Colonel March, President. Members, two Field Officers and ten Captains. They will try such prisoners as shall be brought before them.

Field officer of the day for *Ticonderoga* to-morrow, Colonel Wayne. Brigade-Major of the day, Ryan.

Field officer of the day for *Mount Independence*, Colonel Wingate. Brigade-Major of the day, Howell.

The Commissary is ordered to issue half gill of rum to each non-commissioned officer and soldier in camp, on account of the wet weather.

Head-Quarters, October 4, 1776.

(Parole, Sydney.)

(Countersign, Harrington.)

In consequence of the continuance of the wet weather, the Commissary is immediately to issue one gill of rum to every non-commissioned officer and soldier now in camp.

At the General Court-Martial of which Major Morris is President, Stephen Juffen, Sergeant in Colonel Wheelock's regiment, was tried for leaving his guard without orders. In the course of the trial it appearing to be more a mistake, than through design, the Court find him not guilty.

James Matthews, late of *Colonel Poor's* regiment, tried by the same General Court-Martial for stealing or concealing a sword. The Court having considered the evidences, are of opinion that the prisoner is not guilty of stealing, but from the circumstances of his disposing of the hanger after it was claimed by the owner, find him guilty of concealing it, and adjudge that he pay £7 10s. lawful money to Lieutenant *Morrison*, the owner, as a compensation for the hanger.

The General approves the above proceedings, and orders them to take place immediately.

The General Court-Martial of which Major *Morris* was President, is dissolved.

The following promotions are ordered to take place, viz:

In Colonel Woodbridge's Regiment.

Mr. *Samuel Leonard*, Quartermaster, vice Quartermaster *Douglas*, advanced.

Second Lieutenant *J. Dickenson*, First Lieutenant, vice Lieutenant *Bacon*, dead.

Ensign *Abner Lyman*, Second Lieutenant, vice Lieutenant *Dickson*, advanced.

Sergeant Major *Reed*, Ensign, vice Ensign *Lyman*, advanced.

Second Lieutenant *El. Goodall*, First Lieutenant, vice Lieutenant *Powers*, dead.

Ensign *Ca. Benjamin*, Second Lieutenant, vice Lieutenant *Goodall*, advanced.

Sergeant *Isaac Church*, Ensign, vice Ensign *Benjamin*, advanced.

In Colonel Wheelock's Regiment.

First Lieutenant *Roger Deuch*, Captain, vice Captain *Harrington*, dead.

Second Lieutenant *Joshua Fuller*, First Lieutenant, vice Lieutenant *Deuch*, advanced.

Ensign *Solomon Richards*, Second Lieutenant, vice Lieutenant *Fuller*, advanced.

Sergeant *Francis Brown*, Ensign, vice Ensign *Richards*, advanced.

Field officer of the day for *Ticonderoga*, Colonel *Winds*.
Brigade-Major of the day, *Browne*.

Officer of the day for *Mount Independence*, Colonel *Wyman*.
Brigade-Major of the day, *Rice*.

The batteau guard is to consist in future only of one Sergeant and twelve men.

Head-Quarters, October 5, 1776.

(Parole, *Sawbridge*.)

(Countersign, *Wilks*.)

The following promotions are ordered to take place in the Sixth or Colonel *Whitcomb's* regiment, viz:

First Lieutenant *Thomas Willington*, Captain, vice Captain *Bullard*, discharged.

Second Lieutenant *Tuckerman*, First Lieutenant, vice Lieutenant *Willington*, promoted.

Ensign *Dougherty*, Second Lieutenant, vice Lieutenant *Tuckerman*, promoted.

Sergeant *Dougherty*, Ensign, vice Ensign *Dougherty*, promoted.

First Lieutenant *Noah Allen*, Captain, vice Captain *Sole*, resigned.

Second Lieutenant *Winchester*, First Lieutenant, vice Lieutenant *Allen*, promoted.

Ensign *Smith*, Second Lieutenant, vice Lieutenant *Winchester*, promoted.

Sergeant *McClean*, Ensign, vice Ensign *Smith*, promoted.

Field officer of the day, to-morrow, for *Ticonderoga*, Colonel *Woodbridge*.
Brigade-Major of the day, *Ryan*.

Officer of the day for *Mount Independence*, Colonel *Swift*.
Brigade-Major of the day, *Howell*.

Head-Quarters, October 6, 1776.

(Parole, *Rockingham*.)

(Countersign, *Richmond*.)

A General Court-Martial of the line to set to-morrow morning, at ten o'clock, in one of the rooms of the old Fort, for the trial of Captains *Jonathan* and *John Fassett*, and three Lieutenants belonging to their Independent companies, and certain non-commissioned officers and soldiers of those companies, and *Thomas Turner*, for deserting their post without orders, or without being attacked, or freed by the enemy. The latter for mutiny. All evidences and persons concerned to attend the Court.

The artificers and labourers attending the two saw-mills are for the future to be under the direction and payment of the Deputy Quartermaster-General, who is to dismiss all who are negligent of their duty, and without delay to employ others in their room.

The Commissary to issue one-half gill of rum to every non-commissioned officer and soldier, who are relieved from guard every morning at nine o'clock. The officers coming off guard to sign the returns to the Commissary.

The former works on *Mount Independence* being now completed, the three brigades on the Mount are to turn out three hundred men in the following proportions, viz:

The First Brigade 56 men, the Second Brigade 102 men, the Third Brigade 142 men—300 men; with proper officers.

Of the above three hundred men, two hundred are to be employed in cutting pickets, and one hundred in digging the trench and foundation for a powder magazine. This party to be furnished daily, and to be under the principal direction of Colonel *Patterson* and Colonel *Poor*, with such officers and subalterns as they shall appoint.

For the Court-Martial ordered above, the Hon. Brigadier-General *St. Clair*, President.

Members.

Colonel <i>Poor</i> ,	Lieut. Col. <i>Starr</i> ,
Colonel <i>Wayne</i> ,	Major <i>Sherburne</i> ,
Lieut. Col. <i>Irvine</i> ,	Major <i>Rhea</i> ,
Lieut. Col. <i>Ogden</i> ,	Major <i>De Hart</i> ,
Lieut. Col. <i>Shreve</i> ,	Major <i>Hale</i> ,
Lieut. Col. <i>Leonard</i> ,	Major <i>Butler</i> .

Captain *Josiah Harman*, of the First *Pennsylvania* Battalion, Judge Advocate.

Field officer of the day, to-morrow, for *Ticonderoga*, Colonel *Wheelock*.
Brigade-Major of the day, *Browne*.

Field officer of the day for *Mount Independence*, Colonel *Mott*.
Brigade-Major of the day, Second Brigade.

Head-Quarters, October 7, 1776.

(Parole, *Montreal*.)

(Countersign, *Carroll*.)

The commanding officers of regiments are immediately to order all the spades and shovels now in use in their respective encampments, to be collected forthwith by the Quartermasters. Such Quartermasters whose regiments are upon the *Ticonderoga* side of the Lake are to see the spades and shovels lodged at Head-Quarters, and those upon *Mount Independence* are to deliver theirs at the head of Colonel *Patterson's* regiment.

As the publick works are greatly in want of these tools, the General desires the commanding officers of regiments will command a strict obedience to this order.

The following promotions are ordered to take place, viz: in Colonel *Patterson's* Regiment:

Ensign *David Johnson*, Second Lieutenant, vice Lieutenant *Jackson*, discharged.

Sergeant-Major *William Chincy*, Ensign, vice Ensign *Johnson*, advanced.

Field officer of the day for *Ticonderoga*, Lieutenant-Colonel *Benjamin Brown*.
Brigade-Major, *Ryan*.

Field officer for *Mount Independence*, Lieutenant-Colonel *Conner*.
Brigade-Major, *Howell*.

Head-Quarters, October 8, 1776.

(Parole, *Madrid*.)

(Countersign, *Wall*.)

The Commissary to issue four sheep to each regiment, three to the corps of artillery, and three to the artificers at their usual times of drawing provisions. The commanding officers will direct the sick and weak soldiers to be supplied with this refreshment, and the Commissary is to reckon the sheep in the allowance to regiments at their estimated weight.

All the pork barrels at present in possession of the respective corps are to be immediately collected and delivered by the Quartermasters to Mr. Commissary *Yauncy*, for the purpose of salting beef.

No person is to apply for a discharge in future unless he bring with him to Head-Quarters the certificates and receipts of pay heretofore ordered. A form for each of these is this day given to each Major of Brigade, and no discharge will be given, unless the certificates correspond with that form.

Field officer of the day for *Ticonderoga*, Lieutenant-Colonel *Roberts*. Brigade-Major of the day, *Browne*.

Field officer for *Mount Independence*, to-morrow, Lieutenant-Colonel *Center*. Brigade-Major, Second Brigade.

Head-Quarters, October 9, 1776.

(Parole, *Paris*.)

(Countersign, *Deane*.)

The price of the several articles of clothing for the troops being sent yesterday to the General, from Messrs. *Rensselaer* and *Taylor*, to whom the said goods belong, any officer or soldier may know the price of what they want to purchase, by applying to Mr. Commissary *Sickles*, at the Continental store in the old Fort.

Field officer of the day for *Ticonderoga*, Major *Morris*. Brigade-Major, *Ryan*.

Field officer for *Mount Independence*, Major *Brown*. Brigade-Major, of the Third Brigade.

Head-Quarters, October 10, 1776.

(Parole, *Woodhull*.)

(Countersign, *America*.)

The guards in future are to parade at nine o'clock on the general parade.

Contrary to all good discipline, and in disobedience to the most positive orders, some officers and soldiers have presumed to shoot pigeons and other game in and about the several encampments; no less than two officers and twenty-eight men being yesterday detected in committing the above-mentioned scandalous irregularity. For their punishment the General orders the officers to oversee the men, who are, all of them, to be employed for two days in picking oakum for the use of the fleet, and such as are for the future guilty of firing their arms without orders, are to be sent to the Assistant Deputy Quartermaster-General to be dealt with in like manner.

Officer of the day for *Ticonderoga*, Major *Rogers*. Brigade-Major, *Brown*.

Officer of the day for *Mount Independence*, Major *Moor*. Brigade-Major, First Brigade.

Head-Quarters, October 11, 1776.

(Parole, *Hingham*.)

(Countersign, *Quincy*.)

The long stillness and seeming supineness of the enemy, strongly indicate that they are meditating some stroke of importance; it therefore behooves every officer and soldier of this army to be exceedingly vigilant and alert, particularly when upon duty. The officers of the day at *Ticonderoga*, as well as upon *Mount Independence*, are, by their example, to give life and spirit to the guards under their inspection. The grand and visiting rounds are upon no account to be negligent of their duty, observing to be particularly attentive to the sentries and guards, from four in the morning till broad daylight. As the campaign is drawing towards a close, the General is anxious nothing disgraceful to the troops under his command should tarnish that good behaviour they have hitherto shown.

Field officer of the day for *Ticonderoga*, to-morrow, Major *P. Frazier*. Brigade-Major, *Ryan*.

Field officer for *Mount Independence*, Major *Sumner*. Brigade-Major, Second Brigade.

Head-Quarters, October 12, 1776.

(Parole, *Sydney*.)

(Countersign, *Hamden*.)

Those regiments which have taken the two batteaus allowed by general orders, are immediately to have them marked on the stern with the names of the commanding officer of the regiment, that they may be distinguished on the other boats.

Discharged soldiers are to return in to the commanding officer of the regiments to which they belong, the arms, accoutrements, ammunition, &c., which they may have in possession belonging to the publick. The commanding officers are to see that this order is complied with.

A return of the names, companies and regiments, of soldiers who have been discharged the service since the 1st of *October*, is to be given in to the Deputy Adjutant-General to-morrow, at orderly time, afterwards to be given in weekly on *Saturday*.

Field officer of the day to-morrow, for *Ticonderoga*, Colonel *Wynds*. Brigade-Major of the day, *Ryan*.

Field officer for *Mount Independence*, Colonel *Maxwell*. Brigade-Major, *Howell*.

The following promotions are to take place in Colonel *Wayne's* Battalion, viz:

Lieut. *Potts*, Captain, vice Captain *Frazier*, promoted.

Second Lieutenant *Alexander McClintucke*, First Lieutenant, vice Lieutenant *Potts*, advanced.

Ensign *John Barclay*, Second Lieutenant, vice Lieutenant *McClintucke*, advanced.

Mr. *John Harper*, Ensign, vice *John Barclay*, advanced.

Mr. *North*, Ensign, vice Ensign *Wallace*, resigned.

Mr. *James Forbes*, Ensign, vice Ensign *Litz*, resigned.

Head-Quarters, October 13, 1776.

(Parole, *Brutus*.)

(Countersign, *Hancock*.)

At a General Court-Martial from the First and Second Brigades, of which Lieutenant-Colonel *March* was President, *Solomon Twist*, a soldier of Captain *Man's* company, late Colonel *Reed's* regiment, was tried for sleeping on his post. The prisoner confessed the fact, but it being proved that he was sick at the time, the Court do acquit him.

James Gears, soldier, of Captain *Shepherd's* company, Colonel *Porter's* regiment, tried by the same General Court-Martial for desertion. The Court acquit the prisoner from corporal punishment, it being proved he had not his proper senses at the time of committing the crime, but adjudge that he be mulcted one month's pay, for the use of the sick of the regiment, and refund all expenses of his being apprehended and brought to camp.

Ensign *Benjamin Chamberlain*, of Colonel (late) *Wait's* regiment, tried by the same General Court-Martial for neglect of duty and disobedience of orders, is found guilty of disobedience of orders, and sentenced to be discharged the service.

Ensign *Whittemore*, of the regiment late Colonel *Reed's*, tried by the same General Court-Martial for behaving in a manner unworthy an officer and a gentleman, and contrary to an express resolve of Congress, published in general orders the 5th *September*, is found guilty, and sentenced to suffer the punishment ordered in said resolve, viz: to forfeit one month's pay for the benefit of the sick of the regiment, and be dismissed the service with infamy.

Lieutenant *Benjamin Talbot*, of the Twenty-Fourth, or *Greaton's* regiment, tried by the same General Court-Martial for acting in the character of a sutler in selling rum, &c., in camp, is found guilty of a breach of the resolve of Congress published 5th *September* last, and sentenced to suffer the punishment ordered by it.

John Pratt, Ensign of the same Regiment, tried by the same General Court-Martial for the same crime, is found guilty, and sentenced to receive the punishment ordered by the resolve of Congress above-mentioned.

Joseph Magoon, soldier, of Captain *Harper's* company, Colonel *Wyman's* regiment, tried by the same General Court-Martial for stealing, is found guilty, and sentenced to receive thirty-nine lashes on his bare back, at the head of the brigade to which he belongs.

Joseph Stimson, soldier, of Captain *Drew's* company, Colonel *Wyman's* regiment, tried by the same General Court-Martial for stealing a pocket-book, and for cursing and abusing the officer of the guard, is found guilty of both the crimes, and sentenced to receive thirty-nine lashes on his bare back for the first offence, and twenty for the second, at the head of the brigade to which he belongs.

The General approves the above proceedings, and orders all the sentences contained in them to take place immediately; particularly those passed upon the officers, who are ordered to leave the camp immediately after discharging their debts, &c.

The General Court-Martial of which Lieutenant-Colonel *March* was President, is dissolved.

Officer of the day for *Ticonderoga*, to-morrow, Colonel *Woodbridge*. Brigade-Major, *Brown*.

Officer of the day for *Mount Independence*, Colonel *Wingate*. Brigade-Major, Third Brigade.

The Regimental Surgeons are to deliver in at the medical store all the lint they have got made at six o'clock this afternoon. An Orderly Sergeant from each corps, and a man from the artillery, to attend constantly at Head-Quarters.

GENERAL SCHUYLER TO ABRAHAM YATES.

Saratoga, October 16, 1776, six o'clock afternoon.

SIR: By letters from Generals *Gates* and *Arnold*, I am advised of the total destruction of our fleet on Lake *Champlain*, and that it is beyond doubt that the enemy mean to attack our army at *Tyonderoga*.

I have written to General *Ten Broeck* to march up the Militia under his command; and I have also applied for that of the neighbouring States. General *Gates* wishes to be sustained by an army of ten or twelve thousand of them. It is certainly of the highest importance that all the Militia that can be spared should march up without delay, either to support General *Gates*, if there should be time, or to cover his retreat should he be reduced to the necessity of quitting his ground; and I must therefore entreat your aid. Permit me to suggest that I believe the Convention's moving to *Albany* would be attended with good consequences.

I am, sir, most respectfully, your obedient, humble servant,

PH. SCHUYLER.

To the Hon. *Ab. Yates*, Esq., President of the Convention.

GENERAL SCHUYLER TO BERKSHIRE (MASS.) COMMITTEE.

Saratoga, October 16, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: Our fleet, which suffered severely in an engagement on the 12th instant with the enemy, has been still more severely handled in a subsequent one, insomuch that the enemy are left masters of the lake, and are now coming on to attack our army at *Ticonderoga*.

In this situation of our affairs, it is of the utmost importance that the Militia of your State should immediately march to sustain the army; and such as can march expeditiously, come by the way of *Albany*, should do so, and the others take the route to *Skeensborough*. Each man should come provided with as much provision and ammunition as possible. The commanding officer must send me information of his numbers, and the progress in his march from time to time. I shall be either at *Fort George* or at *Skeensborough*, but as I cannot determine which, it will be proper to send expresses to both places, and to forward copies of this to Governour *Trumbull*, and to every Committee in your State in a situation of affording assistance, as also to the neighbouring Counties in the State of *Connecticut*. I must repeat, gentlemen, that it is of great importance that I should be duly furnished with an account of the movements and numbers of the Militia.

From, gentlemen, your most obedient, humble servant,

PH. SCHUYLER.

To the Committee of the County of *Berkshire*.

Stockbridge, October 19, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: The Militia in this County are rallied and on their march, and we think it of the utmost importance that you comply with the General's request immediately.

ERASTUS SERGEANT,
SAMUEL BROWN, Jun.,
ASA BEMENT,

Committee of *Stockbridge*.

To the Committees in *Hampshire* County.

GENERAL SCHUYLER TO SELECTMEN OF BOSTON.

Saratoga, October 16, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: Barracks and a variety of buildings are constructing for this department, but greatly retarded by want of nails. I have sent the bearer to *Boston* to procure what quantity he can. Permit me to entreat the favour of you, gentlemen, to afford him your aid in making the purchases, and procuring carriages to convey them to this place, and if a sufficient quantity cannot be had in *Boston*, to direct him to such places in which you may deem it probable that he can be supplied.

I am, gentlemen, respectfully, your obedient, humble servant,

PH. SCHUYLER.

To the gentlemen appointed Selectmen of the town of *Boston*.

COLONEL WYNKOOP TO GENERAL GATES.

Skeenesborough, October 16, 1776.

DEAR GENERAL: I thought proper to inform you that Mr. *Langdon*, Major *Skeene's* clerk at this place, is an enemy to his country, and he is busy every day viewing and prying into every circumstance. I am under apprehension that he takes every method in his power to inform the Regulars of our situation.

The General can use his pleasure in the matter, but I think he ought not to be here.

I am, dear General, your most obedient,

CORN. WYNKOOP.

To General *Gates*.

COLONEL WYNKOOP TO GENERAL GATES.

Skeenesborough, October 16, 1776.

DEAR GENERAL: I send you by the bearer hereof, *George Rush*, of Colonel *Mott's* regiment, eighty boards in a bateau. I should send more, but they were partly loaded. I shall send you another boat-load by the first opportunity.

I am, dear General, your humble servant,

CORN. WYNKOOP.

To Major-General *Gates*.

LEWIS T. COSTIGAN TO GENERAL GATES.

Ticonderoga, October 16, 1776.

SIR: Am fully convinced that the appointment of another gentleman in the place I lately had the honour to hold in the regiment, was owing entirely to a want of knowledge of the circumstances which occasioned my so long absence from it. But, encouraged by your Honour's known liberality and candour, on my first arrival from *New-York* I took the liberty to wait on your Honour with my hearty thanks for your kind indulgence in permitting me to visit my family in their distressed circumstances, and also to inform you of the reason of my absence, and to supplicate your Honour for some relief in my case, which you was graciously pleased to promise; but as the approach of the enemy this season is now pretty certain, and the fate of war very uncertain, and my situation, in case of a disaster, very disadvantageous, I would beg leave most humbly to repeat my suit, not knowing but your great attention to the interests and safety of the cause in which you are so zealously engaged, might have occasioned you to forget a matter of so trifling consequence as mine. I cannot help observing to your Honour, that I entered the service from principle, and flatter myself that, while in the regiment, I have maintained a character in some good degree worthy the commission I sustained, and to be dismissed from it with the opprobrious epithet of "deserted," affects me in the most tender part. It is from your Honour's liberality alone I hope for relief. If you should please to grant it, I trust I shall return with honour; otherwise, with disgrace.

I have the honour to be your Honour's most dutiful, most obedient, humble servant,

LEWIS T. COSTIGAN.

To the Hon. *Horatio Gates*, Esq., Major-General and Commander of the Army of the *United States of America* in the Northern Department.

COLONEL HENRY B. LIVINGSTON TO THE NEW-YORK CONVENTION.

Saybrook, October 16, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: I send you by this conveyance the paroles of Colonel *Fanning*, Major *Conkling*, and *George Howell*, inhabitants of *Long-Island*, who have been generally thought disaffected to the freedom of this country, but profess themselves friendly. Colonel *Fanning* was apprehended for assisting in procuring and driving cattle for the subsistence of General *Howe's* army on *Long-Island*; he has also, as Colonel, acted by virtue of an old commission from *George the Third*, King of *Great Britain*, in calling the people of *Southold* together, to see whether they would take the oath of allegiance, as he expresses it in an intercepted order that I had in possession, but somewhere or other mislaid, or should send it for your perusal. Being in concert with Colonel *McIntosh* intrusted with an expedition to *Long-Island*, I thought it improper he should remain there without some restraint, as he is a man of influence,

and might in some measure contribute to render abortive our plan. Major *Conkling* was also taken at the same time, by a party of my men sent for that purpose, he having long lain under the imputation of being unfriendly to our interests. *George Howell* was under the like constraint for the same reason.

I remain, gentlemen, with all imaginable respect, your most obedient, humble servant,

HENRY B. LIVINGSTON, *Lieut. Colonel.*

To the honourable the Convention of the State of New-York, *Fishkills.*

COMMODORE HOPKINS TO CAPTAIN HACKER.

Newport, October 16, 1776.

SIR: Upon receipt of this, you are to go up *Swansey* river, and take the privateer sloop, Captain *Dennis*, who, I have intelligence, has got some of our men belonging to the fleet, and bring the sloop and all the men you find on board of her into *Newport* harbour: and for so doing, this shall be your sufficient authority.

ESEK HOPKINS, *Commander-in-Chief.*

To *Hoysteed Hacker*, Commander of the *Hamden*.

MASSACHUSETTS COUNCIL TO GOVERNOUR COOKE.

Council Chamber, October 16, 1776.

SIR: It having been represented to this Board by Colonel *Cushing*, commander of a regiment lately ordered from this State to the State of *Rhode-Island*, by reason of Colonel *Cooke*, commander of a regiment in the State, claiming the command, notwithstanding his commission of later date than Colonel *Cushing's*, we should be very sorry there should be any difficulty respecting this matter, but do not think we are authorized to determine any other ways than what has been agreed upon by the honourable Congress, in their rules for regulating the army of the *United States*, at section 13th, article 26th, to which we refer your Honour, not doubting you will give such orders to Colonel *Cooke*, and all other officers in command, as are conformable to the resolves of the honourable Congress.

In the name, and by the order of the Council, I have the honour to be, with great respect, your most obedient, humble servant.

To the Hon. *Nicholas Cooke*, Esq., Governour of the State of *Rhode-Island*.

COLONEL PIERCE LONG TO NEW-HAMPSHIRE COMMITTEE OF SAFETY.

Portsmouth, October 16, 1776.

DEAR SIR: I should have done myself the pleasure of waiting on the Assembly, had not my business been such which prevents. It takes me all my time in overseeing the bridge, which I am removing about one hundred feet above the place where the old one stood; it will be much more convenient, and be far less trouble, and I believe not more expensive. The soldiers as yet muster very thin, which obliges me to employ all that's here on the bridge at a time, by which means their exercise is neglected.

Colonel *Whipple* set off for *Philadelphia* on *Wednesday* last, with whom I went to *Hampton*, (in company with other friends,) who requested me to tell you that he wished three battalions might be ordered to be raised exclusive of this stationed down here; and that a petition might be forwarded to Congress, to be presented by our delegates, for this to be for our protection on both frontiers, if at any time part could be spared from this harbour. If it can be done, it will effectually ease this State of the expense of having a number of men in their pay, which in this case will be prevented, and should you think with him and forward said petition, he would endeavour to get the same accomplished, which he was of opinion could be done with ease. I, for my part, think the scheme a plausible one, and should like it much.

We have nothing new, only Captain *Parker*, I fancy, purposes to carry on the fishing business. The *British* tyrant passed the fishing act, and he is putting it into execution.

FIFTH SERIES.—VOL. II.

I am, dear sir, with esteem, your most humble servant,
PIERCE LONG.

To *E. Thomson*, Esq.

P. S. By a letter from Colonel *Bartlett* to Colonel *Whipple*, which I saw, he appeared to be of the same opinion.

SILAS DEANE TO THE SECRET COMMITTEE.

Paris, October 17, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: I once more put pen to paper, not to attempt what is absolutely beyond the power of language to paint, my distressed situation here, totally destitute of intelligence or instructions from you since I left *America*, except Mr. *Morris's* letters of the 4th and 5th of *June* last, covering duplicates of my first instructions; nor will I complain for myself, but must plainly inform you that the cause of the *United Colonies* or *United States* has, for some time suffered at this Court for want of positive orders to me or some other person; it has not suffered here only, but at several other Courts not only willing, but even desirous of assisting *America*. Common complaisance, say they, though they want none of our assistance, requires that they should announce to us in form, their being Independent States, that we may know how to treat their subjects and their property in our dominions. Every excuse which my barren invention could suggest has been made, and I have presented memoir after memoir on the situation of *American* affairs, and their importance to this Kingdom and to some others. My representations, as well verbally as written, have been favourably received, and all the attention paid them I could have wished, but the *sine qua non* is wanting—a power to treat from the *United Independent States of America*. How, say they, is it possible that all your intelligence and instructions should be intercepted, when we daily have advice of *American* vessels arriving in different ports in *Europe*?

It is true I have effected what nothing but the real desire this Court has of giving aid could have brought about, but at the same time it has been a critical and delicate affair, and has required all attention to save appearances, and more than once have I been on the brink of losing all, from suspicions that you were not in earnest in making applications here. I will only add that a vessel with a commission from the honourable Congress, is detained in *Bilboa* as a pirate, and complaint carried to the Court of *Madrid*. I have been applied to for assistance, and though I am in hopes nothing will be determined against us, yet I confess I tremble to think how important a question is by this step agitated, without any one empowered to appear in a proper character, and defend. Could I present your Declaration of Independence and show my commission subsequent, empowering me to appear in your behalf, all might be concluded at once, and a most important point gained; no less than that of obtaining a free reception, and defence or protection of our ships-of-war in these ports, a determination which must eventually ruin the commerce of *Great Britain*.

I have wrote heretofore for twenty thousand hogsheads of tobacco. I now repeat my desire, and for a large quantity of rice. Tobacco is eight and a half pence sterling per lb., in *Holland*, and rice fifty shillings sterling per cwt.; the very profits on a large quantity of these articles will go far towards an annual expense.

The stores, of which I have repeatedly wrote you, are now shipping, and will be with you I trust in *January*, as will the officers coming with them. I refer to your serious consideration, the enclosed hints respecting a naval force in these seas, also the enclosed propositions which were by accident thrown in my way. If you shall judge them of any consequence, you will lay them before Congress; if not, postage will be all the expense extra. I believe they have been seen by other persons, and therefore I held it my duty to send them to you.

My most profound respects and highest esteem ever attend the honourable Congress, and particularly the honourable Secret Committee.

I am, gentlemen, &c.,

SILAS DEANE.

P. S. Dr. *Bancroft* has been so kind as to pay me a second visit, and that most seasonably, as my former assistant, Mr. *Carmichael*, is gone to *Amsterdam*, and thence northward, on a particular affair of very great importance. The

vessel referred to is Captain *Lee*, of *Newburyport*, who, on his passage took five prizes of value, and sent them back, but brought on two of the Captains and some of the men prisoners to *Bilboa*, where the Captains entered their protest, and complained against Captain *Lee* as a pirate, on which his vessel is detained, and his commission, &c., sent to *Madrid*. This instantly brings on a question as to the legality of the commission: if determined legal, a most important point is gained; if the reverse, the consequences will be very bad, and the only ground on which the determination can go against the Captain, is that the *United States of America* or their Congress, are not known in *Europe* as being Independent States, otherways than by common fame in newspapers, &c., on which serious resolution cannot be grounded. The best, therefore, that the Captain expects, will be to get the matter delayed, which is very hard on the brave Captain and his honest owners, and will be a bad precedent for others to venture into the *European* seas.

I have done every thing in my power, and am in hopes from the strong assurances given me, that all will be settled to my satisfaction in this affair; but cannot but feel on the occasion as well for the Captain as for the publick. I have been told repeatedly I was too anxious, and advised "*rester sans inquietude*;" but I view this as a capital affair in its consequences, and though I wish to, cannot take the advice.

Warlike preparations are daily making in this Kingdom and in *Spain*; in the latter immediately against the *Portuguese*, but will most probably in its consequences, involve other Powers.

I need not urge the importance of immediate remittances towards paying for the large quantity of stores I have engaged for, and depend this winter will not be suffered to slip away unimproved.

I have the honour to be, &c.,

SILAS DEANE.

SILAS DEANE TO THE SECRET COMMITTEE.

Paris, October 17, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: This comes by Mons. *M. Motin de la Balme*, an officer of long service and good reputation, has served as Captain of Cavalry, and is now in rank Lieutenant-Colonel, and now offers his service to the *United States of North America*.

I have provided him a passage at the publick expense, and assured him his services will be both seasonable and acceptable to the continent, in some of its departments. I have lately wrote you several letters, but am still without intelligence or instructions from you since the 5th of *June* last. The consequences are very disagreeable, as thereby I am much a loss how to proceed, and the interest of the *United States* suffers exceedingly.

Captain *Lee*, of *Newburyport*, in a letter-of-marque schooner, made in his passage five valuable prizes, which he sent back, but brought on two or three of the Captains and some of their men, as prisoners, who, immediately on being landed, protested against him as a pirate; and by the help of some *English* factors there, procured a detention of his vessel until the opinion of the Court of *Madrid* should be known.

Thus a most important question is precipitated on, without any one to appear, properly authorized to defend, for though your Declaration of Independence has been published in newspapers through *Europe*, and is nowhere doubted, yet Courts require some better authority in such important affairs.

I have been applied to by the Captain, and have used what influence I can make in the case, but at best I expect a detention of the vessel, or perhaps heavy bonds to answer hereafter, if the cause is decided against them. This is very hard on a brave Captain and his honest owners, and must discourage cruising in the *European* seas unless remedied, which the bare announcing of your Independency would do effectually.

As I shall write you very particularly in a few days, I will not add, but am, with most respectful compliments to the honourable Congress and their Secret Committee, gentlemen, your most obedient and very humble servant,

SILAS DEANE.

SILAS DEANE TO THE PRESIDENT OF CONGRESS.

Paris, October 17, 1776.

SIR: The bearer, Mons. *M. Motin de la Balme*, has long served with reputation in the armies of *France* as a Captain of Cavalry, and is now advanced to the rank of Lieutenant-Colonel. He has made military discipline his study, and has wrote on the subject to good acceptance. He now generously offers his services to the *United States of North America*, and asks of me what I most cheerfully grant, a letter to you, and his passage. Confident he may be of very great service, if not in the general army, yet in those Colonies which are raising and disciplining Cavalry, I have only to add that he is in good esteem here, and is well recommended, to which I am persuaded he will do justice.

I have the honour to be, &c.,

SILAS DEANE.

SILAS DEANE TO WILLIAM BINGHAM.

Paris, October 17, 1776.

DEAR SIR: Since receiving yours of the 4th and 5th *August* last, I have wrote you repeatedly, and have no doubt of your receipt of them, to which refer you. You are in the neighbourhood of *St. Vincent*, and I learn that the *Caribbs* are not content with their masters; and, being an artful as well as revengeful people, would undoubtedly take this opportunity of throwing off a yoke which nothing but a superiour force can keep on them. My request is, that you would inquire into the state of that island by proper emissaries; and if the *Caribbs* are disposed to revolt, encourage them, and promise them aid of arms and ammunition. This must tear from *Great Britain* an island which they value next to *Jamaica*, and to which, indeed, they have no title but what rests on violence and cruelty; at any rate they will oblige *Great Britain* to withdraw part of her forces from the continent. If any thing can be effected then, inform me instantly and I will order to your care such a quantity of stores as you shall think necessary.

The enclosed letter I desire you to break the seal of, and make as many copies as there are vessels going northward, by which some one must arrive.

A war I think may be depended upon; but keep your intelligence of every kind secret, save to those of the honourable Secret Committee. You will send also a copy of this, by which the honourable Committee will see the request I have made to you, and the reason of their receiving several duplicates in your handwriting.

I wish you to forward the enclosed to Mr. *Tucker*, of *Bermuda*, and write me by every vessel to *Bordeaux* or *Nantz*.

I am, with great esteem, &c.,

SILAS DEANE.

GENERAL STEPHEN TO FRANCIS LIGHTFOOT LEE.

Philadelphia, October 17, 1776.

SIR: Enclosed are the returns of the arms and necessities wanting for the Fourth *Virginia* Battalion; likewise the state of the regiment. The seventy-seven mentioned sick are chiefly convalescents, and could take a brush with the enemy occasionally.

It would be for the good of the service to supply us with muskets and bayonets, in the place of the rifles. Nothing but necessity made me admit so many of them into the regiment.

I have the honour to be, sir, your most obedient, humble servant,

ADAM STEPHEN.

To Colonel *Francis L. Lee*, of the Board of War.

MARINE COMMITTEE TO CAPTAIN ISAAH ROBINSON.

Philadelphia, October 17, 1776.

SIR: The honourable the Congress having ordered that you should make a voyage under direction of the Secret Committee, therefore you will receive their instructions, and comply with them. Those fulfilled, you must give us notice, that we may again direct your further proceedings; and during your present voyage we expect you will transmit us any useful or important intelligence that comes to your knowledge; that you take good care of the *Andrew Doria*, her stores, provisions, and materials; that you maintain

proper discipline amongst your officers and men, at the same time using them well. We dare say you will treat all such as become your prisoners with tenderness and humanity; and, on your return, lodge copies of your log-book and journal in this office.

We are, sir, your most humble servants.

To Captain *Isaiah Robinson*, of the brig *Andrew Doria*.

GENERAL MERCER TO THE PRESIDENT OF CONGRESS.

[Read October 21, 1776.]

Perth-Amboy, October 17, 1776.

SIR: In the night of the 15th, General *Greene* passed over with me to *Staten-Island*, with part of the troops at this post. We were to be joined on the march by the *Jersey* Militia from the *Blazing Star*, *Elizabeth-Town*, and *Newark*. Our intention was to reach the east end of the island by break of day, and attack the enemy, where we understood their greatest force lay. If successful there, the smaller posts would yield of course.

Orders from General *Washington* arrived at eleven at night, that made it necessary for General *Greene* to repair immediately to *Haarlem*. I was then advanced within a few miles of *Richmond* town, and received information on the march that a company of *British* troops, one of *Hessians* and one of *Skinner's* Militia, lay there. Reducing that post was, therefore, our first object. Colonel *Griffin* was detached, with Colonel *Paterson's* battalion, and Major *Clarke*, at the head of some Riflemen, to fall in upon the east end of the town, while the remainder of the troops enclosed it on the other quarters. Both divisions reached the town by break of day, but not before the enemy were alarmed. Most of them fled, after exchanging a few shot with Colonel *Griffin's* detachment. Two soldiers were mortally wounded, and seventeen taken prisoners, with the loss on our side of two soldiers killed. Colonel *Griffin* received a wound in the foot from a musket-ball, and Lieutenant-Colonel *Smith* is slightly wounded in the arm. — A list of prisoners, with the arms and accoutrements that fell into our hands, is enclosed. General *Washington's* orders, which I received that night, immediately to form a new arrangement of the troops in *New-Jersey*, obliged us to return to *Amboy*. Any further operations against the enemy would, however, have been, at that time, unsuccessful, as they were fully apprised of our approach, and had time sufficient to retire within their redoubts, and under cover of the ships at the watering-place. *Skinner's* Militia had quitted *Richmond* town the evening before: he had with him about twenty men, who fled on hearing of our march towards the town. My orders against plundering the inhabitants were strictly complied with. These were issued with a view to counteract the false accounts of our cruelty, industriously propagated by the enemies of *America* among the ignorant islanders. The *Hessian* prisoners I have ordered to be treated with particular civility, that, when exchanged, they may give the most favourable report of this country, and confirm to the *Hessian* troops what the honourable the Continental Congress have thought proper to promise them in their printed advertisements.

I have the honour to be, sir, your most obedient servant,
HUGH MERCER.

Colonel *Taylor*, who commands the guards of *New-Jersey* Militia, is just now arrived from his post on the *Shrewsbury* shore, with intelligence, that on *Monday* morning, the 14th, a vessel was stranded on that coast, which proved to be the schooner *Betsey*, commanded by *Alexander Wilson*, bound from *Boston* to *Bordeaux*. The owners are Messrs. *Payne, Sownes, Wallace, Davis, Barrel, &c.* She sailed from *Boston* the 21st of *September*; was taken the 28th by the *Persia* man-of-war, of twenty guns, commanded by *George Kult Elphenson*, bound from *England* to *New-York*, a convoy of nineteen sail of transports, containing stores and a few soldiers. The prize-master put on board is *Hodgkiss*, and a mate, with four hands. These prisoners I have ordered on to *Philadelphia*, and have given directions that all possible care be taken of the vessel and the effects on board for the benefit of the owners. A list of the effects, given me by Colonel *Taylor*, is enclosed: that gentleman will comply with any orders you are pleased to give relative to this affair.

Your obedient servant,

H. MERCER.

A fleet of upwards of sixty sail appear just now in the offing, making in for *Sandy-Hook*.

A List of Prisoners taken at *Richmond Town*, on *STATEN-ISLAND*, and sent on to *PHILADELPHIA*.

English: John Gee, William Guest, William Wright, John Watkis, John Whitebread, James Chandler, Robert Holbrook, John Clark; William Ashmore, left at *Amboy*, wounded.

Hessian: Christian Guiler, Ustus Smit, Johannes Burneman, Jeliacob Autolf, Yohan Daniel Eiberwin, Hanyere Curt, Yohannes Hedecker, Frederick Wilhelm Smatt.

A Return of the Arms and Accoutrements taken from the Enemy on *STATEN-ISLAND*, OCTOBER 16, 1776.

Eleven muskets, 9 bayonets, 5 scabbards, 10 cartridge-boxes, 3 cutlasses, 3 slings, 1 sword-belt, 68 musket-balls, and 30 cartridges. More yet to be returned.

B. FLOWERS, Com. of Stores.

MARY HAY BURN TO JOHN HAY BURN.

New-Hackensack, October 17, 1776.

MOST LOVING HUSBAND: These come to let you know that I and my family are well at present, hoping these few lines will find you so likewise, and to let you know that *Dirrick Hoogland* has warranted me to go out of my house, and has forewarned me to repair it, for out of it he says I shall go; for if any body comes to repair it, he says he will pull off the roof, and fetch it all home. What I shall do I know not, for a house I cannot get, and to get in with *Febe* I can't, for *William Elsworth* he lives there; so you must go to your commanding officers and let them know the circumstance I am in, and let them know that I will be obliged to be turned out of doors if you don't come up and look for a house. Come you must, if possible. If you can't come, you must go to some of your officers belonging to the company where you are in, and try and get in with one of them for to go to the commanding officer and see whether *Dirrick* has any right to turn me out of doors, since you are listed for to go and fight for liberty. Why should I not have liberty whilst you strive for liberty? The money you sent me, I laid it out as you ordered. But I am got out of money. If you can't come, you must send all the money you can. So no more at present, but I remain your loving wife until death.

MARY HAY BURN.

To Mr. *John Hay Burn*, at *King's Bridge*.

GENERAL WASHINGTON TO THE NEW-YORK CONVENTION.

Head-Quarters, Harlem Heights, October 17, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: Judging it a matter of the utmost importance to secure the passes through the Highlands, I have sent up Mons. *Imbert*, a *French* gentleman who has been placed in the army as an Engineer by Congress, in order to take your directions respecting the passes and such works as you may esteem necessary to preserve them. As the situation of affairs in this State is rather alarming, I would beg leave to recommend your earliest attention to this business, and that no time may elapse before the works are begun. I have no acquaintance with Mons. *Imbert*, and his abilities in his profession remain to be proved; however, I trust under your care and advice, that whatever may be essential will be immediately done.

I have the honour to be, &c., GO. WASHINGTON.

To the Hon. *Abm. Yates*, Jun., Esq., President, &c.

P. S. I can spare no other Engineer, having but one besides.

GENERAL WASHINGTON TO GOVERNOUR COOKE.

Head-Quarters, Harlem Heights, October 17, 1776.

SIR: On *Monday* last I was honoured with your favour of the 5th instant, and beg leave to inform you that the reasons which you assign for countermanding Colonel *Richmond's* march appear to me strong and substantial. As to the expedition to *Long-Island*, it is impossible for me to give any direction about it; it must be governed by a variety

of circumstances. Nor will it be in my power to appoint any person to command it, the situation of our affairs here, requiring the presence of every officer of the least merit for the government of this army.

In respect to your request to have a list transmitted of such officers as have served to good acceptance, I am happy that I had anticipated your views, and those of your honourable Assembly in this instance, before the receipt of your favour. I wrote you fully on the subject in a letter I had the honour of addressing you on the 12th, sending you a list of such officers as were particularly recommended for the two battalions you are to raise, to which I beg leave to refer you, as it contains my sentiments at large.

I have the honour to be, &c.,

Go. WASHINGTON.

To Gouverneur Cooke, *Rhode-Island*.

GENERAL WASHINGTON TO COLONEL BAYLEY.

Head-Quarters, Harlem Heights, October 17, 1776.

SIR: I have yours of the 15th instant by Mr. Wallace, with an account of the expense incurred in cutting a road from Coos to St. John's, the amount £982 16s. 5½d., lawful money. There are some few errors in casting out the different articles, but they may be easily rectified when settlement is made.

I have it not in my power to make objections to any part of the account, as I cannot but suppose that it is all just, and what has really been paid or agreed to be paid; but proper vouchers should accompany all publick accounts, and these Mr. Wallace tells me you can furnish. The most material is, a muster roll of the men employed, showing the time of their engagements for the service and that of their discharge. It is probable no receipt may have been taken for some of the articles; but you will please to furnish them for as many as you are able. I beg I may be clearly understood: I do not call for vouchers because I suspect you charging more than is justly due, but because it is necessary that they should accompany all publick accounts that pass through my hands. When this is done, the accounts shall be adjusted and paid by, sir, yours, &c.,

Go. WASHINGTON.

To Lieutenant-Colonel Jacob Bayley, *New-Hampshire* Militia, at *Fishkill*.

TENCH TILGHMAN TO WILLIAM DUER.

Head-Quarters, Harlem Heights, October 17, 1776.

DEAR SIR: I must take the liberty of answering your two favours to Mr. Harrison and myself, otherwise I should continue him in a correspondence which he only took up as a volunteer. In truth he has his hands full enough of other matters.

I have not time to describe the situation of our army perfectly to you, but you may depend that every step is taken to prevent the enemy from out-flanking us, and at the same time to secure our retreat in case of need. The enemy has made no move from *Frog's Point*. We may say the 17th *October* is come and nearly past without the predicted blow. The winds have not been favourable to pass *Hell-Gate*, where several of their transports are now laying; perhaps that may be the reason. I don't know how it is, but I believe their design to circumvent us this time, will prove as abortive as the former ones. If we can but foil General *Howe* again, I think we knock him up for the campaign.

You ask if General *Lee* is in health, and if our people feel bold? I answer both in the affirmative. His appearance among us has not contributed a little to the latter. We are sinking the ships as fast as possible; two hundred men are daily employed, but they take an immense quantity of stone for the purpose.

The General is highly pleased with the resolutions of your Congress, which you were kind enough to transmit. He wishes they may be carried thoroughly into execution. Your Commissary should consult Mr. *Trumbull*, the Commissary-General, before they drive down any stock, lest they should bring too many upon his hands at a time. What grain, straw, or hay they may provide, falls into the Quarter-master-General's department, (General *Mifflin*.) with whom they should endeavour to coöperate.

The General has had no great experience of the abilities of Mons. *Imbert*, the *French* Engineer, who goes up with your express; but he thinks it would be of service to you, if Mr. *Mechin* could spare time to step over and point out to Mons. *Imbert* the kind of work that will be most advantageous and soonest constructed, so as to answer the desired purpose. I mention this because *Imbert*, in some works he began here, went upon too large a scale, and with more regularity than is necessary in this rough country. Perhaps he wanted to show his skill, but he would have been too tedious. You must endeavour to procure him an interpreter, otherwise he will be much at a loss to direct the working parties.

As Mr. *Mechin* belongs to the command at *Fort Montgomery*, the General did not choose to give a positive order to withdraw him from thence; he only meant then and means now that he should come over if he can be spared. General *Mercer* went upon *Staten-Island* the night before last with two thousand men, but we have not yet heard the issue of his expedition.

I am, dear sir, most respectfully yours,

TENCH TILGHMAN.

To William Duer, Esq., of the Committee of Correspondence, *Fishkill*.

GENERAL M'DOUGALL TO COMMITTEE OF ARRANGEMENT.

Camp Harlem, October 17, 1776.

I was this moment honoured with your favour on the subject of the rank, roll and officers for the regiments to be retained in the Continental service of those raised in this State. I have made some preparation for it, and shall devote this evening to the subject. You mention enclosed resolves, but they did not accompany your letter. Nothing material has happened here since the skirmish of the 16th ultimo. The enemy appear very shy. Our advanced sentries and theirs are within three hundred yards of each other in *Harlem Lane*. The works they have thrown up are evidently calculated for defence. I should have cheerfully complied with the request of the Convention through Mr. *McKesson*, to give them intelligence, but my time was then wholly engrossed in assisting to arrange and settle the army, and since, I am under orders with my brigade to support the advanced picket in case of alarm, which I hope will be a sufficient apology.

Your very humble servant,

ALEXANDER MCDUGALL.

GENERAL GREENE TO THE NEW-YORK CONVENTION.

Fort Constitution, October 17, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: William Bradford, Adjutant of Colonel *Hitchcock's* regiment, after the enemy landed on *Long-Island*, took a horse belonging to one *Jacob Wicoff*, a person that had joined the *British* forces. The Adjutant run a very great risk in fetching the horse off, and he must inevitably have fallen into the enemy's hands if the Adjutant had not made the attempt. But as property belonging to *Tories* is not, nor ought not to be, the reward of those that take it into possession, only under certain limitations, I think it my duty to acquaint you that I have the horse in my possession, and shall be delivered to your order, either to the Adjutant as a reward for his bravery, or to be sold for the benefit of the State, as you may think proper. If the horse is to be sold, I should be glad of an opportunity to purchase him, as I am in want of a horse, mine being worn out in the service.

I am, gentlemen, with great respect, your obedient servant,

NATHANAEL GREENE.

DIVISION ORDERS.

Head-Quarters, King's Bridge, October 17, 1776.

The following disposition of the division of the army under the command of Major-General *Heath*, is to be strictly attended to and observed by the brigades of the division, viz:

The two regiments of Militia now posted on *Harlem River*, to pass over the new bridge and join Colonel *Swartwout's* regiment, and form a flank guard.

General Parsons. { Col. Prescott, } Fort Independence.
 Col. Huntington, }
 Col. Ward, Fletcher's, to the east of Fort Independence.
 Col. Tyler, } Reserve.
 Col. Wyllis, }
 Capt. Treadwell. One three-pounder.
 Lieut. Berbeck. One howitzer.

General Scott. { Col. Lasher, } Reserve.
 Col. Malcom, }
 Col. Drake. Redoubt in Bates's corn-field.
 Col. Hardenbergh. Redoubt at Cannon Hill.
 Lieut. Fleming. One three-pounder.
 Lieut. Fenno. Do.

Gen. Clinton. { Col. Nicolls, } Reserve.
 Col. Thomas, }
 Col. Pawling, Vallentine's corn-field.
 Col. Graham, on Pawling's left.
 Capt. Bryant, one three-pounder.
 Lieut. Jackson, one six-pounder.

COLONEL SAMUEL H. DRAKE TO JOHN M'KESSON.

King's Bridge, October 17, 1776.

SIR: Undoubtedly you have the account of the movements of our unnatural enemy, and in all likelihood in a few days we shall be called to action, if ever. And as a number of my officers are without commissions, and are uneasy if it should happen that they fall into the hand of the enemy, (which God forbid,) for fear they may receive treatment not due to their rank, therefore I beg the favour of you to petition the Convention to make out commissions to the following gentlemen:

Joshua Rogers, Captain, } Suffolk County.
 Benjamin King, Second Lieutenant, }
 Seth Marvin, Captain, Orange County.
 Sybert Acker, Lieutenant, First, }
 Ephraim Lockwood, Lieut., 2d, } Westchester County.
 David Dutcher, Lieut., 2d, }
 Robert Crawford, Lieut., 2d, }
 Abraham Handford, First Lieutenant, Albany County.
 Ebenezer Phillips, Second Lieutenant, Suffolk County.

Should be glad they may be sent forward to General Scott, as soon as may be, &c.

I am, sir, your humble servant,

SAM. H. DRAKE, Colonel.

To Mr. John McKesson.

COLONEL SMALLWOOD TO MARYLAND COUNCIL OF SAFETY.

Philips's Heights, October, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: I have received but two letters from you, of the 11th of September and the 2d October, in the latter of which you express some surprise of never having received a letter from me since I left Maryland, which is just, and should I have incurred your censure, it is nothing less than I have expected, and let me assure you it was with great reluctance I subjected myself to it, but I am yet conscious, could you have viewed the severe and perplexed duty I have had, and our corps in general been exposed to, you would at least have pitied them, and excused me for this neglect.

In answer to yours wherein you require a particular return of the arms, accoutrements, camp equipage, and utensils, &c., of the regular soldiers immediately under my command, must beg leave to refer you to a letter wrote to the Convention on the 12th, in answer to theirs of the 4th of this instant, wherein you'll find a short detail of occurrences from our march to Long-Island to the 12th, when I was obliged to conclude rather abruptly, having received orders to march immediately for Philips's Heights, four miles above King's Bridge, the enemy having landed a body of men on Frog's Neck, adjacent to these Heights; also a copy of a return made out in Philadelphia, to be rendered the Congress, of these articles appertaining to the battalion and Captain Veazey's company, being all the troops I marched from Maryland; which hope you'll find satisfactory. Also a list of the killed and missing on Long-Island, and a general weekly return as rendered General Washington, which will show such men present as are effective, and such as are sick, among which are included ten wounded.

A general return of killed and missing was rendered General Washington the next morning after the action on Long-Island, and as the drafts of their pay are suspended till exchanged, have been directed to discontinue the entry upon the weekly return, for we can't ascertain, nor will the enemy indulge us with a list of such as were taken prisoners, without which we can't ascertain who have been killed. Perhaps you may require the names inserted in the returns, agreeable to the returns of our muster-rolls at Annapolis. Your letters do not urge this mode, but should it be required, it shall be complied with.

I ordered the independent Captains on the 11th instant, upon the receipt of the President of Convention's letter, to hand in their returns of arms, accoutrements, camp equipage, and utensils. Till then I thought this had been done upon their leaving Philadelphia, where I imagined they had supplied their men with sundry necessities, and would of course make the natural returns, as their commands till their arrival there were distinct and unlimited by any other control than that of Convention or Council; however, I found this had not been done, and I now find from the train they kept their affairs in, it will be done with difficulty, and perhaps be subject to loss, for I am apprehensive many things may have been lost upon their march from Philadelphia, and since which, as they were not accustomed to inspect, and make weekly returns of arms, accoutrements, clothing, camp furniture and utensils, &c. Some of these at this time they may not be able to account for. Captain Bracco complains he can't obtain a roll of, nor any accounts relative to his company, and that General Bell has taken a flier out of his company, Burrel by name, and keeps him in the Flying-Camp. I have wrote General Bell concerning this boy, and his story is lame, but from what I can collect, he says the Council of Safety allowed him to take the boy out of, and upon the return of the Flying-Camp he will return him to, the company. Now if he belongs to, he certainly ought to be in, the company, as it has no other flier; and if he does not, the company can have no business with him after the Flying-Camp is discharged. The Council will please signify whether they gave such indulgence, and whether the boy was returned in the muster-roll of the company, and this matter shall soon be set right between the General and the Captain. I wish their accounts may be as easily adjusted.

There are many other charges exclusive of what articles are and will be enumerated in the returns, which the Continent is charged with, particularly medicine, necessities supplied the troops, arms repaired, &c., for often in our march and since the Commissaries could not supply, nor would the publick armourers work. At all events, soldiers must be fed, and have their arms repaired, or else it can't be expected they will fight. An account of which can't at this time be rendered, for the retreating and flying disposition which has so much prevailed in our army latterly, made it not safe to send any books, papers, &c., to Philadelphia, lest they should be lost; but be assured a true and particular account shall be rendered. Doubt not the Province shall not be injured.

This precaution was necessary, for hitherto we have been generally drawn from our station and baggage, to cover the retreat and defend the baggage of others, which has subjected us to much loss upon the retreat, or rather flight, from New-York. I have scarce an officer, myself included, or soldier who did not lose more or less of their baggage, pillaged by the runaways; indeed, I believe many of them never had other views than flight and plunder, both which they are extremely dexterous at. General Washington was so kind after he left the common where we were posted to stop wagons himself, and made one of his Aid-de-Camps attend the sending of our baggage, but as I had left but four soldiers as a camp-guard, being desirous the regiment upon this occasion should be as full as possible, these could not guard the wagons, and thus we lost part of our baggage. Have since stripped from these poltroons several of our soldiers' coats, and had them severely scourged. Have purchased from the Continental store clothes for such of the independent companies as their Captains inform me have received none before, and I think upon good terms, accounts of which shall be transmitted. I think Thomas's company were paid for finding themselves, or at least he proposed this one day when I was

present at the Council. You'll inform how this matter is, and whether you supplied him with money to purchase clothes at *Philadelphia*, his company being as bare as those who never had. I have despatched Captain *Hindman* to *Philadelphia* after his company's clothes, which he tells me are ready made there, by whom *Thomas* has sent for his. I have sent near nine hundred pounds by *Hindman* to purchase such deficiency as the Continental store could not furnish, particularly shoes and stockings.

I am about to draw pay for the troops that first marched with me, from the 6th of *July*, the time they were ordered to march, which will replace in my hands the half month's pay advanced by Council, and half a month's pay advanced at *Elizabethtown*, out of the money advanced me by Council and our deputies at Congress. I also paid Captain *Veazey's* company out of the above sums a month's pay, they having had no advance from the Council upon their marching. I shall credit the Province with this sum, having charged it before the pay advanced by me to the soldiers, &c., and credited it with the sums received from the Council and Deputies.

We have received no pay since in this service but seven hundred and fifty pounds paid the men when marched to *Long-Island*, and I got an advance from the General of seven hundred and fifty pounds more, in part of the sum sent by Mr. *Hindman*. There is now due us down to the 31st *August*, which is as late as they will pay us, to near three thousand pounds, inclusive of the Independents' pay. Should the Council not approve of my drawing and retaining in my hands that part of this sum that will be due to the Province, they will please signify, and it shall be lodged to their order, my motive in drawing it being only to provide for contingencies, money not being to be drawn here when most wanted, for it has been the policy here to retain two or three months' of the Eastern troops' pay to prevent desertion and retain them longer in service, by which better men often suffer and languish for their pay.

There are several vacancies now to fill up, and having no time to make out a list, must beg leave to defer it till I have more leisure. Lieutenant *Ford*, behaving well, has acted under brevet as Captain of Light Infantry, which is in rotation agreeable to his seniority.

We want medicine much; none can be had here. Our sick have and are now suffering extremely. The number you'll observe from the list is very considerable, owing in a great measure to the bad provision made for and care taken of them, the men being often moved, and have been exposed to lie on the cold ground ever since they came here; often lying without their tents for several nights, as is now the case, having been five nights and days without them, being ever since the enemy landed up here.

The inconvenience attending frequent removals of troops when there are not a regular supply of wagons for that purpose, which is much wanting here, no person can conceive who has not experienced it; besides when their tents and baggage can't attend them, they must be injured much by lying in the open air at this season, and in this place where heavy dews prevail so much, and I may justly say our corps have had a greater proportion of this duty than any in this army, for we have generally acted in brigade under northern Brigadier-Generals, who have seldom failed to favour their own and put the labouring oar on our regiment; but it has perhaps made us the better soldiers.

Our Commander-in-Chief is an excellent man, and it would be happy for the *United States* if there was as much propriety in the appointments in every department below him. It is not owing to any want of precaution in him that discipline is not exacted with more rigour; much must depend respecting this, on the superiour officers next under him in command, and here there seems to be a total ignorance of and inattention to this system, so necessary to render an army formidable.

Our next greatest suffering proceeds from the great neglect of the sick; and his orders relative to this department are most salutary, were they to be duly attended to; but here, too, there is not only a shameful but even an inhuman neglect daily exhibited. The Directors of the General Hospitals supply and provide for the sick, who are extremely remiss and inattentive to the well-being and comfort of these unhappy men; out of this train they cannot be taken. I

have withdrawn all mine long ago, and had them placed in a comfortable house in the country, and supplied with only the common rations; even this is preferable to the fare of a General Hospital. Two of these Regimental Hospitals, after I have had them put in order, one has been taken away by the Directors for a General Hospital, and my people turned out of doors, and the other would have been taken in the same manner, had I not have applied to General *Washington*, who told me to keep it. The misfortune is that every supply to the Regimental Hospital of necessities suitable for the sick, must come from an order from these Directors, and is very seldom obtained. I have more than once applied that my Quartermaster might furnish and make a charge for what was supplied, by which means I could have rendered the situation of the sick much more comfortable, at a less expense, but could not be allowed. I wish this could be obtained. I foresee the evils arising from the shameful neglect in this department. One good-seasoned and well-trained soldier, recovered to health, is worth a dozen new recruits, and is often easier recovered than to get a recruit, exclusive of which this neglect is very discouraging to the soldiery, and must injure the service upon the new enlistments, after the troops go into winter quarters.

If the Convention and Council should judge it consistent with the interests of the Province and the good of the service, I could wish the regular troops might return home to refresh themselves in good winter quarters, and recruit the complement wanting; this I don't urge altogether through inclination, (though I believe nothing would be more desirable to both officers and men, who would more readily than ever return in the spring,) but should it be deemed necessary, could point out the expediency of their return, upon a principle that it would contribute much to the benefit of the service, so far as their small force could carry weight.

Our army in general have been well supplied with good provisions, &c.; indeed, with more than a sufficiency. Vegetables and some other small necessities could not be procured; but in general, there has not been the least cause of complaint on this head.

You mention my having the command of the Flying-Camp, which I have not, although we frequently act together, and have encamped close by each other for better than a month.

I thank the Convention for the resolve in my favour; their intention was good, though it has not had the desired effect, owing to an impropriety in their mode of appointment; though was I to insist, General *Washington* has said I ought and should have the command, though it might raise some difficulties here perhaps in other commands. Mr. *Bell*, without doubt, is a brave and an honest man; but I leave you and the Convention to judge whether, with propriety, he can expect he will do himself and his country any honour in the character of a General. He is considered here as the second edition of the Eastern Generals, and the distinguishing gentlemen here who now begin to entertain more favourable sentiments of our State, are not a little surprised at the impropriety of this appointment; but this will be done, even though I suffer an indignity where it has not been intended.

General *Lee* has just arrived, and is appointed to the command of one of the divisions who are to oppose the enemy above *King's Bridge*. The enemy have landed their chief force on *Frog's Neck*, and are making every disposition to march across from the *Sound* to their ships in the *North River*, thereby to cut off our communication by land with *Albany* and the *New-England* Governments, and to coop in and starve us; for I am apprehensive it will be in their power by their ships, at any time to cut off our retreat into *Jerseys*, both which should they effect, it would just pin up the casket. The situation of the country favours our troops, being very uneven and rocky, interspersed with some few bushes, and abounding in stone walls. Were our officers good, and our men well trained, it would be impossible to effect their purpose, for we have now on this side the bridge thirteen brigades, which do not exceed thirteen thousand men, (by this you may see how far short the Governments are of furnishing their quotas; none, I believe, have completed but *Maryland*;) but with this force, could our officers be brought to a proper sense of their duty and dignity, and the weight of the army, the enemy might be checked in their course; for this you may rely on, however their parade

may indicate the contrary, yet it is a fact, they are as much afraid and cautious of us, as we can be, any of us, of them; their officers alone give the superiority; and in this instance, I have greater hopes of our officers and men fighting than ever, for there is no hopes of running away left. To fight or starve and surrender at discretion, has almost become the word, which event might have proved favourable to the common interest, had they reduced us to this dilemma before; at least it would have prevented much disgrace, and brought our enemy to think of fighting.

Our Northern Generals have introduced a new system for conducting this war, which subverts every principle in the art of war adopted by other States; for instead of instructing their troops in the principles of military discipline, preparing and encouraging to meet their enemies in the fields and woods, they train them to run away, and to make them believe they never can be safe unless under cover of an intrenchment, which they would rather extend from the north to the south pole than risk an engagement. Discipline here is totally neglected, and yet after all it is the only bulwark in war. Had our troops been trained better, and worried less with the pick-axe and spade, by this time our army would have been in a condition to have sought for their enemies in turn. I am pretty sure this cannot be the case soon under our present system.

The enemy's army has been said to amount to twenty-five thousand effective men, but I don't believe it exceeds seventeen thousand. Ours on this side the *North River* amount to about seventeen thousand effective, but great numbers of the sick are recovering very fast.

Agreeable to your orders, directed Captain *Hindman* to get me a stamp made in *Philadelphia*, and the arms shall be stamped, &c.

Being often interrupted and hurried, you'll excuse this scrawl, and believe that I remain, with sincerity and real regard, gentlemen, your very obedient and humble servant,
W. SMALLWOOD.

To the honourable Council of Safety of *Maryland*.

PETITION OF WILLIAM M'NEALL.

To the honourable the Convention of the State of New-York, in Congress convened:

The Petition of WILLIAM McNEALL, of the County of DUTCHESS, Trader, humbly sheweth:

That about twelve months ago he was possessed of one hundred and thirty-three bushels of salt, which he put in the store of Captain *Bogardus*, situate near the river. That finding the inhabitants of this County were greatly in want of this necessary article, he condescended to sell the same to them at the rate of four shillings and sixpence a bushel, excepting thirty bushels which he reserved for the salting of divers quantities of beef and pork which he was to receive of several persons who were indebted to him in divers sums of money, and had no other way of paying him the same. That your petitioner, in order to keep the salt for the purpose aforesaid, gave not long since ten shillings a bushel for a quantity of salt to repack some barrels of pork which he sold for the use of the Continental army. That notwithstanding which Colonel *Dirck Brinckerhoff*, of this County, induced as your petitioner supposes by pecuniary views, and in hopes to take advantage of the present suspension of the laws of this State, did, about three weeks ago, in the absence of Captain *Bogardus*, the owner of the store, and without my knowledge or approbation, take out of the said store the said thirty bushels of salt, and appropriate the same to his own use and private emolument, whereby your petitioner is greatly injured and prevented from receiving in payment for the money owing to him the said quantities of beef and pork which he designed for the use of the Continental army, and in all probability will by that means forever lose the same. That your petitioner humbly conceives that acts of this kind greatly injure the happiness of society, and if permitted, will, beyond doubt, reduce us almost to a state of nature, and drive us to the disagreeable alternative of repelling force by force, or of tamely submitting to the lawless invader. That your petitioner is well assured that an act thus vicious in its nature will never, in the opinion of this honourable Convention, appear sanctified by the wealth or elevation of the aggressor, but that ample justice will be administered without respect to persons. Induced therefore

by this consideration, your petitioner humbly prays that this honourable Convention would be pleased to order the said *Dirck Brinckerhoff* to appear before you at some speedy day to be appointed for that purpose, to assign his reasons, if any he hath, for such his unprecedented conduct, and if not satisfactory to this honourable Convention, that your petitioner may have restitution of the salt aforesaid and damages for the injury done to him. And your petitioner, as in duty bound, shall ever pray.
WILL. McNEALL.

Dutchess County, October 17, 1776.

HENRY WISNER TO THE NEW-YORK CONVENTION.

Peekskill, October 17, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: When I left you last evening, I went to *Van Wikes*, and finding that Colonel *Cortlandt* was gone, and the night near at hand, I went back to my lodging, and set off early this morning, depending that Colonel *Cortlandt* had orders to stop the troops, and some directions what to do with them when here. I arrived here about eleven o'clock, found the Colonel at his farm, without so much as the resolve of Convention, or orders to stop the troops. He expected Mr. *Duer* to have brought them with him, and therefore did not attend to them so much as he would otherwise have done. It seems, however, that the troops are mainly gone forward, but for what purpose I don't know; if they are intended for quelling the Tories, they are greatly wanted here. Many were from *Croton* river are gone on board the men-of-war. Colonel *Cortlandt* knows of twelve. They have taken many cattle on board. Mr. *Gilbert Cortlandt* went to the commanding officer at *Tarrytown*, who told him that he would have sent men to guard the shores, but could not do it, as he had no orders. The shores are without guards, from *Tarrytown* to this place. If part of the troops are to be sent back, I believe they had best be sent by water, as the men are much fatigued.

I beg you to send the resolves of Congress as to our appointment, and the Commissaries to provide for the troops. A little to the northward of this place is a very narrow pass, with a very high hill by the side, from which stones might be thrown to great disadvantage, if the enemy appear there.

I am, gentlemen, your humble servant,

HENRY WISNER.

To Peter R. Livingston, Esq., President of Convention.

RICHARD VARICK TO GENERAL GATES.

Albany, October 17, 1776.

DEAR GENERAL: I do myself the honour to enclose you an account of the articles I have purchased for the use of your family. You will observe that I have purchased five pewter dishes and one dozen soup plates. Few stone dishes were to be had, and at a rate higher now than pewter. No soup plates were to be had, of any kind, except those I have purchased. The pudding dishes will answer many purposes. I hope, however, to see them appropriated to the purposes they were intended when made.

These articles will be put up in a box, directed for you, and delivered to Mr. *Avery*, with directions to forward them with all possible despatch. I have directed Mr. *Avery* to send up the wine with all convenient despatch to you: I am informed it is not so good as I could wish you to drink. However, it is ten times better than none. Not an ounce of tea is to be procured.

This morning I was honoured with a letter from my General, enclosing General *Arnold's* and your letters, announcing the almost total destruction of our fleet; but among the frowns of Providence we have the blessing of General *Arnold's* safe return. I feared much for him. I hope, however, he will still humble the pride and arrogance of haughty *Britons*, and convince them that one defeat does not dispirit *Americans*.

I am, with respects to Generals *St. Clair* and *Arnold*, and the gentlemen of your good family, yours very sincerely,
RICH'D VARICK.

To the Hon. General *Gates*.

P. S. We have no news from our southern camp. It is said a cannonading was heard down *Hudson's* river two days since.

R. V.

I shall prepare muster rolls, if the enemy do not disturb

you soon. I shall send them up, and expect to be sent there as soon as my General returns.

R. V.

GENERAL SCHUYLER TO GENERAL GATES.

Saratoga, October 17, 1776

DEAR GENERAL: Your favour of the 15th I received last night. I have ordered all the Militia from below, and have sent an express to hasten Colonel *Dayton*.

If the communication should be cut off by the way of *Lake George*, it will be absolutely necessary to have a number of batteaus at *Skenesborough*, not only to transport men, but flour and even cattle. You will therefore send batteaus to that place, if there is not a sufficient number already there. I should be informed whether it is probable any cattle may still go by land. Cannot what few vessels you have left be sent to *Skenesborough* to take in provisions there, and serve as a convoy to the batteaus? Pray inform me very particularly.

Spades cannot be procured any where in the country.

God bless you, my dear General, and believe me most sincerely, yours, &c., &c.,

PH. SCHUYLER.

To the Hon. Major-General *Gates*.

COLONEL WYNKOOP TO GENERAL GATES.

Skenesborough, October 17, 1776.

DEAR GENERAL: I arrived at this place last *Monday* evening. After a long and tedious sickness am recovered, and thought proper to inform the General that when I came to *Fort Ann* I found a letter directed to Colonel *Yates*, wherein was orders from General *Schuyler* that I should take command at that post. When I came to this place found that business was dull, and would be glad of your directions in the matter. The orders in the letter was that I should have a fort built around the barracks and store, and see that the roads was mended, which are as yet in a very poor condition.

My seeing this fort nothing near finished, have employed the men I had to finish the fort, and expect to finish it to-morrow.

I have sent you two hundred and eighty boards down. I have also sent boats to *Cheshire's* for more, which I expect back to-day, and will send you more to-morrow; and also send you by the same boat the crank of a saw-mill, and all the intrenching tools that can be spared from this place. I keep but few to finish this fort. Spades there is none at this place. I shall send to *Cheshire's* for all there is there, and forward them as fast as possible. I wrote to the General the 15th instant, and have as yet no answer, which makes me think the letter miscarried.

I am, dear General, your most obedient, humble servant,

CORN'S WYNKOOP.

To Major-General *Gates*.

JOHN B. SCOTT TO GENERAL GATES.

Mount Independence, October 17, 1776.

SIR: Presuming upon that justice and humanity that so strongly mark your Honour's character, I have taken the liberty to address you upon my unhappy situation.

A private quarrel happening between Colonel *Maxwell* and myself, which I expected would have terminated in another manner, I was arrested by him and have continued under arrest eleven days without any trial. As the money I drew upon the pay roll which I am charged with having falsely presented, has been again repaid into the hands of the Paymaster, for which I have a receipt upon account of the publick, except a small part paid the men, which has nothing to do with the dispute—I also have six or seven hundred dollars of my own private property in the hands of the publick,—this being the case, it would be impossible it should receive any injury if your Honour would be pleased to order me discharged from my arrest, pursuant to the articles of war, as it does not appear possible to settle it in the present situation of the army; and if ever hereafter upon settlement of the account I should appear any ways culpable, I shall with the greatest cheerfulness submit to any punishment your Honour shall think proper.

Confinement is at any time disagreeable, but now more particularly so, when our country so loudly calls upon every individual to appear with arms in their hands for her de-

fence. Conscious of my own innocence, it stings me to the soul when I reflect that I possibly by this means may be deprived of the only opportunity that ever may occur during the course of my whole life to render a service to my bleeding country. Your Honour's compliance will eternally be remembered with the greatest gratitude.

I am, sir, with much respect, your most obedient, humble servant,

JOHN B. SCOTT.

To Major-General *Gates*.

GOVERNOUR TRUMBULL TO GENERAL SCHUYLER.

New-Haven, October 17, 1776.

SIR: Your favour of the 11th instant have duly received; and as the formation of the new army is a matter that demands our earliest attention and utmost despatch, am in hopes by this time you are able to furnish me with a list of officers as requested in my last.

And as I find there is a great complaint for want of Surgeons and medicines in the army at *New-York*, lest that should be the case likewise in the Northern army, must beg leave to call your attention thereto, that timely care be taken that a sufficient number and supply may not be wanting in that department. You'll therefore please to give me notice by the return of this post of whatever is needful and expedient, in order that we may give all the timely assistance in our power.

I am, with esteem and respect, sir, your most obedient, humble servant,

JONTH. TRUMBULL.

To the Hon. Major-General *Schuyler*.

GOVERNOUR TRUMBULL TO GENERAL GATES.

New-Haven, October 17, 1776

SIR: Have to acknowledge the receipt of your favour by Mr. *Brown*, enclosing General *Arnold's* account of the engagement on the lake. The bearer thereof gives a verbal account of a subsequent rencounter there, which has turned out more favourable than the first. We are anxious to know the event.

Your hurry, I suppose, has prevented your attention to the nomination and designation of the officers for the new army; must therefore beg leave again to remind you of it, that it may be forwarded with all that despatch the necessity and importance of the case requires.

Am fearful you will find a want of Surgeons and medicines especially, if any considerable action should come on. Have wrote to General *Schuyler* on that subject. Please to let me know by the return of this post the situation you are in, and whatever is needful in our power to supply, that we may forward the same.

Am, with esteem and respect, sir, your most obedient, humble servant,

JONTH. TRUMBULL.

To the Hon. Major-General *Gates*.

PHINEAS FANNING'S PAROLE.

I promise, on my word of honour, not in any wise to forward or assist the subjects or allies of the King of *Great Britain*, in their operations against any of the *United States of America* during the present war. I also further promise that I will return to my usual place of abode in *Suffolk County*, and remain in said County until required by the Convention of the State of *New-York* or General *Washington*, when I promise to appear before them in person.

Given under my hand, at *Guilford*, this 17th day of *October*, 1776.

PHINEAS FANNING.

PROVIDENCE (RHODE-ISLAND) TOWN MEETING.

At a town meeting of the Town of *Providence*, legally warned and assembled on the 17th day of *October*, A. D. 1776, Mr. *Charles Keene*, Moderator.

Whereas much uneasiness hath arisen on account of the purchase of a quantity of Butter for the use of the inhabitants of *Nantucket*, occasioned by a suspicion that the same might be appropriated for the use of the enemies of the *United States of America*; and as Mr. *Samuel Starbuck*, the purchaser, has appeared before this meeting, and there being no evidence that the same was designed for our

enemies, and it being understood by this meeting that the exportation of any kind of Provisions to *Nantucket* is contrary to law, unless under regulations ordered by the General Assembly of this State in *October* last, and Mr. *Starbuck*, for removing this uneasiness, is willing that said Butter should be stored until the General Assembly shall meet and make order respecting the exportation of Provisions to *Nantucket*; it is therefore

Voted, That Captain *John Updike*, *James Black*, and *Arthur Finn*, Esqrs., be a committee immediately to store the same in some suitable place until the Assembly shall meet, excepting two firkins of Butter which Mr. *Starbuck* wants for his own use. And the Deputies of this town are requested to lay this matter before the General Assembly for their direction herein, this town highly disapproving of the exportation of any Provisions to *Nantucket* until the sentiments of the General Assembly are known.

CAPTAIN JONES TO ROBERT MORRIS.

Providence Sloop-of-War, at Newport, Rhode-Island, }
October 17, 1776. }

HONOURED SIR: I wrote to you at sea 4th ultimo, by the brigantine *Sea-Nymph*, my second prize. I have taken sixteen sail, manned and sent in eight prizes, and sunk, burned, or destroyed the rest. The list of prizes is as follows:

Manned and sent in.

1. The brigantine *Britannia*, a whaler.
2. The brigantine *Sea-Nymph*, *West-Indiaman*.
3. The brigantine *Favourite*, do.
4. The ship *Alexander*, *Jersey*, *Newfoundlandman*.
5. The brigantine *Success*, do.
6. The brigantine *Kingston Packet*, *Jamaica*.
7. The brigantine *Defiance*, *Jersey*, do.
8. The sloop *Portland*, whaler.

Burnt or destroyed.

1. The ship *Adventure*, of *Jersey*.
2. The brigantine *Friendship*, *Jersey*.
3. The schooner *John*, *London*.
4. The schooner *Betsey*, *Jersey*.
5. The schooner *Betsey*, *Halifax*.
6. The schooner *Sea-Flower*, *Canso*.
7. The schooner *Ebenezer*, do.
8. The schooner *Hope*, do.

I have written from time to time to the Marine Board, and furnished them with particular accounts of all my proceedings, and I now send copies of my former letters. I arrived here 7th current, and I would not have lost a day without writing to you and to the Board, had not the Commodore proposed to me to take command of an expedition, with the *Alfred*, *Providence*, and *Hamden*, to destroy the fishery of *Newfoundland*, but principally to relieve an hundred of our fellow-citizens, who are detained as prisoners and slaves in the coal-pits of *Cape Breton*. All my humanity was awakened and called up to action by this laudable proposal, and I have been successfully employed in refitting and getting the *Providence* in readiness, but am under the greatest apprehension that the expedition will fall to nothing, as the *Alfred* is greatly short of men. I found her with only about thirty men, and we have with much ado, enlisted thirty more; but it seems the privateers entice them away as fast as they receive their monthly pay.

It is to the last degree distressing to contemplate the state and establishment of our navy. The common class of mankind are actuated by no nobler principle than that of self-interest; this, and this only, determines all adventurers in privateers, the owners as well as those they employ. And while this is the case, unless the private enrollment of individuals in our navy is made superiour to that in privateers, it never can become respectable, it never will become formidable; and without a respectable navy, alas *America*! In the present critical situation of affairs, human wisdom can suggest no more than one infallible expedient: inlist the seamen during pleasure, and give them all the prizes. What is the paltry emolument of two-thirds of prizes to the finances of this vast Continent? If such a poor resource is essential to its independency, in sober sadness we are involved in a woful predicament, and our ruin is fast approaching. The situation of *America* is new in the annals of mankind;

FIFTH SERIES.—VOL. II.

her affairs cry haste, and speed must answer them. Trifles, therefore, ought to be wholly disregarded, as being, in the old vulgar proverb, "penny wise and pound foolish." If our enemies, with the best-established and most formidable navy in the universe, have found it expedient to assign all prizes to the captors, how much more is such policy essential to our infant fleet. But I need use no arguments to convince you of the necessity of making the emoluments of our navy equal, if not superiour, to theirs. We have had proof that a navy may be officered almost on any terms; but we are not so sure the officers are equal to their commissions; nor will the Congress ever obtain such certainty, until they in their wisdom see proper to appoint a Board of Admiralty competent to determine impartially the respective merits and abilities of their officers, and to superintend, regulate, and point out all the motions and operations of the navy

Governour *Hopkins* tells me, he apprehends I am appointed to the *Andrew Doria*. She is a good cruiser, and would, in my judgment, answer much better were she mounted with twelve six-pounders, than as she is at present with fourteen fours.

An expedition of importance may be effected this winter on the coast of *Africa* with part of the original fleet; either the *Alfred* or *Columbus*, with the *Andrew Doria* and *Providence*, would, I am persuaded, carry all before them, and give a blow to the *English African* trade, which would not soon be recovered, by not leaving them a mast standing on that coast. This expedition would be attended with no great expense; besides, the ships and vessels mentioned are unfit for service on a winter coast, which is not the case with the new frigates. The small squadron for this service ought to sail early, that the prizes may reach our ports in *March* or *April*.

If I do not succeed in manning the *Alfred*, so as to proceed to the eastward in course of this week, the season will be lost; the coal fleet will be gone to *Halifax*, and the fishermen to *Europe*. I will not, however, remain inactive, but proceed to cruise in the sloop near *Sandy-Hook*. Three of my prizes are arrived here, and one or two more to the eastward.

I am, &c.

Alfred, October 30, 1776.

I did not conclude my letter till I was enabled to give you a satisfactory account of the present expedition. I took command here the 22d, and finding that we could not man the ship and two vessels without wasting too much time, I concluded to leave the *Providence*, and proceed with the *Alfred* and *Hamden*. I took the men out of the *Providence* and her prizes, which made up my muster roll here to one hundred and forty or upwards. When I was ready to proceed on the 27th, the *Hamden* was run upon a sunken ledge, which knocked off her false keel, and she hath since continued to make so much water, that we concluded her unfit for sea, and therefore have shifted her men into the *Providence*. I am once more in readiness to take my leave of *Rhode-Island* to-morrow morning. I am, however, duly sensible that the expedition cannot but fall greatly short of what it might have effected had I been enabled to proceed a fortnight sooner. I hope the *Andrew Doria* will be included in the next expedition wherein I am concerned.

If Mr. *Hewes* is in *Philadelphia*, I must thank you to make my apology for not writing; and if you please, show him this and my former letter.

I have the honour to be, with great esteem and respect, sir, your very obliged, and very obedient, humble servant,
JOHN PAUL JONES.

To Hon. *Robert Morris*.

Account of Provisions on board when we sailed, Nov. 1st.

6 tierces of pork; 22 barrels of pork; 7 tierces of beef; 20 barrels of beef; 10 tierces of bread, ship; 55 barrels of bread, ship; 1 cabin of bread, ship; 1 hogshhead, 1 tierce, and 4 barrels peas; 10 barrels of flour; $\frac{1}{2}$ barrel of soused heads; $\frac{2}{3}$ of cask of oat-meal; 4 barrels of vinegar; 1,500 pounds of bread baked out of ship flour; 453 gallons of continental rum; 118 gallons of molasses; 10 bushels of ; 130 gallons of *West-India* rum; 275 pounds of coffee; 179 pounds of cheese; 441 pounds of brown sugar; 219 pounds of candles; 14 bushels of onions; 600 pounds of butter; 50 bushels of potatoes.

Account of Provisions on board the ship ALFRED, November 14, 1776.

10 tierces ship bread, 10; 40 barrels ship bread, 55; 7 tierces beef, 7; 24 barrels beef, 20; 6 tierces of pork, 6; 18 barrels of pork, 22; 1 hogshhead and 4 barrels peas, 1 hogshhead, 1 tierce, and 4 barrels; 4½ firkins butter; 3½ boxes candles, 219 pounds; 9 barrels flour, 10; 100 gallons molasses, 118; 200 pounds brown sugar, 441; 200 pounds coffee, 200; 300 pounds cheese, 179; 120 gallons West-India rum, 130; 232 gallons Continental rum, 453; ⅔ of barrel oat-meal, ⅔; 3 barrels vinegar, 4.

Errours excepted. Per ROBERT SANDERS.

Officers as appointed by Congress; frigates, thirty-two guns.	American pay as established by Congress; thirty days to one month.		British pay; twenty-eight days to one month; fifth rates, thirty-two guns.		Difference less than British pay.		Difference more than British pay.		Wages that ought to be established in the American Navy; thirty days to one month.	
Stations.	Dols.	Sterling.	Sterling.	Sterling.	Sterling.	Sterling.	Dols.	Sterling.		
Captain.....	32	7 4 0	11 4 0	4 0 0	1 2 0	60	10 13 0			
Lieutenants...	20	4 10 0	5 12 0	1 2 0	12 8	30	6 15 0			
Master.....	20	4 10 0	5 2 2	12 8	26½	6 0 0				
Do. Mates.....	15	3 7 6	2 2 0	1 5 6	12	2 14 0				
Boatswain.....	15	3 7 6	2 5 0	1 2 6	15	3 7 6				
Do. Mates.....	9½	2 2 0	1 8 0	14 0	9½	2 2 0				
Gunner.....	15	3 7 6	2 5 0	1 2 6	15	3 7 6				
Do. Mates.....	10½	2 8 0	1 8 0	1 0 0	9½	2 2 0				
Surgeon.....	21½	4 16 0	5 0 0	4 0	23	5 3 6				
Do. Mates.....	13½	3 0 0	2 10 0	10 0	12	2 14 0				
Carpenter.....	15	3 7 6	2 5 0	1 2 6	15	3 7 6				
Do. Mates.....	10½	2 8 0	1 12 0	16 0	10	2 5 0				
Cooper.....	15	3 7 6	1 5 0	2 2 6	8	1 16 0				
Midshipman.....	12	2 14 0	1 10 0	1 4 0	10	2 5 0				
Armourer.....	15	3 7 6	1 5 0	2 2 6	8	1 16 0				
Sailmaker.....	12	2 14 0	1 12 0	1 2 0	10	2 5 0				
Yeoman.....	9	2 0 6	1 8 0	12 6	9	2 0 6				
Quartermaster	9	2 0 6	1 8 0	12 6	9	2 0 6				
Cook.....	12	2 14 0	1 5 0	1 9 0	9	2 0 6				
Cockswain.....	9	2 0 6	1 6 0	14 6	9	2 0 6				
Captain's Clerk	15	3 7 6	1 10 0	2 2 6	12	2 14 0				
Steward.....	13½	3 0 0	1 0 8	1 19 4	9	2 0 6				
Chaplain.....	20	4 10 0	19 0	3 11 0	12	2 14 0				
Able Seaman..	8	1 16 0	1 5 0	11 0	8	1 16 0				
	346½	78 0 0	54 17 4	5 18 8	25 16 4	350½	78 16 6			

Officers not appointed by Congress, viz:

Yeoman of the Powder-room, ought to be the same as Gunner's Mate.

Sailmaker's Mates..... } One-third of a dollar more per

Steward's Mates..... } month than seamen.

Yeoman of the Sheets..... }

Master-at-Arms..... }

Purser.—N. B. If no Purser, the Captain's Clerk to have fifteen dollars

PROVIDENCE (RHODE-ISLAND) TOWN MEETING.

At a town meeting of the town of Providence, legally warned and assembled, on the 17th day of October, A. D. 1776:

Whereas great injustice is frequently done by a method of buying and selling sundry articles of Provisions without weighing the same: It is therefore Voted and Resolved, That whoever shall either buy or sell in this town any dead Lamb, Turkeys, Geese, or dunghill Fowls, unless by the pound weight, shall forfeit and pay as a fine the sum of six shillings lawful money, to be recovered of both the buyer and seller by warrant of distraint from any Justice of the Peace of the town, on the complaint of any householder in the said town; that the Lamb, &c., so bought shall be forfeited by the buyer to and for the use of the poor of the town; that the fines so recovered be lodged in the Town Treasury, for the town's use; that this regulation take place on the 1st day of November next; and that the same be published in the Providence Gazette.

A true copy: THEODORE FOSTER, Town Clerk.

MASSACHUSETTS COUNCIL TO MESHECH WEARE.

State of Massachusetts-Bay, Council Chamber, }
Watertown, October 17, 1776. }

SIR: Some time since your State were informed that this Government had passed an act entitled "an act to prohibit the exportation of lumber for a limited time," that your General Assembly might pass a similar act if they thought proper. I am now directed to inform your Honour that the Great and General Court of this State, considering the great and manifest advantages that accrued, or might

accrue to the United States of America from the act aforesaid do now cease and subside, and considering, also, that many inconveniences do arise from the operation of said act, have thought fit to repeal the same. It was thought necessary to give you notice of this measure immediately, that, in case your State should have passed an act prohibiting the exportation of lumber, they might repeal the same likewise, if they judged proper.

In the name and behalf of the Council, I am, with respect, your most obedient, humble servant,

JAMES BOWDOIN.

To Meshech Weare, Esq., President of the Council in the State of New-Hampshire.

JAMES BOWDOIN TO GENERAL WASHINGTON.

Boston, October 17, 1776.

SIR: A number of French gentlemen, in the character of military officers, have lately arrived here from Cape Francois. They are come to offer their services to the United States, and for that purpose applied to the Council of this State, with whom, by a Committee, they have had an interview; but they were referred to your Excellency.

Captain Littlefield, the master of the vessel in which they came hither, says that the French Governour at the Cape sent for him, and told him they were gentlemen of good character, whose honour might be relied on, and that the reason why he did not give to them letters recommending them to the service of the States, was because it would have been inconsistent with the peace subsisting between France and England, but desired him to let their character be known as he had given it.

I expect they will furnish me with a memorandum of their names, and what commissions they hold, or have held, in the service of France, in which case a copy of it will be enclosed.

I have the honour to be, in the name of the Council, sir, your most obedient, humble servant,

JAMES BOWDOIN.

To His Excellency General Washington.

They purpose that one or two of their number (ten in the whole) should proceed to New-York or Philadelphia; and it is in consequence of their desire that this letter waits upon you, as does one of a similar tenour upon the President of the American Congress.

M. Faneuil, Lieutenant au Régiment de Boulonnois, par brevet de l'an 1762, et Capitaine de Dragons, et Commandant de la Province du trou, ile, et côte de St. Domingue, par brevet de l'an 1768.

M. Marec, Lieutenant au Régiment de Boulonnois, par brevet de l'an 1760, et passé Lieutenant dans la Compagnie des Dragons de Faneuil en 1768.

M. Bordes, Gendarme de la Garde Ordinaire du Roi, inscrit le 14 Mars, 1773; reçu à la dite compagnie le 9 Octobre, 1774, et passé par congé à St. Domingue.

M. Robillard d'Antin, Ancien Garde du Roi; reçu Lieutenant à la suite des Dragons de Faneuil le 11 Août, 1776.

M. Laboubbène, Sous-Lieutenant au Régiment de Vivarais, par brevet du 27 Mai, 1767, et passé en la dite qualité dans la dite compagnie Faneuil en 1772.

M. Le Brun, Sous-Lieutenant dans les Gardes Côtes de Normandie, ici par congé, dans l'année 1773.

M. Gosse, volontaire dans la compagnie Faneuil.

M. Trebussieu, volontaire dans la même compagnie.

M. Simoneau, volontaire dans la dite compagnie.

M. Truen, Chirurgien-Major de la dite compagnie.

Tous passés ici pour le service du Congres par le consentement faite de M. le Gouverneur du Cap François.

FANEUIL.

M. De Maresquille, Lieutenant au Régiment de Flandres en 1755, passé in 1757 à une compagnie dans les volontaires de Clermont Prince, réformé à la paix à la fin de 1762, remplacé comme Capitaine des Grenadiers dans Royal Étrangers, ayant fait, pendant la guerre dernière, le service d'ingenieur volontaire, désirant être employé comme ingenieur par les connoissances qu'il a acquises dans cette partie-la par une étude longue et suivie.

DE MARESQUELLES.

JAMES BOWDOIN TO THE PRESIDENT OF CONGRESS.

Boston, October 17, 1776.

SIR: A number of *French* gentlemen, in the character of military officers, have lately arrived here from Cape *François*. They are come to offer their service to the *United States*, and for that purpose applied to the Council of this State, with whom, by a Committee, they have had an interview; but they were referred to his Excellency General *Washington*, who possibly may refer them to the honourable Congress.

Captain *Littlefield*, the master of the vessel in which they came hither, says that the *French* Governour at the Cape sent for him, and told him they were gentlemen of good character, whose honour might be relied on, and that the reason why he did not give them letters recommending them to the service of the States, was because it would have been inconsistent with the peace subsisting between *France* and *England*, but desired him to let their character be known as he had given it. I expect they will furnish me with a memorandum of their names, and what commissions they hold, or have held, in the service of *France*, in which case a copy of it will be enclosed. They purpose that one or two of their number (ten or twelve in the whole) should proceed to *New-York* and *Philadelphia*; and it is in consequence of their desire, that this letter waits upon you.

In the name of the Council I have the honour to be, sir, your most obedient, humble servant,

JAMES BOWDOIN, *President*.

To the Hon. President of Congress.

Enclosed is the memorandum above referred to.

PETITION FROM FANEUIL AND OTHERS TO THE ASSEMBLY OF MASSACHUSETTS-BAY, AND A RESOLVE PASSED BY THE SAID ASSEMBLY.

[Read 26th December, 1776: To be referred to Gen. Washington.]

To the Honourable Members of the Council and Assembly of MASSACHUSETTS-BAY:

GENTLEMEN: The very polite manner in which you have received our first solicitations to serve in the *United States of America*, and the hopes that we have of being shortly put into such a situation as to prove to you the great solicitude we have of marching against our common enemy, hath discovered to us the most likely means of attaining so desirable an end. We hope that you will regard our proposal as tending to the publick good, and that you would allow us to show you the manner in which *French* gentlemen of birth and education acquit themselves of their engagements.

The family of the deceased *Peter Faneuil* is sufficiently known at *Boston* for the services he has rendered to the town. One of the descendants of the family of the said deceased, employed in the service of *France*, and expert in the military art, comes to the bosom of his family to offer his services. Many of his friends, animated with the desire of glory, have attached themselves to his fortune. We have already presented our intentions to the respectable members of the Council of this State. They have honoured us with their protection, in giving us letters to the Congress, with which we have deputed two of our company. We are at present unacquainted in what manner the honourable Congress have received our proposals. Since that time we have learned that a great number of *Canadians* have fled from the inhumanity that the *British* army exercises over them; they are scattered about in the different parts of the Continent, and wait only for the moment of being formed into a regiment commanded by *French* officers. We have a sufficient proof of their good disposition for the service by many who are now at *Boston*. We have presented them to General *Ward*, and they have certified to him what we here advance. How advantageous and useful will it be for the *United States*, if we being provided with our commissions, could with our diligence and care put these brave people in a state to revenge themselves, and to aid you in driving from the States, tyrants more avidious of the riches of your States than of the glory we seek to acquire!

Thus, gentlemen, to give more solidity to our request, we have thought necessary to present to you the plan of the formation of a regiment in battalion; the ranks of officers and under-officers. We shall set forth to you the number of

men necessary for the completion, and will also show you the formation of a regiment in battalion, in parade, and in column, and describe to you the employments of officers and under-officers, that you may not be surprised at the great number that are necessary. We will show you the uniform that we propose to be given to our troops. It will be necessary, if our proposal meets with an agreeable reception, that our first men should be well dressed, that the *Canadians* may be induced to enlist, and we will immediately begin to dress, exercise ourselves, and raise the first recruits.

The uniform that we propose to have is a white coat, waistcoat and breeches; collar, facings and cuffs, blue; a yellow button; hat embroidered with gold for the officers; a white cockade and black guetres.

The arms of an officer are a fusil, a bayonet, a sword, cartouch-box with straps, and a girdle of black leather. The under-officers and Grenadiers will be armed with a fusil, bayonet, sword in the cartouch-strap, and girdle of black leather. The soldiers will be armed with a fusil, bayonet, cartouch-box, girdle for a bayonet, black straps for the cartouch-box, plain hat and white cockade.

The drummers will be dressed in blue de roy; facings, collar and cuffs white; the sleeve of the coat streaked with thirteen stripes of different colours; armed with a sword; a drum, with the arms of liberty; the sling of the drum and girdle of black leather; and an embroidered hat.

The superiour officers in boots; and for arms a sword, with a belt of black leather. The Grenadier officers, together with their company, to have a fur cap with a brass plate engraved with a grenade in the middle; a plate likewise upon the cartouch-box with a like engravour.

We shall wait your Honours' answer, to the end of communicating to you the order and discipline we propose to have observed.

The under-officers, grenadiers and soldiers, should have their knapsacks furnished with two shirts, two pair of stockings, one pair of guetres, and two pair of shoes.

If our proposal, gentlemen, that we present but at the instigation of many respectable gentlemen in your States, should meet with your approbation, we could recommend the hastening of our commissions, that we might put our troops into such a situation as to march as soon as may be under the orders of your Generals.

Be persuaded, gentlemen, of the sincerest prayers which we offer for your prosperity, and the continuation of the successes that your conduct and experience merit.

We have the honour to be, with the greatest respect, gentlemen, your most humble servants,

FANEUIL,
MARCE,
COPPIR DE LA GARDE.
BANNAL DE LABOULBENE.

In Council, November 21, 1776.

Read, and Ordered, That *David Sewall* and *John Whitcomb*, Esqrs., with such as the honourable House shall join, be a Committee to consider the same.

Sent down for concurrence:

JOHN AVERY, *Deputy Secretary*.

In the House of Representatives, November 22, 1776.

Read, and concurred, and Brigadier *Preble*, Captain *Batchelder*, and Judge *Cushing* are joined.

J. WARREN, *Speaker*.

A true copy.

Attest:

JOHN AVERY, *Deputy Secretary*.

SECRETARY OF STATE TO THE EARL OF DUNMORE.

Whitehall, October 18, 1776.

MY LORD: I have received your Lordship's letter to me of the 4th *September*, by Major *Cuyler*, and had the honour to lay it before the King; and as I am sure it will be a great satisfaction to your Lordship to know that your conduct in leaving *Virginia* is approved by his Majesty, I take the opportunity of Major *Cuyler's* return to acquaint you therewith.

I am, etc.,

GEO. GERMAIN.

To the Earl of *Dunmore*.

LORD GEORGE GERMAIN TO GENERAL SIR WILLIAM HOWE
Whitehall, October 18, 1776.

I have had the honour to submit to the King the proposal contained in your letter to me of the 2d of *September*, No. 25, for an augmentation of the corps of *Hessian* Chasseurs, commanded by Colonel *Donop*, and I have the satisfaction to acquaint you that his Majesty is graciously pleased to approve of what is proposed, and the proper steps will immediately be taken for entering into a treaty with the Landgrave of *Hesse* for that purpose; and as I do not foresee any difficulty in effecting it, I have no doubt you will receive them early in the next campaign.

The arrangement you have made for a more exact method of settling the accounts of subsistence and contingencies of the new levies, appears to be very proper, but as it belongs to the Lords Commissioners of the Treasury to give directions upon that head, I have communicated to their Lordships your letter to me, No. 24, and I have no doubt you will receive their Lordships' approbation of the commission you have given to Captain *Mackenzie*, and the appointment you have made him in consequence thereof.

I am, &c.,

GEO. GERMAIN.

LORD GEORGE GERMAIN TO GENERAL SIR WILLIAM HOWE.
Whitehall, October 18, 1776.

SIR: I had infinite satisfaction in receiving from Major *Cuyler* your publick despatch of 3d *September*, wherein you inform me of the success of the King's forces against the Rebels upon *Long-Island*.

The behaviour of both officers and soldiers, *British* and *Hessians*, was (as you well observe) highly to their honour, and has consequently obtained his Majesty's strongest approbation.

Conscious as you must be of having discharged your duty in a most distinguished and exemplary manner, you will scarcely imagine that you are not included in the above general description. To you, sir, however, I am commanded to signify, in more particular terms, the high opinion which your Sovereign entertains of your services on that trying and glorious occasion.

Those who in the early part of your life, from an observation of the inborn courage and active spirit which you manifested in inferiour stations, were led to form favourable conjectures relative to your future exploits, will, with me, be happy to find their expectations so fully answered, and will be agreeably surprised to see you making such hasty advances towards military excellence, by thus uniting to the fire of youth all the wisdom and conduct of the most experienced commander.

Such is the persuasion which I have of Vice-Admiral Lord *Howe's* skill, and his attention to the good of the service, that even though you had not particularized the judicious movement of the ships on the 27th at daybreak, I should undoubtedly, have nevertheless concluded that his Lordship had availed himself of every circumstance, and made every manœuvre which was likely to deceive or annoy the Rebels, and to advance the glory of his Majesty's arms.

The expedition, regularity and success with which the debarkation of the troops and cannon were effected, at the same time it does infinite honour to Lord *Howe*, who made the disposition, reflects no small degree of credit upon Commodore *Hotham*, who had the conduct of that important service. It was, indeed, natural to expect that both men and officers, sensible as they are that they were acting under the all-inspecting eye of an Admiral whom they so deservedly love and admire, would exert themselves to the utmost, and execute his Lordship's commands with punctuality as well as cheerfulness.

I beg leave to congratulate you on a victory to which you so eminently contributed, and have the honour to be, &c.,

GEO. GERMAIN.

LORD GEORGE GERMAIN TO SIR WILLIAM HOWE.

Whitehall, October 18, 1776.

SIR: It is impossible that any person who has duly attended to your military conduct, and found it from your entrance into the army invariably directed by an uninter-

mitted ambition to serve your King and country, can imagine that your meritorious behaviour has been unnoticed by his Majesty, or that his gracious approbation has not been frequently communicated to you by his Ministers in their respective despatches.

His Majesty, however, being desirous that the high sense which he has of your successful endeavours to serve him should be still of greater notoriety, has thought proper to afford you a more publick testimony of his Royal favour, and has, therefore, out of his special regard to merit wherever it is found, been graciously pleased to nominate you to be one of the Knight's Companions of the most honourable Order of the Bath.

You will accordingly receive herewith the proper insignia, together with a dispensation for wearing them, and also the statutes of the order.

I have likewise the honour to transmit to you a letter from Lord Viscount *Weymouth*, addressed to Vice-Admiral Lord Viscount *Howe*, which you will please to deliver to his Lordship.

You will learn from the enclosed copy thereof, that the King has been pleased to direct his Lordship to perform the ceremony of investing you with the ensigns of the order.

You will do me the justice to believe me sincerely happy in conveying to you this additional mark of his Majesty's increasing approbation of your conduct, and will give me leave to offer you my most unfeigned congratulations upon this unsolicited accumulation of your honours.

I am, &c.,

GEO. GERMAIN.

Williamsburg, October 18, 1776.

It was last *Tuesday* resolved in the House of Delegates, that six new battalions of Infantry be raised and employed in the Continental service, upon the terms and according to the requisition of the General Congress; and that provision be made for completing the nine battalions formerly raised, and extending the additional bounty to such of them as shall be willing to enlist on the like terms; and a bill is ordered to be brought in pursuant to the said resolution.

JAMES NOURSE TO GENERAL GATES.

Piedmont, Virginia, October 18, 1776.

DEAR SIR: Mrs. *Gates* being here with Mr. *Gates*, in their way to the northward, I take the opportunity to express my hopes of your favouring me with a line now and then.

I thank you for the respectable footing you have established our affairs on, on the lakes. Your private concerns here, I think, go on as well as can be expected when the *primum mobile* is from home. Your overseer would make rather a better second than first upon the plantation. Shall therefore take the liberty to interfere more with his manœuvres than I chose to do the first year.

I am angry with you for not taking my pistols when you left here, as I lately learn you wanted a pair.

How like you the Constitution of the State?

Religion being likely to come next upon the carpet, I offer my services for burgess, in the room of *Rutherford*, who is chosen Senator. *Pendleton*, *Hite*, *Willis*, *Henshaw*, are also candidates. There are two vacancies, *Drew* having accepted a place. I burn to kick out the *Athanasian* creed, to which we owe the existence of so many deists and atheists; and that, in the publick worship, we rationally adore the one only self-existent God, through *Christ Jesus*.

General *Lee*, you'll hear, is arrived at *New-York*. *Joseph* is returned to us from *Philadelphia*, for a few days. My wife is better, upon the whole, than usual. The children are all well. *James* is Captain of a Minute company, and seems inclined, when we set about raising our battalions, of entering into the Regulars, which, I apprehend, will be easy, as several of his men are ready to attend him. But if I should go to *Williamsburg*, can but illy spare him. However, I only purpose being there till I can get the church of *Virginia* established, and a freedom of conscience and from tax for all other sects.

Jacob Hite, you will find, has met with an exemplary punishment. *John* and *Tom* are gone out to seek after the wreck of his fortune, and after the good old woman and his daughters.

When will our infatuated countrymen give over their

oppression? Surely it is a great blot in the character of Lord *Howe*, to be their instrument in endeavouring to establish tyranny. May the Almighty confound their devices, and bless my friend with health and success, that we may once more enjoy our tranquil retreat.

My wife desires her affectionate compliments. *Joseph, James, Kate, Charles, &c., &c.*, to No. 12, their respectful ones; and I am, dear sir, sincerely yours,

JAMES NOURSE.

To Major-General *H. Gates*.

MARYLAND COUNCIL OF SAFETY TO THE PRESIDENT OF CONGRESS.

[No. 11.] In Council of Safety, Annapolis, October 18, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: We have it in command from Convention to inform you that a Rifle company, on the Continental establishment, is raised in *Harford* County, in this State, but are in want of both guns and blankets; and to request you would, by the first opportunity, let us know whether you would have them march to *Philadelphia* to be supplied, as it will be impracticable, in any reasonable time, to furnish them here. Money will be wanted to supply them with necessaries, and also to accommodate them on their march.

For and on behalf of the Council, I have the honour to be, gentlemen, your most obedient servant,

DAN. OF ST. THOS. JENIFER, *President*.

To the President of Congress.

We have some flint stones, but cannot procure a manufacturer.

THOMAS BOND TO MARYLAND COUNCIL OF SAFETY.

October 18, 1776.

SIR: I am to inform you that it is not in my power to purchase blankets and linen fit for tents. Arms I have about forty, but believe shall be able to procure as many as the company may want. They will want some repairs. The company is now up, and Captain *Harris* waits on your Board for orders. I could have purchased blankets and linen, but at a much higher price than the Council thought reasonable. I have sent up to *Pennsylvania*, where I hear is linen and blankets, both country made; and as the blankets is larger than those from *Europe*, I am afraid they will fail. As to the blankets in *Harford* town, it is uncertain that the company mentioned in your letter will leave any for Captain *Harris*.

I should be much obliged for a line from your Board. Any thing in my power you may depend upon.

I am, sir, your humble servant,

THOS. BOND.

To the Hon. *Daniel of St. Thomas Jenifer, Esq., &c.*

CAPTAIN BOND TO MARYLAND COUNCIL OF SAFETY.

Baltimore, October 18, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: Mr. *Bailey*, the Lieutenant of Captain *Deems's* company, intends to continue in said company, and the men of *Nor—'s* company are discharged, but must go in the other. The men are strolling about town, and if any officer except Captain *Deems* was appointed, they would inlist during the war. Captain *Deems* tells me he has orders from you to inlist during that time; and if you think proper to appoint me, may take this for an application to inlist for the same time. Excuse haste.

Your very humble servant,

NATHANIEL BOND.

To the honourable Council of Safety.

MARINE COMMITTEE TO CONTINENTAL AGENTS.

In Marine Committee, Philadelphia, October 18, 1776.

SIR: Herein you will find enclosed two resolves of the Continental Congress, of which we have the honour to be members, whereby you'll observe you are ordered to account with us from time to time for the Continental share of all prizes received and sold by you as agent, and to pay the amount thereof to our order. In obedience to this resolve, we think proper to lay it down as a rule that you state your accounts every three months, crediting therein the Continental share of every prize whose accounts can be

settled and included within that quarter of a year, and that you add thereto a schedule containing an exact account or state of all the prizes that then remain in your care whose accounts are unsettled; and we desire that you will constantly remit us undoubted good bills on this place as you can meet with them, which will save the trouble and risk of sending money. In taking drafts, prefer those of the Continental agents, Paymasters, and Commissaries, to any other, provided they are drawn on the President of Congress, this Committee, or any other publick board, for publick service. Next to these, undoubted good private bills, but none others; and when neither one or the other can be met with, inform us, and of the sums you have, that we may give particular orders respecting the remittance or application thereof.

By the other resolve you will find yourself under orders of Congress to make a just distribution amongst the officers and men concerned in taking each prize as soon after the sales as possible, agreeable to the rules and regulations made by Congress in this respect; and it is our duty to see this punctually complied with, as the service has already suffered by delay. Therefore we desire you will always make the said distribution soon as can be after the sale, and transmit us duplicates of the accounts and your proceedings therein.

We shall allow you all your just expenditures on account of the Continent, to be charged against their share of the prize money; but those charges must be supported by vouchers.

We are, sir, your obedient servants,

JOHN HANCOCK,
ROB. MORRIS,
ARTHUR MIDDLETON,
FRA. LEWIS,
GEO. WALTON.

To

John Langdon, Esq., Continental Agent, Portsmouth, N. H.
John Bradford, Esq., do., Boston, Massachusetts.
Daniel Tillinghast, Esq., do., Providence, R. I.
Nathaniel Shaw, Jun., Esq., do., New-London, Connecticut.
Jacobus Van Zandt, do., New-York.
John Nixon and John Maxwell Nesbit, Esq's, do., Philadelphia, Pa.
William Lux, Esq., do., Baltimore, Maryland.
John Tazewell, Esq., do., Williamsburgh, Virginia.
Robert Smith, Esq., do., Edenton, }
Richard Ellis, Esq., do., Newbern, } N. Carolina.
Cornelius Harnett, Esq., do., Wilmington, }
Livinus Clarkson and John Dorsius, Esq's, do., Charlestown, S. C.
John Wereat, Esq., Continental Agent, Savannah, Georgia.

Resolved, That the present Continental Agents do account with the Marine Committee from time to time for the Continental share of all Prizes received and sold by them, and that they pay the amount of such Prizes to the order of said Committee.

Resolved, That the said Agents do make just distribution of the share in all Prizes that appertain to the officers and crews of the Continental ships-of-war, agreeable to the rules and regulations of Congress, as soon after the sales of each Prize as possible.

JOHN HANCOCK, *President*.

MARINE COMMITTEE TO PRIZE AGENTS.

October 18, 1776.

SIR: We have the honour to enclose herein a resolve of the Continental Congress, of which we are members, whereby you will see we are empowered to order a proper and just distribution of all prizes taken by the cruisers General *Washington* caused to be fitted out on Continental account, and also that we are authorized, or rather ordered, to receive from the agents who received and sold the said prizes, the Continental share thereof; and as we find you have been employed as an agent in this business, we desire that you will immediately send us an account of the prizes that have been put under your care, with copies of the decrees of the Court of Admiralty, inventories of ships and cargoes, with copies of the accounts sales properly authenticated, an account current for each prize wherein you will credit the neat proceeds, and charge the share appertaining to the officers and crews who were interested in the capture, and also the Continental share, agreeable to the rules and regulations laid down by Congress; and a general account current, wherein you will credit the Continent for their share in every prize, and charge for all such remittances as you

make to us in consequence of these orders, as well as for any other just charge you have to make against them. We desire that you will remit to this Board whatever moneys you have in hand arising from the Continental share of the prizes put under your management. And as there are many persons gone from hence to purchase prize goods, you may procure drafts on this place from undoubted, safe, good men, which will save the trouble and risk of sending the money; or you may pay it in to the Continental Paymaster, at *Boston*, *Ebenezer Hancock*, Esq., and transmit us his draft on the President of Congress; or the Hon. *Thomas Cushing*, Esq., *John Bradford*, Esq., of *Boston*, or *John Langdon*, Esq., of *New-Hampshire*, have occasion for money on our account: their drafts on ourselves will be good, and the sooner you make these remittances and render the accounts the better. We must also enjoin you to make an immediate division and distribution of that share of prizes that appertains to the officers and crews that took them, agreeable to and in strict conformity with the rules and regulations of Congress, and that you transmit us as soon as can be duplicates of those accounts, as it is our duty to see this business perfected; other ways the maritime service of *America* will suffer greatly by the discouragements from delays in the payment of prize money, &c. Where any part of the prizes have been applied to Continental use, that part must be valued and included at the valuation in the new account of sales; if applied to the use of yours or any other State, they must pay the valuation, and that be included in the account sales.

Expecting your compliance, with an answer to this letter, we remain, sir, your obedient servants.

To *William Bartlett*, Esq., in *Beverly*.
William Watson, Esq., in *Plymouth*.
John Wentworth, Esq., in *Portsmouth*.
Wintrop Serjent, Esq., in *Cape Anne*.
Messrs. *Bartlett & Glover*, in *Lynn*, *Marblehead*, and *Boston*.
John Bradford, Esq., *Boston*.

MARINE COMMITTEE TO CAPTAIN JAMES ROBINSON.

October 18, 1776.

SIR: The honourable Congress having directed that you should make a voyage under orders of the Secret Committee, you are therefore to receive their instructions and comply with them, giving us notice when the service by them required is performed, that we direct your future operations. During the present voyage we expect you will transmit us any useful or important intelligence that comes to your knowledge. You are to take good care of the *Sachem*, her stores, provisions, and materials; preserve good discipline amongst your officers and men, but use them well. Treat any that become your prisoners with humanity, and in due time return copies of your journal and log-book into this office.

Wishing you success, we are, sir, your humble servants.
To Captain *James Robinson*, of the sloop *Sachem*.

MARINE COMMITTEE TO CAPTAIN HALLOCK.

October 18, 1776.

SIR: Congress having ordered us to consign you over to the management of the Secret Committee for the present voyage, you are to receive from them such orders as they think proper to give, and fulfil the same. After doing so, give us notice, that we may direct your future proceedings. We expect you will, during this voyage, take good care of the *Lexington*, her stores, provisions, and materials; that you preserve good order and strict discipline amongst your officers and men, at the same time using them well. Treat your prisoners, if any shall fall into your hands, with humanity; transmit us accounts of any interesting intelligence that comes to your knowledge, and in due time lodge in this office copies of your log-book and journal.

We are, sir, your humble servants.
To Captain *William Hallock*, of the brig *Lexington*.

CONSIDERATIONS ON THE PRESENT REVOLTED STATE OF AMERICA, ADDRESSED TO ITS INHABITANTS AT LARGE.

Whilst *America* retained her allegiance, *Great Britain* was the guardian of *America*; even since her revolt she has proposed terms of reconciliation, and through his Majesty's

Commissioners, still leaves open the door for honourable accommodation. But the Colonies have now levied war against the parent State; that war must be prosecuted with vigour, with effect, until *America* submits to the constitutional authority of *Great Britain*.

The employing *German* Protestant troops (whose renown for valour is equalled only by their Prince's firm and steady alliance to the King of *Great Britain*) is a measure at this critical juncture full of true wisdom and good policy. The deluded Colonists, running wildly after the shadow of liberty, have lost the substance. The present armament will restore the *Americans* to freedom—to that freedom which is enjoyed under a *British* constitution. It will relieve them from the most degrading species of tyranny, Republican tyranny. Every dispassionate and well-disposed *American* must despise the idea of Republicanism. The experiment has already been made during the usurpation of *Oliver Cromwell*, and experience has showed it, by the restoration of King *Charles* the Second, to be totally incompatible with the magnitude and majesty of a great empire. It is a system of government fit only for the citizen of a small State. Monarchy, limited Monarchy, can alone preserve liberty to the subject, and give energy to the government.

Let not, then, the deluded and deceived *Americans* passionately follow courses that must lead them to destruction, nor longer continue under the false persuasion that *Great Britain* means to make them slaves, which their own senses, if they will consult them, and the experience of their own domestick situations, must contradict. But let them give a friendly attention to the honourable declaration of his Majesty's Commissioners for restoring peace to *America*, and let them accept the blessings of peace upon such favourable propositions as will strengthen the union of the *British* empire.

Then will the fleets and armies that now occupy their coasts and frontiers be no longer the scourge, but again become the protectors as well as pride and glory of both *Great Britain* and *America*.

CAMILLUS.

New-York, October 18, 1776.

GENERAL WASHINGTON TO THE PRESIDENT OF CONGRESS.

[Read October 21, 1776.]

Harlem Heights, October 18, 1776.

SIR: I was yesterday morning honoured with your favour of the 15th, with the resolutions of the 11th and 14th. The latter, by which Congress have authorized me to appoint Mons. *Penet* a brevet Aid-de-Camp, claims a return of my acknowledgments.

Last night I received a letter from Mr. *Varick*, Secretary to General *Schuyler*, enclosing a copy of one from General *Arnold* to General *Gates*. The intelligence transmitted by General *Arnold* being of an extremely interesting and important nature, I thought it advisable to forward the same immediately by express. You have a copy herewith, which contains the particulars, and to which I beg leave to refer you.

The accounts transmitted yesterday by post will inform you of the movements of the enemy, and of the measures judged necessary to be pursued by us to counteract their designs. I have nothing to add on this head, except that ten or eleven ships, which have been prevented passing *Hell-Gate* for two or three days for want of wind, are now under way, and proceeding up the *Sound*. Among them there appears to be two frigates, the rest probably have in stores, &c.

Enclosed is a copy of the last general return I have been able to obtain. It only comes down to the 5th instant. The situation of our affairs, and the almost constant necessity of sending detachments from one place to another to watch the enemy's motions, have prevented the officers from making them with regularity.

I have the honour to be, with great esteem, sir, your most obedient servant,

GO. WASHINGTON.

Schuyler Island, October 12, 1776.

DEAR GENERAL: Yesterday morning at eight o'clock, the enemy's fleet, consisting of one ship mounting sixteen guns, one snow mounting the same number, one schooner

of fourteen guns, two of twelve, two sloops, a bomb-ketch, and a large vessel, that did not come up, with fifteen or twenty flat-bottomed boats, or gondolas, carrying one twelve or eighteen pounder in their bows, appeared off *Cumberland Head*. We immediately prepared to receive them; the galleys and *Royal Savage* were ordered under way; the rest of our fleet lay at an anchor. At eleven o'clock they ran under the lee of *Valcour*, and began the attack. The schooner, by some bad management, fell to leeward, and was first attacked; one of her masts was wounded, and her rigging shot away. The Captain thought prudent to run her on the Point of *Valcour*, where all the men were saved. They boarded her, and at night set fire to her. At half-past twelve the engagement became general, and very warm. Some of the enemy's ships and all their gondolas beat and rowed up within musket-shot of us. They continued a very hot fire with round and grape shot until five o'clock, when they thought proper to retire to about six or seven hundred yards distance, and continued until dark. The *Congress* and *Washington* have suffered greatly; the latter lost her First Lieutenant, killed, Captain and Master wounded. The *New-York* lost all her officers except her Captain. The *Philadelphia* was hulled in so many places, that she sunk about one hour after the engagement was over. The whole killed and wounded amounted to about sixty. The enemy landed a large number of *Indians* on the island and on each shore, who kept up an incessant fire on us, but did little damage. The enemy had to appearance upwards of one thousand men in batteaus, prepared for boarding. We suffered much for want of seamen and gunners. I was myself obliged to point most of the guns on board the *Congress*, which I believe did good execution. The *Congress* received seven shot between wind and water, was hulled a dozen times, had her mainmast wounded in two places, and her yard in one. The *Washington* was hulled a number of times, her mainmast shot through, and must have a new one; both vessels are very leaky, and want repairing.

On consulting with General *Waterbury* and Colonel *Wigglesworth*, it was thought prudent to return to *Crown-Point*, every vessel's ammunition being nearly three-fourths spent, and the enemy greatly superiour to us in ships and men. At seven o'clock, Colonel *Wigglesworth*, in the *Trumbull*, got under way, the gondolas and small vessels followed, and the *Congress* and *Washington* brought up the rear. The enemy did not attempt to molest us. Most of the fleet is at this minute come to an anchor. The wind is small to the southward. The enemy's fleet is under way to leeward, and beating up. As soon as our leaks are stopped, the whole fleet will make the utmost despatch for *Crown Point*, where I beg you will send ammunition, and your further orders for us. On the whole, I think we have had a very fortunate escape, and have great reason to return our humble and hearty thanks to Almighty God for preserving and delivering so many of us from our more than savage enemies.

I am, dear General, your affectionate, humble servant,
B. ARNOLD.

P. S. I had not moved on board the *Congress* when the enemy appeared, and lost all my papers and most of my clothes on board the schooner. I wish a dozen batteaus, well-manned, could be sent immediately to tow up the vessels in case of a southerly wind.

I cannot in justice to the officers in the fleet, omit mentioning their spirited conduct during the action. B. A.

PROCEEDINGS OF A COUNCIL OF GENERAL OFFICERS.

At a Council of War held at the Head-Quarters of General *Lee*, October 16, 1776:

Present: His Excellency General *Washington*.

Major-Generals *Lee*, *Putnam*, *Heath*, *Spencer*, *Sullivan*.
Brigadier-Generals Lord *Stirling*, *Mifflin*, *McDougall*,
Parsons, *Nixon*, *Wadsworth*, *Scott*, *Fellows*, *Clinton*, *Lincoln*.

Colonel *Knox*, commanding Artillery.

The General read sundry Letters from the Convention and particular members, of the turbulence of the disaffected in the upper parts of this State; and also sundry accounts of deserters showing the enemy's intention to surround us.

After much consideration and debate, the following ques-

tion was stated: whether, (it having appeared that the obstructions in the *North River* have proved insufficient, and that the enemy's whole force is now in our rear on *Frog Point*,) it is now deemed possible in our situation to prevent the enemy cutting off the communication with the country and compelling us to fight them at all disadvantages, or surrender prisoners at discretion?

Agreed, with but one dissenting voice, (viz: General *Clinton*,) that it is not possible to prevent the communication, and that one of the consequences mentioned in the question must certainly follow.

Agreed, that *Fort Washington* be retained as long as possible.

GENERAL ORDERS.

Head-Quarters, Harlem Heights, October 13, 1776.

(Parole, .) (Countersign, .)

The General expressly orders that the men have four days' provisions ready dressed at all times; for which purpose the Commissaries or the Deputies are to keep the butchers constantly, killing till such supply is had; and one man from every mess is to be kept cooking. The commanding officers of regiments, and others, are most earnestly requested to see this order carried into immediate execution.

Supplies of ammunition may now be had, so that any officer who now neglects getting what is necessary, must be accountable to his country and the men under his command.

When any regiments are about to march, they are to have their tents struck, rolled up, and a guard under the command of a careful officer to attend them and the baggage, who is not, under any pretence, to leave them without orders.

As the enemy seem now to be endeavouring to strike some stroke before the close of the campaign, the General most earnestly conjures both officers and men, if they have any love for their country, and concern for its liberties, regard to the safety of their parents, wives, children and countrymen, that they will act with bravery and spirit, becoming the cause in which they are engaged; and to encourage and animate them so to do, there is every advantage of ground and situation, so that if we do not conquer, it must be our own faults. How much better will it be to die honourably fighting in the field, than to return home covered with shame and disgrace, even if the cruelty of the enemy should allow you to return! A brave and gallant behaviour for a few days, and patience under some little hardships, may save our country, and enable us to go into winter quarters with safety and honour.

The marching of some troops to *King's Bridge* makes it necessary to reduce the picket to six hundred men, and the fatigue proportionably.

Head-Quarters, Harlem Heights, October 14, 1776.

(Parole, .) (Countersign, .)

Colonel *Bailey's* regiment is immediately to join General *Clinton's* brigade, at present under the command of Colonel *Glover*. Colonel *Lippett's* regiment is to join General *McDougall's* brigade. Each of these regiments are to take their tents and cooking utensils, and to lose no time. The two *Connecticut* regiments under the command of Colonel *Storms* and Major *Greaves*, now upon *York Island*, are to be in readiness to march into *West-Chester* at a moment's warning.

The brigades which will then remain on the island will be in two divisions, the first composed of *Heard's*, *Beall's*, and *Weedon's*, to be under the command of Major-General *Putnam*; the second, consisting of Lord *Stirling's*, *Wadsworth's* and *Fellows's*, to be under the command of Major-General *Spencer*.

General *Putnam* will attend particularly to all the works and necessary places of defence, from the line which was intended to be run across from Head-Quarters inclusively, up to and including the works on the island above that place, as far as hath usually been considered as belonging to this division of the army. He will also attend particularly to the works about *Mount Washington*, and to the obstructions in the river, which should be increased as fast as possible.

General *Spencer* is to take charge of all the works from

Head-Quarters to our front lines to the south, and attend particularly to all weak places, seeing they are secured as well as time and circumstances will permit. But as there may be more fatigue men wanted in one division than the other, they are each to furnish for such works as the Chief Engineer shall direct, seeing that the duty fall equally upon the officers and men of each division.

A report is immediately to be made by the commanding officers of regiments to their several Brigadiers, of the state of ready-dressed provisions, that if there be any neglect or deficiency, the one may be punished and the other rectified.

The Court-Martial of which Colonel *Weedon* was President, is dissolved. A new one to be formed, Colonel *Ewing* to preside.

Head-Quarters, Harlem Heights, October 15, 1776.

(Parole, .) (Countersign, .)

Colonel *Joseph Reed's* regiment is to join General *McDougall's* brigade; and Colonel *Hutchinson's*, when the work he is ordered to execute is finished, is to join General *Clinton's* brigade, at present under the command of Colonel *Glover*.

Sargent's, *Ward's*, and *Chester's* regiments, and the regiment commanded by Lieutenant-Colonel *Storrs*, are to form a brigade, and be under the command of Colonel *Sargent*.

Colonel *Storrs's*, and the regiment under Major *Greaves*, are to march immediately into *West-Chester*; the first to join the brigade he is appointed to, the other to join the regiments commanded by Colonels *Douglass* and *Ely*, and with them be under the command of General *Saltonstall*, as Colonel *Horseford's* and Major *Rogers's* regiments are; but to remain where they at present are till further orders. These five regiments to compose General *Saltonstall's* brigade.

The other two *Connecticut* regiments, encamped upon *Harlem* river, opposite Head-Quarters, are, for the present, from their situation, to be annexed to General *Parsons's* brigade, and be under his command.

The brigades are now to be formed into divisions, those on *York* Island as mentioned in yesterday's orders. *Nixon's*, *McDougall's*, and that commanded by Colonel *Glover*, to compose one, under the command of Major-General *Lee*; *Parsons's*, *Scott's*, and *Clinton's*, another, under the command of Major-General *Heath*; *Saltonstall's*, *Sargent's*, and *Hand's*, another, under the command of Major-General *Sullivan*; and the *Massachusetts* Militia another, under the command of Major-General *Lincoln*.

The General in most pressing terms exhorts all officers commanding divisions, brigades, and regiments, &c., to have their officers and the men under their respective commands, properly informed of what is expected from them, that no confusion may arise in case we should be suddenly called to action, which, there is no kind of doubt, is near at hand; and he hopes and flatters himself, that the only contention will be who shall render the most acceptable service to his country and his posterity. The General also desires that the officers will be particularly attentive to the men's arms and ammunition, that there may be no deficiency or application for cartridges when we are called into the field.

Head-Quarters, Harlem Heights, October 16, 1776.

(Parole, *Burlington*.) (Countersign, *Boston*.)

Head-Quarters, Harlem Heights, October 17, 1776.

(Parole, .) (Countersign, .)

There are a number of priming-wires and brushes in the Commissary's store near General *Spencer's* quarters, and at *King's Bridge*; in the latter a number of pouches, which are to be distributed among the brigades. The Brigadiers are desired to send to those places where they may receive priming-wires and brushes. The pouches are to be divided, and each Brigadier is to send for his proportion as soon as possible, and have them filled with spare cartridges.

As the movements of the enemy makes an alteration of our position necessary, and some regiments are to move towards them, the commanding and the other officers of regiments are to see the following orders punctually executed:

The tents are to be struck, and carefully rolled, the men

to take the tent poles in their hands; two men out of a company with a careful subaltern, to go with the baggage, and not leave it on any pretence. No packs, (unless of sick men,) chairs, tables, benches, or heavy lumber, to be put on the wagons. No person, unless unable to walk, is to presume to get upon them. The wagons to move forward before the regiments, the Quartermaster having first informed himself from the Brigadier, or Brigade-Major, where they are to pitch. Every regiment under marching orders, to see they have their flints and ammunition in good order and complete.

Lieutenant *Nevins*, of Colonel *Tyler's* regiment, is to do the duty of Captain in the room of Major *Chipman*, lately promoted.

Daniel Lyman, Esq., is appointed Major of Brigade to General *Fellows*, and is to be respected accordingly.

A General Court-Martial, whereof Colonel *Ewing* was President, having convicted Lieutenant *Pose*, of the *Rangers*, of the scandalous crime of "conniving at plundering, contrary to frequent and express orders," and sentenced him to be cashiered, the General approves the sentence, and he is accordingly cashiered.

The same Court having convicted Corporal *George Wilson* of "plundering Mr. *Bushey's* house, at *Harlem*," and sentenced him to receive thirty-nine lashes, the General approves the sentence, and orders it to be executed to-morrow on the parade, before the guards march off. The Provost Marshal to see it done.

Colonel *Weedon's* and Colonel *Reed's* regiments to join Lord *Stirling's* brigade, immediately.

Major *Parker*, of General *Heard's* brigade, to attend the works, and be excused other duty.

Head-Quarters, Harlem Heights, October 18, 1776.

(Parole, *Stamford*.) (Countersign, *France*.)

As the brigades of the army now move at such distance from each other, that a punctual attendance at Head-Quarters for orders cannot be expected, one Brigade-Major from each Major-General's division, is to attend as early in the day as he can. The several Brigade-Majors, or Adjutants who act as such, are to attend him at a stated hour, and then distribute the orders through the several brigades and regiments, as fast as possible.

Head-Quarters, Harlem Heights, October 19, 1776.

(Parole, .) (Countersign, .)

Head-Quarters, Harlem Heights, October 20, 1776.

(Parole, .) (Countersign, .)

ROBERT H. HARRISON TO GENERAL SCHUYLER.

Harlem Heights, October 18, 1776.

SIR: It being evident that the enemy, who have landed the main body of their army on *Frog's* and *Fell's* Points, have digested a plan of penetrating into the country, and forming a line in our rear, I have the honour to inform you, by his Excellency's command, whose attention has been called from hence this morning by their motions, that he apprehends the *Stockbridge Indians* might render material service here as scouting parties, if the situation of affairs in the Northern army do not require their continuance there. As the propriety of sending the whole or any part of them down, will depend upon the intelligence of the enemy's motions in *Canada*, and the prospect there may be of their crossing the lakes, his Excellency means to submit it entirely to your discretion and opinion, not wishing 'em to be ordered here if you conceive that they will be wanted there from the appearance and complexion of things.

I am, &c.,

R. H. HARRISON.

To Major-General *Schuyler*, Northern Department.

P. S. His Excellency received Mr. *Varick's* letter of the 14th by last night's post, and despatched an express to Congress with a copy of General *Arnold's* to General *Gates*.

ON THE EMPLOYMENT OF INDIANS IN AMERICA.

Having served in *America* during the greatest part of last war, I think I may, without vanity, presume to be a tolerable judge of the best method of conducting the opera-

tions of a campaign in that country; and notwithstanding the aversion which General *Carleton* is said to have to the employing *Indians* in his army, yet I must freely give it as my opinion, that nothing could tend more to render his schemes successful than a competent number of these men under proper regulations.

The employing a body of fifteen hundred or two thousand *Indians* would be attended with many and great advantages. I shall content myself at present with pointing out a few of them. And first, such a body would effectually secure the *British* troops from all kinds of surprise, by scouring the woods for many miles round, and giving timely notice of any danger before it arrived. No one who has not been in *America* can conceive with what swiftness the *Indians* scamper through their woods, and with what certainty they can distinguish objects at a considerable distance. The fact is that the *Indians* will distinguish objects in their woods at twice, if not three times, the distance that *Europeans* can; and this faculty (or, if you will, habit, as it is only the improvement of a natural faculty) they acquire by their daily practice in pursuing their enemies or their game. In these pursuits they are as swift and as sharp-sighted as lynxes, and, I may add too, as cunning as foxes; for they will sometimes lie flat upon the ground, covering themselves with the leaves and branches of trees, and in this way will remain undiscovered till their enemy or their game is close upon them, when they suddenly start up, and make sure of their prey.

The security which such a body of *Indians* would give to the King's forces, particularly by night, would be of the last importance, as it would enable them to sleep as quietly and as soundly in camp as if they were at home in their own beds; whereas when troops are in danger of being every moment surprised, they may be said to doze rather than to sleep; and though the usual time might be allowed them every night for rest, yet they are very little refreshed by these broken slumbers, and in the space of a few days are so totally exhausted as to be altogether unfit for action.

In the next place, these *Indians* might be employed in distributing manifestoes among the inhabitants of the back settlements, acquainting them with the approach of the Royal army, which would restrain the factious, confirm the wavering, and encourage the loyal and well-affected to persevere in their pacifick intentions.

But the chief advantage accruing from such a body of *Indians*, is the terror it would strike into the Colonists in general; for nothing can exceed the idea they entertain of a hostile visit from these savages. God forbid, however, that I should recommend the letting loose these barbarians in all their native cruelty and ferocity. Rather than consent to this, I would willingly forego all the benefits arising from their service. But I think there is a possibility of using them as bugbears, without allowing them to act as hell-hounds, though this will require the most delicate management: it will require the direction of a man open, frank, generous, and affable, such as was that of the late Sir *William Johnson*, who could rule and control the passions of these *Indians* at pleasure; but whether this be the character of General *Carleton* is best known to those who are personally acquainted with him, which is not the case of yours, &c.,

A SOLDIER.

London, October 22, 1776.

COLONEL REED TO GOVERNOUR TRUMBULL.

Head-Quarters, October 18, 1776.

SIR: The very critical state of our army, and frequent movements of the enemy, render it almost impossible for the General to write himself without neglecting more important duties. He therefore directs me to answer your letter of the 14th, and to say that the Captains of the galleys from your State have misbehaved invariably from the first moment they came, to the time of their departure from hence, about a week ago; that the accumulation of business and a hope that they would retrieve their reputation prevented your having an earlier information of their behaviour. They are now under the sentence of a Court-Martial for misbehaviour in the first attack made on the ships in the *North River*, and on every other occasion since have manifested such want of spirit and judgment as to be despised by the whole army. In the late affair, Captain *McCleave* must be

excepted from the general censure, as he managed with prudence and propriety. But Captain *Tinker*, with the wind at south, and on the tide of flood when the ships could move, left his vessel, though stationed as a guard, to go up to *King's Bridge* after some clothes, as he pretends. The consequence was, that in the hurry and confusion and long before they were in danger, they left the galley aground, though they might have burned or bilged her. The enemy took possession of her in half an hour; and she, with the other left under the like circumstances, will probably prove the most formidable force they can have to oppose us on the river. There was a place of safety provided for the other galleys, which they might have got into, as well as *McCleave*, but they passed it in their hurry.

I am, sir, by his Excellency's command, your most obedient, humble servant,

JOSEPH REED, *Adjutant-General*.

Agreeable to your request, the General has dismissed Captain *McCleave* and his crew. The other is up the river.

COLONEL RICHMOND TO MARYLAND COUNCIL OF SAFETY.

Heights near Harlem, October 18, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: I this day received your Honours' letter of the 11th instant, communicating your instructions to stop the money due to the State of *Maryland* from the several people mentioned in the accounts therein enclosed, amounting to £3,675 17s. 5d. I will endeavour to do this as soon as possible, but fear the whole cannot be received till the pay for the months of *September* and *October* is issued by the Paymaster-General. The men having suffered great losses in clothes on *Long-Island*, will want the whole of the money remaining due to them for *July* and *August*, to procure such covering as is to be had. The pay abstract of Continental pay due to the battalion and *Veazey's* company and *Hindman's*, (the battalion and *Veazey's* company commencing 5th *July*, the time they were voted into the service of the continent, and *Hindman's* the 26th of same month, the time he received his last orders to march, calculated to the 31st *August*,) amounts to £4,126 15s. 2d., out of which the State of *Maryland*, by the Paymaster there, and through the hands of Colonel *Smallwood*, has advanced upwards of sixteen hundred pounds, which will be received for the State as soon as possible, and remitted as soon as received.

The battalion and *Veazey's* company will have three days' pay due to them from the State of *Maryland*, which it is proposed to pay them out of the last-mentioned sum. The money is ready at the Paymaster-General's office; but on account of the alarm of the enemy's landing troops on different parts of the main lands of this continent, from the *Sound*, I have thought it advisable to put off receiving it till our troops get a little settled in their new encampment above *King's Bridge*, to which place they marched from hence last *Saturday*.

You will be pleased to observe that the sum of two hundred pounds charged in the accounts received from you as advance Captain *Veazey*, is not included in the sixteen hundred pounds above mentioned, Colonel *Smallwood* having paid him, at *Philadelphia*, half a month's pay for his company, amounting to £118 17s. 6d., not knowing that such a sum had been paid him at the commencement of his march. Captain *Hindman* informs me received *Maryland* pay to the 3d *August*; so that there will be due the State from that company the amount of the whole company's pay for eight days, viz: from the 26th of *July* to the 3d of *August*.

With regard to the four Independent companies, viz: *Gunby's*, *Thomas's*, *Woolford's*, and *Bracco's*, which have joined the battalion lately, I do not know how to make out their pay accounts against the continent, not having been informed at what time they were considered as having entered into its service. I have understood that most of the four received a month's pay advanced them at *Philadelphia*; but they have received none since they came here, nor do I expect they will till about the beginning of *November*, when they may possibly be paid up to the end of *October*, with the rest of the troops. I shall be very glad to be informed by your Honours, as soon as possible, of the time these four companies entered the service of the continent, and also whether I am right or not in fixing the

time of the battalion and *Veazey's* on the 6th, and *Hindman's* on the 26th, of *July*.

I will send you a particular account of the disposal of the pay, now laying ready, as soon as I have paid off the men and settled the account to that time. In the mean time I shall execute any of your commands in the best manner I am capable of; and am, with great respect, your very obedient servant,

CHRIS'R RICHMOND.

To the honourable Council of Safety of *Maryland*.

P. S. Captain *Scott* informs me he paid a sum of money, in part of the State's account against him, to Mr. *Charles Howard*, credit for which is not given; and I think Captain *Adams* paid some money to some person, in part of his account.

GENERAL HEATH TO CAPTAIN HORTON.

King's Bridge, October 18, 1776.

CAPTAIN HORTON: You will remain with the cannon and howitzer which were ordered up with you, at the place where you were directed to take post by the General, which I suppose is to cover our ships and prevent the enemy burning them or cutting them out. If there is not a sufficient number of men there to cover them, upon your signification of it they shall be sent to you. As soon as the ships are got off, you will return with the cannon, &c. Major *Crafts* will return with his howitzer immediately.

I am, sir, your humble servant, W. HEATH.

DEPOSITION OF LIEUTENANT WILLIAM B. ALGER.

William B. Alger, a Lieutenant in Captain *Darland's* company, in Colonel *Humphrey's* regiment, being duly sworn and examined, says, that on or about the 3d of *October*, instant, he was at the house of *Jacob Deane*, in *Charlotte Precinct*, in the *Nine Partners*; that he asked the said *Deane* whether he had any deerskins to sell; that the said *Deane* told him he had, and accordingly laid out several skins. That the man offered to part with the skins, and that he, the deponent, agreed to give him the price he asked for them; that the deponent asked him whether he would not abate any thing of the price he asked; that the said *Deane* told him that it depended upon what sort of money he meant to pay him; that the deponent told him that he meant to pay him in the money which was current, namely, Continental money; that he had no other money. That the said *Deane* said that he would not part with his skins for that money; that he never has taken that money, and never intended to. And further this deponent saith not.

WM. B. ALGER.

HENRY WISNER TO THE NEW-YORK CONVENTION.

Peekskill, October 18, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: I have been taking a view of the adjacent hills this morning, at the entrance of the Highlands on the south side, and find them capable of being made quite defensible with very little expense.

The hill at the north side of *Peekskill* is so situated with the road winding along the side of it, that ten men on the top, by throwing down stones, might prevent ten thousand passing. I went on the top this morning, and rolled some stones down; it made a most violent appearance; some of them sprang twenty feet high. I believe nothing more need be done than to keep great quantities of stone at the different places where the troops must pass, if they attempt penetrating the mountains. The troops that went over towards *Fishkill* are returned. I believe it will be best to have the greatest part of them stationed along between this and *Tarrytown*. Colonel *Cortlandt* is very busy getting things put in a proper way for the subsistence of the troops. I am this moment setting off for *Fort Montgomery* to get the Engineer to come and assist us with his advice. I have procured a man who understands making flints. If Mr. *Harper* is not gone home, I beg him to send a cart-load of the stone that he told me of. If he is gone, pray write after him. I am convinced that the man understands how to make them.

I am, gentlemen, your humble servant,

HENRY WISNER.

To *Peter R. Livingston, Esq.*, President of Convention of the State of *New-York*, at *Fishkill*.

COLONEL SNYDER TO THE NEW-YORK CONVENTION.

Fort Montgomery, October 18, 1776.

Whereas, by a resolve of said Convention, bearing date the 7th of *September* last past, it was ordered to raise six hundred men out of the Militia of the several Counties therein mentioned, and to form a regiment to reinforce the garrisons at the Forts *Constitution* and *Montgomery* in the Highlands, under the command of the Field Officers appointed by said Convention, to wit: First Colonel *Johannis Snyder*, Lieutenant-Colonel *John Bailey, Jun.* And whereas I have, immediately upon the receipt of said resolve, met the several Colonels of the several regiments of *Ulster* County, in order to agree what number of men each regiment should raise in proportion of the two hundred men ordered to be raised in said County of *Ulster*, and agreed as follows:

Colonel *Johannis Snyder's* regiment, - 38 privates.
Colonel *Jonathan Hasbrouck's* regiment, 62 do.
Lieut. Col. *James McClaughry's* regiment, 56 do.
Lieut. Col. *Jacob Hornbeek's* regiment, 44 do.

Total, - - - - - 200

And whereas I arrived at this place (*Fort Montgomery*) the 27th of *September* last, with the quota of my regiment, except five, who were sick and unfit, and, since my arrival here, my regiment now amounts to the number as follows:

From Col. <i>Snyder's</i> regiment, present	33	wanted	5
From Col. <i>Hasbrouck's</i> do. - do.	17	do.	45
From Col. <i>McCloughry's</i> do. do.	44	do.	12
From Col. <i>Hornbeek's</i> do. - do.	24	do.	20
From the County of <i>Albany</i> , arrived	111	do.	39
From the County of <i>Dutchess</i> , do.	87	do.	88
From the County of <i>Orange</i> , do.	63	do.	12

Present 379 wanted 221

GENTLEMEN: There is a true state of my regiment, now under my command, whereof three companies are stationed, by General *Clinton's* orders, at *Fort Constitution*, under the command of Colonel *Bailey*. Gentlemen, I think it necessary that your honourable Board should issue your orders to the several Field Officers of the several Counties to order the deficiency of their quota of men immediately to join my regiment. If that should not be the case, there is no prospect for raising of men for the future, for the best of men are chiefly already in the service, and those that are rather disaffected to the cause decline, and will not go even if it fell to their lot by ballot; and it appears to me, that the Field Officers have little or no concern about it, for I never received as much as a return from any of the Field Officers, whether they had raised and ordered their quota of men to join my regiment. So, gentlemen, I shall rest this matter to your superiour wisdom, and shall conduct myself agreeable to your directions, and remain, gentlemen, your humble servant,

JOH'S SNYDER, Colonel.

To the honourable Convention of the State of *New-York*, now convened at the *Fishkill*.

COLONEL SNYDER TO THE NEW-YORK CONVENTION.

Fort Montgomery, October 18, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: Whereas, by resolve of your honourable Board, bearing date the 7th *September* last past, I am appointed Colonel, to command six hundred men, to be raised in the several Counties therein mentioned, to reinforce the Forts *Constitution* and *Montgomery* in the Highlands; and whereas I arrived here the 27th of said *September*, and the several officers appointed by the Field Officers of the several Counties, now here present, and at *Fort Constitution*, are as follows, to wit:

In the County of *Ulster*: Captain, *Frederick Schoonmaker*; his First Lieutenant, *Daniel Graham*; his Second Lieutenant, *Cornelius Van Wagener*. Captain, *William Telfort*; his First Lieutenant, *William Kuddeback*; his Second Lieutenant, *Hendricus Feerpenning, Jun.* Captain, *Matthew Johnson, Jun.*; First Lieutenant, ; Second Lieutenant, *Evert Hoffman*.

In *Orange* County: Captain, *James Sawyer*; First Lieutenant, *George Luckey*; Second Lieutenant, *Gilbert Veail*.

In *Dutchess* County: Captain, *Thomas Storm*; First

Lieutenant, *Eliakam Barman*; Second Lieutenant, not returned. Captain, *Ebenezer Husted*; First Lieutenant, *John Wilson*; Second Lieutenant, *David Ostrom*.

In the County of *Albany*: Captain, *Ithamar Spencer*; First Lieutenant, *Henry Irwin*; Second Lieutenant, *John Murray*. Captain, *John Williams*; First Lieutenant, *Philip Staats*; Second Lieutenant, *Peter Van Berregan*.

And whereas, by virtue of said resolve, I have appointed *David Bevier* Adjutant, and *Coenraedt Jo. Elmendorph* Quartermaster; and I conceive it necessary the gentlemen appointed as above should have commissions from your honourable Board, in order to confirm their appointments, and also to exercise their power more satisfactory to their men under their command; therefore I desire your favour to make out the commissions for the several gentlemen above appointed in their ranks, and send the commissions to me by the bearer hereof, Lieutenant *Daniel Graham*, who is sent for that purpose; and your so doing you will oblige your humble servant,

JOH'S SNYDER, Colonel.

To the honourable Convention of the State of *New-York*, now convened at the *Fishkill*.

GENERAL SCHUYLER TO GOVERNOUR TRUMBULL.

Saratoga, October 18, 1776.

SIR: General *Waterbury*, who is prisoner on his parole is on his way from *Albany* to *Connecticut*. I have advised him to go directly from *Albany* to you. He is capable of giving you that information you requested in your last favour to me. He is not only a brave and good officer, but a candid and honest man, uninfluenced by any unbecoming prejudices. He will also acquaint you with the state of our affairs at *Ticonderoga*.

I am, most respectfully, sir, your obedient and very humble servant,

PH. SCHUYLER.

To the Hon. *Jonathan Trumbull*, Esq., &c., &c.

GENERAL SCHUYLER TO GENERAL GATES.

Saratoga, October 18, 1776.

DEAR GENERAL: As too much precaution cannot be had to prevent the enemy's ships from getting into your rear, and thereby intercepting your supplies, permit me to suggest the necessity of throwing one or more booms across from the redoubt to *Mount Independence*; but lest booms should be insufficient, it would be well to anchor large rafts of timber in the channel.

Strong parties should be sent out to meet and escort the cattle that are now on the way up. Hereafter, the cattle will go to *Skeensborough*; and as the weather will soon be such as to preserve meat, I propose that they shall be killed there, and the quarters sent to you.

By this express I send orders to Colonel *Gansevoort* to kill what cattle there may be at his post, and to send them over to you.

The difficulty of keeping the Militia without any tents or other shelter will be extreme; and if you should discover that the enemy do not mean to attack you, I wish to be advised of it the earliest possible.

I am, dear General, very sincerely, your most obedient, humble servant,

PH. SCHUYLER.

To the Hon. Major-General *Gates*.

New-London, Friday, October 18, 1776.

Last Monday a regiment of Continental troops, commanded by Colonel *Richmond*, arrived here from *Rhode-Island*.

Last Saturday the wife and daughter of one *John Hill*, a prisoner confined in *Boston* jail for being concerned with *Crean Brush* and others in robbing the inhabitants of *Boston* when that place was evacuated, came to this town from *Providence* by water, and were endeavouring to get a passage to the west end of *Long-Island*, but were stopped by the Committee of this town, and on examination were found upon them sundry papers containing matters of intelligence respecting the people and state of the country, sent from said *Hill* and others in *Boston* to General *Howe*. It appears,

from the papers found upon them, that they had been possessed of other papers, which they had secured or destroyed. They were both sent back with the papers, under a proper convoy, to the place from whence they came.

The *Montgomery* privateer belonging to *Providence*, has taken and sent into this port a schooner from Cape *Nichola Mole*, bound to *Halifax*, having on board nine thousand gallons of molasses and six thousand weight of sugar. The privateer had been out but twenty-four hours when she took this vessel.

COMMODORE HOPKINS TO CAPTAIN J. PAUL JONES.

New-Port, October 18, 1776.

SIR: The owners of Captain *Dennis's* sloop have delivered two of the men which signed their articles, and have given sufficient security that they will not carry away any of the men belonging to the fleet. If you find any men on board that do belong to the fleet, take them out and then discharge the sloop. As there are some of the owners that are men of honour, and will not do any such thing, it will be hard that they should suffer for one man that has behaved out of character. So that upon the whole think it best to let the sloop and her people go.

I am your friend and humble servant,

ESEK HOPKINS, Commander-in-Chief.

To *John P. Jones*, commander of the *Providence*, or *Hoys-teed Hacker*, Esq., commander of the *Hamden*.

Newburyport, October 18, 1776.

Yesterday came in here a prize brig bound to *White-Haven*, laden chiefly with mahogany. She was taken about a fortnight ago by the *Hancock* privateer, Captain *Wingate Newman*, from this port.

ADDRESS OF THE LORD MAYOR, ETC., OF THE CITY OF YORK TO THE KING.

St. James's, October 19, 1776.

The following Address of the Lord Mayor, Recorder, Aldermen, Sheriffs, and Commons, of the City of *York*, in Common Council assembled, having been transmitted to the Earl of *Suffolk*, one of his Majesty's Principal Secretaries of State, has been presented to his Majesty; which Address his Majesty was pleased to receive very graciously.

To the King's Most Excellent Majesty.

The humble Address of the Lord Mayor, Recorder, Aldermen, Sheriffs, and Commons of the City of *York*, in Common Council assembled:

MOST GRACIOUS SOVEREIGN: We, your Majesty's most dutiful and loyal subjects, the Lord Mayor, Recorder, Aldermen, Sheriffs, and Commons, of your ancient city of *York*, beg leave, with joyful hearts, to congratulate your Majesty upon the late glorious success of your forces in *America*.

We regard, with just indignation, the avowed and hostile defiance of some of your Majesty's Colonies to the legal authority of the mother country, by which they have been so liberally cherished and supported, and from which they derive the most signal advantages. So ungrateful a defection, aggravated by such acts of violence and cruelty that it became dangerous to be loyal, obliges us to acknowledge the justice of coercive measures, at the same time that we lament their necessity. But we trust that by the wisdom of your Majesty's councils, and the terror of your arms, the authors of this unnatural rebellion will speedily be subdued, your Majesty's faithful *American* subjects freed from oppression, and those who have been deluded by faction will, by a timely submission, become fit objects of your royal clemency and benevolence.

Permit us, sir, to assure your Majesty, that our hearts are warm with affection for your royal person, family, and Government; that we are zealous friends to law, liberty, and order; and determined enemies to faction, licentiousness, and sedition; and that we regard the honour and dignity of your Majesty's crown, and the supreme authority of the *British* Legislature, as the great pillars of that excellent Constitution on which depends the freedom and prosperity of every branch of the *British* empire.

EXTRACT OF A LETTER DATED DUBLIN, OCTOBER 19, 1776.

By a letter from *Lisburne*, dated *October 15*, we learn that an *American* privateer came to anchor in the harbour of *Newhaven* the 13th instant, and demanded provisions, for which payment was offered. She mounted eighteen carriage guns, and one hundred and five men on board, and is a new vessel well built. She remained but a few hours, then weighed anchor, and sailed to the northward.

His Excellency the Lord Lieutenant having signified to the Lord Mayor that his Excellency had appointed the *Larne* armed cutter, Captain *Cunningham*, to convoy the trade to *London*, his Lordship gave proper notice accordingly to the merchants and captains of ships.

ALEXANDRIA (FAIRFAX COUNTY, VIRGINIA) COMMITTEE TO THE PRESIDENT OF CONGRESS.

[Read November 4, 1776: Referred to the Board of War.]

Virginia, Fairfax County, October 17, 1776.

SIR: At the request of the inhabitants of the town of *Alexandria*, I take the liberty to trouble you with the enclosed order of the *Virginia* Council, understanding that Messrs. *Hughes*, of *Frederick* County, *Maryland*, (who are the only persons in this part of the Continent to be depended on for cannon,) are under contract with the Congress for all the cannon their works can possibly make in a year, and having no other means of carrying the above-mentioned order of Council into execution, the inhabitants of the said town humbly beg leave through you, sir, to represent their case to the honourable the Congress, and pray for an order to Messrs. *Hughes*, to furnish them with the cannon wanted, out of those engaged for Continental service. They are unacquainted with the terms of Messrs. *Hughes* contract, but if the price is more than thirty-five pounds, *Virginia* currency, per ton, the rate our Council have prescribed, they will pay the difference themselves. If the Congress is pleased to indulge them with such an order, the sooner it can be granted the better, as the fortifying the said town will be very advantageous to the trade of great part of *Virginia* and *Maryland*, and give considerable encouragement to foreign adventurers, by affording them protection at a good port where they can speedily procure cargoes of country produce.

I beg the favour of an answer as soon as convenience will permit; and am, with much respect, sir, your most obedient, humble servant,

G. MASON,

Chairman of Fairfax County Committee.

Williamsburg, in Council, September 7, 1776.

The Board having considered the petition of the inhabitants of the town of *Alexandria*, setting forth among other things their defenceless condition, though accessible to ships-of-war under forty or fifty guns, and praying that they might be permitted to purchase at the publick expense sixteen iron Cannon, viz: ten eighteen-pounders, and six nine-pounders, to be mounted on two substantial Batteries which had been lately erected on advantageous situations in that town, and which are now completed, with proper embrasures for Cannon, directly under which the channel of the river runs, so that no ship can pass at much more than a quarter of a mile distance; and that they might also be allowed to purchase in the same manner, two small Forges for heating the nine-pound shot, with a sufficient quantity of Ordnance Stores; and further praying, that out of the two Militia companies now in the said town, there might be formed one Artillery company, to consist of fifty matrosses with proper officers, to be duly exercised at the said Batteries twice a week, and to receive, only when on duty, the same pay with other Artillery companies:

Ordered, That the petitioners be accordingly permitted to purchase the Cannon, Forges, and Ordnance stores aforesaid, taking care not to exceed thirty-five pounds per ton, for the Cannon, including the expense of proving the same, and to procure the same as much lower, and the other articles as cheap, as possible.

The Board do not think themselves authorized to order an Artillery company to be formed, and therefore refer that part of the petition to the consideration of the General Assembly, which will sit probably as soon as the several articles above mentioned can be procured.

Copy—test:

ARCH'D BLAIR, Clerk.

CHARLES RUMSEY TO MARYLAND COUNCIL OF SAFETY.

Elk River, Cecil County, October 19, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: The Northern posts leaving this place before the arrival of the Southern, I can't answer any of your directions, as no letter has come to hand.

The company out of my battalion will be ready in two days at most, as I have purchased blankets, guns, and kettles, since which we have received from Mr. *Gerrard Hopkins* kettles and three tents, very thin.

Your particular directions shall be obeyed by, gentlemen, your most obedient, humble servant,

CHARLES RUMSEY.

To the honourable Council of Safety of *Maryland*, *Annapolis*.

AMOS GARRETT TO MATTHEW TILGHMAN.

Swan Creek, October 19, 1776.

SIR: You have on the other side the copy of my last I sent two days ago, with a man to be sent to *Baltimore* for the stores for Captain *Holland's* company. The company has had a meeting yesterday, and have concluded to set off for the camp next *Wednesday*.

On their meeting, their arms has been reviewed; and what are concluded to be carried, and what can be collected, will call for more money than I have got for that purpose. Two of the gentlemen that agrees to assist me being on the inquiry for blankets, &c., Captain *Holland* has signified to me that to expedite their departure, he thinks it expedient to request the Council of Safety to forward up a further sum for that purpose. Mr. *James Hall* waits on you, and if it is agreeable, a further sum of one or two hundred pounds may be sent up, which I will account for in the equipment of that company.

Having no Quartermaster to attend them, there must be provision made for their subsistence to where they can be supplied. If you send the money, you will direct how to be employed if more than necessary for the company's expense.

I am, sir, your most humble servant,

AMOS GARRETT.

N. B. There are twelve muskets fixed at Mr. *Richard Dallam's* factory. Please to order if to be taken for this company.

THOMAS WHARTON, JUN., TO COLONEL CADWALLADER.

In Council of Safety, Philadelphia, October 19, 1776.

SIR: Frequent complaints having been made to this Board that the officers who have received the pay of the privates do withhold their money from them, to the great injury of the service, as it tends to discourage the soldiery and unfit them for duty, and is certainly an unjust, base conduct, beneath the character of a good officer and an honest man, this Board is determined to discourage all such unworthy practices, and to make an example of any officer who shall be found guilty. We therefore request you will make particular inquiry into the conduct of your officers, and report such, if any have withheld the monthly pay from their men; and in future we earnestly recommend to you a strict attention to this matter, so as to prevent complaint of this kind.

By order of the Council:

THOS. WHARTON, JUN., President.

To Lieutenant Colonel *Lambert Cadwallader*.

JOSIAH BARTLETT TO JOHN LANGDON.

Philadelphia, October 19, 1776.

DEAR SIR: This will be handed you by Captain *Roche*, who has at length finished his business here, and got orders for you to build another ship, as you will see by the letters from the Marine Committee to you.

After I wrote you last *Tuesday*, I received yours of the 30th ultimo, and desired the clerk of the Secret and Marine Committee to take out from the books the sums of money you have received of each of those Committees. The sum you have received of the Secret Committee is twenty-five thousand dollars; but the clerk was so engaged he could not give me the other account at this time; will try to send it you next week.

I mentioned in the Marine Committee that you were desirous to know whether you were to allow any passenger or seaman on board any of the prizes their adventures, or private property, more than the wages to the seamen agreeable to the resolve of Congress. They informed me they had not given any orders about it, and that it was not in their power to give any orders different from the resolves of Congress, yet it seemed to be the desire of the Committee that such passengers and seamen as behaved themselves decently should be dealt well by, and not stripped of every thing that might be taken from them by the rules of war.

As for news, I have none at present to communicate. We have had no certain accounts from our camp at *Harlem*, since the 13th. There are some flying accounts, but Captain *Roche*, as he passes that way, will be able to give you a true account of our affairs there.

A great number of foreigners, especially *French* officers, are daily almost arriving here, and requesting to be employed in our army, many of whom are well recommended.

Colonel *Whipple* is not arrived here yet. I shall look for him every day now till I see him, when I shall return home, and, after your example, enjoy the pleasure of residing in my own country in future.

Remember me to all friends, and be assured that I am your affectionate friend,

JOSIAH BARTLETT.

P S. I am much better in health than I was for four or five weeks.

GEORGE TAYLOR TO THE PRESIDENT OF CONGRESS.
Shrewsbury, October 19, 1776

SIR: I herewith send you by the bearer, Captain *Smock*, six prisoners, which I took out of a schooner which was drove on shore the 14th instant, on the *Jersey* shore, near where I was stationed to guard the coast. As to particular circumstances, refer you to said Captain *Smock*. I have given an account of the vessel and cargo to General *Mercer*, and make no doubt but it came to hand. I have orders from the General to take care of the vessel till further orders. As to the vessel's hull, it lies exposed and likely to be lost the first eastwardly storm. She might, perhaps, be sold to the advantage of the owners or publick, whoever it is that is to have the benefit. Your directions in the above shall be my particular guide. I have also sent one Captain *Moore*, a gentleman who was on board the schooner when taken; he appears to be a man in distress, therefore I have taken the liberty to send him amongst the rest, as it can't be but very little odds in the expense. Should be obliged to your Honour to pay off the Captain's account of travelling expenses, &c.

I am, with much esteem, your very humble servant,
GEO. TAYLOR.

To the Hon. *John Hancock*, Esq.

GENERAL MERCER TO THE PRESIDENT OF CONGRESS.
[Read 21st October, 1776.]
Perth-Amboy, October 19, 1776.

SIR: General *Washington* has, by his instructions just now come to hand, directed that some of the *Hessian* prisoners should be permitted to make their escape for the purpose of distributing the advertisements of Congress among their countrymen in the army. As the prisoners were sent off yesterday, it is probable that Mr. *Lodowick*, who is entrusted with this, will not overtake them before they have reached *Philadelphia*. You will then please to determine whether it may not be more eligible to let the *Hessians* rest a few days, to form an acquaintance with some of their countrymen who have experienced the advantages of free government, and then to exchange, or induce some of them to return to their corps, as having escaped from confinement. I have directed that if any of the *Hessian* prisoners are willing to join their regiments, and to take over some of the advertisements to show their countrymen, that such men may be immediately ordered to this post in compliance with the General's instructions. But if they have reached *Philadelphia*, he is to take the sense of Congress in the further prosecution of this affair. What advertisements I had, have been several weeks ago sent over to *Staten-Island*.

The fleet mentioned in my letter of the 17th, proves to be one hundred and fifty sail, gone up to *York*. Some more ships appear to be coming in to-day.

I have the honour to be, sir, your most obedient servant,
HUGH MERCER.

To the Hon. *John Hancock*, Esq.

Besides the return transmitted to Congress, we have brought off from *Staten-Island* thirty muskets, four pistols, four hangers, and three bayonets, also one standard of Light-Horse.

Return of eleven Companies of the Regiment of Artillery, and one Colony Company, in the service of the UNITED STATES OF AMERICA, commanded by HENRY KNOX, Esq., Camp below KING'S BRIDGE, OCTOBER 19, 1776.

	Colonel.	Lieut. Colonel.	Major.	Captains.	Capt. Lieutenants.	First Lieutenants.	Second Lieut'nts.	Chaplain.	Adjutant.	Quartermaster.	Surgeon.	Mate.	Sergeants.	Corporals.	Bombardiers.	Gunners.	Drums and Fifes.	Matrosses.	Total.
Pres't, fit for duty	1	-	-	3	3	2	11	1	1	1	1	1	15	14	27	20	11	86	198
Sick, present	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	4	1	4	5	1	16	32
Sick, absent	-	-	1	2	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	4	5	8	1	34	57
On command	-	1	-	5	8	7	14	-	-	-	-	-	15	15	28	33	9	152	287
On furlough	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	3	3
Dead	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1
	1	1	1	11	12	9	25	1	1	1	1	1	35	34	64	66	22	292	578
Deduct dead	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1
Total	1	1	1	11	12	9	25	1	1	1	1	1	35	34	64	66	22	291	577

Since the last, one man, returned a deserter, has joined his company. Dr. *Stevenson* appointed Surgeon 17th inst. Those on command are in the *Jerseys*, on the heights beyond *King's Bridge*, with the several divisions of the Army, and at *Fort Montgomery*.

HENRY KNOX, Colonel.

EXTRACT OF A LETTER FROM FORT LEE, (LATE FORT CONSTITUTION, BUT NOW ALTERED BY GENERAL ORDERS,) DATED OCTOBER 19, 1776.

Yesterday's affair was honourable to us. Three regiments, *Glover's*, *Reed's*, and *Shepherd's*, of *Massachusetts*, under Colonel *Glover*, who commanded the brigade,* were

* October 18, 1776.—The regiment at *Westchester* Causeway had been relieved by another. The officer on command there this morning sent up an express to General *Heath*, informing him that the *British* were opening an embrasure in their work at the end of the causeway, and that he apprehended they intended, under a cannonade from this, to attempt to pass. General *Heath* ordered one of his aids to gallop his horse to the officer commanding the brigade, near *Valentine's*, the nearest to *Westchester*, and order him to form his brigade instantly. Arriving himself by the time the brigade was formed, he ordered the officer to march with the utmost expedition to the head of the causeway, to reinforce the troops there, himself moving on with them. When the troops had advanced to about half the way between the head of the creek and the post at the head of the causeway, another express met him, informing him that the whole *British* army were in motion, and seemed to be moving towards the pass at the head of the creek. Upon this, the brigade was ordered to halt, the whole to prime and load, and the rear regiment to file off by the left, and march briskly to reinforce the *Americans* at the pass at the head of the creek. At this instant General *Washington* came up, and having inquired of General *Heath* the state of things, ordered him to return immediately, and have his division formed ready for action, and to take such a position as might appear best calculated to oppose the enemy, should they attempt to land another body of troops on *Morrisania*, which he thought not improbable. General *Heath* immediately obeyed the order.

The wind was now fresh at southwest. The *British* crossed to the other side of *Frog's Neck*, embarked on board their boats, crossed over the cove, landed on *Pell's Neck*, and moved briskly upwards. Three or four of the *American* regiments advanced towards them, and took a good position behind a stone fence. When the *British* had advanced sufficiently near, they gave them a pretty close fire, which checked them, and even obliged them to fall back; but being immediately supported, they returned vigorously to the charge. The action was sharp for a short time, but the *Americans* were soon obliged to give way to superior force. *Shepard's*, *Reed's*, *Baldwin's*, and *Glover's* regiments had the principal share in this action. The *Americans* had between thirty and forty men killed and wounded; among the latter, Colonel *Shepard* in the throat, not mortally, although the ball came well-nigh effecting instant death. The loss of the *British* was not known, but must have been considerable. They advanced almost to *New-Rochelle*, and halted. The *American* army extended its left.

A number of boats went down towards *New-York*. It now became necessary immediately to quit the position in the neighbourhood of *King's Bridge*, the *British* being in the rear of the left of our army; and it is not a little unaccountable that they did not attempt to stretch themselves across to the *Hudson*, which might have been done with great ease. They only moved higher up on the other side of the little rivulet *Brunx*, which was generally fordable. The *White-Plains* were fixed upon for the next position of the *American* army. A strong garrison was to be left at *Fort Washington*, and General *Heath* was to leave one of his regiments to garrison *Fort Independence*.—*Heath*.

advanced under cover to receive the enemy, marching out towards the country. Colonel *Shepard* was well covered under a wall, and at thirty or forty yards gave their Grenadiers and Infantry an unexpected heavy fire, then a second and third, which broke the enemy so much that they ran away as fast as they could, in confusion. They returned with field-pieces and outflanked our party, which occasioned our people to retreat to a short distance, where they rallied well and kept their ground against their cannonade and numbers. Our men behaved with remarkable spirit and coolness, and I think are in a good way to do great things. We lost a few, thirty or forty killed and wounded. Two deserters from the enemy say they lost one thousand, but really I have the best opinions to believe they lost one hundred and fifty or upwards, as our men fired with great coolness at a good distance. They are trying to surround us. It won't be easy; and I am mistaken if they don't meet some severe rubbers.

HENRY WISNER TO THE NEW-YORK CONVENTION.

Peekskill, October 19, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: We have been so unfortunate as not to receive a line from you since we left *Fishkill*. *Dikeman* was here this morning, said he had a letter for us, but Colonel *Cortlandt* and myself were both out, and he took the letter with him. *Cergeer* was also here, said he had a letter for us, but had lost it. Mr. *Machin* is here. We have, with him, been taking a further view of the adjacent hills. He is fully of opinion with us that the building any fortifications in this part of the country would be labour badly spent, and worse than lost.

I have been at *Fort Montgomery* and at *Red-Hook*. If two eighteen or twenty-four pounders were placed at *Red-Hook* I believe the *British* ships might be kept from anchoring in *Peekskill Bay*, and by that means the navigation to *Peekskill* might be kept open; and in my opinion unless that can be done, the fort at *Red-Hook* had better never been built. However, I believe it would be right to try to get them. There is several vessels at *Fort Constitution* laden with boards, brick, lime, &c., for the use of the army. They might very safely be brought down, while the winds hold northwardly, but they will not come without your advice.

Colonel *Cortlandt* is now at *Croton*, and has been so much engaged that he has not had time to join me in any letter yet. Yesterday the King's ships hoisted sail and came up several miles, but the wind sprang up to the northwest, and they came to below *Verplanck's*.

I am, gentlemen, your humble servant,

HENRY WISNER.

To *Peter R. Livingston, Esq.*, President of Convention.

ROBERT HODGE TO JOHN M'KESSON.

Fishkill Landing, October 19, 1776.

SIR: The evening before last, when we had the pleasure of your company, through mistake you carried away the key of one of the rooms of the store. By sending said key with the gentleman who will deliver this to you, it will oblige Mrs. *Bush*. I am, sir, your most humble servant,

ROBERT HODGE.

To *John McKesson, Esq.*, Secretary to the Convention, at *Fishkill*.

NEW-YORK COMMITTEE OF SAFETY TO THE PRESIDENT OF CONGRESS.

In Committee of Safety, Fishkill, October 19, 1776.

SIR: I am directed by the Committee of Safety of the State of *New-York* to transmit the enclosed copy of a letter this moment received from Major-General *Schuyler*, at *Ticonderoga*. You will please to communicate the same to Congress.

I have the honour to be, sir, your most obedient and very humble servant,

PETER R. LIVINGSTON, President.

To the Hon. *John Hancock, Esq.*, President of the Continental Congress.

Saratoga, October 16, 1776, six o'clock, afternoon.

SIR: By letters from Generals *Gates* and *Arnold*, I am advised of the total destruction of our fleet on Lake Cham-

plain, and that it is beyond doubt that the enemy mean to attack our army at *Ticonderoga*. I have written to General *Ten Broeck* to march up the Militia under his command, and I have also applied for that of the neighbouring States. General *Gates* wished to be sustained by an army of ten or twelve thousand men. It is certainly of the highest importance that all the Militia that can be spared should march up without delay, either to support General *Gates*, if there should be time, or to cover his retreat should he be reduced to the necessity of quitting his ground; and I must therefore entreat your aid. Permit me to suggest that I believe the Convention's moving to *Albany* would be attended with good consequences.

I am, sir, your obedient, humble servant,

PHILIP SCHUYLER.

To the Hon. *Abraham Yates, Esq.*, President of the Convention of the State of *New-York*.

ABRM. LOTT TO THE NEW-YORK CONVENTION.

Beverwyck, October 19, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: It is with pain that I find myself under a necessity of again addressing instead of attending you. But when I consider that I have to do with a respectable body, who will do me the justice to believe that want of time, and not want of inclination, has prevented my waiting on them, I find myself in some measure relieved.

The truth is I have been assiduously employed in preparing my accounts, ever since I had the honour to write you by Mr. *Campbell*, and have now got them in such a train that (barring interruption by visitors drove from the city, which frequently happens since its evacuation, and by indisposition) I hope to be able to set out in about ten days. Mr. *Morris*, who I expect will be the bearer of this, will, I trust, convince you I do not mean to make any unnecessary delay, but that I will attend as soon as in my power; which I hope you will believe, as well as that I am, with respect, gentlemen, your most obedient servant,

ABRM. LOTT.

To the honourable Convention of the Representatives of the State of *New-York*.

THE COUNTY COMMITTEE FOR CHARLOTTE.

Skeensborough, October 19, 1776.

Resolved, That the Delegates of this County be requested to desire the Convention of this State to advance on loan the sum of two hundred Pounds, in order to defray the contingent expenses in this County. And if the request is complied with, any of the Delegates giving their receipt to the Treasurer with this resolution, it shall be acknowledged by this Committee a sufficient voucher for the same; and when it shall be thought proper (by the Convention or future Legislature of this State) that the money shall be repaid, this Committee will cheerfully coöperate with the same.

Resolved, That the Chairman of this Committee write a letter to *William Duer* and *Alexander Webster, Esqrs.*, to remit the aforesaid sum of two hundred Pounds to this County with all convenient speed.

By order:

JNO. WILLIAMS, Chairman.

Attest:

JOHN GIBSON, Clerk.

H. GLEN TO ELISHA AVERY.

Schenectady, October 19, 1776.

SIR: In your last you mentioned that the post at the *German Flats* was without a Commissary, and that one Mr. *Post* was recommended to you as a proper person: should I think him a fit person, I might inform him with the contents. Accordingly I wrote him he might have that post should he think proper. I have received his answer, wherein he acquaints me he will accept of that post. I look upon him as a proper person. He wants instructions, some quires of paper for his books, and he wants to know his wages per day, and how many rations he will be allowed. Please to send his instructions as soon as possible, and paper to my care, and I shall immediately forward it to him. His name is *John Post*.

As I expect my batteaus down from *Fort Schuyler* a Monday evening, and have no flour ready to load them, but

there is sufficient to be had, but the merchants seem not willing to part with it at present, I will be glad to know to-morrow or day after what the *Albany* market price is. As I have no pork but a very little for the batteau-men, and as I expect Colonel *Dayton's* regiment down here a-Monday, which is going to *Fort George*, I will be under the necessity of buying a few head of cattle.

I am your most humble servant,
H. GLEN.
To *Elisha Avery*, Esq., D. C. General, *Albany*.

J. BALDWIN TO GENERAL GATES.

October 19, 1776.

SIR: I have viewed the ground mentioned by Colonel *Willard*, and think, as they are commanded by several neighbouring grounds, that it cannot be fortified to advantage, but would recommend taking post on the hill north of the Great Bridge, if your Honour can spare about five hundred brave men to occupy that ground, which I think may be done to great advantage.

I have ordered the block-house at the mill to be put in the best defence, which is now doing. I would recommend the placing two or three small ship guns in the block-house.

One hundred men are filling up the *Crown-Point* road three miles, from Colonel *Willard's* and *Brewer's* regiments.

I would also recommend the getting eighteen dozen poles twelve feet long, to be sharpened and placed in the *Jersey* redoubt for the present as spears.

I am, sir, your very humble servant,

J. BALDWIN, Engineer.

To the Hon. Major-General *Gates*.

GOVERNOUR TRUMBULL TO THE COMMANDING OFFICER AT BOSTON.

New-Haven, October 19, 1776.

SIR: The enclosed act of the State of *Connecticut* shows the subject of my present application for your friendly assistance for the relief of Colonel *Ethan Allen* and eighteen other prisoners with him at *Halifax*. You will feel for their distresses, and I am earnestly to request your kind interposition to assist Mr. *Levi Allen*, the bearer, to procure the release of his brother and the rest of those unhappy sufferers with the Colonel, or at least to render them your best help.

I am, with sentiments of esteem and regard, sir, your most obedient, humble servant,

JONTH. TRUMBULL.

To Commanding Officer, *Boston*.

GOVERNOUR COOKE TO GENERAL WASHINGTON.

Providence, October 19, 1776.

SIR: Your letter requesting an account of the prisoners in this State I have duly received, and ordered the Sheriffs of the several Counties to make return to me of the number of prisoners in their respective Counties, and of their different stations, which return has not been yet made.

I also wrote immediately to Governour *Trumbull*, of *Connecticut*, to know where their prisoners were to assemble, that they might both go together, but have had no answer, but shall endeavour to forward them when I shall receive information from him. Since which I have received a letter from the Captain of the *Syren* frigate, off *Block-Island*, that he had a number of prisoners on board, taken in merchant ships, whom he has orders from Lord *Howe* to exchange for others of equal stations.

I inform your Excellency that a prize ship is brought in here, having a quantity of blankets, some coarse woollen goods, linens, and shoes, which the owners of the armed vessel who took her are desirous may be purchased for the use of the army; and in order that those goods may not be scattered, they propose that they be all put up in one lot together, and no stranger be allowed to bid them off, unless he shall produce orders from you or the Congress that he is making purchase of them for the army.

I should be glad, if your Excellency should think proper, that you would appoint somebody immediately to purchase the same. If you should make any appointment for that purpose here, I would just inform that Messrs. *Clark & Nightingale*, Mr. *John Brown* and myself, are all interested in the privateer, and therefore not so suitable for such

appointment as others. Mr. *Daniel Tillinghast* here is the Continental agent, and I believe a good man.

I am, your Excellency's most obedient and most humble servant,

NICHOLAS COOKE.

To His Excellency General *Washington*.

COMMODORE HOPKINS TO JOHN BRADFORD.

Newport, October 19, 1776.

SIR: I understand by Captain *Jones*, that there is some junk and sails on board the prize ship, which he sent into *Bedford*, and as them articles are much wanted on board several of the Continental vessels in this port, should be glad you would send all those articles, more than barely wanted for the ship, by the first opportunity to this place to me; or, in my absence, to Mr. *John Manley*, deputy agent here, and by so doing you will forward the service.

I am, sir, your humble servant,

ESEK HOPKINS.

To *John Bradford*, Esq., Agent for the *Massachusetts*, or in his absence, to his Deputy at *Bedford*.

NATHAN RUMSEY TO MARYLAND CONVENTION.

Nantes, October 20, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: An ardour for the success of the present Continental cause will, I doubt not, excuse a seeming impropriety in my addressing a body with the members of whom I have the honour of claiming little or no acquaintance.

I am here during the war, and my connection with Mr. *Penet* (for whose character I refer you, gentlemen, to the Secret Committee of Congress) influences me to request that preference in your business which we have already been honoured with from the Secret Committee of Congress.

Much pains have been taken to obtain a possibility of doing the *American* business from hence, which I have the satisfaction of informing you have met with such success as renders it in our power to supply the Continent with any article they please.

The articles which may be imported to advantage from hence are *Vitrey* linens fit for coarse shirting or sails, coarse cloths for soldiers, or negroes, clothing, and blankets, with all kind of military articles.

Letters directed to *Penet & Rumsey*, to the care of Mr. *John Grnel*, of this city, Messrs. *Remless De Basmazier* and *Raimboux*, merchants in *Bordeaux*, or Monsieur *Stephen Cattraleu*, of *Marseilles*, will be carefully forwarded.

With the utmost respect, I am, gentlemen, your most obedient, humble servant,

NATHAN RUMSEY.

To the respectable Members of the Convention for the Province of *Maryland*.

VAN BIBBER AND HARRISON TO MARYLAND COUNCIL OF SAFETY.

St. Pierre, Martinique, October 20, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: Our last respects to you were by Captain *Martin*, who sailed from this place the 11th current with a valuable cargo. Since then your favours of the 12th *September* have come safe to hand per the *Molly*, Captain *Conway*. His cargo, though a very proper one, we are sorry to acquaint, has come to a most wretched market. Fifty-seven shillings per barrel for his flour, and thirty-six for his bread, is the most we have been able to obtain, and his tobacco is yet unsold. Since disposing of this flour, a cargo of *Philadelphia* superfine has been sold for fifty-three shillings. This fall has been occasioned by the immense quantities that have arrived and continue to arrive from *France*, on a supposition that it would be a scarce article here. We fear there will be no change for it till towards the middle of the winter and spring, when we imagine it will begin to advance again, as in all probability the exportations from *France* will cease when it is known how badly their speculations must turn out; and plenty as flour is, we know of nothing that can be sent from *Maryland* that will turn to a better account; so surprisingly are we glutted with tobacco and all kinds of provisions.

We almost despair of supplying you with the large quantities of woollens and salt that you want; they are scarce and command ready cash; but we shall do our best.

As vessels with you are difficult to procure, and markets here very low, we fear you cannot easily remit us money sufficient for the extensive engagements we have and are to enter into. We would therefore beg leave to propose a method which we think may be employed with more success and facility than any other at present. It is, if possible, to get a boat or two out from *South-Carolina* with indigo. One pilot boat ballasted with that article would yield more money here than any three or four brigs with flour and tobacco. It is constantly worth from six shillings to twelve shillings per pound, (according to quality,) and is the only article of our exports that can be shipped from hence to *France*; and the risk of getting it here will be trifling, as it may be sent in such small fast-sailing vessels.

A part of Captain *Martin's* tobacco has been sold in *Statia* at forty-two shillings per hundred weight, and yesterday we shipped the remainder for that place.

We hope to despatch *Conway* in eight or ten days with some woollens, muskets, duck, &c.

And we are, &c.,

VAN BIBBER & HARRISON.

PETER T. CURTENIUS TO THE NEW-YORK CONVENTION.

Philadelphia, October 20, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: This serves to inform you that I have purchased at this place for the use of the *New-York* troops, 1,109 pair buck-skin breeches; 1,608 pair milled stockings; 85 felt hats; 1,939 check shirts; 1,928 white shirts. All which I have had packed and stored in this city. I would have forwarded them (agreeable to a resolve of Congress of the 25th *September*) to Head-Quarters, if we had not received an account yesterday that our army was going to retreat from *New-York* Island, and therefore thought it most prudent to leave the goods here, until I know where Head-Quarters will be fixed.

Besides the above, I have purchased here linen enough to make about two thousand shirts more, which will be made in about five weeks. At *Brunswick* I have got about four hundred pair of shoes ready to deliver, and have engaged from different shoemakers in the *Jerseys* about one thousand pair more, which will be ready by Christmas.

At *Tappan* I have about one hundred pair leather breeches, and at *Hackensacks* about one hundred pair more, and two hundred and thirteen ready-dressed deer-skins; also about one hundred and sixty felt hats, two hundred rifle frocks, ninety pair of shoes, and about four hundred shirts. As to cloth and blankets, I have not been able to get any, because the Congress secure all the woollens that come in here, and they have given orders to persons in every seaport town on the Continent to do the same; all which will be sent to the Quartermaster-General at Head-Quarters, where no doubt our troops will get their share. I shall endeavour to get all I can of the clothing, which are still deficient; but am afraid I shall fall much short in procuring the whole quantity of shoes, stockings, felt hats, and leather breeches, for which you were pleased to give me orders to purchase, they being very scarce this way, owing to the number of purchasers here. Would it not be proper to give the Committees in each county and town orders to purchase as many of these articles as they could get, it being impossible for one man in a State to get the whole, as times are now circumstanced, particularly in our State?

I take the liberty to return the resolve of the Convention authorizing me to borrow £2,000, on the credit of which I have not been able to get more than £3,200. This sum came vastly short to pay for the goods I had bought, and therefore have been obliged to advance of my own cash the sum of £3,844 6d., and I owe £10,651 6s. 1d. more; together amounts to £14,495 6s. 7d., say £15,000, as some accounts are not come in yet; which sum should be glad the Convention would be pleased to send by Mr. *Dykeman* to my house at *Paramus*, next to Mr. *Hopper's*, (for which place I set out to-morrow,) as soon as possible, and I must beg that the Convention would not disappoint me, for I am almost exhausted, and people calling on me for money daily, which is very disagreeable. Our Convention money will not pass here; therefore should be glad to have it in Continental money, of which Mr. *Livingston* tells me there has been lately sent from here to your Treasury one hundred thousand dollars.

I am, with great respect, gentlemen, your most obedient servant,

PETER T. CURTENIUS.

I shall be at *Paramus* the latter end of this week.

P. S. We have just now an account come that the prize with woollens worth thirty-seven thousand pounds sterling is safe arrived at *Falmouth*; also the rich *Turkey* ship. This will make a good parcel of coats. There is also arrived a ship from *France* at *Rhode-Island*, with six thousand yards of cloth, and about five hundred blankets.

COLONEL GRIFFIN TO RICHARD PETERS.

Perth-Amboy, October 20, 1776.

SIR: Enclosed you will find a general return of the army in *Jersey*, commanded by General *Mercer*. I must request the favour of you to transmit me by the first opportunity, the late resolve of Congress relative to the additional pay of the officers, or please inform me whether it takes place from the time of the ordinance passing; whether the Staff, or what part of it, is affected by it. It seems the Adjutants have orders to increase their rations, and of course their pay; in short, all the officers are making out their pay rolls at an advance of fifty per cent. Your complying with this request, may be of service to the States, and will much oblige your most obedient,

SAMUEL GRIFFIN, D. A. G.

To *Richard Peters*, Esq., Secretary of War, at *Philadelphia*.

EXTRACT OF A LETTER RECEIVED IN LONDON, DATED NEW-YORK, OCTOBER 20, 1776.

No doubt but before you receive this, you'll be informed of the King's troops being in possession of *New-York*, to the great satisfaction of the loyal part of its inhabitants, who have for a long time past suffered every hardship from a set of tyrants that is possible to be conceived; however, they are now rewarded who have withstood the traitors and remained firm to their King. The *Howes* do all that is possible to alleviate the sufferings of a persecuted people, who, rather than turn Rebels, have despised death and ruin; and if it had not pleased God to send us relief, dreadful would have been the consequence to every person that dared to be honest; however, we are now protected in our lives and properties, and some thousands have joined the King's troops; and every time they attack the Rebels they rout them with great loss; they fly before our victorious army on every onset; and I don't doubt but in a very little time this daring rebellion will be crushed. It would before now have been the case, had not the *Americans* been fed with hopes from the Court of *France*. But now let *France* or any other Power dare to assist them, we are prepared, and don't at all fear but we shall be able to give them a proper reception. It is resolved to attack *Washington* directly. Proper dispositions are making for that purpose; and I hope by the next letter to give you an account of an end being put to a Government that have dared to call themselves the *Independent States of America*. Almost all the *New-Yorkers* have returned to their allegiance, and there is not a doubt but the other Colonies will do the same when they dare declare themselves, and be properly supported by Government.

There is a broad R put upon every door in *New-York* that is disaffected to Government, and examples will be made of its inhabitants; on the other hand, every person that is well affected to Government, finds protection.

GENERAL GREENE TO THE PRESIDENT OF CONGRESS.

Camp at Fort Lee, (lately Fort Constitution,) }
October 20, 1776. }

SIR: I was at Head-Quarters near *King's Bridge* with his Excellency General *Washington* last night, and on leaving him was desired to send by express, to acquaint you that the army there are in great want of a large supply of cartridges, which no person can be spared to make; therefore he requests that you will order all that are now made up at *Philadelphia*, to be sent forward in light wagons that can travel with great despatch, as they are really very much wanted; and as none can be made up here, that persons be

employed at *Philadelphia* to continue at that business to furnish a full supply for the army.

Mr. Commissary *Lowry* is in great want of a supply of salt, which he begs may be sent to *Trenton* to enable him to furnish provisions for the army at *King's Bridge*, which are much wanted, and the supplies from *Connecticut* may be shortly cut off; and I have great reason to apprehend the evil will soon take place, if not wholly, in part. The article of salt is essentially necessary and must be procured if possible. Fresh provisions cannot be passed over without great difficulty, and the state of health of the troops from a taxed habit, requires a supply of salt. Mr. *Lowry* mentions the Council of Safety of *Pennsylvania* having a quantity.

I am, with great respect, your obedient servant,

NATHANAEL GREENE.

GENERAL MIFFLIN TO WILLIAM DUER.

Mount Washington, October 20, 1776.

DEAR MR. DUER: General *Washington* has directed me to form a magazine somewhere in your neighbourhood, but as he is not acquainted with your *cherche de payé*, he has directed me to apply to you, and take your opinion on the subject. Let me entreat you to consult Mr. *Livingston*, and some other friends on that head, and give me your opinion by the bearer, who will wait your answer to this letter.

In the mean time, please to procure thirty thousand bushels of grain, (*Indian* corn and oats in equal proportion,) one thousand tons of *English* hay, and five hundred tons of rye-straw, and order them to be deposited in such places as you may think, after consulting Mr. *Livingston*, most likely to answer our wants. The General thinks that the magazines should be remote from the *North River*.

Our army must regulate their movements by those of the enemy. We believe they have some design against the *White-Plains*, as they have been checked at *East-Chester*, and cannot draw their line across the isthmus, opposite to *East-Chester*, without risking the loss of great part of their army. I mentioned this for your direction, as it will be imprudent to form a magazine so near to us as the *White-Plains*.

I want immediately one hundred good teams of horses or oxen each, and request you to produce them by such means as are most expeditious. An application to your honourable Convention will, in my opinion, answer the purpose. I will allow such price as you may judge reasonable, and let me likewise entreat you to have the teams put under the direction of ten conductors, active, prudent men, who will keep the drivers and horses in good order, each conductor to have charge of ten teams. The horses or oxen to be branded with the letters C. A. I mean to purchase the teams. If they cannot be purchased, you may hire them at the most reasonable rates.

In great haste, I am yours, attached,

THOS. MIFFLIN, JUN.

ROBERT H. HARRISON TO THE PRESIDENT OF CONGRESS.

[Read, October 21, 1776.]

King's Bridge, October 20, 1776, half-after one o'clock, p. m.

SIR: I have it in command from his Excellency to transmit to you the enclosed copies of despatches which just now came to hand, and which contain intelligence of the most interesting and important nature respecting our affairs in the Northern department. His Excellency would have wrote himself, but was going to our several posts when the express arrived.

The enemy are pursuing with great industry their plan of penetrating the country from the *Sound*, and of forming a line in our rear. They are now extended from *Frog's Point* to *New-Rochelle*, from whence, it is generally conjectured, they mean to take their route by way of the *White-Plains*, and from thence to draw a line to the *North River*. We on our part have drawn our whole force, except the regiments intended to garrison *Fort Washington*, from the Island of *New-York*, and have possessed ourselves of the heights, passes, and advantageous grounds between *New-Rochelle*, where the van of their army now lies, and the *North River*. They will, in all probability, attempt to effect their purpose by moving higher up; if they do, our

FIFTH SERIES.—VOL. II.

forces will move accordingly, it being a principal object to prevent their outflanking us. On *Friday* one of their advanced parties, near *East-Chester*, fell in with part of Colonel *Glover's* brigade, and a smart and close skirmish ensued, in which I have the pleasure to inform you our men behaved with great coolness and intrepidity, and drove the enemy back to their main body.

I have the honour to be, in haste, with great esteem, sir, your most obedient servant,

ROB'T H. HARRISON.

Saratoga, October 16, 1776, six o'clock afternoon.

DEAR SIR: Enclosed you have copies of letters from Generals *Gates* and *Arnold*, announcing the total destruction of our fleet on *Lake Champlain*. I shall write to every State nearest me to march up their Militia to support our army, as the enemy will doubtless very soon attack it, and do every thing in my power to prevent their penetrating into the country, should our army be obliged to give way, which I have good hopes will not be the case.

I am, dear sir, your Excellency's most obedient servant,

PH. SCHUYLER.

To General *Washington*.

GENERAL WASHINGTON TO COLONEL TRUMBULL.

Head-Quarters, King's Bridge, October 20, 1776.

SIR: This is designed to inform you of our alarming situation on account of the state of our provisions. From the last intelligence I have been able to obtain, there are not more than fifteen hundred barrels of flour here and at our posts on the Island of *New-York*, (including three hundred that came from the *Jerseys* last night,) and about two hundred barrels of pork; nor do I learn that there are many, or but very few, live cattle collected at any place within the neighbourhood. As the passage across the *North River* is precarious, and much, if not entirely, in the enemy's power, but little or no dependence should be had in supplies from that quarter. I must therefore request and entreat your every possible exertion to have large quantities of provisions carried to the interior parts of the country with the utmost expedition, out of the reach of the enemy, who are trying to penetrate from the *Sound*, and to form a line in our rear, from whence proper supplies may be immediately drawn for the subsistence of our troops. If this is not done, I fear, I am certain that the fatal consequences attending on mutiny and plunder must ensue; indeed, the latter will be authorized by necessity. I cannot undertake to point out the particular places where stock should be drove to; but it is absolutely necessary that large quantities should be kept in our rear, to be killed or moved, as occasion may require. If the enemy advance from the *Sound*, so must we. They must never be allowed, if it is possible to avoid it, to get above us, and possess themselves of the upper country. As soon as I heard that they had landed at *Frog's Point*, and that they had digested a plan of getting into our rear, I gave orders that the provisions and other stores should be removed from *Norwalk*, &c., into the country, to the *White-Plains*, as the first and most convenient stage: whether they have, I have no certain information. In short, sir, I beg that you will have supplies immediately in our rear, to be drawn or moved back, as circumstances may be, or the most fatal and alarming consequences to this army and the liberties of *America* may, and will in all probability, follow. You must not stop on account of expense, nor to collect large quantities before they are sent off. Ten in a drove will be of material consequence. I have ordered a respectable force for the protection of the provisions now at the *Plains*.

I am, &c.

GO. WASHINGTON.

To Colonel *Jos. Trumbull*, Commissary-General Provisions:

TENCH TILGHMAN TO WILLIAM DUER.

Head-Quarters, King's Bridge, October 20, 1776.

DEAR SIR: I am to acknowledge the receipt of your two favours of the 16th and 17th, and Mr. *McKesson's* of the 14th. We have been so much upon the move for some days past, that I had it not in my power to sit down to write before. To be obliged to follow an enemy whose route is a secret to us, is not a little distressing, especially as

we have not wagons sufficient to transport our baggage and provision. The latter must be particularly attended to, or the army must perish. Upon a survey of our stores, we find we are not so fully stocked as we could wish. Flour is what is most likely to be wanted. His Excellency therefore calls upon your Convention in the most pressing manner, and begs you will set every engine at work to send down every barrel you can procure towards the army, always ordering the persons who conduct the wagons to inquire how far, and upon what roads, the enemy are advanced, lest they fall into their hands.

All the cattle that can be collected you will please to have drove down, using the same precautions when they come near the advanced posts. The General has given orders for the removal of all our magazines from the *Sound*; but the enemy have such an advantage by the command of the water, that possibly some may be intercepted; it therefore behooves us to double our diligence in procuring supplies from every quarter that remains open. The Commissary-General is sent for from the eastward; his presence will be of great service; but, in the mean time, great dependence must be put upon the exertions of all our friends in your quarter.

The Quartermaster-General has sent up agents who will give directions concerning the brig and sloop at the *Fish-kill* Upper Landing. And the General desires that Mr. *Philips* would not send down the powder from his mill, but keep it in some secure place till further orders. This is in answer to Mr. *McKesson's* letter of the 14th. Our hurry will excuse my not writing to him particularly.

I enclose you a letter from Colonel *Denny*, by which it appears that he is vigilant in watching the motions of the men-of-war; but the General will, notwithstanding, give him a hint of what you say.

The enemy's van is at *New-Rochelle*; we continue to outflank them, and hope will succeed. We have had one little skirmish, in which our troops behaved amazingly well.

Arnold has certainly been worsted on the lake, but it is no wonder, considering the difference of strength; but the wonder is, that we should have been so misinformed as to the naval force of the enemy. I am afraid our scouts make the news they bring home.

You cannot expect the regular information I have heretofore given you; but remember no news is good news. You shall always have any thing remarkably good or bad: it is no time to stand upon trifling matters.

I am, dear sir, sincerely yours,

TENCH TILGHMAN.

The powder had got to the bridge last *Saturday* week; two tons at the mill.

To *William Duer*, Esq.

COURTS-MARTIAL.

At a Brigade Court-Martial, ordered by Brigadier-General *McDougall*, for the trial of Deserters and offences not capital:

Lieutenant-Colonel *Ware*, President.

Members:

Captain <i>Hull</i> ,	Lieutenant <i>Strong</i> ,
Captain <i>Pelton</i> ,	Lieutenant <i>Grant</i> ,
Captain <i>Gunby</i> ,	Lieutenant <i>Sanford</i> ,
Lieutenant <i>Hues</i> ,	Lieutenant <i>Gaither</i> ,
Lieutenant <i>Jackson</i> ,	Lieutenant <i>Neale</i> ,
Lieutenant <i>Roxburg</i> ,	Ensign <i>Livingston</i> .

Ensign *Fairly*, of the late Colonel *McDougall's* regiment, brought before the Court, and accused of taking the fatigue-men off the fatigue, contrary to general orders. The prisoner, being arraigned on the above complaint, pleads and confesses that he marched the fatigue-men off contrary to general orders, but that it was the next morning after the orders were issued, and he had not heard them; and that he was under the command of Lieutenant *Kidd*, and it was by his order that the men marched off.

Evidence Adjutant *Vanhook* informs the Court that he did not that evening read the orders to the regiment, as they came very late. The next morning, he says, he mentioned the orders to the men, but does not know that Ensign *Fairly* was present; and that the Orderly-Sergeant of that company has not an orderly-book, and the officers no paper to furnish their Sergeants with.

The Court, being cleared, are of opinion that Ensign *Fairly's* justification is sufficient, and acquit him of the charge alleged against him.

Lieutenant *Kidd*, of late *Smallwood's* regiment, brought before the Court, and accused of taking the fatigue-men off fatigue, contrary to general orders. The prisoner, being arraigned on the above complaint, pleads guilty, but says he was not acquainted with the orders.

Lieutenant *Cole*, Engineer, deposeth: As soon as Lieutenant *Kidd* had marched his men to the fort, he drew an order for the rum, and paraded them to march home. I then ordered him to go to work with his men, and told him 'twas contrary to general orders to go home to breakfast, and if he did go home he would report him. He informs that he had occasion to be absent about fifteen minutes, and when he returned Lieutenant *Kidd* had his party paraded, and marched them off, and did not return till after eleven o'clock, and before twelve he marched off to return his tools.

Captain *Woolford* deposeth: That he was that day on fatigue, and saw Lieutenant *Kidd* marching off to return his tools; that he immediately went and ordered him back; he answered that it rained, and his men should not work. The Captain then says that he informed him the rain was very trifling, and, as he was under his command, he should return; with which he complied. That at one o'clock the Captain dismissed the party for dinner, and Lieutenant *Kidd* did not return in the afternoon.

Lieutenant *Kidd* pleads that he was sick, and unable to go in the afternoon.

The Court, being cleared, are of opinion that the prisoner ought to be dismissed from the service for his offence.

FRAS. WARE, President.

At a Brigade Court-Martial, ordered by Brigadier-General *McDougall*:

Lieutenant-Colonel *Ware*, President.

Members:

Captain <i>Hull</i> ,	Lieutenant <i>Roxburg</i> ,
Captain <i>Pelton</i> ,	Lieutenant <i>Grant</i> ,
Captain <i>Gunby</i> ,	Lieutenant <i>Sanford</i> ,
Lieutenant <i>Hues</i> ,	Lieutenant <i>Gaither</i> ,
Lieutenant <i>Strong</i> ,	Lieutenant <i>Neale</i> ,
Lieutenant <i>Jackson</i> ,	Ensign <i>Livingston</i> .

Captain *Cornelius Hardenbergh*, of Colonel *Ritzema's* regiment, under an arrest, brought before the Court, and charged by Lieutenant *Lownsbury* with defrauding his men. The prisoner, being arraigned on the above complaints, pleads "Not Guilty."

Lieutenant *Lownsbury*, on oath, deposeth: That about the 22d of *April*, when Captain *Hardenbergh* was paying off his men in *Kingstown*, I informed him that he did not pay them the whole of their subsistence and wages. He informed me he would rectify it after he came to *New-York*. After the company came to *New-York*, I repeatedly desired him to settle with the men for what he had not paid them. The Captain informed me that he would not do it. I informed him I must report him; he answered that I might do it as soon as I pleased. I was present when *John Freer* applied to the Captain for what was due when he was paid at *Kingstown*; the Captain answered him that he would not pay him, and he might get it if he could.

Lieutenant *Newkerk* on oath deposeth: That at *Kingstown*, *Daniel Mowers*, a soldier in said company, applied for his wages. Lieutenant *Lownsbury* being present, told him he would not receive any unless he received the whole. The Captain replied, he had paid all the men in that way, and if there was any mistake he would rectify it when he came to *New-York*. After the company came to *New-York*, he was repeatedly applied to, to settle those accounts; but he never has settled them, and I heard him at one time absolutely refuse. I was present when *John Freer* demanded, at *New-York*, what was due at *Kingstown*. The Captain answered, that he would not pay him, and he might get it as he could. He further informs, that Lieutenant *Lownsbury* had advanced money to some of the soldiers; and, after the Captain drew the money for the men, he refused to pay the orders.

The Court, being cleared, are of opinion that, by the evidence, and by comparing his pay abstracts with the receipts taken from his men, from the date of their enlist-

ment to the 10th of *April*, that he has defrauded his men of a considerable sum, and are of opinion that he shall be cashiered, and deemed unfit for an officer; and that his crime, place of abode, and punishment, be published in the newspapers in and about the camp, and the Colony from which the offender came, as expressed in the second and fourth additional articles of war.

FRANS. WARE, *President*.

ELISHA AVERY TO THE NEW-YORK CONVENTION.

GENTLEMEN: The immediate necessity there is for flour to supply the forces of the *United States* in the Northern department at this critical juncture, they being in danger of being soon attacked by the enemy, and not being supplied but for a short time, and a reinforcement daily going to their assistance, which will greatly add to the consumption of that article, together with the present scarcity in this city, induces me to request your interposition and aid in procuring a supply for the above purpose. Being informed that the greatest part of the flour upon both sides of *Hudson's* river is purchased up by contractors, by order of your honourable body, by which means the persons I have sent out on that business, have not been able to procure but a small quantity. I must therefore entreat you to take the matter into consideration, and grant me such assistance as is in your power and the exigency of the case requires, and must humbly request that you will order two thousand barrels flour sent up to this place as soon as possible; otherwise the army will be cut short, and perhaps the consequences will be fatal.

I am, with due submission, your Honours' most obedient and most humble servant,

ELISHA AVERY, *Deputy Commissary-General*.

To the honourable Convention of the State of *New-York*.

Albany Committee Chamber, October 20, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: We join in the Commissary's request, and beg you will send forward with all despatch, if not the whole quantity, as much as can be spared for this department. By order:

JOHN BARCLAY, *Chairman pro tem*.

To the Convention of the State of *New-York*.

GENERAL WILKINSON TO GENERAL ST. CLAIR.

Albany, October 20, 1776.

I should think myself inexcusable, my dear General, for not writing you earlier, if I did not render a sufficient apology for my conduct, by assuring you that such has been the severity of my disease since I left *Ty*, that I have not been able to govern my fingers till within these few days. I have been here three weeks, during two of which I had a fever tacked to me, which prostrated me without intermission. It is at last, however, subdued, and has left me a pretty good appetite; but as I recover very slowly here, I purpose moving out of town to *Kenter-Hook*, a situation from which I am promised great things. The Lord grant it may soon enable me to join you.

General *Washington* has in person lately dislodged a considerable number of the enemy, who had landed on a place called *Frogg Point*; further particulars have not yet reached town. *Lee* is commanding the lines during his absence. It is said the General has brought six thousand Southern troops with him, though it is mere report.

The vessels which have passed the chevaux-de-frise are two forty-gun ships, and a number of tenders. They vary their station, though for the most part, they remain in *Toppon* sea or bay. They have picked up several *Albany* sloops, and greatly harass the rest.

If I get well soon, I shall bring up such things as will help to render the winter comfortable, but if my disorder is spun out to any length, my cash will be exhausted.

I am, my dear General, with respect and affection, your ready friend and servant,

JAMES WILKINSON.

Pray write me. Mr. *Avery*, if you'll address to his care, will see the letter conveyed to me with safety. J. W.

COMMITTEE OF CONGRESS TO GENERAL GATES.

Saratoga, October 20, 1776.

SIR: Having been appointed by Congress as a Committee to examine into and transact certain matters relative to the army in the Northern department, and having spent several days with General *Schuyler*, at *Albany* and this place, in execution of part of our commission, we were about to proceed to *Ticonderoga*; but being informed by the General of the great probability of our army being now attacked by the enemy, or that such an event might be hourly expected, we have concluded to wait here until we shall have the pleasure of hearing from you. If the enemy have not yet made their attack, and you think it probable that we may be able to reach *Ticonderoga*, and have an opportunity of conversing with you and the other principal officers of your army, and to inspect into its present state before that event may happen, we shall immediately, upon being advised by you, proceed on our journey.

With great respect, we are, sir, your most obedient and very humble servants,

RICH'D STOCKTON,
GEO. CLYMER.

To General *Gates*.

GENERAL SCHUYLER TO GENERAL GATES.

Saratoga, October 20, 1776.

DEAR GENERAL: A Committee from the Convention of this State are just arrived here, and have brought me sundry resolutions of Congress, of which enclose you a copy. They are so well calculated to encourage the soldiers to enlist that I send this by express to you. I am in hopes that when the soldiers know that they are to have the clothing gratis, besides the bounty of twenty dollars by the former resolution, that they will not hesitate to continue in the service of their country. You will therefore please to publish them. I am very anxious to hear from you.

The Militia are coming up, and as they will be in a very disagreeable situation for want of shelter, the sooner they can be discharged the better. If, therefore, there should happily prove no occasion to detain them, you will advise me thereof, and send express through *Skenesborough* to those from the *Massachusetts*, &c.

I am, dear General, with every friendly wish, your obedient, humble servant,

PH. SCHUYLER.

To Hon. General *Gates*.

COLONEL WYNKOOP TO GENERAL GATES.

Skenesborough, October 20, 1776.

DEAR GENERAL: I received yours of the 17th instant, and according to your orders have sent Mr. *Langdon* and *Richard Ludlow*, the latter of which is Major *Skene's* overseer, together with *Robert Gordon*, *William Hutton*, *Andrew Stevenson*, *Benonia Pendock*, and *George Boyle*, to *Litchfield*, (the last five, inhabitants of this place,) and all convicted before the Committee of being enemies to the common cause.

I have sent you nine bushels and three pecks of corn; as for oats, the inhabitants have none thrashed. New corn, I can buy enough in the ear. They say they have no time to shell it. If the General pleases to have such, a line is sufficient, and I will do my endeavour.

According to your orders I send you a stallion and two mares of Major *Skeene's*, which is all that is broke. There is several breeding mares, and colts, and some young horses. They say all their riding horses was stole last fall. There has been a great number of riding horses on the ground, but they are all horses that was left here by the *New-England* officers.

The small vessel is loaded with boards; and expect ten batteaus down with boards this day, and shall forward them to-morrow. Our Commissary has left us before I came to this place, and has gone to *Albany* and has not as yet returned, so that we are very bad off for want of a Commissary.

I am, dear General, yours,

CORN'S WYNKOOP.

P. S. Candlewick is an article that is immediately wanted at this place.

GENERAL WILLIAM MAXWELL TO GOVERNOUR LIVINGSTON.

Ticonderoga, October 20, 1776.

SIR: I heartily congratulate you on the honourable promotion you have had, viz: to be the first Governour of the free State of *New-Jersey*. As it is a plant you have had a great share in raising and pruning, I wish you sincerely a long and happy enjoyment of the fruits of your labour.

I will try to give you some account of our affairs here at present, in a private way. You must have heard that a few days ago we had a fine fleet and tolerably good army, but General *Arnold*, our evil genius to the north, has, with a good deal of industry, got us clear of all our fine fleet, only five of the most indifferent of them, one row-galley excepted; and he has managed his point so well with the old man, the General, that he has got his thanks for his good services. Our fleet, by all impartial accounts, was much the strongest; but he suffered himself to be surrounded between an island and the main land, where the enemy landed their men on both places, and annoyed our men from both places more than from their vessels; but still our people repelled them with ease the first afternoon. In the night he gave orders to every vessel to make the best of their way, by which they became an easy prey, beat by one, twos, and threes, and ran them on shore, or destroyed them all; but one row-galley fell into their hands. This was a pretty piece of admiralship, after going to their doors almost, and bantering them for two months or more, contrary to the opinion of all the army. Had we our fleet here, we would give ourselves but little concern about the enemy.

If they do come and attack us, as is generally thought, we have no more opinion of his abilities by land than water. I am something of opinion they will not come, but be contented for this time, as they have done more than they had any reason to expect.

I am, sir, your most obedient, humble servant,
WM. MAXWELL.

J. TRUMBULL TO THE COMMITTEE AT BENNINGTON.

Ticonderoga, Head-Quarters, October 20, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: The late success of the enemies of *American* liberty on this lake, renders it probable, I might say certain, that this post will very soon be attacked. In that case, as the enemy may perhaps attempt a blockade rather than an immediate attack on our lines, a large supply of provisions will be absolutely necessary. You are therefore requested, gentlemen, to lend all the assistance in your power in forwarding provisions of every kind from *Bennington* to this place, by way of *Skeensborough*.

The badness of the road may render it necessary to send flour, &c., &c., on pack-horses, in bags. If no other method is practicable, make use of that. Regard not the expense. Mr. *Yancey*, Deputy Commissary-General, has the general orders to pay every necessary expense and charge that may arise.

I am, gentlemen, by the General's order, your very obedient servant,

J. TRUMBULL,
Deputy Adjutant-General.

To the gentlemen of the Committee of Safety for the town of *Bennington*.

JAMES YANCEY TO THE COMMITTEE AT BENNINGTON.

Tyconderoga, October 20, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: This is to inform you that in consequence of a number of disaffected persons in and about *Albany* to the common safety of this Continent, there is a great danger of the too long delay of the contracted provisions for this army, from that place, and in particular the article of flour, and that we have not more than will answer for bread for the army present than about sixteen days; and as the advances of the enemy may be but slow, and in order for a blockade, and to cut off all communication to this place, all which makes it of the utmost consequence that we have an immediate supply; and as I am appointed and empowered to act and contract for every necessary provision for this department, by the Commissary-General, *Joseph Trumbull*, Esq., I thought it of the highest importance to make this pressing application that you would contract and immediately forward to *Skeensborough* landing, all the flour that

can be purchased for the army on the Northern department. And relying, gentlemen, upon your publick patriotism to serve your country, I make not the least doubt that you will comply with this request. And as to your pay, I will furnish you from time to time with the Continental currency, as fast as my present hurry of business will permit; and beg you will forward me your answer immediately, how much you will be able to supply me with, and in what time, so that I may be able to satisfy the Commander-in-Chief at this place with this very important business.

And you will greatly oblige, gentlemen, with respect,
your most humble servant,
JAMES YANCEY, D. C.

To the Chairman of the Committee of Safety and Correspondence, at *Bennington*.

EXTRACT OF A LETTER FROM TICONDEROGA, DATED OCTOBER 20, 1776.

The enemy are in possession of *Crown-Point*, and we expect they may fancy this ground in a day or two. They must pay a great price for it, however, as we value it highly. Fourteen boats, or birch canoes, with *Indians*, were just now seen by our guard-boats, five miles from this. We expect an attack every moment; whenever it comes, it will be furious, and the defence obstinate, cruelly obstinate.

COLONEL BREWER TO GENERAL GATES.

Ty Mills, October 20, two o'clock, P. M., 1776.

HONOURED SIR: Lieutenant *Stone*, with my servant, has just this minute returned; has been gone three days; gives the following account: that he has been in view of the enemy all day yesterday; that the enemy are in great motion for moving some way or other; that he went so near last night that they discovered him, and a large scout was sent out after him. That he took the woods, and that he came across the tracks of several parties this day; that the enemy appear to be fortifying on the east side of *Crown Point*. That the *Indians* and *Canadians* are very numerous; but cannot ascertain the number. Also, that the *Indians* drove off a number of our cattle. That there were men with shoes that met the *Indians*, who took them away; and that he supposes that there is a number of the inhabitants here that are assisting in getting our cattle to the *Indians*, &c. He will wait upon your Honour as soon as he has refreshed himself.

I am, sir, yours, &c., SAMUEL BREWER.

To the Hon. General *Gates*.

AN ORATION DELIVERED AT THE HEAD OF COLONELS MOTT'S AND SWIFT'S REGIMENTS, WHEN UNDER ARMS, EXPECTING THE APPROACH OF THE ENEMY HOURLY, AT MOUNT INDEPENDENCE, SUNDAY, OCTOBER THE 20TH, 1776; BY THE REV. MR. TENENT, CHAPLAIN.

"Be ye not afraid of them: Remember the Lord which is great and terrible, and fight for your brethren, your sons, and your daughters, your wives and your houses."—*Nehemiah*, iv. 14.

No exhortation can be more applicable and pertinent for us, my dear countrymen and fellow-soldiers, at this time and under our circumstances, than this, which was delivered by good *Nehemiah* to the *Jews*, when their proud, their haughty, and oppressive enemies were coming upon them, for their destruction.

When danger approaches, it is natural for man to be afraid, and our fears generally increase in proportion to our dangers; and sometimes, by indulging the former, we are rendered incapable of escaping the evil which impends. It is therefore necessary to keep a guard upon this passion, lest in its excess it should prove ruinous. This is necessary, in an especial manner, for the soldier. "Be not ye afraid of them" is the voice of Heaven, the voice of your bleeding country, the voice of the church, and the voice of all who are dear to you, with respect to the approaching foe. The hour is expected, when, with the blessing of Heaven, you will have it in your power to do the most signal, important, and lasting service to your native land. She asks, she entreats, she calls, with a solemn, but pathetick tone, yea, she demands, your service, your most vigorous exertions, to save her from ruin. Let her not be disappointed; but as she hath honoured you with

martial attire for her defence, do her honour, do yourselves honour, by using the weapons of your warfare with that heroism, firmness, and magnanimity which the cause requires. When our enemy approaches, be ye not afraid of them; let not your spirits sink, but rather rejoice that you have an opportunity to contribute your whole might for the deliverance of your country from the disturbers of the common peace, and robbers of the rights of mankind. I mean not that you should entertain a contemptible idea of the strength of your enemy. They will no doubt come strong, prepared to the battle, and will fight valiantly. But they fight in an unrighteous cause; they are armed to deprive us of our liberty and property; they are armed to ruin our families, to murder both them and us, or reduce us to the most abject slavery. And will not you, gentlemen, under these circumstances, fight valiantly too? Shall your courage be less than theirs, when your all is at stake? Consider they are made of the same materials with yourselves. Though transported from foreign climes, they are flesh and blood. They are but men, who are subject to the like hopes and fears with yourselves; and a ball well directed will humble them as quick as any, even the feeblest, of you. Be not ye, therefore, afraid of them, for they are not invincible. Be not afraid of them, because they are engaged in a wicked and unrighteous cause, which the righteous Lord abhorreth. Be not afraid of them, though their numbers should be superiour to yours, because you are possessed of advantages which they have not: you have the ground and all the works you have made on it. Be not afraid of them, because the want of courage will prove your ruin. There is nothing but victory or an honourable death before you. There is no retreat for you; and if you are taken prisoners, no doubt you would soon be discharged, as our friends who were lately captivated were, with their baggage and a few days' provision, but with this additional and horrid circumstance, that before you are two miles from this encampment, you will be overtaken, in your disarmed condition, by savages, *Canadians*, and *Hessians*, who will at once plunder and sacrifice your lives with barbarity which cannot be described. General *Carleton's* late conduct was only designed to deceive: his affected clemency is to be dreaded. Expect not mercy from an enemy who are fighting in support of tyranny: it cannot, it will not be shown any longer than it is for their interest. The scheme of this cunning man is evidently this: he supposed that you would conclude, from what was past, that if you were compelled to a hot engagement, that you would rather submit, expecting the same lenity which your captive friends have had, than fight as the sons of freedom ought to fight. Let the fox be caught in his own trap. Believe him to be your bitter enemy, and, according to Scripture language, reward your enemies, and your country's enemies, even as they have rewarded you, and render double to them. Be not afraid of them. Remember the Lord, which is great and terrible. Call to remembrance His almighty name. Let the strength of *Israel* be your trust. Implore His aid and assistance. Under His banner go forth to battle. In His name and strength meet the approaching foe, determined to conquer or gloriously die. Remember His name, which is great and terrible—sufficiently great and terrible to vanquish your enemies, and cause them to flee before you; and fight for your brethren, your sons, and your daughters, your wives and your houses. Do the work of the Lord faithfully. Play the men for your kindred and for your estates, which are in jeopardy. So shall those of you who may fall in battle be immortalized for your valour; your names shall be had in grateful remembrance by *America's* latest posterity; and those of you whose lives shall be spared in the bloody conflict, shall return with great joy to your friends, and be received with the high honour of conquerors and deliverers of this oppressed land. Your officers, I doubt not, will set your example; and I hope you will all be engaged to support the honour of *New-England*, and of the State, in a particular manner, which has employed you. Your wives and children, your aged parents, your brethren and sisters, look to you, under God, for salvation. The peace of all our frontier inhabitants depends upon your success. You have the prayers of thousands for victory; and be assured, if you are victorious, the enemy will, from hence forward, cease to expect a submission from these *United States*. If you are victorious, the virgins of our land and

all your dear connexions will hail you welcome upon your return, with high applause and great joy; yea, *Zion* herself will be glad.

May the Lord inspire you all with that magnanimity which makes the great and successful soldiers! May He cover your heads in the day of battle, and crown our arms with victory! and the glory shall be given to Father, Son, and Holy Ghost; world without end. Amen!

COLONEL WARNER TO GENERAL GATES.

Castleton, October 20, 1776.

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR HONOUR: On receiving information of the defeat of our fleet, I made application to the officers of each regiment on the *Grants*, and they have called for volunteers, but have not gave orders for the which, until the reception of your orders last night; since which Colonel *Brownson* hath sent back an express to Major *Rose*, to raise rest of his regiment, to join Colonel *Mead* at *Otter Creek*; for Colonel *Mead's* broken handful of men will not answer your purpose at that post. The volunteers he is a-coming on with to *Fort Independent* as soon as they arrive at this place, as a part are already collected. I have sent your orders, by an express, to Colonel *Robinson*, who commands the lower regiment. I make no doubt he will be on.

Should be glad of further orders by the bearer, though we shall come on as soon as the men are come together. We expect a part of the lower regiment every moment, and shall proceed as soon as possible.

I am, sir, with the greatest respect, your most obedient and very humble servant,

SETH WARNER.

To Major-General Gates.

COLONEL BELLOWS TO GENERAL GATES.

To His Excellency General GATES:

SIR: As we have no particular express and various rumours in respect of your situation, and being ready, with all my interest and influence, for your assistance, I send by the bearer, Mr. *Amos Babcock*, for particular instructions and advice, on whose instructions you may depend.

From your humble servant, at command,

BENJAMIN BELLOWS, Jr.,

Colonel of the 16th Regiment of Militia, in the State of NEW-HAMPSHIRE.

To General Gates, at *Ticonderoga*.

MASSACHUSETTS COUNCIL TO GOVERNOUR TRUMBULL.

Boston, October 20, 1776.

SIR: The Council took the earliest opportunity to lay before the House of Representatives your Honour's letter requesting the loan or purchase of a quantity of sulphur, in behalf of the State of *Connecticut*; in consequence of which they passed a resolve, which is now completed, that your State should be furnished on loan one ton of that article, to be replaced as soon as conveniently may be. As it was apprehended the carriage by water from *Dartmouth* to *Norwich* would be the easiest way in which you could send for it, the enclosed order from our Commissary on *Lemuel Williams*, Esq., at *Dartmouth*, written under the said resolve, waits on you for that purpose.

With great esteem, I am, in the name of the Council of the State of *Massachusetts-Bay*, your Honour's most obedient, humble servant,

JAMES BOWDOIN, President.

To Hon. *Jonth. Trumbull*, Esq., Governour of *Connecticut*.

Wrote under the resolve before mentioned, viz:

LEMUEL WILLIAMS, Esq.—SIR: Deliver to the order of the Hon. *Jonathan Trumbull*, Esq., Governour of *Connecticut*, one ton of sulphur, taking a receipt therefor on this paper, as above directed, and sending the same to me.

RICHARD DEVENS, Commissary-General.

PLIARNE, PENET & CO, TO THE NEW-YORK CONVENTION.

Nantes, October 21, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: Although we have not the pleasure of your acquaintance, we nevertheless shall take the liberty to

assure of our respects and make our offers of service to you in *Europe*; and for your assurance of what we have the honour of offering, will refer you to the honourable Continental Congress and Secret Committee of *Philadelphia*, to whom our names are well known, and with whom we passed a contract in *February* last for the furnishing of ammunition and other necessary articles in your present situation. And further, you may inform yourselves of Governor *Cooke*, at *Providence*, and Messrs. *Nicholas & John Brown*, of the same place; for which last we have despatched two vessels since the establishment of our house in this place.

We hope after your informations concerning us, be it from the Congress or the Generals of the army, and in particular from Doctor *Franklin*, that you will be satisfied in order to put confidence enough in us to consign all vessels you send for this port to our house. And we flatter ourselves to find the best sale possible for your merchandise, and send in return what goods you will think proper to order, if they are to be had in *France*.

We are able to furnish you at demand with cannon and gunpowder, saltpetre, sulphur, lead, iron and brass cannons of all sizes, muskets such as we have sent the Congress, being of the last mode for the Infantry of *France*, proved, well finished and perfectioned, with double bride locks.

We have muskets of all proof, from twelve to twenty-two livres per piece, with bayonets and steel ramrods, and bores suitable for ball of fourteen or sixteen to the pound. All the muskets are uniform, of the same size and same model. We have also handsome and good gun-locks, which are well finished and conditioned.

We have the honour of observing that there is only our house able to furnish you with the foregoing articles, and that we shall take upon us the risk and dangers of putting them on board, and to let your vessels go out of our port freely. They are powers that we are trusted with, and which we have in hands. Not any other in *France* shall be able to give you the like advantages and furnish you with such ammunition, which we receive directly from the manufactories of the King.

We are able to furnish you also with all kinds of broad-cloths for clothing of soldiers. We have sent a quantity to Messrs. *Brown*, of *Providence*. We have them of all colours, good quality, and well assorted, for the price of five, six and seven livres per ell; but the following colours of the same quality will be somewhat higher: such as scarlet, Prussian blue, yellow, and green. And further we are able to furnish you with such cloths as will be desired; likewise with all kinds of blankets, from three, four, five, six and seven livres per piece; also linens for shirting the troops, from thirty to fifty sous per ell. We shall be able, gentlemen, to furnish in general with every kind of merchandise of the first quality, and at the most reasonable rates; and you may assure yourselves that we shall despatch immediately every vessel you shall think proper to address us, whether the cargo is sold or not.

We have established our house in this place, thinking it the safest and most convenient port in *France* for the *American* trade, and we have entered in partnership with one of the richest and first houses for business in *Nantes*; the name is *J. Gruel*, merchant, upon *Isle Feydean*. Therefore, in addressing your vessels to that house, by giving us immediate notice, will be the same as if addressed directly to us, making but one and the same house for all the trade we have with *North America*.

In case you should send a vessel to *Bordeaux*, we take the liberty of recommending to you the house of Messrs. *Reculé de Bamarain & Ramibeaux*, being one of the most principal houses there, and who we think will do your business better than any other can do.

We have in our house, and at the head of our affairs that we transact with *North America*, Mr. *Wilt*, a young man from *Philadelphia*, who holds our correspondence in *English*. Therefore, if you should have any affairs particular or secret to transact or negotiate, you may be assured of the order and discretion that reigns in our house.

We have the honour to be, in the mean time, with our most sincere respects, gentlemen, your most obedient and most humble servants,

PLIARNE, PENET & Co.

To the respectable Members of the Secret Committee of the Province of *New-York*.

CAPTAIN DEAMS TO MARYLAND COUNCIL OF SAFETY.

Baltimore County, October 21, 1776.

WORTHY GENTLEMEN: Since my being last with your Honours I take this opportunity to say that I have used the greatest exertion in purchasing guns, and can get but thirty. As for blankets, have got but few. I have sent my Lieutenant where I informed you of some to be sold, but he has not returned; therefore think it impossible to equip the company to march in the limited time, &c. Therefore inform me by express how I shall proceed to enlist, as the chief of my officers and some officers particular is willing to join during war. Therefore inform me what to give, and how they shall be clothed, &c., and whether to find themselves, or the Province; how much bounty they shall receive, and those who never yet enlisted, as my company is allowed by several Field officers that have inspected them to surpass almost any in the County; and am, gentlemen, your most humble servant,

FREDERICK DEAMS, Captain.

To the honourable Council of Safety.

NICHOLAS MACCUBBIN TO MARYLAND COUNCIL OF SAFETY.

October 21, 1776.

HONOURABLE GENTLEMEN: The engagement I have entered into with your Honours I would gladly expedite as fast as possible, for which purpose I have supplied myself with a sufficient quantity of leather, but workmen are very scarce.

I have applied to Lieutenant *Brown*, of the Artillery, who tells me that several shoemakers may be spared to work upon this emergency, but is desirous to have your Honour's permission, for which I make bold to apply to your Honours for your approbation, that I may complete the work before the time limited, and be ready, in case of necessity, to obey your further orders.

Am, with great respect, your obedient and obliged, humble servant,

NICH'S MACCUBBIN.

To the honourable Council of Safety.

COMMITTEE OF SECRET CORRESPONDENCE TO WILLIAM BINGHAM.

Philadelphia, October 21, 1776.

SIR: We send you herewith a copy of what we wrote you the 21st ultimo, and the 1st of this month, per the sloop *Independence*, Captain *Young*, and hope some of the articles that were to be forwarded to your island, or *St. Eustatia*, by Mons. *Hortalez*, have arrived; in that case you will apply for, receive, and ship them, by those opportunities of our Continental cruisers which are sent for that purpose, and also to bring back such woollen goods as can be procured, agreeable to the orders of the Secret Committee.

You'll observe this goes by the schooner *Sachem*, Captain *Robinson*, to *Martinico*. A copy of it we send by the armed brigantine *Andrew Doria*, Captain *Isaiah Robison*, to *St. Eustatia*, where he values on Mr. *Samuel Carson*, merchant. And if you have made application to the Governor there, in consequence of our former letter, you must renew it now, and give orders for some of the articles to be remitted by the *Andrew Doria*, or the vessel that is to sail under her convoy; and we think you had best send us by every good conveyance, both from *St. Eustatia* and *Martinico*, a part of those supplies.

We are, sir, your obedient servants.

To William Bingham, Esq.

MARINE COMMITTEE TO AUGUSTUS LAWRENCE AND SAMUEL TUDOR.

Philadelphia, October 21, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: Your letter of the 7th instant, advising that the ships *Congress* and *Montgomery* were then nearly ready for launching, was received. You'll observe the above names are now to be given to those ships.

We are, at this distance, at a loss to direct their destination. The Marine Committee have therefore wrote to the Convention for the State of *New-York*, now at the *Fish-kills*, requesting that they would give you proper directions

relative to the launching and otherwise disposing of those ships, with their stores, so as to preserve them in the best manner you can from being destroyed.

You are therefore to correspond with the said Convention for that purpose.

Your humble servants,

FRA. LEWIS.
PHIL. LIVINGSTON.

To Messrs. *Augustine Lawrence* and *Samuel Tudor*.

FRANCIS LEWIS TO CAPTAIN HODGE.

Philadelphia, October 21, 1776.

SIR: I have received your letter of the 18th instant. In answer thereto relative to the ship *Montgomery*, we have lately wrote to the Convention for the State of *New-York*, leaving it to them to give directions in what manner to dispose of the ships at *Poughkeepsie*. They are now convened at the *Fishkills*. If they should find it practicable to get those ships out this year, Congress are disposed to have them fitted and manned with all expedition; but in this you must consult the Convention and superintendents. If there should be a probability of getting the ships out, you should furnish us with a list of such officers as yourself, with the gentlemen of the Convention, shall recommend.

You may apply to the Treasurer, Mr. *Denning*, or draw upon me here, for what money you may be in want of for your present supplies, on account of your sloop freight.

I am, sir, your very humble servant, FRA. LEWIS.
To Captain *John Hodge*.

JACOB BAMPER TO NEW-YORK COMMITTEE OF ARRANGEMENT.

Philadelphia, October 21, 1776.

HONOURABLE SIR: Excuse my boldness for writing to you. What made me write to your Honour was that I had a letter from the Hon. *Philip Livingston*, Esq., to you, concerning assisting in getting me in our army. I was on my journey to deliver you the letter myself, but I was taken very ill, that obliges me to return. There is a young gentleman who will deliver the letter from the above-named gentleman, if your Honour will be so kind as to send a few lines by the post to me concerning the matter. And in the meanwhile I remain your very humble servant,

JACOB BAMPER.

To the Committee of Arrangement.

MEETING IN THE STATE-HOUSE YARD, PHILADELPHIA.

Philadelphia, October 22, 1776.

At a meeting of a large and respectable number of the citizens of *Philadelphia*, in the State-House yard last night and this morning, Colonel *John Bayard* in the chair, the following Resolutions were agreed to by a great majority, and affectionately recommended to their fellow-citizens in every part of the State of *Pennsylvania*.

Resolved, 1. That the late Convention was called for the express purpose of forming a new Government in this State, on the authority of the people only, with power also to appoint Delegates in Congress, and a Council of Safety.

2. That the said Convention assumed and exercised powers with which they were not entrusted by the people.

3. That in the Constitution formed by the said Convention, the Christian religion is not treated with the proper respect.

4. That the said Constitution unnecessarily deviates from all resemblance to the former Government of this State, to which the people have been accustomed.

5. That it is the sense of this meeting that the people did not desire such strange innovations, but only that the kingly, parliamentary, and proprietary powers should be totally abolished, and such alterations made as would thereby be rendered necessary, so that a well-formed Government might be established, solely on the authority of the people.

6. That the said Constitution differs not only unnecessarily from that to which the people have been accustomed, but in many important articles from every Government that has lately been established in *America* on the authority of the people—from the sentiments of the honourable the Continental Congress respecting government—and from

those of the most distinguished authors who have deliberately considered that subject.*

7. That several regulations essential to the welfare of the community are omitted in the said Constitution.†

8. That the several regulations improper to be taken notice of therein, are mentioned in the said Constitution.‡

9. That the said Constitution is confused, inconsistent, and dangerous.||

* The said constitution differs from others lately formed in these particulars: 1st. It establishes only a single Legislative body. 2dly. It renders the Judicial dependent on that single Legislative body, who may remove any Judge from his office without trial, for any thing they please to call "misbehaviour." 3dly. It renders the Executive dependent on that single Legislative body; by whom alone the Executive officers are to be paid for their services; and by whom, from the great disproportion between the numbers of the Assembly and Council, the President and Vice President must always be annually chosen; besides that, every officer, Executive, or Judicial, may be impeached by the Assembly, before six of the Council thus dependent on the Assembly, and be tried and condemned. 4thly. It erects no Court of Appeals, more necessary here than in some other States, as our Supreme Court may try causes in the first instance, and finally determine them, so that there is no mode settled for correcting their errors.

The said constitution differs from the sentiments of the honourable Congress, in rendering every Judge in the State entirely dependent on the single Legislative body; for in the first petition to the King of *Great Britain*, the Congress in enumerating "grievances," say "the Judges of courts of common law have been made entirely dependent on one part of the Legislature for their salaries as well as the duration of their commissions." Again: the said constitution differs from the sentiments of the honourable Congress, in not having "separated and distributed powers into different hands for checks, one upon another;" for in their address to the inhabitants of *Canada*, mentioning government, and the detestable frame established for that Province by a late statute, they say "the several powers being separated and distributed into different hands for checks, one upon another, is the only effectual mode ever invented by the wit of men, to promote their freedom and prosperity." But here is no "distribution of power into different hands, that one may check another." On the contrary, the Executive and Judicial powers are made unduly dependent on a single Legislative body, the Assembly: so that, in truth, the Legislative, Executive, and Judicial powers, may be said to be united in one body—the Assembly, though there is a semblance, on a slight view, of their being separated. Indeed, the resemblance between the said constitution and the artful but destructive one established by the statute before mentioned, is so great that the following words of the Congress suit the one as well as the other, only changing the word "Minister" for the word "Assembly." "Here is, indeed, an appearance of the several powers being separated," &c., as before. But examine the specious devices, and you will find it, to use an expression of Holy Writ, "a whitened sepulchre." The Legislative, Executive, and Judicial powers are all moved by the nods of a Minister.

If any reasonable man could possibly entertain a doubt concerning the meaning of Congress in using the words before quoted, that meaning will be clearly explained by the several constitutions lately formed on this Continent with the advice and assistance of those very gentlemen in their respective States, who, as members of Congress, used the before-quoted words, and must have known their own meaning.

How widely the said constitution differs from the sentiments of the most distinguished writers on the subject of Government, will appear by the following quotations from two authors of so high a reputation among civilized nations, that it is needless to add any other.

The Baron *De Montesquieu*, "whose name (the Congress declare) all Europe reveres," says: "The political liberty of the subject is a tranquillity of mind arising from the opinion each person has of his safety. In order to have this liberty, it is requisite the Government be so constituted as one man need not be afraid of another. When the Legislative and Executive powers are united in the same person, or in the same body of magistrates, there can be no liberty; because apprehensions may arise lest the same Monarch or Senate should enact tyrannical laws, to execute them in a tyrannical manner. Again: there is no liberty, if the power of judging be not separated from the Legislative and Executive powers. There would be an end of every thing, were the same men, or the same body, whether of the nobles or the people, to exercise those three powers, that of enacting laws, that of executing the public resolutions, and that of judging the crimes or differences of individuals." The learned Baron then proceeds with a long and much-admired chapter on the *English* constitution, wherein he greatly commends its distribution of Legislative power into several branches, &c., which cannot be inserted in the compass of these notes.

Mr. *Addison*, the strenuous and undaunted advocate for virtue, piety, liberty, and just government, even in a corrupt age, (and though conversant in courts,) says: "If there be but one body of legislators, it is no better than a tyranny; if there are only two, there will want a casting voice, and one of them must at length be swallowed up by disputes and contention that would necessarily arise between them. Four would have the same inconveniences as two, and a greater number would cause too much confusion."

† 1st. Not establishing a Court of Appeals. 2dly. Not ascertaining the number of Judges in the Common Pleas and Orphans' Courts, whether the same persons are to be Judges in both courts and in the sessions, as usual heretofore, or whether the powers are to be separated; if to be separated, who is to do it, as the power of a future Legislature is, by the twenty-sixth section of the frame, expressly confined to "other" courts; if not to be separated, whether any other Judges are to be added to the Justices of the Peace chosen by the people; and by whom to be added. 3dly. Not determining what qualifications as to property, shall enable a man to be chosen a member of Assembly, and thereby become one of the sovereigns of *Pennsylvania*. 4thly. Not providing what laws shall be in force within this State, &c., &c., &c., &c.

‡ Relating to—1st, insolvent debtors—2dly, fishing, fowling, and hunting—3dly, entails, &c., &c., &c.

The late Convention ordered, that "the future Legislature of this State shall regulate entails in such a manner as to prevent perpetuities," when it is notorious that "entails were regulated in such a manner as to prevent perpetuities," long before the meeting of the late Convention.

|| See the note with this † mark. In one part, a trial by Jury is estab-

10. That the said Constitution ought to be altered and amended.

11. That no mode is settled by the said Constitution for altering or amending the same, but that of a Convention to meet more than seven years hence, if a Council of Censors shall be chosen in the year 1783, and if two thirds of that Council shall agree to call such a Convention to meet within two years afterwards.

12. That the late Convention, on the 5th day of *September* last, in the afternoon, as appears from the minutes of their proceedings, ordered four hundred copies of the proposed plan of Government to be printed and published "for consideration;" and on the 16th day of the same month, proceeded on the confirmation thereof, making only immaterial alterations.

13. That therefore the late Convention did not allow time to the people of this State to take into their consideration the proposed frame of Government.

14. That the late Convention did not know that the said frame of Government would be agreeable to the people.

15. That therefore the conduct of the late Convention in establishing the Constitution aforesaid absolutely for more than seven years, and not settling some mode for making alterations and amendments within that period, if they should be judged expedient, without overturning the Government, was a high violation of the rights of the freemen of this State.

16. That the conduct of the late Convention, in prescribing oaths and affirmations, to be taken for the support of a Constitution unprecedented on this Continent, not to be altered or amended for more than seven years, however exceptionable or dangerous it might prove, and which the people have had no experience of, nor have been allowed time to take into their consideration, was a high violation of the rights of the freemen of this State.

17. That it is the sense of this meeting that the people are generally and greatly dissatisfied with the said Constitution.

18. That it is the sense of this meeting that the late increase of the number and insolence of Tories and persons disaffected to the independence of this State, and the feebleness of its public measures, are greatly owing to that general dissatisfaction.

19. That more dangerous consequences may be expected, unless the unhappy causes of such dissatisfaction can be removed, by procuring proper alterations and amendments to be made in the said Constitution.

20. That such alterations and amendments are immediately and absolutely necessary for promoting the happiness of *Pennsylvania*, and advancing the welfare of our great *American* cause, and cannot with safety to the publick be deferred.

21. That for the attainment of these salutary purposes, the freemen of the several Counties in this State be instantly and most cordially invited to accede to the foregoing resolutions, and to agree to and concur in executing the following.

22. That at the election to be held on the 5th day of *November* next, the electors ought not to take the oath or affirmation required by the ordinance of the late Convention, dated on the 26th day of *September* last.

23. That the inspectors and judges of the said election ought not to take the oath or affirmation recited in the ordinance aforesaid.

24. That every inspector and judge ought to take the oath or affirmation prescribed by an act of Assembly of the late Government of *Pennsylvania*, made in the year of our Lord 1766, and entitled "an act directing the choice of inspectors, and for holding the general elections in this Province."

25. That the members of Assembly, to be chosen at the said elections, ought not to take the oath or affirmation, or to make or subscribe the Declaration mentioned in the tenth section of the frame of Government formed by the late Convention.

26. That when two-thirds of the members elected have

lished in all cases without exception; in another part, persons may be tried and condemned by six of the Council. The Council of Censors may pass public censures without any trial, which censures may be worse than death. The Council of Censors and the Convention to be called by them are to be vested with powers that will occasion convulsions in the State, &c., &c., &c., &c.

met and chosen their Speaker, before they proceed to business, each member ought to make and subscribe the following declaration: "I, [mentioning his name,] profess faith in God the Father, and in Jesus Christ his eternal Son, and in the Holy Spirit, one God blessed for evermore. And I do acknowledge the Holy Scriptures of the Old and New Testaments to be given by Divine inspiration." And to take this oath or affirmation: "I, as a member of this Assembly, will not propose or assent to any act, vote, or resolution, which shall appear to me injurious to the people; nor do or consent to any act or thing that shall have a tendency to lessen or abridge their rights or privileges; but will, in all things, conduct myself as a faithful and honest representative and guardian of the people, according to the best of my judgment and abilities. I do renounce and refuse any allegiance to *George* the Third, King of *Great Britain*, his heirs, or successors, or any in authority under him or them. And I will not, directly, or indirectly, do any act or thing prejudicial or injurious to the independence of *Pennsylvania*."

27. That the said Assembly ought to have full powers to make such alterations and amendments in the Constitution aforesaid, as the said Assembly shall judge to be proper.

28. That the said Assembly ought also to have full power to enact such ordinances as the emergencies of publick affairs may indispensably require.

29. That after making such alterations and amendments, and enacting such ordinances, the said Assembly ought to publish the said alterations and amendments for the consideration of the people, and then, if they shall think proper, adjourn themselves for a convenient time, in order to collect their sense upon such alterations and amendments, vesting a power in the Speaker to call them together again before the time to which they shall be adjourned, if it shall be necessary.

30. That the carrying on the said election, without the electors taking the oath or affirmation prescribed by the aforesaid ordinance, of the 26th day of *September*, ought to be considered and observed by the members of Assembly chosen at such elections, as express instructions to them not to take the oath or affirmation, or to make or subscribe the declaration mentioned in the tenth section of the frame of Government, to make such alterations and amendments in the Constitution formed by the late Convention, as the said Assembly shall judge to be proper, and to conform to the two next preceding resolutions.

31. That no Counsellors ought to be chosen at the election to be held on the 5th day of *November* next.

REMARKS ON THE PROCEEDINGS AND RESOLUTIONS OF THE MEETING IN THE STATE-HOUSE YARD, ON MONDAY AND TUESDAY, OCTOBER 21 AND 22, 1776.

In the day of adversity, consider.—*Eccles.*

Philadelphia, October 30, 1776.

Had our ambitious enemies been guided either by conscience or common prudence, they had paid some attention to the Divine motto which heads this essay. They would have considered, and given their fellow-citizens time to consider, the inconceivable danger they are plunging them into, by endeavouring to prejudice them against the Constitution of their country. But, say they, there was no time to be lost. There are some such defects in the Constitution as render it impossible for a man of sense to bear it one hour.

I have soberly asked those gentlemen how they know this Constitution is so very deficient? They tell me every one says so, nobody likes it, the whole body of the people, Whigs and Tories, exclaim against it in all parts of *America*. I answer that it is no strange thing. *Minorca* was in a like uproar at the trial by juries being offered to the inhabitants, and even the virtuous and sagacious citizens of *Philadelphia* are endeavouring to render it impracticable in Admiralty cases, notwithstanding it is an institution of their late idolized Assembly. *Copernicus's* system convulsed the world, and nearly cost *Galileo* his life. It cost him his honour, which brave men count much dearer than life. Consideration might have brought the *Minorquins* to reason. The bulk of mankind now admires *Galileo*. All I would argue from this is, that the clamour which is falsely said

to be universal against our frame of Government might be nearly so, and yet the frame as perfect as human nature could make it. *Tate* and *Brady's* psalms differ nothing essentially from the old version, but in superiority of style and metre, yet who is ignorant of the heats and animosities that elegant aid to Divine worship occasioned? Had the publick tranquillity, safety and happiness, been the single object of their politicks, they would not have disgraced so noble a cause with mere rout and clamour.

It is well remembered that no people were more for calm and dispassionate measures, while the powers and increasing profits of Government were within their reach, and they had a prospect of estates for life in the sunshine of royal and proprietary favour. But now alas! their moderation has quite deserted them, they will not be governed by leather aprons; places, by this tyrannick, this intolerable Constitution, are rendered entirely dependent on the people, who hate to pay much money for little service. Besides, by a very convenient indulgence in our old mode of proceeding, in favour of which many of us are much prejudiced, an enterprising man might be a Delegate in the Continental Congress, a member of General Assembly, and hold nearly as many Executive offices as he pleased. Now a Judge of Admiralty must entirely give up the privilege of prescribing rules for his own conduct, or relinquish his post. This separation of Legislative and Executive power, and the amazing precautions taken to prevent the inveteration of power, are the really obnoxious articles in the Constitution, and neither the catholicism of the creed, nor strictness of the oath of allegiance—which, by the way, is the most rational and most unexceptionable that ever was offered to mankind. But, alas! we are disunited, say the honest, unthinking people, and our wise and good men tell us that if we do but dispense with the oath of qualification, which must bar the gentry, whose whole souls are bent upon the prejudice, injury, and final overthrow of our free Constitution, omit the election of a Counsellor, and instruct the Assembly to amend the Constitution till we all like it, we shall agree quietly.

For God's sake, gentlemen, consider a moment what you are about! Is an oath that bars an inveterate enemy who would enter a garrison on purpose to throw open its gates to the besiegers, a tyrannick, cruel, and unreasonable thing? Did not the law, which excluded *Germans* resident in *Pennsylvania*, for many years, and every man below the value of fifty pounds in clear estate, bear as hard upon the honest friends of our country as could be? and yet this was never complained of, but wished to be continued by these wonderful sticklers for free election. For my own part, I care not how free our future elections may be, provided the persons we elect be not empowered to subvert our legal freedom when elected.

The Constitution has ever been understood to be the charter or compact of the whole people, and the limitation of Legislative and Executive powers. The people at large, by their Delegates, are the only proper makers and amenders of such compacts, and whatever man or body of men goes about to alter, add or take away, from a Constitution thus formed, by any other means than the consent of the community at large, is guilty of high treason against the State, and justly liable to the punishments by law established for the same.

Our Convention was delegated in so fair a manner, that even from our enemies we have never heard a complaint of the least omission of any thing requisite to render that important body a full representative of the whole people. They were sent to frame and establish a Constitution, without any instruction to wait a moment longer than it was finished; the necessity of the State called for that expedition, as we too evidently find by the violent sedition already stirred up amongst us. They perfected their work in so masterly a manner, that the idolators of power have sifted it as Satan did *Saint Peter*, to find flaws in it to expose it to contempt and detestation; and at last their masterly penetration found out it must be a vile thing, because a certain schoolmaster* had a principal hand in forming it. If such criticks had been a little better schooled, they would, perhaps, have said, with *Alexander the Great*, that they owed more to *Aristotle* for their education, than *Philip* for

* Mr. James Cannon, a learned, sensible, and disinterested patriot.

their descent to the heirship of a Kingdom.* I am well informed, that in their first secret cabal, one proposed attacking the Constitution on the religious quarter; a more conscientious gentleman, as *nemo repente fit turpissimus*, objected and said he thought it abominable to bring religion into political debates, and was, for his part, of opinion that creeds had nothing to do in civil Constitutions, but that he was answered the people could not be moved otherwise, and the necessity of the case carried the question. But here a scene opens upon us too black for description, too base for imagination, and too detestable to escape the execration of future ages, who shall be informed that billets were handed about to persons throughout all parts of the city, who were judged proper subjects to work upon, carefully passing by those who were a little better acquainted with proceedings of this nature, than to be expected to swallow the artfulness which was cooked up to inflame their passions and mislead their judgments, to the destruction of their own, and the peace, liberty, and happiness of posterity. It is very remarkable, that gentlemen who came to impeach the Convention for tyranny, in imposing declarations of our attachment to the Government, could not suppose themselves ready to proceed on their business till they had actually subscribed a tantamount declaration. After this their grand conductor, or as orator *Puff* repeats *ad nauseum*, their leader, proposes for their consideration: "That the late Convention was called for the express purpose of forming a new Government in this State, on the authority of the people only, with power also to appoint Delegates in Congress, and a Council of Safety." As this was a truth unquestioned by all men, it was judged a good entering wedge for all that followed, for few besides the *Lycurgus* of the *Delaware* State, would have conceived it implied a conclusion that any restriction of their commission, and consequent censure of their conduct, was implied by that resolve. However, having got that down, the second was proposed, viz: "That the said Convention assumed and exercised powers with which they were not entrusted by the people." This bold assertion might well have entitled the cool, the moderate man, the friend to peace, liberty, and lawful Government, to expect some evidence in support of so daring a charge against the majesty of the whole people in their unquestioned representative. The Constitution was demanded to be brought forth and read, and the instances in it pointed out which could ground the allegation. But all in vain; and when the mighty introducer of the resolutions harangued the people on the cruel designs of their Delegates, the burden of his song rested on their remaining at ease in *Philadelphia*, while he was risking his life on the Sound of *Staten-Island*. He indeed said they had exceeded their power in many things. Colonel *Mallack*, though greatly indisposed, was fired at so wretched an attempt to render men odious for doing what they must have been the most criminal traitors to the Commonwealth had they neglected. He read over a list of the extra articles they had acted upon, and at the end of each asked the people, was that wrong, cruel, or oppressive? They answered in the negative, or were silent, to all. The premier orator then said, the gentlemen on the other side might spare themselves the labour of vindicating those articles, as he had no reference to any thing without the Constitution. On this Dr. *Y—g* observed, that he should feel for the present Assembly in a too sensible manner, if they should be induced to resolve that the most important body that ever convened on the affairs of this State exceeded their powers in the instance wherein they had no limitation. Noise, clamour, and vague declamation, ended the debate on the second resolution, and the question being put, was decided in the affirmative.

After so clear a demonstration of popular infatuation, the last-mentioned gentleman spoke but little more, and did not appear on the next morning, to which the meeting was adjourned.

On the fourth article: "That the said Constitution unnecessarily deviates from all resemblance to the former Government of this State, to which the people have been

* They quite forget Dr. Franklin, and David Rittenhouse, A. M., were in Convention. 'Tis true they remember Colonel Mallack, but only to inform the true proprietors of dominion (the rich) that the fellow is an upstart and does not keep a chariot.

accustomed," Messrs. *M—k* and *C—n* observed, that in a Government founded on charters from two Sovereigns, it was hard to find many articles which could serve as copies for sections of a Constitution framed on the authority of the people only. And that too many members of the Convention had a most just and inveterate abhorrence to that wretched jumble of regal and proprietary domination, to wish to rake into it for any materials they needed. However, the people who composed that meeting passed the resolution, as they did every one that was read to them, without the least alteration.

At the *Tuesday* meeting, understanding that the absurdity of swearing to support a Government that "should be made" by an Assembly they should instruct for the purpose, was too glaring, they expunged that article, and did not put it to vote.

The large and respectable meeting, of between two and three hundred persons convened for the patriotick purpose of overthrowing the Constitution, then resolved that their judicious resolutions should be affectionately recommended to their fellow-citizens in every part of the State of *Pennsylvania*, and some persons were accordingly despatched with them.

How clear these ambassadors will steer of "Kingly" and "Proprietary" votaries in their present tour, is not quite evident to persons who observe a wonderful softness of disposition lately where there was heretofore the most profound contempt on one side, and as hearty resentment on the other.

Nothing less than dementition, or a total inattention to the probable consequences of so dangerous a measure, could ever have led a number of honest and worthy men to patronize so pernicious an experiment. Could they consider a moment the behaviour of our common enemies on the occasion, they could not fail to draw instruction from it. They know well the consequences of suffering the Legislature to amend constitutions. They have seen the effects of it in the several changes of the condition of the people in *Europe*. A little reading would inform us that the slavery and misery of every State that ever lost its liberty, was the consequence of people's negligence in this very point. A point of more importance than all the words in my power will ever be able to communicate.

To conclude, fellow-citizens, be advised by a person who can have no interest in deceiving you, to hold fast your Constitution as the sure hope of your political salvation. 'Tis time enough to have it amended when experience and cool reflection on all the arguments that can be offered for and against it can ripen your judgments for so weighty an affair. At present you are sensible the opposers of your free Government have mightily and very rudely troubled the waters, and if you do not find they aim to fish advantages to themselves out of the publick disquiet, never again give credit to

CONSIDERATION.

LANCASTER (PENNSYLVANIA) COMMITTEE.

At a meeting of the Committee of Observation, Inspection, and Correspondence, at the house of *Adam Reigart*, the 21st *October*, 1776:

Present, *Edward Shippen*, *William Atlee*, *Lodwick Lowman*, *William Bowsman*, *Adam Reigart*, *Casper Shaffner*, *Michael Musser*, *Henry Dehuff*, *John Miller*, *George Moore*, *Abraham Dehuff*. *William Atlee* in the chair.

An express from *Philadelphia* arrived, with a Letter from Colonel *George Ross*, accompanied with the Resolves of a number of the respectable inhabitants of *Philadelphia*, respecting the proceedings of the late Convention, directed to the Committee of this County. And as matters contained in the said resolves are of great importance to this State, it is

Resolved and Ordered, That the Chairman do summons the members of the County Committee to meet at the Court-House in *Lancaster*, on *Friday*, the 25th instant, at ten o'clock in the morning, to take the matter therein contained into consideration, and determine thereon as shall be thought proper; that a number of the said Resolutions be immediately printed in the *English* and *German* languages; and that expresses be sent off to-morrow morning, or sooner if they can be sooner printed, to summon the members of Committee of the different Townships to attend as afore-

said; and that a printed copy be sent to each Township, that the members may know the design of their being called together.

Mr. William Paine, manager for Colonel *Curtis Grubb*, at his Furnace, representing, by direction of his said employer, that he hath cast a number of Cannons, by order of the honourable the Congress, which have been proved and are fit for service; that the said Cannon are wanted at *Philadelphia*, to be put on board the frigates fitting out by order of Congress, and that he cannot procure wagons to take them down without the assistance of the Committee: It is

Resolved, That the Chairman, by warrant under his hands, give orders to the Constable of *Lebanon* Township and the Townships adjacent, immediately to impress a number of Wagons and Horses sufficient to carry those Cannon to *Philadelphia*; and that, in impressing such Wagons and Horses, they have respect to such persons who, by being in actual service, have been obliged to neglect their farms, and take them from among such as have had the advantage of attending their farms in the absence of the Associators who have gone into actual service.

At a meeting of the Committee of Observation and Inspection at *Lancaster*, the 22d *October*, 1776:

Present, *William Atlee*, *Lodwick Lowman*, *Edward Shippen*, *Henry Dehuff*, *Christopher Crawford*, *John Miller*, *Adam Reigart*, *Jacob Krug*. *William Atlee* in the chair.

Jacob Rees, tent. in £1,000, } To the State of *Penn-*
Abraham Kendig, tent. in £500, } *sylvania*, for the good
behaviour of the said *Jacob Rees* to all the subjects and inhabitants of the said State, particularly to *Thomas Smith*, his family and estate. Acknowledged in Committee on 22d *October*, 1776.

Thomas McDonnaugh, of the Twenty-Sixth Regiment, is permitted to go to *York*, to attend Lieutenant *Thompson* there.

Joseph Peters, of the Seventh Regiment, is permitted to go to *Carlisle*, to attend on Lieutenant *Despard* there, in the room of *Robert Miller*, his late servant, who is returned.

In Committee, *October* 22, 1776.

Letters to the different Committees of the different Townships sent as follows, viz:

To the members of *Upper Paxton*, sent by *Mr. William Brown*.

To the members of *Paxton*, delivered to *Mr. William Brown*, one of the members.

Brown, who engages to deliver them to *Mr. Jameson*, one

To the members of *Mountjoy*, sent by *Mr. William* of the members.

To the members of *Bart*, delivered to *Andrew Work*, one of the members.

To the members of *Conestogo*, sent by *Abraham Kendig*, who engages to deliver it to *Abraham Newcomer*.

To the members of *Hannover*, sent by *Mr. William Brown*, who engages to deliver it to *John Rogers*, one of the members.

To the members of *Londonderry*, sent by *Mr. William Brown*, who engages to deliver it to *Jacob Cook*, one of the members.

To the members of *Derry*, sent by *Mr. William Brown*, who engages to deliver it to *William Laird*, one of the members.

To the members of *Colerain*, sent by *Joseph Miller*, who engages to deliver it to *Richard Ferree*, one of the members.

To the members of *Little Britain*, sent by *Joseph Miller*, who engages to forward it to *William Gillcream* to-morrow morning.

To the members of *Lancaster* Township, delivered to *Mr. A. Graff*, one of the members.

To the members of *Manheim* Township, delivered to *Mr. S. Graff*, one of the members.

To the members of *Lampeter*, sent by *Mr. A. Graff*, who engages to deliver it to *Mr. Witmer*, one of the members.

To the members of *Martick*, sent by *Thomas Clark*, who engages to deliver it to *Mr. William Clark*, one of the members, to-morrow morning.

To the members of *Drumore*, sent by *Thomas Clark*, who engages to deliver it to Mr. *John Smily*, one of the members, to-morrow morning.

To all the other Townships, sent by express.

At a meeting of the Committee for the County of *Lancaster*, at the Court-House, on *Friday*, the 25th *October*, 1776. Present:

For the Borough of *Lancaster*—*William Bowsman*, *Lodwick Lowman*, *Jacob Krug*, *Adam Reigart*.

For *Lancaster Township*—*Mathias Slough*, *Andrew Graff*.

For *Hempfield Township*—*Robert Spear*.

For *Manheim Township*—*Sebastian Graff*.

For *Mannor Township*—

For *Conestogo Township*—*William Atee*.

For *Martick Township*—*John McMullen*.

For *Drummore Township*—*William McIntire*, *John Smiley*.

For *Leacock Township*—*James Crawford*.

For *Strasburgh Township*—

For *Lampeter Township*—*John Witmer, Jun.*

For *Salisbury Township*—*Isaac McCammont*, *Archibald Henderson*.

For *Warwick Township*—*Jacob Erb*.

For *Elizabeth Township*—

For *Cocolico Township*—

For *Earl Township*—

For *Caernarvon Township*—*David Jenkins*, *Henry Weaver*.

For *Brecknock Township*—

For *Heidelberg Township*—

For *Bethel Township*—

For *Hannover Township*—*William Cathcart*.

For *Paxtang Township*—*William Brown*, *John Harris*.

For *Derry Township*—*William Laird*, *Daniel Elliot*.

For *Londonderry Township*—*Jacob Cook*.

For *Donnegal Township*—*Alexander Lowery*, *Bartram Galbreath*.

For *Mountjoy Township*—*John Jameson*.

For *Rapho Township*—*James Patterson*, *Jacob Haldiman*, *Joseph Little*.

For *Coleraine Township*—*Gabriel Morrison*, *Richard Ferree*, *Daniel McConnel*.

For *Little Brittain Township*—*Isaac Irwin*, *William Gay, Jun.*

For *Bart Township*—*John Shannon*.

For *Upper Paxtang Township*—

William Atlee was unanimously chosen Chairman.

On motion that the Constitution of the Commonwealth of *Pennsylvania*, as established by the late General Convention, be read, it passed in the affirmative; and the same was read accordingly by the Chairman.

Adjourned till to-morrow morning, eight o'clock.

Saturday, October 26, 1776.

Present: *Lancaster*—*Lodwick Lowman*, *Jacob Krug*, *Casper Shaffner*, *Adam Reigart*, *John Miller*.

Lancaster Township—*Andrew Graff*, *Mathias Slough*.

Hempfield—*Robert Spear*.

Manheim—*Sebastian Graff*.

Mannor—*Jacob Rubley*.

Conestogo—*William Atlee*, *Michael Haverstick*.

Martick—*John McMullen*.

Dromore—*William McIntire*, *John Smiley*.

Leacock—*James Crawford*.

Strasburgh—*John Breckbill*, *Eberhart Gruber*.

Lampeter—*John Witmer, Jun.*

Salisbury—*Isaac McCammont*, *Archibald Henderson*.

Warwick—*Jacob Erb*.

Elizabeth—*George Hoyle*.

Cocolico—

Earl—

Caernarvon—*David Jenkins*, *Henry Weaver*.

Brecknock—

Heidleberg—

Lebanon—*John Light*.

Bethel—*Casper Kore*.

Hanover—*William Cathcart*.

Paxtang—*William Brown*, *John Harris*.

Derry—*William Laird*, *Daniel Elliot*.

Londonderry—*Jacob Cook*.

Donnegal—*Alexander Lowery*, *Bartram Galbreath*.

Mountjoy—*John Jameson*.

Rapho—*James Patterson*, *Jacob Haldiman*, *Joseph Little*.

Coleraine—*Gabriel Morrison*, *Richard Ferree*.

Little Brittain—*Samuel Scott*, *Francis Armstrong*, *William Gillereat*.

Sadsbury—*Isaac Irwin*, *William Gay, Jun.*

Bart—*Andrew Work, Jun.*, *John Shannon*.

Upper Paxtang—

William Atlee in the chair.

Ordered, That Mr. *Slough* pay to *Gabriel Morrison*, *Daniel McConnel* and *Richard Ferree*, reasonable carriage for bringing the Blankets collected by them for the Provincial troops to *Lancaster*, and that he pay to *Francis Armstrong* and *William Gillereat* reasonable carriage for bringing the Blankets, collected by them for the Provincial troops, to *Lancaster*.

Ordered, That Mr. *Slough* pay to such other members of this Committee, as have collected Blankets for the publick use, reasonable carriage for bringing them to *Lancaster*; and Mr. *Lowman*, Mr. *Bowsman*, and Mr. *Shaffner*, or any two of them, are appointed to consider and settle the sums to be paid to the persons who shall apply for carriage as aforesaid.

Captain *John McKenzie*, a prisoner of war on his parole, produced a paper signed by *Richard Peters*, Secretary at War, mentioning that he hath permission to reside in *Donnegal Township*, in this County.

New-York, October 21, 1776.

On *Monday* last, the *Perseus*, Captain *Elphinson*, with eleven sail of transports, having on board troops and provisions, arrived in port, after a passage of eleven weeks from *Portsmouth*. The *Perseus* took two privateers and a trading vessel with a valuable cargo off the coast, and brought them safe into port.

On *Friday* sixty-five sail of vessels, under convoy of the *Diamond* and *Ambuscade*, with the second division of the *Hessians* and one thousand *Waldeckers*, under the command of the General *Knyphausen* and *Schmidt*, and a number of recruits for the *British* troops, in all about eight thousand effective men, arrived off *Sandy-Hook*. They sailed from *Plymouth Sound* the 27th of *July*. In the fleet are several victuallers, and vessels laden with draught horses for the train and baggage of the army. In the *Diamond* arrived the Earl of *Winchelsea* and the Hon. Mr. *Finch*, son to the Earl of *Aylesford*.

It is remarkable that not one of so great a convoy is missing; and the troops are in exceeding good health and spirits. The men-of-war brought in some prizes.

When the ships left *England*, a report of the death of General *Conway* prevailed at *Portsmouth*.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE PENNSYLVANIA EVENING POST.

Trenton, November 4, 1776.

SIR: Accidentally meeting with the enclosed newspaper, I could but admire at the pains which the enemies to the free States of *America* are taking, in order to reëstablish the old constitution of *New-York*; an attempt, which, I conceive, ought to be made publick, in order that the people at large might determine on what conduct they would show to such as dared to break so important a link in the chain of union; and, as I cannot but view this breach or attempt of the utmost importance to the peace and well-being of every State, I make no doubt you will give a place in your useful paper to that publication under the *New-York* head of *October 21*, by which you will oblige your humble servant,
A FRIEND TO AMERICAN FREEDOM.

New-York, October 21, 1776.

In consequence of the advertisement in our last, requesting his Majesty's loyal subjects, inhabitants of the City and County of *New-York*, to meet at the City-Hall on *Wednesday*, the 16th instant, at ten o'clock in the forenoon, a very large concourse of people attended at the place and time appointed. The members of his Majesty's Council,

the Judges, and all the other well-affected citizens who were not driven away by the hand of violence, or sent prisoners to other Provinces, were present; when a decent and respectful address to Lord *Howe* and General *Howe*, the King's Commissioners for restoring peace to *America*, was read, representing the firm attachment of the inhabitants to our rightful and gracious Sovereign *George* the Third, and their sense of the constitutional supremacy of *Great Britain* over these Colonies; lamenting the interruption of that harmony which formerly subsisted between them, and praying that this City and County might be restored to his Majesty's peace and protection. The address was unanimously approved and adopted, and it was agreed that the inhabitants should all sign it. But the number assembled being too great to sign at that time, two respectable citizens were appointed to attend at a publick house adjoining the City-Hall, from ten o'clock, A. M., to two o'clock, P. M., every day, to take subscriptions till all had signed. As this measure was the first step that was necessary to be taken on our part towards effecting a reconciliation with *Great Britain*, joy was lighted up in every countenance on the prospect of returning peace and union with the parent State. The populace expressed the feelings of their hearts by loud acclamations and shouts of applause.

After this an affectionate address to his Excellency *William Tryon*, Esq., our worthy Governour, was read, "requesting him to present the above address to the Commissioners, and otherwise to exert himself that the prayer of it might be granted." This address was also unanimously approved and agreed to, and the Hon. Mr. Chief-Justice *Horsmanden* was desired to sign and deliver it to his Excellency, in behalf of the inhabitants.

The well-known humanity of the Commissioners, and the tender regard they have manifested for the welfare of *America*, in their several Declarations, afford the most flattering hopes that the address to them will be productive of the desired effect; and it is most devoutly to be wished that the Continent may follow the example of this city, that the *Americans* in general may avail themselves of his Majesty's clemency and paternal goodness in offering to restore them to his royal protection and peace. Those who continue deaf to such benevolence, and thereby prolong the present destructive and unnatural rebellion, will be utterly inexcusable in the sight of God and man. Their obstinacy must be detested by the wise and virtuous; the inevitable ruin attending it will be unpitied by all, and posterity will execrate their memories.

PETITION AND REPRESENTATION OF QUEEN'S COUNTY, IN NEW-YORK.

To the Right Honourable *RICHARD*, Lord Viscount *Howe*, of the Kingdom of *IRELAND*, and to His Excellency the Hon. *WILLIAM HOWE*, Esquire, General of his Majesty's Forces in *AMERICA*, the King's Commissioners for restoring peace to his Majesty's Colonies in *NORTH-AMERICA*.

The humble Representation and Petition of the Freeholders and Inhabitants of *QUEEN'S County*, on the Island of *NASSAU*, in the Province of *NEW-YORK*:

Your Excellencies having, by your Declaration of *July* last, opened to us the pleasing prospect of returning peace and security, long banished by the many calamities surrounding us, we entertained the most sanguine expectations that the Colonies would at length have submitted to their duty, and acknowledged the constitutional authority they had so wantonly opposed.

When we compared the dismal situation of the country, suffering under all the evils attending the most convulsive state, with the mild and happy government it had before experienced, we saw no ground for hesitation; from happiness we had fallen into misery, from freedom to oppression! We severely felt the change and lamented our condition. Unfortunately for us, these hopes were blasted by the infatuated conduct of the Congress. Your Excellencies, nevertheless, having been pleased by a subsequent Declaration again to hold up the most benevolent offers, and to repeat his Majesty's gracious intentions towards the obedient:

Permit us, his Majesty's loyal and well-affected subjects, the freeholders and inhabitants of *Queen's County*, humbly to represent to your Excellencies that we bear true alle-

giance to his Majesty *George* the Third, and are sincerely attached to his sacred person, crown, and dignity; that we consider the union of these Colonies with the parent State essential to their well being; and our earnest desire is that the constitutional authority of *Great Britain* over them may be preserved to the latest ages.

And we humbly pray that your Excellencies would be pleased to declare this County at the peace of his Majesty, and thereby enable us to receive the benefits flowing from his most gracious protection.

Queen's County, October 21, 1776.

John Morrell,	Lorance Fish,	John Carle,
Thomas Hallet,	George Smith,	Michael Rogers,
Charles Willet,	Jo's Birdsall,	Samuel Titus,
George Nostrand,	Nathan Skidmore,	John Rodman,
Enoch Martin,	Israel Seaman,	Isaac Suydam,
Jonathan Rowland,	Jacob Jackson,	Peter Alburts,
John Embree,	Samuel Carman,	Benjamin Field,
Benjamin Arisson,	Joshua Tettit,	George Hicks,
Abraham Lawrence,	John McIntosh,	Oliver Waters,
Hallet Wright,	John Hewlett,	William Burns,
Jos. Wright,	Stephen Wood,	Oliver Talman,
Philip Field,	George Watts,	John Searing,
John Fowler,	Isaac Denton,	William Waters,
Thomas Blockley,	Richard Green,	Hendrick Eldert,
John Marston,	Joseph Bedel,	William Talman,
Oliver Thorne,	Jona. Valentine,	Thomas Fowler,
William Lowere,	Christian Snedeker,	Jacob Griffin,
William Arisson,	William Langdon,	John Van Liew,
Gilbert Field,	James Searing,	Robert Morrell,
Jos. Haviland, Jr.,	William Pearsall,	Caleb Valentine,
William Reid,	Joseph Cadles,	Nehemiah Coe,
Elbert Hoogland,	James Cornwell,	Geo. Rapalje, Jr.,
D. Roe, constable,	Ephraim Ludlow,	James Morrell,
Joseph Griffen,	Cornel Smith,	Ab'm J. Rapalje,
John Smith,	William Langdon,	Stephen Moore,
Samuel Smith,	Amos Smith,	John Rapalje,
Samuel Fish,	Richard Mott,	Bern's Rapalje,
Francis Marston,	Cornelius Bogert,	Jesse Fish,
Thomas Bennen,	Tunis Covert,	Dan'l Norstrandt,
Benj. Farrington,	Jacob Mott, Jr.,	Chris'r Remsen,
Tho's Woodward,	John Sands,	Alex'r McMullen,
Leonard Lawrence,	Micajah Townsend,	Richard Gardiner,
Matthew Redett,	Joseph Hegeman,	William Steed,
Baltus Van Kleeck,	Jesse Weekes,	Silas Lawrence,
Theophilus Wright,	Samuel Weekes,	Nicholas Wickoff,
Gilbert C. Willet,	Jos. Thorney Craft,	Jacobus Collier,
Isaac Underhill,	Timothy Townsend,	Abraham Probasco,
Edward Willet,	Jotham Townsend,	Thomas Youngs,
Peter Underhill,	W. Townsend,	Charles Hicks,
G. Von Wicklen,	James Craft,	Peter H. Waters,
Daniel Young,	Charles Thorn,	Ezekiel Roe,
William Butler,	Thomas Kipp,	John Morrell,
Jacob Weeks, Jr.,	John Weekes,	William Prince,
Zebulon Wright,	Dan'l Rapalje, Sr.,	James Field,
Simeon Walters,	Jacobus Ricker,	Samuel Thorne,
Joseph Latham,	Abraham Berrien,	Christopher Robert,
Samuel Burr,	Garret Luyster,	Jacob Suydam,
Henry Dickenson,	Benjamin Field,	Benj. Thorne, Jr.,
March McEwen,	John Lawrence,	Joseph Thorne,
Darius Allen,	Ab'm Polhemus,	Samuel Smith, Jr.,
Israel Oakley,	Nathaniel Hunt,	Wm. Lawrence, Jr.,
Thomas Smith, Jr.,	Ab'm Brinkerhoff,	Dan'l Fowler,
Isaac Carpenter,	John Leverich,	Daniel Clement,
Richard Weeks,	Rem P. Remsen,	John Monfort,
Robert Wilson,	John Burroughs,	Daniel Hitchcock,
Zebulon Doty,	Jacob Palmer,	Pepperel Bloodgood,
Dan'l Hendrickson,	John Gorsline,	Caleb Lawrence,
John Bennett,	Robert T. Collins,	John Thorne,
Jeromus Leister,	John Parsall,	Thomas Foster,
Refine Weekes,	Jacob Bennet,	James Areson,
Ab'm Van Wyck,	Abraham Divine,	Darby Doyel,
Benjamin Cheshire,	Jores Brinkerhoff,	Issachar Polock,
James Voorhies,	Peter Smith, Jr.,	Benjamin Thorne,
Cornelius Suydam,	Plat Smith,	V. Hicks,
Charles Justus,	Waters Lambertson,	John Talman,
Gabriel Cock,	Nath'l Woodruff,	Stephen Lawrence,
Solomon Wooden,	Daniel Ludlam,	Somerset Lawrence,
John Remsen,	Simeon Lugin,	Robert Lawrence,
Isaac Keen,	Nathaniel Higbee,	Samuel Wright,
John Williams,	Nathaniel Smith,	Oliver Cornell,
Abraham Snedeker,	Richard Roads,	Joseph Beasley,
Richard Jackson,	John Losee,	Henry Lowere,
George Bayley,	J. Van Nostrandt,	Richard Loudon,
Thomas Jackson,	Peter Smith, Sr.,	Daniel Townsend,
Nichol. Van Cott,	John Remsen,	Jacob Van Wicklen,
Abraham Allen,	Thomas Wiggins,	Francis Conihane,
Daniel Allen,	Michael Flowers,	David Chadoyne,
Hen'k Hardenberg,	Samuel Thorne,	William Walters,
Barnt Snedeker,	Gilbert Cornell,	Anthony Wright,
John Ue Vedito,	Edward Hicks,	Ab'm Remsen,
Garret Wortman,	Thomas Hicks,	Joseph Carpenter,
D. V. Nostrand, Jr.,	John Mitchell, Jr.,	Joseph Cooper,
Richard Hewlett,	Obadiah Cornwell,	Thomas Cheshire,
Benajah Bedle,	Cornelius Cornwell,	Daniel Weekes, Jr.,
Francis Davenport,	Augustine Mitchell,	Francis Blackburn,
Michael Demott,	Samuel Hutchings,	Robert Allen,
Elias Burtis,	John Burtis,	Zophar Hawkins,
Edward Allison,	John Woolley,	Jacob Smith,
Charles Cornwell,	William Milbourn,	Robert Colwell,
Samuel Jackson,	George Rapalje,	John Carpenter,
John Legross,	Henry Hauxhurst,	Corn's Hoogland,
Rich'd Gildersleeve,	Benjamin Hicks,	John Remsen,
William Gritman,	Newb'y Davenport,	Abraham Weekes,
John Hall,	Joseph Kissam,	Nathaniel Weekes,
Thomas Williams,	David Allen,	Tunis Hoogland,
Thomas Jackson,	Thomas Lewis,	Peter Liester,

W. Braambos,	Martin Schenck, Jr.,	Jacob Duryee,	Thomas Thorne, Jr.,	Henry Powell,	Thomas Hollowed,
Jacob Weekes,	Peter Monfort,	Garret Monfort,	John Tredwell,	John Amberman,	Henry Sands,
A. Van Nostrandt,	John Clement,	George Duryee,	John Searing,	Henry Ludlam, Jr.,	Adrian Onderdonck,
Peter Liester, Jr.,	Henry Stocker,	Edmund Lindsay,	Elbert Hegeman, Jr.,	Isaac Weekes,	John Whaley,
Farnan's Suydam,	John Woolley, Jr.,	Absalom Wooden,	Adam Mott, Sen.,	John Schenck,	John Morrel,
Jacob Dillingham,	Andries Hegeman,	John Butler, Jr.,	Simon Sands,	David Tilley,	Israel Baxter,
Daniel Dodge,	Thomas Smith,	Josias Latten,	John Smith,	Robert Townsend,	Philip Wooley,
John Weekes,	Daniel Ireland,	Amaziah Wheeler,	W. Cornwell,	Daniel Youngs, Jr.,	Joseph Clement, Jr.,
William Cheshire,	W. Smith, Cow Neck,	Jo. Wortman,	James Hewlett,	John Hauxhurst,	Richard Place,
Daniel Latten,	John Cornwall,	Joshua Hammond,	John Mitchell, Jr.,	Jonathan Gorham,	Samuel Way,
John Carpenter,	Samuel Alline,	Melanthon Thorne,	Samuel Wooley,	Charles Gulliver,	Martin Schenck,
Joseph Cooper, Jr.,	John Toffe,	Abraham Seaman,	Benjamin Cheesman,	Henry Townsend,	Peter Losee,
Isaac Whipples,	Benjamin Smith,	Samuel Townsend,	Philip Valentine,	Minne Van Sicklen,	Jonathan Searing,
Michael Weekes,	George Hallet,	Penn Cock,	John Marvin,	Isaac Seaman,	Joseph Starkings,
Samuel Robbins,	James Lewis,	Daniel Vanvelred,	Rich. Townsend, Jr.,	Robert Jackson, Jr.,	Derrick Albertson,
Simeon Hauxhurst,	W. Willis,	John Allen,	Richard Townsend,	Jas. Townsend, Dr.,	Philip Young,
Townsend Weekes,	Mordecai Willis,	Robert Jackson,	John Golding,	William Crystall,	J. J. Troup,
Thomas Place,	Jos. Skidmore, Sr.,	Barnt Snedeker,	John Smith,	Garret Noorstrandt,	Andries Kashaw,
Jacobus Suydam,	Lewis Davenport,	Isaac Robbins,	Daniel Wyllis,	John Baker,	Charles Cornell,
Rem Hardenberg,	James Langdon,	Jeromus Bennet, Sr.,	Elbert Brinkerhoff,	Gorce Snedeker,	John Mitchell,
George Weekes,	A. Van Nostrandt,	G. Noorstrandt, Jr.,	Teunis Bergen,	Sylvanus Bedell,	Henry Townsend,
Daniel Weekes,	A. Van Noorstrandt,	Benjamin Lester,	Robert Mitchell,	W. Welling,	W. Frost,
Edmond Weekes,	Daniel Rapalje,	Richard Langdon,	Jacob Nostrandt,	Richard Smith,	Henry Ludlam,
J. Van Noorstrandt,	Rulef Duryee,	James Smith,	Edward Burling,	James Hanrahan,	Joseph Ludlam,
W. Snedeker,	Obadiah Mills,	Luke Cummins,	Teunis Brinkerhoff,	David Sammis,	Jacob Duryee,
S. Clowes,	Jeremiah Remsen,	Benjamin Dorlon,	Isaac Bragaw,	Annianus Southard,	D. W. Kissam,
W. Pool,	Robert Doughty,	Henry Miller,	Samuel Seaman,	Jonathan Pratt,	John Burtis,
S. H. Davenport,	Jo's Lawrence,	C. Van Noorstrandt,	Geo. Brinkerhoff,	James Birdsall,	Aaron Duryee,
W. Hewlett,	Simon Simonson,	John Birdsall,	Teunis Brinkerhoff,	W. Pettit,	W. Bennett,
Ambrose Seaman,	Amos Mills,	Increase Pettit,	Charles Hicks, Jr.,	Samuel Dorlon,	Thomas Cornell,
Jona. Gildersleeve,	Teunis Covert, Jr.,	J. Van Noorstrandt,	Walter Skidmore,	Daniel Smith,	Hervey Colwell,
Benjamin Smith, R.,	John Voorhies,	Thomas Fetherbe,	Thomas Valentine,	Samuel Jackson,	Albert Coles,
Isaac Jackson,	Stephen Lott,	Daniel Smith, Jr.,	Reuliff Voorhees,	Richard Smith,	Rob. Thorney Craft,
John Dorlan,	Derrick Bergen,	Samuel Birdsall,	Nathaniel Provoost,	Samuel Green,	Baruch Cornell,
Thomas Tredwell,	Isaac Pettit,	Sa. Jackson, the 3d,	Jacob Field,	Richard Pine,	Richard Kirby,
Jonathan Cornelius,	James Marr,	Stephen Calas,	David Hallet,	Isaac Smith,	Comfort Cornell,
Joseph Smith,	Jonathan Furman,	Samuel Spragg,	John Williams,	Peter Jones,	Richard Smith,
Silas Smith,	Samuel Tredwell,	John Verety,	Samuel Carman,	Garret Golder,	Daniel Albertson,
John Fetherbe,	Robert Dixon,	Abraham Baldin,	Silas Carman,	John Mott,	Nathan Horton,
Benjamin Barker,	Charles Cornell,	Amos Powell,	Richard Lowdon,	W. Thurston,	John Whippo,
W. Ferribe,	Nathaniel Wright,	Micah Williams,	John Snedeker,	Peter Lowge,	W. Crooker,
Noah Seamors,	Samuel Wright,	John Smith,	Luke Eldert,	Leffert Haugewort,	Joseph Lawrence,
Richard Jackson,	Domini's Van Dine,	Stephen Powell,	John Waters,	Zeb. Smith,	Daniel Hopkins,
Tunis Covert,	Aras V. Dine,	Thomas Dorlon,	Saml. Skidmore, Jr.,	Thomas Seaman,	Thomas Alsop,
James Pettit,	Stephen Voris,	Benjamin Smith, Jr.,	Jaques Johnson,	W. Smith, Jr.,	M. Van Nostrand,
Oliver Willis,	Simon Voris,	Seaman Watts,	Cornelius Bennett,	Samuel Nichols,	Jeremiah Port,
George Weekes,	John Suydam,	T. Baker,	Albert Snedeker,	Timothy Rhoads,	Sylvester Cornell,
Stephen Hewlett,	Rem Remsen,	Samuel Carman,	Samuel Skidmore,	Gerardus Clowes,	Edward Colwell,
George Watts, Jr.,	W. Monfort,	P. Pettett,	Nicholas Van Dyke,	Benjamin Wiggins,	Thomas Ludlam,
Reuben Pine,	Simon Lambertson,	Jo. Lefferts,	Philip Allen,	Thomas Wiggins,	Daniel Cock,
Sylvester Bedle,	Thos. Van Wyck,	Thomas Clowes,	Henry Allen,	Samuel Abrams,	John Needham,
Mourris Simonson,	W. Thorney Craft,	Elijah Spragg,	John Allen,	Joseph Pettit, Jr.,	Joseph Denton,
Thomas Hicks,	David Valentine,	John Townsend,	Stephen Van Wyck,	Benj. Dorland, Jr.,	Robert Valentine,
Samuel Pettet,	Jordan Coles,	Rich. Townsend,	Charles Hicks,	Felham Sands,	W. Willing,
Jacob Doxsee,	Mordecai Beedle,	Benjamin Dorland,	Nehemiah Carpenter,	Carman Burtis,	Philip Allen,
S. Cornwell, Jr.,	John Henderson,	S. Stringham,	George Cornwell,	Carman Rushmore,	— Birdsall, Jr.,
Timothy Clowes,	Step. Lawrence, Jr.,	Stephen Baldin,	John Cock,	Samuel Shaw,	Elijah Wood,
James Smith,	Nicholas Ludlam,	Richard Bruer,	Richard Lattin,	David Bedell,	James Pine,
George Baldwin,	W. Hopkins, Jr.,	Israel Smith,	John Bremner,	Noah Combs,	John Boerum,
David Jackson,	Ambrose Fish,	Frederick Nostrandt,	J. Place, cordwainer,	John Demott,	John Hendrickson,
Samuel Smith,	Thomas Lawson,	Jackson Mott,	Luke Bergen,	Daniel Cock, Jr.,	James Wood,
Gilbert Van Wyck,	Jacob Bergen,	Coles Carpenter,	Samuel Thorne,	Town's'd Dickenson,	W. Cornell,
Freeman Please,	Lawrence Marston,	Nathaniel Coles,	George Thorne,	Rem Hegeman,	Richard Hallett,
Isaac Covert,	Noah Smith,	Thomas Underhill,	John Roe,	Daniel Coles,	Ob. Valentine,
Jordan Lawrence,	Nicholas Smith,	Benjamin Latting,	Jacob Gorsling,	Jeromus Bennett,	Geo. Weekes, Sen.,
David Laton,	Daniel Whitehead,	John Jackson, Jr.,	Thomas Loweree,	John Probasco,	Job Duryee,
James Pine,	Benjamin Everitt,	Thomas Kirby,	Samuel Moore, Sen.,	Michael Mudge,	James Harper,
W. Frost,	Douw V. Dine,	Joseph Wood,	Isaac Lawrence,	Solomon Craft,	Joseph Denton,
Benj. Latting, Jr.,	Isaac Ditmars,	Thomas Frost,	Jacobus Lint,	Charles Frost,	Aaron Simonson,
Tillot Colwell,	Garret Ditmars,	Thomas Hopkins,	Abraham Lint,	W. Coles,	Hendrick Emmens,
George Downing,	Aury Boerum,	John Jackson,	Daniel Lint,	Thorn. Goldin,	Seaman Weekes,
George Bayles,	John Remsen,	Stephen Thorn,	Thomas Lawrence,	Benjamin Coles,	Jacob Williams,
John Tilley,	Douw Ditmars,	James Bennett,	Samuel Cornell,	George Downing,	David Waters,
Jacob Valentine,	John Ditmars,	Peter Sniffen,	Benjamin Everitt,	Clarke Lawrence,	Nich. Van Arsdalen,
Jacob Carpenter,	Jacob Remsen,	Daniel Lawrence,	John Burtis,	John Moore, Jr.,	W. Hallett,
Ant. Weekes,	Nicholas Jones,	John Moore,	Hendr'k Suydam,	James Moore,	Anthony Rhodes,
Annianus Downing,	Johannes H. Lott,	Jacob Moore,	Cornelius Ryerson,	Thomas Morrell,	James Wooden,
John Schenck,	Clark Cock,	William Sackett,	Isaac Lefferts,	Jeromus Remsen,	Jacob Kashow,
William Weyman,	Rem Remsen,	John J. Waters,	Wm. Glean,	Thomas Betts,	Charles Feke,
Joseph Moore,	Henry Higbie,	John Bragaw,	Martin Rapalje,	George Debevois,	Daniel Underhill,
W. Leverich,	Hendr'k Emans, Jr.,	Charles Debevois,	Jacob Carpenter,	Edward Ortus,	Stephen Denton,
John Curtis,	Jonathan Fish,	John Kearns,	Joshua Carpenter,	Thomas Hunt,	Samuel Townsend,
John Devebois,	John Talman, Jr.,	David Van Wickel,	Da. Field,	W. Furman,	Daniel Hall,
A. Polhemus, Jr.,	Thomas Furman,	Peter Bragaw,	Whit. Field,	John Pettit,	Elijah Cock,
Joseph Gorsline,	John Carpenter,	A. Brinkerhoff, Jr.,	Joha. Snedeker,	John Van Alst, Jr.,	Gilbert McCoun,
Jacob Hallet, Jr.,	Samuel Clement,	Robert Field,	W. Creed, Sen.,	Gabriel Furman,	John Fleet,
John Morrell,	Sam'l Mott Cornell,	John Van Aulst,	Robert Coe, Jr.,	George Sands,	John Weeks, Sen.,
Joseph Burroughs,	Johannes Bergen,	Howard Furman,	Samuel Fosdick,	John Greenoak,	Baruch Underhill,
John Ketcham, Jr.,	Peter Ryerson,	Thomas North,	Abm. Van Wicklen,	John Greenoak, Jr.,	Henry Wheeler,
Richard Rapalje,	Thomas Fowler,	John Fish,	Nicholas Weekes,	George Rapalje,	John Chiser,
Jarel Curtis,	H. Townsend, Jr.,	Joseph Morrell,	Johannes Covert,	John Martin,	Thomas Wright,
Abra. Rapalje,	J. V. Wicklen,	Cornelius Rapalje,	George Wright,	Martin Johnson,	Gabriel Duryee,
William Bennet,	Tristram Dodge,	John Williamson,	Absalom Townsend,	John Amberman,	Steph. Hendrickson,
Samuel Renne,	Jac. Rhinelander,	W. Van Wyck,	George Youngs,	Thomas Hinchman,	Garret Bennitt,
Isaac Brinkerhoff,	Levi Weekes,	Isaac Amberman, Jr.,	Thomas Fleet,	Amos Denton,	Augustine McCoun,
William Creed, Jr.,	Caleb Underhill,	Jacob Ogden,	W. McCoun,	Obadiah Hinchman,	Nicholas Wright,
David Lamberson,	Daniel Weekes,	John Skidmore,	John Robbins,	John Hinchman,	W. Burell,
Isaac Ambeman,	Charles Burnett,	John Smith,	Jacob Robbins,	Samuel Higbie,	Jacobus Ryder,
John Smith,	Richard Weekes,	Abraham Colyer,	J. Van Noorstrandt,	Daniel Everitt,	Penn Week,
John Skidmore,	Robert Hall,	Nicholas Everitt,	Micha Weekes,	Lambert Moore,	Benjamin Cock,
Daniel Bailey,	John Robbins, Sr.,	Isaac Rhoads,	Elias Chadayne,	Daniel Smith,	Luke Fleet,
Peter Nostrandt,	Brauch Allen,	John Brush,	Corn. Hoogland, Jr.,	Samuel Mills,	Samuel Cheshire,
Walter Smith,	Daniel Terry,	Samuel Messenger,	John Doty,	Aaron Hendrickson,	Tice Lane,
Nathaniel Smith,	Isaac Smith,	Nathaniel Mills,	Cornelius Vanscott,	Garret Nostrandt,	Derrick Amberman,
Wm. Hendrickson,	Arnold Fleet,	Barnar. Hendrickson,	Nicholas Bennet,	Thomas Martin,	Michael Butler,
Isaac Mills,	William Hoogland,	William Golder,	W. Bennet,	Nathaniel Mills,	Robert Colwell,
Whithead Skidmore,	Daniel Duryee,	John Rice,	Daniel Burr,	Nathaniel Denton,	Peter Wheeler,
J. D. Peyster,	James Vanscot,	Samuel Smith,	Somick Birdsall,	Benjamin Ackerly,	Isaac Remsen, Jr.,
Charles Smith,	John Bennet, Sr.,	John Kissam,	Samuel Weekes,	Joseph Hewlett,	John Townsend, Jr.,
William Valentine,	John Weekes, Jr.,	Daniel Kissam, 3d,	Peter Nostrandt,	John Thomas,	Joseph Weekes,
Thomas Ireland,	Jeremiah Cheshire,	John Searing,	John Hewlett, Sen.,	Thomas Pearsall,	Nich. Van Cott, Jr.,
Gregory Rete,	Daniel Birdsall,	Wilson Williams,	Joost Duryea,	Joseph Thorne,	John Walters,

Joseph Hauxhurst, Philip Thorne, Noah Mott, Jr.,
 Jacob Beldel, Charles Titus, W. Hawxhurst,
 William Ludlam, Jacob Valentine, W. Vanreelred,
 Jonathan Seaman, Benjamin Downing, John Suydam,
 Jacob Williams, Samuel Titus, John Miller,
 Gilbert Wright, John Bashford, John Cashow, minor,
 John Youngs, Benj. Tredwell, Dr., Stephen Vedito,
 Jeromus Bennett, Th. Seaman, cooper, John Nostrandt,
 Peter Hegeman, Richard Fuller, Elias Wheeler,
 Charles Simonson, Philip Thorne, Nehemiah Sammis,
 Adam Mott, Jeromus Rapalje, Samuel Langdon,
 Jacobus Lawrence, George D. Ludlow, Henry Woolley,
 Epenetus Platt, Daniel Kissam, Solomon Doxey,
 Daniel Hewlett, Jr., Leo'd Cutting, Rev., Henry Shaw,
 Peter Cock, David Colden, William Stites,
 Caleb Southward, G. G. Ludlow, Col., Solomon Seaman,
 John Pratt, Josh. Bloomer, Rev., John Duryee,
 Oliver Birdsall, Abraham Walton, Joseph Edoll,
 John Pettit, Charles Arding, David Dorlon,
 Joseph Dorlen, Jonathan Fish, Andrew Allen,
 Samuel Denton, Samuel Fish, William Smith,
 Townsend Jackson, Robert Crommeline, Richard Jackson, Jr.,
 Gershom Smith, John Shoals, Obadiah Jackson,
 W. Smith, Jr., Joseph Field, Joh. Van Cotts, Jr.,
 Benjamin Carman, Thomas Smith, John Jackson,
 John Post, Samuel Cornell, Jacob Seaman,
 Thomas Seaman, Valentine H. Peters, Morris Green,
 Samuel Mott, Hendk. Brinkerhoff, Samuel Combs,
 Samuel Mott, 3d, Daniel Hewlett, Sen., Peter Schenck,
 Parmenas Jackson, Uriah Platt, John Laton,
 Joseph Hall, John Slone, Peter Thomas,
 John Hall, Jr., Richard Alsop, William Stilwell,
 Solomon Pool, Daniel Duryee, John Smith,
 Obadiah Seaman, Daniel Feeke, Coles Mudge,
 Thomas Hutchins, Charles McEvers, William Mudge,
 Richard Rhoads, Jacob Mott, John Luyster,
 Samuel Pettett, James Hallet, Albert Albertson,
 Thomas Dorland, W. Hallet, Derick Albertson,
 Obadiah Pettit, George Ryerson, Joseph Coles,
 Daniel Murray, Abraham Lawrence, Benj. Thorney Craft,
 John Hegeman, John Townsend, W. Laton,
 Joseph Clowes, Richard Smith, A. Van Nostrandt,
 Nichols Betty, Stephen Thorne, Richard Townsend,
 Samuel Sands, Daniel Brinkerhoff, Henry Thorney Craft,
 James Burtis, Prior Townsend, Jarvis Coles,
 John Jackson, Abraham Schenck, Benjamin Downing,
 Benjamin Jackson, W. Cock, Stephen Smith,
 Elias Dorlon, 3d, Richard Titus, Samuel Moore,
 Walter Covert, Daniel Thorne, David Moore,
 Samuel Demott, Peter Titus, William Howard,
 John Foster, Peter Titus, Jr., Robert Coe,
 Jacamiah Bedell, Elbert Adrianse, Mr. Lawrence,
 Jas. Townsend, Jr., Stephen Frost, John Debevois, Jr.,
 Obadiah Lawrence, Simon Remsen, Daniel Wiggins,
 Timothy Ellison, Caspar Sprong, Teunis Brinkerhoff,
 George Bennett, Cornelius Rapalje, Bernardus Bloom,
 Amos Underhill, Har. Hendrickson, Daniel Luyster,
 Peter Thorney Craft, James Carpenter, Richard Betts,
 W. Roe, Penn Frost, Robert Jackson,
 Samson Crooker, John Polhemus, John Snow,
 Jacobus Luister, William Latting, Samuel Wainwright,
 Hewlett Townsend, Jonathan Morrell, John Denise, Jr.,
 John Weekes, John Thorne, John Charlton,
 Peter Monfort, Stephen Thorne, Jr., John Bennet,
 Jacob Downing, John Butler, John Roades,
 Jonathan Smith, Samuel Mudy, John Montanye,
 Nathan'l Moore, Andrew Ricker, Abraham Lott,
 Nathan'l Moore, Jr., Thos. Howell Smith, Benjamin Creed,
 Richard Morrell, George Underhill, Joseph Thorne,
 Samuel Waldron, John Lambertson, Daniel Cornwell,
 John Way, Isaac Remsen, Moses Higbie,
 Daniel Debevois, Thomas Cock, Hope Roades,
 Benjamin Moore, Moury Kashaw, Cornelius Losee,
 George Brinkerhoff, William Wright, Hend. Hendrickson,
 Geo. Brinkerhoff, 3d, Jonathan Rosell, Abraham Ditmars,
 Thomas Burroughs, Wm. Reuben Hall, Joseph Golder,
 Hendr'k Jacobs, Proculus McCoun, Nicholas Van Dam,
 James Morrell, John Needham, Jr., Caleb Cruces,
 John McDannaugh, Samuel Townsend, James Hughston,
 Edmond Penfold, Thomas Colwell, Joseph Oldfield,
 Jeromus Rapalje, Samuel Hare, Jr., Thomas Thorne,
 Joseph Burling, Samuel Hare, Sen., William Hutchings,
 Richard Rhoades, Samuel Jones, Thomas Dodge,
 Nicholas Amberman, William Jones, Jona. Hutchins,
 Thomas Denton, David Jones, Richard Thorne,
 Amos Denton, Jr., John Jones, Thomas Applebey,
 Garret Van Wicklen, William Hall, Benjamin Woolley,
 Jacob Lott, Walter Jones, Hend. Van Der Belt,
 Wm. Ludlam, Sen., Abraham Duryee, Samuel Latham,
 William Forbus, Abraham Wansor, Nicholas Willson,
 Thomas Higbie, John Bennet, Jr., Henry Alline, Sen.,
 Abm. Hendrickson, Geo. Townsend, Jr., Samuel Hewlett,
 Albt. Hendrickson, Jeremiah Robbins, Benjamin Sands,
 William Watts, Stephen Robbins, John Thorne,
 James Everett, Daniel Burr, Jr., Samuel Balding,
 Nathaniel Mills, Jr., Daniel Nostrandt, James Crooker,
 Jabez Woodruff, Hanomon Lelond, Richard Kirk,
 Peter Onderdonck, James Lifford, Peter Waters,
 Joris Rapalje, John Hewlett, William Williams,
 Elbert Hegeman, Garret Duryee, William Cox,
 John Burtis, John Ryder, Caleb Cornell,
 Joseph Ackerly, Henry Wanser, Jr., Powel Amberman,
 Ed. Penny, Pet. Nostrandt, Jr., Jacob Doughty,
 Caleb Morrell, Levi Cock, J. Van Nostrandt,
 Hendk. Onderdonck, Gideon Wright, Joseph Skidmore,
 Jacob Bumstead, Cornelius Remsen, Abraham Demott,
 And. Hegeman, Jr., Samuel Hawxhurst, John Kashaw,
 William Smith, Samuel Youngs, Jo. Coe,
 Timothy Smith, W. Townsend, Al. Brinkerhoff,
 James Howard, Samuel Baulding, Benjamin Tredwell,
 Philip S. Platt, Abel Baulding, Richard Wiggins.

To His Excellency WILLIAM TRYON, Esq., Captain-General and Governour of the Province of NEW-YORK, and the Territories thereon depending, in AMERICA, Chancellor and Vice-Admiral of the same, &c., &c., &c.

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR EXCELLENCY: We, the freeholders and inhabitants of *Queen's* County, are happy once again to address your Excellency in the capital of the Province. We heartily congratulate you on your return, which we consider as the earnest of further success, and hope, ere long, the whole Province will feel the blessings of your Excellency's upright administration.

Anxiously do we look forward to the time when the disobedient shall return to their duty, and the ravages of war cease to desolate this once flourishing country.

That we may be restored to the King's most gracious protection, torn from us by the hand of violence, and quicken others, by our example, to embrace the repeated invitations of his Majesty's Commissioners, we have resolved on and subscribed a dutiful representation and petition, setting forth to them our loyal disposition, and praying that the County may be declared at the King's peace.

We entreat your Excellency to present our petition; and rely on our known humanity and benevolence for the exertion of your influence in behalf of the well-affected County of *Queen's*, that it may again, in the bosom of peace, enjoy the royal favour under your Excellency's paternal care and attention.

Signed by desire of, and in behalf of, one thousand two hundred and ninety-three freeholders and inhabitants, by
 DAVID COLDEN.

Queen's County, October 21, 1776.

New-York, November 12, 1776.

SIR: In compliance with the request in the address presented to me by you, in behalf of the inhabitants of *Queen's* County, I, immediately after my return from Head-Quarters, waited on Lord *Howe*, one of the King's Commissioners for restoring peace to his Majesty's Colonies, and presented to his Lordship the very dutiful and loyal petition and representation of the said inhabitants, who was pleased to say, "he would take the earliest opportunity of communicating with General *Howe* on the occasion."

This publick testimony from the inhabitants of *Queen's* County, of their unshaken loyalty to our most gracious Sovereign, and of their zealous attachment to the *British* constitution, is particularly agreeable to me, and entitles them to my best endeavours for a speedy accomplishment of their wishes; the season and the expediency of the granting whereof are safely and happily committed to the wisdom and direction of his Majesty's Commissioners.

I am, with regard, sir, your most obedient servant,
 WM. TRYON.

To David Colden, Esq., of Queen's County.

DIVISION ORDERS.

King's Bridge, October 21, 1776.

Order of march to be observed by the Division of the Army under the command of Major-General HEATH, in their route from this place to WHITE-PLAINS.

The division is to march from the left, (except four regiments of General *Clinton's* brigade,) if possible, at eight o'clock this morning. The advance guard is to consist of one hundred men, taken from General *Scott's* brigade, which is to be followed by the heavy artillery. The column will then follow by platoons or file; the six and three-pounders between the first and second, third and fourth regiments of each brigade. Each regiment will throw out a flank-guard; and General *Parsons* will order a rear-guard of fifty men. Each brigade is to have a wagon-load of tools, which will march with the heavy artillery. A number of the spears at *Fort Independence* are to be loaded on the wagons of tools. Colonel *Thomas* and Colonel *Drake* will send to each regiment a guide who is well acquainted with the road to *White-Plains*, and the vicinity of that place. General *Clinton*, with the regiments of his brigade, except Colonel *Thomas's*, will remain here until the afternoon. He will send away all the stores and provisions, &c., which will not be wanted for the

detachment which is to be left here. He will march his brigade by the *Albany* road to *Dobbs's Ferry*, receive his baggage, &c., from the boats, and then join the division without delay. Should the division be attacked on the march, the line will instantly form, the reserve at one hundred paces in the rear; the light artillery as it is posted on the march; the heavy artillery on the nearest commanding height, and to be covered by Colonel *Prescott's* regiment. A detachment of six hundred men to be left at this post until further orders. They are to be under the command of Colonel *Lasher*. Two hundred and fifty at Colonel *Thomas's* barracks, fifty at Colonel *Swartwout's*, fifty at General *Scott's*, fifty at Colonel *Prescott's*, fifty at Colonel *Pauling's*, fifty at Colonel *Nicoll's*, and one hundred at Colonel *Graham's*. This detachment is to mount proper guards and pickets, and to have alarm-posts in the different works. The guards now at *Morrisania* to be called in this evening, and follow the division to-morrow morning; and a small guard to be sent to the Heights that way, and constantly kept for the security of the camp. General *Clinton* will give a copy of this order, as far as relates to the detachment, to the commanding officer thereof, before he marches.

W. HEATH, *Major-General*.

ROBERT H. HARRISON TO WILLIAM DUER.

Camp on Valentine's Hills, October 21, 1776.

DEAR SIR: Since his Excellency's letter of yesterday, nothing of importance has transpired, unless the marching of the enemy to-day from *East-Chester* towards *New-Rochelle* is considered in that light. Intelligence of this event was just now brought here, and of which I have transmitted notice to his Excellency, who went out early this morning to visit the posts on the left of our line and the *White-Plains*.

I am, with great esteem, your most obedient servant,
ROB. H. HARRISON.

To *William Duer*, Esq.

ROBERT H. HARRISON TO THE PRESIDENT OF CONGRESS.

[Read October 25, 1776.]

Head-Quarters, Valentine's Hills, October 21, 1776.

SIR: His Excellency being absent on a visit to the several posts on the left of our lines and at the *White-Plains*, I have the honour to inform you, by the favour of Colonel *Whipple*, that, since my letter of yesterday, no event of importance has occurred.

I have the honour to be, with the greatest respect, sir, your most obedient servant,
ROBT. H. HARRISON.

GENERAL WASHINGTON TO MAJOR ROGERS.

White-Plains, October 21, 1776.

SIR: You are hereby requested to make the best stand you can, with the troops under your command, against the enemy, who, I am informed, are advanced this morning to *Maroneck*; and I will, as soon as possible, order a party to attack them in flank, of which you will be further informed in proper time. Be cautious of mentioning design.

I am your most obedient servant,

GO. WASHINGTON.

To Major *Zabdiel Rogers*.

Be pleased to send the enclosed by a faithful officer, to be communicated to all the troops on road through *Connecticut*.

GENERAL WASHINGTON TO COLONEL TRUMBULL.

White-Plains, October 21, 1776.

DEAR SIR: I wrote you yesterday, expressive of my apprehensions on account of provisions for this army. I came to this place just now, in order to inquire further into the state of this article, and to look a little into the situation and nature of the country. I have no reason, either from information or observation, to alter my opinion of yesterday, and therefore again and again entreat your every exertion to supply these posts in time with flour and beef for present use. To do this, much land carriage will become unavoidable. Of course no time is to be lost to provide a number of teams. Besides the supplies necessary for imme-

diate use, it is absolutely necessary for magazines to be laid up in secure places, removed from the water, in *Connecticut*, and at such others as were mentioned in my last, and circumstances may direct.

The enemy mean, from present appearances, either to get round us, or to coast it along upon the *Sound*, in order to destroy our provisions and stores. To prevent the first, I am extending my line along as they do; to guard as much as possible against the second, I have ordered the officers in their several departments to remove, as fast as possible, all Continental property from the water; but the want of teams is a most dreadful misfortune. I shall only add, that, as soon as you can put matters into a proper train in the country, your presence at camp will be much wanted, and that I am, dear sir, your most obedient, humble servant,

GO. WASHINGTON.

To Colonel *Jos. Trumbull*, Commissary-General of Provisions.

GENERAL WASHINGTON TO COLONEL M'INTOSH.

White-Plains, October 21, 1776.

SIR: I wrote to you a few days ago, desiring, if you did not find matters ready for the expedition to *Long-Island*, that you would move forward with the two *Massachusetts* regiments under your command. I have further reason to repeat my orders to you on that head. The enemy are advancing by parties from their main body, which now lays at *New-Rochelle*, and taken possession of the posts upon the *Sound*, with design to cut off our supplies from the eastward by water. They advanced, early this morning, to *Mamaronick*, which our people shamefully abandoned at their approach, not for want of numbers, but want of a good officer to lead on the men.

I therefore again desire, that, if matters are not ready for your intended expedition, you would lay it aside for the present, and march immediately with the two regiments under your command towards *Byram* river, and also desire Lieutenant-Colonel *Livingston* to come forward with the companies which he has under his command. When you arrive at *Byram* river you will send an express forward to Brigadier-General Lord *Stirling*, who commands here, and he will give you orders how to dispose of the men under your command.

I am, &c.,

GO. WASHINGTON.

To Colonel *L. McIntosh*, of *Georgia*.

GENERAL M'DOUGALL TO ROBERT YATES.

Yonkers, October 21, 1776.

MY DEAR SIR: The continued movements of our army have prevented my answering your favour of the 4th current. The warrants for filling up the four regiments were delivered out in so irregular a manner, and no final arrangement made of them, that it is impossible for me to give you a rank-roll of our present regiment. Secretary *McKesson* is the only one I know can furnish you with what you want.

All the discerning officers of the army see the necessity of having good officers in it. Without that, you never can have a regular or brave army. The contrast between those troops who are well and those who are ill officered, now in service, is so great, that it is impossible to have an adequate idea of it but by experience. It has made such an impression on the minds of every man of sense, civil as well as military, from the neighbouring States, who have viewed the army, that they are determined to make one vigorous effort to obtain good officers for the new army. I hope ours will not be wanting in a measure so necessary for their honour and the common safety. Old men without experience, are utterly unfit for the army. They want ambition, which is the life and soul of a soldier; nor are they fit for it if they have seen service, unless they are men of genius, capable of improving by service; otherwise they are a burthen to it. They are useless old boys, who pride themselves in having been in service, without profiting by it. If you would have officers and soldiers, the former must be men of condition in the country, or men who have a sense of honour, and whose class in life is respectable. These are necessary qualifications, among others, to make the officer. Where these meet in men of genius, those they

command will be soldiers; but without it, they will only be men. The honour and security of my country have induced me to be thus free in giving you my sentiments on this important subject.

My old regiment has no Field Officer, which has been of great prejudice to it, Colonel *Zedwitz* being cashiered, and Major *Tuthill* dismissed the service at his own request. It is greatly reduced by the desertion of the men who had wives, &c., in *New-York*, and those belonging to Captains *Hyatt's* and *Steenrod's* companies, recruited out of the County of *Westchester*. However, there are some good officers and men in it, worthy to be retained in the service. Even the bones of a regiment are of great moment in the forming one. No time should be lost in appointing Field Officers for it. It gives me great concern that many valuable officers of my regiment of last year will not enter the service unless they are placed in their relative rank with Colonel *Dubois*.

I have stolen this moment, and know not how soon my brigade may be called to engage the enemy. I must therefore refer you to the enclosures.

I am, with sentiments of respect, yours and the Committee's very humble servant,

ALEX'R McDUGALL.

To *Robert Yates, Esq.*

COLONEL HASBROUCK TO THE NEW-YORK CONVENTION.

Newburgh, October 21, 1776.

HONOURABLE GENTLEMEN: By a resolve of Congress passed in *July*, to raise the one-fourth part of the Militia, to continue in service until the last day of *December* next, whereby we were empowered, if there were not a sufficient number of Militia officers that should be willing to enter the service, that the Field Officers were to appoint such persons as they should judge proper, of which there were not a sufficient number of subalterns, and did appoint *Cornelius Hasbrouck* First Lieutenant, *Leonard Smith* Second Lieutenant, under Captain *Samuel Clark*; *Johannis T. Jansen* First Lieutenant, *Johannis Brown* Second Lieutenant, under Captain *John Graham*; and *William Erwin* Second Lieutenant, under Captain *Jacob Concklin*.

The above-written gentlemen have not as yet been commissioned. Therefore desire you would favour them with commissions as soon as possible, as they have been now nearly three months in service uncommissioned.

Your compliance with my request will much oblige, gentlemen, your very humble servant,

JONATHAN HASBROUCK, Colonel.

To the honourable Convention of the State of *New-York*, now convened at *Fishkill*.

Newburgh, October 21, 1776.

At a meeting of the Field Officers of the County of *Ulster*, met at the house of Mrs. *Ann Dubois*, and unanimously agreed that Major *Andrew Wyncope* take the command of two Captains, four Lieutenants, and two hundred privates, which were to be raised by a resolve of Congress, out of the County of *Ulster*, for the space of two weeks.

This from, gentlemen, your very humble servant,

JONATHAN HASBROUCK.

INFORMATION RELATING TO THE ENEMY, COMMUNICATED TO THE NEW-YORK CONVENTION.

October 21, 1776.

On *Friday* last the main body of the enemy's army decamped from *Frog's Point*, and landed on *Pell's* or *Rodman's Neck*, east of the *East-Chester* creek, commonly called the Manor of *Pelham*. Soon after their landing, three regiments of my brother's brigade, commanded at present by Colonel *Glover*, attacked their advanced party, and repulsed them, killing, it is supposed, about one hundred; but they being sustained by their main body, our detachment was ordered off, and they accordingly retreated with the utmost good order, losing in the whole action only twenty-three killed and wounded. The enemy have since moved slowly eastward, and now lay from where they first landed extended about one mile east of *New-Rochelle*. Our army lays in their front, about two and a

half miles distant; the left wing at *White-Plains*, the right at this place, where my brigade now is; but I think it probable in a day or two I shall be ordered to the left, in which case I shall be nearer to you, the only reason I can have to wish it.

A few days ago General *Mercer* went to *Staten-Island*, with about two thousand men, and took twenty-seven prisoners, *Hessians* and *Highlanders*, and killed three or four. He lost about three men, and indeed was very near surrounding and defeating the whole of the enemy. They have since ordered a brigade to reinforce that island, and I daily expect to hear some good news from *Long-Island*. The enemy has had a small reinforcement arrived of *Light-Horse*, &c., within a few days.

I don't recollect any thing else worth mentioning, nor have I time for recollection.

JAMES AUCHMUTY TO JOHN JAY.

Bedford, October 21, 1776.

SIR: I am much obliged to you, and take this opportunity of returning you thanks for forwarding my letter to my brother. I am sorry that I am under the necessity of still making application to you for your interest, that I may be paid what is allowed to prisoners of war, I not having received one shilling, either for myself, wife, or son, since I was taken. All the other gentlemen have received it.

I am, sir, with respect, your most humble and most affectionate servant,

JAMES AUCHMUTY.

Major *Lockwood* was desired to inform Mr. *Jay* that after writing the within letter, he advanced to Mr. *Auchmuty*, on his receipt, eight dollars.

STEPHEN WARD TO ROBERT R. LIVINGSTON.

October 21, 1776.

SIR: I am honoured with the appointment of the honourable Convention, and their resolves therewith, in the construction of one of which the Deputy Commissary and myself differ. I contend that by the third resolve no hides are meant but the hides of such cattle as the owners refuse to sell; he contends that the hides of all the cattle purchased in this County are meant. I shall be proud to have the direction of the honourable Convention, but beg leave to observe that the expense of the carriage of the hides through the Highlands will nearly equal the value, and with submission to the better judgment of the Convention, I conceive it will be for the interest of the State, that if there is any purchasers here they should be immediately sold. However, the directions of the Convention shall be my guide.

I am, sir, with the greatest respect, your obliged, humble servant,

STEPHEN WARD.

To *Robert R. Livingston, Esq.*, President of the Convention, at *Fishkill*.

COLONEL BAYLEY TO GENERAL WASHINGTON.

Fishkills, October 21, 1776.

SIR: I received your Excellency's favour by the hand of Mr. *Wallace*, by which I am informed and think it just that vouchers should be had; and should have sent them, but was informed that only an abstract was needful; and also, I determined to have waited on your Excellency myself; as I was desired by the Committee and by the State of *New-Hampshire* to continue the men I had employed on the road, to fortify and guard our frontiers, which I did until the 10th of *September*, and was desired by them to lay the whole account before your Excellency; but being soon ordered to attend on the Convention of this State, as a member, and considering the remaining pay was more proper by way of this or *New-Hampshire* State, I neither sent the remaining account nor waited upon your Excellency. I should now have waited on you, but the troubles to the northward require me to return to the Counties of *Cumberland* and *Gloucester*, where I have the command.

I have sent a roll of the men, with their entries and dismissions, and also the account of supplies; but as much of the stores provided were used in the after-service, have only

charged one pound of meat per day per man, and two barrels that were lost, and the proportion of wheat, &c.

I also offer an account of supplying twelve *Indians* eight weeks, which I did without any authority, but thought it good for the States, two of which are enlisted into our service; the others hunting eastward. They belong to the *St. François* tribe.

I am your Excellency's most obedient, humble servant,
JACOB BAYLEY.

To General *Washington*.

COLONEL WHITING TO THE ALBANY COMMITTEE.

King's District, October 21, 1776.

SIRS: By several ways, I am informed that your Board determined to send the Tories that are now at *Albany* to *Hartford*; therefore I thought it my duty to inform your Board of some matters as they appear within and around our district: That the unfriendly party have disregarded all orders relative to the call to march to *Fort Edward*; that they have since been seen to ride about in the night, and some of their houses with numbers in them late at night; that *John Savage* and *Richard Powers* were at home. Our regiment marched; and it is highly probable, in my view and others, that they determine to rescue the Tories out of the hands of the guard, unless it be a strong one, which I pray may be, at least until they have passed through the land of the *Moabites*.

The friends to this State I got together as soon as I arrived, and we determined at once to enroll ourselves, and keep in large companies, without intermission, until we can be better satisfied that we are in some degree secure from that abandoned set of persons that have and still are unwearied in their wicked machinations to complete our ruin. I hope, sir, you will at least send us such directions that will encourage and strengthen us, as our situation is, in my view, distressing, being kept in a constant danger of having our arms taken from us; and what else they may have the boldness to do, God only knows. I am sensible the mode we have adopted is and will be attended with great expense; but as matters stand to the northward and southward, I cannot conceive that we are safe among internal enemies, unless constantly under arms. I could wish for more of our regiment to be at home, if for the good of the whole, or some Rangers to be on this side of the *North River*; but submit this matter; and remain, sir, your obedient, humble servant,

W. B. WHITING.

To Mr. *Barclay*, Chairman.

GENERAL SCHUYLER TO GOVERNOUR TRUMBULL.

Saratoga, October 21, 1776.

SIR: I did myself the honour to write you by General *Waterbury*, and referred you to him for the information you had requested in a former letter. The critical situation of affairs in this quarter has so entirely engrossed my attention, that I have not had a moment's leisure to turn my thoughts to the subject.

We are, happily, at present well supplied with medicines, and I have had no complaints that Surgeons are wanted.

On *Wednesday* night I received letters from Generals *Gates* and *Arnold*, advising me of the destruction of our fleet; since which I have not received a line.

The first of the Militia are just arrived here. I am greatly distressed for want of information to know how to dispose of them.

As six tons of powder and a quantity of lead is lately safely arrived at *Ticonderoga*, I am in hopes the enemy will not be able to dislodge our troops, if they should attempt it.

I am, with esteem and respect, sir, your most obedient, humble servant,

PH. SCHUYLER.

To Hon. *Jonathan Trumbull*, Esq., &c.

GENERAL GATES TO COLONEL WARNER.

Ticonderoga, October 21, 1776.

SIR: I have this moment received your letter by Lieutenant *Fifth Series*.—VOL. II.

tenant *Spafford*. I much approve of your zeal and activity in spurring up the Militia to come and defend their country. They cannot be too soon here.

I have a good many huts and some spare tents, with which I will endeavour to cover the Militia upon their arrival.

I am, sir, &c.,

HO. GATES.

To Colonel *Warner*.

ISAAC PEIRCE TO COLONEL GANSEVOORT.

October 21, 1776.

SIR: The General orders me to inform you that it is his intention that the boats at your post be all kept in good repair, and that you immediately order the Assistant Quartermaster-General there that they be gathered and fitted for service, there being heavy complaints against him for neglecting this branch of his department.

I am, sir, your most obedient, humble servant,

ISAAC PEIRCE, *Aid-de-Camp*.

To Lieutenant-Colonel *Gansevoort*.

GENERAL GATES TO CAPTAINS STILTON AND PARKER.

Ty, October 21, 1776.

SIRS: I do expect you and the party under your command continue to exert your utmost vigilance in finishing the cutting of the road to and from *Castle-Town*. I am informed you have done nothing worth notice these four days past. Let me hear a better account of you soon.

I am, sir, yours, &c.,

HO. GATES.

To Captains *Stilton* and *Parker*.

LIEUTENANT-COLONEL PELISSIERE'S OBSERVATIONS ON THE JERSEY REDOUBT.

It is highly probable that the enemy will attack that redoubt at the salient angle on the north side, for the following reasons:

Firstly. Their column cannot be enfiladed from that angle.

Secondly. Their left, bearing on the water side, cannot be galled on that quarter.

Thirdly. That angle is not at all defended.

It is true the next redoubt may fire a little on the right of the column of the enemy, but nothing stops a column which is not enfiladed.

It is evident that a column cannot be enfiladed from that acute angle, and that, therefore, the column will succeed. The enemy may then form a lodgment in the ditch without being seen either by the guard in the redoubt, the flanks of which are not defended, or by the next redoubt. And even though they should be seen from that redoubt, we could not fire upon them from that without running an imminent danger of firing upon ourselves. In this case the enemy have two ways left of carrying the redoubt: 1st. They can blow up that angle by opening a gallery under it. 2dly. By storming it, in which last case every thing will be in their favour. 1st. They may, unseen, destroy the fraises. 2d. The interior epaulement, which is now making within the redoubt, is an insuperable obstacle to the continual fire which might be made for preventing its being carried; for now there is no sufficient room left between that epaulement and the banquette of the parapet. But even though there should be no epaulement, there is not room enough between the banquette and the platform of those guns which fire on the water; so that the troops within cannot perform their manœuvres.

I judge, therefore, that if the redoubt be attacked it will be at that acute angle, and that if attacked it must be carried, unless another redoubt should be made to cover it. And this last redoubt ought to be strong enough not to be itself carried by the enemy, for it cannot be too much remarked that the *Jersey* redoubt on account of its too acute angle, cannot defend it.

This is my opinion on that subject, and I conceived my duty directed me to communicate it to the General.

October 21, 1776.

PROCLAMATION BY GOVERNOUR TRUMBULL.

By the Hon. JONATHAN TRUMBULL, Esq., Governour,
Captain-General, and Commander-in-Chief of the State
of CONNECTICUT:

A Proclamation.

The present alarming situation of our publick affairs loudly calls for our most vigorous exertion in defence of every thing dear and valuable in life. I do, therefore, at the desire, and agreeable to a special act of the General Assembly of this State, issue this proclamation, hereby ordering, and earnestly exhorting the Militia, and all able-bodied and effective men within this State, immediately, and without loss of time, to equip and hold themselves in readiness to march, upon the shortest notice, as exigencies may require, as their assistance may become absolutely necessary in a very short time. Fully confiding in the virtue and publick spirit of the good people of this State, that has at all times exerted itself in so glorious a cause, that they need no stimulus to duty at this all-important juncture; at the same time earnestly exhorting the people of all ranks, deeply to humble themselves before Almighty God, under the tokens of his displeasure against us, repent of their many sins, and implore the assistance of the God of armies for our deliverance and salvation.

Given under my hand in *New-Haven*, the 21st day of *October*, Anno Domini 1776.

JONATHAN TRUMBULL.

CONNECTICUT COUNCIL OF SAFETY.

At a meeting of the Governour and Council of Safety of *Connecticut*, *New-Haven*, *October* 21st, 1776,

Present: His Honour the Governour, his Honour the Deputy Governour, *Eliphalet Dyer*, *Jabez Huntington*, *Richard Law*, *Titus Hosmer*, *William Hillhouse*, *Benjamin Huntington*, Esquires.

Voted, To draw on the Pay-Table for four hundred Pounds, lawful money, in favour of Colonel *Joshua Porter*, to enable him to carry on the Cannon Foundry, &c., and to be in account. (Order drawn 21st *October*, 1776, delivered Colonel *Porter*.)

Voted and Resolved, To direct Colonel *Joshua Porter*, and he is hereby directed, to borrow forty bushels of Salt on the credit of this State, for the use of the Cannon Foundry under his care, and the same shall be replaced by the State to any gentleman who shall lend him the same on credit of this resolve. (Copy delivered Colonel *Porter*, *October* 21st, 1776.)

GOVERNOUR TRUMBULL TO GENERAL WASHINGTON.

New-Haven, *October* 21, 1776.

SIR: I am now to acknowledge the receipt of your favour of the 15th instant, enclosing the copy of a letter from *Peter R. Livingston*, Esq., which came to hand at this place, and was communicated to the General Assembly now sitting here. By their desire I have sent orders to Major *Elisha Sheldon*, with the troop of Horse under his command, and two companies of the First Regiment, to march to *Fishkill*, in the State of *New-York*, and there obey your orders.

I have also, by like desire, issued my proclamation, requiring the Militia, and all able-bodied effective men in this State, to arm, accoutre, and equip themselves, and be in readiness to march wherever the exigencies of the State may require, and they shall be ordered.

Considering the services and sufferings of our Militia the past summer, the present sickness that prevails among them since their return from the army, and the necessity of their attention to country business, to secure a sufficient supply of provisions for the ensuing year, it is judged that this is all that we can do, consistent with prudence, at present. The Horse now ordered to march will probably amount to about two hundred in the whole.

You will find enclosed copies of letters from Generals *Schuyler*, *Gates*, and *Arnold*, respecting the transactions at the northward. I am further advised that after the action of the 12th, which General *Arnold* describes, the fleet under his command began to fall down the lake, but had not got far from *Schuyler's Island* when a northerly gale, favourable to the enemy, pushed them up with our shattered

fleet, and obliged them to commence a second engagement, which was continued with great disadvantage on our side, though with great spirit and bravery, for five glasses, when the superiour strength of the enemy prevailed to the almost total ruin of our fleet. General *Arnold*, in the *Congress* galley, fought till he could stand no longer, run her ashore, burnt her, and escaped. General *Waterbury* fought the *Washington* till she was sinking under him, he was obliged to strike, and was made a prisoner, though it seems he is returned to *Ticonderoga*, probably on his parole, and is expected here soon. Colonel *Wigglesworth*, in the *Trumbull*, is got to *Ty*, and is the only galley saved; one galley not completed is safe. Our strength on the water now remaining, is one sloop, twelve guns; two schooners, eight guns each; two galleys and one gondola. What it was before these encounters, the enclosed copy of a return will show. The enemy's strength appears larger than at first; it is as follows:

1 ship, - - - - -	18 guns, 12-pounders;
1 schooner, - - - - -	14 " 6 "
1 do. - - - - -	12 " 6 "
1 rideau, - - - - -	6 " 24 }
	12 " 12 }
	all brass.
	4 8-inch howitzers,

28 gondolas, 1 gun each, 12, 18, and 24-pounders.

1 8-inch howitzer.

Our people are all retired to *Tyconderoga*, where it is their design, it is said, to force the enemy to make an attack on our works at the *French* lines, by the *Crown-Point* road, by obliging them to land below our army; that they will lay our two remaining galleys in the channel, where their fire will cooperate with the *Jersey* redoubt and the battery on *Mount Independence*. By this means they hope to prevent their passing higher up than our advanced posts. I hope for a more full and particular account from General *Waterbury*, who is expected here soon.

Colonel *Richmond*, with his regiment, consisting of four hundred men, with fifty-four whale-boats, arrived some days since at *New-London*. I have ordered him and Lieutenant-Colonel *Livingston*, with their men, the whale-boats, and twelve hundred tons of small craft, to come to me at this place without delay. They are designed for the *Long-Island* expedition, with Colonel *McIntosh*, at *Fairfield*. They may be hourly expected. I could wish General *Clinton*, Brigadier-General of the Militia in the State of *New-York*, might be sent to take upon him the conduct of this expedition, if he can be spared, and also to be informed whether your Excellency would think proper to give any different orders respecting it.

I am, sir, with the greatest respect, your obedient, humble servant,

JONTH. TRUMBULL.

To His Excellency *George Washington*, Esq.

[Note by General Washington.]

[22d *October*, 1776.—Wrote Governour *Trumbull* to order the troops intended for *Fishkill*, to come by the rear of our army at or near to *White-Plains*, to take orders. That General *Clinton* can't be spared, and advising the *Long-Island* expedition to be given over if the troops are not on the very point of embarking, and that they should be moved this way, as they may be of material service in flanking the enemy, and the situation of our affairs calling for every assistance.]

At a General Assembly holden at *New-Haven*, in *Connecticut*, on the second *Thursday* of *October*, A. D. 1776:

Whereas the near approach of the enemy to the western parts of this State, as well as the critical situation of the Continental army, and the danger there is of the enemy's cutting off all communication between the country and the army, calls for the utmost speedy exertion of all our force and strength in that quarter, to oppose the further inroads of the enemy, as well as to facilitate the operations of our army:

Resolved, That as many of the Militia as are fit for service, and of others, householders, &c., able-bodied, effective men, within the limits of the Ninth, Tenth, Thirteenth, and Sixteenth Regiments, within this State, be immediately called forth, well armed and equipped, and embodied under

the command of Major-General *Wooster*, appointed by this State to lead them forth, command, and direct them in the necessary operations against our enemy, and to give all possible relief to our army; notifying the General and Commander-in-Chief of the Continental army of his situation and readiness to coöperate with him, taking such directions from him as he may obtain, how and in what manner he may most conduce to his assistance and annoy the enemy; and to consult and advise with any other General or commanding officer or officers of our army who may be nearest to him for that purpose.

A true copy of record. Examined by
GEORGE WYLLYS, *Secretary*.

At a General Assembly holden at *New-Haven*, in *Connecticut*, on the second *Thursday* of *October*, A. D. 1776:

Resolved by this Assembly, That the Third Regiment of Light-Horse, and the troop of Light-Horse in the Tenth Regiment of Militia be ordered forthwith to march to the western part of this State, to join the forces under the command of Major-General *Wooster*, who is hereby directed and empowered to give orders for their march, operations, and stations.

A true copy of record. Examined by
GEORGE WYLLYS, *Secretary*.

COLONEL LIVINGSTON TO GOVERNOUR TRUMBULL.

Saybrook, October 21, 1776.

SIR: I received your favour of the 18th and 19th instant. The whale-boats are not yet come, and am very much in doubt whether they will be here to-day, as the wind is very high against them. They set out yesterday from *New-London*, as I am informed by Colonel *Richmond*, but were not able to proceed far. The Colonel and some of his officers are here; their determination is to proceed for *New-Haven* to-day. My stay here is only to hurry the boats.

But one or two of the vessels Mr. *Shaw* has engaged have arrived here from the eastward, so that we have at this place very little more than half the vessels wanted. I shall do all in my power to hurry forward, as I am convinced a better opportunity can never offer, as we have it now in our power to be very serviceable. I have several spies employed on *Long-Island*, but expect no intelligence of importance before I make my landing good there.

Colonel *Smith's* regiment, by my orders, were to rendezvous at *New-Haven*, the 20th of this month. I send our Commissary in order to make provision for them; this he has, through neglect, omitted to do, and I fear they will be distressed on this account. Their officers will doubtless apply to your Honour on their arrival. If they do, I should be extremely glad they were sent forward immediately to *Fairfield*, and an order given to the Commissary to supply them at that place until we join them.

I remain, with respect and esteem, your Honour's most obedient, humble servant,

HENRY B. LIVINGSTON.

To His Honour Governour *Trumbull*.

EXTRACTS FROM TWO LETTERS FROM THE WESTWARD.

Newport, October 21, 1776.

You have guessed right as to *New-York*: it is evacuated. It might have been destroyed; but as I heard a gentleman say, it is not worth while to burn a barn because rats may get possession of it. I have no more doubt that we shall repossess that city than I have that I shall return home if I live. *Boston* was in the hands of the enemy!

By accounts from deserters, and a man who had been a Sergeant in Captain *Lamb's* company of Artillery, and made his escape from *Point-aux-Tremble*, we are informed that the enemy's army had been sickly; that the *Canadians* had been so plundered and abused by them that they would not join the *British* army, and that fifty of that army had agreed to desert, but were unluckily discovered. That the enemy's naval force was equal to ours, but their land force inferior.

I suppose the Tories begin to rear their heads from *Howe's* late successes. Poor wretches! they will never see the day that the sceptre of *Great Britain* will be recognized in *America* again.

Newport, October 21, 1776.

Since the 14th instant, arrived at safe ports a transport snow, of two hundred and fifty tons, loaded with provisions for *New-York*, taken by Captain *Jauncey*; a bark of about two hundred tons, from *Jamaica*, loaded with sugar, &c., taken by the *Cabot*, Captain *Hinman*; a ship of three hundred and seventy tons, loaded with fish and lumber, from *Nova Scotia*, for *Jamaica*, taken by Captain *Job Pearce*; a ship of about three hundred tons, from *Quebeck* for *London*, ballast with coal, &c., taken by Captain *Stacey*; a schooner from the *West-Indies* for *Newfoundland*, loaded with rum, &c., taken by Captain *Coffin*; and several others, but by whom taken we have not learned.

Newport, October 21, 1776.

Captain *Vickary*, in fifteen days from *Hispaniola*, informs that about a fortnight before he sailed, an *English* frigate took an *American* vessel near that island, and carried her off for *Jamaica*; and that a *French* frigate, whose topmasts were then down, got ready and sailed in two hours for *Jamaica*, to demand the *American* vessel, but had not returned when Captain *Vickary* came away; and that no vessel is suffered to wear *English* colours in any *French* port, but Continental colours are displayed every *Sunday*, and much admired.

Captain *Stout*, who arrived here yesterday, p. m., from *Rye*, about twenty miles on this side *King's Bridge*, informs that on *Friday*, under a very heavy fire from a number of ships, the enemy landed about ten thousand men at a place called *Rodman's Point*; that General *Lee* sent about five hundred men down to attack them, and retreat back to the place where he lay with about three thousand in the front, and the like number as a flanking party. The five hundred engaged the enemy and retreated; the enemy followed till they came within about fifty yards of General *Lee*, till then undiscovered, when his party gave three very heavy fires, which threw them into great confusion, upon which the flanking party began to play upon them so warmly that they only gave one or two fires, and retreated with great precipitation, being pursued by our troops till they got under cover of their ships. The loss on our side was very small; that of the enemy's not ascertained, but supposed to be very great.

TO THE INDEPENDENT SONS OF AMERICA.

Because Divine Providence, infinitely wise, and ever propitious to *America*, has not seen fit to crown all our wishes, by completing the total defeat of our enemies at once, some little souls cry, "Alas! what shall we do? Our enemies gain ground; I do not know what will become of us, unless we make terms of reconciliation." Let every thought like this perish unuttered, for infamy will mark him for her own who dares to speak it. Shall *Americans*, who are millions strong and own near half the world, at the loss of a few lives and a few acres of ground, pause in the race of glory, and halt between freedom and slavery? It is the voice of nature and of reason, the call of honour and of Heaven, to resist the murdering tyrants whilst there is a freeman living. He is unworthy of liberty, and deserves to have his name blotted out of creation, who would not be willing to die to save his country.

The immortal *Brutus* said, "after he devoted himself to his country, he lived a life of liberty and glory;" and every elevated mind knows that one day of freedom outweighs, in the scale of happiness, an eternity of slavery.

The sons of freedom are forever to observe the same rule with tyrants that is given respecting the Devil: "Resist them even unto death."

Tyranny has set up her bloody standard against us. The King of *Britain*, with his murdering legions, like so many fiends let loose from chains of darkness, are every hour exerting all their powers, with infernal rage, to complete the destruction—of whom? Their best friends and benefactors—those who have laboured, have studied, have fought and bled for them, and, if it had been possible, would have wearied Heaven with prayers for their prosperity and happiness. Oh, *George*! Oh, *Britons*! your ingratitude and guilt surpass the deepest dye that human thought can paint.

My countrymen, can you think of consigning yourselves and your posterity to the tyranny of such incarnate demons? Such a thought must freeze your blood and chill your souls with horror, for death is infinitely preferable; and, with submission to the will of Heaven, I hope every *American* will rather die fighting for the independence of his country, than give up one precious article of liberty. We have not only a glorious cause as ever men were engaged in, but we have a bright prospect of success. Let us pause for a moment, and look back with gratitude and pleasing astonishment on the favours of Providence, the scenes we have passed through, and the progress we have made in the short space of seventeen months past, and our hopes must rise, our vigour kindle, and our faith grow stronger, as we tread back upon those steps of time, every hour of which has been big with importance and with favours to *America*. We are at this time nineteen times as strong for battle as we were on the day the war began. We are a hundred and ninety-nine times as strong at sea, and increase with an unexampled rapidity in military skill, in arms and all the implements of war, and in every important interest. Then what have we to fear? Nothing but unpardonable folly in ourselves can ruin our cause; for as sure as the rising sun will reach its meridian, (unless we fail in our duty,) so sure will the rising States of *America* reach the summit of human glory.

A SOLDIER.

RICHARD DERBY TO JAMES BOWDOIN.

Salem, October 21, 1776.

SIR: Captain *Fisher* has put into my hands the enclosed note, to which he is very desirous of having some answer.

The *Tyrannicide* is hauled down the road, and may be ready for the sea by the time the Captain's sailing orders reach him. I wish he may not be confined to narrow limits. When Captain *Souther* first sailed, I took from Captain *Fisk* his general instructions, as Captain *Souther* had none given him with his commission. Therefore others must be sent for him. His Lieutenant, the bearer of this, has brought up the commission, which, if necessary, may soon be altered, by erasing "sloop" and inserting "brigantine." The Second Lieutenant was very desirous to be discharged, and therefore a new one must be commissioned. Captain *Fisk* recommends Mr. *Jonathan Gardner*, junior, who, I think, is a suitable person. If the Board choose it, the *Massachusetts* and *Tyrannicide* may be ordered to cruise together.

Captain *Souther* is not arrived here with his prize, nor do I hear of his being at *Boston*. So much difficulty and trouble has happened in consequence of her, I almost wish he had never seen her.

I am constantly about the Colony vessels and attending the Maritime Courts, &c., &c., that I know not when I shall have the pleasure of seeing your Honour at *Watertown*. Are any Prize-Masters to be appointed or allowed on board these vessels? Have the Court fixed on the several rations to be served on board?

I have wrote hastily, and hope the Board will excuse any incorrectness; and am, sir, your most obedient, humble servant,

R. DERBY, Jun.

To the honourable President of the Council.

In Council, October 21, 1776.

Read, and committed to *William Seaver* and *Walter Spooner*, Esquires, to take the within letter, and papers accompanying the same, into consideration, and report.

JOHN AVERY, Deputy Secretary.

NEW-HAMPSHIRE COMMITTEE OF SAFETY TO GENERAL WASHINGTON.

State of New-Hampshire, }
In Committee of Safety, October 21, 1776. }

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR EXCELLENCY: The Council and Assembly of this State have appointed *Jonathan Blanchard*, *Benjamin Giles*, *Stephen Evans*, and *David Gilman*, Esqs., a committee to repair to the camp, and there use their utmost endeavours to promote the raising our quota of men for the new army; and we pray leave to introduce those gentlemen to your Excellency's favour and protection, rest-

ing fully assured that you will afford them every assistance in your power in expediting the very necessary and important business of their mission.

In behalf of the Committee, I am, sir, with due respect, your Excellency's very humble servant.

To His Excellency General *Washington*.

NEW-HAMPSHIRE COMMITTEE OF SAFETY TO GENERAL GATES.

State of New-Hampshire, }
In Committee of Safety, October 21, 1776. }

SIR: The Council and Assembly of this State have appointed *Jonathan Blanchard*, *Benjamin Giles*, *Stephen Evans*, and *David Gilman*, Esquires, a committee to repair to the camp, to use their endeavours to promote the raising our quota of men for the new army, who will wait on you with this. We have no doubt, from your zeal in the *American* cause, but that you will lend them all assistance in your power in expediting the very necessary and important business of their mission.

In behalf of the Committee, I am, sir, with due respect, your very humble servant.

To Hon. General *Gates*.

INSTRUCTIONS TO TICONDEROGA COMMITTEE.

State of New-Hampshire, in Committee of Safety, }
at Exeter, October 21, 1776. }

To JONATHAN BLANCHARD, BENJAMIN GILES, STEPHEN EVANS, and DAVID GILMAN, Esquires:

You being appointed by the Council and Assembly of this State a Committee to repair to *Ticonderoga*, there to endeavour to promote the raising our quota of men for the Continental service, and if you find it unlikely to raise the whole there, then for one or more of you, agreeable to the resolves of Congress, to proceed from thence to *New-York*, and endeavour to promote the raising the remainder there; and the Council and Assembly having adjourned and left the giving you further directions to this Committee:

Therefore, you are instructed when you arrive at *Ticonderoga*, to consult with the General and other officers about transacting your business, and fill up and deliver the commissions for Field-Officers for two regiments, to men of the most esteemed capacities, especially for knowledge in military affairs, belonging to this State who have served in the army; and there with the advice of the respective Field-Officers, fill up and deliver commissions to the several officers, Surgeon and Chaplain for each regiment; and you may assure the officers and soldiers that in addition to the Continental pay, bounty, and clothing, this State will in every respect give the same to their troops that the State of the *Massachusetts-Bay* theirs, and that this State will during their service do every thing to make their duty as easy and their circumstances as comfortable as possible, and will do their utmost endeavours that such necessities as the troops may want shall be transported where they be, and sold at the lowest rates. The medicines sent by you being part of what this State have procured with a great deal of difficulty, they send for the benefit of their distressed brethren in the service, and would have you divide it among the regiments raised in this State. You are to advise us from time to time, of every material occurrence; and after making all the despatch in your business that circumstances will allow, to make return of your doings.

Mr. BLANCHARD's return of the Committee's doings at TICONDEROGA.

Mr. *Blanchard*, one of the Committee appointed by the Council and Assembly of this State to repair to *Ticonderoga* to officer and raise two battalions for the Continental army, begs leave to inform the honourable House that the Committee arrived at that place on the 2d day of *November*, instant; that the next day they waited on General *Gates*, and advised with him.

The Committee likewise consulted the Field-Officers and Captains now in the army from this State.

That on the eighth day the Committee appointed and commissioned the following gentlemen for Field-Officers for the First and Second Battalions, viz:

John Stark, Esq., Colonel; *Joseph Cilley*, Esq., Lieu-

tenant-Colonel; *George Reed*, Esq., Major;—First Battalion.

Enoch Poor, Esq., Colonel; *Nathan Hale*, Esq., Lieutenant-Colonel; *Windborn Adams*, Esq., Major;—Second Battalion.

Mr. *Nathaniel McClintock* appointed and commissioned Adjutant to the Second Battalion.

The Committee appointed *Jasen Waite*, of *Alstead*, Esq.; *Amos Morrell*, of *Epsom*, Esq.; *Amos Emerson*, of *Chester*, Esq., (Lieutenant advanced); *Isaac Tarwell*, of *Charlestown*, Esq., (Lieutenant advanced); *Ebenezer Frye*, of *Pembroke*, (Lieutenant advanced); Captains of the First Battalion.

Benjamin Titcomb, of *Dover*, Esq.; *Frederick Mordent Bell*, of *Dover*, Esq.; *James Norris*, of *Epping*, Esq.; *James Carr*, of *Somersworth*, Esq.; *John Drew*, of *Barrington*, Esq.; *Elijah Cloyce*, of *Fitzwilliam*, (Lieutenant advanced); *Samuel Blodgett*, of *Goffestown*, (Lieutenant advanced); Captains for the Second Battalion.

The Committee delivered to each Captain inlisting orders, and appointed several Subalterns, and gave orders likewise.

The General informed the Committee that the money in the military chest was nearly exhausted, that he could ill spare any. He however delivered to Colonel *Poor* about five thousand dollars, which he distributed among the recruiting officers.

The several officers inlisted near one hundred men, and the Committee applied to the General to appoint a Muster-master, but he declined. The Committee then appointed Colonel *David Gilman*; he passed about thirty, (the others immediately upon their inlistment had furloughs.) They were sworn before *Benjamin Giles*, Esq.

The General proposed to discharge all the Continental troops from this State on *Friday*, the 15th instant.

The Committee then took under consideration the want of money, the immediate release of all the old troops, and soon discharge of the Militia, that several battalions of *Jersey* troops were to tarry till *March*, and upon the whole thought advisable for the service of this State to leave that place. *Benjamin Giles* and *David Gilman*, Esquires, set off for *New-York*, to fill up the vacancies in that department.

The Committee were as industrious in their business, and as attentive to their orders, as possible, and hope that their doings will meet the approbation of the General Court.

The Committee at *New-York* appointed: Captain, *Jeremiah Gilman*, of *Plastow*; First Lieutenant, *William Sartell*, of *Charlestown*; Second Lieutenant, *William Hutchins*, of *Weare*; Ensign, *Nathaniel Kimball*, of *Plastow*.

Captain, *John House*, of *Hanover*; First Lieutenant, *Gould*, of *Cockermouth*; Ensign, *Blake*, of *Lebanon*.

Captain, *Caleb Robinson*, of *Exeter*; First Lieutenant, *Moses Dustin*, of *Candia*; Second Lieutenant, *Micah Hoit*, of *Newtown*; Ensign, *Ebenezer Light*, of *Exeter*.

Captain, *William Scott*, of *Peterborough*; First Lieutenant, *Moody Dustin*, of *Litchfield*; Second Lieutenant, *Josiah Monro*, of *Amherst*; Ensign, *Benjamin Snow*, of *Plymouth*.

Lieutenant-Colonel *Coburn* recommends *Amos Coburn*, for Second Lieutenant; *Adonijah*, for Second Lieutenant, or Ensign; Captain *Holmes*, of *Walpole*, for a Captain.

Return of men at TICONDEROGA, (without date.)

We are at present unable to furnish you with the proportion of men raised in the several towns, as many of our officers and men have not joined us; but till we are able to make it, beg leave to transmit the returns of rank and file who have joined: sick, well, and on command in gross, viz: Colonel *Cilley*, 382; Colonel *Hale*, 306; Colonel *Scamuel*, 324.

PETITION OF JONATHAN BURT.

These may inform all persons whom it may concern, that on the 22d of *October*, 1776, Lieutenant *Levi Hooper* requested of me, the subscriber, a horse for Mr. *Babcock* to ride post to *Ticonderoga* for information concerning the Militia being sent for by General *Gates*. I readily granted Mr. *Hooper* his request, with a good sound, well horse, and on the 2d day of *November*, Mr. *Babcock* sent my horse home.

I myself, being in the army, am not able to say how the horse was upon his return, but Mr. *Elisha* and *Benjamin Marsh* saw the horse when he came home, that he appeared to them not well, with his hind legs very much swollen, and his eyes sunk in his head, and upon my returning home from the army in *November* 14, I found my horse very sick; my folks had not put him to any service valuable, by reason of his not being well. I sent for Mr. *William Glazer*, the farrier; he told me the horse was hurt by being overdone, and took cold that caused a stoppage in his water, and that his journey was the means of his disorder. I followed his directions for the horse, and that on the 24th day of *November*, the horse died. I opened the horse and found his fat melted, and his caul almost consumed, and it appears plain to me, the hardships of the journey of the horse was the means of his death. Therefore would request of this State some consideration for my horse, which I valued at twelve pounds. Mr. *Glazer* can testify to these things, and Mr. *Marshes*; this request being granted will oblige me,

JONATHAN BURT.

CAPTAIN DOUGLASS, OF THE ISIS, TO MR. STEPHENS.

Quebeck, October 21, 1776.

Having for the space of six weeks attended the naval equipment for the important expedition on *Lake Champlain*, I on the 4th instant saw with unspeakable joy, the reconstructed ship now called the *Inflexible*, and commanded by Lieutenant *Schank*, her rebuilder, sail from *St. John's*, twenty-eight days after her keel was laid, towards the place of rendezvous; taking in her eighteen twelve-pounders beyond the shoal which is on this side the *Isle-aux-Noix*, in her way up.

The prodigies of labour which have been effected since the Rebels were driven out of *Canada*, in creating, recreating, and equipping a fleet of above thirty fighting vessels of different sorts and sizes, and all carrying cannon, since the beginning of *July*, together with the transporting over land, and afterwards dragging up the two rapids of *St. Terese* and *St. Johns*, thirty long-boats, the flat-bottomed boats, a gondola weighing about thirty tons, and above four hundred batteaus, almost exceed belief. His Excellency the Commander-in-Chief of the army and all the other Generals are of the opinion that the sailors of his Majesty's ships and transports, have, far beyond the usual limits of their duty, exerted themselves to the utmost on this great and toilsome occasion; nor has a man of that profession uttered a single word expressive of discontent, amidst all the hardships they have undergone, so truly patriotick are the motives by which they are actuated. To crown the whole, above two hundred prime seamen of the transports, impelled by a due sense of their country's wrongs, did most generously engage themselves to serve in our armed vessels during the expedition, and embarked accordingly. Such having then been our unremitting toils, I am happy beyond expression in hereby acquainting my Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty that the destruction of almost the whole of the Rebel fleet, in two several battles on the 11th and 13th instant, is our reward. I have received a letter from Captain *Pringle*, of the *Lord Howe*, armed ship, who commands the officers and seamen on the lake, and who bestows the highest encomiums on their behaviour in both engagements. The Rebels did by no means believe it possible for us to get upon *Lake Champlain* this year; were much surprised at the first sight of the van of our force; but ran into immediate and utter confusion the moment a three-masted ship made her appearance, being a phenomenon they never so much as dreamed of. Thus have his Majesty's faithful subjects here, contrary to a crude but prevailing idea, by straining every nerve in their country's cause, outdone them in working, as much as in fighting. The ship *Inflexible*, with the *Maria* and *Carleton* schooners, all reconstructions, did the whole of the second day's business, the flat-bottomed rideau called the *Thunderer*, and the gondola called the *Loyal Convert*, with the gun-boats, not having been able to keep up with them. The said gondola was taken from the Rebels the day the siege of *Quebeck* was raised. The loss we have sustained, considering the great superiority of the insurgents, is very small, consisting of between thirty and forty men killed and wounded—seamen, soldiers, artillery-men and all; eight whereof were killed outright, and six wounded

on board of the *Carleton*. As to further particulars, I must refer you to Lieutenant *Dacres*, who, in justice due to his merit for the part he bore in destroying the Rebel fleet, I am happy in sending upon this occasion to their Lordships in the *Stag* transport; as also in thereby complying with the General's desire, who, for the same reason, is pleased to honour him with the conveyance of his despatches.

A List of His Majesty's Naval Force on Lake CHAMPLAIN.

- Ship *Inflexible*, Lieutenant *Schank*, 18 twelve-pounders.
- Schooner *Maria*, Lieutenant *Starke*, 14 six-pounders.
- Schooner *Carleton*, Lieutenant *Dacres*, 12 six-pounders.
- Rideau *Thunderer*, Lieutenant *Scott*, 6 twenty-four, 6 twelve-pounders; two howitzers.
- Gondola *Loyal Convert*, Lieutenant *Longcroft*, 7 nine-pounders.
- Twenty gun-boats, each a brass field-piece, some twenty-fours to nines, some with howitzers.
- Four long-boats, with each a carriage-gun, serving as armed tenders.
- Twenty-four long-boats with provisions.

A List of the Rebel Fleet on Lake CHAMPLAIN.

- Schooner *Royal Savage*, 8 six-pounders, and 4 four-pounders; burnt the 11th of *October*, at *Valicour*.
- Schooner *Revenge*, 4 six-pounders and fours; escaped to *Ticonderoga* the 13th of *October*.
- Sloop , 10 four-pounders; escaped to ditto, the 13th of *October*.
- Cutter *Lee*, 1 nine-pounder in her bow; 1 twelve-pounder in her stern; and 2 six-pounders in her sides; abandoned the 13th of *October*.
- Galley *Congress*, 2 eighteen-pounders in her bow; 2 twelve-pounders in her stern, and 6 six-pounders in her sides; run on shore and burnt the 13th of *October*.
- Galley *Washington*, 1 eighteen and 1 twelve-pounder in her bow; 2 nine-pounders in her stern, and 6 six-pounders in her sides; taken the 13th of *October*.
- Galley *Trumble*, like the *Washington*; escaped to *Ticonderoga* the 13th of *October*.
- Eight gondolas carrying 1 eight-pounder in the bow, and 2 nine-pounders in the sides; some of these had 4 guns in their sides. One taken the 12th; one sunk the 11th; four burnt the 13th; one escaped, and one missing.
- Schooner , taken from Major *Skeene*, was gone for provisions.
- Galley *Gates*, expected to join them in a few days.

A List of the Seamen detached from His Majesty's Ships and Vessels in the River St. LAWRENCE, to serve on Lake CHAMPLAIN.

	Seamen.	
<i>Isis</i> , - - - - -	100	
<i>Blond</i> , - - - - -	70	
<i>Triton</i> , - - - - -	60	
<i>Garland</i> , - - - - -	30	
<i>Canceaux</i> , - - - - -	40	
<i>Magdalen</i> , }		
<i>Brunswick</i> , }	18	
<i>Gaspee</i> , }		
<i>Treasury</i> , }		
<i>Armed Brigs</i> , }	90	
<i>Fell</i> , - - - - -	30	} Province armed vessels.
<i>Charlotte</i> , lately wrecked, -	9	
Volunteers, from no ship, -	9	
Volunteers from the transports, 214		
Total, - - - - -	670	

Exclusive of eight officers and nineteen petty officers.

WILLIAM CARMICHAEL TO C. W. F. DUMAS.

Amsterdam, October 22, 1776.

SIR: I enclose a letter, which I expected to deliver ere this in person. I arrived here last *Friday*, and had so many inquiries to make to gratify Mr. *Deane's* curiosity, that it has not been in my power to attend to you so soon as I could wish. For fear that I should not be able to leave this to-morrow to do myself the honour of waiting upon you, I have sent this letter. When I come to the *Hague*, I shall put up at the *Hotel de Turenne*, where you will do me much pleasure to leave your address particularly. The knowledge I have had of you for many months, by Mr.

Deane and others, makes me regret every moment that delays me here and denies me the pleasure of assuring you in person, how much I am, what every true *American* is, Your very humble servant,

WILLIAM CARMICHAEL.

COMMITTEE OF SECRET CORRESPONDENCE TO C. W. F. DUMAS.
Philadelphia, October 24, 1776.

SIR: Our worthy friend, Dr. *Franklin*, being indefatigable in the labour of his country, and few men so qualified to be useful to the community of which he is a member, you will not be surprised that the unanimous voice of the Congress of Delegates from the *United States of America* has called upon him to visit the Court of *France*, in the character of one of their Commissioners for negotiating a treaty of alliance, &c., with that nation. He is the bearer of this letter, and on his arrival will forward it. To him we refer you for information as to the political state of this country; our design in addressing you at this time being only to continue that correspondence, which he has opened and conducted hitherto on our behalf.

We request to hear from you frequently; and if you make use of the cypher, the Doctor has communicated the knowledge of it to one of our members. Your letters, via *St. Eustatia*, directed to the Committee of Secret Correspondence, then put under a cover to Mr. *Robert Morris*, merchant, *Philadelphia*, and that letter covered to Mr. *Cornelius Stevenson* or Mr. *Henricus Godet*, merchants at *St. Eustatia*, or under cover to Mr. *Isaac Gouverneur*, merchant at *Curaçoa*, will certainly come safe, and if you can send with them regular supplies of the *English* and other newspapers, you will add to the obligation. The expense of procuring them shall be reimbursed, together with any other charges, and a reasonable allowance for your time and trouble in this agency. The members of this Committee, styled the Committee of Secret Correspondence, are *John Jay*, *Thomas G. Johnson*, *Robert Morris*, *Richard Henry Lee*, *William Hooper*, and *John Witherspoon*; and as vacancies happen by death or absence, the Congress fill them up with new members; which we mention for your information, and with great respect and esteem remain, sir, your most obedient, humble servants,

ROBERT MORRIS,
RICHARD HENRY LEE,
JOHN WITHERSPOON,
WILLIAM HOOPER.

ADDRESS TO THEIR EXCELLENCIES RICHARD VISCOUNT HOWE, ADMIRAL, AND WILLIAM HOWE, ESQUIRE, GENERAL, OF HIS BRITANNICK MAJESTY'S FORCES IN AMERICA.

MY LORD AND SIR: Your Declaration at *New-York* has reached this place. It has occasioned surprise and concern. The known honour and abilities of your Excellencies, and your Declaration, appear perfect contrasts. The latter is an unnatural production. Hurt, as I am, to see your names so prostituted, I cannot restrain myself from making a few remarks to your Excellencies upon a subject which, by endangering your reputation, distresses every generous mind. I shall first state your Declaration:

"By RICHARD VISCOUNT HOWE, of the Kingdom of IRELAND, and WILLIAM HOWE, Esquire, General, of His Majesty's Forces in AMERICA, the King's Commissioners for restoring peace to His Majesty's Colonies and Plantations in NORTH AMERICA, &c., &c., &c.:

"DECLARATION.

"Although the Congress, whom the misguided *Americans* suffer to direct the opposition to a reestablishment of the constitutional Government of these Provinces, have disavowed every purpose of reconciliation not consonant with their extravagant and inadmissible claim of Independence, the King's Commissioners think fit to declare that they are equally desirous to confer with his Majesty's well-affected subjects upon the means of restoring the publick tranquillity, and establishing a permanent union with every Colony as a part of the *British Empire*. The King being most graciously pleased to direct a revision of such of his royal instructions to his Governours as may be construed to lay an improper restraint on the freedom of legislation in

any of his Colonies, and to concur in the revisal of all acts by which his Majesty's subjects there may think themselves aggrieved, it is recommended to the inhabitants at large to reflect seriously upon their present condition and expectations, and judge for themselves whether it be more consistent with their honour and happiness to offer up their lives as a sacrifice to the unjust and precarious cause in which they are engaged, or return to their allegiance, accept the blessings of peace, and to be secured in a free enjoyment of their liberties and properties upon the true principles of the Constitution.

"Given at *New-York*, 19th *September*, 1776.

"Howe,

"W. Howe.

"By command of their Excellencies:

"STRACHEY."

And now, not to detain your Excellencies by making observations upon Lord *Howe's* not assuming his military title displaying the nature of his supreme hostile command in *America*, by which unusual and designed omission, the ignorant, seeing his name contrasted with that of a General clothed in all his terrors, may be entrapped to believe that his Lordship is to be considered in a more amiable point of view, a mere Commissioner only, for restoring peace, without any military command to intimidate and coerce. Not to wound your delicacy by admiring the wisdom of your appealing from the Congress to people confessed by you to be directed by that honourable Assembly, my remarks shall be confined to the more material parts of your Declaration, which, I am sorry to say, are in every respect unworthy your good sense and high characters.

Your Excellencies "think fit to declare" that you are desirous "of restoring the publick tranquillity." But is the end your Excellencies aim at, our honour and advantage? Is it to give a free scope to our natural growth? Is it to confirm to us our rights by the law of nature? No! It is to cover us with infamy. It is to chill the sap, and check the luxuriance of our imperial plant. It is to deprive us of our natural equality with the rest of mankind, by "establishing" every State "as a part of the *British Empire*." In short, your Excellencies invite men of common sense to exchange an independent station for a servile and dangerous dependence! But, when we recollect that the King of *Great Britain* has, from the throne, declared his "firm and steadfast resolutions to withstand every attempt to weaken or impair the supreme authority of that Legislature over all the dominions of his crown;" that his hirelings in Parliament and tools in office, abhorred by the *English* nation, have echoed the sentiment; and that *America* for ten years has experienced that King's total want of candour, humanity, and justice, it is, I confess, a matter of wonder that your Excellencies can appear so lost to decency as to hold out subjection as the only condition of peace; and that you could condescend to sully your personal honour by inviting us to trust a Government in which you are conscious we cannot, in the nature of things, place any confidence—a Government that you are sensible has been, now is, and ever must be, jealous of our prosperity and natural growth—a Government that you know is absolutely abandoned to corruption! Take it not amiss, if I hint to your Excellencies that your very appearing in support of such a proposal, furnishes cause to doubt even of your integrity, and to reject your allurements lest they decoy us into slavery.

The Declaration says: "The King is most graciously pleased to direct a revision of such of his royal instructions to his Governours," &c., "and to concur in the revisal of all acts by which his Majesty's subjects may think themselves aggrieved." But what of all this? Your Excellencies have not told the people who "think themselves aggrieved" that they are to be a party in the revision. You have not even told them who are to be the revisors. If you had, it would be nothing to the purpose; for you have not and cannot tell them, and engage that even any of the instructions and acts, being revised, shall be revoked and repealed; particularly those by which people "may think themselves aggrieved." But if such are not to be repealed, why have you mentioned, "think themselves aggrieved?" If they are intended to be repealed, why did not your Excellencies come to the point at once and say so? It is evident your Excellencies are by your superiours precipitated into a dilemma. You have not been accustomed

to dirty jobs, and plain dealing does not accord with your instructions; otherwise, in the latter case, I think you are men of too much sense and honour to have overlooked or suppressed so material a point of information. However, you say instructions and acts are to be revised. We see that you have laid an ambuscade for our liberties; the clause is carefully constructed without the least allusion to the revisors, or to the words revoke, redress, repeal. In short, it appears to be drawn up entirely on the plan of a declaration by King *James the Second*, after his abdication, as confidentially explained by *James's* Secretary of State, the Earl of *Melford*, to Lord *Dundee*, in *Scotland*. For *Melford* writes to *Dundee*, "that notwithstanding of what was promised in the Declaration, indemnity and indulgence, yet he had couched things so that the King would break them when he pleased; nor would he think himself obliged to stand to them;" and your Excellencies have "couched things so," that more words upon this subject are unnecessary.

"It is recommended to the inhabitants at large to reflect seriously upon their present condition." Is it possible your Excellencies can be serious, and mean any thing by this recommendation? Can you be ignorant, that ever since the birth of the Stamp Act, the inhabitants at large have been reflecting upon their deplorable condition? Can you have an idea that, after such a length of time, during which they have been continually kept to their reflections, by the Declaratory Law, the Tea Act, the *Boston Port Bill*, and those then passed to annihilate the Charter of *Massachusetts-Bay*, the *Quebeck Bill* to establish Popery, the Fishery Bill to coerce by famine, the *British* commencement of the late civil war, and the act of Parliament in *December* last, declaring the inhabitants Rebels—I say, after such a series of causes for reflection, and that your Excellencies now find us in arms against you, determined on independence or death, can you possibly entertain an idea that we have not reflected seriously? On the contrary you know, that we are prepared to offer up our lives in evidence of our serious reflections! In addressing a world, you ought to have some attention to the propriety of your recommendations, if only from a regard to your own reputation.

You are pleased to term our cause "unjust." In this there is nothing so surprising, as your being lured to give such a sentiment under your hands—signing your own disgrace with posterity. You know that the virtuous characters throughout *Europe*, on this point differ with your Excellencies; and I most respectfully submit, whether there is not some little degree of presumption in your signing an opinion, in contradiction to the opinion of thousands, who, without derogating from your Excellencies, are at least as well able to judge upon the point as you are?

But you add, that our cause is "precarious." Allow me to make a proper return to your Excellencies by informing you that all the affairs of men are precarious, and that war is particularly so. However, if your Excellencies meant to insinuate that our cause is precarious from an inability in us to maintain it, I beg leave to ask General *Howe* what progress his arms made during his command at *Boston*? And what shining victories, and important conquests you have achieved since your junction at *Staten-Island*? The eulogium,

—duo fulmina belli
Scipiadas—

cannot yet be applied to your Excellencies. General *Howe's* repulse from the lines on *Long-Island*, and his victory over the advanced guard of three thousand men, reflect no great degree of glory on the corps of at least twelve thousand that he commanded. Nor can you boast much of the action on *New-York Island* on the 15th *September*, when a few more than eight hundred *Americans*, attacking three companies of light troops supported by two regiments, the one *Scotch*, the other *Hessian*, drove them from hill to hill back to your lines, and carried off three pieces of brass cannon as trophies of their victory. And when General *Washington*, on the 2d of *October*, caused a large detachment to draw up to *Harlaem Plains* to cover the inhabitants between the two armies, while they carried off their effects, the march and continuance of the *British* troops in order of battle, within long shot, without firing a gun to interrupt the service, is at least some slight degree of evidence that they respect and stand in awe of the *American* arms. In short,

without being unreasonable, I think I may be allowed to say, that these particulars do not show that our cause is so precarious as your Excellencies would insinuate it to be, and to recommend that your Excellencies "reflect seriously upon your present condition," and abandon "the unjust cause in which you are engaged," while you yet may preserve your reputation from the reproaches of posterity.

Your Excellencies call upon the inhabitants at large "to return to their allegiance." It is as if you had commanded a body of troops to advance to the assault before you had put them in order of battle. I tell your Excellencies, that protection must precede allegiance; for the latter is founded on the benefit of the former. That the operations of the forces by sea and land under your orders, demonstrate that your King is not our protector; and that the allegiance of *America* to the King of *Great Britain* is now utterly out of the question.

But you attempt to allure the inhabitants by telling them they may "be secured in a free enjoyment of their liberties and properties, upon the true principles of the Constitution." Will your Excellencies tell us where those principles are to be found? You must say they are not to be found in the present *British* Government. Do we not know that the majority of the two Houses of Parliament are absolutely under the King of *Great Britain's* direction? They make and repeal laws; they agree with or reject motions; they vote money even without limitation of sum at the pleasure of that King's Minister, in whose pay they actually are; and your Excellencies as men of honour dare not deny these things. Will you then say that, where there is such a dependence, the true principles of the Constitution operate? The history of the present reign, all *Europe* would witness against you. Those principles have been long despised by the rulers, and lost to the people—otherwise, even at the commencement of the present reign, we should not have seen the dismissal of the virtuous Chancellor of the Exchequer, *Legge*, because he would not quit his seat in Parliament at the instigation of the last Prince of *Wales*; nor the massacre in *St. George's Fields*, and the royal thanks to the assassins; nor the repeated and unredressed complaints to the Throne; nor the unheard of profusion of the publick treasure, far exceeding the extravagance of a *Caligula* or a *Nero*; nor the present ruinous situation of *Great Britain*; nor the present war in *America*, for the worst of purposes kindled by your King. Can your Excellencies be so wanting to yourselves, as, at this time of day, on the part of your master, seriously to talk to us of a security upon the true principles of the Constitution! Did it never strike you that the *Americans* would expect to see such principles operating in *England*, before they could be duped into a belief that *America* could possibly feel their effects from the dark recess of the royal palace? The Lord Mayor of *London* has openly charged Lord *North*, and the Lords of Admiralty, with licensing ships to trade to all parts of *America*, in direct disregard, contempt, and defiance of an act of Parliament to the contrary, passed so late as *December* last. And yet, your Excellencies do not scruple to talk to us of a security upon the true principles of the Constitution! Let the fountain be sweet, and then its stream may be salutary.

Your Excellencies say "the King is most graciously pleased to direct a revision" of instructions and acts. If you really mean to conciliate, why will you insult the inhabitants at large? It was "the King's" bounden duty to have directed, not only a revision, but an amendment of his instructions, and to have recommended a repeal of the acts when the people first complained of them. But he, having been criminally deaf to the cries of the injured, to terrify them into silence—having burnt their towns, restrained their trade, seized and confiscated their vessels, driven them into enormous expenses, sheathed his sword in their bowels, and adorned the heads of their aged, women, and children, with a cincture made by the scalping-knife of his ally the *Indian* savage—you now tell these injured people, that "the King is graciously pleased to direct a revision!" His very mercies are insults!

And so your Excellencies, besides your military commands as Admiral and General, are also "Commissioners for restoring peace." Is there not some error in this title? Ought we not instead of "peace" to read tyranny? You seem armed at all points for this purpose, and your very

language detects the latent design. But you are Commissioners, and for the important purpose of "restoring peace," you are honoured with a power—"to confer." And you have condescended to be mere machines through which, as through speaking trumpets, words are to be sounded from *America* to *Britain*! How much lower is it possible for your Excellencies to degrade yourselves in the eyes of the world? By this, it is most evident, the *British* King has not one generous thought respecting *America*. Nor does he mean to grant terms upon the true principles of the Constitution. For, if to grant such terms was *bona fide* the intention of your master, without doubt you would have been vested with competent powers. But he plainly means to grant nothing that he can possibly avoid, and therefore he would have the matter of negotiation drawn into length under his own eye. Can we place any confidence in such a Prince? His aim is to divide, not to redress, and your Excellencies' Declaration is but a continuation of Lord *North's* conciliatory plan.

Thus, while we remember that Lord *North* declared, on the 20th of *February*, 1775, that his famous conciliatory plan was rather calculated to break a link in the *American* chain of union than to give satisfaction to the people, and that the exercise of the right of taxing every part of the *British* dominions must by no means be given up, that Lord *Mansfield*, on the third reading of the bill declaring war against the *United Colonies*, affirmed that he did not consider who was originally in the wrong, they were now to consider only where they were, and the justice of the cause must now give way to their present situation. When we consider the King of *Great Britain's* speech to the Parliament on the last of *November*, and the Commons' address and his answer on the 7th of *December*, 1774—the Commons' address of the 9th of *February*, 1775, and the royal answer; and the speech from the throne at the last opening of the Parliament, *October* the 26th, 1775—all declaring an unalterable purpose to maintain the supreme authority of that Legislature over all the dominions of the Crown—in other words, their unalterable purpose, to bind us in all cases whatsoever; when we see your hostile array and operations, in consequence of those declarations—I say, when we consider these things, we can be at no loss to form a just idea of the intentions of your King, or to conceive what your Excellencies mean by "the true principles of the Constitution." Nor are we to be caught by any allurements your Excellencies may throw out: you confess, and we know that you, as Commissioners, have not any power to negotiate and determine any thing.

But, unanswerable as the reasons are against *America* returning to a subjection under the *British* Crown, now in fact become despotick—and *America*, after unheard-of injuries, infinite toil, hazard and expense, her inhabitants called cowards by your master's servants, civil and military, having declared herself independent—did not your Excellencies feel a little for our honour, when you, at the head of your armies, held out to us subjection and peace? Did not you feel the dignity of your characters affected when you, under the guise of a security upon the true principles of the Constitution, recommend to "the inhabitants at large" to rescind their decree, and by their own mouths declare themselves the most contemptible people in history, which gives no example of such baseness—render their name a term of reproach among all nations—and forbid each other from placing any, the least degree of confidence in, and all foreign States from paying the least degree of credit to, their most solemn declarations? In short, to submit to a Government abandoned to corruption, lost to a sense of justice, and already but a step behind absolute despotism—a Government that has long been and ever must be jealous of our rise, and studious to depress our natural growth! Did not your Excellencies blush and shrink within yourselves when you asked men, who had been almost ruined by your gracious master, to abandon the honourable and natural station of independence, and stoop to kiss his hand, now daily bathed in, and which ever must continue stained by, the blood of a friend! a brother! a son! a father!

That your Excellencies may "reflect seriously" upon "the unjust cause in which you are engaged," and that the name of *Howe* may be enrolled with the names of *Marlborough* and *Efingham*, are the wishes of

A CAROLINIAN.

South-Carolina, Charleston, October 22, 1776.

BOARD OF WAR TO GENERAL WASHINGTON.

War Office, Philadelphia, October 22, 1776.

SIR: The Congress having done the Board of War the honour of referring to them your letter for consideration and execution, we beg leave to inform you that we have ordered two hundred thousand cartridges to be instantly forwarded you. Light wagons have been got and are fitting ready, and you will receive the above supply by to-morrow evening, or the next morning. We have employed persons to make up a quantity for the use of the army, which shall be forwarded to your care as soon as a proper number shall be completed. We cannot, however, but wish that General Washington could procure such supplies of ammunition as he may want from the Eastern States, there being very little in this city, from whence alone every demand to the southward of *Hudson's* river must be answered. Every assistance, however, that can be, shall be afforded you, as well as his Excellency the General, from this office.

We have given orders about the purchase of salt, the result of which you shall hear so soon as we can write satisfactorily.

With every wish for your success and honour, we, sir, are your very obedient, humble servants.

By order of the Board of War:

EDWARD RUTLEDGE.

To His Excellency *George Washington*, Esq.

RESOLUTION FOR RETURN OF PRISONERS SUSPENDED.

In Congress, October 22, 1776

Resolved, That the Resolution respecting sending home the *Canadians*, be suspended till further orders.

That the Board of War be directed to order the several Prisoners in *Philadelphia* to the places of their destination, and that they write to the several Committees who have the charge of Prisoners, not to suffer them to go beyond the bounds allowed them, nor to permit any of them to come to *Philadelphia* without leave first obtained from the Board of War.

War Office, October 22, 1776.

The foregoing resolutions of Congress are published by order of the Board of War, for the information of all persons concerned therein, of which the several Committees who have the charge of prisoners captivated by the armies of the *United States*, residing in this or any other of the confederated States, are desired to take notice. And all prisoners of war now in *Philadelphia* are required immediately to repair to their several places of rendezvous, without staying any longer in *Philadelphia* on any pretence whatsoever.

RICHARD PETERS, *Secretary*.

JOSEPH HALLETT TO THE NEW-YORK CONVENTION.

Princetown, October 22, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: In compliance with your desire or order of the 18th *September*, I have been into *New-England*. I found there a very inconsiderable part of the goods Captain *Rogers* had taken and carried into *Fire-Island* inlet, and from thence carted across the island to *Huntington*. The whole, I think, will not sell for more than five hundred pounds. They consist of the following articles, viz: one hogshead and six barrels of sugar, four barrels and two bags of coffee, four barrels of cocoa, one box tea, nine pieces sail-duck, twelve barrels oil, with one or two more small articles.

He sent round to *Providence* a small sloop that he and Captain *Pond* took in coming from *Halifax*, bound to *New-York*, with a parcel of intrenching tools. These I ordered down to *New-York* soon after the vessel was taken, and sold them to General *Washington*. The goods and sloop now in *New-England*, I have taken the necessary steps to have them condemned and sold; when done shall forward you the sales.

I have supplied Captain *Rogers* with the greatest part of his provision for a four months' cruise, and money to purchase the remainder. I also advanced him a sufficient sum of money, including that sum you had in the hands of Mr. *Hobart*, to pay his ship's company their whole wages, except one month's pay, which I thought best to withhold

lest they should choose to look out for new quarters. I am in hopes the sloop will get to sea in a few days.

I am, gentlemen, your obedient, humble servant,

JOSEPH HALLETT.

To the honourable Convention of the State of *New-York*, at *Fishkill*.

MAJOR GREENE, OF DE LANCEY'S BRIGADE, TO CAPT. SMITH.

Hampstead, Long-Island, New-York, October 22, 1776.

SIR: Mr. *French*, your Lieutenant, who arrived here this morning, and delivered over the two persons made mention of in your letter to me, informs me that there are a considerable number of horses, the property of notorious Rebels and disaffected people, in the eastern part of the County of *Suffolk*. You are, therefore, to send out strong and sufficient parties to drive in all the horses you can find so circumstanced; convene them all at your quarters. As you will not lose time in the execution of this business, I doubt not but they can be with me at *Hampstead* on *Friday* or *Saturday* next.

I am, sir, your very obedient servant,

JOSEPH GREENE,

Major First Battalion, Brigadier-General
De *Lancey's* Brigade.

To Captain *Smith*.

GENERAL WASHINGTON TO GENERAL SCHUYLER.

Head-Quarters, Valentine's Hill, October 22, 1776.

DEAR SIR: From my remote situation, and my ignorance of the country in which the army under your command to the northward is to act, it is impossible for me to give my peremptory orders, or scarcely my opinion, as to the direction of matters, in your quarter. I am confident your own good sense, zeal, and activity, will suggest to you the most probable means of making amends for the heavy loss we have sustained by the destruction of General *Arnold's* fleet upon *Lake Champlain*; but my experience of the many evils attending the calling in a considerable body of raw Militia obliges me to give you my sentiments upon that head, and to tell you that I fear they will render you more disservice than any real good. From their want of every camp necessary when they join a regular army, they commit an intolerable waste of stores, which, once put into their hands, can scarcely be ever regained, and are so much dead loss to the publick; and for want of regularity in their drafts of ammunition, provision, and other necessaries, they consume much more than is convenient to spare from a garrison near a source of supplies, much less from one at such a distance that it requires every exertion to keep up the magazines at the best of times.

I have been informed that *Ticonderoga*, properly garrisoned and supplied with provision and ammunition, is almost impregnable, even at a season of the year when an army can lay before it with the greatest convenience; if so, instead of calling up a number of useless hands and mouths, (for such I deem Militia in general,) I would advise a collection of as much provision as could possibly be got together, which if sufficient for nine thousand effective men, of which your army consisted by General *Arnold's* letter, I should imagine you could keep *Burgoyne* and *Carleton* at bay till the rigour of the season would oblige them to raise the siege, not only for want of conveniences to lay in field, but for fear the freezing of the lake should make their return impracticable in case of accident. I would recommend the removal of carriages and draft cattle of all kinds from the country adjacent, that if they should attempt to slip by *Ticonderoga* by any other route, and come down upon the settlements, that plan should be rendered abortive for want of means of conveyance for their baggage and stores. I am unacquainted with the extent of your works, and consequently of the number of men necessary to man them. If your present numbers should be insufficient for that purpose, I would then by all means advise your making up the deficiency out of the best-regulated Militia that could be got. Some might likewise be useful in bringing up supplies and fill the places of men who would render more service with arms in their hands. You will always be kind enough to bear in mind that I am giving my opinion, not issuing my orders. The vexation I have experienced from the

humours and intolerable caprice of Militia at a critical time, makes me feel sensibly for the officer who is to depend upon them in the day of trial. Upon the whole, I beg you may not be influenced by any thing I have thrown out; you have had experience of the temper of the people who will probably march to your assistance, and therefore know whether they differ in character from those who have reinforced the army under my command.

In full confidence that you will do what seems best to your judgment, I submit the matter entirely to you, only esteeming myself happy if any hints of mine should be serviceable to you.

I am, &c.,

GO. WASHINGTON.

To Major-General Schuyler, Northern Department.

ROBERT H. HARRISON TO THE BOARD OF WAR.

Camp on Valentine's Hill, October 22, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: I am directed by his Excellency, whose business has called him from hence, to acknowledge his receipt of your favours of the 12th and 15th instant, and to inform you in answer to the first, that he will mention the case of the *French* gentlemen to General *Lee*, and obtain his opinion as to the best mode of providing for 'em in a useful way. The horses belonging to the Light Dragoons which were taken, he thinks will be very serviceable, and he will write to General *Ward* or one of the agents to purchase them.

In respect to your requisition for an immediate return of ordnance stores, his Excellency says it cannot possibly be complied with in the present unsettled state of the army. In order to effect the good purposes you have in view, he would take the liberty to recommend the establishing of magazines of ammunition and other ordnance stores in proper places of security, from whence supplies could be occasionally drawn. As large quantities are constantly in demand in time of war, he does not conceive your provision in these instances can be too great. He will direct the regimental returns in future to include arms and accoutrements, and the Commissary-General to transmit monthly lists of rations. He thinks the regulation extremely proper, though he apprehends the information to be premature respecting the over-quantity suggested to have been drawn, having heard no suspicion of the sort in this army of late.

I have the honour to be, with great respect, gentlemen, your most obedient servant,

ROBERT H. HARRISON.

ROBERT H. HARRISON TO GOVERNOUR TRUMBULL.

Camp on Valentine's Hill, October 22, 1776.

SIR: Sundry matters of importance having called his Excellency's attention from here this morning, I have the honour, by his command, to acknowledge his receipt of your several favours of the 19th and 21st instant.

His Excellency thanks you for the forces you have ordered to the *Fishkills*, and would recommend that in their route they should march by the rear of our troops, at or near the *White-Plains*, where he would wish them to halt, and for the commanding officers to apply to him for orders. He is sensible of the past exertions of your State, and is confident that nothing on their part will be wanting to advance the publick cause. The proclamation you have issued he thinks a judicious step, and that many salutary consequences may result from it. He hopes an implicit regard will be paid to it, and that every effective man will prepare himself in the best manner that circumstances will admit of, to serve as exigencies may require. The intelligence respecting the engagements and defeat of our fleet upon the lake he had received before your favour.

In respect to your request for General *Clinton* to command the intended expedition to *Long-Island*, I am directed by his Excellency to inform you that the situation of our affairs will not allow of his compliance; and further, that if the troops are not on the very point of embarking, that he is of opinion the expedition had better be deferred and the troops moved this way. They may be of material service to us, and great annoyance to the enemy in galling their flank. A considerable part of their army is now at *New-Rochelle*, and some advanced as far as *Marinack*. All their movements indicate their intention of penetrating the

country from the *Sound*, by way of the *White-Plains*; and to stop their progress, our utmost exertions will be employed. These matters his Excellency desired me to mention to you, and to submit to your consideration, conceiving himself that under the present circumstances of our affairs, the moving of the troops this way may be attended with many valuable consequences, and more than if sent across the *Sound*.

I have the pleasure to inform you that a detachment of our men, under the command of Colonel *Hazlet*, surprised Major *Rogers* and his regiment last night, at *Marinack*. They brought off thirty-six prisoners, and about sixty muskets. The number of slain is not ascertained. It is said that a good many of them fell; and further, that if the guides had pursued strictly their instructions, the whole would have been cut off. We had two men killed and twelve wounded; among them Major *Greene*, of the First *Virginia* regiment, an officer of great merit.

In haste, I have the honour to be, with very great respect, sir, your most obedient servant,

ROBERT H. HARRISON.

EXTRACT OF A LETTER FROM COLONEL GLOVER, DATED
MILE SQUARE, OCTOBER 22, 1776.

You no doubt heard the enemy landed all their army on *Frog's Point* the 11th instant, leaving only twelve hundred men in *York*, and there remained until the 18th, which was *Friday*. I arose early in the morning and went on the hill with my glass, and discovered a number of ships in the *Sound* under way; in a very short time saw the boats, upwards of two hundred sail, all manned and formed in four grand divisions. I immediately sent off Major *Lee* express to General *Lee*, who was about three miles distant, and without waiting his orders, turned out the brigade I have the honour to command, and very luckily for us I did, as it turned out afterwards, the enemy having stole a march one and a half miles on us. I marched down to oppose their landing with about seven hundred and fifty men, and three field-pieces, but had not gone more than half the distance before I met their advanced guard, about thirty men; upon which I detached a Captain's guard of forty men to meet them, while I could dispose of the main body to advantage. This plan succeeded very well, as you will hereafter see. The enemy had the advantage of us, being posted on an eminence which commanded the ground we had to march over. However, I did the best I could, and disposed of my little party to the best of my judgment: Colonel *Reed's* on the left of the road, Colonel *Shepherd's* in the rear and to the right of him, Colonel *Baldwin's* in the rear and on the right of *Shepherd's*, my own regiment commanded by Captain *Courtis*, (Colonel *Johonnot* being sick, and Major *Lee* being Brigade-Major,) bringing up the rear with the three field-pieces of artillery. Thus disposed of, I rode forward—(oh! the anxiety of mind I was then in for the fate of the day—the lives of seven hundred and fifty men immediately at hazard, and under God their preservation entirely depended on their being well disposed of; besides this, my country, my honour, my own life, and every thing that was dear, appeared at that critical moment to be at stake—I would have given a thousand worlds to have had General *Lee*, or some other experienced officer present, to direct, or at least to approve of what I had done—looked around, but could see none, they all being three miles from me, and the action came on so sudden it was out of their power to be with me.)—to the advance guard, and ordered them to advance, who did, within fifty yards, and received their fire without the loss of a man; we returned it, and fell four of them, and kept the ground till we exchanged five rounds. Their body being much larger than mine, and having two men killed and several wounded, which weakened my party, the enemy pushing forward not more than thirty yards distant, I ordered a retreat, which was masterly well done by the Captain that commanded the party. The enemy gave a shout and advanced; Colonel *Reed's*, laying under cover of a stone wall undiscovered till they came within thirty yards, then rose up and gave them the whole charge; the enemy broke, and retreated for the main body to come up. In this situation we remained about an hour and a half, when they appeared about four thousand, with seven pieces of artillery; they now advance, keeping up a constant fire of artillery; we kept our post under cover of the stone wall

before mentioned till they came within fifty yards of us, rose up and gave them the whole charge of the battalion; they halted and returned the fire with showers of musketry and cannon balls. We exchanged seven rounds at this post, retreated, and formed in the rear of Colonel *Shepherd* and on his left; they then shouted and pushed on till they came on *Shepherd*, posted behind a fine double stone wall; he rose up and fired by grand divisions, by which he kept up a constant fire, and maintained his part till he exchanged seventeen rounds with them, and caused them to retreat several times, once in particular so far that a soldier of Colonel *Shepherd's* leaped over the wall and took a hat and canteen off of a Captain that lay dead on the ground they retreated from.

However, their body being so much larger than ours, we were, for the preservation of the men, forced to retreat, and formed in the rear of *Baldwin's* regiment; they then came up to *Baldwin's*, but the ground being much in their favour, and their heavy train of artillery, we could do but little before we retreated to the bottom of the hill, and had to pass through a run of water, (the bridge I had taken up before,) and then marched up a hill the opposite side of the creek, where I left my artillery; the ground being rough and much broken I was afraid to risk it over. The enemy halted, and played away their artillery at us, and we at them, till night, without any damage on our side, and but very little on theirs. At dark we came off, and marched about three miles, leading to *Dobb's Ferry*, after fighting all day without victuals or drink, laying as a picket all night, the heavens over us and the earth under us, which was all we had, having left our baggage at the old encampment we left in the morning. The next morning marched over to *Mill Square*. I had eight men killed and thirteen wounded, among which was Colonel *Shepard*, a brave officer.

Sunday, General *Lee* sent for and informed me there was two hundred barrels of pork and flour at *East-Chester*, if the enemy had not taken it; would be glad I would think of some way to bring it off. I sent out and pressed fifteen wagons, and at night turned out the whole brigade, and went down so nigh the enemy we heard their musick and talk very plain, and brought off the whole.

Wednesday, sent out a scouting party, principally from my own regiment, who met with a party of *Hessians*, and attacked them, killed twelve and took three prisoners; one of the slain was an officer of rank, on horseback, the horse was taken and brought off. We had one man mortally wounded, of Colonel *Baldwin's* regiment.

Sunday, the enemy struck their tents, and were on a march in two columns, one to the right, and the other to the left, towards the *North River*. General *Lee* immediately gave orders for his division, which consisted of eight thousand men, to march for *North-Castle*, to take the ground to the eastward and north of them, about fourteen miles distance. We had not marched more than three miles before we saw the right column advancing in a cross road to cut us off, not more than three-quarters of a mile distance; this being our situation, eight thousand men on the road with their baggage, artillery, and one hundred and fifty wagons, filled the road for four miles. We then turned off and marched by *Dobb's Ferry* road, and got into *White-Plains* about ten o'clock, *Monday* morning, after being out all night. We left General *McDougall's* brigade posted on a height between the enemy and us, to cover our march. About twelve o'clock they attacked him with a heavy column, supported with twelve pieces of artillery, who pressed him so hard was obliged to retreat, having twenty men killed and about forty wounded, and wholly from their artillery. I am posted on a mountain, commanding the roads to *Albany* and *New-England*; the enemy on one opposite, about one mile distance. We expect an attack every moment; I don't care how soon, as I am very certain, with the blessing of God, we shall give them a drubbing. Where you will hear from me next is very uncertain.

COMMITTEE FOR THE DETECTION OF CONSPIRACIES IN NEW-YORK.

In Committee appointed by the Convention of the State of *New-York*, for inquiring into, detecting, and defeating all conspiracies which may be formed in the said State against the liberties of *America*, *Fishkill*, October 22, 1776:

Resolved, That the Chairman of this Committee be directed to apply to the Committee of Safety for five hundred Pounds for the use of this Committee, for the expenditure of which this Committee will be accountable to the Convention of this State.

Ordered, That the Secretary furnish the Chairman with a copy of this Resolution.

Extract from the Minutes:

A. W. D. PEYSTER, *Secretary*.

NEW-YORK CONVENTION TO FRANCIS LEWIS.

Fishkills, October, 1776.

SIRS: We are informed that there is two cargoes of salt belonging to the Continent under your direction, the one at *New-Rochelle*, the other at *New-London*. As there is a pressing necessity for securing the provisions that lay contiguous to the enemy, we request that you will sell us this salt for the publick service. The reason of this application is to prevent, if possible, a quantity of provisions falling into the hands of the enemy. Nor is the salt itself which lies at *New-Rochelle* out of danger.

H. GLEN TO GENERAL SCHUYLER.

Schenectady, October 22, 1776.

DEAR SIR: The bearer is *Abraham Groot*, who has been express for me with your letter to Colonel *Dayton*, and has brought a letter back for the General, which I now forward by him. As I wrote you in my last, I had purchased two acres of land for the barracks, and that the materials are chiefly ready, but am entirely without a single person, either carpenter or mason. They are all gone with the Militia. The Militia from this are commanded by Colonel *Abraham Wemple*. I have nobody left but twenty-four men for wagoners, who stand ready with their wagons to take in the baggage of Colonel *Dayton* arrived at the river.

Should the General think proper, I wish he would order between twenty and thirty carpenters back out of Colonel *Wemple's* regiment, and as many masons as there is in the whole regiment, which is not many, to carry on the barracks. Unless I am furnished with the above number of men, I won't be able to get the barracks done this fall, as the season is far advanced.

I have a letter from Mr. *Avery*, Deputy Commissary-General, who acquaints me that he has the General's order that all the flour I have purchased in this town be forwarded to *Fort Stanwix*. The rest must be forwarded to *Fort George* and *Fort Edward*. Accordingly I have yesterday began in sending off flour to *Fort George*, (sixty barrels) and shall be able to send two hundred barrels this week, I hope, if I am not disappointed with wagons.

I shall expect to hear from you by the bearer whether I am to expect the carpenters and masons, and what I must do with the two companies of batteau-men, as I will have no flour just now to load them. But it will not do to discharge them now; a body does not know what may happen. There is a good stock of provision at *Fort Schuyler*, which I am very glad of, and there is a good quantity at the *German Flats*. There was, on the 18th of this month, five hundred barrels of flour, one hundred barrels of pork, eleven barrels of beef, some cattle, and some other articles of provision at *Fort Stanwix*, which will last the troops that are to be stationed there this winter a very long while.

I am, dear sir, your most obedient servant,

HENRY GLEN.

To His Excellency General *Schuyler*.

MR. DUANE'S MINUTES.

Meeting of the Committee with General SCHUYLER and Lieutenant-Colonel GANSEVOORT.

Saratoga, October 22, 1776.

1. Marked the officers fit for service.

2. Agreed to appoint of Colonel *Van Schaack's* regiment, to consist of Captain *Andrew Fink*, Lieutenant *Charles Parsons*, Ensign *John Denny*, at *Fort George*; Captain *Hicks*, at *Albany*; Captain *Graham*, of Colonel *Nicholson's*, at *John's Town*.

Mem: In appointing the officers who are recommended, regard should be had to their former rank.

General Schuyler is of opinion, vide No. 1.

3. Agreed that General Schuyler should pay one thousand dollars into the hands of Colonel Gansevoort, to be repaid by the Committee; the Colonel to pay the money. One hundred pounds as a payment to the recruiting officer.

4. Officers who served in *Canada* and are not provided for:

Good. *Marinus Willet*.

V. g. *Cornelius Van Dyck*, now a Militia al.

V. g. *Cornelius Van Slyck*, a Lieutenant.

Barent J. Ten Eyck.

V. g. *Charles P. Yates*.

V. g. *Nicholas Van Renselaer*.

V. g. *William Goforth*.

V. g. *Levi Pawling*.

Borrowed one thousand dollars from General Schuyler, to be repaid at *Albany*, and paid the same to Colonel Gansevoort.

Wynkoop has no Major this year. Only six companies have joined him; two remain at *Tryon* County.

Captain *Isenlord*, Captain of Militia of *Van Dyke's* regiment.

3. To recruit from Colonel *Wynkoop's* regiment, at *Skeensburgh*, Captain *Samuel Van Veghten*, Lieutenant *John Hoghkerk*.

4. To recruit between *Saraghtoga* and *Albany*, from Captain *Vosburgh* and *Garret Veder's* companies, of *Wynkoop's* regiment.

Borrowed one hundred dollars more from General Schuyler, and paid three hundred pounds to Colonel *Wynkoop* for the recruiting service at *Skeensburgh*.

5. To pay one hundred pounds to Lieutenant *Barent Salsbery*, of *Wynkoop's* regiment.

N. B. Colonel *Wynkoop* informed us that he had taken care to secure Colonel *Keen's* personal property. He was requested to continue the charge thereof. Query: Whether it would be proper to take the sense of Congress thereupon.

October 22d.—Gave instructions to Lieutenant *Salsbery*, at *Stillwater*, and also the sum of one hundred pounds.

Albany, October 29th.—Gave instructions to Lieutenant *Conyn*, and the sum of three hundred pounds, for him and Captain *Hicks* to recruit, and also a set of instructions for the Captain.

Agreed that Mr. *Cuyler* write to Captain *Isenlord*, and enclose him a set of instructions to recruit, and the sum of one hundred pounds.

J. TRUMBULL TO THE COMMITTEE AT BENNINGTON.

Head-Quarters, Tyconderoga, October 22, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: The General earnestly requests the Militia of *Bennington*, and the country adjacent, to march immediately to this post.

The late success of the enemies of *America* on the lakes, renders it necessary for us to use every method to exert every nerve for the defence of this post. The preservation of our country, your own happiness, depend much on the success of this army.

Orders have been long since sent to the Colonels of the upper and lower regiments of Militia in the *Grants*; but lest they should have miscarried, I am ordered to repeat them.

I am, gentlemen, your very obedient servant,

JOHN TRUMBULL, Deputy Adjutant-General.

To the honourable Chairman of the Committee of Safety, at *Bennington*.

CAPTAIN STEWART TO GENERAL GATES.

Fort George, October 22, 1776.

DEAR SIR: I sit down to write a few lines to you, as I flatter myself you will not be displeased to hear I am getting much better. The Doctors suffer me this morning to take a short ride, which I hope will be of much service to me, and to-morrow intend setting off for *Albany*. My stay there, I hope, will be but short, and you may depend the first moment I am able I shall again return to my duty.

Where the Regulars are, it would give me great pleasure to know. Mr. *Morris* and the rest of the gentlemen who were at *Ticonderoga*, informed me they were at *Crown Point*, and repairing the saw-mill there. If so, have some hopes that an attack may not be made for some time at

least, and possibly I may be with you by that time. They conjectured they had an intention of repairing the barracks at *Crown Point*.

Doctor *Brown* is very sorry his state of health will not permit his complying with your orders, he being extremely ill in the gout at present; and when he may be better, God knows.

I hear there is at least three thousand Militia at *Fort Edward* on their way to you. Can't hear of much provisions on the road. Shall hurry it on as I go along. This scroll has so fatigued me that I must conclude by assuring you I am, my dear sir, your affectionate friend and obedient, humble servant,

WALTER STEWART.

Pray remember me to all friends with you.

GENERAL GATES TO GOVERNOUR TRUMBULL.

Tyconderoga, October 22, 1776.

SIR: At three o'clock this morning I had the honour to receive your favour of the 17th instant, from *New-Haven*.

When I sent General Schuyler the account of our loss upon *Lake Champlain*, I requested him to despatch a copy of General *Arnold's* letter to your Excellency. Lest that should have miscarried, the General sends you, enclosed, a copy thereof. It would have been happy for the *United States* had the gallant behaviour and steady good conduct of that excellent officer been supported by a fleet in any degree equal to the enemy's. As the case stands, though they boast a victory, they must respect the vanquished. General *Waterbury* has doubtless, by this time, waited upon your Excellency.

The Director-General of the Hospital in this department arrived at *Albany* the 5th instant, with a large parcel of medicines purchased in the Eastern Governments, so that we are not likely to suffer more for want of physick. The Sub-Director of the Hospital and three Mates are come here, by my order, from *Lake George*, and every thing necessary is prepared by them, in case of an immediate action. Surgeons we have plenty. I wish they were all good; but I hope we shall have a sufficient portion of skill, upon the whole, in that department.

General *Carleton*, with his fleet and army, are at *Crown Point*. The exact number of the latter we cannot yet ascertain; nor whether he does not wait for the whole to join him from *St. John's*, &c., before he makes his grand attack. You may be assured nothing shall be wanting upon our part to give him a proper reception; and General Schuyler assures me the Militia from all quarters have been summoned to reinforce the army. I am in hourly expectation of their arrival.

I wish it may be in your Excellency's power to forward a quantity of flour to *Skeensborough*, by the way of *Bennington*. If it cannot be carted, I think it might be sent in bags, upon pack-horses. This is to provide against the worst. We are not in any immediate danger of a scarcity.

In answer to that part of your Excellency's letter relative to the officers of the State of *Connecticut* who have served in this department, I am to acquaint you, sir, that I think Colonel *Swift*, Lieutenant-Colonel *Starr*, Major *Bigelow*, Major *Sumner*, and Major *Sedgwick*, are officers who I can recommend as worthy of the rank they hold in the army of the *United States*. Of the other Field Officers, I am silent. As to the Captains and Subs, I have had no opportunity to know them sufficiently to say anything in their dispraise.

Spades, or iron shovels, are exceedingly wanted at this place. I have wrote repeatedly to General Schuyler, for six weeks past, but cannot procure any from him. He tells me, in his last letter, not one is to be had from *Albany*. One hundred at a time would be a seasonable supply. Shingle nails are also in great request here.

Trusting that the wise Disposer of all human affairs will bless our cause, the cause of freedom and mankind, I rest, sir, your most obedient, humble servant,

HORATIO GATES.

To Governour Trumbull.

COLONEL BREWER TO GENERAL GATES.

Ty Mills, October 22, 1776.

HONOURED SIR: Captain *Whittlesey* has made applica-

tion to me, to recommend it to your Honour to have the *Indians* discharged. It is with the utmost difficulty I have kept them in any order until now. I most earnestly beg you will dismiss them, if you think it consistent with duty, &c.

I am sir, your Honour's very humble servant,
SAMUEL BREWER, Colonel.

To General Gates.

BEHOLD A COWARD!

Head-Quarters, Ticonderoga, October 22, 1776.

The publick are desired to take notice that *Daniel Pittee*, Ensign in Captain *Timothy Stow's* company, in Colonel *Wheelock's* regiment, applied at Head-Quarters for a discharge, upon hearing that the enemy were likely to attack our lines. He was refused, and the next day deserted the camp. This infamous runaway belongs to the south parish of *Dedham*, County of *Suffolk*.

Published by order of Brigadier-General *Brickett*:

ANDREW BROWN, Major of Brigade.

INDIANS OF ONENHOGHKWAGE AND TUSCARORA TO THE OFFICERS AT OTSEGO LAKE.

Onenhogkwage, October 22, 1776.

BROTHERS, THE CAPTAIN AND OTHER OFFICERS OF THE COMPANY OF RANGERS AT OTSEGO: We have been several times astonished, hearing your intentions. We understand your business is to range the woods in pursuit of *Indians* that are painted, or have feathers in their caps, and intend to fire on them wherever you find them. Our people are just going out to hunt, as usual, in the woods where you pass along. Hunting is their sole intention, and they go out with no other design than in the pursuit of the necessities of life. We have no bad design; neither are there any hereabouts that are ill-disposed that we know of: therefore we hope you will quiet your minds, and suffer no fears about us to trouble you, nor trouble yourselves about our customs of painting or wearing feathers on our heads, for that is no sign of bad intentions; and our young men have always practised it, thinking it no harm or breach of friendship with our brothers.

We should not have written, if we had heard it only as flying report; but we have been told four or five times by *William Johnston* and *Glasford*, that you determine to fire on any you find in the woods painted. Every time any of us go to *Tyonadello*, they repeat the story, and charge us not to paint. Therefore what must we think? Must we not conclude that it is dangerous for us to improve our old hunting-grounds? We had such news concerning the inhabitants of *Cherry Valley* last summer, and our head men sent to them to know the reason of it. They assured us the report was false. We hope it will appear to be so now. We hope you will inform us speedily if you have no design against us, and endeavour to prevent such reports being spread amongst us, which you may be sure will make trouble. We know no reason why we should stay from our hunting, or leave off painting according to our custom.

From the

WARRIORS AND HUNTERS OF ONENHOGHKWAGE
AND TUSCARORA,

I shall speak a word now, brothers. I have observed their conduct, and don't discover any bad design in them; wherefore I was troubled in my mind when the speech of one of your company was interpreted to me by *William Johnston* at *Tyonadello*. I could not receive it as a falsehood from him, and I can't expect they will leave off painting for your threats; for I have, for many years past, entreated them, from time to time, on the Sabbath, to break off from that custom, but they are so in love with it, that they will not hearken. Therefore, I entreat that you would not trouble yourselves about the customs of our people, but take care of those among yourselves which you know to be dangerous. I hope you will find out means whereby to preserve peace and unity between us and you, and also among yourselves.

These from your brother,

ISAAC.

Interpreted by

AARON CROSBY, *Miss'ry*.

To the Officers of the Rangers, *Otsego*.

CONNECTICUT COUNCIL OF SAFETY.

At a meeting of the Governour and Council of Safety of *Connecticut*, October 22, 1776,

Present: His Honour the Governour; his Honour the Deputy Governour; *Eliphalet Dyer*, *Jabez Huntington*, *Richard Law*, *Titus Hosmer*, *William Hillhouse*, *Benjamin Huntington*.

Voted, To allow *Adam Babcock & Co.*, to export sixty barrels of Salt Beef to *Rhode-Island*, for the use of their privateer.

Voted, To allow *Adam Babcock & Co.* two of the Cannon taken on board the ship *Guineaman*, and brought in by Captain *Harding* to *New-London*.

Voted, To appoint an Ensign, and give him orders to enlist twenty men, without premium, and at forty shillings per month, to be for the defence of the *United States of America*, and to man the Fort at *Milford Harbour*, until further orders, and to serve until the 25th day of *December* next, unless sooner discharged; and Captain *Benjamin Hine* is appointed an Ensign for said service, with the pay of an Ensign.

COMMITTEE OF DANBURY, (CONNECTICUT,) TO EBENEZER LOCKWOOD.

Danbury, October 22, 1776.

SIR: Having received your letter of the 20th instant, with three officers, who, you inform us, are prisoners of war, and a copy of their parole; likewise we received them into our custody, and shall endeavour to conduct towards them agreeable to the resolves of Continental Congress in such case made and provided.

By order of the Committee of Inspection for the town of *Danbury*, per

THOMAS STEVENS, *Chairman*.

To Esquire *Ebenezer Lockwood*, at *Pound Ridge*, *Westchester County*.

TENCH TILGHMAN TO PRESIDENT OF NEW-YORK CONVENTION.

Head-Quarters, Valentine's Hill, October 22, 1776.

SIR: By command of his Excellency I enclose you a letter for General *Schuyler*, under a flying seal. After submitting it to the perusal of the Convention, please to seal it, and forward it by express.

I am, sir, your most obedient servant,

TENCH TILGHMAN.

To the Hon. *Peter R. Livingston*, Esq., President of Convention at *Fishkills*.

EXTRACT OF A LETTER FROM PROVIDENCE, (RHODE-ISLAND,) DATED OCTOBER 22, 1776.

The frigate called the *Providence* is gone to *Newport*. The *Warren* was under sail last *Sunday*, and outsails all the boats in the river, upon a wind, without mainsail or top-gallant sails being set. How the *Providence* sails, I know not, as she went down before the wind, directly from me. They are two very fine ships, a credit to our little State.

There has been brought into this port thirty-two prizes, a pretty good beginning. There is now fitting out two twenty-gun ships, and there will be soon two new brigs built, on purpose for the business, to mount eighteen six-pounders each. This addition to our fleet will make no small show upon the list of our naval department.

COMMODORE HOPKINS TO CAPTAIN JOHN PAUL JONES.

Newport, October 22, 1776.

SIR: You are directed to go on board the *Alfred*, and take the command of her, and go to sea with her and the *Hamden*, Captain *Hacker*, who will be directed to keep company with you, and follow your directions. You will form such signals, and appoint such rendezvous, as you think will best answer the end of keeping company.

You are to take all *British* vessels, and all vessels bound to any port under the jurisdiction of the King of *Great Britain*, except *Bermudas* and *New-Providence*. You are, with the force under your command, to endeavour all in your power to destroy all the coal vessels you may find at or near the coal-mines at the Island of *Cape Breton*, and

do all in your power to relieve a number of our unfortunate brethren who are prisoners, and employed in that cruel and hard service. When that is effected, and the weather will permit, you are to cruise for transports and other vessels bound to *Canada*, or go to *Newfoundland*, and destroy as much of the fishery as you possibly can, if you think the season not too far advanced; and when you think the season too cold for that station, you may cruise as long as you well can for transports bound from *Great Britain* to *New-York*. You may send any vessels into port for trial that you may think are acting detrimental to the interest of the *American States*.

Such vessels as you may take, which you think are not worth your while, or may not be convenient, to send into port, you may destroy, first taking the hands out.

My advice is, when your cruise is over, that you return into some port in *New-England*, in order for a winter's expedition.

You will send your prizes into such ports in the *United States of America* as you judge you can get them in with most safety. You may, if you please, send a proper person in a prize, if you should take any one fit for that purpose, to some port in *France*, and there to sell her and cargo, and purchase some small armed vessel, and with the overplus money lade on board her such goods as may answer best for the supply of the navy or army, first ballasting her with sulphur, you giving him orders for that purpose.

I am, sir, your friend and humble servant,
ESEK HOPKINS, *Commander-in-Chief*.

To John P. Jones, Esq., Commander of the ship *Alfred*,
in the service of the *United States of North America*.

COMMODORE HOPKINS TO CAPTAIN JONES.

Newport, October 22, 1776.

SIR: You are desired to attend at a Court-Martial to be held on board the ship *Alfred*, at two o'clock this afternoon, for the trial of *Samuel Halm* or *Emom*, *Thomas Donchoe*, *James Robinson*, and *John Robinson*, for mutiny.

By order of the Hon. Esek Hopkins, Esq., Commander-in-Chief:

SAMUEL LYON, *Secretary*.

To John P. Jones, Esq., Commander of the *Providence*.

COMMODORE HOPKINS TO CAPTAIN HACKER.

Newport, October 22, 1776.

SIR: You are to go to sea with the *Hamden* under your command, in company with the *Alfred*, and take and follow such directions as you may receive from Captain Jones respecting your cruise. If you should part with the *Alfred* by accident, you are to do all in your power to join her; but should you not be able to join, you are to cruise, as long as you can, in such station as you think will be most likely to intercept the provision vessels from *Great Britain*, bound either to *Canada* or *New-York*.

You may destroy any ship or ships which you cannot easily man, and send into port, first taking out the hands. You will send your prizes into such ports as you judge you can with most safety get them into any of the *United States of America*.

ESEK HOPKINS, *Commander-in-Chief*.

To Hoysteed Hacker, Esq., Commander of the brigantine *Hamden*, in the service of the *United States of North America*.

COMMODORE HOPKINS TO JOHN BRADFORD.

Newport, October 22, 1776.

SIR: The above and annexed is a list of what goods belonged to the Captain and passengers on board the ship *Ester*, sent into *Deptford* by the *Cabot*; and as it has been customary in this State for the Captains to have their private adventures, and the Agent here has always delivered it by my consent, and as the above list does not seem to me unreasonable, I think you will do well to deliver the same to the persons they belong to, and you may depend that in so doing you will do but right.

Lieutenant Weaver acquaints me that the men on board the prize ship *Ester* want some supplies. These are, there-

fore, to desire you to supply him with sufficient money for that purpose, and take his receipt, and charge it to the Continent.

I am, &c.,

ESEK HOPKINS.

To John Bradford, Esq., Agent for the Continent in the State of *Massachusetts-Bay*, at *Deptford*, or, in his absence, to his Deputy there.

AARON ROOT TO MASSACHUSETTS COUNCIL.

Sheffield, October 22, 1776.

SIR: Some time since, the honourable Council was pleased to honour me with a commission of Lieutenant-Colonel in the First Regiment of Militia, in *Barks*, for which I beg leave, through your Honour, to return my sincere thanks to the honourable Board and House. My advanced age and infirm state of health would at that time have induced me to decline, had not I have listened to the advice and even importunities of some partial friends; since which time, Colonel Hopkins and Major Jackson have engaged in the service, the former of whom is in such an ill state of health that there is very little prospect of his recovering; Major Brown is dead. The whole burthen of ordering and directing the Militia in consequence falls on me. To the performance of my duty herein, for the reasons before hinted, I feel myself wholly unequal. My health still continuing in an impaired state, and it being with reason expected that those who are in office should not be inactive in this time of danger, a disinterested regard for the good of my country and the present all-important contest, induces me humbly to lay my case before the honourable Council and House, and beg leave to retire, that some gentleman whose exertions may have a greater tendency to be of service, may be appointed in my stead.

I am, with great respect, your Honours' most obedient and very humble servant,

AARON ROOT.

To the honourable President of Council.

Portsmouth, October 22, 1776.

Saturday last, was sent into this port a prize brig, bound to *Bilboa*, with two thousand quintals of fish, taken by a *Salem* privateer.

Monday, the 14th instant, arrived at *Falmouth, Casco Bay*, a large ship from *Jamaica*, bound to *London*, laden with five hundred hogsheads of sugar, and fifty hogsheads of rum, taken by the privateer *Retaliation*, from *Beverley*, Giles commander. The ship mounted six carriage-guns, and fought the privateer two hours before she struck.

Tuesday last, arrived at *Falmouth, Casco Bay*, a large brig, the *Mary and James*, commanded by *Thomas More*. She was from *Falmouth* in *England*, bound to *Naples*, laden with bales and boxes of goods, cocoa, pepper, alum, tin, lead, &c., taken by Captain *Simon Forrester*, in the privateer sloop *Rover*, from *Salem*.

Williamsburg, November 15, 1776.

Last night an express arrived from Colonel *Christian*, with letters to the Governour, dated October 23, giving an account of his having passed the *Tennessee* river on the 18th of that month, without any molestation from the enemy, and after marching through several *Indian* towns, at length arrived safely in the *Island* town, the lowermost but one on the river, which he found had been precipitately abandoned, the *Indians* having only had time to carry off their clothes and the best of their household goods, with which they pushed off in canoes down the *Tennessee*. They left behind them their horses, cattle, hogs, fowls, and even dogs, with their whole crops of corn and potatoes, which the Colonel learned was a very great one. He expected at his camp in the *Island* town, as next day, the *Raven* warrior of *Chote*, with *Oucanastota*, the *Little Carpenter*, and a number of other chiefs; having given them to understand, that if they did not immediately come in and make submission, and agree to such terms as he should deem to be reasonable, that he would lay waste all the towns, and pursue their fugitive countrymen as far as the *Creek* nation.

The Colonel thinks it probable he may enter into a treaty with them, as he has good reason to believe that all the old

warriours had been averse to the war, and that the rest were stirred up by *Cameron*, by bribes and threats. Two of his scouts, on the road to *Hywassee*, found an old woman and two children in the woods, almost famished with hunger and cold, having been out six days and nights without fire, or provisions of any kind except berries and haws. The soldiers took compassion upon the poor wretches, made them a fire, and give them victuals. They also met a young man who had lost his wife, and was then in search of her; they called to him to come to them, on which he clubbed his gun and came up. He informed that the villain *Cameron* pushed off to the *Creek* nation as soon as he heard Colonel *Christian* had crossed *Broad* river.

SAMUEL CHASE TO GENERAL SULLIVAN.

Annapolis, October 23, 1776.

DEAR SIR: After congratulating you on your return to your station in our army, I beg you to renew your correspondence with me, and to give any intelligence by which I may serve you, our army or country.

I am in the greatest anxiety for the success of the military, and therefore hope you will gratify my inquiry into the numbers, state and condition of the troops.

I am some engaged in framing a government for this State.

I beg to be remembered most respectfully to Lord *Stirling*.

I am, with respect and regard, your affectionate and obedient servant,

SAMUEL CHASE.

To the Hon. *John Sullivan*, Esq., Major-General of the Continental Army, Head-Quarters, *New-York*.

LUX & BOWLY TO MARYLAND COUNCIL OF SAFETY.

Baltimore, October 23, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: Captain *Kilty* applied to us yesterday for cordage to fit out the *Ninety-two*; but we have met with such difficulty in procuring hemp to go on with the engagements we are already under, that we cannot furnish him, unless you think proper to take off so much as he may want from the quantity we are to furnish for the gondolas, &c., and then we apprehend it will be impossible to get rigging for them till next summer.

Captain *Patterson* called on us for some brimstone, which we delivered.

We are, gentlemen, your most humble servants,

LUX & BOWLY.

To the honourable Council of Safety.

PRESIDENT OF CONGRESS TO GENERAL SCHUYLER.

Philadelphia, October 23, 1776.

SIR: I have the honour to transmit herewith sundry resolves of Congress, to which I must request your attention. They relate to a variety of subjects, and are absolutely necessary for your information and direction. Being at present extremely engaged in forwarding despatches to General *Washington*, I have only time to add, that I am, with sentiments of perfect esteem, sir, your most obedient and very humble servant,

JOHN HANCOCK, President.

To General *Schuyler*, *Albany*.

COMMITTEE OF SECRET CORRESPONDENCE TO SILAS DEANE.

Philadelphia, October 23, 1776.

SIR: We lately wrote you a letter by Mr. *William Hodge*, enclosing sundry important papers, duplicates whereof are sent by another conveyance; but one paper was wanting to complete that sent by Mr. *Hodge*, which was not then ready. You will find it herein, being instructions of Congress respecting treating with foreign nations.

We send it by the sloop *Sachem*, Captain *James Robinson*, under cover to *William Bingham*, Esq., at *Martinico*, who will forward the same.

I am, for and by order of the Committee of Secret Correspondence, dear sir, your obedient, humble servant,

ROBT MORRIS.

To *Silas Deane*, Esq.

COMMITTEE OF SECRET CORRESPONDENCE TO WILLIAM BINGHAM.

Philadelphia, October 23, 1776.

DEAR SIR: The enclosed letter for *Silas Deane*, Esq., is of a publick nature and of great importance. Your particular care in forwarding it under your cover by a safe conveyance, is expected by the Committee of Correspondence; in whose behalf I am yours, &c.,

ROBERT MORRIS.

To *William Bingham*, Esq.

COMMITTEE OF SECRET CORRESPONDENCE TO SILAS DEANE.

Philadelphia, October 23, 1776.

SIR: We lately wrote you very fully by Mr. *William Hodge*, Jun., who went passenger in the sloop *Independence*, to *Martinico*, from whence he will proceed to *France*, and deliver you sundry despatches from this Committee; amongst the rest was the plan of a treaty with the Court of *France*, and instructions of Congress relative thereto; and this day we have enclosed you instructions relative to treaties with other nations, and sent them under cover to *William Bingham*, Esq., at *Martinico*. Enclosed herein are triplicates of the whole, which we send by the brig *Lexington*, *William Hallock*, Esq., commander, under cover to Mr. *Stephen Ceronio*, at *Cape François*, to be forwarded from thence to Messrs. *Delap*, at *Bordeaux*, and we hope in due time you will receive the whole safely.

For and on behalf of the Committee of Correspondence, I am, dear sir, yours, &c.,

ROBERT MORRIS.

To *Silas Deane*, Esq.

Philadelphia, October 23, 1776.

SIR: The enclosed letter for Messrs. *Samuel & J. H. Delap*, of *Bordeaux*, contains some papers of importance, and I request you will most carefully forward it under a *French* cover to them by first good safe conveyance.

I am yours, &c.,

ROBERT MORRIS.

To Mr. *Stephen Ceronio*.

P. S. Pray advise what ship you send it by.

Philadelphia, October 23, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: The packet enclosed herewith is of importance to Mr. *Deane*, and I beg the favour of you to forward it to him as quickly after you receive it as possible. I think you had best send it by express, the expense of which he will cheerfully pay, and you must not suffer it to go by any conveyance in the least degree doubtful.

I am, sirs, your obedient servant, ROBERT MORRIS.

To Messrs. *Samuel & J. H. Delap*.

COMMITTEE OF SECRET CORRESPONDENCE TO SILAS DEANE.

Philadelphia, October 23, 1776.

SIR: We have already wrote you two letters of this date by different conveyances. The present we send by the *Andrew Doria*, *Isaiah Robison*, Esq., commander, for *St. Eustatia*, from whence it will be sent to *William Bingham*, Esq., at *Martinico*, and by him be transmitted to you in a *French* bottom.

You will find enclosed two resolves of Congress passed yesterday. From one of them you will learn that *Thomas Jefferson*, Esq., declined going to *France*, and that *Arthur Lee*, Esq., of *London*, is elected to serve as a Commissioner in his stead. You will therefore contrive to give him immediate notice to repair to you, and then deliver him that resolve and the enclosed letter. By the other resolve you will see that Congress direct you to procure eight line-of-battle ships, either by hire or purchase. We hope you may meet immediate success in this application, and that you may be able to influence the Courts of *France* and *Spain* to send a large fleet at their own expense to act in concert with these ships, which should be expedited immediately with directions to the commander to make the first port he can with safety in these States, preferring this, if winds and weather favour him; and he must also have instructions to subject himself totally after his arrival to the orders of Congress.

We are, sir, yours, &c.

ROBERT MORRIS.

To *Silas Deane*, Esq.

A copy with the papers by the *Lexington*. R. M.

COMMITTEE OF SECRET CORRESPONDENCE TO WILLIAM BINGHAM.

Philadelphia, October 23, 1776.

We have wrote you already by this conveyance of the brigantine *Andrew Doria*, to *St. Eustatia*, which we deem a safer than the *Sachem*, as she sails faster and is of more force. Therefore we now enclose you some very important despatches for Mr. *Deane*, and request you will forward them by the very first good conveyance, advising us hereafter the vessel and master's name by which they go, and also of their arrival when you hear it.

We are, sir, yours, &c.

To *William Bingham*, Esq.COMMITTEE OF SECRET CORRESPONDENCE TO ARTHUR LEE.
Philadelphia, October 23, 1776.

SIR: By this conveyance we transmit to *Silas Deane*, Esq., a resolve of the honourable the Continental Congress of Delegates from the thirteen *United States of America*, whereby you are appointed one of their Commissioners for negotiating a treaty of alliance, amity, and commerce, with the Court of *France*, and also for negotiating treaties with other nations agreeable to certain plans and instructions of Congress, which we have transmitted by various conveyances to Mr. *Deane*, another of the Commissioners. We have requested him to give you immediate notice to join him, and on your meeting to deliver this letter, and lay before you all the papers and instructions; also to deliver you the resolve whereby you are appointed. We flatter ourselves from the assurances of your friends here, that you will cheerfully undertake this important business, and that our country will greatly benefit of those abilities and that attachment you have already manifested in sundry important services, which, at a proper period, shall be made known to those you would wish.

This Committee will think it proper to address all their despatches unto Mr. *Deane*, until they have certain advice that his colleagues have joined him; but the communication of them will be the same as if addressed to the whole.

We remain, with great esteem and regard, sir, your most obedient servants,

ROB'T MORRIS.
B. FRANKLIN.To *Arthur Lee*, Esq.MARINE COMMITTEE TO GOVERNOUR OF NORTH-CAROLINA.
Philadelphia, October 23, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: We have ordered *Commodore Hopkins* immediately to proceed to *Cape Fear*, in the State of *North-Carolina*, with the following vessels under his command: the *Alfred*, of 30 guns; *Columbus*, 28 guns; *Cabot*, 16 guns; *Hamden*, 16 guns; *Providence*, 10 guns; frigate *Warren*, 32 guns; *Providence*, 28 guns; if these two last mentioned can be made ready in season.

The object of this expedition is to take or destroy the *British* men-of-war in the river of *Cape Fear*, or any other cruising upon the southern coasts with a view to distress the trade of yours and the southern States. Strong as the *Commodore* may be with the four that accompany him from *Rhode-Island*, yet we wish to put as little as possible to the hazard, but pursue this measure with the fullest confidence of success. We request that you will, upon the earliest information of *Commodore Hopkins* being off your coast, despatch the two Provincial armed vessels, and any others which may be under your control, to join him and coöperate with him in this important expedition, in the event of which your State is particularly and essentially interested. You will therefore hold your vessels in perfect readiness to comply with this requisition.

We beg leave to hint to you the necessity of providing skilful pilots for conducting the *Commodore*, that he may suffer no delay nor run no risk from his ignorance of the coast of *North-Carolina*. As the success of this attempt depends much on the secrecy with which it may be conducted, we need say nothing to urge you on the strict observance of this injunction.

We are, gentlemen, your humble servants.

To the Governour and Council of *North-Carolina*.

MARINE COMMITTEE TO COMMODORE HOPKINS.

October 23, 1776.

SIR: Since our last we are informed that the *Galatea*, a new twenty-gun ship, with the *Nautikus*, of sixteen guns, are gone to cruise off the capes of *Virginia*. These ships you will endeavour to fall in with, and take or destroy, in your way to *Cape Fear*. We are also informed that the *Raven*, of twenty guns, and the *Sphynx*, of sixteen, have quitted *Georgia* and *South-Carolina*, but where gone we know not. You may take with you to the southward both the *Rhode-Island* frigates, as well as the *Cabot*, if they are ready; and we will write to *North-Carolina* to have two fine brigantines belonging to that State in readiness to join you. They have sixteen guns each, and near one hundred men. You had best send one of your fleet into *Occrock Inlet* for them, as they are in there. We understand the sloop *Providence*, Captain *Jones*, has put into *Rhode-Island*. You may add him to your fleet, and then you'll be very strong. As this service to the southward is of much publick importance, we expect from your zeal and attachment to the interest of the *United States*, that you proceed on and execute this service with all possible vigour and despatch.

Wishing you health and success, we are, sir, your humble servants.

To *Esek Hopkins*, Esq.

P. S. We are informed that two ships-of-war passed the other day along the *Jersey* shore, steering southward; we know not whether to cruise off the mouth of *Delaware* or join the southern ships. But we deem it highly proper that you provide yourself with a very quick boat, commanded by a spirited, sensible, and skilful man, to precede your fleet, and bring you intelligence of the number, force, and situation of the enemy's ships. It might not be amiss for you to remain a short time within the capes of *Virginia*, until the tender should reconnoitre and inform you of the state of things at *Cape Fear*.

MARINE COMMITTEE—INSTRUCTIONS FOR THE CAPTAINS
MANLEY, M'NEIL, AND THOMPSON.

October 23, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: We expect the Continental frigates *Hancock*, *Boston*, and *Raleigh*, under your respective commands, are either now ready for the sea, or shortly will be so. You are hereby directed to act in concert and cruise together, for the following purposes, and on the following stations. Your first object must be to inform yourselves in the best manner possible if any of the *British* men-of-war are cruising in the bay of *Boston* or off the coast of *Massachusetts*; and all such you are to endeavour with your utmost force to take, sink, or destroy. Having effected this service, you are to proceed together towards *Rhode-Island*, and there make prize of or destroy any of the enemy's ships-of-war that may be found cruising off the harbour or coast of *Rhode-Island*. The prizes you make are to be sent into the nearest port. When you arrive at *Rhode-Island*, if *Commodore Hopkins* should not be already sailed on his southern expedition, and the two frigates built in that State should not be ready for the sea, in that case you are to join *Commodore Hopkins*, and proceed with him on the said expedition, producing these orders to him to justify the measure. But if the *Rhode-Island* frigates should be ready for the sea, there will be no occasion for you, or either of you, to go southward; and you will proceed, taking with you any Continental vessel that may be at *Rhode-Island* and ready, if *Commodore Hopkins* should be sailed before you come there, and proceed to cruise against the enemy's ships and vessels that may be found off the coast between the harbour of *Newport* and the banks of *Newfoundland*.

We have no doubt, from your zeal and attachment to the cause of *America*, that you will execute this service with all possible despatch and vigour; and so bid you heartily farewell.

Philadelphia, October 23, 1776.

By means of a person who has lately made his escape out of *New-York*, we learn that General *Howe* makes every one of the inhabitants swear to submit and be obedient

to the laws of the *British* Parliament, "in all cases whatsoever."

Monday last, arrived here the schooner *Sally*, from *Bermuda*, with salt, &c., by whom we learn that the *Galatea*, a twenty-gun ship, and the *Dreadnought*, of eighteen, were at *Bermuda*, where they had carried in several prizes. That the *Galatea* was to sail in a short time, and to cruise off the capes of *Virginia*.

CUMBERLAND COUNTY (PENNSYLVANIA) COMMITTEE.

At a meeting of the Committee of *Cumberland County*, held in the Town of *Carlisle*, the 23d day of *October*, 1776.

The above meeting being called by a circular letter addressed to the members of the said County Committee in each township, signed by the Chairman of the Committee of Correspondence, requesting them to collect the sense of the inhabitants of their respective township concerning the oath directed by an ordinance of the late Convention of this State, to be taken by every elector before his vote for representatives shall be received.

After the occasion of the meeting was opened to the Committee, the sense of the different townships was called for, and taken through their delegates, respecting the oath above referred to; and it appeared that a very great majority were satisfied with the oath and Constitution; and, after some debate had thereon, the question was put whether this Committee be satisfied with the oath above referred to, and the Constitution as framed by the late Convention? The votes being taken, it appeared that a great majority were satisfied, and that the above be published in the newspapers.

Signed by order of the Committee:

ALEXANDER LAUGHLIN, *Chairman*.

Carlisle, Pennsylvania, October 25, 1776.

When the *Gazette* of the 2d instant came to hand, wherein an ordinance of the late Convention of this State, passed at *Philadelphia* the 26th of *September* last, was published, the Committee of Inspection and Observation of *Cumberland County* saw that the ordinance required every elector in this State, before his vote shall be received by the inspector, to take an oath, or affirmation, which they apprehended to be an unprecedented imposition, and an unjustifiable violation of their rights as freemen, and resolved that it was their immediate and indispensable duty to call the County Committee together. They wrote a letter for that purpose, and directed a copy thereof to the representatives in County Committee of each township, and therein made it their earnest request that, in the mean time, they would use every means in their power to learn and collect the sentiments of their constituents on this important matter, that they might be enabled to represent them at the meeting of the Committee.

The County is divided into twenty-three townships, whereof the town of *Carlisle* is one. In pursuance of that letter, one or more representatives from eighteen townships appeared on *Tuesday*, the 22d day of this instant, in the Court-House at *Carlisle*. After a Chairman and Clerk were appointed, and the occasion of the meeting of the Committee at that time opened: on motion, the representatives of each township delivered the sentiments of their constituents concerning the oath aforesaid; when it appeared that ten townships were satisfied with the oath and constitution framed by the late Convention; and, after reasoning on the subject, the question was put, viz: Whether the members of the Committee present were satisfied with the constitution and oath aforesaid, or dissatisfied? It appeared that the representatives of twelve townships were satisfied, and of six townships were not satisfied. The Clerk then entered a short minute of the above proceedings; and, on motion, resolved that it be printed in the newspapers. Afterwards, a Committee of two members were appointed to prepare and correct the minute aforesaid for the press, who, after a considerable time, made report in writing to the Committee, which was read, and occasioned debates. At length the question was put, viz: Whether a short minute, as entered by the Clerk, should be printed, or the facts as they happened; when it was carried by a majority that the minute, as entered by the Clerk, should be printed;

FIFTH SERIES.—VOL. II.

and a copy of that minute was transcribed by a member, to be sent to the press.

The subscribers then declared that, as the minute aforesaid did not convey the ideas of the proceedings in the manner they conceived of them, they would send the facts as they happened to the press, which they now do, that every reader may know them.

GEORGE STEVENSON,
STEPHEN DUNCAN, and
SAMUEL LAIRD.

COMMISSIONERS FOR PENNSYLVANIA TO GENERAL WASHINGTON.

Mount Washington, October 23, 1776.

SIR: The anxious concern we feel for the general cause, as well as the particular line of duty marked out to us by our instructions from the State of *Pennsylvania*, is the occasion of the present trouble to your Excellency.

When we had the honour of waiting on you at this place about a month ago, we were assured by the Adjutant-General that recruiting orders should be immediately issued for the Continental battalions raised in *Pennsylvania*, then at and near *New-York Island*. This assurance was given us on the 8th of *October*; and, in full confidence that they would be issued generally, we set out the next day for *Tyconderoga*. On our return, a few days ago, we came to the camp at the *White-Plains*, and from Colonel *Hand* we understood that he had received the orders, and, in consequence of them, had recruited more than an hundred men out of the Flying-Camp for his battalion only, and would have been able to have completed the whole, had it not been for the frequent movements of the army, which had unavoidably prevented him.

At our return to this place we naturally inquired of Colonels *Magaw* and *Cadwalader* what success they had met with in their enlistments, when, to our astonishment, they informed us that they had not received any orders for that purpose.

Your Excellency, we doubt not, had good reasons for issuing the orders to Colonel *Hand* only, and not to the other gentlemen. However, as we are informed by General *Ewing* that many of the *Pennsylvanians* in the Flying-Camp under his command are willing to enter into the service on the new establishment, and as Colonels *Magaw* and *Cadwalader* are near, and could with ease enlist them, we have thought it our duty to represent the affair to your Excellency, and doubt not but that the zeal and ability you have ever exerted in the cause of *American* liberty, will induce you to take the most proper measures for effectuating that glorious purpose.

We have the honour to be, with the greatest esteem, your Excellency's most obedient and most humble servants,

JAC. POTTER,
WM. CLARK,
JOHN MORRIS, Jun.,
Commissioners for *Pennsylvania*.

To His Excellency General *Washington*, at *White-Plains*.

EXTRACT OF A LETTER FROM A GENERAL OFFICER, DATED MOUNT WASHINGTON, OCTOBER 23, 1776.

Two deserters came over to us from the *York Island* lines the evening before last, who say the enemy's loss on *Friday* was more than eight hundred killed and wounded. They saw many of the wounded, who all agree in their accounts of a heavy loss on their side. A strong party of *Hessians* were ambushed by two of our regiments, *Read's* and *Shepherd's*, and drove to their main body, which advanced, and obliged our men to retire about six hundred yards. This finished the action, the enemy contenting themselves with the ground they had gained. We had only fifteen hundred men engaged, and not more than two thousand near the field: the enemy had at least eight thousand. The enemy pushed that night three miles along the coast to *New-Rochelle*, where their advanced party remained yesterday.

After the action, our artillery and that of the enemy were employed in annoying each other. During the fire of the artillery, the deserters say, a sentry at General *Howe's* tent was killed at the door; the ball entered the tent, and shat-

tered General *Howe's* leg so as to endanger his life. One of the deserters declares he heard his Captain mention it to several officers. They belong to the Fortieth Regiment.

Major *Rogers* advanced the evening before last, with his corps of Tories, to *Mamoraneck*. A party was detached against him; they killed many, took thirty-six prisoners, sixty-five muskets, and as many blankets, and completely routed the rest of the party. This blow will ruin the Major's Rangers. The enemy have received a reinforcement of *Hessians*, and some *British* troops. Their station last night was at *New-Rochelle*. We now outflank them, so that the least movement of theirs from the shore must produce an action.

Our troops are in high spirits, and very anxious to engage the enemy. We cannot answer for the fate of war; but I think *America* has little to fear from General *Howe's* army, who have gained no ground but what they could reach by their shipping.

The enemy have left only sixteen hundred men on *York* Island. They have detached two brigades to oppose Colonel *Livingston*, who is gone with twelve hundred men to the east end of *Long-Island*. He embarked at *Fairfield* last week, and, it is said, has carried off many cattle from the enemy's party on that island.

LIST OF PRISONERS TAKEN 21ST OCTOBER.

Joseph Dana,	Jeremiah Wood,	Stephen Travis,
Stephen Saw,	Reuben Stives,	James Canidy,
Elijah Carle,	David Travis,	Moses Travis,
John Andivine,	John Warden,	Abraham Brown,
Joseph Carle,	Elijah Bartoe,	Elnathan Appleby,
Walter Brown,	Jona. Ansten,	Jeremiah Davis,
Gilbert Myers,	Francis Basly,	Jacob Cadwell Burr,
Frederick Devo,	James Sharp,	James Melson,
David Lawrence,	Solomon Parent,	Noah Brown,
James Hangivine,	Jonathan Edy,	Wm. Washbourn.
John Charlick,		

The above prisoners served in *Rogers's* corps, and taken by Colonel *Haslet*, October 21, 1776.

EXTRACT OF A LETTER FROM EAST-CHESTER, NEW-YORK, DATED OCTOBER 23, 1776.

The enemy have landed the main body of their army at *East-Chester*, where we had a small engagement; we lost twelve men, but had the advantage of them. We have authentick intelligence of their losing five hundred, killed and wounded. The enemy lay on the *East River* and we on the *North*, two miles distant from each other, except our advanced guards, twenty-five miles from *New-York*. We have *New-York* Island still in our possession, with a garrison of eighteen hundred men, commanded by General *Putnam*. The main body of our army lays at the above-mentioned place, waiting for the enemy to attack us. It is my opinion, if they should not do it soon, we shall attack them. We have gained the advantage of them the two last engagements. There is no dispute but what a general attack will commence very soon. I have just received intelligence of a battle that was fought last night at *Merry-nick*, about seven miles from this; the enemy had a number killed and wounded; we took thirty prisoners. I cannot learn what loss we sustained; but we came off victorious.*

* October 21, 1776.—At about four o'clock, p. m., General *Heath's* division moved from above *King's Bridge*, having, besides their light field-pieces, two heavy iron twelve-pounders. About eight o'clock in the evening, they passed General *Lincoln's* quarters, on *Valentine's Hill*, where the Commander-in-Chief was to spend the night. General *Heath* waited upon him, to know if he had any particular commands for him. The Commander-in-Chief only advised to send forward one of his regiments, to occupy the road coming from *Ward's Bridge*, nearly to whose farm the *British* had now advanced; lest, apprised of his moving, they should annoy his right flank, which, if it had been day-light, would have been open to their view. But before the column reached this cross-road, it was learnt that Colonel *Jonathan Brewer's* regiment of artificers, who were pretty strong, and well-armed, were to pass the night at the entrance of the road, leading to the bridge before mentioned. The division reached *Chaderton's Hill*, to the south of *White-Plains*, at four o'clock in the morning of the 22d, having marched all night. The instant General *Heath* ascended the hill, he noticed, to appearance, many flashes, resembling the flash of the pan of a musket, on the other side of the lot, on which he immediately ordered a Captain with a party to discover what it was; who returned that he could not make discovery of any thing. These were indeed the flashes of discharged muskets at some distance; the height of ground having decoyed the appearance of the distance. Lord *Stirling*, who was before in this vicinity with his brigade, had formed an enterprise against Major *Robert Rogers's* corps. The old *Indian* hunter in the last *French* war, who had now engaged in the *British* service, with his corps, now lay on the outpost of the *British* army, near *Marroneck*. The enterprise was conducted with good address; and if the *Americans* had known exactly how *Rogers's* corps

INSTRUCTIONS TO RECRUITING OFFICERS.

Yonkers, October 23, 1776.

Encouragement given by the honourable Continental Congress to such men as are able and willing to defend their country in the capacity of gentlemen soldiers, and who shall inlist to serve in the Continental army:

First, twenty dollars bounty; secondly, a suit of clothes yearly, to consist for the present year of two linen hunting-shirts, two pair of overalls, a leathern cap, two shirts, two pair of hose, and two pair of shoes, amounting in the whole to the value of twenty dollars; or that sum to be paid to each soldier, who shall procure those articles for himself, and produce a certificate thereof from the Captain of the company to which he belongs, to the Paymaster of the regiment; and thirdly, a grant of one hundred acres of land, free of all charges in procuring the same, at the end of the war; which grants shall be made out to each non-commissioned officer and soldier, who shall serve during the war; or to the representative of such non-commissioned officers and soldiers as shall be slain by the enemy. It is also ordered by Congress that the ten dollars which soldiers have received already, is to be considered as part of the above bounty of twenty dollars. And such soldiers as may be wounded or maimed in the service of the Continent shall, during their inability to procure a livelihood, be entitled to the receipt of half pay.

CH. D. WITT,
ROB'T HARPUR,

Committee of the Convention of this State.

Recruiting officers are to be particularly careful to inlist no deserters, nor any *Englishman*, *Scotchman*, or *Irishman*, who has no connexion in this country. All who have families or friends of good fame in the country are most eligible; and the officers so recruiting shall be allowed the usual compensation for each man they shall inlist. Also apprentices, without leave of their masters, are not to be inlisted.

ROB'T HARPUR,
CH. D. WITT,

Committee as above.

Recruiting officers, Lieutenant *William Tapp*, Lieutenant *Benjamin Walker*, Ensign *James Fairley*, for the First Regiment of the *New-York* forces to be employed, hereby empowered to recruit in the regiment, the camp, or the country, as occasion may require.

CH. D. WITT,
ROB'T HARPUR,

A Committee of the Convention of the State of New-York.

No inlisting or billeting money shall be allowed the recruiting officer for any recruit he may engage, who will not qualify and pass muster. Until more particular orders, the said recruiting officer is hereby enjoined to exert himself with all fidelity in procuring such able-bodied men as may be active, do honour to the inlister, and be of that essential service to their bleeding country which at this most critical juncture it now demands.

TENCH TILGHEMAN TO WILLIAM DUER.

Head-Quarters, White-Plains, October 23, 1776.

DEAR SIR: I wrote you last night that General *Lee's*

lay, they would probably have killed or taken the whole. As it was, thirty-six prisoners, sixty muskets, and some other articles were taken. The Major, conformably to his former general conduct, escaped with the rest of his corps. This was a pretty affair, and if the writer could recollect the name of the commanding officer, with pride and pleasure he would insert it. He belonged to one of the Southern lines of the army, and the whole of the party were Southern troops.

October 22, 1776.—The same day General *Heath* moved his division, and took post on the high strong ground, to the north of the Court-House, General *Sullivan's* division reached the Plains in the course of the succeeding night. In the position of *White-Plains*, General *Heath's* division was on the left of the line. On his left was a deep hollow, through which ran a small brook, which came from a mill-pond, a little above. On the east side of this hollow was a very commanding ground, which would enfilade the division. The top of this high ground was covered with wood. To this hill he ordered Colonel *Malcom* with his regiment of *New-York* troops, and Lieutenant *Fenno*, of the artillery, with a field-piece, directing them to take post in the skirt of the wood, at the south brow of the hill. The ground, from General *Heath's* left to the right, descended gradually a very considerable distance, and then gradually ascended up to the plain, and still on to the right to more commanding ground. On this was the *American* army formed, the line running nearly from northeast to southwest. There were some strong works thrown up on the plain, across the road, and still to the right of it. *Chaderton's Hill* was a little advanced of the line, and separated from it by the little rivulet *Brunz*. A body of the *Americans* were posted on this hill. Head-Quarters were on the plain, near the cross-roads. General *Heath's* division had only slight works for musketry.—*Heath*.

division was engaged. The particulars are as follows: the General has detached a number of small parties very far among the enemy's posts. He expected they would be attacked, and therefore ordered out Colonel *Hand* with two hundred rifles to support them. The thing fell out as was expected; the small parties fell back as far as the supporting one, and were followed by a considerable body of *Hessians*, between whom and Colonel *Hand* a smart skirmish ensued. It ended in a victory on our side, with only the loss of a man or two. Our people drove them from the field, and took possession of a house where the *Hessians* had been. They buried ten, and brought in three prisoners, one of them mortally wounded, and a parcel of shirts which had been left to wash.

I am really in hopes that we have fairly outflanked General *Howe*, and that he will not be able to get across our front. We press him close to the *Sound*, from which he has made no westing, in the sea phrase, and if he makes much more easting, and endeavours to stretch across, he will need as large an army as that of *Xerxes* to form a line.

Every man of thirty-six taken at *Maroneck* are natives of this Government. If I was superstitious, I should call it a judgment.

I am more afraid of the Northern army than the neighbouring one. If they defeat General *Gates*, I don't see what is to hinder them from being on our backs; but still I think if *Gates* is well provided with provisions and ammunition, he may keep them at bay till the season obliges them to quit the ground.

I am, dear sir, your most obedient servant,

TENCH TILGHMAN.

To *William Duer*, Esq.

ROBERT R. LIVINGSTON TO PETER R. LIVINGSTON.

Albany, October 23, 1776.

SIR: Agreeable to the direction of the Committee of Safety, immediately on the receipt of your letter, I set out for this place. I have not, since my arrival, been able to find more than one member of the Committee, the rest being either gone with the Militia, or employed on some other publick business. The Committee of Arrangements are with General *Schuyler*, at *Saratoga*. I am unwilling to send for them till they have despatched their business, as I consider it as more important than any they can do here. Every necessary measure has, I believe, been already taken to support the Northern army, so that I cannot imagine that our stay here will be very useful. I shall therefore, unless I have directions to the contrary, return in a few days to Convention. In the meanwhile I cannot help recommending as an object of some moment, the immediate establishment of passes to this place, transmitting the earliest intelligence by handbill, since nothing else can effectually silence the falsehoods that are daily propagated by the disaffected.

I have the honour to be your most obedient servant,

ROBERT R. LIVINGSTON.

To the Hon. *Peter R. Livingston*, Esq., President of the Convention.

COL. SMALLWOOD TO MARYLAND DELEGATES IN CONGRESS.

Camp on Philips's Heights, October 23, 1776.

SIR: The bearer, Captain *Peter Adams*, from past services being very much reduced, and rendered incapable of attending his duty in his military department, proceeds to *Philadelphia* for recovery of his health; and being in want of money, which at this time I have not an opportunity of drawing, though upwards of two months pay due, must request you would advance such sum as he requires, or any thing due him, and much oblige your obedient, humble servant,

W. SMALLWOOD.

To *William Paca*, Esq., or any of the *Maryland* Deputies at Congress.

GENERAL SCHUYLER TO THE PRESIDENT OF CONGRESS.

[Read November 4, 1776.]

Saratoga, October 23, 1776.

SIR: I was greatly at a loss to what cause to impute that very rapid increase of calumny, which I experienced after my return from the *Indian* treaty. I did not know

that I was principally indebted to Congress for this misfortune, until yesterday, when, and never before did I see the resolution of the 17th of *August* last, which, whilst it exculpates General *Wooster* from any mal-conduct in *Canada*, is couched in such terms as to leave even to the candid and judicious, no alternative but that of supposing that *Canada* was not properly supplied either by Congress or me. Judge on whom the publick censure would fall, and let every gentleman in Congress for a moment fancy himself in my situation, let him candidly scan that resolve, and then let him conclude what my feelings must be from his own. Is it, sir, consistent with that dignity which should be inseparable from the most respectable body on earth, thus partially and precipitately to enter into a resolution which leaves so much room for the publick to consider me as a faithless servant? Deeply sensible of the injury I have sustained from the hand which ought to have supported me, I shall endeavour yet to be patient, and do my duty in this critical conjuncture with zeal, alacrity and firmness, supported by the consciousness of my integrity, and the expectation of a speedy opportunity of vindicating my character, and of testifying to the world not only the rectitude of my intentions, but the propriety of my conduct.

I have not had a line from General *Gates* since *Wednesday* last, so that I cannot give Congress any account of what the enemy are doing, or where they are. The Militia is, however, marching up to support the communication, and I have no doubt but we shall be able to keep it up.

I have not received a line from General *Gates* since the 16th instant. Colonel *Potter*, who arrived last night from *Ticonderoga*, was desired by General *Gates* to inform me that the *British* army was at *Crown-Point*, and that he expected an attack daily; that he wanted spades, with which I cannot furnish him; that the army was plentifully supplied with beef, but that their flour was reduced to sixteen days, little having been sent up by the new Commissary, who now writes me that he cannot procure supplies without my assistance. I have taken measures to remedy this evil, and have taken such others, as I doubt not, will effectually prevent the enemy from intercepting our supplies.

The moment that General *Ten Broeck*, with the Militia, is passed this, I shall hasten to every part of the communication to remedy the disorders which the inexperience of the Commissary has occasioned. I am at present confined with a disagreeable and painful scorbutic eruption, which will go off in a few days, and always leaves me in better health. Messrs. *Stockton* and *Clymer* proceed to *Fort George* this morning.

The last resolution of Congress allowing clothing to the troops that shall reinlist, I received from the Convention of this State, and have requested General *Gates* to publish it. I hope it will have some good effect, and be a means to induce the soldiers to reinlist.

General *Waterbury* has entreated me to recommend him to Congress to be exchanged for General *McDonald* or any other officer. I wish it to be accomplished.

I am in great hopes that General *Carleton* will meet with a repulse; but should I unfortunately be mistaken, I shall nevertheless not despair of confining him to the lakes, if I can keep four or five thousand men in a body.

I am, sir, most respectfully your obedient, humble servant,

PH. SCHUYLER.

To the Hon. *John Hancock*.

GENERAL SCHUYLER TO GENERAL WASHINGTON.

Saratoga, October 23, 1776.

DEAR SIR: Yesterday I received Mr. *Harrison's* letter of the 18th instant, respecting the *Stockbridge Indians*. They have all left the army in the course of the last week, and are returned home. I have not had a line from General *Gates* since the 16th.

The *British* army, under the command of General *Carleton*, were at *Crown-Point* on *Monday* last, and I suppose will make an attempt on *Tyonderoga* in a few days, if they have not already. The Militia move up slowly and very reluctantly.

Finding that Mr. *Avery*, the present Commissary in this department, as being a stranger, was not likely to get a supply of flour, I have requested the Committee of *Albany*

and others to make purchases, and have so arranged matters that I hope the enemy will not be able to interrupt the necessary supplies for the army if the Militia will do their duty.

I am, dear sir, with great esteem, your Excellency's most obedient, humble servant,
PH. SCHUYLER.
To His Excellency General *Washington*.

GENERAL ST. CLAIR TO GOVERNOUR LIVINGSTON.

Tyconderoga, October 23, 1776.

SIR: As the army is to be new-modelled, and Captain *Howell*, from your Province, has requested me to mention him to you, I could not in justice to him refuse it; and it affords me an opportunity at the same time of paying my compliments to you.

Captain *Howell* has, I am well satisfied, behaved since I joined the army in every respect as a gentleman and an officer, and been very attentive to military discipline, so much as to have attracted the notice of General *Gates*, who appointed him a Major Brigade, in which station he has acted for some time to his satisfaction; but as that is only a temporary appointment, and he inclines to remain in the service, he would be glad of something more certain, which will be doing me a favour, and I would not presume to recommend a person to you whom I did not think deserving.

Since the disaster that happened our fleet, of which you heard long ago, the enemy have made no motion; three of their vessels, with a number of flat-bottomed boats and gondolas, remain at *Crown-Point*, and their army, or rather part of it, encamped on the opposite side of the lake. Their other vessels are gone back, probably for their cannon and stores, which they might think improper to risk on the issue of an engagement. We expect them here every moment, and have the strongest hopes, and those not ill-grounded, of giving a good account of them. If success attends this campaign, peace and freedom, glorious objects to *America*, will be the consequence; at all events, *America* must be free.

I have the honour to be, with the greatest respect and esteem, sir, your most obedient and very humble servant,
AR. ST. CLAIR.

To His Excellency *William Livingston*.

COLONEL BROWNSON TO GENERAL GATES.

Castleton, October 23, 1776.

HONOURED SIR: I should have come on in company with Colonel *Warner*, but my men doth not come on as I expected, and we hear of a cursed plan a laying by the Tories below, which we must break up before we can come on. *Carleton* allowing our northern settlers to continue on their farms in peace, will favour much to lull our people to rest. We must return and put another spur to their sides. Shall return about forty or fifty miles, as the Tories begin to grow very bold. We have been hindered here this two days with men that are unfriendly, but at length we have sent them under guard to work at the block-house and on the road through *Otter* creek till further orders. Shall stir up the people what lies in my power, and make the greatest despatch to *Mount Independence*. Major *Rice* will come on with a few men to join the army.

From your most obedient and very humble servant,
TIMOTHY BROWNSON, Colonel.
To General *Gates*.

ELKANAH DAY TO THE NEW-YORK CONVENTION.

Westminster, October 23, 1776.

SIR: This may inform your Honour that some time in *August* last past, I was appointed by the Joint Committee to be a Captain, to serve in Major *Joab Hoisington's* detachment of Rangers, whereupon I exerted myself with my best influence to complete a detachment, but by reason of the multiplicity of my business as a physician, the calls on me from the sick and distressed are so perpetual, who are totally unwilling that I should discontinue my practice with them, I therefore do, or at least beg leave to, resign my appointment and trust in department.

Sir, most heartily acknowledging all favours, paying that

deference due to your respectable body, wishing the *American* arms the blessings of success, and in due time a complete victory over their tyrannical foes, I am, with great respect, your most obedient, humble servant,

ELKANAH DAY.

To the President of the honourable Convention for the State of *New-York*.

GOVERNOUR TRUMBULL TO GOVERNOUR COOKE.

New-Haven, October 23, 1776.

SIR: You will find enclosed copy of letter to General *Gates*, from General *Arnold*, respecting the transactions at the northward. I am further advised that after the action of the 12th, which General *Arnold* describes, the fleet under his command began to fall down the lake, but had not got far from *Schuyler's Island*, when a northerly gale, favourable to the enemy, pushed them up with our shattered fleet, and obliged them to commence a second engagement, which was continued with great disadvantage on our side, though with great spirit and bravery, for five glasses, when the superiour strength of the enemy prevailed to the almost total ruin of our fleet. General *Arnold*, in the *Congress* galley, fought till he could stand no longer, ran her on shore, burnt her and escaped. General *Waterbury* fought the *Washington* till she was sinking under him, he was obliged to strike, and was made a prisoner, though it seems he has returned to *Ticonderoga*, probably on his parole, and is expected here soon. Colonel *Wigglesworth*, in the *Trumbull*, is got to *Ty*, and is the only galley saved; one galley not completed, is safe. Our strength on the water now remaining, is one sloop, twelve guns; two schooners, eight guns each; two galleys and one gondola. What it was before these rencounters, the enclosed copy of a return will show. The enemy's strength appears larger than at first; it is as follows:

1 ship,	- - - - -	18 12-pounds.
1 schooner,	- - - - -	14 6 "
1 do.	- - - - -	12 6 "
1 rideau,	- - - - -	6 24 }
		12 12 }
		4 8-inch howitzers.

28 gondolas, 1 gun each, 12, 18, and 24-pounds.
1 8-inch howitzer.

Our people are all retired to *Ticonderoga*, where it is their design, it is said, to force the enemy to make an attack on our works at the *French* lines, by the *Crown-Point* road, by obliging them to land below our army; that they will lay our two remaining galleys in the channel, where their fire will coöperate with the *Jersey* redoubts and the battery on *Mount Independence*. By this means they hope to prevent their passing higher up than our advanced posts. I hope for a more full and particular account from General *Waterbury*, who is soon expected here.

Colonel *Richmond* came to this town by land yesterday, and waits here for his regiment to come in the whale-boats, which are hourly expected.

Mr. *Hazard* will communicate his knowledge from General *Washington's* Head-Quarters, which is the fullest that I have.

I am, with esteem and regard, sir, your most obedient, humble servant,

JONTH. TRUMBULL.

To Hon. Governour *Cooke*.

CONNECTICUT COUNCIL OF SAFETY.

At a meeting of the Governour and Council of Safety of *Connecticut*, October 23, 1776,

Present: His Honour the Governour, his Honour the Deputy Governour, *Eliphalet Dyer*, *Jabez Huntington*, *Richard Law*, *Titus Hosmer*, *William Hillhouse*, *Benjamin Huntington*, Esqrs.

Voted, To draw on the Pay-Table for £400, in favour of Mr. *James Tilley*, for Cordage, and to be in account. (Order drawn October 23d, 1776, and delivered Mr. *N. Shaw*.)

Voted, To draw on the Pay-Table for £200, in favour of Captain *Uriah Hayden*, towards his building the Ship *Oliver Cromwell*, and to be in account. (Order drawn October 23d, 1776, delivered Colonel *Williams*.)

Voted, To draw on the Pay-Table for £75, in favour

of Captain *Benjamin Williams*, towards Iron Work, for the Ship *Oliver Cromwell*, and to be in account. (Order drawn *October 23d*, delivered Captain *Williams*.)

Voted, That Mr. *Levi Young* be and he is hereby appointed master of the Ship *Oliver Cromwell*, and his Honour the Governour is desired to grant him a Warrant to execute the said accordingly.

Voted, To order Captain *Harding*, with the Brig *Defence*, to sail on a cruise against the enemies of these States, for about two months.

Voted, That Captain *William Coit*, with the Ship *Oliver Cromwell* under his command, be ordered on a cruise of about two months. (Order given *October 23d*, 1776.)

Voted, To give orders to Mr. *Nathaniel Shaw, Jr.*, to supply the Ship *Oliver Cromwell* and the Brig *Defence* with suitable stores of every kind for a cruise of two months' each. (Orders given *October 23d*, 1776.)

BENJAMIN HUNTINGTON TO NATHANIEL SHAW.

New-Haven, October 23, 1776.

SIR: Please to furnish the brig *Defence* with provisions and necessary stores of every kind for a cruise of about two or three months.

By order of the Governour and Council of Safety:

BENJ. HUNTINGTON, Clerk p. t.

To Mr. *Nathaniel Shaw, Jr.*

New-Haven, October 23, 1776.

SIR: Please to furnish the ship *Oliver Cromwell* with provisions and necessary stores of every kind for a cruise of about two or three months.

By order of the Governour and Council of Safety:

BENJ. HUNTINGTON, Clerk p. t.

To Mr. *Nathaniel Shaw, Jr.*

New-Haven, October 23, 1776.

The Hon. *Richard Law, Esq.*, is appointed a delegate to represent this State in the Continental Congress, in addition to those chosen last year, who are reelected to that important trust.

The enemy have extended themselves this way as far as *New-Rochel*, and small parties of them have advanced as far as *Marrineck*. In one of the churches at *New-Rochel* was stored more than two thousand bushels of salt, which has fallen into the hands of the enemy. It was owned by the State of *New-York*.

Last *Friday* there was a smart skirmish near the above church, between a detached party of the enemy and one from our army, in which we lost eight or ten men, and some wounded. Among the latter was Colonel *Shepard*, of the *Massachusetts-Bay*, who was slightly wounded in his throat, and who commanded the party. The enemy's loss is not known.

We hear that near two hundred sail of the enemy's fleet are this side *Hell-Gate*, the chief of them lying near *Hart Island*.

WILLIAM SEVER TO RICHARD DEVENS.

Watertown, October 23, 1776.

SIR: As it is highly probable the Court will to-morrow call for a return of the effective fire-arms in your hands as Commissary, I am directed (as Chairman of a Committee who are reporting that such report be made) to advise you of it, as we apprehend it is necessary such return be made as soon as possible; and am, sir, your humble servant,

W. SEVER.

To *Richard Devens, Esq.*, Commissary-General.

P. SIM SMITH TO MARYLAND COUNCIL OF SAFETY.

October 24, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: In *July* last I received an order from your honourable Board, directing a Court-Martial to be held on the 15th of that month for the trial of Captain *John Mackall* and *Levin Miles*, of *Calvert County*, belonging to the Fifteenth Battalion of Militia.

In consequence thereof I called a meeting of the members on the day appointed, and summoned the parties to appear with their evidences. A sufficient number of mem-

bers attended to hold a Court-Martial, and Captain *John Mackall* appeared agreeable to summons, but not being provided with his evidences, and *Levin Miles* having been sent express by Colonel *Sommerville* to your honourable Board, the Court-Martial adjourned to the *Monday* following, the 22d instant. On that day I attended at the place appointed, but none of the members appeared; but some of them, I think the greater part, together with *Levin Miles*, being on duty, either at *Drum Point* or at *St. George's Island*, watching the motions of Lord *Dunmore's* fleet. Thus circumstanced, I was at a loss how to act, and 'twas doubtful with me whether I had power alone to adjourn to a future day. If I had, 'twas altogether uncertain whether the members would be at liberty to attend, and our election coming on the week following, I determined at last to postpone any further proceedings thereon for the present. Indeed, had a Court-Martial been held, and the parties ready for trial, we could not have proceeded with propriety, as the charge against them was not expressed in the order, and Colonel *Mackall* had not furnished me with it. I have since applied to him for the charge, and his answer was that he had lodged it with the Council of Safety, signed by Colonel *Somerville* and himself, where he referred me. I then resolved to return the order to your honourable Board, with the reason why I had not proceeded, but unluckily had mislaid it amongst some other papers, and could not lay my hands on it till within a few days past. I now enclose it, and hope your honourable Board will not impute the Board with neglect or disobedience of your orders, but to the reasons above assigned. And should you think it expedient to renew the order, must request that the charge against the parties may be thereto annexed, and be assured I will immediately proceed thereon agreeable to your directions.

I have the honour to be, with the greatest respect, gentlemen, your most obedient servant,

PAT. SIM SMITH.

To the honourable Council of Safety of *Maryland*.

PRESIDENT OF CONGRESS TO GENERAL WASHINGTON.

Philadelphia, October 24, 1776.

SIR: I have only time to forward the enclosed resolves.* The cartridges are on the way, and, I hope, will arrive in season. The Congress will be attentive to all your requests.

With sentiments of esteem, and every wish in your favour, I have the honour to be, sir, your most obedient and very humble servant,

JOHN HANCOCK, President.

To General *Washington*.

* Dated *October 14, 15, 16, 18, and 23, 1776*.

BOARD OF WAR TO GENERAL WASHINGTON.

War Office, October 24, 1776.

SIR: The Board of War have directed me to enclose you the plan they intended to present to Congress for preventing abuses in regiments or companies receiving more rations than they are entitled to, an evil which has been complained of perhaps with too much foundation.

It frequently happens that sick soldiers are either left behind at posts or places through which their regiments or companies are marching, or they are sent to hospitals at a distance from their corps. These unhappy people, or some of them, are often thought incapable, and discharged by the Director or Surgeon of the hospital as unfit for service, and turned out to beg their subsistence to their homes, or places of their former residence, although they may have pay due to them sufficient to support them. This not only raises compassion, and from this motive should be remedied, but is extremely detrimental to the service, by deterring others from inlisting.

The Board therefore have thought that the soldiers so discharged, should have it in their power to receive their pay in whatever part of the States they may be, and have accordingly formed a plan to enable them to do it, and request your Excellency's advice on both these subjects.

With the greatest respect, I have the honour to be your obedient, humble servant,

RICHARD PETERS, Secretary.

To His Excellency *George Washington*.

Plan referred to in RICHARD PETERS's Letter to General WASHINGTON, dated War Office, OCTOBER 24, 1776.

That each regiment, troop, or company, be mustered either by the Mustermaster-General, or his Deputies, times in every year, if the situation of the army will admit thereof, and that the Mustermaster-General, or his Deputies, shall return exact accounts thereof monthly to the Commanders-in-Chief of the several departments, and furnish copies of such returns to the Adjutant and Commissary-General, or their Deputies.

That the Commissary-General, or his Deputies, shall return to the Adjutant-General, or his Deputies, monthly, an exact account of all rations drawn by each regiment, troop, or company, in the course of the month; and the said Adjutant-General, or his Deputies, shall return the same to the Commander-in-Chief of the several departments, to be transmitted to Congress as part of the general returns of the army.

That the Captains or commanders of every troop or company, shall, at the time a sick non-commissioned officer or soldier shall go to the hospital, send with such sick non-commissioned officer or soldier, an exact account of what pay is due him, and in case of discharge from the hospital, as unfit for further service, the Director or Surgeon of such hospital shall certify what pay is due the non-commissioned officer or soldier so discharged; and the Captain or commander of the troop or company out of which such officer or soldier shall go to the hospital, shall not receive the pay of any officer or soldier so sick or discharged; but such non-commissioned officer or soldier shall be paid at any pay-office or place by any person in the United States authorized to pay the Continental troops, on producing such certificates, which shall be kept as vouchers by the person so paying, and copies thereof delivered to the officer or soldier receiving his pay.

BOARD OF WAR TO GENERAL WASHINGTON.

War Office, October 24, 1776.

SIR: By order of the Board of War, I have the honour to inform your Excellency that the Congress have this day given them direction to order the two *Virginia* regiments now at *Chester*, immediately to *Trentown*, there to wait your Excellency's commands; and at the same time to acquaint you of the situation of the people of this State, that, having as comprehensive a view of the state of affairs as possible, you may make such disposition as the good of the service may require.

The Council of Safety of this State requested some days since a conference with this Board, in order to lay before it a representation of their situation and expectations. In the course of this conference it appeared very clearly, that they were in a most defenceless condition; that they had no works upon the river except one fort unfinished; that the Militia of this city are inactive and languid to the last degree; and, to close their distress, a number of the people of this place were disaffected. Indeed, they went so far as to say that, in their judgment, a large party might be found to espouse openly the cause of the enemy, should our affairs run retrograde at *New-York*. As your Excellency, however, must know more of your own strength and your own intended operations than Congress possibly can, and as it is of the greatest importance than you should be supported at all events, General *Stevens*, with the *Virginia* forces, will take post at *Trentown*, in order to obey such commands as you may be pleased to give him.

I have the honour to be your Excellency's most obedient and very humble servant,

RICHARD PETERS, *Secretary*.

To His Excellency General *Washington*.

COMMITTEE OF SECRET CORRESPONDENCE TO THE COMMISSIONERS IN FRANCE.

Philadelphia, October 24, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: The Congress having committed to our charge and management their ship-of-war called the *Reprisal*, commanded by *Lambert Wickes*, Esq., carrying sixteen six pounders, and about one hundred and twenty men, we have allotted her to carry Doctor *Franklin* to *France*, and directed Captain *Wickes* to proceed to the

Port of *Nantes*, where the Doctor will land, and from thence proceed to *Paris*; and he will either carry with him or send forward this letter by express, as to him may then appear best. The *Reprisal* is a fast-sailing ship, and Captain *Wickes* has already done honour in action to the *American* flag. We have therefore ordered him to land at *Nantes* some indigo he has on board, take in refreshments, stores, provisions, or other necessaries he may want, and immediately to proceed on a cruise against our enemies, and we think he will not be long before he meets with a sufficient number of prizes. We have directed him to send them into such of the *French* ports as are most convenient, addressing them at *Dunkirk*, to Messrs. *P. Stival & Son*; at *Havre-de-Grace*, to Mr. *Andrew Limozen*; at *Bordeaux*, to Messrs. *Samuel & J. H. Delap*; at *Nantes*, to Messrs. *Pliarne, Penet & Co.*; and at any other ports in *France*, to such persons as you may appoint to receive them. When he finishes his cruise he will call in at *Nantes*, *Bordeaux*, or *Brest*, for your orders and advices, which we beg you will have ready for him, lodged at those places.

In consequence of this plan for the *Reprisal's* cruise, we desire you to make immediate application to the Court of *France* to grant the protection of their ports to *American* men-of-war and their prizes. Show them that *British* men-of-war, under sanction of an act of Parliament, are daily capturing *American* ships and cargoes; show them the resolves of Congress for making reprisals on *British* and *West-India* property, and that our Continental men-of-war and numerous private ships-of-war, are most successfully employed in executing those resolutions of the Congress; show them the justice and equity of this proceeding, and surely they cannot, they will not, refuse the protection of their ports to *American* ships-of-war, privateers, and prizes. If your application on this head is crowned with success, try any other which it is their interest to grant: that is, to obtain leave to make sale of those prizes and their cargoes, or any part thereof that may be suitable for that country. If you succeed in this also, you must appoint some person to act as Judge of the Admiralty, who should give the bond prescribed for those Judges, to determine in all cases agreeable to the rules and regulations of Congress; and for this purpose we will report to Congress some resolves vesting you with authority to make such appointment, and authorizing such Judge to condemn without a jury, as required here. If these resolves are agreed to by Congress, they shall be immediately transmitted to you. If they are not, that plan must drop, and the prizes must all proceed for *America* for condemnation. You can in the mean time consult the Ministry whether they will permit such courts in *France*, and in the *French West-India* Islands.

If protection is granted to our cruisers and their prizes, you will immediately procure proper orders to be sent to the officers of all their ports on this subject, and write yourselves to those houses we have named at the several ports, that the prizes are to remain for Captain *Wickes's* further orders. Also lodge such orders with proper persons at the other ports in *France*. On the contrary, if the prizes are not to be protected in their ports, then give immediate notice to all these houses, and proper persons at the other ports, to furnish the prizes that Captain *Wickes*, of the *Reprisal*, may send into their port, with any necessaries the prize-master may judge they stand in need of, and to order him to make the best of his way with the prize to the first safe port he can make in the *United States of America*. Lodge advice also for Captain *Wickes* at *Bordeaux*, *Brest*, and *Nantes*, whether his prizes are to be protected in port or not, and whether or not any sales will be permitted. If they are protected, he can take his own time to collect and bring them home under his own convoy. If any sale is permitted, he can sell all perishable commodities and vessels unfit for so long a voyage as to this coast. If no protection for prizes, they will come away by your orders, and need not stay for his. And if they deny protection to our cruisers themselves, he will only remain in port for your advices, and to obtain such supplies as may be necessary.

We have recommended Captain *Wickes* to take on board his own ship as many valuable commodities as he can, if successful; but should he be unsuccessful in cruising, then Messrs. *Pliarne, Penet & Co.* may put some goods on board when he is coming away.

You will readily see the tendency these measures have;

and as their consequences may be very important, so we hope your attention to them will be immediate and constant, whilst necessary.

Captain *Wickes* is a worthy man, and as such we recommend him; and should he have the misfortune to be taken, or meet with any other misfortune, we hope you will adopt measures for his relief. He will treat prisoners with humanity, and we are convinced his conduct will do honour to his appointment.

We have the honour to be, gentlemen, your most obedient and most humble servants.

In Committee of Secret Correspondence, }
Philadelphia, October 23, 1776. }

SIR: The enclosed letter was wrote and signed before we had an opportunity to transmit it. And having now so good a conveyance as the brigantine *Lexington*, we transmit the same to you as an official letter from the Committee of Secret Correspondence, which you'll observe is distinct from the Secret Committee, with whom you also correspond. By this letter you'll find we expect some arms, ammunition, money, or clothing may be sent out by our agent, Mons. *Hortalez*, to the Governour at *Cape François*, with orders for the delivery of them to whoever may be properly empowered by Congress to receive the same. That power is granted to you, and you'll please to apply to the Governour with our respectful compliments. Desire to know if he has received such supplies. If he has, produce the letter to him; if he has not, then request he will inform you when such supplies do arrive, or any advice respecting them.

When you receive the goods in consequence of this appointment, ship a quantity of them by the *Lexington*, if they are ready; if not, you may charter suitable *French* vessels to bring them here, dividing them into many bottoms, and sending an assortment, consisting of part of every article you receive. In short, you must transmit the whole to us in the safest and most expeditious manner you can contrive, consigning to this Committee, for the use and on account of the *United States of America*.

We are, sir, your obedient servants,

BENJAMIN FRANKLIN,
ROBERT MORRIS.

To Mr. *Stephen Ceronio*.

MARINE COMMITTEE TO LAMBERT WICKES.

In Marine Committee, Philadelphia, October 24, 1776.

SIR: The honourable Congress of the *United States of America* have directed us to commit the *Reprisal*, under your command, to the management of the Committee of Secret Correspondence for the present voyage or cruise. You are therefore to receive and obey the orders of that Committee.

To us, however, you are to communicate such occurrences as ought to be known by those who superintend the *American Navy*. To us you must, in due time, transmit copies of your journal and log-book; and to us you are accountable for the care of your ship, her stores, materials, provisions, &c. We recommend particularly that you preserve strict discipline amongst your officers and men, always using them well, but compelling them, if needful, to do their duty; and if you make prisoners, we are sure it will gratify your own feelings to treat them with humanity.

We hold you in much esteem, and flatter ourselves your conduct in the service will always be such as to meet the continuance of it, from, sir, your friends and servants.

To *Lambert Wickes*, Esq.

COMMITTEE OF SECRET CORRESPONDENCE TO C. W. F. DUMAS.

Philadelphia, October 24, 1776.

SIR: Our worthy friend, Dr. *Franklin*, being indefatigable in the service of his country, and few men so qualified to be useful to the community of which he is a member, you will not be surprised that the unanimous voice of the Congress of Delegates from the *United States of America*, has called upon him to visit the Court of *France* in the character of one of their Commissioners for negotiating a treaty of alliance, &c., with that nation. He is the bearer of this

letter, and on his arrival will forward it. To him we refer you for information as to the political state of this country; our design in addressing you at this time being only to continue that correspondence which he has opened and conducted hitherto with you on our behalf. We request to hear from you frequently, and if you make use of the cypher, the Doctor has communicated the knowledge of it to one of our members.

Your letters, via *St. Eustatia*, directed to the Committee of Secret Correspondence, then put under cover to Mr. *Robert Morris*, merchant in *Philadelphia*, and that letter under cover to Mr. *Cornelius Stevenson*, or Mr. *Henricus Godet*, merchants at *St. Eustatia*, or under cover to Mr. *Isaac Gouverneur*, merchant at *Curraçoa*, will certainly come safe; and if you can send with them regular supplies of the *English* and other newspapers, you will add to the obligation. The expense of procuring will be reimbursed, together with any other charges, and a reasonable allowance for your time and trouble in this agency.

The members of this Committee, styled the Committee of Secret Correspondence, are *John Jay*, Esq., *Thomas Johnston*, Esq., *Robert Morris*, Esq., Colonel *Richard Henry Lee*, *William Hooper*, Esq., and the Rev. Dr. *John Witherspoon*; and as vacancies happen by deaths or absence, the Congress fill them up with new members, which we mention for your information; and with great respect and esteem, remain, sir, your most obedient servants.

To Mons. *Dumas*.

COMMITTEE OF SECRET CORRESPONDENCE TO SILAS DEANE.

Philadelphia, October 24, 1776.

DEAR SIR: We embrace this opportunity of your worthy colleague, and our mutual good friend, Doctor *Franklin*, to transmit you copies of our letters of the 1st *October*, by the sloop *Independence*, Captain *Young*, to *Martinico*, from whence they would be carried to you by Mr. *William Hodge*, Jun., sent in said sloop for that purpose. Those letters contained a commission from the Congress appointing Dr. *Franklin*, *Thomas Jefferson*, Esq., and yourself, Commissioners on behalf of the *United States of America*, to negotiate a treaty of alliance and amity and peace with the Court of *France*; a plan of that treaty; instructions from Congress relative thereto; form of passports for the ships of each nation, &c. We consider these papers as of the utmost consequence, and hope they will arrive safe.

Yesterday we wrote you a few lines, enclosing additional instructions from Congress to their Commissioners, authorizing them to treat with other nations; also, two resolves of Congress, by one of which you would see that *Thomas Jefferson*, Esq., declined his appointment, and that *Arthur Lee*, Esq., was appointed in his stead, to whom we enclosed a letter, copy whereof goes herewith. By the other the Commissioners are directed to hire or buy eight line-of-battle ships for the *American* service. These papers were sent under cover to *William Bingham*, Esq., our resident at *Martinico*, with orders to forward them immediately.

We wrote you another letter yesterday, covering duplicates of all the papers and letters mentioned herein, and sent it by the armed brigantine *Lexington*, *William Hallock*, Esq., commander, to Mr. *Stephen Ceronio*, our resident at *Cape François*, with directions to forward them to Messrs. *Samuel & J. Hans Delap*, merchants at *Bordeaux*, who are requested to send the packet from thence by express to you; and Dr. *Franklin* carries with him triplicates of all these publick papers. We have been thus particular in mentioning them, and the conveyances by which they were sent, that you may know when the whole are received; and we desire you to be equally pointed in advising us thereof, for we shall be anxious to hear of their getting safe, and shall be very uneasy if we don't hear this in due time, for they ought not on any account to fall into the hands of our enemies.

Since Mr. *Dickinson* and Mr. *Harrison* were out of Congress, and Dr. *Franklin* appointed one of the Commissioners at the Court of *France*, the Congress have filled up the vacancies in this Committee, and the members now are Mr. *Jay*, Mr. *Johnston*, Mr. *Morris*, Colonel *Richard Henry Lee*, Mr. *William Hooper*, and Dr. *John Witherspoon*, which we mention for your information.

We shall continue to address all our advices and de-

spatches to you only, until informed that the other Commissioners have joined you; but you will communicate the letters to them as if directed to the whole, and we depend on you to notify Dr. Lee of his appointment, using the utmost precaution in the method of doing it, or his person may be endangered. We suppose it may be best to have the letter enclosed by the Ministers of France to their Ambassador in England, with proper cautions respecting the delivery of it. Dr. Franklin being the bearer of this letter, it is totally unnecessary for us to enter into any detail of what is passing here, or to convey any political remarks. He being possessed of every knowledge necessary for your information, will communicate very fully every thing you can wish to know.

Therefore wishing you a happy meeting with him, and a successful issue to your labours in the service of your country, we remain, with perfect esteem and regard, dear sir, your affectionate friends and obedient, humble servants.

To Silas Deane, Esq.

MARINE COMMITTEE TO CAPTAIN WICKES.

Philadelphia, October 24, 1776.

SIR: The honourable Congress having thought proper to submit the ship *Reprisal*, under your command, to our direction for the present voyage or cruise, you are to be governed by the following orders:

The Honourable Doctor Franklin being appointed by Congress one of their Commissioners for negotiating some publick business at the Court of France, you are to receive him and his suite on board the *Reprisal*, as passengers, whom it is your duty, and we dare say it will be your inclination, to treat with the greatest respect and attention, and your best endeavours will not be wanting to make their time on board the ship perfectly agreeable. When they are on board, you are to proceed, with the utmost diligence, for the port of Nantes, in France, where they will land, and there you will deliver their baggage, &c. It is of more importance that you get safe and soon to France, than any prizes are that you could take. Therefore you are not to delay time on this outward passage for the sake of cruising; but if you are beset with contrary winds, or during the passage be so circumstanced that Doctor Franklin may approve of your speaking any vessels you see, do therein as he shall direct.

We understand the Secret Committee have put on board the *Reprisal* a quantity of indigo. This you must land at Nantes immediately on your arrival, and deliver it to their order; and they have directed their agents to supply you immediately with whatever refreshments or necessaries you may stand in need of. We deem it essential to the success and safety of your ship that you make a very short stay in the river of Nantes. It is equally so that you keep totally secret where you are bound from thence, or what your business.

These things premised, we take it for granted your stay will not exceed more than two or three days, and that you will rather dispose people to think you are returning back here again; but you are directly to proceed on a cruise against our enemies. You have the resolves of Congress, by which you well know who they are. By them you will know what ships you are authorized to make prize of; and the resolves of Congress must be the rule of your conduct.

We think you had best proceed directly on the coast of England, up the Channel, before they can have any notice of you; and we judge every day, if not every hour, you are there will give you opportunity of making prizes. You will always have some of the French ports at hand, either to send in your prizes or to run into yourself if chased by superiour force. Doctor Franklin will make application at the Court of France for the protection of their ports to the *Reprisal* and her prizes, and we hope he will be successful therein. However, we propose as follows: Should you take one or two valuable prizes, with woollen or linen goods on board, or such cargoes as you know us to be in immediate want of, that you despatch them immediately, under the command of trusty officers and men, for this port. If you meet other vessels partly loaden with such goods, that you take as many of them on board your own ship as you conveniently can; and that you send all the other prizes you take immediately into some of the ports of France, with orders to apply, at Dunkirk, to Messrs. P. Stival & Son,

merchants; at Havre-de-Grace, to Mr. Andrew Limozin, merchant; at Bordeaux, to Messrs. Samuel & J. Hans Delap, merchants; at Nantes, to Messrs. Pliarne, Penet & Company; at any other port, to apply to the commander thereof, for protection until he receives orders from his Court on the subject, and with these orders will also come instructions from Doctor Franklin, Silas Deane, Esq., and Doctor Lee, or some of them, which he must obey. You may direct all the prize-masters to wait in port for your further orders, provided the above gentlemen write that they will be protected; but if that protection is not granted, they must then apply to our agents for such supplies as are necessary, and push away immediately for this continent, making the first safe port they can.

We are convinced you will treat all prisoners with humanity; but we think you had best land them in France whenever they are too numerous on board your ship, to prevent giving alarms in England, for you may depend they will have cruisers out after you soon as they hear of your being there. We expect, therefore, you will make but a short cruise, especially as every day must inevitably throw plenty of English vessels in your way. Perhaps off Falmouth you might meet with a Lisbon packet, and whatever specie you collect, take it on board, and carry it into France, where you may deliver or pay the same to the order of Doctor Franklin, Mr. Deane, &c., or to Mr. Thomas Morris, or his order, as agent for the Secret Committee of Congress; and the Congress will pay here yours and the people's shares of such money, as well as their shares of any prizes or parts of prizes that may be sold there, and the money applied to the publick use.

When you are about to quit your cruise, it may be well to send any prisoners you then have on shore, and make them believe you are coming direct for America, or going round into St. George's Channel, to cruise for Bristol ships, just as you think may be most likely to gain credit. Clear your ship of them, and then run into Bordeaux, Brest, or Nantes, just as may be most convenient. You will find letters from our Commissioners at Paris with Messrs. Delap at Bordeaux, Messrs. Pliarne, Penet & Company at Nantes, or some proper person at Brest, advising you of the success of their application; and if they tell you the prizes are to be protected, you can then write to the prize-masters, and either collect and bring them home under your convoy, or order them to proceed separately, as you shall then judge best. If protection was not to be given, they will come away of course; and in that case we think you should put your ship in good order, advise the Commissioners and Mr. Thomas Morris that you only wait for their despatches. If you have room on board the ship, receive any goods Mr. Morris or they may order; and when you have received their despatches, make the best of your way back to this place or any other ports of safety in these States, bringing with you any prizes you can take by the way.

Should the Court of France grant free protection for our cruisers and prizes in their ports, we think you may do better in Europe than here, respecting which consult with, and be governed by the advice of, our said Commissioners at the Court of Paris; and if prizes are allowed to be sold there, consign all you take to the order of Mr. Thomas Morris, who has correspondents in every port of France, and will take care that justice is done in the management of them.

Your stay in Europe must depend upon the advice of the Commissioners; and your cruises should always be quick, as you can be soon in and out. Keep your ship well manned, fitted, and provided; and let Old England see how they like to have an active enemy at their own door: they have sent fire and sword to ours.

You know we want seamen here. Therefore encourage all you meet with, both at sea and on shore, to enter our service, and send or bring as many of them to these States as possible.

You must, by all opportunities, inform us of your proceedings, and communicate all the useful or important intelligence that comes to your knowledge. A spirited, active conduct in this enterprise will recommend you to all America; and you have our best wishes for your success and honour, being very sincerely, sir, your friends and humble servants.

To Lambert Wickes, Esq.

JOHN LUCAS TO GENERAL GATES.

Philadelphia, October 24, 1776.

HONOURED GENERAL: I embrace this opportunity to let you know that since I arrived in this city I have done every thing in my power in forwarding clothing for your army. Shortly after I arrived, there was three wagons sent off, which I hope will get soon and safe to your assistance, and am in hopes shall in a few days be able to get two or three more off, at which time I shall set off myself to escort them along with despatch. It's very difficult to procure them here, but I give the honourable Congress no rest.

I am extremely sorry to hear the fate of our fleet, which alarms the people of this place very much; but I have still confidence that your Honour and the good troops under your command (should they attempt *Tyconderoga*) will be able to give them a dressing.

Colonel *Lewis's* father is well. Mr. *Morris* is well and expects Mrs. *Gates* soon in *Philadelphia*.

I am, in haste, your Honour's humble servant,

JOHN LUCAS.

To Major-General *Gates*.

GEORGE ROSS TO LANCASTER (PENNSYLVANIA) COMMITTEE.

Philadelphia, October 24, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: Pardon my once more writing to you on the subject of our publick affairs. I mean not to direct, trusting in the affection you have for the liberties of our country, which can never be safe but under a free and good government. Believe me that my first wish is that my country be free, and that in every station they please to place me, I will, to the best of my judgment, do my utmost to serve them.

Whatever may be the result of the determinations of the County of *Lancaster*, I wish they may be communicated with expedition to the neighbouring Counties. Accept of the affectionate regards of, gentlemen, your obliged humble servant,

GEO. ROSS.

To the honourable Committee of *Lancaster* County.

COLONEL ZEDTWITZ TO GENERAL WASHINGTON.

Morristown, October 25, 1776.

SIR: The character your Excellency bears among all ranks of people for your universal distribution of justice, benevolence, and mercy, induces me to presume addressing myself to you in my deplorable situation, in hopes you will in some measure relieve my distress.

In my confinement in *York* I sometimes obtained the liberty of taking the air, from whence I was removed to *Newark, East New-Jersey*, amongst the insufferable insults of the populace there; likewise I was suffered to walk out in the air. I am now removed, along with twelve other unhappy prisoners, to this place, where we are all closely confined and almost suffocated to death with the nauseous smell of our excrement, and other disagreeable smells, which daily throws some of us into fits of sickness and fevers, which will in the end cost most of them their lives. This they suffer although no crimes can be proved against most of them, but perhaps a saucy word to a sergeant or subaltern officer, for which, though very good soldiers, they lie neglected and confined. Some of them at the hazard of their lives have come over from the enemy, and are much afraid of being caught and hanged for desertion.

In consequence of my confinement, and the unhappy cause of it, (though innocent in fact,) the heart-breaking grief that hath seized me, with the weakness of my constitution, almost worn out in the service of the country, I have contracted a disorder, which every day threatens me with immediate death, caused by a stagnation of blood rising from my heart to my throat, and strangles me for want of breath. Not the least assistance to be had; therefore I cannot hope to live many days unless your Excellency, in your kind clemency, will be so good as to give directions to the gentleman who hath the honour to wait on you to give me liberty of walking in the air, whereby I might get relief, which I cannot do in this close confinement.

I have mortification to hear that there are many evil-disposed people who have the cruelty to take a great deal of pains to represent me in very dark colours to your Excel-

lency, which would make me very unhappy were I not too well assured of your penetration not to be imposed upon by their malicious aspersions.

I will be answerable with my life not to break through your directions in the least, and be sworn on the Holy Evangelists to observe them as sacred. Indeed, I am not able to infringe them.

I am, dear sir, very respectfully, your Excellency's most obliged and most obedient, humble servant,

H. ZEDTWITZ.

To His Excellency *George Washington*, Esq., General and Commander-in-Chief of the Continental forces in *America*.

P. S. Enclosed you have a plan to obtain arms necessary in the army.

A Plan for obtaining Arms the most requisite for the present use of the Continental Army.

To convince this country (which I shall always hold dear to me) that my heart, filled with gratitude for the many favours I have received, will always be ready to render it all the services in my power, I hereby offer myself to procure the above arms cheaper, and by far better, than any merchant on the Continent can procure; and if my counsel is followed, the cannon must be in proportion still cheaper.

The honourable the Continental Congress must fit out, at their expense, a few stout, good sailing, armed vessels, in proportion to the quantity of arms wanted, and be particularly careful in the choice of good, experienced Captains, and man the vessels with good, able, fighting men.

As this expedition cannot be executed without ready money, I have, two months ago, provided for the same. I asked Mr. *Le Roy*, of *New-York*, if he could furnish letters of credit drawn upon sight on *Amsterdam*, for one hundred thousand pounds, or more if necessity required, where, for the value of said sum, he should be reimbursed in paper money at *Philadelphia*. I likewise mentioned that, perhaps, the honourable the Continental Congress might want the said sum. He replied, any sum they chose he was willing to furnish them with in drafts on his brother in *Amsterdam*.

As I cannot, with any degree of propriety, have any connection with the payment of the money, it will be requisite that the honourable the Continental Congress should appoint two or more trusty gentlemen, whom they can confide in, to go over and negotiate the business for them.

It is well known the honourable the Continental Congress have been obliged to pay at the rate of four pounds ten shillings each for old firelocks, *Philadelphia* currency, and greatest part of them very deficient in respect to their inequality of size; the bayonets and locks, the most essential articles belonging to a firelock, very indifferent; but I engage, and hereby contract, to procure and deliver to the gentlemen appointed to negotiate as paymasters, as many thousand stands of small-arms as may be required, at three pounds four shillings currency, for ready cash. They shall be equal-sized and new, double proof, with bayonets, and very neatly worked.

In our present circumstances nothing can be more useful to the army than field-pieces of different sizes, wherewith we may prevent the enemy from destroying the country, repel them, and keep them at a distance, prevent them from scouring the country, and carrying off our provisions.

In my humble opinion, one hundred and twenty four and six-pounders will be necessary: these of entire new construction, very light, and carried upon a steel machine lately invented by the King of *Prussia*, and can be carried by three men to each piece any where, even upstairs into your room. They are called grasshoppers, very much resembling that insect, and can easily be fired out of the windows of any room or house, as occasion requires. There were several of them fired upon us at *Quebeck*, which did the most execution against us at the time we stormed the city.

Double fortified nine and twelve-pounders, about thirty or forty.

Whereas I do not know the certain price of the said cannon, the honourable the Congress will be pleased to empower their negotiators and myself with an address to his *Prussian* Majesty to furnish us with the quantity they stand in need of; and I will be responsible with my life to get

from him the desired quantity, and at the original price his Majesty gave for them, which is entirely out of the power of any merchant to procure on equal terms. In order to make ourselves sure, and not expose our shipping to the enemy, it will be best to pass the *Texel* by *Holland*, run into the mouth of the *Rhine*, where we can easily procure sloops to carry our arms up the *Weser*, and embark the stores in our vessels; from thence set sail immediately for *Philadelphia*. All the land we must pass, and where our vessels lay at anchor, belongs to his *Prussian* Majesty, and are situated in the open sea, out of all danger from the enemy.

This is the only plan which can be executed without the least risk. For my trouble I shall require nothing. I beg only for the protection and maintenance of my family till my return, and the second share of any prizes we may be fortunate enough to take in our voyage, and, after my arrival, leave to return, with my family, to my own country the first opportunity. If this plan be so fortunate to meet with your approbation, I will undertake to return in four months from the time I set sail from *Philadelphia*.

COLONEL CURTENIUS TO THE NEW-YORK CONVENTION.

Paramus, October 24, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: The last time I had the honour to write to you was from *Philadelphia*, the 20th instant, to which beg leave to refer.

Since I came home, Mrs. *Curtenius* informed me that she had forwarded a letter from the Convention, directed to me; but I have never received it. I thought proper to inform you of this, that you might have an opportunity to send me a copy of it, provided it is not too late to execute the business I was directed to do in the letter.

In my letter of the 20th instant, I requested the favour to have the money sent to me. If it is not convenient to send it, please to let me know, and I will come and fetch it.

I am, with respect, gentlemen, your most obedient servant,

PETER T. CURTENIUS.

P. S. Enclosed is the resolve of Congress which I had omitted to enclose in my letter of the 20th instant.

COLONEL CURTENIUS TO THE NEW-YORK CONVENTION.

Paramus, October 24, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: Since closing my letter, I received a letter from Mr. *Comfort Sands* to furnish him with my account against the Congress, as far as it was audited, which is out of my power, because my accounts and vouchers were delivered to Mr. *Bancker*, who told me he had delivered them to Mr. *Paulding* at *Tarrytown*. If they are still in his possession, it will be absolutely necessary to send for them, lest they should fall in the hands of the enemy, which would be a great loss to the State.

I am, gentlemen, your most obedient servant,

PETER T. CURTENIUS.

To the honourable the Convention of the State of *New-York*, at *Fishkills*.

P. S. The person who fetches them must have a carriage, as the box is too large to carry on a horse.

DECLARATIONS OF COMMITTEES OF SUFFOLK COUNTY, NEW-YORK.

The following voluntary Declarations from the late Committee of the County of *Suffolk*, and from all the Town Committees in that County, were delivered to his Excellency Governour *Tryon*, on *Thursday* last, by Major *Richard Floyd* and Mr. *Thomas Fanning*, who were deputed by the inhabitants of the County to present the same to his Excellency.

Brook-Haven, October 24, 1776.

We, the Committee of the County of *Suffolk*, being assembled by permission of his Excellency the Hon. *William Tryon*, Esq., Governour of *New-York* and the territories depending thereon in *America*, do hereby dissolve ourselves, and do disclaim and reject the orders of Congress and Committees, and totally refusing obedience to them, revoking all our proceedings under the Congress, and being

desirous to obey the legal authority of Government, rely upon your Excellency's clemency, hoping that you will pass by our former conduct, and be graciously pleased to protect us agreeable to the laws of this Province.

Signed by order of the Committee:

JOHN BRUSH, Chairman.

Smithtown, October 19, 1776.

We, the Committee of *Smithtown*, in the County of *Suffolk*, being thoroughly convinced of the injurious and criminal tendency of our former meetings and resolutions, and willing to manifest our hearty disapprobation of such illegal measures, do hereby dissolve this Committee, and as far as in us lies revoke and disannul all former orders and resolutions of all Committees and Congresses whatsoever, as being undutiful to our lawful Sovereign, repugnant to the principles of the *British* Constitution, and ruinous in the extreme to the happiness and prosperity of this country.

Huntington, October 21, 1776.

We, the Committee of *Huntington*, in the County of *Suffolk*, being thoroughly convinced of the injurious and criminal tendency of our former meetings and resolutions, and willing to manifest our hearty disapprobation of all such illegal measures, do hereby dissolve this Committee, and as far as in us lies revoke and disannul all former orders and resolutions of this Committee; and we do hereby further renounce and disavow the orders and resolutions of all Committees and Congresses whatsoever, as being undutiful to our lawful Sovereign, repugnant to the principles of the *British* Constitution, and ruinous in the extreme to the happiness and prosperity of this country.

Brook-Haven, October 23, 1776.

We, the Committee of *Brook-Haven*, in the County of *Suffolk*, being assembled by permission of his Excellency the Hon. *William Tryon*, Esq., Governour of *New-York* and the territories depending thereon in *America*, do hereby dissolve ourselves, and do disclaim and reject the orders of Congress and Committees, and totally refusing obedience to them, revoking all our proceedings under the Congress, and being desirous to obey the legal authority of Government, rely upon your Excellency's clemency, hoping that you will pass by our former conduct, and be graciously pleased to protect us agreeable to the laws of this Province.

[The Declaration from the Township of *Lisp* is very similar to the former.]

Southampton, October 21, 1776.

We, the Committee of *Southampton*, in the County of *Suffolk*, being thoroughly convinced of the injurious and criminal tendency of our former meetings and resolutions, and willing to manifest our hearty disapprobation of all such illegal measures, do hereby dissolve this Committee, and as far as in us lies revoke and disannul all former orders and resolutions of all Committees and Congresses whatsoever, as being undutiful to our lawful sovereign, repugnant to the principles of the *British* Constitution, and ruinous in the extreme to the happiness and prosperity of this country.

Easthampton, October 21, 1776.

We, the Committee of *Easthampton*, in the County of *Suffolk*, being thoroughly convinced of the injurious and criminal tendency of our former meetings and resolutions, and willing to manifest our hearty disapprobation of all such illegal measures, do hereby dissolve this Committee, and as far as in us lies revoke and disannul all former orders and resolutions of all Committees and Congresses whatsoever, as being undutiful to our lawful Sovereign, repugnant to the principles of the *British* Constitution, and ruinous in the extreme to the happiness and prosperity of this country.

Southold, October 25, 1776.

We, the Committee of *Southold*, in the County of *Suffolk*, being thoroughly convinced of the injurious and criminal tendency of our former meetings and resolutions, and willing to manifest our hearty disapprobation of all such

illegal measures, do hereby dissolve this Committee, and as far as in us lies revoke and disannul all former orders and resolutions of all Committees and Congresses whatsoever, as being undutiful to our lawful Sovereign, repugnant to the principles of the *British* Constitution, and ruinous in the extreme to the happiness and prosperity of this country.

GENERAL GREENE TO GENERAL WASHINGTON.

Fort Lee, October 24, 1776.

DEAR SIR: Enclosed you have a copy of the letter in answer to mine to Congress, relative to cartridges. As soon as the cartridges come up they shall be forwarded. Colonel *Biddle* has wrote to *Amboy* for ninety thousand that are at that post.

We have collected all the wagons in our power, and sent over. Our people have had extreme hard duty. The common guards, common fatigue, and the extraordinary guards, and extraordinary fatigue, for the removal of the stores and forwarding the provisions, has kept every man on duty.

General *Putnam* requested a party of men to reinforce them at *Mount Washington*. I sent between two and three hundred of Colonel *Durkee's* regiment. Please to inform me whether your Excellency approves thereof.

We shall get a sufficient quantity of provisions over to-day for the garrison at *Fort Washington*. General *Mifflin* thinks it not advisable to pull the barracks down yet. He has hopes of our army returning to that ground for winter quarters. I think this would be running too great a risk, to leave them standing in expectation of such an event, there being several strong fortifications in and about *King's Bridge*. If the enemy should throw in a thousand or fifteen hundred men, they could cut off our communication effectually; and, as the state of the barracks are, they would find exceeding good cover for the men. But if we were to take the barracks down—if the boards were not removed—it would in a great measure deprive them of that advantage. However, I have not had it in my power to do either, as yet.

I have directed all the wagons that are on the other side to be employed in picking up the scattered boards about the encampments. I believe, from what I saw yesterday in riding over the ground, they will amount to many thousands. As soon as we have got these together I purpose to begin upon the barracks. In the mean time, should be glad to know if your Excellency has any other orders to give respecting the business.

I have directed the Commissary and Quartermaster-General of this department to lay in provision and provender, upon the back road to *Philadelphia*, for twenty thousand men for three months. The principal magazine will be at *Equacanack*. I shall fortify it as soon as possible, and secure that post and the pass to the bridge, which is now repaired and fit for an army to pass over with the baggage and artillery.

I rejoice to hear of the defeat of that vile traitor, Major *Rogers*, and his party of Tories; though I am exceeding sorry to hear it cost us so brave an officer as Major *Greene*.

I am, with great respect, your Excellency's obedient servant,

NATHANAEL GREENE.

To His Excellency General *Washington*, Esq., at his Head-Quarters, *White-Plains*.

GENERAL GEORGE CLINTON TO JOHN M'KESSON.

White-Plains, October 24, 2 p. m., 1776.

MY DEAR SIR: I received your letter of yesterday a few moments since, and was just preparing to answer it when a messenger arrived from towards *New-Rochelle*, to acquaint us that early this morning the enemy had struck their tents, and were advancing from that to this place along the common road. Every General Officer, myself excepted, were out reconnoitering. I having arrived here last night, where I was left to remove the publick stores, was only left at home. Two other expresses since arrived and confirmed the account of the enemy's advancing, and our army is now drawn up in order to receive them. The General having come in, gives me so much leisure as to acquaint you of the above. As to every other circumstance which has occurred since my last, Colonel *De Witt* and the other gentlemen of

your Committee will be able to inform you. I have only time to add that I earnestly wish to see them, and that I am, most affectionately, yours,

GEORGE CLINTON.

To *John McKesson*, Esq.

P. S. Pray let Mrs. *Clinton* know I am well, and that she need not be uneasy about me. It would be too much honour to die in so good a cause. Pray excuse me to Mr. *Allison* for not answering his two letters.

CERTIFICATE FOR MOSES YEOMAN.

In Committee, New-Paltz, October 24, 1776.

These are to certify that *Moses Yeoman* hath served in Captain *Elias Hasbrouck's* company of Rangers, in the character of Second Lieutenant, sixteen days prior to the date of his warrant, on the request of the Committee of *Kingston*. It is therefore hoped that the honourable Convention of the State will allow said *Moses Yeoman* pay for his services during that time.

By order of the Committee:

ROB'T BOYD, Jun., Chairman.

To the honourable the Convention of the State of *New-York*.

To sixteen days' wages, - - - - -	£3 16 9
To sixteen days' billeting, - - - - -	1 12 0
	<u>£5 8 9</u>

CHARLES D. WITT TO THE PRESIDENT OF THE NEW-YORK CONVENTION.

White-Plains, October 24, 1776.

SIR: The situation of our moving army prevented the attention of the General Officers to the subject on which we came, till yesterday, and we expect to have it completed by to-morrow, when we shall set out for Convention with all possible speed, calling on General *James Clinton* in our way.

We are requested by the Generals of our State to inform you of the absolute necessity our troops are in for want of clothing. They think it would greatly promote speedy inlistment if those who are already engaged during the war should be clothed immediately. That the soldiers' coats should by all means be made large, with the pockets on the inside, which is more convenient in rainy weather. That the cloth should be first soaked in water to prevent shrinking. That the coats be of two sizes, and the initial letters of the State, with the number of the regiment, on the buttons. That these clothes may be sent forward to the army in such quantities as you can have finished weekly, is in our opinion indispensably necessary at this time. Shoes and stockings are also much wanted, and should be sent down without delay. We hope the above will be attended to, even in the midst of that variety of perplexing business which we but too well know is the present lot of our worthy Convention or Committee.

As to news, yesterday there were several skirmishes between the out-parties of both armies, in all which we have been successful. In one we killed ten of the villains and took three prisoners; thirty-six of *Rogers's* band fell into our hands also; and had the orders of Lord *Stirling* been strictly obeyed, we should have had the whole party with their infamous leader. The foe having retreated from *Mamaroneck* gives cause to suspect their having laid aside the design of enclosing us.

We are, sir, your and Convention's most obedient and very humble servants,

CH. D. WITT,
ROB'T HARPUR,
LEWIS GRAHAM.

SIR: We cannot omit communicating to you a scheme we have thought of since here of exciting the desertion of *Hessians*. That two or three hundred thousand short hand-bills, in the *German* and low *Dutch* tongues, be sent as soon as possible to our General Officers, who can readily circulate them about the fields so as to answer the purpose of a very general information in a little time, and in their opinion would have a good effect.

Yours, as above.

To the Hon. *Peter R. Livingston*, President of the Convention, *Fishkill*.

NATHAN CLARK TO JAMES YANCEY.

Bennington, October 24, 1776.

SIR: Yours of the 20th instant, per Mr. Crane, came to hand yesterday about eleven o'clock. I immediately notified the Committee, and consulted them on the request you sent three o'clock afternoon of the same day; and within one hour despatched three of the Committee to different parts, to find what wheat was ready on hand to be immediately manufactured in the service of the Northern army; and are informed by their return, three o'clock this afternoon, that one thousand bushels is now ready, and that part is manufacturing, and the remainder forwarding to the mills for manufactory, together with teams to forward it to you as fast as possible. Several teams loaded with flour will be on the road toward *Skeensborough* this week; the residue will with all convenient speed. In the mean time, provision will be making for further supply. Before the reception of Mr. Trumbull's letter of the 22d instant, received this day, requesting the assistance of the Militia, they were marched, and have doubtless joined you before this. They have left us almost to a man; renders it very difficult to furnish assistance to convey what we have already on hand. Should it be thought expedient to discharge twenty or thirty of the inhabitants from their present post, of those that would be judged by their officers the best capable of assisting with teams, carriages, and persons, to forward provision, it might be beneficial. Mr. Trumbull mentions the conveyance of the above by pack-horses, (if no other way,) which will render its safe conveyance very precarious, as it will be subject to the wet from above and below. If Militia troops or others could be spared to repair the road a little directly, I think it the only way of supplying with any quantity. As we have not had opportunity to apply, we can't ascertain what quantity we can be able to supply. The General may be assured that we shall exert ourselves to the utmost of our ability. In the mean time, ready cash would greatly facilitate the forwarding, as sundry persons are to be dealt with. Could suitable casks be sent every opportunity to pack the flour in, it would be of service, as they are scarce here, and it is difficult to provide necessaries to pack it in, and the coopers are absent. The carriages that come back will easily bring sufficient to pack the next load. Shall readily wait any direction, and let you know every opportunity what supplies we can furnish accordingly.

As we are scattered, you will please to excuse our detaining your messenger thirty-six hours; and it is now nine o'clock at night. He merits the opinion of the Committee of the faithfulness of his trust while here.

We are, gentlemen, with the greatest esteem, and compliments to yourself and Mr. Trumbull, your sincere friends,
NATHAN CLARK, *Chairman*.

To Mr. James Yancey, Deputy Commissary, at Headquarters, *Tyconderoga*.

N. B. Captain Farnsworth is now in *Connecticut*, and his assistant not to be present till next *Monday*, when his letter will be seasonably delivered. As we have used the boldness to examine the contents, shall supply his place to the utmost of our power.

EXTRACT OF A LETTER FROM MOUNT HOPE, NEAR TICONDEROGA, DATED OCTOBER 24, 1776.

All the prisoners which were taken were sent in by a flag of truce, and are not to serve during the war. There was a party of our *Indians*, with their Lieutenant, who was likewise an *Indian*, put in irons immediately after they were taken, and, after our men were sent in by the enemy, were delivered up to the savages to be butchered; but, contrary to *Burgoyne's* expectation, the savages released them immediately, and sent them home after treating them very kindly. Perhaps such an instance as this never was known before, and you may depend on it as fact, as I was in company with the Captain of the *Indians* yesterday, who informed me of it; and, finally, the enemy's *Indians* have agreed to return home if ours do, which a number did yesterday; the rest will follow this day.

We are in daily expectation of an attack from the enemy, who are within sixteen miles of us, (*Crown-Point*), but we are well prepared to receive them, and I hope, in God's

name, no man's courage will fail in that day, as the cause of liberty and *America* depends entirely on the Northern army. Our men recruit daily. We are not in the least want of provisions or ammunition.

GENERAL WATERBURY TO THE PRESIDENT OF CONGRESS.

Stamford, October 24, 1776.

HONOURABLE SIR: I have now returned home on parole. Your Honour has undoubtedly heard of my misfortune of being taken prisoner on the 13th instant, on *Lake Champlain*. I shall give your Honour a short sketch of our engagement, which is as follows:

On *Friday* morning, of the 11th instant, our alarm-guns were fired, that the enemy's fleet was off *Cumberland-Head*. I immediately went on board of General *Arnold*, and told him that I gave it as my opinion that the fleet ought immediately to come to sail, and fight them on a retreat in main Lake, as they were so much superiour to us in number and strength, and we being in such a disadvantageous harbour to fight a number so much superiour, and the enemy being able with their small boats to surround us on every side, as I knew they could, we lying between an island and the main. But General *Arnold* was of the opinion that it was best to draw the fleet in a line where we lay, in the bay of *Valcour*. The fleet very soon came up with us, and surrounded us, when a very hot engagement ensued ten o'clock in the morning till towards sunset, when the enemy withdrew. We immediately held council, to secure a retreat through their fleet, to get to *Crown-Point*, which was done with so much secrecy that we went through them entirely undiscovered. The enemy, finding next morning that we had retreated, immediately pursued us. The wind being against us, and my vessel so torn to pieces that it was almost impossible to keep her above water; my sails was so shot, that carrying sail split them from foot to head, and I was obliged to come to anchor at twelve o'clock, to mend my sails. When we had completed that, we made sail, just at evening. The enemy still pursued all night. I found next morning that they gained upon us very fast, and that they would very soon overtake me. The rest of the fleet all being much ahead of me, I sent my boat on board of General *Arnold*, to get liberty to put my wounded in the boat, and send them forward, and run my vessel on shore, and blow her up. I received for answer, by no means to run her ashore, but to push forward to *Split Rock*, where he would draw the fleet in a line, and engage them again; but when I came to *Split Rock*, the whole fleet was making their escape as fast as they could, and left me in the rear, to fall into the enemy's hands. But before I struck to them, the ship of eighteen twelve-pounders, and a schooner of fourteen six-pounders, had surrounded me, which obliged me to strike, and I thought it prudent to surrender myself prisoner of war. As soon as I was taken, General *Arnold*, with four gondolas, run ashore, and blew up the vessels ahead of me. One thing I have omitted in the former part of my letter, that is, the *Royal Savage* run ashore on the Point of *Valcour*, in the first of the engagement, and was lost.

I will just give the strength of the *British* fleet upon the lake: One ship carrying six twenty-four-pounders, brass; twelve twelve-pounders, brass; four eight-inch howitzer; one ship, eighteen twelve-pounders; one schooner, fourteen six-pounders; one schooner, twelve six-pounders; two gondolas, one carrying six, the other four carriage guns; twenty-eight row boats, carrying one gun each, from eighteen to twelve-pounders, and some of them carrying howitzers. This is the truest account that I am able to give.

Sir, I would have waited on the Congress in person, had it not have been that my parole confined me to *Connecticut*. But I hope that I shall not be neglected in being exchanged, if any opportunity there be.

I remain, sir, with the greatest esteem, your Honour's most obedient and very humble servant,

DAVID WATERBURY, JUN.

To the Hon. John Hancock, Esq., President to the Continental Congress.

GOVERNOUR TRUMBULL TO GENERAL WASHINGTON.

New-Haven, October 24, 1776.

SIR: I have the honour to enclose a copy of a resolve

of the General Assembly of *Connecticut* in favour of Colonel *Ethan Allen* and others, made prisoners at *Montreal* in *September*, 1775, and now in a suffering condition, promiscuously in a common gaol in *Halifax*, earnestly to request your friendly interposition to procure a speedy exchange of those prisoners.

Your seasonable and necessary care in the premises will greatly oblige Colonel *Allen* and his fellow-sufferers, serve our common cause, and do an act of justice and humanity towards them.

I am, most respectfully; sir, your obedient, humble servant,

JONTH. TRUMBULL.

To His Excellency General *Washington*.

At a General Assembly holden at *New-Haven*, in *Connecticut*, on the second *Thursday* of *October*, Anno Domini 1776:

It being represented to this Assembly that Colonel *Ethan Allen*, together with about eighteen other natives or inhabitants of this State, having been captivated in the service of this and the *United States of America* by a party of armed forces of the King of *Great Britain*, near *Montreal*, in the Province of *Quebeck*, on the 25th of *September*, 1775, have suffered great hardships during their captivity, and are now confined, in a suffering condition, promiscuously, in a common jail at *Halifax*; and Mr. *Levi Allen*, of *Salisbury*, is now about to attempt a visit to his brother, the said *Ethan*, by whom a supply may be transmitted to said prisoners, to whom considerable wages are due:

Whereupon it is resolved by this Assembly, that his Honour the Governour be desired to write on the subject to his Excellency General *Washington*, to the Continental Congress, or to the Commanding Officer at *Boston*, or each of them, earnestly requesting such seasonable and friendly interposition as may be necessary in the premises and most likely to procure a speedy exchange of said prisoners. And that the Pay-Table draw an order on the Treasurer of this State to pay out of the Treasury to the said *Levi Allen*, for the purpose aforesaid, the sum of one hundred and twenty pounds lawful money, taking his receipt for the same, to be advanced and paid to the aforesaid prisoners, on account of their wages, due from the *United States of America*, and his account thereof to render when requested.

PROCLAMATION BY GOVERNOUR TRUMBULL.

By the Hon. JONATHAN TRUMBULL, Esq., Governour, Captain-General and Commander-in-Chief in and over the State of *CONNECTICUT*:

A Proclamation.

Whereas it has been represented to the General Assembly of the State of *Connecticut*, now sitting in this place, that there are several non-commissioned officers and soldiers of the troops of Horse and Militia in this State, who did not march according to orders issued from the Captain-General, for the defence of this and the other *United States of America*; and that there are others who deserted said service after they had joined and marched with their respective corps, all since the 1st of *July* last; and the said Assembly willing to extend their clemency to such as are yet desirous of fulfilling their duty in the service of their country, have authorized me to offer and I do hereby offer and grant full pardon and indemnity to all such non-commissioned officers and soldiers who have been delinquent in manner aforesaid, provided they do immediately return to their duty, and join themselves to their respective companies in either of the regiments now ordered to march under the command of Major-General *Wooster*, in defence of this and the other *United States*. And I do hereby declare, that such as shall so return and fulfill their duty in said service as aforesaid, until regularly discharged therefrom, shall receive their wages for the time they did, and shall continue in said service. And I do also hereby strictly order and direct, that due process be forthwith had against all such as shall still refuse to comply with their duty as aforesaid; and all informing officers and other ministers of justice are directed to take every effectual measure to bring said persons to proper and condign punishment. And the several printers in this

State are directed to cause this Proclamation to be published in each of their respective papers.

Given under my hand at the Council Chamber in *New-Haven*, this 24th day of *October*, A. D. 1776.

JONATHAN TRUMBULL

COMMODORE HOPKINS TO JOHN LANGDON.

Newport, October 24, 1776.

SIR: Upon the trial of *Samuel Eslem* and *Thomas Donchor* for mutiny, on board the ship *Royal Exchange*, it appeared that the mutiny was encouraged or put on foot by the former Captain of her, in which he employed his steward to promise them twenty guineas a man and half the ship and cargo, when they should arrive in *England*. And on this intelligence, I think it will be right for you to stop his private adventure till that matter is cleared up.

Sir, you are hereby empowered to act as agent for the officers and people belonging to the *American* fleet, for all vessels that may come within your State.

I am, in behalf of the officers and people, sir, your most humble servant,

ESEK HOPKINS.

To *John Langdon*, Esq., Agent for the *American* Navy in the State of *New-Hampshire*.

COMMODORE HOPKINS TO THE MARINE COMMITTEE.

Newport, October 24, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: Since I wrote you last, Captain *Jones*, in the *Providence*, has arrived here with three prizes, and one ship is arrived at *Bedford*. Enclosed is a copy of the account of his cruise, that he gave me.

The *Cabot* has sent the ship into *Providence*, and yesterday Lieutenant *Weaver*, of the *Cabot*, came here from *Bedford*, where he arrived two days ago in another prize ship. He informs me that when he left the *Cabot*, she had taken five ships and a brig, all from *Jamaica*—one of them a three-decker, with upwards of six hundred hogsheads on board.

The *Alfred* is now manned, and under sailing orders with the *Hamden*. Captain *Jones*, of the *Providence*, has the command of her. Enclosed you have a copy of the orders I have given him, and hope they are such as will meet with your approbation. The reason of my giving orders to Captain *Jones* to attempt to destroy the ships and their works at the coal mines was, that I received certain intelligence by a master of a vessel directly from there, that there was nearly twenty vessels, and one hundred prisoners employed in that service, guarded by twenty-six soldiers, the *Savage* sloop of war, and *Dawson's* brig; and one of them generally at *Louisburg*.

One of the new ships came down from *Providence* yesterday; the other got aground but I expect her down the first fair wind. They are nearly fitted every way for the sea, all but men, which they have about one hundred and fifty each. Shall now give my whole attention to their manning.

If you have any particular service for them, should be glad to receive it. I think they will be ready to sail as soon as your orders can reach here; and I hope near manned.

The *Columbus* is cleaned, and taking her ballast on board; rigging and filling as fast as possible. The sloop *Providence* will haul into the wharf to-morrow in order to clean. Shall get them out as soon as possible; but expect to meet with great difficulty in getting men, the privateers being so plenty, and having great success, that the men look on their shares better than what they have in the navy.

I am, with great respect, gentlemen, your most humble servant,

ESEK HOPKINS.

To the Hon. *John Hancock*, Esq., President of the honourable Marine Committee at *Philadelphia*.

LIEUTENANT KNIGHT (PRISONER) TO GENERAL WASHINGTON.

South-Hadley, Massachusetts-Bay, October 24, 1776.

SIR: Having formerly addressed your Excellency for leave to be released upon giving my parole not to take up arms until a person of the same rank with myself was sent in exchange, and General *Gates* having done me the honour

per favour of the 24th *January* last, to signify that your Excellency was truly concerned, it was not then in your power, but the first moment that it could be done with propriety, I might rest assured of the indulgence being granted. Presuming that time is now arrived, from the number of precedents on our side, I beg leave once more to trouble your Excellency with a repetition of my request for myself and a Mr. *Arnold*, a master in his *Britannick* Majesty's service, who desires to be indulged on the same terms, as we flatter ourselves a personal application to Lord *Howe* will be a surer means to promote an exchange for ourselves and fellow-sufferers here.

If it is not intruding, I would mention those plans and papers belonging to me, which, after undergoing your Excellency's inspection at *Cambridge*, you was pleased to return to me by Captain *Melcher*. The Committee here, not knowing the nature of these things, have taken them into their possession.

Your Excellency will oblige me in giving some directions concerning them.

I am your Excellency's most obedient, humble servant,
JOHN KNIGHT.

To General *Washington*.

OLIVER PRESCOTT TO RICHARD DEVENS.

Boston, October 24, 1776.

DEAR SIR: My health is such that I cannot ride to *Watertown* at present; have therefore at the repeated request of sundry gentlemen, taken the freedom to enclose my commission, and beg the favour of you to get it renewed, and send up by the first opportunity, as there is business of consequence necessary to be immediately done. I have not taken out a commission of the quorum since my appointment; if that should now be agreeable to the honourable Board, it might be of present service to this part of the country. The Representatives for some of the adjacent towns come up every week: perhaps Mr. *Sawtell*, of *Shirley*, may this week.

Soldiers are marching from all the towns in the upper part of *New-Hampshire* State for the relief of our army at *Ticonderoga*. Twenty-six men march this day from the town of *New-Ipswich*. I hope our army will be immediately reinforced.

I am, with the greatest respect, your most obedient and very humble servant,

OLIVER PRESCOTT.

To the Hon. *Henry Gardner*, Esq., in *Watertown*.

SELECTMEN OF BOSTON TO BENJAMIN AUSTIN.

Boston, October 24, 1776.

SIR: Since I saw you the Selectmen have made a strict inquiry and can't find in the town hardly any nails; perhaps we may be able to procure one load. We don't see how it is possible to procure the supply but by taking of those that were lately brought in as prize. It is said they are at *Newburyport*; we therefore thought it necessary that Captain *Torrey* should apply to the honourable Council for to assist him. We would not dictate, but we think if orders were given to the proper officers at *Newburyport*, or wherever the nails are, they might be obtained. We think, that as the case is circumstanced, the common form of proceeding may be dispensed with. It will be necessary that orders should be given to the proper officer to procure wagons for the carriage of them. Any assistance we can give Captain *Torrey* we shall be ready to do it.

I am, sir, your most humble servant,

JOHN SCOLLAY, *Chairman*.

To the Hon. *Benja. Austin*, Esq.

Boston, October 24, 1776.

Yesterday Captain *Daniel Harthorne* arrived at *Salem* from a cruise. On his passage he met with an armed packet, which he attacked. In the engagement, which lasted two hours, he lost three men killed, and nine or ten wounded, himself slightly; since which he has taken, and sent into *Cape Ann*, a prize snow with oats.

The privateer commanded by Captain *Carleton*, which sailed from *Salem* on a cruise, about four weeks since, was

taken near *Canceau*, by the brig *Hope*, Captain *Dawson*, a few days after leaving port, and carried into *Halifax*. Captain *Carleton*, with some of the crew, made their escape by swimming ashore.

Last *Thursday* was sent into *Hayhannes*, by Captain *Atkins*, the ship *Heafield* from *Ireland*, bound to *New-York*, having on board seventy puncheons of spirits, seventy puncheons of porter, three hundred and fifty tierces of bread, fifty tierces of oat-meal, sixty-one tierces of peas, sixty pork, seventy tierces of beef, one hundred casks of butter, some sweet oil, raisins, candles, flour, and a number of other articles.

Yesterday, arrived in this port, a prize ship from *Antigua* for *London*, with about two hundred hogsheads of sugar. She was taken by the *Putnam*.

ORDERS TO THE COMMITTEE ABOUT THE RANGERS.

State of New-Hampshire, in Committee of Safety, }
October, 24, 1776.

To Colonel *Hurd* and the gentlemen of the Committee for giving orders and directions to the companies of Rangers on *CONNECTICUT River*:

This Committee having been informed that the road from *Haverhill* to *Rumney* is greatly out of repair, think it advisable for you to send detachments out of the Captain *Atkinson's*, *Simpson's*, and *Russel's* companies to repair said road, seeing that an account of the expense on each town is kept separate.

BY THE KING.

A Proclamation for encouraging Seamen to enter themselves on board His Majesty's ships-of-war.

GEORGE R.

Whereas it is our Royal intention to give all due encouragement to all such seamen who shall voluntarily enter themselves in our service, we have thought fit, by and with the advice of our Privy Council, to publish this our Royal Proclamation; and we do hereby promise and declare that all such able seamen, not above the age of fifty nor under the age of eighteen years, fit for our service, who shall, on or before the 31st day of *December* next, voluntarily enter themselves to serve in our Royal navy, either with the Captains or Lieutenants of our ships, or the chief officers on board such tenders as shall be employed for raising men for the service of our navy, shall receive, as our royal bounty, the sum of five pounds each man; and all such ordinary seamen, fit for our service, who shall so enter themselves as aforesaid, shall receive the sum of two pounds ten shillings each man, as our Royal bounty, in lieu of all other bounties mentioned in our proclamation dated the 22d day of *March* last, and our orders in Council of the 1st of *May*, the 21st of *June*, and 21st of *August* following; such respective sums to be paid them by the respective Clerks of the *Cheque* residing at the ports or places where the ships into which they shall be entered, shall be immediately after the third muster of such seamen. And we do declare that the qualifications of the seamen for entering themselves as aforesaid, shall be certified by the Captain, Master, and Boatswain of the ship or vessel where they shall enter. And for prevention of any abuses by any persons leaving the vessels to which they shall belong, and entering themselves on board any other ships or vessels, in order to obtain the said bounty money, we do hereby declare and command that such seamen belonging to any of our ships or vessels as shall absent themselves from any of the said ships or vessels to which they shall belong, and shall enter themselves on board any other of our said ships or vessels in order to obtain the said bounty, shall not only lose the wages due to them in the ships or vessels they shall leave, but also be severely punished according to their demerits.*

Given at our Court at *St. James's*, the twenty-fifth day of *October*, one thousand seven hundred and seventy-six, in the seventeenth year of our reign.

God save the King!

*Two days after this Proclamation appeared, before it could be possibly known what effect it would have, press-warrants were issued, and upwards of a thousand sailors were taken on the river *Thames* by surprise. At the same time press-warrants were put in execution in every seaport in the Kingdom.—*Remembrancer*.

IMPRESSMENT OF SEAMEN.

London, October 28, 1776.

Last night upon the flood tide, about twenty boats, manned and officered, came up the river from *Deptford* and *Woolwich*, when a general press began, and every man was taken on board the several ships they boarded, except the master and mate. A Lieutenant was shot with a pistol in boarding a ship, and eight seamen were drowned in endeavouring to swim to shore to avoid the press. By the press gangs taking out the men belonging to the fishing vessels, a very small quantity of fish was brought to market, and the gangs took several persons from *Billingsgate*, within the Lord Mayor's jurisdiction, which occasioned his Lordship to issue out his order for apprehending the officers of all press gangs in his jurisdiction. The Lord Mayor, Mr. *Sawbridge*, gave orders to the City Marshals, that they, with their assistants, should take care that the press gangs do not take any men out of the city, unless they produce a legal warrant; and if they do not, to take the officer into custody, that they may be dealt with according to law.

London, October 30, 1776.

There was another hot press from *Gravesend* to *Rotherhithe*, and the gangs picked up a great number of hands, but have drove the *West-India* captains to great distress, their ships being loaded, and not hands to navigate their vessels, although the merchants had paid their men a month's advance, besides their river pay. Yesterday application was made to the Lord Mayor to back the press warrants, which request he refused.

Among the persons impressed happened to be one *John Tubbs*, one of the city watermen, in the service of the Lord Mayor for the time being. The Town-Clerk was ordered to demand his release, which he did by the following Letter:

Copy of the Town-Clerk's Letter to the Lords of the Admiralty, written by order of the Court of Lord Mayor and Aldermen.

MY LORDS: *William Dawson*, Esq., this city's water bailiff, having this day informed the Court of Lord Mayor and Aldermen, that Lieutenant *Tate*, of *Gravesend*, did on the 4th instant impress *John Tubbs*, one of this city's watermen, I am directed by the said Court to desire your Lordships will give orders for the immediate discharge of the said *John Tubbs*.

I have the honour to be, my Lords, your Lordships' most obedient, humble servant,

WILLIAM RIX, *Town-Clerk*.

To the Right Honourable the Lords of the Admiralty.

Town-Clerk's, Guildhall, November 19, 1776.

To which Letter the Town-Clerk received this Answer:

Admiralty Office, November 20, 1776.

SIR: Your letter of yesterday contains a demand on the part of the Court of the Lord Mayor and Aldermen of the city of *London*, of the immediate discharge of *John Tubbs*, who has been impressed, and is stated to be one of the city's watermen.

This is a solemn demand of his discharge as a matter of right, as to which I am directed by the Lords Commissioners of Admiralty to observe to you that the condition of *John Tubbs* makes him clearly liable, in law, to be impressed, insomuch that if he had absconded to avoid the press, he would have been punishable by the Court of Aldermen for so doing.

As matter of right, therefore, it is impossible to give him up; and the demand being made in that form, renders it equally impossible to show that degree of attention to their application which it might otherwise, if circumstances would have allowed it, have been their Lordships' inclination to have done.

I am, sir, your very humble servant,

PH. STEPHENS.

To *William Rix*, Esq., Town-Clerk, City of *London*.

At a Court of Common Council, the city law officers were ordered to apply for a writ of habeas corpus, for to bring *Tubbs* before a court of justice. The lawyers having applied, were granted a rule, against the Lords of the Admiralty, "to show cause why a writ in behalf of *Tubbs*

should not be granted." The lawyers were wrong; they ought not to have taken this rule, but insisted upon the writ. The rule came on to be argued on the 28th of *November*, 1776. The counsel for the city did not go into the general merits of press warrants, but confined themselves specially to the case, and contended for the usage of city exemption, against the usage of Admiralty encroachments.

The Attorney-General, on the part of the Admiralty Board, showed cause why *Tubbs* should not be discharged, on the ground of exemption to the general power of impressing seamen and seafaring people when the exigencies of the State required it. The Solicitor-General contended for the right in its fullest extent, and said no exception could be maintained that was not supported by act of Parliament. Mr. *Wallace* said the exception was so loose, as stated in the affidavits in behalf of the rule, that it was impossible to say to what numbers it might be applied, whether to thirty-one, the real number of the Lord Mayor's watermen, or to any other number the water bailiff might think proper to protect. Mr. *Cust* insisted that the exemption could in the first instance only have originated from the King; that no pretence, much less proof, of any such exemption had been set up; and each of them insisted that the matters stated in the affidavits, to show that the exemption contended for was founded in ancient usage, came short of the least shadow of legal or relative proof that any such usage ever existed in any form. Earl *Mansfield* here observed, that the arguments promising to be very long, and it being the last day of term, in which a great mass of business remained yet to be transacted, he recommended to Serjeant *Glynn* to state the grounds of his motion specially, and to give a note of it into Court, in order that the affair might be put off till next term. Serjeant *Glynn* answered that he was not prepared to enter into such a special state. Lord *Mansfield* again pressed the propriety of letting the motion lie over till next term, provided that the Attorney-General was satisfied on one hand to receive, and the counsel in behalf of the rule consented, that *Tubbs*, and sufficient sureties, should enter into recognizances for his appearance the second day of next term. Mr. *Dunning* said, for his part he was no special pleader, nor would he undertake for his client, as he had no instructions so to do. Lord *Mansfield* replied, that he only recommended what he wished might be done, for the reasons already assigned. The counsel in behalf of the rule might insist on being now heard, if they thought proper, but the Court had it still in their option to pronounce judgment; so those who pressed the argument, not the Court, nor the counsel on the other side, would be chargeable with the consequences. Mr. *Dunning* rejoined, that he and his brother counsel asked no favour: they only demanded justice; and so that was obtained, he was very indifferent in what form, or under what circumstances it was administered. Serjeant *Glynn*, and Messrs. *Dunning*, *Davenport*, *Alleyne*, and *Lee*, were severally heard in support of the rule. The Court then delivered their opinions *seriatim*, and were unanimous that the proofs brought in support of the rule were not sufficient; that the Lord Mayor's watermen were entitled to no such claim of exemption; and that the rule ought to be discharged.

The Attorney-General, in the course of the pleadings, said that he had ordered every proper inquiry to be made into the city charters, and the Admiralty books, but that no document of the right of exemption could be produced. An affidavit of *William Stephens*, Esq., Secretary to the Commissioners of the Admiralty, was read, which set forth that no precedent was to be met with, whereby such a claim could be sustained; and a case was recited, in which the Mayor of *London* requested the discharge of one of his watermen, and offered to give a substitute, when the Lords of the Admiralty, in consideration of the public importance of his character, not only complied, but dispensed with his offer of a substitute.*

When Mr. *Sawbridge's* Mayoralty expired, Captain *Kirke*, a regulating Captain, applied to the new Lord Mayor, Sir *Thomas Halifax*, at a Court of Aldermen, on the 10th *December*, 1776, to back the press warrants for

*The claim of exemption seemed to imply a legality in the warrant, which was not approved of by those who are of opinion that impressing is illegal.—*Rem.*

the city. He attended at the Court, at *Guildhall*, and was called in, when he informed the Court that he was ordered to wait upon the Lord Mayor and Court of Aldermen by the Secretary to the Lords of the Admiralty, in order to mention that the impress service could not be carried on with so much ease and effect in the city of *London* as the service required, without the assistance and support of the civil magistrate, and therefore wished that the Court would direct the constables in the several wards to aid and assist him and his officers when required. He was asked whether he was ordered to wait upon the Lord Mayor only, or the Court of Aldermen; he said upon the Lord Mayor, but as the Court was sitting, he thought it his duty to desire their compliance with his request.

Mr. Alderman *Wooldridge* moved, That this Court does not consider the application made by Captain *Kirk*, as properly made to this Court; which motion was carried by a great majority. Mr. Alderman *Harley* said that he chose to avow his principles, and desired that Captain *Kirk* might be called in, and that he should inform him that, whatever might be the resolution of the Court, he should back the press warrants, and give every assistance in his power to the officers employed to impress in the city. Upon this, Mr. Alderman *Wooldridge* said he wondered that any single member could think of making such a declaration to the regulating Captain in the Court, at the very moment the Court had come to a resolution to take no notice of his application. In this opinion he was supported by several of the Aldermen; and at last, Mr. *Harley* said that he should indulge the gentlemen by going into another room to communicate his intention to Captain *Kirk*, which he accordingly did; and, on his return, informed the Court, that he had promised Captain *Kirk* to protect him in his impress business, and backed his warrants, which he hoped would answer the purpose. Upon this, the Lord Mayor declared, that he would order the city marshals and constables to do their duty, and seize every person who dared to impress in the city; and that if any person so impressed came before him, he should set him at liberty, and commit the officer for a breach of the peace, unless he found sureties for his appearance at the quarter sessions; and then called the City Marshals, and ordered them to do their duty, and not to fail to bring such persons before him as should be found impressing in the city.

Notwithstanding this declaration of the Lord Mayor, the press-gangs came into the city and impressed several persons. On the 16th of *December*, three Lieutenants of the navy, and a mate of the *Culloden* man-of-war, were brought before the Aldermen *Lewes*, *Lee*, *Wooldridge*, and *Plomer*, at *Guildhall*, for impressing two men the same day within the city. *Charles Sotter*, who was one of the persons impressed, said that he was seized by one of the defendants, all of whom surrounded him, and he was delivered by them to one of their gang, in order to be taken on board the tender; that several Constables of the Ward of *Lime* street interfered, and told the officers that they had received particular directions from Sir *Watkins Lewes*, the Alderman of that ward, not to suffer any press-gang to take any person away without his having been first brought before a Magistrate. The officers offered to attend the Constables to *Guildhall*, where they justified what they had done under a warrant from the Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty, endorsed by Mr. Alderman *Harley*, in these words:

LONDON, to wit: To all Constables and others whom this may concern. Let this warrant be executed within this City and Liberties. Given under my hand and seal the 10th day of *December*, 1776.

THOMAS HARLEY.

The body of this warrant contained an authority to impress seamen and seafaring men for his Majesty's service, and was directed to Captain *Balfour*, of the *Culloden*. Under this warrant, and the endorsement thereon, the officers of the navy contended they had a right to impress within the city of *London*, and to take the person so impressed immediately on board the tender; that before Mr. *Harley* had given his sanction, they had frequently done so; that their usual mode was, after seizing the man, to call a coach and drive to the tower. On being asked by the alderman, whether they considered a freeman of *London* exempt, they refused directly to answer that question; but

afterwards Captain *Lloyd* said he believed he should pay respect to the copy of a man's freedom, and if he had any doubts respecting the propriety of such conduct, he should leave the determination to the regulating Captain, *Kirke*. The other complainant appeared to be a pensioner, and when he was seized, produced his ticket, and showed a scar on his head, where his skull was fractured in an engagement the last war. This poor fellow, it is feared, will lose his pension, unless the Lords of the Admiralty are properly acquainted that he was compelled to take so active a part in this transaction. Mr. Justice *Wilmot* attended the examination, and received a severe rebuke for his interference from the Aldermen, who observed that they should have thought it unbecoming in them to have opposed the execution of the law at his office; that he had insinuated the defendants were in the disgraceful situation of prisoners, whereas they had no idea of treating them in any other character than that of gentlemen; that they (the aldermen) were no strangers to the motive that brought on the present hearing, which was to gain, in a course of proceeding, a legal determination of the grand question respecting press warrants. The defendants refused to find bail, and were thereupon committed to *Wood* street compter.

Next day, *December* 17, a consultation was held by the Attorney and Solicitor General, and Mr. *Wallace*, respecting the four Lieutenants then in custody, and it was advised to bail them, which was done.

Copy of the Warrant of Commitment.

To all and every the Constables and other Officers of the Peace for the City of *London*, and the Liberties thereof, whom these may concern, and to the Keeper of *Wood* street compter.

LONDON, to wit: These are in his Majesty's name, to command you, and every of you, forthwith safely to convey and deliver into the custody of the said keeper, the bodies of *Thomas Lloyd*, *David Ramsey*, *John Hills*, and *William Colville*, being charged before us, his Majesty's Justices of the Peace, in and for the said city and liberties, by the oath of *Charles Sotter*, *John Hutchins*, *John Holmes*, and *Thomas Hasted*, for severally assaulting them, the said *Charles Sotter* and *John Hutchins*, in *Lime* street, in the said city of *London*, this day, in breach of his said Majesty's peace, whom you, the said keeper, are hereby required to receive, and in your custody safely keep for want of sureties, until they shall be severally discharged by due course of law; and for your so doing this shall be to you, and each of you, a sufficient warrant.

Given under our hands and seals the 16th day of *December*, 1776.

WATKIN LEWES,
WILLIAM PLOMER,
WILLIAM LEE,
THOMAS WOOLDRIDGE.

Thus endorsed: To the Keeper of *Wood* Street Compter.

LONDON, to wit: Discharge out of custody the within named *Thomas Lloyd*, *David Ramsey*, *John Hills*, and *Charles Colville*, they having entered into a recognisance with sureties before me for their personal appearance at the next Sessions of the Peace to be holden for this city.

Given under my hand and seal this 17th day of *December*, 1776.

GEORGE HATLEY.

London, October 30, 1776.

Sixteen ships of the line were put into commission. A little time after, more ships were put into commission. The press was to man this fleet.

[This armament was suddenly resolved upon. Many reasons were assigned for it, such as, other Powers, particularly *France*, being arming; the probability of a war between *Spain* and *Portugal*, &c. On this occasion great numbers of the naval officers waited on the Lords of the Admiralty and offered their services; those who had interest got ships, &c. It was observed, and mentioned to Admiral *Keppel*, that he had not waited on the Admiralty Board and offered his services, as others had done. To which he answered: "If the necessities of the times called for his services, and he knew it was the King's desire, he was ready to do his duty, but not in the line of *America*."]—*Rem.*

ORDER IN COUNCIL.

At the Court of *St. James's*, the 25th day of *October*, 1776:

Present, the King's most excellent Majesty in Council.

Whereas it is requisite for the publick safety, in the present conjuncture of affairs, to prevent the exportation of provisions: It is therefore hereby ordered by his Majesty in Council, that an embargo be forthwith laid upon all ships and vessels laden, or to be laden, in the ports of *Great Britain*, with black cattle and hogs, beef, butter, pork, and cheese, or any sort of provisions, except fish, corn, or grain of any kind, or pulse; and that the said embargo do continue and remain upon such ships and vessels till further order: But it is his Majesty's pleasure that the said embargo shall not extend to any ships or vessels that shall be employed in carrying provisions to any of his Majesty's *West-India* Islands, or to any of his Majesty's Colonies in *North America*, (except the Colonies of *New-Hampshire*, *Massachusetts-Bay*, *Rhode-Island*, *Connecticut*, *New-York*, *New-Jersey*, *Pennsylvania*, the three lower Counties on *Delaware*, *Maryland*, *Virginia*, *North-Carolina*, *South-Carolina*, and *Georgia*;) or to his Majesty's forts and settlements on the coast of *Africa*, or the island of *St. Helena*; provided that the owners of such ships or vessels do make oath, on the entry of such ships or vessels, of the due destination thereof to the place to which such ships or vessels shall be so entered to clear out as aforesaid, and do give security by bond to the proper officers of the customs of the port at which such ships or vessels shall enter and clear out, with two other able and sufficient securities, in treble the value of the cargo of such provisions, for the performance of the conditions therein specified; and do thereby engage, that such ships and vessels shall proceed under convoy of one of his Majesty's ships, and shall not desert the convoy on their voyage; and likewise to produce, within twelve months from the date of such bond, from the proper officer of the customs of the port to which such ships or vessels shall go, certificates of their having delivered their cargoes at the places for which they shall have been entered; and no such bonds or securities shall be delivered up but on the production of such certificates. And his Majesty is hereby further pleased to order, that the said embargo shall not extend to any ship or vessel actually retained or employed in his Majesty's service, nor to any ship or vessel which shall be laden by the especial order, and under the direction of the Lords Commissioners of his Majesty's Treasury, or the Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty, with any kind of provisions for the use of his Majesty's fleets or armies. And the Right Honourable the Lords Commissioners of his Majesty's Treasury, and the Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty are to give the necessary directions for carrying the same into execution, so far as to them shall respectively appertain.

G. CHETWYND.

ORDER IN COUNCIL.

At the Court of *St. James's*, the 25th day of *October*, 1776:

Present, the King's most excellent Majesty in Council.

Whereas his Majesty was pleased by his order in Council of the 26th of *January* last, to lay an embargo upon all ships and vessels laden or to be laden in the ports of the Kingdom of *Ireland*, with provisions of any kind, (except as therein excepted): And whereas his Majesty was pleased, by another order in Council of the 14th of *February* following, to declare that the said embargo should not extend to corn or grain of any kind: And whereas it hath been represented, that the said embargo hath in many instances been evaded: It is hereby ordered by his Majesty in Council, that an embargo be forthwith laid upon all ships and vessels laden or to be laden in any of the ports of the Kingdom of *Ireland*† with black cattle and hogs, beef, pork, butter, and cheese, or any sort of provisions, except

* This is a most extraordinary order of Council. It is no less than giving the Ministry a monopoly of all the provisions in the Kingdom. The merchants must not trade nor speculate in provisions. The planters must not feed their slaves, but to such an amount as the Ministry please. It will most essentially benefit the contractors of provisions for the army in *America*, and it is not quite clear of suspicion that it was issued at their request.—*Remembrancer*.

† This is the first instance of such an order respecting *Ireland*.—*Rem.*

fish, corn, or grain of any kind, or pulse; and that the said embargo do continue and remain upon such ships and vessels till further order. But it is his Majesty's pleasure, that the said embargo do not extend to ships or vessels bringing cattle of any kind, salted beef, pork, bacon, and butter from *Ireland* into this Kingdom, pursuant to the liberty granted for that purpose by an act passed in the last session of Parliament; nor to any ship or vessel that shall be employed in carrying provisions to any of his Majesty's *West-India* Islands, or to any of his Majesty's Colonies in *North America*, (except the Colonies of *New-Hampshire*, *Massachusetts-Bay*, *Rhode-Island*, *Connecticut*, *New-York*, *New-Jersey*, *Pennsylvania*, the three lower Counties on *Delaware*, *Maryland*, *Virginia*, *North-Carolina*, *South-Carolina*, and *Georgia*;) or to his Majesty's forts and settlements on the coast of *Africa*, or to the island of *St. Helena*; provided that the owners of such ships and vessels do make oath on the entry of such ships and vessels, of the due destination thereof to the place for which such ships and vessels shall be so entered to clear out as aforesaid, and do give security by bond to the proper officers of the customs, at the port at which such ships and vessels shall enter and clear out, with two other able and sufficient securities, in treble the value of the cargo of such provisions, for the performance of the conditions therein specified, and do thereby engage, that such ships and vessels shall proceed under convoy of one of his Majesty's ships, and shall not desert their convoy on their voyage; and likewise to produce, within twelve months from the date of such bond, from the proper officer of the customs at the port to which such ships or vessels shall go, certificates of their having delivered their cargoes at the places for which they shall have been entered; and no such bonds or securities shall be delivered up before the production of such certificates. And his Majesty is hereby further pleased to order, that the said embargo shall not extend to any ship or vessel actually retained or employed in his Majesty's service, nor to any ship or vessel which shall be laden by the especial order, and under the directions of the Lords Commissioners of his Majesty's Treasury, or of the Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty, with any kind of provisions for the use of his Majesty's fleets and armies. And his Excellency Earl *Harcourt*, Lord Lieutenant of his Majesty's Kingdom of *Ireland*, is to give the necessary directions for causing the said embargo to be strictly observed in that Kingdom.

G. CHETWYND.

SILAS DEANE TO THE SECRET COMMITTEE.

Paris, October 25, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: I have purchased two hundred tons of powder, and ordered the same to be shipped to *Martinico*, to the care of Monsieur *Deant*, to direction of Mr. *Bingham*, for your use. The first cost is eighteen sols per pound, or ten pence sterling. The charges will be added, the amount of which I have not as yet ascertained, and the interest at five per cent. until payment.

I must again urge you to hasten your remittances. Tobacco, rice, indigo, wheat, and flour, are in great demand, and must be so through the year. Tobacco is nine stivers per pound in *Holland*; rice fifty shillings sterling per hundred weight; flour is already from twenty to twenty-three livres per hundred weight and rising. I have engaged a sale for twenty thousand hogsheads of tobacco, the amount of which will establish the credit of the Congress with the mercantile interest in *France* and *Holland*. Let me urge your attention to these articles, though I must say your silence ever since the 5th of *June* last, discourages me at times; indeed it well nigh distracts me. From whatever cause the silence has happened, it has greatly prejudiced the affairs of the *United Colonies of America*, and, so far as the success of our cause depended on the friendship and aid of Powers on this side the globe, has occasioned the greatest hazard and danger, and thrown me into a state of anxiety and perplexity which no words can express. I have made one excuse after another until my invention is exhausted, and when I find vessels arriving from different ports in *America*, which sailed late in *August*, without a line for me, it gives our friends here apprehensions that the assertions of our enemies, who say you are negotiating and compounding, are

true; otherwise, say they, where are your letters and directions? Surely, say they, if the Colonies were in earnest, and unanimous in their independence, even if they wanted no assistance from hence, common civility would cause them to announce in form their Independent States. I will make no other comment on the distressing subject than this. Were there no hopes of obtaining assistance on application in a publick manner, I should be easier under your silence; but when the reverse is the case, to lose the present critically favourable moment, and hazard thereby the ruin of the greatest cause in which mankind were ever engaged, distresses my soul, and I would if possible express something of what I have undergone for the last three months, until hope itself has almost deserted me.

I do not complain for myself, but for my country, thus unaccountably suffering from I know not what causes.

I am, gentlemen, with most respectful compliments to the honourable Congress, &c.,

SILAS DEANE.

SILAS DEANE TO ROBERT MORRIS.

October 25, 1776.

DEAR SIR: I have received no letter from you since the 4th and 5th *August* last, nor any intelligence from the Congress since the 5th *June*, which not only surprises but distresses me. I now send to care of Monsieur *Deant* two hundred tons of a necessary article, to be at your orders for use of the Congress. The freight is to be paid in *Martinico* as customary, and I wish you to ship it for the ports of the Colonies in such a manner and such quantities in a vessel as you shall judge most prudent, advising the Congress of your having received it, and the methods you are taking to ship it to them, praying them to remit you the amount of the freight, as you must make friends in *Martinico* for advancing the same.

I wish you could write me often, and inform me very particularly what letters you receive from me directed immediately to you, and what ones for other persons. By this I shall know which of my letters fail.

I am, with great respect, &c.,

SILAS DEANE.

P. S. Forward the enclosed under cover and with the usual directions in case of capture.

EXTRACT OF A LETTER FROM NORTH-CAROLINA, DATED OCTOBER 25, 1776.

A gentleman who accompanied General *Rutherford* on the expedition against the *Cherokees* of the Middle and Valley settlements, having just returned, we take this opportunity of communicating to you per post the intelligence which he brings.

General *Rutherford*, with his whole force, amounting to about two thousand privates, exclusive of pack-horsemen, marched from the head of *Catawba* river on the 1st of *September*, and arrived unmolested and undiscovered within thirty miles of the Middle settlements. From thence he ordered a detachment of one thousand men, by forced marches, against the towns, in order to surprise the enemy. The detachment, on their way, were attacked by about thirty *Indians*, who fired and immediately fled, having wounded one man in the foot. It is but justice to our troops to observe that when they were fired on, and expected the enemy on every side, the only contention among them was who should be foremost to share the danger and the promised fight. The detachment, without further interruption, proceeded to the towns, (which the *Indians* had evacuated before their arrival,) and destroyed them. From hence about nine hundred men, under the command of General *Rutherford*, who had left the main body, taking ten days' provision, marched on against the Valley settlements. They found great difficulties, and were much embarrassed, and for want of an intelligent pilot, crossed the mountains at an unaccustomed place, by which means they were to their great mortification, disappointed of an encounter with about five hundred *Indians*, who were then, and had been for several days before, lying in ambuscade, on the common crossing-place. Two days after this, Colonel *Williamson*, with the *South-Carolina* troops, crossing at the usual place, fell into the ambuscade, was attacked, and left twelve killed and twenty wounded, but defeated and put the enemy

to rout, with the loss of about fourteen killed. Their loss is supposed to be much greater, but only fourteen were found upon the ground. General *Rutherford* destroyed the greater part of the Valley towns, killed twelve and took nine *Indians*, and made prisoners seven white men, from whom he got four negroes, a considerable quantity of stock and deer leather, about one hundred weight of gunpowder, and two hundred weight of lead, to the amount of twenty-five hundred pounds, proc., which they were conveying to *Mobile*. Colonel *Williamson*, with the *South-Carolina* forces, now joined General *Rutherford*, and having destroyed all the towns, the corn, and every thing which might be of service to the *Indians*, it was determined by the commanding officers to return to their respective States, it being impracticable to go against the *Overhill Cherokees*, the gap through the mountains being impassable for an army in case of opposition. General *Rutherford's* army was never opposed by any considerable body of *Indians*. He lost three men only.

He supposes many of the *Indians* lay concealed in the mountains, that some had gone to the *Overhills*, but that the greater part had fled southwestward to *Coosawatee* river, bordering on the Upper *Creeks*. Should the *Virginia* army meet any signal success against the *Overhills*, or should they only destroy their towns and corn, we flatter ourselves that the southern States will suffer no further damage this season from the savages, as it will employ their whole time to provide sustenance for their squaws and children.

In Council, at Williamsburg, October 25, 1776.

Ordered, That all the soldiers belonging to Captain *Smith's* Minute company attend at *Gloucester* Court-House, on the first *Thursday* in *November* next, being court day, in order to receive their pay from *William Yates*, Esq., Mustermaster-General of the Southern department, who is requested to attend for that purpose.

ARCHIBALD BLAIR, Cl. Con.

Williamsburg, October 25, 1776.

By a gentleman from *Fort Pitt* we learn that eleven settlers at the mouth of *Weeling*, about fifty miles below that post, were killed by the *Taawahs*, *Wyondots*, *Mingoes*, and other disaffected *Indians*, on the 9th of this instant.

CAPTAIN WATKINS TO MARYLAND COUNCIL OF SAFETY.

Annapolis, October 25, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: Agreeable to your order I have called up the men that's now here under my command, and have made them acquainted with the resolve of Convention respecting the enrolment of the companies of Artillery. Twenty-five of them tells me they will enlist under the resolve, and from the disposition of many others, I think they will in a little time come into the company.

H. WATKINS, Jun.

To honourable Council of Safety.

WILLIAM JOHNSON TO MARYLAND COUNCIL OF SAFETY.

Fell's Point, October 25, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: I received a line from you requiring me to make tents for Captains *Holland* and *Harris's* company of *Harford* County, but as I cannot get canvas here, must refer to you for procuring the same, if to be had at *Annapolis*.

I shall be always proud to obey any orders that I may receive from your honourable Board.

I am, gentlemen, your most obedient servant,

WILLIAM JOHNSON.

To the honourable Council of Safety.

JOHN ENNALLS TO MARYLAND COUNCIL OF SAFETY.

October 25, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: Please to direct a Court-Martial for the trial of *Stanley Cook*, a Lieutenant in the Nineteenth Battalion, for misbehaviour, and you'll oblige your humble servant,

JOHN ENNALLS.

To the honourable Council of Safety.

EXTRACT OF A LETTER FROM THE SECRET COMMITTEE TO
THOMAS MORRIS, DATED OCTOBER 25, 1776.

SIR: You will receive herewith a copy of our letter of the 16th instant, whereby you are appointed our agent to superintend all our business in *Europe*. This goes by the Continental ship-of-war called the *Reprisal*, *Lambert Weeks*, commander.

The value of this indigo is particularly intended to be lodged with your banker in *Paris*, for the use and subject to the order of Dr. *Franklin*, *Silas Deane*, and *Arthur Lee*, &c.

The *Reprisal*, Captain *Weeks*, will make but a short stay at *Nantes*, as she will immediately proceed on a cruise, and if fortunate, some of the prizes may probably be sent into some of the ports of *France*. The Commissioners will apply at Court for the liberty and protection of their ports. If this should be granted, it's probable that they may also permit the sale of prizes there, and in such case, the prizes, or such parts of their cargoes as are to be sold in *France*, will be put under your direction. You must take care that every thing is disposed of to the best advantage, apply the proceeds to the payments we have ordered you to make on account of the publick, and render us very exact accounts of what you credit us in this way, and a particular account of sales of each prize. Should Captain *Weeks* take any specie, he will pay it to you or the Commissioner, or to their or your order for the same purpose, and you must grant him receipts for the same, expressing that you receive it for the use of the *United States of America*, and that he is to be repaid by Congress.

MARINE COMMITTEE TO GOVERNOUR TRUMBULL.

Philadelphia, October 25, 1776.

SIR: The Marine Committee, being desirous to get the Continental frigates to sea as quickly as possible, request the favour of you to provide sixty-four cannon for the use of the frigate building in *New-Hampshire* and one of those in *Massachusetts*, fifty-two of these cannon to carry twelve-pound shot, and twelve of them to carry four-pound shot. The proof that Congress have contracted for the other cannon to undergo is, for the first proof, a weight of powder equal to the weight of one shot, on which charge two shot and three wads. The second proof is powder equal to two-thirds of the weight of one shot, with the same shot and wad as in the first. We wish, sir, that the above-mentioned cannon may undergo similar proof.

Should the ship building in *Connecticut* not be in equal forwardness with the *New-Hampshire* frigate, we shall be well pleased if the latter is immediately furnished with the guns provided for the former, adding thereto as many as will make the number twenty-six twelves and six four-pounders. The *Connecticut* frigate, we hope, may be furnished in due time from the guns above desired to be provided for the *New-Hampshire* frigate.

Your well-known zeal in the common cause gives us perfect confidence that you will do herein what will most contribute to promote and expedite the publick service.

We are, sir, your humble servants.

To Governour *Trumbull*, of *Connecticut*.

GOVERNOUR LIVINGSTON TO THE PRESIDENT OF CONGRESS.
[Read October 30, 1776: referred to Dr. Rush, Mr. Ross, Mr. Lynch.]

Elizabethtown, October 25, 1776.

DEAR SIR: I beg leave to transmit you the enclosed on the subject I had the honour to write the Congress upon some time since. I cannot relieve the men, and yet receive particular applications about it.

I am, sir, your most humble

WILLIAM LIVINGSTON.

To the Hon. *John Hancock*, Esq.

P. S. You forgot to send me the instructions for privateer's bond, &c.

Bridgewater, in Somerset County, October 14, 1776.

SIR: I have the honour of receiving your Excellency's instructions of 8th instant, concerning the prisoners in this County, which seems to respect such prisoners only as have

belonged to the *British* soldiery, of which kind we have but one in this County to my knowledge; but a long illness, of which I am now closely confined, prevents my knowing much of the publick concerns of the County. We have, however, a few prisoners confined at the gaol of this County by your Excellency's orders, which are chiefly seamen of whom, with the one soldier, you have an exact list enclosed.

Should your Excellency be of opinion that these prisoners will be taken in exchange, and that it is necessary they should be sent to *Brunswick*, you will please to favour me with your further instructions for that purpose; but should you be of opinion that they will not be taken in exchange, I would then beg your Excellency's attention to their situation, which is something particular.

Your Excellency has been informed that their clothing was chiefly left at *New-York*, owing to the great hurry and confusion in which they were sent from thence. I would therefore humbly propose to your consideration the sending one of them, viz: Captain *Duncan Campbell*, (who is said to be a gentleman of strict honour,) to *New-York* on parole, to inquire after their baggage and clothing.

It may also deserve your Excellency's attention that two young men among these prisoners, viz: *Robert Colefox* and *Richard Williams*, are natives of *New-England*; that one of them was employed in the Continental service; that they both fell into the hands of the enemy by misfortune, where they were confined and detained a great while as prisoners, and thought themselves very happy in being retaken by their friends. The consequence of which is that they have lost their clothing and are kept in confinement by those who ought to befriend them; they are now almost destitute of clothing to cover them, and both tell me they will suffer perpetual imprisonment rather than be exchanged and return to the *British* army or navy. On the contrary they were discharged, and at liberty to go and see their relations and friends, several of whom are now in the Continental service. They would undoubtedly enter into the same service either by sea or land.

I apprehend they are all now considered as Continental prisoners, and wholly at the disposal of the Congress. But should your Excellency please to furnish the honourable Continental Congress with a proper state of facts respecting them, they surely would not hesitate a moment to take order in the matter.

I shall wait your Excellency's further orders for the removal of the prisoners to *Brunswick*. In the interim I have the honour to be your Excellency's very humble servant,

ROWLAND CHAMBERS.

To His Excellency *William Livingston*, Esq.

P. S. Since writing the above, I am informed that *Peleg Mansfield* is in the same situation with the two last above-mentioned prisoners.

R. C.

An account of Prisoners taken in the three following Vessels from HALIFAX, bound to SANDY-HOOK, by Captain WILLIAM ROGERS, in the MONTGOMERY Privateer, off FIRE-ISLAND Creek, south side of LONG-ISLAND, and now confined in SOMERSET Gaol, in the State of NEW-JERSEY.

1st. Sloop *Phoenix's* crew—*John Broom*, master; *John Deacon*, seaman; *George Clandair*, passenger.

2d. Sloop *Sally's* crew—*Solomon Smith*, master; *Seth Williams*, mate; *Richard Williams*, seaman; *Robert Colefox*, do.; *Calvin Hethway*, do.; *Edward Cannabal*, a boy; *Daniel Dunbar*, passenger.

3d. Sloop *Mary's* crew—*Duncan Campbell*, master; *John Farrel*, seaman; *Peleg Mansfield*, do.; *Andrew Mitchell*, passenger; *Michael Tabbin*, do.; *Alexander McMullen*, do.

There is also a soldier, taken prisoner in the engagement on *Long-Island*, whose name is *John Wright*.

October 14th, 1776.

N. B. Four of the *Phoenix's* crew, and one of the *Mary's*, have entered into the Continental service, and are gone to *Philadelphia*; their names are not inserted here.

EXTRACT OF A LETTER FROM FORT LEE, DATED OCTOBER 25, 1776.

Head-Quarters is now above twenty miles from this place, and we have but little news we can depend upon till a day or two after the transaction. To-day, indeed, I heard the following, which may be worth communicating: One of the vessels up the *North River* came before *Dobbs's Ferry* with an intention to cut off the communication. She lay there one day undisturbed; but last night two field-pieces were sent down, and early this morning began to play upon her. They hulled her eleven times out of fifteen. She hoisted sail, but could make no way for want of wind, and was obliged to put out her boats and be towed off; all which time she was exposed to our fire. It is hoped this drubbing will prevent such manœuvres for the future, and oblige the pirates to keep aloof. I am informed that several brigades of our army moved this day up to *White-Plains*; so that almost all the army is now at that place. Little skirmishes happen almost every day; but they are thought so little of that they seldom are mentioned as news. The most considerable was that with *Rogers's* party, in which a number was killed and wounded, thirty-six prisoners, with sixty stand of arms. Two of the prisoners prove to be spies, and one a deserter from us. These, I hope, will be made examples of. Several *Hessians* have been taken since.

October 26.—P. S. Since I wrote the above, I learn that the enemy have got between *King's Bridge* and *White-Plains*. That ground was left vacant by the removal of the brigades I have mentioned. A Captain's guard only was left over some provisions till it could be moved. This day about noon the Captain discovered about one hundred Light-Horse and as many Infantry making that way towards him. He retreated to *Fort Independence*, and the enemy continued their route. Whether this was only a foraging party, or whether sent to take the ground which we had left, I cannot tell. If the latter, I believe it will not be disagreeable. It is probable the brigades were moved higher up on purpose to give the enemy an opportunity of getting in, when they will not be very likely to get out undisturbed.

ROBERT H. HARRISON TO THE PRESIDENT OF CONGRESS.

[Read November 4, 1776.]

Head-Quarters, *White-Plains*, October 25, 1776.

SIR: The whole of our army is now here and on the neighbouring heights, except the troops left at *Mount Washington* and *King's Bridge*, (about fourteen hundred at the former and six hundred at the latter,) and General *Lee's* division, which now forms the rear, and which is on their march. Our removal and that of the stores have been attended with a great deal of trouble, owing to the scarcity and difficulty of procuring wagons. However, they are nearly effected and without any loss. The General officers are now reconnoitring the several passes leading from the enemy, that the most important may be immediately secured. The situation of their army remains nearly the same as when I had the honour of addressing you on the 21st instant. It differs in nothing, unless it is that their main body is more collected about *New-Rochelle*. A few of their troops are extended as far as *Momariouneck*.

On *Monday* night a detachment of our men, under the command of Colonel *Hazlet*, was sent out to surprise and cut off Major *Rogers* if possible, with his regiment, which was posted there. By some accident or another, the expedition did not succeed so well as could have been wished. However, our advanced party, led on by Major *Greene*, of the First *Virginia* Regiment, fell in with their out-guards and brought off thirty-six prisoners, sixty muskets, and some blankets. The number killed is not certainly known, but it is reported by an officer who was there, that he counted about twenty-five. Our loss, two killed, and ten or twelve wounded; among the latter, Major *Greene*, whose recovery is very doubtful.

On *Wednesday* there was also a smart skirmish between a party of Colonel *Hand's* Riflemen, about two hundred and forty, and nearly the same number of *Hessian* Chasseurs, in which the latter were put to the rout. Our men buried ten of them on the field, and took two prisoners, one badly wounded. We sustained no other loss than having one lad wounded, supposed mortally.

The ships-of-war that are in the *North River* fell down yesterday morning or the evening before to *Dobbs's Ferry*, to prevent our bringing stores from below by water, and the removal of those that are landed there. As soon as the wagons employed in bringing the baggage and stores of General *Lee's* division are disengaged, they will be immediately sent to assist those already there to remove them.

On *Saturday* night we had the misfortune to lose one of the new ships intended to be sunk for obstructing the channel. She parted her cables in a severe squall, when properly ballasted, and bilged as soon as she struck the shore. The other ship was sunk well, and yesterday morning two brigs (both ready) were sent down for the same purpose.

About two o'clock this afternoon, intelligence was brought to Head-Quarters that three or four detachments of the enemy were on their march, and had advanced within about four miles of this place. It has been fully confirmed since, by a variety of persons who have been out to reconnoitre. Their number cannot be ascertained, but it is generally conjectured that the detachments are or will be succeeded by as many columns, composing their main body. Our drums have beat to arms, and men ordered to their several posts. Most probably some important event is upon the eve of taking place. I hope it will be victory in favour of our arms. General *Lee*, with his division, has not got up, but I hear he is on his march.

Experiment having proved it difficult, if not impossible, to prevent the enemy from possessing the navigation of the *North River*, and rendering the communication and intercourse between the States divided by it extremely hazardous and precarious by means of their ships-of-war, it has become a matter of important consideration how to remedy the evil, and to guard against the consequences which may result from it. I am charged by his Excellency to mention it to Congress as a matter that employed much of his thought, and that seems worthy of their most serious attention. He has communicated it to several of the General and other officers, and to many gentlemen of sense and discernment, who all agree with him not only upon the propriety, but the absolute necessity that two distinct armies should be formed, one to act particularly in the States which lay on the east, the other in those that are on the south of the river. The whole however to be raised on a general plan, and not to be confined to any particular place by the terms of enlistment. These matters, the apparent difficulty and perhaps impracticability of succours being thrown across the river while the enemy can command it, have induced his Excellency to submit the measure to their consideration, not knowing how their operations may be directed, and foreseeing that innumerable evils may arise if a respectable force is not appointed to oppose their arms wheresoever they are carried.

I have the honour to be, in great haste, sir, your most obedient servant,

ROBT. H. HARRISON.

GENERAL ORDERS.

Head-Quarters, Harlem Heights, October 21, 1776.

(Parole, Heath.)

(Countersign, Sullivan.)

The hurried situation of the General for the two last days having prevented him from paying that attention to Colonel *Glover*, and the officers and soldiers who were with him in the skirmish on *Friday* last, that their merit and good behaviour deserved, he flatters himself that his thanks, though delayed, will nevertheless be acceptable to them, as they are offered with great sincerity and cordiality. At the same time he hopes that every other part of the army will do their duty with equal duty and zeal whenever called upon, and that neither dangers, difficulties, or hardships will discourage soldiers engaged in the cause of liberty, and contending for all that freemen hold dear and valuable.

Head-Quarters, White Plains, October 23, 1776.

(Parole, Denton.)

(Countersign, Chester.)

The guard of the camp are to be mounted from the several divisions of the army. Their numbers to be fixed, and their post assigned them, by the General Officers of that division. General *Spencer's* division to furnish the main guard, Quartermaster-General's, and Commissary-General's guard, bullock guard, and provost guard.

It has been observed with some concern, that scouting parties go out without any advanced or flanking parties, both which are absolutely necessary for their safety and success, and which they must have on all occasions.

The commanding officers of regiments should, on all marches, draw provisions for the wagoners who attend them, and give them all possible assistance. When their baggage is unloaded they should have the teams drawn up, set a guard over them, and prevent any loss of the horses, or abuse of the drivers, and take care of them till they are ordered away.

Any officer, or soldier, who shall presume to meddle with any horses belonging to the publick, or any other not his own property, will be severely punished. And all officers of the army are requested to stop soldiers who are riding about without saddles, until they give an account of themselves, and if they are found breaking orders, to send the offender to the guard, and the horse to the Quartermaster-General, or to Head-Quarters.

Head-Quarters, White Plains, October 24, 1776.

(Parole, .)

(Countersign, .)

Commanding officers of regiments are immediately to have necessaries dug, decently covered, at a small distance from their encampments. They are every day to be covered over with fresh earth, and once a week to be filled up and new ones dug. All bones, meat, and other dirt of the camp, to be carefully gathered up every day. Those regiments who have not appointed camp colour men, are to do it immediately, and it is the duty of the Quartermaster to see that they do their duty. Two men from every company to be appointed. If officers would reflect how much cleanliness would conduce to their own health, and that of their men, they would want no inducement to attend to it particularly.

The Brigade-Majors of General *Spencer's* division, are immediately to form a Court-Martial, a Colonel to preside.

General *Sullivan's* division to furnish its proportion of the detail made yesterday for home guards.

Rolls are to be called three times every day, and the General begs the officers to exert themselves to keep their men from straggling away from the camp. Officers and men would do well to reflect that their safety, their lives, and the liberty of their country, may depend on their being at hand in case of alarm. Any man who is found half a mile from the camp, not on command, will be punished very severely.

All the officers who have assisted in the works to meet at Colonel *Putnam's* quarters, just above Head-Quarters, at three o'clock this afternoon, in order to lay out a number of works. The Engineers are to proportion the intrenching tools at this place among the several grand divisions, and after to-day to apply to each General commanding such division for such numbers of men as may be wanted for the several works, who are to begin to work at nine o'clock in the morning, and continue working till four in the afternoon.

Brigade-Majors are to have their returns completed immediately.

General *Heath's* and General *Sullivan's* divisions not having complied with yesterday's orders to furnish thirty men, they are to do it to-morrow without fail, and to be more careful in future.

It being absolutely necessary that the teams should be collected, in order to be arranged by the Quartermaster-General, the commanding officers of regiments are immediately to send to the parade, at the Court-House, every team not under an actual order to march.

No officer to take any team for any use without an order from Head-Quarters or the Quartermaster-General.

The commanding officers of brigades and regiments, who at any time may be supplied with teams, are to take particular care that the drivers of wagons in their employ are regularly supplied with grain and hay for their horses, if such provender can be obtained in the neighborhood of their respective camps. If the owners of such provender refuse to sell, such commanding officers are to order their Quartermasters to collect as much provender as will be necessary for the publick horses in their service, and give certificates to the owners of the provender of what the Quartermasters may receive or take.

GENERAL COURT-MARTIAL.

Proceedings of a General Court-Martial held at the Court-House in the WHITE-PLAINS, by order of His Excellency GEORGE WASHINGTON, Esq., General and Commander-in-Chief of all the Forces raised, or to be raised, in the UNITED STATES OF AMERICA, October the 25th, 1776.

Colonel *Holman*, President.

Members:

Lieutenant-Colonel *Latimer*, Captain *Catlin*,
Major *Gordon*, Captain *Wolcott*,
Captain *Harrington*, Captain *Warner*,
Captain *Brown*, Lieutenant *Allen*,
Captain *Wells*, Lieutenant *Chamberlin*,
Captain *Goodwin*, Lieutenant *Potter*.
David Brearley, Judge-Advocate.

The *United States of America*, vs. Lieutenant *Ethan Sickles*, charged with breach of General Orders; also with coming under the twenty-first article of the fourteenth section of the Rules and Articles for the government of the Troops of the *United States of America*. The defendant plead "Not Guilty."

Witness for the States, Colonel *Reed*, Adjutant-General, being sworn, says the defendant yesterday came by Head-Quarters with two wagons of baggage under his care; that he stopped the wagons; on examination found a sutler in one of them; he asked the defendant if there was not sutlers' goods in the wagons; who answered there was only a small case and a keg containing five gallons of rum; that a barrel of rum in the wagon belonged to the regiment, that another barrel contained soldiers' clothes, but on examination found it to contain chiefly leaf tobacco, and the barrel of rum to belong to the sutler.

The defendant produced no witnesses, but was heard in his own defence.

After mature deliberation of the premises, the Court are unanimously of opinion that the defendant, Lieutenant *Sickles*, is guilty of disobeying general orders, and of behaving in a scandalous, infamous manner, such as is unbecoming the character of an officer and a gentleman, and do sentence him to be discharged from the service.

JONATHAN HOLMAN, President.

ROBERT R. LIVINGSTON TO GENERAL WASHINGTON.

Albany, October 25, 1776.

DEAR SIR: The Convention having thought it proper to direct me to repair to this place, in order to give (in concurrence with some other General) every necessary support to the Northern army, I did not receive your Excellency's favour till this day.

I am extremely affected at the wants under which the army labour, and your Excellency may depend on my utmost endeavours to remove them. I can at present only suggest my ideas on that subject to gentlemen who have influence at Convention, as nothing can be done at this place. Flour, I believe, may readily be procured in *Pennsylvania* and *New-Jersey*, which, as it must cross at *Mount Washington*, may be applied to the present use of the army, while that furnished by this State may be sent to the *White-Plains*, or to such other place as your Excellency thinks it proper to provide magazines at. It would be easy to send down immediate supplies of flour from this part of the country, were it not for the wants of the Northern army, which has not above fifteen days' provision on hand, without mentioning any allowance for the Militia, who are marching in daily. This is truly alarming in a country where it is by no means impracticable to cut off supplies, and where the utmost vigilance is necessary to keep open the communication.

However, I would not have your Excellency uneasy on this account, as the Committee of *Albany* (having distributed the business among the different members of their body) have made such exertions, and been so well seconded by General *Schuyler*, that I am in great hopes in a few days to have nothing to fear on that score. Nor can I doubt, if proper measures are adopted, that the Southern army will be supplied with facility; as I am well satisfied that the stock of provisions in the country is much more than sufficient to answer all their demands, and at any rate it must be had. Your Excellency, by making use of the power

vested in you by some resolutions that passed in Convention before I left *Fishkill*, relative to the grain and stock in *Westchester* County, may, I am persuaded, obtain a present supply of every thing but flour; and though the teams there are none of the best, yet if your Excellency will give orders for pressing them, so many may be obtained as to make the quantity compensate for the quality. In the mean while more effectual measures will be taken to supply you with wagons. Teams can only be got from *Connecticut* in any numbers.

Though the *White-Plains* is a very proper place for provisions designed for immediate use, yet I would submit it to your Excellency whether your grand magazines should not be within or beyond the Highlands. If that should seem too remote, I would recommend some place on the north side of *Croton's* river, near *Pine's* bridge, as the country there is very rough, and secured by a river, at the same time that it lays upon a great road.

The measures your Excellency have taken to secure the passes and prevent the enemy from getting above you, appears to me extremely judicious, and I doubt not will be attended with the desired effect, especially if the number of troops sent to the *White-Plains* and the Highlands can be magnified to the enemy by any of those artifices usual in war. I shall always esteem it a peculiar happiness if (as you politely suppose) my knowledge of the country can in any way contribute to its preservation, or be of the least service to your Excellency, and shall therefore take the liberty your Excellency so obligingly gives me, to suggest whatever may, in any measure, tend to either of these valuable purposes.

I have the honour to be, with the greatest respect and esteem, your Excellency's most obedient, humble servant,

ROBERT R. LIVINGSTON.

To His Excellency *George Washington*, Esq., General and Commander-in-Chief of the Forces of the *United American States*, &c., Head-Quarters, *King's Bridge*.

COLONEL WILKINSON TO GENERAL GATES.

Albany, October 25, 1776.

I should think myself inexcusable, my dear General, for not writing you earlier, if I did not render a sufficient apology for my conduct, by assuring you that such has been the severity of my disease since I left *Ticonderoga* that I have not been able to govern my finger till within these few days. I have been here three weeks, during two of which I had a fever tacked to me, which prosecuted me with intermission; it is at last, however, subdued, and has left me a pretty good appetite; but as I recover very slowly here, I purpose moving out of town to *Kenter-Hook*, a situation from which I am promised great things. The Lord grant it may soon enable me to join you.

General *Washington* has in person lately dislodged a considerable number of the enemy, who had landed on a place called *Frogg Point*. Further particulars have not yet reached town. *Lee* commanded the lines during his absence. It is said the General has brought six thousand Southern troops with him, though it is mere report.

The vessels which have passed the chevaux-de-frise are two forty-gun ships and a number of tenders. They vary their station, though for the most part they remain in *Toppon* sea or bay; they have picked up several *Albany* sloops and greatly harass the rest. If I get well soon I shall bring up such things as will help to render the winter comfortable; but if my disorder is spun out to any length, my cash will be exhausted.

I am, my dear General, with respect and affection, your ready friend and servant,

JAMES WILKINSON.

Pray write me. Mr. *Avery*, if you will address to his care, will see the letter conveyed to me with safety.

J. W.

GENERAL SCHUYLER TO GENERAL GATES.

Saratoga, October 25, 1776.

DEAR GENERAL: I congratulate you on the success of our arms, accounts whereof you have enclosed. Would it not be well if the whole line was turned out, a few cannon fired, and three huzzas given? It will cheer the spirits of

our troops, and damp those of the enemy, for their scouts will doubtless hear the rejoicing.

I have sent two hundred Militia to *Fort George*; one hundred remain at *Fort Edward*, two hundred on the road between *Jones's* and *Cheshire's*, the remainder to *Skenesborough* and *Tyonderoga*, if they can be prevailed upon to cross the lake. I wish Colonel *Lewis* to come to me as soon as possible. The provision for the army I have ordered in future to go by *Skenesborough*. You will be pleased to send some of the larger vessels for it.

I am very anxious for a line from you, having received none from you since yours of the 15th instant. I have been much indisposed for several days, but have this morning been out for the first time.

I am, dear sir, with great esteem and respect, your most obedient, humble servant,

PH. SCHUYLER.

To General *Gates*.

GENERAL GATES TO COLONEL BELLOWES.

Tyonderoga, October 25, 1776.

SIR: This moment I have received your note by Mr. *Amos Babcock*. In answer thereto, I am to acquaint you that I have every reason to expect the immediate approach of the enemy. Nothing but the constant southerly winds that have prevailed for this week past, could, in my opinion, have delayed them so long. Perhaps the happiness or misery of *America* hangs upon a moment. If you love your country, make use of it, and come forward.

I am, sir, your most obedient, humble servant,

HORATIO GATES.

To Colonel *Benjamin Bellows*.

JOHN NOBLE CUMMING TO DR. SCUDDER.

Tyonderoga, October 25, 1776.

DEAR SIR: The fatigues of a long campaign have not made me forget my friends, nor am I yet so weak that I cannot write. I want to know how my old friends are, and what persons of them are distinguishing themselves in the present virtuous struggle. Our campaign has been full of fatigue, as well as unsuccessful, chiefly owing to our too precipitate advances to the northward, or rather our going in so unprepared a manner. We advanced upon the Plains of *Abram*, quartered in houses scattered for two or three miles, one third of the troops at *Point Levi*, and one third at *St. Roche's*, the remainder on the Plain. The number of our troops fit for duty, not exceeding seven hundred men, five hundred sick in quarters chiefly with the small-pox, and further a very small quantity of ammunition; and at the council which was held the night before our retreat, the Commissary informed them that there was not above three days' provision in the store, and no supply nearer than *St. John's*. Under those circumstances, General *Thomas* (since deceased) wisely ordered a retreat, which was conducted with as good order as could be expected, and although he was much censured, yet must be allowed to be a good commander by those who are not fond of censure. He was judicious, calm, and resolute; and had matters been represented as they really were, neither the Congress nor the General had been so deceived. However, I think with the favour of Providence, we are now in such a situation as to give them a good return.

Our regiment is in good credit, and on account of the dependence placed in them are fixed in the most dangerous post. We take command of a redoubt called the *Jersey* battery, mounting eight guns, one of thirty-two, two of eighteen, three of twelve, and two of nine, nearly opposite to which is a boom across the lake. Near this redoubt are four others, each mounting four or five guns. On *Mount Independence* there is a twenty-gun battery, and above this a half-moon mounting four guns. Our out lines are strong, and I hope manned with those who will do their utmost to support them.

Your Commissioners left this a few days ago. Our regimental return will show that the officers of our regiment in general choose to continue. How we stand recommended we are ignorant of. As for myself I can say, if I have not done as I ought, my conscience acquits me of having done my best for my injured country; and am determined, life and health permitting, to continue doing the same, let my

rank be whatever the honourable House shall be pleased confer.

I remain, sir, your affectionate friend and humble servant,
JOHN NOBLE CUMMING.

To Dr. Nathaniel Scudder, Member of Council, New-Jersey.

COLONEL LIVINGSTON TO GOVERNOUR TRUMBULL.

Saybrook, October 25, 1776.

SIR: I take this opportunity to inform your Honour that I am extremely unhappy that the badness of the weather has not yet permitted us to proceed from this place to New-Haven, the wind having been so much ahead as to hinder our sailing. I am in some hopes of a change soon; but lest that should not happen, will set out as soon as I have given the necessary orders to the masters of vessels, with as many men as twelve whale-boats can conveniently carry, which is all I have left.

I remain, with respect and esteem, your Honour's most obedient, humble servant,

HENRY B. LIVINGSTON.

To his Honour Governour Trumbull.

Newburyport, October 25, 1776.

Yesterday arrived here the ship *Nancy*, John Cowan master, burthen about two hundred tons, bound from Cork to Quebec, taken by Captain John Lee, of this place. Her cargo consists of the following articles, viz: eighty barrels of beef, three hundred and twenty barrels of pork, two hundred firkins of butter, one hundred barrels of oatmeal, three hundred and seventy-four barrels of flour, twelve hundred bushels of peas, sixty-eight thousand pounds of bread, two hundred and seven casks of nails, twenty-two barrels and two half-barrels of gunpowder, one arm-chest with balls, &c., sixteen carriage-guns and ten swivels mounted.

Saturday last the General Assembly of the State of New-Hampshire, adjourned to the last Wednesday in November, leaving the remainder of the business to be settled by the Grand Committee, who are now sitting at Exeter. They have also appointed Thursday, the 21st of November, to be kept as a day of publick thanksgiving throughout that State.

We learn that a Salem privateer has taken in the chops of the Channel of England, two ships, one from Jamaica inward bound, and the other outward bound.

EXTRACT OF A LETTER FROM DR. FRANKLIN TO D. C., DATED PHILADELPHIA, OCTOBER 25, 1776.

Being once more ordered to Europe, and to embark this day, I write this line, &c.

As to our publick affairs, I hope our people will keep up their courage. I have no doubt of their finally succeeding by the blessing of God, nor have I any doubt that so good a cause will fail of that blessing. It is computed that we have already taken a million sterling from the enemy. They must soon be sick of their piratical project. No time should be lost in fortifying three or four posts on our extended coast as strong as art and expense can make them. Nothing will give us greater weight and importance in the eyes of the commercial States, than a conviction that we can annoy, on occasion, their trade, and carry our prizes into safe harbours; and whatever expense we are at in such fortifying, will be soon repaid by the encouragement and success of privateering.

In Council, November 20, 1776: Read and sent down.
JOHN AVERY, Deputy Secretary.

GENERAL WARD TO MASSACHUSETTS COUNCIL.

Boston, October 25, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: The enclosed papers respect Colonel Ethan Allen, whose brother is the bearer of this; and I beg leave to introduce him to the Council, as he has business respecting Colonel Allen to lay before the Board.

I am, gentlemen, your obedient, humble servant,
ARTEMAS WARD.

To the honourable Council.

COL. HOLLINGSWORTH TO MARYLAND COUNCIL OF SAFETY.

Head-of-Elk, October 26, 1776.

DEAR SIR: Yours of the 11th I yesterday received, and not before, having been from home at Philadelphia this twelve days, endeavouring to settle my accounts for provisions, carriage, &c., of the Fourth, Fifth, and part of the Sixth regiment of Virginia, from Elk to Chester. The men being near half sick has made their carriage very tedious and expensive, and has taken up my whole time since the 26th of September. You are a judge how much my time was taken up with the Maryland forces before that date. So that for the last two months I have been prevented from taking proper care of my business, otherways should have been at Annapolis before this day. Could wish a Commissary was appointed, as I am now, while I am writing, applied to by Captain Johnson, of the Sixth Virginia regiment, to provide barracks, wagons, and provisions for his company, to pass them on to Philadelphia, and that there is eight hundred Carolinians in the river, which must be provided as above. You, sir, are, as is the honourable Council of Safety, better judges how necessary it is to forward those troops than myself; and you also know that no person here will forward them but myself, in your absence. I must, therefore, beg the indulgence of the honourable Council, if the arrival of those troops and transporting them over should delay my coming to Annapolis longer than they may expect, as I assure you and them on the honour of a gentleman, that nothing else shall delay my coming one day, when I hope to satisfy their Honours that every thing has been done by me that could by a man so circumstanced.

As to the first ninety bayonets sent Mr. Winters, they are not so good as they ought, as most of them were made by young hands in the business, and many of the best of what was there made picked out for the marching companies going to Flying-Camp, the steel not good though the best I could then get, the want of experienced hands in the mill, all plead for their Honours' indulgence. I have sent Mr. Winters some since much better, and have now by me about two hundred, which I flatter myself will merit their approbation, which, with some musket-barrels and large pieces, I fully intend down with as soon as the service above recited will permit.

You will please to lay this before their Honours, though wrote in much haste, as 'tis all truth. I should have wrote to their Honours, but have received no censure from them, save what Colonel Benjamin Rumsay gave me at Philadelphia verbally, who I am much obliged to for his assistance in despatching me; and am, dear sir, your and the honourable Council's most obedient and humble servant,

H. HOLLINGSWORTH.

To Joseph Gilpin, Esq., Convention at Annapolis.

MEMORIAL OF HENRY HOLLINGSWORTH.

To the honourable the Council of Safety of MARYLAND:

The Memorial of your memorialist humbly sheweth:

That your memorialist did provide provisions, wagons, shallops, wood, and other necessities, for the Maryland and Virginia troops, on their way from the Head-of-Elk to the Flying-Camp: that your memorialist, being unprovided with salt provisions, and other necessities, was under the disagreeable necessity of giving more frequently for provisions for said troops than reasonably may be supposed by gentlemen unacquainted with the circumstance of the matter, he seldom knowing when they would arrive till they did, and in some cases being informed of and expecting troops and making provision for them, was disappointed and obliged to salt, and sometimes sell said provisions for considerably less than it cost; bread in such cases entirely lost. This, together with the provision being to be made and provided at the several different places, the weather being warm, of course rendered it impossible to transport them from one place to the other with safety, salt not to be had. This being a just representation of the case, your memorialist beg leave to lay it before and assure your Honours that if his accounts are settled in the common way he shall be a very considerable sufferer.

Submitting the whole of the premises to your Honours' consideration, not doubting of such indulgence in this par-

particular case as justice and the necessity of the case may require. And your memorialist, as in duty bound, &c., will,

H. HOLLINGSWORTH.

RECOMMENDATION OF EBENEZER REYNER.

GENTLEMEN: There is a vacancy of a Second Lieutenant in Captain *Isaac Perkins's* company. We recommend Mr. *Ebenezer Reyner*, a person proper and fit to fill that place.

PEN. LETHERBURY,
EMORY SUDLER,
ROB'T BUCHANAN,
WM. SLUBY,
THO'S RINGGOLD.

To the honourable the Council of Safety of *Maryland*.

RICHARD PETERS TO MARYLAND COUNCIL OF SAFETY.

War Office, October 26, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: I am directed by the Board of War, in answer to your letter of the 18th instant, to inform you that it is their opinion, and they request you will direct, that the Rifle company you mention in your letter, be immediately marched to *Philadelphia*. If clothes cannot be provided for them where they are, which would be much the best, as clothing of all sorts is extremely difficult to be had at *Philadelphia*, and blankets are not to be procured at any rate, they might be armed and accoutred, but might lie here a very considerable time before clothes and blankets could be furnished. You'll therefore be pleased to endeavour at supplying them with blankets and whatever other necessities can be had your way, as this State is drained of all articles required by the army. If muskets were given them instead of rifles, the service would be more benefitted, as there is a superabundance of riflemen in the army. Were it in the power of the Congress to supply muskets, they would speedily reduce the number of rifles, and replace them with the former, as they are more easily kept in order, can be fired oftener, and have the advantage of bayonets.

I have the honour to be your very obedient servant,
RICHARD PETERS, *Secretary*.

To the honourable Council of Safety of *Maryland*.

JOHN GIBSON TO JAMES BOWDOIN.

Treasury Office, *Philadelphia*, October 31, 1776.

HONOURABLE GENTLEMEN: As Commissioners have been appointed by Congress to liquidate and adjust the publick accounts in the Northern department, and are now assembled at *Albany* for that purpose, it is necessary they should be furnished by each State with an account of the several advances and payments to the officers and others who have been entrusted with publick money, to enable them to settle the accounts.

We have, therefore, to request you would be pleased as soon as possible to order an account of such advances as your State may have made, the settlement of which may properly fall within the Northern department, to be drawn out, and forward them to the Commissioners by express, in order that the proper stoppages being made, your State may be reimbursed by Congress.

The names of the Commissioners are *James Milligan*, *John Carter*, and *John Wells*, Esquire.

I have the honour to be, in the name of the Superintendents of the Treasury, honourable gentlemen, your most obedient, humble servant,

JOHN GIBSON, *Auditor General*.

To the Honourable the President and Council of the State of *Massachusetts-Bay*.

The accounts of your State, to the 14th November, will be sent from this office.

FRANCIS LEWIS TO THE NEW-YORK CONVENTION.

Philadelphia, October 26, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: As the State of *New-York* has not been represented in Congress for several weeks past, Mr. P.

Livingston with myself being their only Delegates at present here, we are requested by Congress to apply to you, sirs, for a full representation; therefore hope you will speedily send us one other member that we may be enabled to give our vote for that State which we have been sent here to represent.

We are respectfully, gentlemen, your very humble servants,

FRAS. LEWIS, for self, and
PH. LIVINGSTON.

To the honourable the Convention for the State of *New-York*.

WILLIAM WHIPPLE TO JOHN LANGDON.

Philadelphia, October 26, 1776.

MY DEAR SIR: I arrived here the 24th. The Committee have not met since my arrival, but have mentioned your demand to some of the members. There is no doubt but I shall be in cash to honour your drafts whenever they appear. There is no prospect of cannon from this place; however, I have some hopes from another quarter, viz: *Connecticut*. The circumstances are these: the cannon are made for the *Trumbull*, in that State, and there is no prospect of her being provided with other necessities. The Committee have wrote to Governour *Trumbull*, to procure cannon for two ships, and in the mean time to send those made for the *Trumbull* to you. From the known disposition of that gentleman to promote the publick good, I have great hopes you will be supplied from that quarter. Orders are gone to *Providence* to supply you with canvas for a second suit of sails. I don't know but you'll have a wrangle on your hands with the *Providence* gentry; however, my boy, I'll stand by you as long as I can. The ships here are not so forward as I expected to find them: only three of them are launched. The rank of the Captains in the naval service was established before I arrived. I find *Thompson* is the sixth on the list. Had I been here, I certainly would have had him higher; however, considering the train after him, I think it pretty well. For want of time must refer you to Colonel *Bartlett* for news, &c.

In haste, as you see, your affectionate friend and humble servant,

WM. WHIPPLE.

WILLIAM ELLERY TO GOVERNOUR COOKE.

Philadelphia, October 26, 1776.

SIR: Since my last Congress have received the disagreeable intelligence of the destruction of our fleet on *Lake Champlain*. The enemy were vastly superiour to us in the number and size of their armed vessels, and in the number of men and weight of metal. General *Arnold* was obliged to give way to superiour force; but he did not do it until he had sustained the shock many glasses in two engagements, nor until several of his gondolas were sunk, his schooner forced on shore, and the remainder of his fleet were so shattered that it was impossible for him to fight any longer. In this situation he ran the *Congress* ashore, and lest she should fall into the hands of the enemy burnt her, and, with about two hundred men he had collected, got safe to *Crown Point*.

Congress have appointed a Committee of Intelligence, to select and publish such intelligence as Congress shall receive from time to time, and it shall be proper to publish.

That Committee have in this week's papers, published an account of the sea-fight on the lake; but omitted some particulars which I have mentioned. They have also given the publick such intelligence as hath been received from the army in the Middle department.

WM. ELLERY.

ABRAM CLARK TO COLONEL DAYTON.

Elizabethtown, October 26, 1776.

MY DEAR FRIEND: It is long since I received a letter from you, and longer since I wrote to you. The last I received was by Mr. *Caldwell*. I had then just returned from *Philadelphia* much indisposed, and was elected into the Assembly; which, though very infirm, I attended for

about ten days, and returned home sick, where I have remained ever since, with myself and most of my family much indisposed. We are all got tolerable well except my wife, who hath the third-day ague; and one of my younger children I lost. I propose next *Monday* to return again to *Philadelphia*, where I can remain but two weeks, when our Assembly will meet again, when I propose to sue for a dismission from Congress; finding it too hard to attend there and at the Assembly, between both of which I could not expect to spend much of my time at home. Publick news I suppose you know as much of as I do, from my long confinement. The *King's* army are principally collected together between *East-Chester* and *New-Rochelle*, with the *East River* on their rear and General *Lee* in front. They landed yesterday a week past, when a party of our forces attacked them with success, and but little loss on our side; the killed of the enemy is variously reported: some say one thousand, and others reduce the number to between four and five hundred; since which we had a small skirmish, took about thirty-six, with sixty stand of arms and blankets. This party was commanded by Major *Rogers*, who, it is said, was the first that run off. Those taken were all Tories, but three deserters from our army. It is said they have at least four or five regiments of Tories embodied by themselves, which they have not thought fit to incorporate with the *British* troops. If those gentry are put upon the most dangerous posts, they will regret their choice. Our naval force upon the lake, we hear, hath met with a defeat. I wish it may not be attended with consequences fatal to our army at *Ticonderoga*. The advanced season of the year may perhaps stop the progress of the enemy. As for your station, it seems the enemy cannot find you or else disregard you. I wish you was removed to some place of greater notoriety. I suppose you have had Commissioners with you to know who will engage anew in the service.

You see my letter is from *Elizabethtown*; a place once well known to you, but now greatly altered from the time you left it. We have not had the enemy among us, but *Staten-Island* hath not suffered from the *British* troops scarcely the tenth part of the damage this town hath from the Militia—fences burnt, and corn-fields, in some parts, entirely destroyed. Besides the calamities of war, it hath been by far the most sickly season ever known, and a time of great mortality; from three to five funerals in a day, in town, among which our friend Major *Wade* is laid in the grave.

Many in town have moved back into the country, for fear of the enemy; and, though Mrs. *Dayton* hath sent back most of your family and goods, yet she will not consent to go herself. She intends to stay till they are at the Point, and then run off. She is fearful if she leaves the house, it will be used for a store or barracks; and her fears are likely well founded; many, for that reason, and finding the enemy removed so far from us, are returning into town. Our people are frequently on *Staten-Island*, and lately brought off seventeen prisoners they took at *Cuckold's Town*. The enemy keep a garrison at the watering place, though they have but few men at any of their outposts, and very few in *New-York*. Sixty-two vessels lately arrived, in which it is said came four thousand *Hessians* with some *British* forces.

I hear General *Schuyler* lately wrote to the Congress requesting to resign his commission, upon a supposition they meant to cast an oblique censure on him by approving General *Wooster's* conduct in *Canada*; concluding there must be a fault somewhere, and if not in General *Wooster*, it would naturally fall on him. His conclusion was ill founded. The Congress, when they cleared General *Wooster* of misconduct, never thought of laying it on General *Schuyler*, but imputed the miscarriage there to the short time the soldiers had inlisted for, the small-pox getting into the army, the want of hard money to purchase provisions in *Canada*, and the almost impossibility of transporting any quantity there in the winter.

Our friend Mr. *Edwards* left this town yesterday for *Stockbridge*.

I have nothing to add but that I remain most cordially yours,

ABRAM CLARK.

To Colonel *Dayton*.

FIFTH SERIES.—VOL. II.

A Return of the Forces encamped on the Jersey Shore, under the command of Major-General GREENE, FORT LEE, October 26, 1776.

BRIGADES AND REGIMENTS.	Commissioned Officers present.							Staff Officers present.				Non- Comm'd, present.		RANK AND FILE.						Wanting.			Alterations since last Return.				
	Colonels.	Lieutenant Colonels.	Majors.	Captains.	First Lieutenants.	Second Lieutenants.	Ensigns.	Chaplains.	Adjutants.	Quartermasters.	Surgeons.	Mates.	Sergeants.	Drums and Fifes.	Present, fit for duty.	Sick, present.	Sick, absent.	On command.	On furlough.	Total.	Sergeants.	Drums and Fifes.	Privates.	Inlisted.	Dead.	Discharged.	Deserted.
General Roberdeau's.....	2	3	3	20	23	12	18	-	3	2	2	-	88	30	802	213	59	83	4	1163	10	9	258	-	5	2	6
General Ervin's	2	3	3	23	21	22	20	1	3	3	3	2	85	31	837	111	36	133	5	1122	11	17	570	-	2	-	-
Colonel McCallister's.....	1	-	1	6	5	4	6	-	1	1	-	1	24	4	218	21	16	1	1	323	8	12	189	-	-	-	1
Colonel Clotz's.....	1	1	1	6	6	7	2	-	1	1	1	-	25	4	289	14	14	18	1	336	2	3	149	3	1	1	8
Total.....	6	7	8	55	55	45	46	1	8	7	6	3	222	69	2146	359	125	235	11	2944	31	41	1165	3	8	3	15

NATHANAEL GREENE, Major-General.

COLONEL LASHER TO GENERAL HEATH.

Camp at King's Bridge, October 26, 1776.

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR HONOUR: As I was left commanding officer at this post, I examined the situation of the fort with regard to artillerymen and ammunition; and finding them very insufficient in case of an attack properly to defend the same, I thought it would be proper to represent to you the state we are in. We have six artillerymen, about thirty rounds of ammunition, and the fort in very bad order.

It will also be proper to acquaint your Honour that out of the six hundred that were ordered to remain, I find by the returns, there are not above four hundred, and many of the detachments have not ten rounds a man; and as a number of the guards are at a distance from the fort, we have not above two hundred men together, on the day of relief, to defend the same. The enemy has drove off our guard at *Mile-Square*, and taken possession of the stores. A large body of Light-Horse and Light Infantry appeared on the Heights west of said place to-day, and we expect to have a visit from them to-morrow.

I was desired by Colonel *Magaw* to take up one or both of the bridges, which I did not think prudent in case we should have to retreat. I hope your Honour will give such orders as you think proper in our situation.

I am, your Honour's most obedient, humble servant,
JOHN LASHER, Colonel.

To Major-General *Heath*, at *White-Plains*.

EXTRACT OF A LETTER FROM COLONEL REED TO MRS. REED, DATED WHITE-PLAINS, OCTOBER 26, 1776.

I wrote you the day before yesterday. Our situation is not materially altered, except that the enemy advanced upon us yesterday about four miles. We have taken post here in such a manner that we hope they will not be able to execute their plan of surrounding us, and cutting off our communication. I can only conjecture that finding themselves baffled in this, they are now advancing to engage us. The business of this campaign, and possibly the next, may

probably be determined this week. To the protection of that Being who blessed our early days and first connection, I must commend you and the dear children.

A Report of the Evidence taken at the Court of Inquiry, on the charge against Colonel TYLER, of cowardice and misbehaviour before the Enemy on the 15th last, which has been delayed for various causes, and cannot now be subscribed by all the Court, on account of the remote situation of some members from the others.

Captain *Eldridge*: Says their regiment was posted in the lines at *Corlear's Hook*, and that they received an order from General *Parsons* to march forward; that they accordingly marched up to an orchard to the southward of Mr. *Stuivesant's* house; that there they made a halt about half an hour; that then they were ordered to march, as he supposes, by General *Parsons*, and that Colonel *Tyler* was then at the head of his regiment, which was in the front of the brigade; that they proceeded on their march on the main road about two miles from the said orchard, and then struck across to the right towards the post-road, where they met General *Washington*, who ordered them to take a wall upon the right; that at that time the enemy appeared approaching from the southward, upon which the front of their regiment fired upon them; that at this time he did not see Colonel *Tyler*, and knows not where he was; that soon after a disorderly retreat began in the rear of the brigade, which was continued till it reached the front, when the whole retreated back to the road, from whence they had struck off to the right; that when they reached the road, this examinant observed Colonel *Tyler* crossing over on the north to join the regiment on the road; that after this the whole brigade retreated through the aforesaid road to *Harlem Heights*; that at the time of engaging the enemy the examinant's attention was so taken up that, though he does not recollect that he saw Colonel *Tyler*, yet he does not remember that he remarked at the time that he was not at the place where he should be; that the whole retreat was confused and precipitate; that a number of officers exerted themselves to prevent the retreat; that when he first discovered Colonel *Tyler* crossing the ground in the retreat, it appeared to him from the situation in which the Colonel was, that he was one of the last that retreated, and that he took a shorter cut than the course on which the brigade retreated, and joined his regiment.

Brigadier General *Parsons*: Says on the 15th, he ordered three regiments of his brigade, viz: *Prescott's*, *Tyler's*, and *Huntington's*, to march from the lines near *Corlear's Hook* to assist the troops in the middle division under General *Spencer*, where the enemy were attempting to land; that he soon rode on after these regiments by General *Putnam's* order, and found them in the main road; asked the reason why they were not near the river where the enemy were landing, as he then supposed; was told by the officers that the enemy's boats were gone farther eastward, and probably would land at or near *Turtle's Bay*, on which they pursued their march on the road to the barrier across the street; he, the examinant, being then near the rear of the three regiments, observed the front to advance on the road called *Bloomingdale* road, instead of going in the post-road; on which he rode forward to the front of the brigade, in order to march them into the other road, when he found Colonel *Tyler* with his regiment, and was there informed they marched that way by order of Generals *Putnam* and *Spencer*, who were just forward; this examinant then rode forward on that road some little distance, perhaps sixty or eighty rods, to a road which turned off eastward to the post road, and found General *Fellows's* brigade in that cross road, marching eastward, and also saw Generals *Washington*, *Putnam*, and others, at the top of the hill eastward, and rode up to them; General *Washington* directed that the examinant should attend to keep his brigade in order and march on into the cross road; he accordingly rode back and met the brigade as they came into the cross road; as he was riding back he saw Colonel *Tyler* in a lot on the south side the cross road coming from the *Bloomingdale* road to the cross road, and asked him why he was not with the regiment; he said he was very much fatigued, it being very hot, and was going across the lot to join the regiment, it

being nearer than to keep the road; this examinant then rode by the side of the brigade to near the top of the hill, his attention being to keep the brigade in order, and then heard General *Washington* call out "Take the walls!" and immediately added, "Take the corn-field!" a corn-field being then on the right adjoining east on the main road, and north on the cross road; immediately from front to rear of the brigade the men ran to the walls, and some into the corn-field, in a most confused and disordered manner; this examinant then used his utmost endeavour to form the brigade into some order upon that ground, but the men were so dispersed he found it impossible; he then rode back into the *Bloomingdale* road, and there found a considerable part of the brigade, but in no order; General *Washington* was then forward in the *Bloomingdale* road, and sent for this examinant, and gave order to form the brigade as soon as could be done, and march on to *Harlem Heights*; as soon as the brigade could be reduced to any form, they marched on to *Harlem Heights*; when they had proceeded about a mile or two, a sudden panick again seized the rear of the brigade; they ran into the fields out of the road; the reason he knows not; in the fields he saw Colonel *Tyler*, which was the first time he recollects to have seen the Colonel after the time he saw him crossing the lot to the front of his regiment.

Lieutenant-Colonel *Prentice*: Says that he was upon detached service, until he joined the brigade after they had crossed from the *Bloomingdale* road to the post road; that he thinks when he joined the brigade, he saw Colonel *Tyler* at the head of it; that after this the examinant was so busily engaged in endeavouring to form the men and bring them to some order for opposing the enemy, that he had no opportunity to observe Colonel *Tyler* until the retreat took place and the brigade had returned to the *Bloomingdale* road, when he observed Colonel *Tyler* crossing the ground by a shorter way than that by which the brigade retreated; that when he first discovered the Colonel crossing the ground he appeared to him to be walking slowly, and from his situation and the shorter course which he had taken, he concludes that he was last in the retreat, and at very little distance from the brigade.

Captain *Sill*: Says that he was in the rear of the regiment all the time of the retreat, and in crossing from the *Bloomingdale* to the post road; that when they met the enemy he was at such a distance from the Colonel, and so busily engaged in bringing the men to their duty, that he had no opportunity of observing him, nor does he recollect that he saw him until the brigade had retreated to the *Bloomingdale* road through the cross road; that he then saw the Colonel join the brigade in the *Bloomingdale* road; that after they had marched about one mile and an half up the *Bloomingdale* road, a cry was raised towards the rear that the Light-Horse were approaching, upon which near an hundred men crossed with precipitation into a lot on the west side of the road, among whom (after they had been there a few minutes) he observed the Colonel; that when the Colonel joined the brigade on the *Bloomingdale* road, he appeared very cool and composed, and showed no signs of fear; that after crossing into the lot as above mentioned, the Colonel, after marching about forty rods, returned into the road and joined the brigade, and told the examinant that the men who crossed into the lot had behaved very ill, and that he had a mind to fire upon them.

The Court adjourned till three o'clock in the afternoon; then met according to adjournment.

Lieutenant *Baldwin*: Being examined, says nothing material.

Lieutenant *Selden*: Being examined, also says nothing material.

Lieutenant *Reed*: Says that he was about the centre of the regiment, and saw nothing of Colonel *Tyler* from the time they left *Bloomingdale* road until they returned there again.

Ensign *Wait*: Says that he was in the rear of the first company of Colonel *Tyler's* regiment; that after the brigade had crossed over from *Bloomingdale* road towards the post road, where they met the enemy, he saw Colonel *Tyler* at the head of the brigade; that when orders were given to man the stone wall, he saw the Colonel at the head of the regiment, who marched up to the fence and presented his piece, and supposes that he fired; that after that he under-

stood that orders were given to go into the corn-field, that after they had got into the corn-field, and a principal part of the brigade were retreating, the examinant heard Colonel *Tyler* say to the men, "why do you run? this will never beat them;" that at that time he supposes the Colonel was nearly in the same place where he was when the fire first began, and that from his behaviour, he has no reason to believe that the Colonel was at all intimidated; that from the situation the Colonel was in at the time of firing, he has reason to believe that the Colonel was one of the last that retreated from the enemy; that the first time he noticed the Colonel after the retreat from the enemy, was when they had marched about a mile from the cross road up the *Bloomington* road, where they got into some order, and that after that the Colonel continued in the front till the brigade reached the Heights of *Harlem*.

Ensign *Billings*: Says that he was sent off with a small party of men, when the brigade halted at *Stuivesant's*, towards the *East River*, to discover where the boats of the enemy were landing; that he was not able to join the brigade again till he fell in with their rear as they were crossing over from the *Bloomington* road to the post road; that he had no opportunity of seeing Colonel *Tyler* until the brigade were retreating from the enemy to the *Bloomington* road; that he then saw Colonel *Tyler* retreating on a shorter course than that which the brigade took, and from his situation when he first discovered him, he conceives him to have been the last man that retreated.

Ensign *Hill*: He exactly confirms the testimony of Ensign *Wait*, with this addition, that he saw the Colonel fire, and that he appeared to retreat with great composure.

Paymaster *Sill*: Says that he had no opportunity of observing Colonel *Tyler's* conduct from the time that they crossed over from the *Bloomington* road towards the post road, and had returned back to the *Bloomington* road and marched up it one mile; that when the brigade had marched up that far, there was a cry from the rear that the Light-Horse were advancing, and that a great part of the battalion which Colonel *Tyler* commanded precipitately threw themselves into the lot on the west side of the road; that the Colonel went into the lot, and this examinant with him; that from the Colonel's conduct at this juncture, it appeared to this examinant that his design in going into the lot was to bring back the men to the brigade, for that in his presence and hearing the Colonel threatened to fire upon them if they did not join the brigade.

Sergeant *Palmer*: Says that when the brigade crossed over from the *Bloomington* road towards the post road, he was on the right of the front rank of the brigade which was led by Colonel *Tyler*, and that he had a full opportunity of observing the Colonel's conduct till the time of the retreat; that on notice that the enemy were approaching and orders given to take the wall, the Colonel advanced towards it, still keeping in the front, and was the first man in the brigade who fired; that this examinant discharged his piece twice at the enemy, and on looking round he saw the whole brigade were retreating, the Colonel still remaining on the ground with this examinant, and no person within several rods of them; that upon this the Colonel ordered them to stop, and asked them why they run, and commanded the officers to stop them; that this not being effected, the Colonel and he retreated, the two last men of the brigade, the Colonel along the cross road as far as he remained in sight, and this examinant along the corn-field; that when this examinant joined the brigade in the *Bloomington* road, he saw the Colonel at the head of it; that when the cry was raised that the Light-Horse were advancing, which occasioned a great part of the battalion in front to betake themselves to the lot on the west side of the road, he heard the Colonel order them back.

Corporals *Brewster* and *Chapman*: Confirm what Sergeant *Palmer* said, that the Colonel was the last man that retreated from the enemy, and that they saw the Colonel, after having marched some distance on the cross road, strike off to the right, with intent, as they conceived, to get to the head of the regiment.

I do hereby certify that the whole Court were of opinion that there is not sufficient evidence to warrant the charge of cowardice and misbehaviour against Colonel *Tyler*; and that this report would have been made immediately on taking the examinations, had not the Court apprehended

that, the Colonel having been put under arrest by express order from Head-Quarters, some evidence against him might have been pointed out from thence.

Camp at White-Plains, October 26, 1776.

JOHN MORIN SCOTT, *Brigadier-General*,
President.

GENERAL MIFFLIN TO WILLIAM DUER.

Camp at White-Plains, October 26, 1776.

DEAR MR. DUER: The hurry of our camp has prevented me giving you a timely answer to your several favours. Many deliberations have been devoted to your many essential propositions, and all I have been able to obtain from the General Officers is contained in the enclosed, signed by Lord *Stirling*, as the opinions of the rest. I will add that the barracks at each place proposed on the paper should be calculated for two thousand men. When the enemy, who have advanced to a height within three miles of the camp, afford time for the General to give his opinion fully on the subject, you shall receive ample instructions; at present form the magazines on such places as you conceive most likely to answer our wants. Mr. *Livingston* has recommended a Mr. *Janur* to purchase for me; but as I now depend on you for all my supplies of grain, hay, and straw, I cannot, nor do I think it right to apply to any other gentleman in this Colony for the same articles.

The Congress allows two and one half per cent. for purchase of grain, &c., which I expect you to charge in your account. If you see Mr. *Livingston*, give him my reason for not writing to Mr. *Janur*.

I have sent to *Boston* for three hundred casks of nails carried in there by a privateer; but as they will not be sent here in time for your wants, I beg you to purchase so many as you are like to want for the two sets of barracks, and in case we find necessary to erect more barracks, you may be supplied by me with nails for them in good season.

I have desired Mr. *J. Wadsworth*, of *Connecticut*, to purchase grain, hay, &c., in that Colony, and therefore beg you not to send any agents to that Colony, who may interfere with and affect the purchase. If your purchases are confined to this State, it will, I believe, answer a good purpose and prevent an increase of prices.

I enclose you an order on Mr. *Cranch*, for thirty thousand dollars. He is, I am informed, on his way to this place. You must therefore send a person to this place for the money. If I could find a person to carry the cash I would wait Mr. *Cranch's* arrival, and then send it to you. But this cannot be done.

I have ordered fifty carpenters to march from hence this day to *Peekskill*, and there wait your order.

I am, affectionately, your friend, &c.,

THOMAS MIFFLIN.

MEMORANDUM.

For the present (and until the other places can be fixed upon) I think it will be proper to erect Barracks at some place a mile or two eastward from the mouth of *Peekskill*, and another set of Barracks at some place about two or three miles eastern from *Fishkill* landing, or near *Fishkill* town. This will be sufficient employment until other places can be pointed out. The houses had best be about thirty-six feet long by nineteen feet broad, and about seven feet in the upright on each side.

STIRLING.

GEORGE CLINTON.

October 26, 1776.

COLONEL STOCKTON TO ROBERT BENSON.

Camp at White-Plains, October 26, 1776.

SIR: As many of our officers are willing to enter into the service of the States, we have taken the liberty to recommend the under-mentioned officers as proper persons to bear commissions, and hope they may be provided for.

We are, sir, your most humble servants,

ANDREW STOCKHOLM, *Lieut. Colonel*.

JAMES ABEEL, *Major*.

To Robert Benson, Esq.

Captain *Theophilus Beekman*, Captain *Wright*, Captain

John Bancker, Captain *William Leonard*, Lieutenant *Thomas Beekman*, *Thomas Warner*.

John Vriedenburgh, whose Captain and Lieutenant are gone to the Regulars, and has done the duty of the whole company since, and has acted as Captain.

John Hardbergh, if he gets a Captain's commission.

Joseph Fryleck, an Ensign.

Lieutenant *Hicks* and Lieutenant *North*.

Edward Dunscomb, Lieutenant, *Jeronimus Hogland*, Adjutant, now prisoners.

Christopher Codwise, whom we strongly recommend for a Captain's commission.

COLONEL TASH TO THE NEW-HAMPSHIRE COMMITTEE OF SAFETY.

Peaskskill, in Cortland Manor, October 26, 1776.

This comes to acquaint your Honours that I arrived at *Hartford*, in *Connecticut*, the 2d instant, and one company the same day, which I sent forward next morning, and likewise I sent Colonel *Welch* off the same day, with a letter to General *Washington* acquainting him that I was at *Hartford*, and expected the whole of my regiment to be there in three or four days, and should send the companies off for *New-York* as fast as they got here, and should follow them after the last company had arrived. I likewise let him know we had no camp equipage, such as pots, kettles; neither was it in the power of the State of *New-Hampshire* to procure any, as there was no tin to be had. I also transmitted a copy of my orders to him. I set off from *Hartford* the 8th instant, and all the companies had gone forward excepting Captain *Prescot*, and I thought I would wait no longer for him, and left orders for him to follow as fast as possible. When I arrived at *Stamford* Colonel *Welch* was there, and brought me a letter from General *Washington*, directing me to procure quarters for my regiment and Colonel *Baldwin's* at *Stamford* and *Horse-Neck*, but to have the major part at *Horse-Neck* if quarters could be procured for them. He likewise directed me to furnish ourselves with camp utensils from the inhabitants if possible. I applied to the Committee to furnish me with pots, &c., but Colonel *Baldwin* had got there before me, and had got almost all to be had; they made out to get me three, and I sent round for several miles and procured a small number more, by advancing the cash in hand for them. The 13th instant, early in the morning, received orders by express from General *Sullivan* to march my regiment to *King's Bridge*, with all possible speed, and likewise to acquaint Colonel *Baldwin* that he must march likewise. Accordingly we got wagons to carry our baggage ready about two o'clock, p. m., and got the whole to *Horse-Neck* Sunday night, nine o'clock. Sunday night, the 13th instant, received a letter by express from General *Washington*, to march my regiment to *Fishkill*, as the Convention was there sitting, in such a difficult situation, with regard to the numbers of disaffected persons in many Counties in this State, that they could not trust their own Militia so well as ours; therefore ordered me to march with all possible speed to said *Fishkill*, which I did the next morning, and sent a letter to the General acquainting him of the same. Before I got to *Fishkill* received a letter by express from the Congress, that they did not want but two companies; but I had got them within two miles of the place, so that it was too late to go back that night; so I went forward and waited on the Congress, and let them know my orders; and the President, Mr. *Livingston*, said he was sorry we come so far, that is the whole regiment, but desired I would send back to stop the remainder, and turn them back to *Peaskskill*, where we must remain till further orders, to guard the shores, to stop the men-of-war's people landing to carry off cattle, and leave two companies there, which I did, under the command of Colonel *Welch*; and the remainder I have posted from this place, about eight miles down the river, to watch the motions of the enemy, and sent a letter to General *Washington*, acquainting him of my route, and the orders I had received of the Congress, and how I had posted my regiment. And he wrote back very friendly, and told me I must be under the immediate direction of the Convention of this State, with regard to marching the regiment, or any part, to any place till further orders. I have nothing further at present, as you know the news full as well as I; therefore would beg

leave to subscribe myself your Honour's most obedient humble servant,

THOMAS TASH.

To the honourable the Committee of Safety for the State of *New-Hampshire*.

P. S. Colonel *Baldwin* is at the *White-Plains* with his regiment, and the main body of the army is there. The regiment I command is almost all in good health and high spirits.

PETER R. LIVINGSTON TO PIERRE VAN CORTLANDT.

Esopus, October 26, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: I came over here yesterday to inquire what flour might be had here, and find but little; however, have got all there is, and Captain *Sleight* is now loading. He will have, I judge, about three hundred barrels. I set all the wagons riding I could get. They are to ride all day to-morrow, so that he will be ready to sail on *Monday* for *Albany*. Have ordered all the mills to grind as fast as possible, to have another load ready by the time he returns. Shall send up another load of four hundred barrels by the middle of the week, as I find they are in the utmost want.

Shall send off a hand to purchase some teams at *Sharon*, and send them down, loaded with oats if I can procure them. Have no money. Shall send a hand down to you for some soon.

Beg you will excuse this scrawl, and your further directions by the return of this express.

Am, gentlemen, your most obedient, humble servant,

PETER R. LIVINGSTON.

To *Pierre Van Cortlandt*, Vice President of the Convention, at *Fishkill*.

RICHARD STOCKTON AND GEORGE CLYMER TO PRESIDENT OF CONGRESS.

[Read November 4, 1776, and referred to the Board of War.]

Saratoga, October 26, 1776.

SIR: In execution of the commission with which we were charged by Congress, we proceeded with as much expedition as the nature of the service would permit to *Albany*, having taken Head-Quarters in our way, and thereby obtained all the information which could be given us by Mr. *Trumbull*, your Commissary-General. At *Albany*, we spent two days with General *Schuyler*, and then proceeded, in company with him, to this place. On our way we received information by express of our fleet having been attacked on *Lake Champlain*, and the next day, of its total defeat. We were, nevertheless, about to proceed on to *Ticonderoga*, but were advised by General *Schuyler* that, in all probability, our army would be attacked by the enemy before we could possibly reach that place; or if otherwise, yet that General *Gates* his attention would be so totally taken up in preparing to receive the enemy, that we could do no business with him: we therefore concluded to suspend our journey to *Ticonderoga* for a few days, until we might have some further accounts from General *Gates*, and in the mean time we gave our attention to the barracks to be erected in this place, and in considering the application of two gentlemen respecting the contract for supplying the army. Happily, General *Schuyler's* precaution of diligence as to the barracks, had left us little more to do but to go with him and mark out the ground where they were to be erected. He had prepared the most of the timber before we arrived, and they are now raising, and will be ready in good time. Other barracks will be built at *Fort Edward* and elsewhere. Nails are exceedingly wanted, and if any could be procured at *Philadelphia*, they should be sent immediately. After having gotten through the business which had arisen at this place, and having sent on a letter to General *Gates* for speedy information from him, we set out for *Fort George* in order to inspect the state of the Hospital at that place. The chief of the sick from *Ticonderoga* are sent there, as being a much more healthy and convenient situation; and we are happy in being able to inform Congress that the building is convenient and comfortable; that the Director-General has lately received a large supply of the most capital medicines; and that they are now furnished with a sufficient quantity of fresh mutton and Indian meal. They yet want bedding, and some other matters which we shall state upon

our return. We shall endeavour to procure some straw, a very scarce article here, which is much needed at the Hospital.

At the close of our business at *Fort George* we received a letter from General *Gates* advising us not to pursue our journey to *Tyconderoga*, but to remain at *Saratoga* until further advice from him. We are just returned here from *Fort George*, and shall wait a few days to hear further from General *Gates*. In the mean time we shall be pursuing the other part of our instructions, which can be executed here.

General *Schuyler* has taken every possible step, in order to keep open the communication from hence to *Ticonderoga*, that the army may not want supplies. Considerable bodies of the Militia are daily going up; yet we heard the last evening that the savages had appeared between the upper end of *Lake George* and *Ticonderoga*, and had, on the day we left *Fort George*, taken two and killed and scalped one of our people going to *Ticonderoga*. An express comes in this moment, who brings a letter from the commanding officer at *Fort George*, informing that a party of the enemy had made their appearance and fired on some of our people who were crossing *Lake George*. General *Schuyler* yet doubts of this fact.

We shall attend with all possible diligence to the remaining business committed to us by Congress, and, for our own sake as well as the publick interest, return as soon as may be.

With the greatest esteem and respect, we have the honour to be, sir, your most obedient and very humble servants,
 RICH'D STOCKTON,
 GEO. CLYMER.

GENERAL SCHUYLER TO GENERAL WASHINGTON.

Saratoga, October 26, 1776.

DEAR SIR: Mr. *Harrison's* letter of the 20th instant I received yesterday, and a few minutes afterwards I received a letter from General *Gates*, copy whereof I do myself the honour to enclose.

I am in great hopes that General *Carleton* will not be able to dislodge our army from *Tyconderoga*; but should such an event unfortunately take place, such measures will be taken as I think will certainly prevent them from penetrating into the country on this side of the lakes. The change of Commissaries has very considerably interrupted the supplies for the army. I have, however, got every thing again in such train that a very considerable quantity of flour is now on its way up, and I believe it impossible for the enemy to prevent its reaching the army even if they should make their utmost efforts to intercept it.

On the 28th *September*, the army had forty days' flour; on the 22d instant, it was reduced to sixteen; but on that and every succeeding day, I hope considerable quantities arrived. Be assured, my dear General, that I shall take every measure that has a probable tendency to promote the service and secure the country.

I congratulate your Excellency on the success of our troops at *East-Chester*. I hope it will soon be succeeded by a more decisive blow in our favour, so as to frustrate the enemy's intention of forming a line between you and us.

I am, dear sir, with every respectful sentiment, your Excellency's most obedient, humble servant,

PH. SCHUYLER.

To His Excellency General *Washington*.

Ticonderoga, October 24, 1776.

DEAR GENERAL: Your letters of the 14th, 17th, and 18th instant, are received in course, and now before me. The ammunition arrived safe, and in as good order as could be wished; a most seasonable supply I assure you. Not any of the Militia are yet come in. I hear of numbers being upon their march, and I shall advise you as they arrive. Colonel *Dayton's* are not on this side the lake. I expect them every day. Our communications are free and unmolested, and the eastern post and travellers are continually coming to *Mount Independence* by *Otter Creek* and the roads that lead from thence, no scouts of the enemy appearing to disturb them. Cattle are pretty plenty upon the ground, as you will see by Mr. *Jauncey's* return enclosed. If you order

cattle to be killed at *Lake George*, you had better direct them to be salted down in barrels and sent over the lake in that way, for it arrives in a wretched condition when sent in quarters fresh. I shall be careful to have batteaus and vessels enough at *Skenesborough* to bring all the provisions you send there.

Flour seems to be more in request than meat. You may be assured we are doing every thing our judgment can direct, or our industry accomplish, for receiving the enemy properly. Spades, which I have so long and so often sent for, are so much wanted that even one single hundred would be most welcome.

General *Carleton* keeps very close at *Crown Point*, his navy at anchor upon his flanks. I have scouts continually down both sides of the lake. I apprehend by this time his force is all collected, and expect the stillness will immediately be succeeded by a grand attack. Heaven grant he may be defeated! The army here are in good spirits, and think only of victory.

Tenpenny, eightpenny, and shingle nails are exceedingly wanted. And where are the one or two thousand bushels of turnips and potatoes you was to send here? They would be of the utmost benefit to this army. If you can send a good parcel of nail rods, our smiths will assist in making nails.

I am, dear General, your affectionate, humble servant,
 HORATIO GATES.

To the Hon. Major-General *Schuyler*.

[The Return alluded to in this letter was not enclosed.
 J. LANSING, Jun.]

GEN. SCHUYLER TO THE COMMITTEE OF THE CONVENTION.

Saratoga, October 26, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: I am honoured with your favour of the 24th instant. The affidavits transmitted me would countenance the suppositions that the enemy intend an irruption on the *Mohawk* river, but I can hardly imagine they will attempt until they have met with success at *Ticonderoga*, which I both hope and believe they will not have. I did not, however, like to move *Dayton's* corps from the western quarter, but was pressed to do it in such terms by General *Gates* that I could not prudently refuse it. Lest, however, an accident should happen, I would advise that Colonel *Van Ness*, with his regiment, should, on his return from *Coarsakie*, march to *Schenectady*, or such place where he can be of most service in case of an attack. Our scouts from *Johnstown*, *Fort George*, and *Fort Edward*, all agree that there is not the least appearance of an enemy in the north-west quarters.

I enclose you copies of letters from General *Gates* and General *Arnold*. I have had a copious eruption since you was here; it is going off, and find myself in much better health.

I am, gentlemen, with every friendly wish, and with the greatest esteem, your most humble servant,

PH. SCHUYLER.

To the Committee of Convention, at *Albany*.

GENERAL SCHUYLER TO COMMITTEE OF BENNINGTON.

Saratoga, October 26, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: You will please to signify to the Militia of the Eastern governments on their march, that I wish them to hasten as fast as possible to *Skenesborough*, where I have left orders for their future disposition. I should be happy if every man carried as much flour or bread as he conveniently can. I suppose the Militia from your and the adjacent towns are already marched.

I am, gentlemen, very respectfully, your obedient, humble servant,

PH. SCHUYLER.

To the honourable Committee of *Bennington*.

COLONEL DE HART TO THEUNIS DEY AND JOHN C. SYMES.

Ticonderoga, October 26, 1776.

DEAR SIRs: We as yet have not seen our enemy: this night or in the morn we expect them. We have intelligence of the Grenadiers and Light Infantry being advanced as far as *Putnam Point*, about nine miles from this place.

If they do not come in three days, I shall give over expecting them. I hope and firmly believe they will be properly received. The two *Jersey* regiments will open the ball.

When you left us, you may remember it was strongly recommended to you from us to request the State of *New-Jersey* to postpone the regimental appointments until our return, or this affair is over. Many reasons may be given to support this request. If the attack should happen, it would save many unnecessary appointments, and the propriety of future appointments may be best known: if it should not happen, a small time will bring us home, where, if any information should be necessary from us, it can be easily obtained. This request, which is very general with the officers amongst us, we beg the State, if it will not be a matter of inconvenience, to comply with.

I must request of you, gentlemen, to communicate this to the members of the State. My compliments to the gentlemen of my acquaintance of that honourable body, and remain, with great respect, your most obedient, humble servant,

WM. DE HART.

To Hon. *Theunis Dey* and *John C. Symes*.

CONNECTICUT COUNCIL OF SAFETY.

At a meeting of the Governour and Council of Safety of *Connecticut*, October 26, 1776,

Present: His Honour the Governour; his Honour the Deputy Governour; *Eliphalet Dyer*, *Jabez Huntington*, *Richard Law*, *Titus Hosmer*, *William Hillhouse*, *Benjamin Huntington*, Esqrs.

Voted, To desire his Honour the Governour to grant permits to Captain *Elizur Goodrich*, of *Wethersfield*, to export in the sloop *Betsey*, said *Goodrich* Master, to *Margallante*, the following articles, viz: eighty barrels Beef, twenty-five barrels Flour, fifteen barrels Pork, six Oxen, and sixty dozen Poultry, and to make returns in Salt.

Voted, To draw on the Pay-Table, in favour of Captain *Joseph Thompson*, for the sum of £300, towards the billeting and wages of the Company under his command, and to be in account. (Order drawn October 26, 1776, delivered to Captain *Thompson*.)

Voted, That Colonel *Jonathan Fitch* be directed for the future to supply the troops under the command of Captain *Joseph Thompson*, in *New-Haven*, with Provisions, agreeable to orders heretofore given. (Copy delivered to Captain *Thompson* October 26, 1776.)

Mr. *William Greenough*, of *New-Haven*, exhibited his account against this State for service done, being £33 12s., which is allowed, and an order directed to be drawn on the Pay-Table. (Order drawn October 26, 1776.)

MEMORIAL OF WILLIAM FORBES.

To the Honourable the Provincial Congress of the State of *NEW-YORK*:

The Memorial of *WILLIAM FORBES*, of *GOSHEN*, in *ORANGE County*, in said State, humbly sheweth:

That a little before your honourable Convention moved from *New-York* to *White-Plains*, your unhappy memorialist fell under the great misfortune of being misrepresented to your Honours as unfriendly to the *American* States; and, although he avouched his innocency, yet the perplexity of the times then intervening unfortunately prevented for that time a full examination of his case, and he was then transmitted into the State of *Connecticut*, and finally committed to the custody of the keeper of *Litchfield County Gaol*, in which prison he still remains. And whereas his peculiar misfortunes render his present close confinement very distressing, as he is by his poverty utterly unable to provide himself with either bedding or even present necessary clothing, which heavy calamities must be greatly aggravated by a much longer confinement under his present circumstances, as the severity of winter wears a very horrid aspect in the northwesterly part of a cold gaol. These glooms have still a keener edge set to them by the very great additional melancholy consideration, that his confinement not only deprives of the comfort of the very agreeable company of a beloved wife and four helpless babes, but totally deprives him of the possibility of affording any relief to their distresses. Whereupon your Honours' very unfortunate

memorialist, taking encouragement from your Honours' impartiality and humanity, humbly recommends his greatly distressed case to as speedy a consideration as the variety of your important affairs will admit of. He really hopes he shall be so happy as to evince his innocency whenever he can be so happy as to appear before your Honours. Your Honours' memorialist craves your Honours' patience while he adds to his profession of innocency his honest declaration of an hearty desire for the prosperity of the *American* States, in favour of which he is ready to risk his life either by sea or land, under the tie of a sacred oath of fidelity to them in their glorious and righteous contest for independency and exemption from the tyranny of *Britain* and her despotick monarch.

The memorialist humbly hopes his dismissal or trial may be speedy; but if the present embarrassment of the times necessitates a delay thereof, he implores the honourable Congress to mitigate, in some measure, the pungent distresses of his present confinement, either by directing he may be returned from his present exile, and permitted to reside with his family as a prisoner of honour, under the inspection and direction of some Committee of Inspection, or such other person as your Honours shall please to appoint; or if that should be deemed inexpedient, that your unfortunate suppliant may be delivered from the horrors of a cold winter gaol, by being permitted to labour at his trade under such restrictions as your Honours may think fit mercifully to indulge him in, in *Connecticut*. And your unfortunate memorialist, as in duty bound, shall ever pray, &c.

WM. FORBES.

Litchfield County Gaol, October 26, A. D. 1776.

Providence, October 26, 1776.

On Monday next the honourable General Assembly of this State will meet at *South-Kingstown*.

A letter from *Maryland* to a gentleman in this town mentions that a *Spanish* vessel had arrived there from the *Havannah*, with ten thousand dollars to purchase flour, the captain of which confirmed the accounts of a war between *Spain* and *Portugal*; and further, advised, that a fleet of *Spanish* men-of-war and transports were daily expected to arrive at the *Havannah* with a large body of troops.

The brig *Cabot*, *Elisha Hinman*, Esq., commander, in the service of the *United States*, has taken two ships from *Jamaica*, bound to *London*, laden with sugar, rum, some indigo, &c.

Captain *Stacey*, in the privateer *Diamond*, has taken a ship bound from *Quebeck* to *England*, laden with coal, copper kettles, &c.

Captain *Christopher Whipple*, in the privateer brig *Putnam*, has taken a ship bound from *Nova-Scotia* to *Jamaica*, laden with fish, boards, spars, &c.

Captain *Jauncy*, in the privateer *Washington*, belonging to the State of *New-York*, has taken a large snow, laden with provisions, &c., bound from *London* to *New-York*.

All the above prizes have arrived in safe ports, and also two others lately mentioned to have been taken by the *Providence* sloop-of-war, in the service of the *United States*, *John P. Jones*, Esq., Commander.

WILLIAM CARMICHAEL TO C. W. F. DUMAS.

Amsterdam, October 27, 1776.

DEAR SIR: You owe to my forgetfulness what ought only to proceed from my respect, yet I will not quarrel with any thing that gives me an opportunity of writing to you.

I left the Memoir on Commerce in your hands, and it is necessary I should have it as soon as possible. I send you "*Common Sense*," but you must look on my presents as *Indian* ones, for I, like they, expect much larger in return; as much as you please; and I am sure you can spare a great deal of what I send you. My present is only the rough material of *America*; your returns will be elegant and superb manufactures of *Europe*.

The *English* mail is not arrived. I have a very angry letter from Mr. *William Lee* on the subject I mentioned to you, respecting Dr. *B*. I am happy to know that I acted for the publick good; and that, without partiality to any person, will, I hope, always be the rule of my conduct.

I am, &c.,

WILLIAM CARMICHAEL.

JOSHUA CLARKE TO MARYLAND CONVENTION.

October 27, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: I received a line from the Committee for inquiring into the state of manufactories of this Province, requesting that I would furnish with a state of the saltpetre works under my care, as also the moneys expended thereon. Enclosed you have an account, and refer you to my letter of the 20th of *March*, since which I have done nothing at it, owing to my bad state of health, and still continue poorly, so that I should be glad you would have some other person appointed if you think it worth while, but am told there is very little done at any of the works on the *Eastern-Shore*.

I have received sixty-eight pounds ten shillings of the Treasurer of this Shore, which is always ready to be paid to your order. As I have rendered no services, the trouble and expense I have been at in the experiments I am willing to lose, and take upon myself the materials purchased for the publick, as per account rendered, or deliver them up as may be thought most advisable.

I am, gentlemen, your humble servant,

JOSHUA CLARKE,
Supervisor of Saltpetre Works,
In Caroline County, Eastern-Shore of Maryland.
To the honourable Convention of Maryland.

CAPTAIN DEAMS TO MARYLAND COUNCIL OF SAFETY.

Baltimore, October 27, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: I take this opportunity to let you know that the most of my company is willing to enlist for during the war with me, provided that I might give them twenty dollars as bounty without deducting the sum of eight dollars which they have received of me, as bounty for their former enlistment.

My men says that they will serve their time out with me, according to contract, and then that they will enlist with another person, in order that they may receive the sum of twenty dollars without any deduction. My men that have not as yet received their month's advance, insists that I should pay them this week; therefore, I should be glad to know whether I must pay them out of what money I have now in my possession.

I find that by the resolutions of Congress the private men is allowed but six shillings per week for rations, which I think it would be impossible for any officer that draws rations for his men, to find them in provisions for that price.

I should be glad, gentlemen, that you would let me know what pay per month the private soldier and officers has, according to the resolutions of Congress.

I am, gentlemen, with great respect, yours to serve,
FREDERICK DEAMS.

To the honourable the Council of Safety of Maryland.

RICHARD HENRY LEE TO GENERAL WASHINGTON.

Philadelphia, October 27, 1776.

DEAR SIR: I congratulate you sincerely on the several advantages your troops have lately gained over the enemy, for though each has been but small, yet in the whole they are considerable, and will certainly have the effect of inspiring our army, while it wastes and discourages the other.

May the great Dispenser of justice to mankind put it in your power, before this campaign ends, to give these foes to human kind the stroke their wicked intentions entitles them to. 'Tis amazing with what force and infamous perseverance the devils of despotism, with their corrupt agents, pursue the purpose of enslaving this great continent! Their system of policy has been evident for some time past. They mean to keep their own people in *Great Britain* quiet, and the other Powers of *Europe* still, for this campaign, by an infinite number of falsehoods touching the progress of their arms, and the consequent probable submission of the Colonies; whilst they endeavour, by an extraordinary exertion of force, to put things really into such a situation this year as to terrify foreigners from interfering, and encourage with hope their own deluded people. Pursuing this idea, *Europe* will be made to ring with sounding accounts of their immense successes in *Canada* and at *New-York*, when in fact, considering the greatness of their force,

both by sea and land, with the amazing expense these will create, what they have done is mere nothing. But should fortune favour us, so as that any considerable impression could be made on General *Howe's* army this campaign, the high hopes they have raised, and the numberless lies they have told, will disgrace and ruin them with the whole world.

I have the pleasure to assure you the train is so laid that we have the fairest prospect of being soon supplied, and copiously too, with military stores of all kinds, and with clothing fit for the soldiers. Immediately, to be sure, we are much pressed for want of the latter; but if we can brush through this crisis, we shall be secure.

The *French* Court has given us so many unequivocal proofs of their friendship, that I can entertain no doubt of their full exertions in our favour, and as little that a war between them and *Great Britain* is not far distant.

I sincerely wish you health, sir, and that you may be happy in the success you are so eminently entitled to.

I am, with perfect esteem, dear sir, your most affectionate and obedient servant,

RICHARD HENRY LEE.

ROBERT MORRIS TO GENERAL GATES.

Philadelphia, October 27, 1776.

DEAR SIR: I find by your letter of the 5th instant, you had not received one of my letters wrote in answer to one of yours. I kept no copy of it, which you'll say is unusual for a merchant. I acknowledge it, and only plead in excuse that I did not write to you in that character. The letter for Mrs. *Gates* is gone forward by post, as I could not meet any other conveyance, although I kept it here some days in expectation of one. Mr. *Johnston*, and indeed all the *Maryland* Delegates, are at home, forming a constitution. This seems to be the present business of all *America*, except the army. It is the fruits of a certain premature declaration, which, you know, I always opposed. My opposition was founded in the evil consequences I foresaw, or thought I foresaw, and the present state of several Colonies justifies my apprehensions. We are disputing about liberties, privileges, posts, and places, at the very time we ought to have nothing in view but the securing those objects and placing them on such a footing as to make them worth contending for amongst ourselves hereafter; but, instead of that, the vigour of this and several other States is lost in intestine division, and unless this spirit of contention is checked by some means or other, I fear it will have baneful influence on the general measures of *America*.

I am not one of those testy politicians that run resty when my own plans are not adopted; for I think it the duty of a good citizen to follow when he cannot lead; and happy would it be for *America* if all her inhabitants would adopt this maxim, and make it an invariable rule during this great contest for the minority on every question to submit to the majority. But alas! this cannot be; it is not to be expected from human nature. We must take men as we find them, and do the best we can. You tell me the Congress are bad correspondents, and I fear you have too much truth on your side. Was you here, I could explain this in a *tête-à-tête*, but I have neither time nor inclination to commit that explanation to paper. You may depend there is no intentional neglect or slight meant to you or the department you act in. It is deemed of the utmost importance, and all the members of Congress wish that and every other department was duly attended to. But the fact is, they have too many objects, and retain too much executive business in their own hands for their members to effect with that vigour and despatch that is necessary.

You say I must tell you good news. I will, if you will repay me in kind; for of late we have had nothing but very bad news from both our armies. We expect daily to hear of your being attacked, and have sanguine hopes of a vigorous and successful defence on your part; much depends on it. If you keep your ground, I think General *Washington* will keep his; and if both do this for the present fall and ensuing winter, the good news I mean to tell you will be verified. It is that the *French* are undoubtedly disposed to assist us in this contest, and I have little doubt but they will take part in the war next summer. Indeed it seems to me impossible but all *Europe* will be involved in war; and if so, *Great*

Britain will have her hands full, and probably be glad to render justice and reparation to the country she has so much injured.

Nothing do I wish for more than a peace on terms honourable and beneficial to both countries; and I am convinced it is more consistent with the interest of *Great Britain* to acknowledge our independency and enter into commercial treaties with us, than to persist in attempting to reduce us to unconditional submission. I hope we shall never be reduced to that vile situation whilst a true friend to *America* and freedom exists. Life will not be worth having, and it will be better to perish by the sword than drag out the remaining days in misery and scorn. But I hope Heaven has better things in store for the votaries of so just a cause.

I am, dear sir, yours affectionately,

ROBERT MORRIS.

GENERAL GREENE TO GENERAL MIFFLIN.

Fort Lee, October 27, 1776.

DEAR SIR: By Major *Howell* you will receive one hundred and nineteen thousand musket cartridges. Part arrived to-day and part last night. As soon as the remainder comes up from *Amboy* and *Philadelphia*, they shall be sent forward. I have been to view the roads again; and fixed upon *Aquacanock*, *Springfield*, *Boundbrook*, *Princetown*, and *Trentown*, to establish the magazines at. *Trentown* and *Equacanack*, to be the principal ones; the others only to serve to support the troops in passing from one to the other. They are all inland posts, and I hope the stores will be secure. I have ordered all the cannon from *Amboy*, except two eighteen-pounders and two fieldpieces. I have directed them to be sent to *Springfield*, *Boundbrook*, and *Equacanock*, to secure the stores.

The people have been employed on the other side in getting the boards together at *Fort Washington* and the ferry. Some have been brought from *King's Bridge*. To-day I sent up to Colonel *Lasher* to know what assistance he could give towards taking down the barracks, and bringing off the boards; and had for answer that he had orders to burn the barracks, quit the post, and join the army, by the way of the *North River*, at the *White-Plains*.

We have had a considerable skirmish on *York-Island* to-day. The cannonade began in the morning and held until evening, with very short intermissions. A ship moved up opposite Fort No. 1. Colonel *Magaw* got down an eighteen-pounder and fired sixty shot at her, twenty-six of which went into her. She slipped her cable and left her anchor, and was towed off by four boats. I think we must have killed a considerable number of their men, as the confusion and distress exceeded all description. Our Artillery behaved incomparably well. Colonel *Magaw* is charmed with their conduct in firing at the ship and in the field. I left the island at three o'clock this afternoon. We had lost but one man; he was killed by a shell that fell upon his head. We have brought off some of the enemy from the field of battle, and more are still lying on the ground dead.

I am anxious to know the state of the troops in the grand army: whether they are high or low spirited; whether well or ill posted; whether a battle is expected or not. We must govern our operations by yours. The troops here and on the other side are in good spirits; but I fear quitting *Fort Independence* will oblige *Magaw* to draw in his forces into the garrison, as the enemy will have a passage open upon his back. I fear it will damp the spirits of his troops. He did not expect it so soon. If the barracks are not burnt in the morning, and the enemy don't press too hard upon us, we will try to get away some of the boards.

I am, dear General, your obedient servant,

NATH'L GREENE.

INVOICE OF AMMUNITION.

Fort Lee, October 27, 1776.

Invoice of Ammunition sent by Colonel *Chevers*, Commissary of Stores, to General *Mifflin*, by eight wagons, for the Continental army:

3 barrels of cannon powder.
9 half-barrels do. do.
22 quarter-casks do. do.

23 boxes and kegs of cartridges, containing 29,608
Sundry boxes and kegs, containing - - 90,525

Cartridges, - - - - - 120,133

JONATHAN GOSTELOWE,
Assistant Commissary Stores.

LETTER FROM ROBERT H. HARRISON.

Head-Quarters, White-Plains, October 27, 1776.

SIR: I have it in command from his Excellency General *Washington* to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of this date, and to inform you that it is his request that the whole of the Light-Horse under your command should repair to this place, except one of the companies now with you, which he would have left at the *Fishkills*, under the direction of the Convention. To the five companies which you expect, he desires you will despatch one or two Light-Horsemen, and direct them to come here instead of going to the *Fishkills*.

I am, sir, your most obedient servant,

ROB. H. HARRISON, Secretary.

GENERAL HEATH TO COLONEL LASHER.

White-Plains, October 27, 1776.

SIR: Immediately upon receipt hereof, you will, if possible, secure, and remove from your post to *Mount Washington*, the cannon and stores left with you, and, without delay, march your detachment to this place, by the road to *Dobbs's Ferry*. You will march with all possible despatch whenever you attempt it. If the road should be obstructed by the enemy, you must retreat to *Mount Washington*. There are wagons, I am told, at that place, and perhaps you may easily secure your baggage. The boats may take it at the bridge, and convey it either to *Dobbs's Ferry* or *Mount Washington*. The barracks are to be burnt when you leave them. You may either do it yourselves, or confer with Colonel *Magaw*, and desire him to send a small party to be present when you march off, and to fire the barracks when you get a few miles distant. Secrecy and despatch are essentially necessary. You will exercise your best discretion as to the practicability of getting off all the cannon. It is probable that Colonel *Magaw* will afford you some assistance should you apply to him; but your situation will not admit of much delay.

I am, dear sir, yours, affectionately,

W. HEATH.

To Colonel *Lasher*.

GENERAL HEATH TO GENERAL PUTNAM.

General *Heath's* compliments to General *Putnam*, and acquaints him that the works at No. 2 are in a dangerous condition, and submits it to his superiour wisdom whether it be best to complete the new works or repair those which are not tenable.

Friday morning, October 27.

TENCH TILGHMAN TO WILLIAM DUER.

Head-Quarters, White-Plains, October 27, 1776.

DEAR SIR: I have your favour of yesterday. The General highly approves of your plan of having *Rogers's* prisoners sent up to your Convention, and will have it done out of hand. You will receive with them several persons taken about this part of the country. The one that appears to be deepest in their schemes is *James Budd*, whose examination you have enclosed. You may question him without letting him know you have the examination, and, from comparing the accounts given at different times, form a judgment of the truth.

Our scouting parties are very active and very successful. Yesterday they brought in five *British* prisoners, and this morning twelve *Waldeckers*. The latter are amazed at the kind treatment they receive. They say they were torn away from their own country, and will willingly remain among us. They say if their fellow-soldiers knew how kindly they would be treated, and how plentifully and happily they might live, they would lay down their arms and come among us. We shall contrive to make a good use of these fellows.

Our neighbours remain very quiet in this quarter; but we have heard a heavy cannonade about *Fort Washington*. We don't know the occasion yet, but have sent down for intelligence.

You are misinformed as to the quantity of provisions we have lost. When General *Lee* removed, he was obliged to leave eighty or ninety barrels of provisions, of all kinds, for want of wagons.

We already make a very respectable figure: our front lined and abutted, and some redoubts well forwarded on our rear, impassable for horse or foot but through passes of which we have possession.

Send us good news from the northward, and never fear us; we will play our part.

I am, dear sir, sincerely yours,

TENCH TILGHMAN.

To *William Duer*, Esquire, of the Committee of Correspondence, *Fishkill*.

JAMES BUDD's Examination, taken 25th October, 1776.

James Budd says he came to *New-York* from *Quebeck* about the 10th of *September*. He came in the ship *Lord Sandwich*, in company with three other transports, with the prisoners taken in *Canada*. He landed at *Red-Hook* the 26th of *September*. From thence he came to *New-York*, where he continued most of the time till the day after the enemy landed at *Frog's Point*, when he went from *New-York* to *Frog's Point*, where he was solicited to take a commission in the King's service, under Major *Rogers*, or in some other regiment. He had a recommendation to *Rogers* for that purpose, but has not had his commission, and was undetermined whether to accept it. He came home some time since, to see his family and know in what state things were here (as he had been absent since *May*, 1775) before he concluded whether to accept a commission or not. After this he went on to *Long-Island* and to *New-York*; concluded to return home, and not take a commission in the King's service; and accordingly, last night, came to *Rye*, on his way to his family, where he was made a prisoner by the guard.

The enemy had, on *Frog's Point*, in his opinion, about twenty thousand men the day after they landed. He thinks General *Houe* commanded there. Generals *Lord Percy*, *Cleveland*, and *Prescott*, were there. He was told they expected to stay but a few days, and then land further east, and were looking out for guides. The general talk was, they intended to surround the *American* army, to cut off their retreat. But very few men are left on *York-Island*; not more than one hundred in the city; none on *Long-Island* but sick and the *Long-Island* recruits and some few of the *Light-Horse*; about a regiment at *Staten-Island*, and two or three regiments at *Powle's Hook*. Last *Saturday*, *Sunday*, and *Monday*, arrived a reinforcement, said to be twelve thousand *Hessians* and *Hanoverians*, and one regiment of *Dragoons* without horses. These have not landed, but 'twas said were to land in *North River*, above our lines, and form a line across, to join the army on the *East River*. Expressed great fear lest we should land part of our army on *Long-Island*. Salt provisions are plenty; fresh provisions scarce, poor, and dear. The army, in general, is healthy. The *Hessians* are sickly. The enemy lost three hundred on *Long-Island*. On *Sunday*, the 15th, they lost very few; the 16th, their loss was considerable. He has not been in the camp since he left *Frog's Neck*; but the principal encampment appears to be at *Scarsdale*, between *New-Rochelle* and *Marineck*, on the northwardly of the road. *Rogers*, with six hundred men, is at *Maroneck*. Some *Light-Infantry* and a battalion of *De Lancy's*, commanded by Major *Grant*, lie there, or near there. *Rogers* has one battalion full; and a second now raising, in which he had an offer of a Captaincy. This is by information, as he has not been present since he left *Frog's Point*.

The army consists of about thirty thousand, besides the late reinforcement. *Isaac Jerow*, *Isaac Hatfield*, one *Joseph Golden*, of *New-York State*, one *McGinnis*, of *New-Hampshire*, and one *Smith*, one *Sanford*, of *Salem*, in *Westchester County*, are Captains; one *Covert*, of *Cortlandt's Manor*, one *Hierlitry*, from *Middletown*, in *Connecticut*, one *William Gray*, of *Maroneck*, are Lieutenants; and one *Griffing*, from *New-England*, is a Cap-

FIFTH SERIES.—VOL. II.

tain in *Rogers's* regiment. *Elijah Purdy's* son, of the *White-Plains*, and *Joshua Barns*, of *Philipsborough*, are Lieutenants in the enemy's service. They design to attack us shortly, if we don't retreat; but do not design to attack us in our works; and they said they would not march faster than the cannon cleared the way before them. They have some twelve-pound artillery and some field artillery with them. They have a good supply of horses and wagons. Their regiments generally consist of about five hundred men.

October 25, 1776.

H. HUGHES TO CAPTAIN KIERSE.

White-Plains, October 27, 1776.

SIR: You will please to call on Mr. *Duer*, the President of the Convention, who will receive thirty thousand dollars by the hands of Mr. *Quackenboss*, (one of our assistants,) and acquaint him that it is General *Mifflin's* desire that you should be furnished with cash to purchase hay, corn, oats, rye, bran, and buckwheat, as well as to pay for what wood you may have already engaged agreeable to former instructions. But no more wood need be bought that side the river till further orders from here, unless Mr. *Duer* desires it.

Let all the other articles be sent to *Peekskill*, and put under the care of Mr. *Joseph Travis*, one of the Committee, informing what progress you make as often as possible.

I am, with great regard, sir, your very humble servant,

H. HUGHES.

To Captain *Kierse*.

P. S. You will from henceforward take directions from Mr. *Duer* altogether, as he has undertaken for our department; and let him see this scrawl.

JAMES ABEEL TO ROBERT HARPER.

Camp at White-Plains, October 27, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: I have taken the liberty to recommend Mr. *Christopher Codwise* to you as a person properly qualified to bear the commission of Captain in the army of the States, he being a resolute, prudent officer, and has shown his willingness, before he was in the service of the States, to go as a volunteer on every expedition, and has always behaved himself well, and, since his having been an officer, has always discharged his duty in the station he was, to the satisfaction of his superiour officers. I should by no means recommend him, if I thought he did not deserve it. Therefore I hope you will consider of the matter, and if you find him deserving a commission, will honour him with it; in doing of which you will greatly oblige, gentlemen, your most humble servant,

JAS. ABEEL.

To Messrs. *Robert Harper*, *Graham*, and *De Witt*.

EXTRACT OF A LETTER FROM FORT LEE, DATED OCTOBER 27, 1776.

This morning, about seven o'clock, two frigates moved up the *North River*, and came to an anchor near *Bourdet's Ferry*, apparently with an intention to stop the ferry-way, and cut off the communication between this place and *Fort Washington*. The enemy at the same time appeared on *Harlem Plain*, and Colonel *Magaw*, who commands on *York-Island*, ordered the lines to be manned. The ships endeavoured to dislodge them by firing on their flanks, but they fired to very little purpose. The barbette battery on the high hill on the left of the ferry, opened on the frigates, and fired a considerable time without doing them any or but very little damage. Upon our ceasing to fire, a gun from Fort No. 1, on *York-Island*, began to play on them with great advantage, and hulled the one highest up about twenty times. At this time, two eighteen-pounders, which were ordered down this side the river, opposite the ships, gave them so warm a salute that they hoisted all sail; the foremost slipped her cable, and appeared to be in the greatest confusion. She could make no way, although towed by two boats, till the lower one, perceiving her distress, sent two more barges to her assistance, who at length dragged her out of the reach of our fire. It is very probable that many of her men were killed, and she herself extremely

damaged; but the weather was so hazy that it was impossible to see any thing distinctly at a distance. The enemy by this time had begun a smart fire on the island with field-pieces and mortars. Our men returned the compliment. They were out of their lines great part of the day. There were but few discharges of small-arms. Our men killed about a dozen *Hessians*, and brought them off. We had one man killed with a shell. This was the account at five o'clock; it is now seven, and the firing has just ceased, but nothing extraordinary, I believe, has happened. We take this day's movement to be only a feint; at any rate it is little honourable to the red-coats.

Yesterday I informed you, that a party of the Light-Horse and Infantry had taken possession of *Phillips's Manor*, between *King's Bridge* and our main army. They continued there all night, but this morning they retired.

VOLKERT VEEDER TO ROBERT R. LIVINGSTON.

Caughnawaga, October 27, 1776.

SIR: I have made bold to send this to inform you that I am in a very low state of health, being tormented with a continual racking pain in my bowels and a great fever: confined to my bed since the 21st instant; but, sir, as soon as God pleases to bless me with health and strength to perform a journey, I shall come to *Albany* to you. I have received your letter.

From, sir, your most obedient, humble servant,

VOLKERT VEEDER.

To *Robert R. Livingston*, Esq., one of the Delegates; to the care of *Abm. Yates*, Esq., in *Albany*.

EXTRACT OF A LETTER FROM TICONDEROGA, DATED OCTOBER 27, 1776.

Last *Monday*, a party of the *Indians* came across two soldiers bringing, in a hammock, a wounded soldier who received his wound in the engagement of our fleet. The *Indians* surprised them within three miles of our camp, and took the two able men prisoners, tomahawked the wounded man, and left the tomahawk in his hand; since which the two prisoners have been sent back by Governour *Carleton*, who examined them concerning our army; but, as the men were very ignorant, I believe got but little satisfaction on that head. He swore them not to take up arms against his Majesty again, and supplied them four days' provisions, and sent them back, informing them, at the same time, that he should soon drive the Rebels from their lines, and should have done it before, but was waiting with an expectation that we should be wise enough to lay down our arms, and deliver ourselves to the mercy of his Majesty. Simple man! to think that such gasconade would have any effect to intimidate the minds of the brave *Americans*.

JOHN B. SCOTT TO GENERAL GATES.

Mount Independence, October 27, 1776.

SIR: As my trial before the Court-Martial will be a long and tedious one, and detain a number of officers from duty of more consequence; and as all the money that I am charged with having drawn more than I ought is in the Paymaster's hands, the time for which I am engaged in the Continental service expiring to-morrow:

For this reason I have taken the liberty to beg leave of your Honour to resign my commission as a Captain in the Second *New-Jersey* Regiment. Your granting this request will be greatly acknowledged by, sir, with the greatest respect, your humble servant,

JOHN B. SCOTT.

To Hon. General *Gates*.

JESSE ROOT TO GOVERNOUR TRUMBULL.

Hartford, October 27, 1776.

PLEASE YOUR HONOUR: The power of this Committee, by act of Assembly, extends only to prisoners of war, to provide for them, and to treat them with humanity, according to their rank, &c., and the Committee met with little difficulty in ordering the prisoners, except with Governour *Skeen* and Captain *McKay*, until the late successes of the *British* arms, which has elated the prisoners and Tories, and

some of them, in consequence thereof, are grown saucy and troublesome. Not to punish this insolence will be imputed to timidity, and improved to dishearten our own people; and to make orders for their punishment without executing them is worse than nothing; and the Committee must execute their own orders themselves, unless they can persuade somebody to do it for them, or suffer the mortification of seeing them despised, for they are not invested with power to command any civil or military assistance. Martial law is almost the only law they are acquainted with, and a military force what they most dread. I am desired by the Committee to represent to your Honour, in their name, that some further regulations are necessary, and that the Committee have power to command assistance, to order a guard at the gaol, or over any of the prisoners when needed, and to punish such guard for neglect on duty, &c., &c., &c. There is now a guard kept at the gaol, but we are obliged to beg and plead to get them; and behave as they will, we have no power to punish them. The Tories of our own State are busy at the gaol with the prisoners, and of such we have no power more than other individuals, &c.

What further regulations and powers are necessary and safe to be made and given to this Committee is humbly submitted to the wisdom of your Honour to prescribe and grant, by your Honour's most obedient, humble servant,

JESSE ROOT,

In behalf of the Committee.

To his Honour Governour *Trumbull*.

JAMES CLARKE TO MARYLAND COUNCIL OF SAFETY.

Baltimore, October 28, 1776.

HONoured SIR: When I was last at *Annapolis*, *Melcher Keener* and myself made the honourable Council of Safety an offer to serve them in the purchase of produce here, but since then we have not had the pleasure of hearing from the honourable Council; do suppose they are otherways engaged. I have a schooner on hand which, by a resolve of our Committee some time ago, I am not allowed to load on my own account; have resolved to sell her, and should you still be in want of vessels, may have her if you please. She will carry seven hundred barrels, or upwards. She will want some repairs. The price as she lies is four hundred and fifty pounds.

I remain, respectfully, your most obedient, humble servant,

JAMES CLARKE.

To *Daniel of St. Thomas Jenifer*, Esq., *Annapolis*.

JOSEPH WHAYLAND'S PETITION TO THE MARYLAND CONVENTION.

The petition of *JOSEPH WHAYLAND, Jun.*, a languishing prisoner in the Gaol at *ANNAPOLIS*, humbly sheweth:

That at the time your petitioner was taken by Major *Fallin's* guard, he had all his clothes taken from him; that he is now naked, and has been so ever since his confinement, and has not wherewithal to purchase any clothes. He therefore humbly prays your Honours would be pleased to grant him an order on Mr. *Fallin* for the delivery of his clothes. And your petitioner, as in duty bound, shall ever pray.

JOSEPH WHAYLAND.

October 28, 1776.

STEPHEN STEWARD TO MARYLAND COUNCIL OF SAFETY.

GENTLEMEN: Mr *Gideon Adair* waits on you for a commission as Captain of Marines on board of the largest Province schooner, which I hope to have rigged and fitted for sea in ten or twelve days. As sailors are very hard to be got, I should think it would be well for you to put from twenty to thirty landsmen on board. After being a cruise they will become half sailors, which will be of great use to this State. Mr. *Adair*, as I have said to you before, is as fitting a man for the service as any acquaintance. He has the offer of going out in that station in a small privateer in this neighbourhood, but now comes to you to give you the preference.

If you should think of giving him a commission, it's high time he was recruiting, as there is several recruiting parties

about this place. And I am, gentlemen, your humble servant,

STEPHEN STEWARD.

To the honourable Council of Safety.

If you should give Mr. *Adair* a commission, it will be well to tell him to get as many young country-born lads as he can.

PRESIDENT OF CONGRESS TO GENERAL WASHINGTON.
Philadelphia, Monday evening, eleven o'clock, }
October 28, 1776. }

SIR: This moment, *Dodd*, the express from the State of *Massachusetts*, who took your despatches to Congress on *Saturday* last, arrived at my house, and informs me that this day, about twelve o'clock, he put up at one *Bissinett's*, a publick house in *Bristol*, where he opened his bundle, to deliver a letter to be forwarded over the ferry to Mrs. *Reed*, and leaving his bundle in the bar-room, while he stepped out, on his return the whole of his letters were carried off, and no person could give any account of them; and after inquiring and getting all the assistance he could to endeavour the obtaining them, their searches were fruitless, and he is here without a single letter. As your letters may be of the utmost consequence, and the enemy may derive great advantage from the knowledge of their contents, (as I have no doubt but they will soon be in possession of them,) I have judged it proper, without waiting for the meeting of Congress in the morning, to despatch this express to you, to give you this intelligence, that you may, as far as possible, guard against the movements the enemy may make in consequence of the intelligence they may gain by the possession of those letters, and that you may take such steps as this accident may suggest to you from the particulars of your letters, as necessary to counteract the attempts of the enemy. I, however, hope that your letters, should they fall into their hands, will not afford them much comfort, nor give them any great prospects of advantages, though I shall be unhappy until I know the contents, and beg, by the return of this express, you will send me a copy of them, as it will be a great relief to Congress to receive the earliest accounts.

I shall, early in the morning, send to *Bristol*, and have a strict search made, and recover the letters if possible, and detect the person who robbed the mail.

You will excuse this hasty letter, written in great agitation and hurry, as I would not lose a moment in sending it off.

I am, with the utmost respect and esteem, sir, your most obedient, humble servant,

JOHN HANCOCK, President.

To His Excellency General *Washington*, Commander-in-Chief of all the Forces of the *United States*, at *White-Plains*.

PRESIDENT OF CONGRESS TO REV. JACOB DUCHÉ.
Philadelphia, October 28, 1776.

SIR: I do myself the pleasure, in the name of the Congress, and by their direction, to return you the thanks of that House for the devout and acceptable manner in which you discharged your duty during the time you officiated as Chaplain to it.

In obedience to their commands, I send you the enclosed one hundred and fifty dollars, which they have ordered me to present to you as an acknowledgment for your services.

With sincere wishes for your health and happiness, I am, sir, your most humble servant,

JOHN HANCOCK, President.

To the Rev. *Jacob Duché*.

GENERAL GREENE TO THE PRESIDENT OF CONGRESS.
[Read October 31, 1776.]
Fort Lee, New-Jersey, October 28, 1776.

SIR: This being a critical hour, when the hopes and fears of the country and city are continually alarmed, and yesterday there being a considerable heavy cannonade most part of the day, I have though it advisable to forward an express with the account of the action of the day. The communication between this and the grand division of the army is, in a great measure, cut off; therefore, it will be

some time before you have any account from his Excellency General *Washington*.

A ship moved up the river early in the morning, above our lower lines, right opposite to Fort No. 1, near old Headquarters at *Morris's*; she began a brisk cannonade upon the shore. Colonel *Magaw*, who commands at *Fort Washington*, got down an eighteen pounder and fired sixty rounds at her; twenty-six went through her; the gun was mostly loaded with two balls. She was annoyed considerably by two eighteen-pounders from this shore. The confusion and distress that appeared on board the ship exceeds all description. Without doubt she lost a great number of men. She was towed off by four boats sent from the other ships to her assistance; she slipped her cable and left her anchor. Had the tide run flood one half-hour longer, we should have sunk her. At the same time the fire from the ships began, the enemy brought up their field-pieces, and made a disposition to attack the lines, but Colonel *Magaw* had so happily disposed and arranged his men as to put them out of conceit of that manœuvre. A cannonade and fire with small-arms continued almost all day, with very little intermission. We lost one man only. Several of the enemy were killed; two or three our people got and brought off the field, and several more were left there. The firing ceased last evening, and has not been renewed this morning.

General *Washington* and General *Howe* are very near neighbours. Some decisive stroke is hourly expected: God grant it may be a happy one! The troops are in good spirits; and in every engagement since the retreat from *New-York*, have given the enemy a drubbing.

I have the honour to be your most obedient, humble servant,

NATHANAEL GREENE.

To the Hon. *John Hancock*, Esq., President of the Continental Congress, at *Philadelphia*.

EXTRACT OF A LETTER FROM COLONEL HASLET TO GENERAL RODNEY, DATED OCTOBER 28, 1776.

On *Monday* night Lord *Stirling* ordered me, with seven hundred and fifty men, to attack the enemy's outposts, ten miles from this place, at the village of *Mamaroneck*; which was done, and their guards forced. We brought in thirty-six prisoners, a pair of colours, sixty stand of arms, and a variety of plunder besides. The party we fell in with was Colonel *Rogers's*, the late worthless Major. On the first fire, he skulked off in the dark. His Lieutenant and a number of others were left dead on the spot. Had not our guards deserted us on the first outset, he and his whole party must have been taken. On our side three or four were left dead, and about fifteen wounded; among the latter is Major *Green*, of the Second *Virginia* Regiment, wounded in the shoulder, and Captain *Pope*, who acted as Major, and behaved with great bravery, wounded in his leg; both likely to recover. As this was the first effort of the kind, and a plan of his Lordship's, he was so highly pleased with our success that he thanked us publicly on the parade.

Return of the Killed and Wounded of the Second Brigade, commanded by Brigadier-General LESLIE, (British,) OCTOBER 28, 1776.

REGIMENTS.	KILLED.						WOUNDED.					
	Lieutenant Col.	Major.	Captains.	Lieutenant.	Ensign.	Sergeant.	Lieutenant Col.	Major.	Captains.	Lieutenant.	Ensign.	Sergeants.
Fifth.....	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	1
Twenty-Eighth.....	-	-	1	-	-	-	4	-	-	1	-	57
Thirty-Fifth.....	1	-	-	1	-	-	12	-	2	1	-	37
Forty-Ninth.....	-	-	1	1	1	-	5	-	-	1	-	17
Total.....	1	-	2	1	1	-	22	-	2	3	-	109

Names of the Officers killed and wounded :

Twenty-Eighth Regiment—Captain *Deming*, killed; Lieutenant *Taylor*, wounded.
Thirty-Fifth Regiment—Lieutenant-Colonel *Carr* and Ensign *Eagel*, killed; Captain *Tuckgearald*, Lieutenant *Massey*, Lieutenant *Banks*, wounded.
Forty-Ninth Regiment—Captain *Goar*, Lieutenant *Toyulon*, killed; Lieutenant *Roberts*, wounded.

EXTRACT OF A LETTER FROM WHITE-PLAINS, DATED OCTOBER 28, 1776.

This morning information was received that the enemy appeared to be preparing for a general attack, and were advancing fast. Proper preparations were made to receive them, and very soon the ball was opened with field-pieces on both sides. The enemy attacked our right wing, who defended themselves nobly. At the same time, a party of Light-Horse filed off towards our centre; a shot from one of our cannon forced them to wheel to the right-about and retreat; it is said this shot unhorsed two of them. About one o'clock one of the horses was brought in; his rider was killed. Fighting still continues; it is now three o'clock, p. m. To-morrow I think will be the important day. No accounts can yet be given of the loss on either side. Our men are the most expert in the world at making breastworks; in an hour or two they made an amazingly long stone fence, and covered it properly with earth.

The skirmish you mention was on *Monday*. We then took thirty-six Tories, who had enlisted with Major *Rogers*.

Yesterday we took twenty Waldeckers and Regulars; seven of the latter. Yesterday, too, the enemy attacked our lines at *Harlem* and *Mount Washington* at the same time with two ships; they were repulsed in both places. This morning forty-five Tories, and some Regular prisoners passed through here on their way to *Fishkill*.

Colonel *Smallwood*, of *Maryland*, is this moment come wounded to the house where I am. He is wounded in the arm and hip, but rode here on horseback, and can walk tolerably well.

EXTRACT OF A LETTER FROM WHITE-PLAINS, DATED OCTOBER 28, 1776, AT TWO O'CLOCK, P. M.

I have only time to acquaint you that since my arrival at the *American* camp, we have had several very successful skirmishes with the enemy, in which the latter have lost several hundred men, in killed and prisoners. Thirteen *Waldeckers*, seven *Britons*, and two Tories, were yesterday taken prisoners, and brought in to Head-Quarters.

This day, about ten o'clock, the enemy advanced towards our lines, in full view of Head-Quarters, while a large body approached to the right. The first were soon dispersed by our Artillery. The latter attacked several of our regiments on the right, when a warm engagement began, and now continues with great fury. To-morrow, it is probable, will produce a general battle.

Colonel *Smallwood* is just come in, wounded in the arm and hip, but not dangerously.

I must not omit mentioning that the enemy made an unsuccessful attempt against our lines at *Harlem* yesterday.

P. S. The post being detained by desire of the General, gives me an opportunity (with a wooden pen, on a drum head) to acquaint you that the part of our army which was engaged to-day was a brigade commanded by General *McDougall*, composed of *Webb's*, *Ritzema's*, *Smallwood's*, *Haslet's*, and *Brooks's* regiments. *Ritzema's* and *Smallwood's* suffered most on this occasion, sustaining with great patience and coolness a long and heavy fire, and finally retreated with great sullenness, being obliged to give way to a superiour force.

The *British* army and auxiliaries are now encamped about one mile off our lines, and make a formidable appearance; but, from the spirit and temper of our troops, I augur well of the event of another attack, which it is expected will commence to-morrow morning.*

* October 26, 1776.—General *Lee's* division joined the army. In ascending some of the hills on the road, this division, encumbered with many wagons, was obliged to halt and double the teams, in open view of the *British*, and at no considerable distance, who did not attempt to disturb them; which had they done, the loss of the cannon, wagons, &c., could not have been avoided. The troops would have bent their march, unencumbered, towards the *Hudson*; but the wagons, &c., must have been left. Two or three *British* soldiers and a *Hessian* were taken prisoners and sent in.

October 27, 1776.—In the forenoon, a heavy cannonade was heard towards *Fort Washington*. Thirteen *Hessians* and two or three *British* soldiers were sent in on this day.

From the *American* camp to the southwest there appeared to be a very commanding height, worthy of attention. The Commander-in-Chief ordered the General Officers who were off duty to attend him, to reconnoitre this ground, on this morning. When arrived at the ground, although very commanding, it did not appear so much so as other grounds to the north, and almost parallel with the left of the army as it was then formed. "Yonder," says Major-General *Lee*, pointing to the

DR. JOHN MORGAN TO JOHN JAY.

North-Castle, October 28, 1776.

SIR: I wrote a hasty letter some time ago, requesting from the State of *New-York* that they would allow me the remainder of the stock of medicines purchased for the use of the State, of which they were so good as to allow me one half early in the summer for the use of the army. The demand for medicines is very great, and we cannot procure a sufficiency at any rate. Not having received an answer to that letter, I fear it has miscarried. I should be much obliged to you, sir, if you would be pleased to make application in my favour for the medicines, if not disposed of; for which, as well as what I was before favoured with, I shall pay the amount on demand.

With great esteem, sir, your most obedient, humble servant,

JOHN MORGAN.

To the Hon. *John Jay*.

COMMITTEE OF BEDFORD TO THE NEW-YORK CONVENTION.

Bedford, October 28, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: The names of the poor of the parish of *New-York* came to *Bedford* on the 28th day of *August* last, by order of the County Committee, and was supported by the Committee of *Bedford*. A house was hired for them, and kept together ever since:

Thomas Graham, Cathrin Graham, Elienor Graham, Elisabeth Maguire, Yeofan Sinklar, Elisabeth Stuart, Elisabeth Anderson, Cloye Hooker, George Jones, Mary Macarty, Sarah O'Farel, Margert Brown, Elisabeth Roger, Isabel Wilson, Mary Atweel, Susanah Mitchel, Isabel Mitchel, Jane Holmes, Elisabeth Airs, Evert Cornelius, Garret Squiraman, William Mitchel, Thomas Wilhamson, Charles Morfett, Peter Losey, David Harring, John Stuart, Walter McDonald.

Elisabeth Airs is dead since she came; and about a

grounds just mentioned, "is the ground we ought to occupy." "Let us, then, go and view it," replied the Commander-in-Chief. When on the way, a Light-Horseman came up in full gallop, his horse almost out of breath, and addressed General *Washington*, "The *British* are on the camp, sir." The General observed, "Gentlemen, we have now other business than reconnoitring," putting his horse in full gallop for the camp, and followed by the other officers. When arrived at Head-Quarters, the Adjutant-General, (*Reed*), who had remained at camp, informed the Commander-in-Chief that the guards had been all beat in, and the whole *American* army were now at their respective posts, in order of battle. The Commander-in-Chief turned round to the officers, and only said, "Gentlemen, you will repair to your respective posts, and do the best you can." General *Heath*, on arriving at his own division, found them all in the lines; and, from the height of his post, found that the first attack was directed against the *Americans* on *Chaderton's* hill. The little river *Brunz*, which ran between the *American* right and this hill, after running round its north side, turned and ran down on the east and southeast. The *British* advanced in two columns. At this instant, the cannonade was brisk on both sides, directed by the *British* across the hollow and *Brunz*, against the *Americans* on the hill, and by them returned. Almost at the same instant, the right column, composed of *British* troops, preceded by about twenty Light-Horse, in full gallop, and brandishing their swords, appeared on the road leading to the Court-House, and now directly in front of General *Heath's* division. The Light-Horse leaped the fence of a wheat-field at the foot of the hill, on which Colonel *Malcom's* regiment was posted, of which the Light-Horse were not aware, until a shot from Lieutenant *Fenno's* field-piece gave them notice, by striking in the midst of them, and a horseman pitching from his horse. They then wheeled short about, galloped out of the field as fast as they came in, rode behind a little hill in the road, and faced about, the tops of their caps only being visible to General *Heath* where he stood. The column came no further up the road, but wheeled to the left by platoons, as they came up, and, passing through a bar or gateway, directed their head towards the troops on *Chaderton's* hill, now engaged. When the head of the column had got nearly across the lot, their front got out of sight; nor could the extent of their rear be now discovered. The sun shone bright, their arms glittered, and perhaps troops never were shown to more advantage than these now appeared. The whole now halted, and, for a few minutes, the men all sat down in the same order in which they stood, no one appearing to move out of his place. The cannonade continued brisk across the *Brunz*. A part of the left column, composed of *British* and *Hessians*, forded the river, and marched along, under the cover of the hill, until they had gained sufficient ground to the left of the *Americans*, when, by facing to the left, their column became a line parallel with the *Americans*. When they briskly ascended the hill, the first column resumed a quick march. As the troops which were advancing to the attack ascended the hill, the cannonade on the side of the *British* ceased, as their own men became exposed to their fire if continued. The fire of small-arms was now very heavy, and without any distinction of sounds. This led some *American* officers who were looking on to observe that the *British* were worsted, as their cannon had ceased firing; but a few minutes evinced that the *Americans* were giving way. They moved off the hill in a great body, neither running nor observing the best order. The *British* ascended the hill very slowly, and when arrived at its summit, formed and dressed their line, without the least attempt to pursue the *Americans*. The loss on the side of the *Americans* was inconsiderable; that of the *British* was not then known. The *British* having got possession of this hill, it gave them a vast advantage of the *American* lines, almost down to the centre.—*Heath*.

week ago, *Walter McDonald* is gone out of the poor-house to keep a school for small children.

There is men and women in the poor-house that is able to earn their living, and not to be chargeable to the publick. They do little jobs about, which they are paid for, and they buy rum with, and get drunk. They quarrel among themselves, and make their complaint to me, which I cannot do any thing with them. I hope you'll send written instructions, so that we may know how to deal with them.

The money due to the Committee of *Bedford*, which they engaged for, amounts to £23 8s. 1d. They want that money and more to be sent down to support them this winter. The funeral charges for *Elisabeth Airs* is not paid, and no account made of it in the above. The poor says she left a feather bed, and whether that ought to be sold to defray charges or not, we don't know. Now, considering the prisoners sent here, concerning the parole granted them by the Continental Congress for six miles each way from the places of their abode, was shortened by this Committee to a quarter of a mile, for the following reasons: they went about night and day amongst the Tories here, and made great disturbances concerning the times; they went off on a *Sunday*, and have not heard of them since; they are considerably in debt here, and left effects, which we collected together, and prized it, which amounts to £90 7s. 3d. Whether we are to sell it at vendue, and pay the debts due, or not, we cannot tell, and return the overplus of the sale of their effects to the Convention, or keep it for them, if ever they return. I hope the honourable Convention will take it all in consideration, and instruct us what our duty is to do, and we will endeavour to do it punctually, without delay.

By order of *Bedford* Committee, I subscribe myself
your most humble servant,

LEWIS McDONALD, *Chairman*.

To the President of the honourable Convention at *Fishkill*, *Dutchess* County.

SAMUEL TUDER TO PIERRE VAN CORTLANDT.

Poughkeepsie, October 28, 1776.

SIR: Your favour of 19th instant with copy of a note from the Marine Committee at *Philadelphia* enclosed, wherein they express great anxiety for the frigates building here, came safe to hand, in consequence of which we have used our utmost exertions to get the ships ready to launch. The *General-Montgomery* will be launched on *Monday*, the 4th *November* next, at eight in the morning, at which time we should be glad of the company of such gentlemen of the Convention as can conveniently attend.

We are, with great respect, sir, your most obedient,
humble servants,

AUGUSTIN LAWRENCE,
SAMUEL TUDER.

To *Pierre Van Cortlandt*, Esq.

P. S. If you have any news, should take it kind of you to let us know by the bearer hereof, Mr. *Joseph Pierson*. Please to forward the letter herewith sent to Marine Committee by first conveyance.

SETH CURTIS TO CAPTAIN E. HASBROUCK.

Kingston, October 28, 1776.

SIR: As soon as I had time to recollect myself, I found I had made a mistake in your pay-roll. The sergeants' wages I have drawn upon a par with the soldiers', occasioned by having too much business then upon hand. However, with a little trouble you will alter that; and, instead of their wages as they there stand, it ought to be thus:

<i>John Graham</i> , Sergeant, - - -	£8 6 4½
<i>Isaac Davis</i> , Jr., Sergeant, - - -	6 16 6
<i>William Brodhead</i> , Sergeant, - - -	8 14 11
	£23 17 9½

I thought it my duty to give you this timely notice, to prevent bad consequences, which please to accept from your humble servant,

SETH CURTIS.

To Captain *E. Hasbrouck*, at *Fishkill*.

GENERAL SCHUYLER TO GENERAL GATES.

Saratoga, October 28, 1776, seven o'clock in the morning.

SIR: Your letter of the 26th is this moment come to hand. I have given orders and done every thing in my power to hasten up the Militia. If they are tardy in marching, if, upon their arrival at *Skenesborough*, they refuse to proceed to *Tyonderoga*, the fault is not and will not be mine.

Colonel *Dayton* received my orders in twenty-four hours after they left *Albany*: you have been advised when that was. He has not delayed in obeying them. The march from *Fort Stanwix* is longer, and encumbered with more difficulties than you imagine. His regiment arrived last evening at *Stillwater*. He is now here, but it is very doubtful whether he will proceed at all to *Tyonderoga*, as he halted there in consequence of the most alarming intelligence from *Tryon* County. If the Committee of the Convention of this State cannot procure a body of Militia to march into the western quarter, he must go back. Several of the principal Tories are gone to Sir *John Johnson*, who commands a body of troops and *Indians* destined for the *Mohawk* river; and the inhabitants threaten to lay down their arms unless they can be assisted with men.

A party of Militia, who arrived here last night, are this morning going in quest of a body of Tories, who are said to rendezvous to the westward of this place, with an intent to join General *Carleton*, or interrupt the communication.

In your letter of the 24th you mention the want of spades in such a manner as if there had been a neglect in procuring them. They are not to be had. All that the country afforded, all that I could get made, have been sent you. The turnips and potatoes cannot go unless the flour is stopped. A person is gone express to *Boston* for nails. Nail rods are not to be had here. I have determined to send the Militia from *Fort Edward* to *Tryon* County, if they will not march to *Tyonderoga*, and have ordered *Dayton's* to proceed with all despatch.

I am, sir, your humble servant,

PH. SCHUYLER.

Where is Colonel *Lewis*, for whom I have so long ago written to you? *Yauncey's* return, mentioned in yours of the 24th, was not enclosed.

RICHARD STOCKTON TO ABRAHAM CLARK.

Saratoga, October 28, 1776.

DEAR SIR: Before I left *Philadelphia* Congress appointed a committee, consisting of one member from each State, to devise ways and means for furnishing the army with clothing, &c. As the member appointed for *New-Jersey*, I laid the resolution before our Legislature, then sitting at *Princeton*, and recommended to them the great importance of their appointing persons in every County. They were pleased to take up the matter with that zeal which the nature of it required, and determined to take a recess that they might, in their own persons, the more effectually and speedily execute the business. I hope, therefore, that already a considerable quantity of shoes and stockings at least, may be provided, and that you will take immediate order for the sending a parcel to our regiments who are in this quarter. Colonel *Dayton's* regiment is ordered from *Fort Stanwix* to *Tyonderoga*. The Colonel and Major *Barber* came here last evening, and the regiment is now within a few miles of this place, marching with cheerfulness, but great part of the men barefooted and barelegged. My heart melts with compassion for my brave countrymen who are thus venturing their lives in the publick service, and yet are so distressed. There is not a single shoe or stocking to be had in this part of the world, or I would ride a hundred miles through the woods and purchase them with my own money; for you'll consider that the weather here must be very different from that in *New-Jersey*: it is very cold now I assure you. For God's sake, my dear sir, upon the receipt of this, collect all the shoes and stockings you can, and send them off for *Albany* in light wagons; a couple of two-horse wagons will bring a great many, which may be distributed among our several regiments who will be all together at *Tyonderoga* in a few days. If any breeches and waistcoats be ready, send them along; but do not wait for them if the shoes and stockings are ready and the others not.

We have despatches from General *Gates* this morning,

informing that he hourly expects to be attacked by the enemy; but our works are very strong, and a boom thrown across the water from *Tyconderoga* to *Mount Independence*, to prevent the enemy's shipping from getting below us. Therefore, I trust, with the blessing of Almighty God, that we shall disappoint their wicked and sanguinary purposes. But shall the brave troops from *New-Jersey* stand in the lines half-leg deep in snow, without shoes or stockings? God forbid! I shall empty my portmanteau of the stockings I have for my own use on this journey, excepting a pair to take me home; but this is a drop of water in the ocean.

In the utmost haste, I am, with much esteem, dear sir,
your most obedient, humble servant,

RICH'D STOCKTON.

To *Abraham Clark, Esq.*

COLONEL WYNKOOP TO GENERAL GATES.

Skeenesborough, October 28, 1776.

DEAR GENERAL: I send you one hundred boards and eighty barrels of flour by the Militia. It is Colonel *Yates's* orders from General *Schuyler*, that all the boats I send from this place to *Fort Ann* must be loaded with flour. I would be glad if the General would let me know, by the first opportunity, whether he would have the flour forwarded to *Ticonderoga* or have it left at this place, and which of the two must be brought from *Fort Ann* first, the boards or the flour.

I would be very glad if the General would please to send me up some musket-balls. As to powder, I have plenty.

This evening I expect that there will be one hundred and eighty men in of Colonel *Robinson's* regiment, from *New-England*.

Yesterday I sent off a number of boats to *Fort Ann* to bring down two regiments of Militia which are out of *Albany* County. I shall want some more boats to send off the Militia as fast as they arrive. General *Schuyler* has ordered, also, that all the cattle must be brought to this place and killed here, and forwarded to *Ticonderoga* in quarters; which we are doing as fast as possible.

I am, dear General, your most obedient, humble servant,
CORN'S WYNKOOP.

To Major-General *Gates*.

The General will see by my return that I am weak of men.

COLONEL WYNKOOP TO GENERAL GATES.

Skeenesborough, October 28, 1776.

DEAR GENERAL: I have sent twelve batteaus to *Fort Ann* in order to bring down two or three regiments of Militia from that place, with their baggage, and also a quantity of flour. I have been obliged to have the remainder of the batteaus that was here, dragged over and put into *Wood Creek*.

I would be very glad if the General would please to send me some more boats, as I have now but two boats left, that I might be able to forward the troops as fast as they arrive.

I am, dear General, your most obedient, humble servant,
CORN'S WYNKOOP.

To Major-General *Gates*.

COLONEL LIVINGSTON TO GENERAL WASHINGTON.

New-Haven, October 28, 1776.

SIR: After having with the greatest impatience waited the arrival of the whale-boats and vessels that were to have been employed in the *Long-Island* expedition, I find myself at length disappointed, Colonel *McIntosh* having marched two of the regiments that were allotted for the purpose to Head-Quarters; so that the original plan must of necessity fall through, as the force we have left is inadequate to the undertaking. Colonel *Richmond's* regiment has only three hundred men, and my detachment, together with part of Colonel *Smith's* regiment that have joined me, amount to about two hundred. The term of enlistment for Colonel *Richmond's* regiment will be elapsed in ten days. However, we will not be quite disappointed, but will make an attempt

to disperse the recruits inlisting for General *Howe*, on *Long-Island*. If our orders extended to burning the hay, grain, and whatsoever we conceived might be of advantage to the enemy, I imagine we might distress them a little; but this Governour *Trumbull* will not authorize Colonel *Richmond*, to whom he has given the command, to execute. I had not the least idea of Colonel *McIntosh's* being recalled until my arrival at this place. If the weather permits, I fancy we shall be to-morrow night on *Long-Island*, though I don't think, under the restrictions laid on us, any thing of great consequence can be achieved. I should have waited your Excellency's orders at this place, had I not received express ones from Governour *Trumbull* to repair to *Long-Island*. Among the few of Colonel *Smith's* regiment that have joined me, there are almost as many officers as men, and about twenty volunteers; some of whom I have employed to collect men on the east end of *Long-Island*. Our success at landing will be communicated to your Excellency as soon as effected.

The enclosed is a copy of an order from Governour *Tryon* to the people of *Suffolk* County. I hope we shall be time enough to prevent its effects. The original I have not yet been able to lay my hands upon.

I have some reason to believe the Militia in general will join us on landing; they have been so much harassed and imposed upon by the enemy, that they now wish to throw off the yoke.

I remain your Excellency's most obedient, humble servant,

HENRY B. LIVINGSTON.

To His Excellency General *Washington*.

Newport, October 28, 1776.

By a gentleman who was a passenger in a brig belonging to this place, from *London* to *Barbadoes*, commanded by one *Daniel Cornell*, we are informed that when he left *Barbadoes*, the brig was taking in a freight there for supplying the enemy at *Quebeck*; and that Captain *Cornell* had purchased six swivel-guns to prevent (as he expressed it) his being captured by an *American* Rebel. As he was born and has a family within this State, it is hoped he will fall into the hands of some of our cruisers, and meet a just reward.

The Tories on *Long-Island* and in *New-York* begin to be sick of their new lords and masters; one who made his escape out of the city a few days past, said the enemy called the friends to liberty only "Rebels;" but the Tories they called, "damned Traitors and scoundrels." The person who gave this account was one suspected of being a Tory.

REV. WILLIAM GORDON TO GENERAL GATES.

Copy of a Letter intended to have been forwarded the last Monday, (October 28,) but happened to be too late for the post:

Jamaica Plain, October 28, 1776.

FRIEND GATES AND DEAR GENERAL: Whether the enemy may attack you before the receipt of this, is uncertain; but should it happen, hope you will be helped to give them such a drubbing as will be an ample revenge on them for having destroyed our fleet. We got home safe the last Friday; stayed at *King's Bridge* only from Saturday to Monday morning, there being no enjoyment of friends. We are looking out for great and important news. God, of his infinite mercy, grant that it may be good! A vessel left *Statia* this day three weeks. The Captain says that the Governour helped him to get every thing he wanted, and just before he sailed sent for him and told him that he knew the movements of the *French*, and was certain that by that time they had declared war against *Great Britain*, with which he might acquaint his friends. Hope the Governour has not been out in his conjecture.

Adieu. In great haste, but willing to send you an early line. Respects to your suite. Your affectionate friend,

WM. GORDON.

Jamaica Plain, November 2, 1776.

MY DEAR FRIEND: You will see by the above how good I meant to have been. Having heard nothing certain from your quarter, conclude that you have had your full

time to make all wonted preparations against the enemy. God give you an occasion of sending us most excellent news from *Ty*. What we have from the neighbourhood of *King's Bridge* has been good hitherto, and the success we have had in several skirmishes must tend to sicken the *Howites*. The Committee from our Court have informed you, I apprehend, that Providence has sent us nails for the barracks. The linens and woollens designed for *Quebeck* were the property of my particular friends. I rejoice in the capture, but wish the property had belonged to others. Our Court, I am in great hopes, will exert themselves nobly in supporting the common cause in this critical moment. They are choosing a Committee of War. To make you laugh, I must mention that there were several votes for your humble servant; but the *mistake* was not general. I should have used a harder word, would it not have seemed ungrateful. The universal opinion at *Statia* was, there was or would be soon a *French* war. A *French* vessel arrived this week at *Boston*. The Captain says that the *English* Ambassador had demanded of the *French* Minister for what they were making such great armaments, and required a categorical answer; which was returned in the following words, "For the King's pleasure." It merits confirmation. Should write more, but you may perhaps fail of receiving this. May Heaven prosper and bless you! Mrs. G. joins in respects. Remember to suite, General *Sinclair* (his brother-in-law, of *Boston*, inquired after him on the *Thursday*, and was glad to hear of his welfare,) *Arnold*, *Brckett*, Colonel *Sullivan*, *Waine*, *De Hass*, &c., (I may have spelt the names wrong, but you will guess my meaning.) My brethren *Hitchcock* and *Tenent*, (I was at Mr. *Tenent's* house on my return, and all were well,) are entitled to affectionate regards as fellow parsons.

Adieu once more. The next, I trust, will be a letter of congratulation from your humble servant and sincere friend,

WM. GORDON.

To General *Gates*.

MEMORIAL OF ADAM BABCOCK.

To the honourable the Governour and Council of Safety of the State of CONNECTICUT:

The Memorial of ADAM BABCOCK, of NEW-HAVEN, in said State, humbly sheweth:

That your Honours' memorialist hath suffered great and heavy losses by having a brigantine of upwards one of hundred and forty tons, and a sloop of upwards of one hundred tons burthen, both fine vessels, together with their cargoes of oil, captured by two *British* men-of-war, in the *West-Indies*, the summer past, as they were returning home from the coast of *Brazil*, being solely the property of your memorialist, whereby he is much injured in his fortune, and being abstracted from carrying on trade and business as heretofore, for reasons well known to your Honours, and no way left of retrieving those losses but by reprisals on the trade of those people who have thus despoiled him of a great part of his property; he therefore humbly prays your Honours to grant him leave to purchase at your Honours' furnace, in *Salsbury*, fourteen cannon, viz: eight six-pounders and six four-pounders, and also twelve swivel-guns, for the purpose of arming and equipping a private vessel of war, to cruise against the enemies of the *United States of America*. And your memorialist, as in duty bound, shall ever pray.

ADAM BABCOCK.

Hew-Haven, October 28, 1776.

COMMODORE HOPKINS TO J. PAUL JONES.

Providence, October 28, 1776.

SIR: I received your disagreeable letter, and you are hereby directed to go immediately to *Newport* with the *Alfred*; and, if you think the *Hamden* will not do for the cruise, Captain *Hacker* and the whole of the *Hamden's* crew are to take the *Providence* in her room, and follow the former directions. If I can, will be at *Newport* to-morrow.

I am your friend,

ESEK HOPKINS, Commander-in-Chief.

To John P. Jones, Commander of the *Alfred*.

EXTRACT OF A LETTER DATED DUBLIN, OCTOBER 29, 1776.

His Excellency the Lord Lieutenant has informed the Right Honourable the Lord Mayor, by letter of the 24th instant, that in consequence of his application to the Lords of the Admiralty, they have ordered three sloops of war and an armed cutter to cruise in the *Channel*, for the protection of the trade of this Kingdom, and to keep a look-out for the *American* privateers that of late made their appearance on these coasts.

AMOS GARRETT TO MARYLAND COUNCIL OF SAFETY.

Swan Creek, October 29, 1776.

SIR: Captain *Holland's* company marched last *Wednesday*. One of the gentlemen that assisted me was pretty fortunate in procuring blankets. The whole company was well equipped therewith, and have remaining now in store at *Susquehannah Ferry* fifty-three, with the remainder of the cartouch-boxes and knapsacks. They were all equipped with good guns, and all fixed with bayonets but two or three, though very few scabbards; but these were to be got in *Philadelphia*. All the exertion in my power was made, and by the assistance of some bayonets I had by me and my smith to fit them, believe the guns will answer, being mostly old, tried guns. I have near one hundred and fifty yards of linen. They took some of that article, on being informed they were to have barracks; but wish they may not want it. I paid the Captain near fifty pounds for their subsistence to *Philadelphia*, and have still a little left; the whole account I will render as soon as I can get in one of the gentlemen's accounts that assisted me. I shall wait your order what to do with the remaining stores and money in my hands; and am, sir, your humble servant,

AMOS GARRETT.

To the Hon. *Daniel of St. Thomas Jenifer*, Esq., President of the Council of Safety.

PETITION OF CASTLEHAVEN COMPANY.

To the Honourable Convention of MARYLAND:

The humble Petition of a majority of CASTLEHAVEN Company sheweth:

That your petitioners have laboured under repeated impositions from their Captain, *Joseph Byers*, which, in their opinion, render him unworthy of the office which his country has entrusted in his hands; and we knowing of no other justifiable method of redress than presenting our petition, we hope and trust that the honourable Convention will either remove him from his captaincy or oblige him to appear before you, that your petitioners may have an opportunity of proving their accusations against him, which, we doubt not, are of such a nature that the moment they are heard they will be judged sufficient cause for removal. To mention some of our accusations to your Honours which we charge him with, is, we were called on duty, when he, our said Captain, provided for us thirty-four pounds of pork, three bushels of *Indian* corn-meal, as also thirty-six pounds of bacon, thirty-three pounds of pork, and three gallons of rum, got from Captain *John Tripp*; and as some of the neighbouring gentlemen was so good as to bestow their charity upon us, by giving us sundry provisions, that out of the above provisions we made use of only thirty-six pounds of pork, twelve small loaves of bread, and three gallons of rum, the remainder of the provisions our Captain carried home and converted to his own use, and charged us with the whole, which charge was five pounds ten shillings, common money, so that he stopped out of our wages and rations four shillings from each officer, and two shillings from each private. When we found ourselves thus treated with, we complained to our Field officers, which caused him to repay to each officer three shillings and sixpence, and eighteen pence to each private. It was by mere chance that we got possession of a true account of the provisions found, made use of, and carried away; such a chance as we cannot expect to meet with every time we are thus used; which gives us great reason to believe that we shall never be honestly dealt with by a man that no trust can be reposed in, and that requires a constant overlooking in order to have justice done. He has also given orders to his non-commissioned officers that for the smallest offence to knock

down any man belonging to his company, and he will support him in it, contrary, as we view it, to the military resolves of Convention. These, and sundry other threats and usages, gives uneasiness to your petitioners.

Till we have the determination of your honourable body, we shall continue to obey our Captain as we have hitherto done; but, as we are extremely unhappy in our present situation, we pray for a speedy decision. And your petitioners, as in duty bound, will ever pray. Signed by

Standly Cooke,	Henry Cook,	Richard Phillips,
his	his	his
William X Frazor,	Wm. X Childerson,	John X Mitchell,
mark,	mark,	mark,
James Thomas,	John X Lee,	James X Mitchell,
Thomas Mitchell,	mark,	mark,
John Childerston,	his	William Seward,
John Killman,	Phil. X Clovill,	Nehemiah Whitely,
Edward Thomas,	mark,	John Thomas,
Richard Claindy,	William Proctor,	his
Thomas Killman,	William Rubbart,	Martin X Abit,
Andrew Cooke,	Andrew Marshall,	mark,
his	Thomas Wright,	Moses Le Compte,
John X Marshall,	Young Claudy,	his
mark,	Charles Wheeler,	John X Thomas,
John X Seward,	Thomas Cooke,	mark,
mark,	Isaac Fardwell,	his
John Cooke,	Edward Lee,	Eligea X Marshall,
his	Job Willoughby,	mark,
Reuben X Mitchel,	Gilbert North,	Charles Seward.
mark,		
Test :		Wm. THOMAS.

Dorchester County, Cambridge, October 21, 1776.

I hereby certify that, some time last summer a certain *Stanly Cook*, with four or five others, complained to me, as one of their Field officers, against Captain *Joseph Byers*. They said that, being called out on duty with others of Captain *Byers's* company, that he, Captain *Byers*, purchased provisions from some of the neighbours for the use of the company, but being discharged in a short time, and receiving provisions from several of the inhabitants that were kind enough to make no charge against them, they made use of very little of that purchased by Captain *Byers*; and that, when he was going to pay them their wages, wanted to stop a shilling per day out of each man's pay for the provisions he alleged he had found them, great part of which *Stanly Cook* said he could prove Captain *Byers* put to his own private use. I told them I would speak to Captain *Byers*, and have the matter settled. Some time after, I saw Captain *Byers* and *Stanly Cook* together. I acquainted him of the charge made against him, upon which he said, if he had done wrong it was for want of knowing better, and that he was ready to settle in any manner that I, or any other of the Field officers, would advise him to. He said there was some *Indian* meal, and I think some pork, that his wife delivered out; the quantity he could not prove, therefore would make no account of it. There was likewise some bacon he had purchased of Captain *John Trippe*, which he said he had then by him, and desired to know what he should do with it. I told him to sell it, and apply the money towards paying off his men, which he promised to do. I then asked *Stanly Cook*, as he seemed to be the active person, if the company would be willing and satisfied to allow the remainder of Captain *Byers's* account, which was rum and some other article. He said he believed they would; upon which I thought the matter would be settled.

THOM. MUSE.

TO ALL PERSONS WHOM THIS MAY CONCERN: I, the subscriber, to the best of my knowledge and remembrance, on a *Monday in March, 1776*, in my way home called in at the house of Mr. *William Bennetts*, he being not present. His wife and self fell in discourse how the people called to *Cook's Point*, on account of the man-of-war, would get provisions. She says she had sent, or they had from them a certain quantity of meat, and, as near as possibly can remember, the quantity she mentioned was fifteen pounds. Whether she spoke of the quantity by imagination or trial of weights cannot tell, for do not remember either was mentioned. Before God and the world, to the best of my knowledge and remembrance give the above out for as true testimony, as if my hand was on the book, and mouth to kiss it.

Witness :

JOSEPH PAYN, Sen.

The Province of MARYLAND :

1776.

March 18. To 38 pounds of Bacon, at 8d. per pound, for Captain *Byers's* and Captain *Woolford's* Company, - - - - - £1 5 4

To 26 pounds of Pork, for ditto, at 5d. per pound, - - - - - 0 10 10

To 3 gallons of Rum, at 6s. for ditto, - - - - - 0 18 0

£2 14 2

Received of Captain *Joseph Byers* the within account, Per *John Trippe*.

Saving errors, per *John Trippe*.

REV. JACOB DUCHE TO THE PRESIDENT OF CONGRESS.

[Read October 30, 1776.]

Tuesday, October 29, 1776.

Mr. *Duché* presents his respectful compliments to Mr. *Hancock*, and begs him to acquaint the honourable Congress that he is much obliged to them for the kind manner in which they have expressed their approbation of his services. As he accepted their appointment from motives perfectly disinterested, he requests Mr. *Hancock* to put the one hundred and fifty dollars into the hands of the Board of War, or of any other Board he may think proper, to be applied by them to the relief of the widows and children of such of the *Pennsylvania* officers as have fallen in battle in the service of his country.

To the Hon. *John Hancock*, Esq.

DR. SHIPPEN TO GENERAL WASHINGTON.

Newark, October 29, 1776.

MY DEAR AND HONOURABLE SIR: The winter approaches, the sick will suffer much, nay, will perish, unless timely care is paid to provide for them proper winter apartments. The Congress have desired me to attend to those sick that are on this side of *Hudson's* river; but Dr. *Morgan* has directed his officers to follow his directions till they receive written orders from him or your Excellency to the contrary. I pray you will relieve me from my present disagreeable suspense, and direct whether I am to superintend and provide for all the sick on this side, as I think the Congress intend, or only those of the *Flying-Camp* and *Militia in Jersey*, which I was first appointed for. Your speedy answer and orders will be thankfully received and punctually obeyed by your obedient servant, .

W. SHIPPEN.

To His Excellency General *Washington*, *White-Plains*.

GENERAL GREENE TO GENERAL WASHINGTON.

Fort Lee, October 29, 1776.

DEAR SIR: Colonel *Lasher* burnt the barracks yesterday morning, three o'clock; he left all the cannon in the fort. I went out to examine the ground, and found between two and three hundred stand of small-arms (that were out of repair) about two miles beyond *King's Bridge*, a great number of spears, shot, shells, &c., too numerous to mention. I directed all the wagons on the other side to be employed in getting the stores away; and expect to get it completed this morning. I forgot to mention five tons of bar-iron that was left. I am sorry the barracks were not left standing a few days longer; it would have given us an opportunity to have got off some of the boards.

I think *Fort Independence* might have kept the enemy at bay for several days, but the troops here and on the other side are so much fatigued that it must have been a work of time.

Colonel *Magaw* showed me a letter from Colonel *Reed*, ordering the *Rangers* to march and join the army. Major *Coburn* was wounded in the *Sunday* action. Colonel *Magaw* says the *Rangers* are the only security to his lines. By keeping out constant patroles, their acquaintance with the ground enables them to discover the enemy's motions in every quarter. The Colonel petitions very hard for their stay. I told him I would send an express to learn your

Excellency's further pleasure. The Colonel thinks if the Rangers leave him, he must draw the garrison in from the lines. That would be a pity, as the redoubt is not yet in any great forwardness. From the *Sunday* affair I am more fully convinced that we can prevent any ships from stopping the communication.

I have forwarded eighty thousand musket-cartridges more, under the care of a subaltern's guard commanded by Lieutenant *Pemberton*, of Colonel *Ralling's* regiment.

This moment heard of the action of yesterday. Can learn no particulars. God grant you protection and success.

Colonel *Crawford* says he expects the action to be renewed this morning. I hope to be commanded wherever I can be the most useful.

I am, dear General, your most obedient and very humble servant,

N. GREENE.

To His Excellency General *Washington*, Esq., at *White-Plains*.

GENERAL GREENE TO GENERAL WASHINGTON.

Fort Lee, October 29, 1776.

DEAR SIR: Enclosed is an estimate made of the provisions and provender necessary to be laid in at the different posts between this and *Philadelphia*, to form a communication, and for the support of the troops passing and repassing from the different States.

Your Excellency will please to examine it, and signify your pleasure. Should the estimate be larger than is necessary for the consumption of the army, very little or no loss can arise, as the articles will be laid in at a season when the prices of things are at the lowest rates; and the situations will admit of an easy transportation to market by water.

The ships have fallen down the *North River*, and the troops which advanced upon *Harlem Plains*, and on the hill where the *Monday* action was, have drawn within their lines again.

I received the prisoners taken, and have forwarded them to *Philadelphia*. I enclose you a return of the troops at this post, who are chiefly raw and undisciplined.

I am, with great respect, your Excellency's most obedient, humble servant,

NATHANAEL GREENE.

To His Excellency General *Washington*, at *White-Plains*.

An Estimate of the Magazines to be laid in at the following Posts for the subsistence of the Troops, and for the Horses in wagons and artillery.

	Barrels of flour.	Beef and pork.	Tons of hay.	Busbels of grain.
Two thousand men at <i>Fort Lee</i> , for five months.....	3,100	3,100	300	10,000
At <i>Hackinsack</i> , for the use of the Hospital, allowing fresh provisions to supply the rest.	1,000	300	150	1,500
At <i>Equacanaugh</i> , to furnish the troops at <i>Elizabeth Town</i> and <i>Newark</i> , and to subsist the main army in passing to <i>Philadelphia</i>	3,000	3,000	300	10,000
At <i>Springfield</i> , a week's provision for twenty thousand men on their way to <i>Philadelphia</i>	700	700	50	1,500
At <i>Boundbrook</i> , the same.....	700	700	50	1,500
At <i>Princetown</i> the same.....	700	700	50	1,500
At <i>Trentown</i> , to subsist twenty thousand men for three months.....	3,000	3,000	300	10,000
	12,200	11,500	1,200	36,000

N. B. From *Fort Lee* to *Hackinsack Bridge*, nine miles; water carriage from this place.

From *Hackinsack* to *Equacanaugh*, five miles; water carriage from this place.

From *Equacanaugh* to *Springfield*, sixteen miles to a landing at *Newark*.

From *Springfield* to *Boundbrook*, nineteen miles; seven miles to a landing at *Brunswick*.

From *Boundbrook* to *Princetown*, twenty miles; twelve miles land carriage to *Delaware River*.

From *Princetown* to *Trentown*, twelve miles; water carriage to *Philadelphia*.

N. B. In the above calculation an allowance is made for supplying the troops passing and repassing from the different States.

N. GREENE.

ROBERT H. HARRISON TO THE PRESIDENT OF CONGRESS.
[Read October 31, 1776.]

White-Plains, October 29, 1776.

SIR: The situation of our affairs not permitting his Excellency to write himself, I have it in charge to inform you that on yesterday morning, about ten o'clock, the enemy appeared in several large columns in our front, and, from their first movements, seemed as if they meant an attack there. However, halting for a little time, their main body filed off to our left, and presently began a most severe and incessant cannonade at a part of our troops who had taken post on a hill with a view of throwing up some lines. At the same time they advanced in two divisions, and, after a smart engagement for about a quarter of an hour, obliged our men to give way. Our loss is not certainly known, but from conjecture is between four and five hundred in killed, wounded, and missing. What theirs was we have not heard. After gaining the hill, (upon which they are intrenching,) and leaving a sufficient number of men and artillery to prevent our repossessing it, they proceeded to advance by our left, and, as far as I can discover, their posts or encampments now form nearly a semicircle. It is evident their design is to get in our rear, according to their original plan. Every measure is taking to prevent them; but the removal of our baggage, &c., is attended with infinite difficulty and delays. Our post, from its situation, is not so advantageous as could be wished, and was only intended as temporary and occasional, till the stores belonging to the army, which had been deposited here, could be removed. The enemy coming on so suddenly has distressed us much. They are now close at hand, and most probably will, in a little time, commence their second attack. We expect it every hour. Perhaps it is beginning: I have just heard the report of some cannon.*

I have the honour to be, with great respect, sir, your most obedient servant,

ROB. H. HARRISON.

To the Hon. *John Hancock*, Esq., President of Congress.

GENERAL ORDERS.

Head-Quarters, White-Plains, October 25, 1776.

(Parole, .) (Countersign, .)

The guards are to be continued as settled the last evening, till further orders; and the Brigade-Majors to be very careful that the guards are properly relieved.

The General most earnestly recommends to all Commanding Officers of brigades and regiments to extend their care to the wagons which they have or may employ, and to dismiss them as soon as they have brought their baggage and have been refreshed.

Head-Quarters, White-Plains, October 26, 1776.

(Parole, .) (Countersign, .)

Captain *Ebenezer Huntington* is to assist the Adjutant-General in regulating the duties and details of General *Heath's* Division till further orders.

An Aid-de-Camp from each Major-General is to attend at Head-Quarters at twelve o'clock every day, to receive the general orders. He is to see that the Brigade-Majors execute them in the division.

An Orderly-Sergeant from each brigade of General *Spencer's* Division to attend at Head-Quarters every day; to bring his provision with him, and not to go away till regularly relieved.

Upon the due regulation and management of the wagons, the health and safety of the army entirely depends; and it will be impossible for the Quartermaster-General to have

* October 29, 1776.—The British began to throw up some small works on the hill, of which they had got possession. The Americans were drawing back; and a position was to be taken on the high strong grounds, before in the rear of a part of the army. The left of General *Heath's* division was not to move; but the remainder of his division, and all the other divisions of the army, were to fall back and form, nearly east and west. About this time, Colonel *Lasher*, who belonged to General *Heath's* division, and who had been left with his regiment to garrison *Fort Independence* near *King's Bridge*, sent an express, who passed the enemy in the night, to know what he should do, the regiment growing weak and sickly. General *Heath* applied to the Commander-in-Chief, to know his pleasure, who directed that the Colonel should give notice to Colonel *Magaw*, who commanded at *Fort Washington*, that he might take away the cannon, stores, &c., and that Colonel *Lasher*, after destroying the barracks, huts, &c., should join the army, which he soon effected. This day three prisoners were sent in, and the Americans were now throwing up some strong works on the high grounds.—*Heath*.

any regularity if officers of the army undertake to seize wagons, and compel them to go where they please. The General therefore absolutely forbids any officer or soldier taking a wagon by his own authority, and, more especially, stopping them when sent on other services, as it is easy to see that the greatest confusion must, in that case, ensue. When teams are wanted, application must be made to the Quartermaster-General or his Deputy; and every brigade or regiment must wait till the service admits their having them in that channel. The commanding officers of regiments are also required to appoint some spirited, resolute officer to attend the loading of the wagons, and prevent their being filled with lumber and improper articles. Tents and the proper baggage of the regiment are only to be put into the wagons. All others must be left behind; and the General calls upon the General Officers and commanding officers of regiments to set an example to the soldiers.

Head-Quarters, White-Plains, October 27, 1776.

(Parole, .) (Countersign, .)

Lieutenant *Sickles*, of General *Scott's* Brigade, tried by a Court-Martial, whereof Colonel *Holman* was President, and convicted of "disobeying general orders, by loading a wagon with goods not the proper baggage of the regiment, and also, when charged therewith, of behaving in a scandalous, infamous manner, unbecoming an officer and the gentleman," the Court sentenced him to be cashiered. The General approves the sentence, and orders him to be dismissed the service. He also directs that he leave the army immediately.

The General, observing that the army seems unacquainted with the enemy's Horse, and that when any parties meet with them, they do not oppose them with the same alacrity which they show in other cases, thinks it necessary to inform the officers and soldiers that in such a broken country, full of stone walls, there is no enemy more to be despised, as they cannot leave the road; so that any party attacking them may be always sure of doing it to advantage, by taking post in the woods by the roads, or along the stone walls, where they will not venture to follow them. And as an encouragement to any brave parties who will endeavour to surprise some of them, the General offers one hundred dollars for every Trooper, with his horse and accoutrements, which shall be brought in, and so in proportion for any part, to be divided according to the rank and pay of the party.

The Picket Guard to be reinforced this evening with a regiment from each division. They are to parade at five o'clock this evening, near Head-Quarters. The eldest Colonel to command the whole, and to come to Head-Quarters for orders before they march off.

The constant beating of drums on all occasions is very improper. There should be no drum but on the parade and main guard. All fatigue parties to march with the fife; and no drum to beat, on any account, after retreat beating, but by special order.

John Cawley and *Michael McDaniel*, of Colonel *Hazlett's* Regiment, tried by the Court-Martial whereof Colonel *Holman* was President, for "robbing *Isaiah Rider*," are both acquitted. The General approves the sentence, and orders them to be discharged.

James Daniel, of Captain *Horton's* Company, Colonel *Ritzema's* Regiment, convicted by the same Court-Martial, is ordered to receive thirty-nine lashes and forfeit two months' pay. The General approves the sentence, and orders it to be executed at the usual time and place.

William Turner and *Daniel Shute* are appointed Aids-de-Camp to General *Lincoln*, and are to be obeyed and respected accordingly.

The Court of Inquiry on Colonel *Tyler* having reported that there is no sufficient reason for the appointment of a Court-Martial on his conduct, the General orders him to be released from his arrest.

Regimental Courts-Martial to be formed immediately, for the trial of prisoners charged with crimes under their cognizance.

Head-Quarters, White-Plains, October 28, 1776.

(Parole, .) (Countersign, .)

Head-Quarters, White-Plains, October 29, 1776.

(Parole, .) (Countersign, .)

John Eustace, Esq., appointed Aid-de-Camp to General *Lee*; and Adjutant *Bradford*, of Colonel *Hitchcock's* Regiment, is appointed temporary Aid-de-Camp.

The representation made of Colonel *Webb's* Regiment, yesterday, by General *McDougall*, appearing to be a mistake, and that they kept the post assigned them, notwithstanding a severe cannonade, the General takes the first opportunity to make it known, to prevent any unfavourable impression.

Until the guards are otherwise fixed, every division is to mount guard opposite to their posts, according to the situation of the ground.

Alexander Scammell, Esq., appointed Assistant to the Adjutant-General for General *Lee's* Division.

EXTRACT OF A LETTER TO A GENTLEMAN IN ANNAPOLIS, DATED WHITE-PLAINS, OCTOBER 29, 1776.

I now snatch an opportunity by the post of informing you that General *McDougall's* brigade, of which the *Maryland* Regulars is a part, having laid in the wood for three nights, two miles from this place, and to the right of the main body as a covering party, was ordered to advance along the road about a mile, near a place called the *Mile-Stone*, and there take post, which was accordingly done. The brigade was there joined by *Hazlett's Delaware* battalion and a small regiment of Militia from *Connecticut*. They were no sooner formed than the enemy began a heavy cannonade from a great number of field-pieces advantageously disposed on several rising grounds, which was answered by the only two cannon which attended our brigade, little or no execution being done on either side, till Colonel *Smallwood*, with the *Marylanders*, was ordered to march down the hill and attack the enemy, which they did; and a smart contest ensued, in which the enemy gave way, but rallying again, and attacking the right of the brigade, composed of the Militia aforesaid, they got the advantage, and their situation being such, and being drawn up in a heavy column, only our regiment and another (*Ritzema's*) could come in for any part of the action. Those two brave regiments stood a very heavy fire of their artillery and musketry for about half an hour, when the whole brigade, being vastly outnumbered, and cramped in respect of ground, was obliged to retreat, a reinforcement under General *Putnam* not being able to get up in time to give the necessary assistance. This reinforcement was General *Beall's* brigade. The enemy now occupy the ground where we took post yesterday, and are a mile from our lines at the *White-Plains*. Colonel *Smallwood* staid upon the place of action some time after the retreat had begun, and received two wounds, one a flesh wound on his hip, the other through his arm; he is, however, in good spirits, and I hope will soon be in a condition to take the field again. All our officers and men behaved with their usual bravery. We have lost of our regiment, Captain *Bracco*, killed in the retreat; Sergeants *Belt* and *Westbay*, killed. Captain *Scott* is mortally wounded; indeed I fear he is dead at this moment; Lieutenant *Goldsmith* badly wounded in the leg, and Lieutenant *Waters's* leg broke to pieces. As near as I can guess, our regiment has near forty killed, wounded, and missing.

The enemy form a considerable body near to our main body, and I expect every moment to see them attack.

TENCH TILGHMAN TO WILLIAM DUER.

Head-Quarters, White-Plains, October 29, 1776.

DEAR SIR: Your express did not call yesterday, or I overlooked him in the hurry of the day. If I had seen him I should have informed you that the cannonade you heard was at *Mount Washington*, and not at this place. Two frigates came up and anchored a little below the forts to stop the passage at *Burdett's Ferry*; but one of them soon got such a dose from a battery of two eighteen-pounders that she was obliged to cut and run, having received twenty-six shot through her hull. She was towed off by her own boats and those of her consort, with pumps constantly going. They at the same time attacked our lines at *Harlem Heights*, but were repulsed.

Yesterday morning we received information that the main body of the enemy were moving towards us. We made every suitable disposition to give them a suitable reception. They at first bent their course towards our centre, in the little village at the *Plains*, but finding our works stronger than they expected, they filed off towards our right, and made their attack upon a hill which overlooks the village, and on which we had posted a few regiments. As our men were without cover, they could not withstand a very heavy fire of Artillery followed by a large body of Infantry; they however made as good a defence as could be expected, and came off without much loss.

The enemy after this remained quiet, only extending themselves about a mile over towards the *North River*. It is a little extraordinary that this move should be made in our rear. Lord *Stirling* is detached ahead of them to get possession of the passes among the hills, and General *Parsons* has taken post near the head of *Rye Pond*, which secures the pass in our front. From the situation of the two armies, something of considerable import must turn up in a few days. Except we can get a vast superiority of ground, our raw troops are not a match for their disciplined soldiers, especially when backed by constant fire of artillery.

The General presents his compliments to Mr. *Livingston* and yourself. He begs you will say to him that he received a letter from him yesterday, which he would have answered, but he hopes the urgency of the time will be a sufficient excuse.

I am, dear sir, your most obedient servant,

TENCH TILGHMAN.

To *William Duer*, Esq., of the Committee of Correspondence, *Fishkill*.

GENERAL JAMES CLINTON TO THE NEW-YORK CONVENTION.
Fort Montgomery, October 29, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: Agreeable to a resolve of the Committee of Safety for the State of *New-York*, I send you *Silvanus Scowfield*, cooper in Captain *Darling's* company, and Sergeant *Sickles* with nineteen others belonging to this garrison, which is all the coopers we have at this place except three or four, which is drafted to do duty with the train of artillery. But if you are in want of any more coopers, I suppose I can supply you, as I have not got a return of the coopers at the fort near *Peekskill* and *Fort Constitution*; but I expect them soon, as I have ordered it to be made and sent to me. Therefore you'll be pleased to let me know if those I now send be sufficient; if not, I will send those at the other posts.

I think it my duty to inform you at this time, when you are about making out the arrangement of the four regiments to be raised in the State of *New-York*, that Lieutenant *Hasbrouck*, of Captain *Bellknap's* company, and Lieutenant *Parsons*, of Captain *Swartwout's* company, both of the Second *New-York* Regiment, were ordered under an arrest, and tried by a General Court-Martial. Lieutenant *Hasbrouck* was honourably acquitted, and Lieutenant *Parsons*, found guilty of the charge laid against him, was dismissed the service. In making out the new arrangement, I hope the rest of the officers of the Second *New-York* Regiment, whereof I was appointed Colonel, will not be forgot.

I am, gentlemen, your most obedient, humble servant,

JAMES CLINTON, *Brigadier-General*.

To the President of the honourable Convention of the State of *New-York*, *Fishkill*.

PETRUS VAN GAASBECK TO WILLIAM DUER.

Manor Livingston, October 29, 1776.

SIR: I herewith send you enclosed the muster-roll, agreeable to the resolve of Convention passed the 9th instant. Also enclose a letter from Colonel *Peter R. Livingston*, in which he makes mention that I have engaged cartouch-boxes for all my men. If convenient, beg you will send me so much money as to pay for them. Please to give me an answer to the Colonel's letter of what relates to the company.

I have been upon duty for some days, by order of our Committee. I now wait your orders. Here keeps a large number concealed in the woods in this district, and upon the borders of *Dutchess*.

I should be exceeding glad if you think proper to appoint the gentleman mentioned in the Colonel's letter as Second Lieutenant.

In haste, am, sir, your very humble servant,

PETRUS VAN GAASBECK.

To *William Duer*, Esq., *Fishkill*.

PETER R. LIVINGSTON TO WILLIAM DUER.

Manor Livingston, October 29, 1776.

DEAR SIR: Captain *Gaasbeck* has got his company full, and mustered the 19th instant. He has been upon duty by order of our Committee here since. He now waits your orders; but would be very glad if you would be pleased to get Lieutenant *Samuel J. Ten Broeck* appointed his Second Lieutenant, as he finds the want of another officer, having occasion often to divide his company into three parties. The Committee of this district will send you down a list of all our bad people in a little time. Captain *Gaasbeck* has engaged cartouch-boxes for all his men, at fourteen shillings apiece, which they are willing to pay for. If he should want a little money, please to help him to it, for the use of his company.

I have wrote to Convention concerning the flour I have sent to *Albany*. Captain *Jansen* is gone to *Barington* for the boards he bought, and to purchase grain and teams.

Am, sir, your very humble servant,

PETER R. LIVINGSTON.

To *William Duer*, Esq., *Fishkill*.

PETER R. LIVINGSTON TO PIERRE VAN CORTLANDT.

Manor Livingston, October 29, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: Finding, on my arrival here, the demand for flour for the Northern department still increasing, thought it most prudent to send up to Mr. *Avery* all the flour that was in the mills about this place, which, together with what goes from *Esopus*, will make about nine hundred barrels, two hundred of which was bought by Mr. *Schenck* of Captain *Hoffman*, and seventy odd of Mr. *Matthew Cantine*. The rest were purchased by a clerk of Mr. *Avery* and myself, and were intended for *Peekskill*, had not the pressing demand from *Albany* made it necessary to send it there. I purpose going to *Albany* this week to consult further with Mr. *Avery*, whether it will be most for the good of the service to send what will be ready by the return of the sloops to *Peekskill* or to *Albany*.

Have sent Captain *Jansen* into *New-England* to send down the boards he has bought there, and to purchase grain and teams, in order to forward the service all in my power. Shall do myself the honour to write you from *Albany*.

Am, gentlemen, your very humble servant,

PETER R. LIVINGSTON.

To *Pierre Van Cortlandt*, Esq., Vice-President, *Fishkill*.

GENERAL SCHUYLER TO GENERAL WASHINGTON.

Saratoga, October 29, 1776.

DEAR SIR: Your Excellency's obliging favour of the 22d instant I had the honour to receive yesterday. I read with sensible satisfaction your judicious remarks on the Militia. I assure you they are realized in this quarter; and if General *Gates* was not so very importunate to have them at *Tyonderoga*, I should certainly dismiss many of them, as they move with much reluctance, and will neither assist in fortifying or mounting guard. Those from *New-England* are ordered to *Tyonderoga*, by the way of *Skenesborough*. Those from this County I have distributed in such a manner at the different posts on the communication, as to prevent any interruption from the enemy in sending on supplies, excepting near one thousand, which I have sent into *Tryon* County. By advices from thence we learn that the enemy meditate an attack in that quarter, and this account is corroborated by the departure of several of the principal Tories, who are gone to join the enemy. It is very probable that General *Carleton* may have detached a party of *Indians*, Tories, and *Canadians*, to penetrate into that part of the country, in order to embarrass and draw off our attention from him.

Enclose you copy of General *Gates's* last letter to me.

Your Excellency will perceive that he believes General *Carleton* will make an attempt upon him. I really think he cannot do it at any time this campaign in which we shall be in a better condition to receive him; but if he defers it to another, I think our works may be so strengthened, and such precautions taken, as will render it utterly impossible for almost any army to penetrate by the way of *Tyonderoga*; and an army that shall attempt to march from *Crown Point* so as to leave *Tyonderoga* on the right, will find itself so involved in such a variety of difficulties as are inextricable, and must prove fatal.

Every precaution your Excellency has suggested shall be taken, and not a carriage or any sustenance left for the enemy, in case our troops should be obliged to retire from *Tyonderoga*.

Barracks are erecting at this place, and I hope will be finished in three weeks, capable of receiving a thousand men. I propose some others on the communication, if time and circumstances will permit.

Adieu, my dear General. I am, with every wish that esteem and affection suggests, your Excellency's most obedient, humble servant,

PH. SCHUYLER.

To His Excellency General *Washington*.

Endorsed: Answered 4th, 1776; Receipt of his letter; those for Congress transmitted; supplies of provisions for *Tyonderoga* of great importance; his Excellency happy that they cannot be intercepted; no important event since last.

Ticonderoga, Saturday evening, seven o'clock, }
October 26, 1776. }

SIR: Two men, taken prisoners by a scout of the enemy's *Indians* the night before last, are this moment returned by permission of General *Carleton*, upon the same terms as those sent with General *Waterbury*. By every information they give, an attack may hourly be expected here. The wind is now against the enemy's fleet, as it providentially has been for this week past, and it is to be wished it may continue so until those tardy succours arrive which I have been told so long ago to expect. Where is *Dayton's* regiment? If they received your orders in time, their behaviour is shameful.

I am, sir, your most obedient, humble servant,

HO. GATES.

To Hon. Major-General *Schuyler*.

GENERAL SCHUYLER TO GENERAL GATES.

Saratoga, October 29, 1776.

DEAR GENERAL: Mr. *Evans* has been sent me by the Secretary at War, to be forwarded to *Canada*. I expressed my doubts on the propriety of sending a flag to General *Carleton*, after the orders he had issued when Major *Bigelow* formerly went with one. However, upon further deliberation, and advising with Messrs. *Stockton* and *Clymer*, we concluded that it would be best to send Mr. *Evans* on to you, to be forwarded if you shall think it advisable. I have given directions to Colonel *Dayton*, in whose charge he is, to prevent him from seeing any thing at the different posts as he passes.

On *Tuesday* last, our people had the advantage in a skirmish with Major *Rogers*, at *Mamaroneck*. We took sixty prisoners. Have no accounts of the killed.

I am, dear sir, your most obedient, humble servant,

PH. SCHUYLER.

To General *Gates*.

COLONEL GANSEVOORT TO GENERAL GATES.

Fort George, October 29, 1776.

DEAR SIR: Part of the Militia from the County of *Albany* has been ordered to this post, and I have received orders from General *Schuyler* to employ them in erecting a picket fort round the General Hospital. He informs me that he has sent to *Albany* for axes; but being apprehensive that a sufficient quantity of them cannot be procured there, he has been pleased to refer me to your Honour for a supply of what may be wanting. If any shovels and spades can be spared from your post, I beg they may be sent for the above-mentioned purpose.

I am, sir, your humble servant,

P. GANSEVOORT.

To the Hon. Major-General *Gates*.

BENJAMIN PAYNE TO THE COMMITTEE FOR WETHERSFIELD, CONNECTICUT.

Hartford, October 29, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: This day, about noon, passed through this town three travellers, as I am informed, on their way, as they say, to *Philadelphia*. Two of them call themselves *French* Colonels, and the other is in character of interpreter to them. The extraordinary stories they tell, and never twice alike, upon the road, when they stop, gives the greatest reason to suspect that they are impostors, and on no good design, and ought, no doubt, to be taken up and examined strictly; for if they are what they pretend to be, they will be able to show good credentials. If otherwise, it will be doing a real service to detect them. When they left here, they said they intended to lodge at Mr. *Deane's* this night. Perhaps that was with a view to prevent their being pursued immediately. Since they were gone, (indeed I knew nothing of them until after they were gone, as I am confined to my room,) have received a messenger from *Springfield*, and another from *Suffield*, both of which confirm the same suspicion, and all concur in this, that they ought to be questioned who and what they are.

I am, gentlemen, your humble servant,

BENJA. PAYNE.

To the Committee of Inspection, &c., *Wethersfield*.

ON MONOPOLIZERS.

'Tis a common saying, "every thing has two handles," the meaning of which is, every thing is capable of being improved to a good or bad purpose. Should we suppose any thing ever so well adapted in its nature to produce good, its tendency to this end may be prevented by misapplication, as to be productive of evil. Innumerable instances might be mentioned to confirm this truth; but I shall, at present, select only one: 'tis that of commerce.

The design of this, if grounded on the principles either of reason or religion, is the good of mankind; and if managed as it ought to be, the good of mankind would be the effect. But 'tis capable, through the influence of an unreasonably private spirit, of being as great a curse as it might have been a blessing if every one sought his own in union with the weal of others. Of this we have a most striking illustration in the management of commerce in this town and land. A self-seeking spirit appears to have taken a universal spread. Those who are employed in carrying on trade seem to have totally forgot that eternal rule of righteousness, "Do to others as you would they should do to you," and to have placed as unrighteous an one in its room, "Get what you can, no matter how nor who is oppressed and distressed thereby." 'Tis, without all doubt, reasonable and fit that merchants and traders should consult their own interest, and endeavour to promote it; but, at the same time, 'tis unreasonable and shameful in them to do this in opposition to the interest of others, taking occasion, from their necessities and sufferings, to turn oppressors and extortioners, that by this means they may enrich themselves.

If the traders in this town and land had managed their commercial business with any tolerable regard to the good of the publick, as they might have done, in consistency with seeking their own profit, so far as it was fit and proper they should, being members of one and the same political body, we should have been at this day in happy circumstances, compared with what we now are. Our traders, considered in general, are, in the view of all considerate persons, as grand oppressors, and as truly and extensively so, in proportion to the sphere in which they move, as our ministerial oppressors in *England*; and unless they are soon restrained, either from a virtuous principle within or from some extensive power, they will be the destroyers of the poor, the widow, the fatherless, and all others whose situation in life is such as renders it impossible for them to do justice to themselves. To what can it be attributed, but the excessive love traders have to their own precious selves, that they put such an extravagant price upon the commodities they have to sell? And what an unspeakable damage has this been to the publick! It has occasioned the undue rise of every thing we depend upon for the support and comfort of life. Farmers, manufacturers in their several

occupations, and labourers in all their kinds, excuse their high demands for what is wanted in their way from the still higher demands of traders for what they have to sell. In very truth, our traders, both in town and country, are the real cause of the monstrously high price of every thing; and the love of their own interest, in opposition to the interest of all others, and to the subversion of it, if they may get by it, is that shameful principle by which they are governed in this whole affair.

Monopolizers, in this day of common calamity, are our worst oppressors. Those among them, in special, are so, who, not content with the thousands they are righteously entitled to, in consequence of the prizes the commissioned vessels they own have brought in, have been unduly influenced, from an avaricious disposition, to make a monopoly of as much of the effects of those prizes as their cunning would enable them to do, that, by an excessively enhanced price, they might by and by get that from others, however poor and destitute, which both reason and revelation unite in calling the gain of oppression. These extortioners are not only sordidly unjust, but basely wanting in gratitude to that Providence which has distinguished them from most others in this day of general distress; and they ought to be restrained by Government within the limits of what is right and fit; and unless some measures are soon authoritatively come into to effect so righteous and valuable an end, it may be feared whether undesirable consequences will not take place, as a general clamour begins to be loudly heard.

P. W.

Needham, Massachusetts, October 29, 1776.

PETITION OF THE TOWN OF LYNDSBOROUGH.

Lyndsbrough, October 29, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: The Selectmen and Committee of Safety for the town of *Lyndsbrough* considering our unqualifiedness in making publick defence against the enemy, being destitute of a town stock of powder, and in order to obtain the same, a town meeting has been called, and Mr. *Joseph Herrick* is chose to provide the same, if it can be procured, which stock, if provided, will be kept as a town stock for the use of the town, in case of any sudden emergency or alarm.

JOHN STEPHENSON,
BENJAMIN JONES,
JAMES BOATWELL,

Committee of Safety for said town.

To the General Court or Committee of Safety for the Colony of *New-Hampshire*.

BY THE KING.

A Proclamation for a General Fast in England and Wales.

GEORGE R.

We, taking into our most serious consideration the just and necessary measures of force which we are obliged to use against our rebellious subjects in our Colonies and Provinces in *North America*, and putting our trust in Almighty God, that He will vouchsafe a special blessing on our arms both by sea and land, have resolved, and do, by and with the advice of our Privy Council, hereby command, that a publick fast and humiliation be observed throughout that part of our kingdom of *Great Britain* called *England*, our dominion of *Wales*, and town of *Berwick-upon-Tweed*, upon *Friday*, the 13th day of *December* next; that so both we and our people may humble ourselves before Almighty God, in order to obtain pardon of our sins, and may, in the most devout and solemn manner, send up our prayers and supplications to the Divine Majesty for averting those heavy judgments which our manifold sins and provocations have most justly deserved, and for imploring His intervention and blessing speedily to deliver our loyal subjects within our Colonies and Provinces in *North America* from the violence, injustice, and tyranny of those daring Rebels who have assumed to themselves the exercise of arbitrary power; to open the eyes of those who have been deluded by specious falsehoods into acts of treason and rebellion; to turn the hearts of the authors of these calamities; and, finally, to restore our people in those distracted Provinces and Colonies to the happy condition of being free subjects of a free State, under which heretofore they flour-

ished so long and prospered so much. And we do strictly charge and command, that the said publick fast be reverently and devoutly observed by all our loving subjects in *England*, our dominion of *Wales*, and town of *Berwick-upon-Tweed*, as they tender the favour of Almighty God, and would avoid his wrath and indignation, and upon pain of such punishment as we may justly inflict upon all such as contemn and neglect the performance of so religious a duty. And for the better and more orderly solemnizing the same, we have given directions to the most reverend the Archbishops and the right reverend the Bishops of *England* to compose a form of prayer suitable to this occasion, to be used in all churches, chapels, and places of publick worship, and to take care the same be timely dispersed throughout their respective dioceses.

Given at our Court of *St. James's*, the thirtieth day of *October*, one thousand seven hundred and seventy-six, in the seventeenth year of our reign.

God save the King!*

BY THE KING.

A Proclamation for a General Fast in Scotland.

GEORGE R.

We, taking into our most serious consideration the just and necessary measures of force which we are obliged to use against our rebellious subjects in our Colonies and Provinces in *North America*, and putting our trust in Almighty God that He will vouchsafe a special blessing on our arms both by sea and land, have resolved, and do, by and with the advice of our Privy Council, hereby command that a publick fast and humiliation be observed throughout that part of our kingdom of *Great Britain* called *Scotland*, upon *Thursday*, the 12th day of *December* next, that so both we and our people may humble ourselves before Almighty God, in order to obtain pardon of our sins, and may, in the most devout and solemn manner, send up our prayers and supplications to the Divine Majesty for averting those heavy judgments which our manifold sins and provocations have most justly deserved, and for imploring His intervention and blessing speedily to deliver our loyal subjects within our Colonies and Provinces in *North America* from the violence, injustice, and tyranny of those daring Rebels who have assumed to themselves the exercise of arbitrary power; to open the eyes of those who have been deluded by specious falsehoods into acts of treason and rebellion; to turn the hearts of the authors of these calamities; and, finally, to restore our people in those distracted Provinces and Colonies to the happy condition of being free subjects of a free State, under which heretofore they flourished so long and prospered so much. And we do strictly charge and command, that the said publick fast be reverently and devoutly observed by all our loving subjects in *Scotland*, as they tender the favour of Almighty God, and would avoid His wrath and indignation, and upon pain of such punishment as we may justly inflict on all such as contemn and neglect the performance of so religious a duty. Our will is, therefore, and we charge, that incontinent this our proclamation seen, ye pass to the *Market Cross* of *Edinburgh*, and all other places needful, and there, in our name and authority, make publication hereof, that none pretend ignorance. And our will and pleasure is, that our Solicitor do cause printed copies hereof to be sent to the Sheriffs of the several shires, stewarts of stewarties, and

* *Mr. BURKE's remarks on the foregoing Proclamation, of October 30, 1776.*

Mr. *Burke*, in the House of Commons, speaking on the *American* contest, in which he was severe against the Ministry, said:

"That, after having been massacred, first by the *Hessians*, and then by the lawyers, they now talked of a revival of the acts that had been complained of seven years ago. After burning their towns, and ruining their commerce, the Minister cries out, 'Come unto me all ye that are weary and heavy laden, and I will give you rest.' But what sort of rest? You shall have magistrates not of your own choosing; taxes without your assent; and laws made for you in *England*." He complained bitterly of some expressions in the proclamation for the general fast. He said the purposes of religion were to be inverted; for we were to go to church in a most impious manner, to accuse our *American* brethren of being deluded into acts of treason by specious falsehoods. This he condemned as blasphemous, and converting the house of God into the tabernacle of Satan. Here he was called to order, but afterwards proceeded, and justified the resistance of the *Americans*. He also made Administration accountable for all the blood that had been shed, and all the horrors of war: those were the sins we were to atone for, and to deprecate the wrath of Heaven by a general fast; and surely no people ever had more reason to humble themselves before God. He spoke with great vehemence above an hour.

bailiffs of regalities, and their clerks, whom we ordain to see the same published. And we appoint them to send doubles hereof to the several paroch kirks within their bounds, that, upon the *Lord's Day* immediately preceding the day above mentioned, the same may be published and read from the pulpits immediately after divine service.

Given at our Court at *St. James's*, the thirtieth day of *October*, one thousand seven hundred and seventy-six, in the seventeenth year of our reign.

God save the King!

CAPTAIN COOKE TO MARYLAND COUNCIL OF SAFETY.

At Sea, ship *Defence*, October 30, 1776.

HONOURABLE GENTLEMEN: On the 4th of this instant, I wrote you by Captains *Brown* and *Walker*, who I sent in with a snow and sloop taken off *St. Augustine*, which I hope have got safe in. I flattered myself at that time that you would have heard from me sooner. I this day have taken a small schooner with forty hogsheads rum, three hogsheads sugar, one hundred weight coffee, a few barrels limes, &c., from *Dominica* by her clearance bound to *Newfoundland*, but have reason to believe the Captain of her intended to *New-York*, to supply the Ministerial army. He gives me information of two brigs and three schooners to sail from *Dominica* in a day or two with rum, sugar, and coffee, for *New-York* or *Halifax*. I shall endeavour to be in their way, and hope you'll be no way uneasy should I stay rather longer out than you might expect.

I have spoke a schooner from *Charlestown* for *Cape Nichola*, and yesterday spoke a *French* ship from *Cape Nichola* bound for *France*. We have spoke every thing we have seen but one schooner, which we did not attempt, being in chase of a *French* ship, which gives me great reason to think our ship sails fast.

Our ship's company keeps their health extremely well; and have the pleasure to inform you we are all well satisfied, and that the greatest harmony subsists between us. I hope you will pardon the freedom I here use, being a young officer in this service, in pointing out to you those officers under my command that is deserving of appointments; but I should in every degree think myself blameable to my country, should I not mention such to you: Mr. *Auchenlick* and Mr. *Burnell*, my two Lieutenants, from every circumstance since with me, I find them to be experienced and brave officers, have been a considerable time in the *British* navy, and from every thing I can observe, hath entered into our service entirely from principle. I have likewise occasion to mention Mr. *Joseph Smith*, Second Lieutenant of Marines on board, who has behaved extremely well. From those circumstances they hope for your favour at the time of appointments in the country service.

I am, honourable gentlemen, your most obedient, humble servant,

GEO. COOKE.

To the honourable Council of Safety of *Maryland*, *Annapolis*.

P. S. I have enclosed you a list of all the officers and men belonging to the ship. I would have transmitted sooner, but it was not in my power.

G. C.

At Sea, ship *Defence*, October 30, 1776.

HONoured SIR AND MOST WORTHY FRIEND: From some of your last expressions to me that you expected to hear from me often, and the pleasure it gives me to write to you, shall trouble you in reading my scrawls. I wrote you on the 4th instant by Captain *Walker*, in a prize sloop, and the same day sent away a snow, which I hope both have got safe into the port of *Annapolis*.

Yesterday, at 4 p. m., took a small schooner with forty hogsheads rum, and three hogsheads sugar, one hundred weight coffee, a few barrels limes, &c., from *Dominica*, cleared out for *Newfoundland*; but from what the Captain said, that he intended for *America*, I have great reason to believe he intended for *New-York*, to supply the Ministerial army. He says that there was at *Dominica* two brigs and three schooners, that will sail in a day or two. I shall endeavour to fall in with them, which may in some degree lengthen our cruise.

This minute spied a sail; a ship to leeward. I'm in hopes she'll prove a prize.

Since I wrote the above, have spoke the ship; she is a *French* ship from *St. Dominica* for *Marseilles*, which proves to be no prize. I have not the least doubt of doing something clever before I go in, although the time I can stay out is not a great while, with safety, on account of my water. I have forty-two days at half a gallon per man per day; but must return with enough, should I be forced from our Capes. I'm in a great hurry to get this schooner away, and hopes you'll make my excuses to my most worthy friends Colonel *Fitzhugh* and Colonel *Barnes*. I doubt not but they will blame me for not writing them, and must beg your favour to reconcile that, and am in hopes when I've the pleasure of your and their company on board, that I shall be able to clear it up to their satisfaction.

Please accept of my best wishes to your lady and self; and if not too much trouble, please offer my compliments to those of my friends.

We are all in high spirits and very healthy. We have seen nothing we chased but what we have come up with and spoke with.

I am, honoured sir, your most obedient, humble servant,
GEORGE COOKE.

P. S. I have desired Mr. *Langrel*, prize-master, to send you and the other gentlemen of the Council, a few limes, which I hope you'll please to accept.

G. C.

RICHARD BOND TO MARYLAND COUNCIL OF SAFETY.

Cecil County, October 30, 1776.

SIR: This may inform you that I am setting up a gun factory, which I expect will be ready to go about Christmas, where work will be done in the best manner; where gun-barrels may be had ready for stocking, any quality. Relying upon the publick spirit of the Council, I never made application; but hope to meet with encouragement, as it will cost a considerable sum of money to set it agoing. I may be obliged to apply for money to carry it on, in which case, sir, I beg your influence, and also in contracting for work. I beg, sir, that you would signify your pleasure respecting it in a letter; and in doing you will much oblige, sir, your most obedient and humble servant,

RICH'D BOND.

To Mr. *Daniel of Saint Thomas Jenifer*, Esq., these, per favour of Mr. *James Disney*.

MARINE COMMITTEE TO DANIEL TILLINGHAST.

October 30, 1776.

SIR: As heavy duck is wanted for the *New-Hampshire* frigate, which cannot be procured in that State, we desire you will without delay send forward to *John Langdon*, Esq., eighty bolts of heavy duck, if that quantity belonging to the Continent is in your possession, or in the possession of any other person in your State. You will also supply Mr. *Langdon* and Messrs. *Silas & Barnabas Deane*, with any Continental stores that they may apply to you for, for the use of the frigates *Raleigh* and *Trumbull*.

Lieutenant *McDougall*, of the brig *Andrea Doria*, has accounted for the expenditure of forty-five pounds you advanced him to defray his travelling expenses, together with seven of the people belonging to said brigantine from your State to this place; therefore we think proper to deduct that sum from the sales of the prize which they brought in, and put under your care.

We are, sir, your very humble servants.

To *Daniel Tillinghast*, Esq.

MARINE COMMITTEE TO COMMODORE HOPKINS.

October 30, 1776.

SIR: We have received such intelligence as satisfies us that the enemy's ships and vessels have all quitted *Georgia* and the *Carolinas*, which renders it unnecessary for you to pursue the expeditions formerly directed to these States. But as we have still reason to suppose that the *Galatea* and *Nautilus* are cruising off the capes of *Virginia*, we desire you will proceed thither with all possible despatch, and endeavour to fall in with these ships, and take, sink, or

destroy them. If, when you are on that station, you shall be informed that any of the enemy's ships of war have returned to the *Carolinas* or *Georgia*, you are in that case to go in search of them, and effectually remove them. Having finished this business, you are to return and cruise for and endeavour to intercept the store and provision vessels coming from *Europe* to the enemy's army at *New-York*. We expect you will give this Committee information by every opportunity of your proceedings, and what success you may meet with in the above enterprises.

We wish you success; and are, sir, your most humble servants.

To *Esek Hopkins, Esq.*

JOHN WITHERSPOON TO GENERAL GATES.

Princeton, October 30, 1776.

SIR: It is not long since I heard from Mrs. *Gates* and your son who went home the beginning of the vacation. I expect her here with him in about ten days, when the College session begins. I have the pleasure of assuring you that he has in all respects behaved in the most unexceptionable manner, and acquitted himself well at examination for admission into College, so that I hope General will have much pleasure in him.

I send this by my son, who finds he can do nothing in the present situation of affairs upon his farm, and therefore is desirous of going into the army. It is his own particular desire to be with you. He can easily get a commission in the new levies of this Province, but if he could be appointed Aid-de-Camp to any of the Generals, I think it would be a happy introduction; and as he is young, vigorous, and active, I hope he would acquit himself with fidelity and credit in that service. I have given him a letter to Colonel *Maxwell*, just now appointed a Brigadier-General, but do chiefly depend on your friendship and advice to him, which he will certainly follow.

It gave me much concern that you had not an immediate and fully satisfactory answer to your letter to Congress relating to the dissolving the Court-Martial. There was a full and ample report brought in upon it by the Board of War, but it was postponed, after some debate, for a little; and many things being thrust in that seemed to require immediate despatch, it was some time before it was brought in again; and the second time, when it was just about to be almost unanimously agreed to, by the artful management of some who wanted a little alteration made, it was postponed again by the demand of a paper which was not at hand. Since that time, your friends thought it not worth while to resume it. I must, however, assure you that by far the greatest part of the Congress have a very high sense of your importance and services; in a particular manner for discouraging to the utmost of your power Colonial jealousies and distinctions.

I have written to General *Maxwell* that he is indebted to you for a very honourable mention of him in your letter to Congress, which was read at the last promotion of General Officers, when he could certainly have been promoted but for some of his friends here.

We have heard with concern the destruction of our fleet upon the lake, but it is satisfying to think that they behaved so well. I heartily pray that God Almighty may crown you with success in your present critical situation and most important charge. I have given all the attention in my power to the supply and interest of the Northern army, and shall continue to do so.

Wishing you all happiness, I am, sir, your most obedient, humble servant,

JNO. WITHERSPOON.

To General *Gates*.

EXTRACT OF A LETTER FROM AN OFFICER OF THE SIXTY-FOURTH REGIMENT, IN YORK-ISLAND, TO HIS FRIEND IN LONDON, DATED NEW-YORK, OCTOBER 30, 1776.

The Rebel army are in so wretched a condition as to clothing and accoutrements, that I believe no nation ever saw such a set of tattered malions. There are few coats among them but what are out at elbows, and in a whole regiment there is scarce a pair of breeches. Judge then how

they must be pinched by a winter campaign. We, who are warmly clothed and well equipped, already feel it severely; for it is even now much colder than I ever felt it in *England*. As to provisions they have been pretty well supplied; more care has been taken of their bellies than their backs. But we have lately made a prize that must distress them exceedingly, no less than a church full of salt; so that the poor *Yankees* literally won't have salt to their porridge. When they retreated, they left fifteen hundred men in *Fort Washington*; and next day fifteen hundred more came into it from *Fort Constitution*; so that they have now a garrison of three thousand men under the command of General *Lee*, who I find is to be the scape-goat, and I fear will be destined to the cord.

GENERAL GREENE TO GENERAL WASHINGTON.

Fort Lee, October 31, 1776.

DEAR SIR: The enemy have possession of *Fort Independence* on the heights above *King's Bridge*. They made their appearance the night before last. We had got every thing of value away. The bridges are cut down, and I gave Colonel *Magaw* orders to stop the road between the mountains.

I should be glad to know your Excellency's mind about holding all the ground from *King's Bridge* to the lower lines. If we attempt to hold the ground, the garrison must still be reinforced, but if the garrison is to draw into *Mount Washington* and only keep that, the number of troops on the island is too large.

We are not able to determine with any certainty whether those troops that have taken post above *King's Bridge* are the same troops, or not, that were in and about *Harlem* several days past. They disappeared from below all at once; and some little time after, about fifty boats full of men, were seen going up towards *Hunt's Point*, and that evening the enemy were discovered at *Fort Independence*. We suspect them to be the same troops that were engaged in the *Sunday* skirmish.

Six officers belonging to privateers that were taken by the enemy, made their escape last night. They inform me that they were taken by the last fleet that came in. They had about six thousand foreign troops on board, one quarter of which had the black scurvy, and died very fast.

Seventy sail of transports and ships fell down to *Red-Hook*. They were bound for *Rhode-Island*; had on board about three thousand troops. They also inform that after the *Sunday* action, an officer of distinction was brought into the city badly wounded.

The ships have come up the river to their station again, a little below their lines. Several deserters from *Powle's Hook* have come over. They all report that General *Howe* is wounded, as did those from the fleet. It appears to be a prevailing opinion in the land and sea service.

I forwarded your Excellency a return of the troops at this post, and a copy of a plan for establishing magazines. I could wish to know your pleasure as to the magazines as soon as possible.

I shall reinforce Colonel *Magaw* with Colonel *Ralling's* regiment, until I hear from your Excellency respecting the matter.

The motions of the grand army will best determine the propriety of endeavouring to hold all the ground from *King's Bridge* to the lower lines. I shall be as much on the Island of *York* as possible so as not to neglect the duties of my own department.

I can learn no satisfactory accounts of the action of the other day.

I am, with great respect, your Excellency's obedient servant,

NATHANAEL GREENE.

To His Excellency General *Washington*, at Camp at the *White-Plains*.

GENERAL COURTS-MARTIAL.

At a General Court-Martial, held by order of his Excellency General *Washington*, near *White-Plains*, for the trial of such prisoners as shall be brought before them, October 30, 1776.

Brigadier-General *McDougall*, President.

Members :

Colonel <i>Baldwin</i> ,	Captain <i>Coal</i> ,
Lieut. Col. <i>Wissenfells</i> ,	Captain <i>Warner</i> ,
Major <i>Smith</i> ,	Captain <i>Lee</i> ,
Captain <i>Cogswell</i> ,	Captain <i>Hull</i> ,
Captain <i>Bolster</i> ,	Captain <i>Pelton</i> ,
Captain <i>Crooker</i> ,	Captain <i>Fenner</i> .
Captain <i>Knap</i> ,	

Captain *Peters* appointed Judge Advocate for the above Court.

Being three o'clock, P. M., the above Court adjourned till nine o'clock to-morrow morning, then to meet at the house of Mr. *William Field*.

October 31, 1776.—Said Court met according to adjournment, and proceeded to the trial of Captain *Pool*, of Colonel *Cary's* regiment, who was charged with shamefully abandoning his post when on guard, without orders; and, being asked whether he was guilty or not guilty of the charge, said Captain *Poole* plead "Not guilty."

Sergeant *Hall*, of Colonel *Smith's* regiment, being sworn, says: He was on guard with Captain *Poole*; that about three o'clock, P. M., on the 25th instant, the said Captain *Pool* marched his guard from their post; that he knew of no orders he had for it; that the enemy was then advancing towards *White-Plains*, but not towards the place where said guard was posted.

Lebeus Shilley, being sworn, says: That a little before night, on said 25th, Captain *Poole* marched his guard off, but he knew of no orders for it.

Corporal *Rogers*, being sworn, agrees with the last witness.

Three o'clock, P. M., the Court adjourned till to-morrow morning, ten o'clock.

November 3.—The Court proceeded on the above trial.

Major *Lyman*, being sworn, says: That he can't remember any particular orders that Captain *Poole* had, only that he had two days' provision, and 'twas expected that he would stay where he was posted till relieved.

Adjutant *Torrey*, being sworn, says: That he had orders from Major *Lyman* to send a Captain and a party of men for guard, to go to a place called *Tukkahoe*, with two days' provisions; upon which he sent Captain *Poole*, and told him he must take two days' provisions with him.

Lieutenant *Clark*, being sworn, says: That he knew of no orders Captain *Poole* had respecting the time he was to continue on guard where he was posted, only that he took two days' provision; further says, that Captain *Poole* told him that, if he thought he should not be blamed, he would march the guard off to camp; and said, in case he should be blamed, they could come back to their post again; that they marched to camp, and came to the brigade parade just at night, but he knew of no orders said Captain *Poole* had for marching off his guard.

Lieutenant *Hathaway*, being sworn, says: That, after their guard was posted by the Brigade-Major, Captain *Poole* went out to view the ground, and when he returned, upon finding the Major was gone, he asked him, said Lieutenant, what orders the Major left for them; he told the Captain, none at all; he further says they sent a Sergeant to General *Lee* for orders respecting their conduct; the said Sergeant returned, and said that General *Lee* told him it was not supposed they should stand against any great numbers, but that they were to watch the motions of the enemy.

The Court determine that Captain *Poole* is guilty of the charge alleged against him, and that he be cashiered.

ALEX. MCDUGALL, Brigadier-General, President.

At a General Court-Martial, held by order of Major-General *Lee*, at *White-Plains*, for the trial of such prisoners as shall be brought before them, October 30, 1776.

Colonel *Hitchcock*, President.

Members :

Major <i>S</i> ,	Captain <i>Thomas</i> ,
Captain <i>Thompson</i> ,	Lieutenant <i>Clarke</i> ,
Captain <i>Clarke</i> ,	Lieutenant <i>Miller</i> ,
Captain <i>Olney</i> ,	Lieutenant <i>Lord</i> ,
Captain <i>Lee</i> ,	Lieutenant <i>Grant</i> ,
Captain <i>Dodge</i> ,	Lieutenant <i>Orne</i> ,
Captain <i>Gumbly</i> ,	Ensign <i>Young</i> .

Captain *Peters* appointed Judge Advocate in the above Court.

Peter Buise, of Captain *Caldwell's* company, in Colonel *Haslett's* regiment, was brought before the Court, and charged with the crime of desertion; and, being asked whether he was guilty or not guilty of the charge alleged against him, the said prisoner plead "Guilty;" but said that his whole intentions were to go to his wife, who was left in *York* city when he marched from that place.

Sergeant *Oldham*, of Colonel *Brewer's* regiment, being solemnly sworn, says: That last night, about eleven of the clock, he saw the prisoner near the advanced lines of the enemy; that he went to him, thinking he had been one of our advanced sentinels, and that, after some conversation between them, the prisoner asked him what army he belonged to, whether to the King's army or not? The witness replied, "Be sure I do; what army do you belong to?" The prisoner replied, to the *American* army; but that he had set out to go to the King's army, hoping by that means he should have an opportunity to see his wife, who was in *York*, for he was very uneasy about her.

The Court, having maturely considered the cause before them, are of opinion that the prisoner is guilty of a breach of the first article of war, in the sixth section, and do therefore sentence him to suffer death.

DANIEL HITCHCOCK, President.

I do hereby certify that more than two-thirds of the members of the aforesaid Court were agreed in the aforesaid sentence.

Attest :

ANDREW PETERS, Judge Advocate.

GENERAL SCHUYLER TO THE PRESIDENT OF CONGRESS.

[Read November 6: referred to the Board of War.]

Saratoga, October 30, 1776.

SIR: At two this morning I had the honour to receive your letter of the 23d instant, covering sundry resolutions of Congress. Permit me to assure you, that my best exertions shall not be wanting to carry every part of them into execution, as far as I am capable. Give me leave to observe, that the resolution inhibiting the payment of one and one third dollar for the reenlistment of soldiers in camp, I fear, will much retard the enlistment of the troops, as the recruiting officers will not be able to give their recruiting Sergeants any money to treat those whom they attempt to enlist. I am the more induced to draw this conclusion from the little success that the Commissioners from the different States have met with, in attempting to reengage the men, which will make it absolutely necessary to employ officers for that particular purpose, and which, with respect to this State, is done, by my advice, as Congress will perceive by the enclosed copy of the orders I have given. Having no view but that of promoting the service, I shall venture, in hopes of the pardon of Congress, to advise General *Gates* not to publish the resolution alluded to until I am honoured with the further orders of Congress on the subject.

I am happy to find that nails can be procured at *Boston*. Not knowing that there were any in the publick stores at that place, I sent a trusty officer, on the 13th instant, with five thousand dollars, to purchase a quantity there. Such other of the military stores as are there, and wanted in this department, I shall order to *Westfield*, in the *Massachusetts-Bay*, to be brought from thence in sleds, in winter.

General *Gates* having pressed me to send him Colonel *Dayton's* regiment, I accordingly withdrew it from *Fort Stanwix*, and garrisoned that place with Colonel *Elmore's*. *Dayton's* will reach *Ticonderoga* to-morrow. A few days ago I received information from *Tryon* County that they expected the enemy would penetrate into that quarter; and as a corroboration of the accounts they had received, they urged that some of the principal Tories were gone off, and so much were the inhabitants alarmed that they threatened to lay down their arms unless they were supported by troops. This has obliged me to draw about one thousand Militia from the northward, which I have sent, under the command of Colonel *Van Schaick*, to cover that County. I hope they will do better there than they have here. I have employed some of the Militia to assist in forwarding provisions and repairing the roads. About four hundred are at *Fort Edward*, covered by a breastwork, from whence scouts are daily sent to the westward; and some Tories on the way to

join the enemy have been intercepted. Four hundred more are at *Fort George*, but absolutely refuse to give their aid in erecting a picket around the hospital. Two hundred at *Fort Ann*, assisting in forwarding the provisions. The remainder ordered on to *Ticonderoga*.

My last letter from General *Gates* was of the 27th instant. General *Carleton* still remained at *Crown Point*. Two prisoners, whom his scouts had taken and he sent back, report that he is preparing to attack us. If he does, I trust I shall have the pleasure of announcing his repulse; and if we keep our ground in that quarter during this campaign, it will be our own faults if we do not make *Ticonderoga* and *Mount Independence* impregnable before the enemy can attack it in another; and, consequently, any irruptions from the northward with such a body of troops as could effect any thing will be totally impossible. I am very happy that General *Carleton* has spent his force this way; for if he should even oblige us to retire from *Ticonderoga*, we shall confine him to the lakes. Had he attempted to come by another route, he would probably have penetrated, and been joined by the *Six Nations*. I mention this, as that quarter will claim the attention of Congress next campaign, and I do not know of any measure that would so effectually secure to our interest the *Six Nations* as a regiment or two of *Frenchmen*. I should hope, as we are now independent States, that the Court of *France* would at least wink at our inlisting a body of troops in their islands: probably they would privately order their officers and soldiers to engage in our service.

The anxiety I laboured under lest our army should suffer in the article of provisions, is happily vanished. Considerably more is now forwarding than the daily consumption.

The barracks I am erecting are advancing with great rapidity. Much is to be done in the course of the winter. I shall suggest my ideas to the gentlemen of Congress now with me.

I wish for leave to repair to *Philadelphia* as soon as I shall judge that I may be spared from hence without detriment to the publick service. Congress may be assured that I shall not abuse the license, if granted, by leaving this a moment before the proper time.

Congress will be so good as to let me hear from them on the subject of the *Nanticoke Indians*, mentioned in mine of the 16th or 18th of *August* last. I expect a number of the *Oneidas* at *Albany* very soon: they are such good friends that I wish to have it in my power to give them some clothing.

I have this moment received a letter from my Secretary, who is at *Albany*, advising me that one hundred and ninety or two hundred barrels of flour leave *Albany* every day, but that he fears the Commissary will not be able to furnish more than will suffice for four days' transportation. This intelligence will oblige me to hasten to *Albany* to prevent a stop in the transportation.

As Congress has been pleased to give rank to the Paymasters, would it not be well that the Deputy Mustermaster-General should have some respectable rank given him, and his commission sent up?

The proceedings of the Court-Martial on Colonel *Campbell* I have never had. As soon as General *Gates* sends them to me, I shall take them into consideration.

I am, sir, with every sentiment of respect and esteem, your most obedient, humble servant,

PH. SCHUYLER.

To the Hon. *John Hancock*.

Instructions to the Officers appointed to Recruit for the service of the UNITED STATES OF AMERICA.

Saratoga, October 22, 1776.

1st. The encouragement you are to offer is so great as will, it is hoped, give you a choice of men and ensure you success, to wit: A bounty of ten dollars in money to every non-commissioned officer and soldier already inlisted, and who has received the Continental bounty of ten dollars; and to every other recruit a bounty of twenty dollars; and also to each a suit of clothes yearly, to consist, for the present year, of two linen hunting-shirts, two pair of hose, two pair of overalls, a leather or woollen waistcoat with sleeves, one pair of breeches, one hat or leather cap, and two pair of shoes—amounting, in the whole, to the value of twenty dollars more; but each non-commissioned officer or

soldier who shall procure those articles for himself, and produce to the Paymaster of the regiment a certificate thereof from the Captain of the company to which he shall belong, shall be entitled to receive the twenty dollars in money. Besides which, every non-commissioned officer and soldier so inlisted is to receive, at the end of the war, one hundred acres of land, as a further encouragement.

2dly. You are to be careful to inlist none but healthy, able-bodied men, who shall engage to serve in the army of the *United States* during the present war.

3dly. You shall take the age, size, complexion, colour of hair and eyes, and natural or accidental marks of every recruit, with an account of the place of his birth and occupation.

4thly. You shall embrace all opportunities to have the recruits drilled and disciplined; and for that purpose you shall despatch them, without delay, to such station or place of rendezvous as shall be appointed for that purpose.

5thly. To every recruit, at the time of inlistment, you shall administer the oath prescribed by the articles of war published by the Continental Congress.

6thly. You shall appoint four active and capable recruiting Sergeants to assist you in this service.

7thly. If you shall reinlist for the war any non-commissioned officer or soldier who is at present in actual service for a shorter time, you are to give in his name and description to the Captain to whose company he shall then belong, who is to take particular charge of him, that he be delivered over to his proper officer at the end of the service for which he may be so preëngaged, or sooner if required.

8thly. You are to have your men mustered by the Commissary of Musters the first opportunity after inlistment, in order that they may receive their full bounty, five dollars of which only you shall pay to each recruit, as an encouragement, at the time of inlistment.

9thly. For this purpose you shall receive from the Treasury of the State of *New-York* one hundred pounds in hand, of the expenditures of which you shall keep a regular account, and transmit it to the Treasurer at *Fishkill*, who will supply you with money in proportion to the recruits you shall raise.

PH. SCHUYLER, Major-General.

GENERAL SCHUYLER TO THE BOARD OF WAR.

Saratoga, October 30, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: I am honoured with your favour of the 22d instant, enclosing the resolves of Congress and list of stores at *Boston*. The season is so far advanced that the intrenching tools cannot arrive in time to be of any service during this campaign. I shall, however, order them to the east side of the *Green Mountains*, that advantage may be taken of the first snows to transport them in sleds to this quarter.

The want of tents in this campaign has not only greatly distressed our troops, but occasioned an enormous expense in the article of boards. It is therefore a matter of the greatest importance that a sufficiency of them be prepared in the course of the winter, and sent to *Albany*. The poles and pins can be made there.

Whatever stores are to be sent to this quarter should, I think, be forwarded in light wagons, for the greater expedition. A month hence the roads will be almost impassable for heavy carriages.

I am, gentlemen, with great respect, your most obedient, humble servant,

PH. SCHUYLER.

To *James Wilson*, *Edward Rutledge*, and *Francis Lightfoot Lee*, Esqs.

GENERAL SCHUYLER TO SECRETARY OF THE BOARD OF WAR.

Saratoga, October 30, 1776.

SIR: This morning I was honoured with your letter of the 9th instant. I am extremely happy to find that we have a prospect of being in some measure supplied with the articles you mention, and of which we stand in great need. I could wish that the goods had been sent directly to *Albany*, as it is probable they would have arrived before this. General *Mifflin* has such a variety of business to attend to, that it is a kind of cruelty to burthen him with

any not immediately in his department. Pray let directions be given that every thing in future be sent directly to *Philip Van Rensselaer*, Esquire, Storekeeper at *Albany*.

I am, sir, your most obedient, humble servant,
PH. SCHUYLER.

To *Richard Peters*, Secretary at War.

GENERAL SCHUYLER TO GENERAL GATES.

Saratoga, October 30, 1776.

DEAR GENERAL: At two this morning I received sundry despatches from Congress. Copies of all the resolutions I do myself the honour to enclose you. You will observe, amongst others, a resolution inhibiting the paying one and one third dollars for any soldiers reinlisted in camp. I shall take the liberty to mention to Congress the bad consequences of it; and therefore beg you will not make it publick until you hear further from me on the subject.

A very considerable quantity of shoes, stockings, shirts, and other clothing has left *Philadelphia* for our army. They will not be detained a moment at *Albany*.

The Militia are deserting in great numbers. General *Washington* advises that if they are not absolutely wanted, to dismiss them, as he fears they will distress us as much as they have him, by eating our provisions and doing no service. Those at *Fort George* continue to refuse their aid in erecting the picket around the Hospital and in mounting guard. I am under the necessity of going to *Albany*, to give my assistance to Mr. *Avery*. I wish you, however, to be under no apprehensions on the score of provisions, as I dare say I shall be able to keep up a constant supply.

Please to let Mr. *Yauncey* send me an exact return.

Adieu! I am, dear sir, your most obedient, humble servant,

PH. SCHUYLER.

To Hon. General *Gates*.

P. S. I have not had the proceedings of the Court-Martial on Colonel *Campbell*. You will please to send them to me.

This will be delivered you by Major *Livingston*, my Aid-de-Camp, who intends to pass some days with you. Permit me to recommend him to your attention.

Please to accept of some cabbage and a few potatoes.

GENERAL SCHUYLER TO GENERAL GATES.

Saratoga, October 30, 1776.

DEAR GENERAL: A variety of reports and circumstances seem to confirm the account I gave you that the enemy may probably attempt to penetrate through the country to the *Mohawk* river. I have therefore thought it necessary to move some more of the Militia into *Tryon* County; but as very little dependence is to be made on the very best of them, and as the salvation of the army with you in a very great measure depends upon a successful repulse of the enemy, should they make such an attempt, it is incumbent on us to take every precaution possible. I have therefore ordered scouts from *Tryon* County to the northward of *Hudson's* river until they arrive to the meridian of *Fort George*, and to range between the most easterly and westerly branches thereof; and have directed others to be kept out from *Fort Edward* and *Fort George*. You will also please to send two or three scouts to go at least forty miles west of *Tyonderoga*; and should they discover that a body of the enemy have gone that way, you will then immediately detach three regiments or more, if you shall judge it necessary from the accounts you may receive of the enemy's force. I must repeat that the Militia are not to be depended upon; and therefore whatever troops you may send must march with the utmost despatch, without waiting for their baggage, which must follow.

This will be delivered to you by Messrs. *Stockton* and *Clymer*.

I am, dear General, very sincerely, your obedient, humble servant,

PH. SCHUYLER.

To Hon. General *Gates*.

J. TRUMBULL TO COMMITTEE OF BENNINGTON.

Head-Quarters, Tyconderoga, October 30, 1776.

SIR: The General has seen your letter to Mr. *Yancey*, and directs me to return you his most cordial thanks for the zeal you expressed for the service of our insulted country.

Agreeable to the request of the Committee, he has ordered one of the companies from your town to return for the purpose of assisting in a work so necessary for the good of this army.

The alertness of your people, and those of the neighbouring country, in marching with so much expedition to share our dangers, cannot be too much praised, or too gratefully acknowledged by their countrymen.

The situation of the army daily mends by the addition of troops from different parts. The enemy still remain at *Crown Point*.

I am, sir, your most obedient, humble servant,

J. TRUMBULL, D. A. General.

To Chairman of the Committee of *Bennington*.

COLONEL BREWER TO GENERAL GATES.

Ty Mills, October 30, 1776.

HONOURED SIR: The bearer, Lieutenant *Laud*, has just returned from his scout to *Crown Point*, and has given me some intelligence which I thought proper to communicate to you immediately, in prospect of which he waits upon your Honour.

I am, sir, with all obedience, your very humble servant,
SAM'L BREWER.

To General *Gates*.

CONVENTION OF NEW-HAMPSHIRE GRANTS.

In Convention of the Representatives from the several Counties and Towns of the NEW-HAMPSHIRE GRANTS, holden at WESTMINSTER, October 30, 1776.

When we view the almost insurmountable difficulties the inhabitants of our infant Plantations have been subjected to in bringing a desolate wilderness into fruitful fields, gardens, &c., together with the oppressions and insults received from *New-York*, since our annexation thereto, we cannot at the same time, but view some of the present conduct of that State towards us with some degree of concern. The publick, no doubt, have heretofore been in some measure led into the nature of the dispute which has for a number of years last past subsisted between the Colony of *New-York* and the inhabitants of said district of land, and the several disingenuous advantages made use of by the power of that Colony to rob those inhabitants of their interest: But, for present illustration, the following are here set down as matters of fact, viz:

1. That most of us hold our lands by virtue of grants from the several authorities of the former Provinces of the *Massachusetts-Bay* and *New-Hampshire*. In consequence of which grants we left our native places of abode to inhabit a desolate wood; and we have never yet learnt any blame has been laid on either of the authorities of the *Massachusetts-Bay* or *New-Hampshire* for granting those lands.

2. The jurisdiction line of *New-York* being extended to the west banks of *Connecticut* River, by a royal order in A. D. 1764. The several Governours of that Colony have presumed to regrant the lands from under our feet, which has created the greatest disorders and confusions.

3. Those inhabitants being unaccustomed to such disorders, were induced at a great expense to petition the Crown for redress in the premises, who was pleased, with advice of his Council, to pass an order in the following words, viz:

"At a Court at *St. James's*, the 24th day of *July*, 1767. Present:

The King's Most Excellent Majesty.

Archbishop of <i>Canterbury</i> ,	Earl of <i>Shelburne</i> ,
Lord Chancellor,	Viscount <i>Falmouth</i> ,
Duke of <i>Queensborough</i> ,	Viscount <i>Barrington</i> ,
Duke of <i>Ancaster</i> ,	Viscount <i>Clarke</i> ,
Lord Chamberlain,	Bishop of <i>London</i> ,
Earl of <i>Litchfield</i> ,	Mr. Secretary <i>Conway</i> ,
Earl of <i>Bristol</i> ,	<i>Hans Stanly</i> , Esq.

"His Majesty taking the said Report" (i. e. Report of the

Board of Trade) "into consideration, was pleased, with the advice of his Privy Council, to approve thereof, and doth hereby strictly charge, require, and command, that the Governour or Commander-in-Chief of his Majesty's Province of *New-York* for the time being, do not, upon pain of his Majesty's highest displeasure, presume to make any grants whatsoever, of any of the lands described in the said report, until his Majesty's further pleasure shall be known concerning the same."

"A true copy :

WILLIAM SHARP.

"Attest :

GEO. BANYAR, *Dep. Sec.*"

Notwithstanding the above prohibition, the Governours respectively of *New-York*, continued their former practice of regranteeing the same lands.

4. To take the special advantage of the governing part of *New-York*, to secure the titles severally to the lands thus regranted, writs of ejectment were sent in large detachments with officers of their appointment at the head of them, with particular orders to execute them; and the result of such services on trial have produced writs of possession from the Supreme Courts of *New-York*, in consequence of which several persons have been dispossessed of valuable farms, houses, stocks, produce, &c. And by a continuance of writs of ejectments, possessions, &c., we have been under the disagreeable necessity to draw our swords, and for many years past to wield them, in defence of our possessions and properties, from the cruel and tyrannical usurpations of that Colony: And the principle which induced us at that time to take arms in defence of our possessions and properties, is that which now induces us to take arms and voluntarily join our friends and brethren in the several *United States*, for the defence of the liberties of the whole; and to oblige us to desist from such necessary measures, sundry of the leading and principal *Green Mountain Boys* were indicted as rioters, and proclamations issued by the legislative authority of *New-York*, wherein large sums of money were offered for the purpose of apprehending and taking into custody said riotous persons and bring them to condign punishment; and, as though this might not prove effectual to subdue the minor and most honest of this Government, that same legislative body did make and pass twelve acts of outlawry, which empowered the Judges, that in case any such offender, after notice had been published and posted seventy days, should not surrender himself for trial, that it should be lawful for the Judges to award sentence of death against him or them, the same as though he or they had been attainted or convicted, &c.—*North*.

5. The methods taken by the legislative power of *New-York*, in erecting the Counties of *Cumberland* and *Gloucester*, was not (by them) intended for the benefit of the inhabitants, as may appear by their appointment of foreign persons to the place of court officers in the County of *Cumberland*; and such persons who by their immediate influence were most likely to prove subservient in bringing the inhabitants of the said Counties into a disposition to apply to the power of *New-York* for a regent of the lands in said County; and it's to be observed the most of the civil magistrates and military officers were so appointed that they were great friends to the legislative body of *New-York*. Those persons thus appointed did not fail to use their influence with the inhabitants to get themselves appointed agents to transact a business of that kind at the court of *New-York*. The issue of which was, that regents over the great part of the lands were then obtained; and the extravagant patent fees, together with the fees of the agents, amounted to so much that many of us were obliged to have a considerable part of our lands disposed of (thus regranted) at a very moderate price, to defray the charges aforesaid, and on said subsequent patents was added more than threefold quit-rents.

The matter being brought thus far to a period, a Court-House must needs be erected in the County of *Cumberland*, and a tax laid on its inhabitants to defray the charges of the same; although it was not the minds of the inhabitants to have the same district erected into a County; in consequence whereof Courts of Common Pleas have been established contrary to the free voice of the people; which was the origin of the horrid and detestable massacre at the said Court-House on the 13th of *March*, A. D. 1774; in which several persons were actually murdered.

Sundry gentlemen of the State of *New-York*, own large

tracts of lands, through and round which the present inhabitants are obliged to cut roads and build mills, for which said gentlemen pay nothing, however valuable their lands are made by it. The Governour and Council of *New-York* have laid a mandamus on the ancient town of *Hinsdale*, which was at first appropriated by a purchase from the *Indians*; secondly, by a grant from *New-Hampshire*; and third, by an uninterrupted possession and occupancy about seventy years. The custom of the former Government of *New-York*, to wit: breaking of *Sabbaths*, neglect of publick worship, &c., we principally emigrated from the *New-England States*; and could we have had as good regulations here as have been in the *New-England States*, no doubt but many honourable and wealthy gentlemen would have moved their families here that have not, which would have been to the mutual advantage of the present inhabitants. A resolve of the honourable the Provincial Congress of the State of *New-York*, in resolving, "that all quit-rents formerly due and payable to the King of *Great Britain* within this State, are now due and owing unto this Convention, or such future Government as may be hereafter established in this State." Those grants that derived from *New-Hampshire*, pay one shilling proclamation money; and those from *New-York*, half a crown sterling on each hundred acres. When in the ancient part of the Province of *New-York*, *Livingston's Manor*, a tract of land about twenty miles square, pay but one beaver skin annually as quit-rent. *Bateman's Patent* pays three pounds ten shillings sterling, a valuable tract of ninety thousand acres; in fine all the old settled part of the Province of *New-York* pay no more than a trifling acknowledgment. Our local circumstances are very troublesome and fatiguing to us; some of us are upwards of four hundred miles from the seat of Government at *New-York*.

The foundation of *English* liberties, and of all free Government, is a right in the people to participate in their Legislative Council. And these Counties to wit: *Cumberland* and *Glocester*, from their local and other circumstances, cannot properly be represented in the honourable the Provincial Congress for the State of *New-York*.

For the above cogent reasons, we choose not to connect with the State of *New-York* at present; would humbly submit to the candid reader, whether we had not better refer our situation to the honourable the grand Council of the *United States of America*, and see if they in their great wisdom could not retrieve us from our present fears, and put us in such a situation that we should be better enabled to do our proportion in this unhappy war.

Extract from the Minutes :

IRA ALLEN, *Clerk*.

CONNECTICUT COUNCIL OF SAFETY.

At a meeting of the Governour and Council of Safety of *Connecticut*, October 30, 1776,

Present: his Honour the Governour, his Honour the Deputy Governour, *Eliphalet Dyer*, *Jabez Huntington*, *Richard Law*, *Titus Hosmer*, *William Hillhouse*, *Benjamin Huntington*, Esqrs.

Voted, To accept *Jonathan Curtiss* to be Captain, *Timothy Pond* Lieutenant, and *Samuel Scovill* Ensign, of a company of inhabitants in *Northbury*, in *Waterbury*, embodied in pursuance of a late resolve of the General Assembly; and his Honour the Governour is to grant them commissions accordingly.

Voted, To accept and establish *Caleb Jewett* Captain, *Robert Steadman* Lieutenant, and *Joseph Lord* Ensign, of a company of inhabitants in *Sharon*, embodied in pursuance of a late resolve of the General Assembly, and his Honour the Governour is desired to grant them commissions accordingly.

Voted, That Captain *John Cleave* and his Crew, lately belonging to the Galley *Whiting*, be dismissed as on *Saturday*, and they are accordingly dismissed as on that time.

Voted, To approbate an order given by his Honour the Governour on the Pay-Table, in favour of Captain *Samuel Squire*, for £500, as Commissary.

Voted, To approbate an order drawn by the Governour on the Pay-Table, in favour of Captain *John Cotton*, for £50, for the Fort at *Saybrook*.

MATHEW TALLCOTT TO GOVERNOUR TRUMBULL.

Middletown, October 30, 1776.

MAY IT PLEASE YOUR HONOUR: There came two gentlemen to this town last evening, who called themselves *French* officers, and, as I heard, gave some extraordinary accounts of publick affairs; and in the evening came in a gentleman of the Committee of *Hartford* and another of *Suffield*, and brought the two enclosed letters; upon which such of the Committee of this town as were near, with the two above, visited the *Frenchmen*, and they showed us several letters in *French*, which were open, and others that were sealed; namely, one to a gentleman in *Dartmouth*, one to General *Washington*, and one to Mr. *Hancock*; and although their accounts were not altogether satisfactory, we thought it most prudent, as the Assembly was sitting, to refer them to your Honour, and have sent Mr. *Elijah Hobard* with them to see that they do not escape; judging it more prudent than to break open letters to gentlemen in so high authority, not doubting but your Honour will make full inquiry and detect the impostor, if any there be, or send them under safe guard to General *Washington*, or otherwise dispose of them as in your Honour's wisdom, with that of the Assembly, you shall see fit, which is the present needful.

In behalf of the Committee, from your Honour's most obedient, humble servant,

MATHEW TALLCOTT.

To the Hon. Jonathan Trumbull, Esq.

COMMODORE HOPKINS TO CAPTAIN HACKER.

Newport, October 30, 1776.

SIR: You are to take your officers and men and go on board the *Providence*, and so much of her stores as are absolutely necessary, and follow the orders which you received to go in the *Hamden*, and leave the *Hamden* under the command of Captain *Joseph Olney*, in order to be repaired; and deliver him an account of the stores that you leave in her, and also an account of what you take out of her for the *Providence*.

Yours, &c., ESEK HOPKINS, Commander-in-Chief.

To Hoysted Hacker, Esq., now Commander of the sloop *Providence*.

CAPTAIN J. PAUL JONES TO THE MARINE COMMITTEE.

Alfred, Rhode-Island, October 30, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: Since my arrival here in the *Providence*, the 7th current, I have, from a variety of events, been altogether unable to give you any satisfactory account, and for that reason have deferred writing.

I now enclose you copies of my letters down till the 30th ultimo. You have also enclosed a short account of my whole cruise. And I have now to inform you that on the 22d current, I was directed by the Commander-in-Chief to take command of an expedition with the *Alfred* and *Hamden* against the *Cape Breton* coal fleet and *Newfoundland* fishery. Had this expedition been begun a month sooner, great things might have been done. My greatest hope now is that of relieving a number of our fellow-citizens, who, being prisoners, are compelled to work in the coal-pits of *Cape Breton*. If I can succeed in this, I shall think my pains well bestowed. You may, however, rest assured that I will leave no part of my duty unattempted that may, at this advanced season and with my small force, appear practicable.

I have left with the Commander-in-Chief a complete muster-roll, comprehending every thing from the day I took command of the *Providence* till the day I left her. I was ready to sail the 27th, but unfortunately the *Hamden* ran aground on a sunken ledge, in the harbour, which knocked off her false keel, and she hath been so leaky since that we have concluded her unfit for sea, and have got the *Providence* ready to proceed in her room. I hope to sail to-morrow morning; and am, with great esteem and respect, gentlemen, your very obliged, very obedient, and most humble servant,

J. PAUL JONES.

To the honourable the Marine Committee.

Account of the PROVIDENCE's Cruise.

The American sloop-of-war the *Providence*, of twelve

guns and seventy men, sailed from the *Delaware* the 21st of *August*, 1776. She cruised between the latitude of 39° and 33° north, and went to the eastward as far as the longitude of 50° west, having taken three prizes, a whaler and two *West Indiamen*, and having had a very narrow escape from an *English* frigate after a chase of six hours part of the time within pistol shot. On the 14th *September*, she bent her course for *Nova-Scotia*; and on the 20th had another affair with an *English* frigate, and in the course of an eight hours' chase, ridiculed the enemy and answered his broadside with only a single musket, although the *Savage* and *Dawson's* brig were within a few leagues distance. She next day went into *Canso* and took three *English* schooners with a *Scotch* Tory's flag, and the day following, she took five sail of *Jerseymen* in *Narrowhook*, and four more in *Peter de Great*: and it is remarkable, that though they were ten in number to one of the *Providence's* men, they were so panick-struck that they not only gave up their ships but even assisted to rig and carry them out of their harbours. The *Providence* then proceeded to the westward, took another whaler on *St. George's Bank*, and on the 7th of *October* arrived safe at *Rhode-Island*, having manned and sent in eight prizes, viz: six brigantines, one ship, and one sloop, and sunk, burnt, and destroyed eight more, viz: six schooners, one ship, and one brigantine; and finished her cruise in six weeks and five days.

Rhode-Island, October 8, 1776.

PAROLE SIGNED BY AMERICAN PRISONERS OF WAR.

We, whose names are underwritten, do hereby solemnly promise and engage to his Excellency General *Carleton*, not to say or do any thing against his Majesty's person and Government, and to repair, whenever required so to do, wherever his Excellency, or any other, his Majesty's Commander-in-Chief in *America*, shall please to direct; in testimony whereof we have hereunto set our names, at *Quebeck*, this 30th day of *October*, 1776.

Names.	Provinces.	Counties.	Towns.
William Glisson....	West-Jersey.....	Salem.....	Pilesgrove.
George Karr.....	New-York.....	.....	Florady.
John Scott.....	New-York.....	Albany.....	Cloughbrick.
David Ray.....	Pennsylvania.....	Bucks.....	Bucks.
Michael Flannigan.	Munster.....	Tipperary..	Shanballough.
Francis Hatch....	Massachusetts-Bay.	York.....	Wells.
Noah Goodwin....	New-Hampshire...	Strafford...	Somerset.
Daniel Groy.....	Connecticut.....	Litchfield..	Sheran.
Jonathan Tillitson.	Connecticut.....	Litchfield..	Sheran.
John Churcher....	Connecticut.....	Litchfield..	Sheran.
Nathaniel Bissell...	Connecticut.....	Hartford...	East-Twinsey.
Ichabod Meacham.	Connecticut.....	Hartford...	Endfield.
Peter Cary.....	Massachusetts-Bay..	Middlesex..	Natick.
David Johnston....	Pennsylvania.....	Bucks.....	Bucks.
Jacob Archard....	New-Jersey.....	Gloster....	Greenwich.
Thomas Penn.....	West New-Jersey...	Gloster....	Greenwich.

Williamsburg, October 31, 1776.

The soldiers of the different regiments in this State who have been indulged with furloughs for the recovery of their health, are ordered to repair to this place without loss of time. Those who abuse the indulgence given them, by not returning as soon as able to do duty, may expect to be treated as deserters.

ANDREW LEWIS, Brigadier-General.

LONDON CARTER TO GENERAL WASHINGTON.

Sabine Hall, October 31, 1776.

DEAR GENERAL: By Lieutenant *Beale*, of our Fifth Regiment, I am endeavouring to lead my trembling pen to the duty of sincerity in friendship, and with a line of respect, to ask you, my dear *George*, the momentous question at these times, How do you do? This bearer, if report has not stationed the corps he belongs to at *Philadelphia*, will deliver this letter to you. You will find in him more resolution and modest prudence than generally falls to the share of youth; at least those of *Virginia* within my acquaintance. His seasoning, which I may call every kind of hardship in service, had like to have demolished him without a bullet; but Heaven seems to have preserved him for a further assistance to the great cause of liberty. I never mention that word but I think how unhappy I must have been in alarming so many dear as well as brave

friends with the danger it was in, when I first, in *America*, attacked that Parliamentary vote "to tax the Colonies with certain stamp duties." I say unhappy, to think of the innumerable dangers that have been and still must be encountered, to support that freedom each man derives from God alone. But when the justice of the cause vibrates from my soul on every part of my body, I am greatly transported to see the arm of Heaven displaying the banners of protection, whilst every breast is inspired to write in action an epitaph on its possessor, should he fall in the struggle, more glorious than mortality alone can express; and every Christian hero can say, with the never-to-be-forgotten *Cato*, one moment of such a life, in the bosom of freedom, is worth an age of inactivity deserving of bondage.

When my own care is constantly engaged to ward off the danger and uneasy concomitants of almost extreme years, I often compose my momentary pains with the comforts which may be deduced to posterity from the manoeuvres of my dear *Washington*, whose happy success must treasure up the blessings, possibly of millions yet unborn; for without affecting to be enthusiastically religious, I never read of a divine instrument of human happiness but I carry the gratitude of ages back to record the remembrance of such a friend to mankind.

But let me not tire you with my own heart-felt expectations. Can you find time to be detained but one moment from the God of battle, to tell an old, sincere, though plain man how you and the brave retinue all around you do? I fear not. However, I can supply an answer to my question, founded on my ideas of justice, from an assurance that the same merciful Being who directs the sword of war must conduct the scale of natural right. I read of the *par nobile fratrum*, the Viscount and his brother, and see their proficiency in the arts of ministerialism. But I hope that even the two months extraordinary which the former took to become expert, from his own account, has not added the least particle of knowledge to the latter, whom you drove from *Boston*; and that the day is yet to come, perhaps not far off, in which they will be entrapped in their own wiliness.

Our news from *New-York* is generally such a compound of inconsistency, and every now and then so poisoned with a little Toryism in its way to us, that for my part, though it is sometimes very encouraging, I never admit of the least tittle of it but as domestick volatiles; for which I am sorry to say that there seems sometimes to be too much occasion. If I don't err in conjecture, I can't help thinking that the head of our Commonwealth has as great a palace of fear and apprehension as can possess the heart of any being; and if we compare rumour with actual movements, I believe it will prove itself to every sensible man.

As soon as the Congress sent for our First, Third, Fourth, Fifth, and Sixth Regiments to assist you in contest against the enemy where they really were, and not suffer them to be inactive, at a vast expense, where the enemy was, ridiculously enough, only expected to be, founded on some defeat they must receive in their first movements, I say there got a report among the soldiery that dignity had declared it would not reside in *Williamsburgh* without two thousand men under arms to guard him. This had like to have occasioned a mutiny. A desertion of many from the several companies did follow; boisterous fellows resisting, and swearing they would not leave their County; but being in Continental pay most of them were persuaded to embark up the Bay at last. What a finesse of popularity was this?—popularity, the only real enemy to freedom? and I shall be happily mistaken, if it will not at last be the "recovering sword" which the Viscount pledged himself at parting to make use of. For thus I reason: Whilst deception conducts the constituting powers, (the freeholders,) the hypocrites who make use of it will soon be bribed into contention, and then by a tide of corruption poor Liberty will be forgot and delivered into slavery, resuming its most humiliating form. But to go on, (for I have it from a brother to one who is in the army,) as soon as the regiments were gone, this great man found an interest with the Council of State, perhaps as timorous as himself, to issue orders for the Militia of twenty-six Counties, and five companies of a Minute battalion, to march to *Williamsburgh*, to protect him only against his own fears; and to make this the more popular, it was

endeavoured that the House of Delegates should give it a countenance; but as good luck would have it, it was with difficulty refused, because a good purge, says Dr. *Lee*, would do full as well. I say good luck; and, faith, my friend *George*, that is now our only chance. Immediately then, though we do not know whence our taxes are to arise, payable some of them next *June*, a bill is brought in to remove the seat of Government; some say up to *Hanover*, to be called *Henry-Town*, but I believe it will split as usual on the rock *ubi*; for numbers, as it is now actually in motion, are for the back country.

I propose this shall be a sketch of my own observations, to entertain you. Therefore, I go on to show how busy Convention is to effect an edge for this recovering sword of the Viscount's. In legislation we affect one while, according to our fifth article of declaratory rights, to keep the Legislative, the Executive, and the Judiciary powers separate and distinct; but if we read the Journals, we see one day, though petitions set forth that the very matters complained of are actually before the Executive and Judiciary powers, yet popularity shows itself so ascendantly in the House (by the very means of which most of the Delegates get there) that now all three powers are crowding to form one tribunal, because Judges can only determine according to laws and usages in being, which do not aid such petitioners, but rather destroy their complaints, and therefore they are brought to Legislation for determination, according to some democratick, assumed retrospection; that is, a mode of punishing is to be resolved on by that arch fiend in all popularity, *pro hac vice* only. But when a matter in which no constituent can be engaged, is brought on, though immediately during the heat of such petitions as before, then you hear of the "impropriety in interfering in matters under distinct regulations already made without first repealing those regulations." By this 'tis plain it is not because they don't know better, but because they will not do better. And if you can't see the very farce of Contention in such iniquitous, occasional, and popular modes of pleasing, it must be because you are at present only engaged as a soldier, but not as a citizen, in a military constitution.

I am not done yet with entertaining my friend, to whom I would not hesitate an untruth. Nothing so noble as the jealousy of power with which we set out in this commonwealth form of Government. But now some of our popular adherents want to be paid for their serving in inspectors' places, and our back bawlers-out want publick warehouses and securities for their commodities, notwithstanding good rolling-houses would do, as they used before the inspection law took place; and the inspection money would reasonably be an insurance to the proprietors of the houses for the forthcomings of the commodity without the least expense to the country. Yet that cursed law must be revived, to give two men alone the power to say whether a man shall have any thing for his whole year's labour or not. Judges, by at least ten thousand instances since this law first took place, who have proved themselves capable of resentment and every villanous corruption notwithstanding their oaths; and according to the very nature of an oath they must be Judges from whom their can be no appeal; because no man can say that he who swears to do according to his judgment, did not think the commodity bad. Yet if you lose a dog, ox, or cow, and another has got possession of them, you must have twelve jurymen sworn, and all of them must be of one opinion. As to a merchantable commodity, cannot some sworn receiver, as it used to be, determine that between purchaser and seller, and let every man do as he pleases in the management of what he makes? But lest contention should not arise out of principles so inconsistent with the very ideas of property, these warehouses are all to be at the heads of the rivers; so that he that makes tobacco in the lower parts must inspect it up there. I knew the gallows employed from the hardships and inconveniences of the first inspection law; and I saw many thousands in full march to burn all the warehouses: and mark the end of this. Popularity has here been brought to a non-plus what to do; but I am persuaded it will not be long so. The low-land men can fight against laws that oblige them to be starved, as well as up-land men can fight for them because they are made to please them. I foretold this effect from the constant dividing back Counties long ago. He must be no artist in divisions in the several States, that

can't see how easy one legislative power alone must destroy even a whole land of freedom. It is not the first time the evil one has sown tares among good grain.

Once more: to show you that contention must soon generate, notwithstanding we can talk of private views, and what not, in other men, &c.; can tell those we descended from that we have as much right to do as we please with our property as they have; and that we certainly have, and therefore say, right to them—yet I say we will not let those who are descending from us, say so in behalf of their fathers: that is, their fathers have entailed estates on them; but though we got them in the same conditional manner from our fathers, we will not let them do as they please with their property, so that the very basis of the *American* contest is quite forgotten, when we are to be aggressors, as Dr. Price and Lord Camden say; but when they, that is the *British* Parliament, are the aggressors, why then truly we cry aloud against the injustice of the conduct. It is so striking, that though I should be benefited much by such a law, and could not be in the least privately affected by it to my injury, yet from a soul that detests even the thoughts of so much injustice to others, I cannot help looking up to Heaven and crying out, O God of justice! Father omnipotent! let not this give the least wound to the Continental cause of freedom; peradventure there should be but ten found in the land to reprobate and detest an injustice so crying in its very nature, as this bill already in but seven days passed one House, and is in the Senate full of men loaded with private views. It is called docking all entail; but is it not entailing one they cannot dock? The curses of posterity on them who must in that very contest for liberty entail a load of debts upon those who are to come, after they have robbed them of their very estates to pay that debt from, by overturning the very principles of justice on which they built their very claim to freedom. This is what I call sowing the seeds of contention, which must spring up sooner or later, and all from the poisoned soil of popularity. It is very comical that the very men who left the Congress, who came with a very blackening report of midnight caballings among the members in Congress to project schemes to pursue, should as they travel disgorge such a scandalous conduct in others for private views, and yet themselves to be the introducers of such barefaced, interested, and iniquitous violations of justice. Was any man in your camp to say who is the greatest drunkard and most pernicious to society, he who only drinks in the night and is perhaps ashamed of it in the morning, or he who gets drunk (*sub die*) at mid-day, as old *Bacchus* used to say, I dare say the midnight drunkard would be the most to be respected. I make this observation from my knowledge in parliamentary forms. It is not usual for those who are against a bill, to be the bearers of it, and this bill (as cursed in its nature as the removal of a neighbour's landmark, his will and pleasure in giving his own property away) borne about by the famous *T. J****n!* *Fronti nulla fides*, indeed. If Lord Howe knew this, what would he not attempt to do with such men? But I hope according to *Hudibras*,

“Toledo, though true and trusty,
For want of use is now grown rusty.”

My friend, excuse my impertinence: I am old. Can you read me? It is all I ask. And if my colick is to continue my chum, I shall live but mentally to see the pain in Government which others I fear must feel. But wherever I go, the man “who would not forget the citizen in the soldier” shall have my eulogium.

My son, &c., most respectfully wish your health, success, and prosperity. I can say no more, but your most esteeming friend and acquaintance,

LONDON CARTER.

AMOS GARRETT TO MARYLAND COUNCIL OF SAFETY.

Swan Creek, October 31, 1776.

SIR: Since I wrote last, Captain Robert Harris, being on his march, and at *Susquehanna*, but in want of blankets, tents, and money, applied to me, and out of the stores in my hands I supplied him with forty blankets and ninety-one yards of linen, and for his ferriages and expenses paid his order to Captain John Rodgers for four pounds four shillings and ninepence. This I take care to mention to you, lest a call for these stores may cause a disappointment to some

other company. I have now but thirteen blankets remaining, and about sixty yards of linen.

There could have been new kersey blankets bought for twenty-five shillings apiece, but being above my limitation none of them was had.

I have not yet met with the gentleman that assisted me, to enable me to render the account.

I am, sir, your humble servant, AMOS GARRETT.
To Daniel of St. Thomas Jenifer, Esq., of the Council of Safety of Maryland, Annapolis.

JAMES CLARKE TO MARYLAND COUNCIL OF SAFETY.

Baltimore, October 31, 1776.

SIR: I took the liberty to write a few days ago to acquaint the honourable Council of Safety that I had a vessel of seven hundred barrels burthen at their service, if they wanted to purchase. I find that she will carry about eight hundred barrels; is in want of some repairs. Am applied to by some people in this town for her, with whom I cannot treat till I know your determination. Please favour me with an answer per the bearer, Mr. Melcher Keener, and will much oblige your most obedient, humble servant,

JAMES CLARKE.

To Daniel of St. Thomas Jenifer, Esq., Annapolis.

P. S. I believe this vessel of mine is a very fast sailer. Her lowest price, as she lies, is four hundred and fifty pounds. Should you take her, I would be very thankful to be employed to command her.

BOARD OF WAR TO GENERAL WASHINGTON.

War Office, October 31, 1776.

SIR: The bearer, Mons. le Chevalier *Lantagniac*, is a French gentleman, who says he asks no pay, as his fortune is sufficient to support him. He requests employment in the army of the States, and rank suitable to his merits. What these are, your Excellency will, on experience, be capable of forming a judgment. Mons. *Lantagniac* now waits on you, having desired a letter of introduction from the Board of War, who could not provide any station for him until they have received your Excellency's opinion on the subject of establishing a corps to be composed of such foreign gentlemen as are desirous of entering into the service of the States.

I have the honour to be your very obedient servant,
RICHARD PETERS, Secretary.

To His Excellency General Washington.

JOHN GIBSON, JUN., TO NEW-HAMPSHIRE ASSEMBLY.

Treasury Office, Philadelphia, October 31, 1776.

HONOURABLE GENTLEMEN: As Commissioners have been appointed by Congress to liquidate and adjust the publick accounts in the Northern department, and are now assembled at *Albany* for that purpose, it is necessary they should be furnished by each State with an account of the several advances and payments to the officers and others who have been entrusted with publick money, to enable them to settle the accounts. We have, therefore, to request you would be pleased as soon as possible to order an account of such advances as your State may have made, the settlement of which may properly fall within the Northern department, to be drawn out, and forward them to the Commissioners by express, in order that, the proper stoppages being made, your State may be reimbursed by Congress.

The names of the Commissioners are James Milligan, John Carter, and John Wells, Esqrs.

I have the honour to be, in the name of the Superintendents of the Treasury, honourable gentlemen, your most obedient, humble servant,

JOHN GIBSON, Jun., Auditor-General.

To the honourable the Assembly of the State of New-Hampshire.

PETER ADAMS TO THE MARYLAND DELEGATES IN CONGRESS.

Philadelphia, October 31, 1776.

SIR: Enclosed send you a line from Colonel Smallwood, requesting the favour of you, or any other of the Deputies from Maryland, to furnish me with such sum of money as I

might require. Should be much obliged to you if you could send me by the next post forty pounds. I want to buy some necessaries to take to camp with me.

I am, sir, your humble servant, PETER ADAMS.

N. B. Please direct the post to call on me at Mrs. Ford's, at the corner of Walnut and Second street.

Philadelphia, October 31, 1776.

Last Tuesday was sent in here by the privateer *Hancock*, of this port, the brig *Polly*, Captain *Denny*, from *Barbadoes* for *Liverpool*, with sixty hogsheads of sugar and forty bales of cotton on board. This is the ninth prize taken by the *Hancock* since she sailed from this port.

In Council of Safety, Philadelphia, October 31, 1776.

Complaint having been made to this Council by *Christopher Elliot*, that *John Baldwin*, of this city, cordwainer, had refused to receive in payment the Continental bills of credit issued by order of Congress; thereupon the said *John Baldwin* was ordered to appear before this Board, and being informed of said complaint, did acknowledge that he had refused to receive the said bills of credit in payment. The Council urged the pernicious and destructive tendency of such conduct, and requested him to reconsider it, allowing him several days to form his judgment and fix his final resolution. This day, agreeable to notice given him, he again appeared before the Council, and declared that he was determined not to receive the said bills in payment, whereupon

Resolved, That the said *John Baldwin* is an "enemy to his country, and precluded from all trade and intercourse with the inhabitants of these States."

Resolved, That the said *John Baldwin* be committed to gaol, there to remain without bail or mainprise until he shall be released by order of this Council, or some other power lawfully authorized so to do.

Ordered, That the proceedings in *John Baldwin's* case be made publick.

Extract from the Minutes:

JACOB S. HOWELL, Secretary.

BERKS COUNTY (PENNSYLVANIA) COMMITTEE.

At a meeting of the General Committee of *Berks* County, at the Court-House in *Reading*, October 31, 1776, *Mark Bird*, Esq., in the chair:

The Resolutions passed at a meeting of the inhabitants of the city of *Philadelphia*, on the 21st and 22d instant, respecting the conduct of the late Convention of this State, were read and considered, when the question being put, "Whether this Committee do approve of the resolutions of the said meeting, and whether they will concur with their brethren of the city of *Philadelphia* in the choice of an Assembly in the mode, and for the purposes pointed out by the said resolutions, without taking the oath prescribed by the Convention to the electors of this State?" the same was passed in the affirmative by a very great majority.

Resolved unanimously, That the Inspectors be authorized to administer to such persons as the Judges of election shall have just cause to suspect are inimical to the liberties of this State, the following oath or affirmation, viz: "I, *A. B.*, do swear [or affirm] that I will bear true allegiance to the State of *Pennsylvania*, and support the independence of the same, and that I do not think myself bound to pay any allegiance to the King of *Great Britain*, or any acting under him;" without which their votes ought not to be received.

WILLIAM ATLEE, CHAIRMAN, TO RICHARD PETERS.

Lancaster, October 31, 1776.

SIR: At the particular request of Lieutenant *Anstruther*, I forward you the enclosed. He begs to refer you to Dr. *Rush*, who has a state of his case from Dr. *Armstrong*, of *Carlisle*, and requests a line from you to know whether he may be permitted to ride to *Philadelphia* to consult the physicians there for the recovery of his health.

I am, sir, your most obedient servant,

WILLIAM ATLEE.

To *Richard Peters*, Esq.

LIEUTENANT ANSTRUTHER (PRISONER) TO RICHARD PETERS.

Carlisle, October 29, 1776.

SIR: This I hope you will receive regularly, being but in some measure recovered of a very severe fit of sickness, which has so much weakened and reduced me, that it is recommended to me by Dr. *Armstrong*, who attends me at *Carlisle*, to go to *Philadelphia*, and there take the first advice, in order to have my health wishfully reinstated. Permit me, then, sir, to request your obtaining Mr. *Church* a leave, as I am confident it will be the most eligible method of accomplishing my wish for recovery.

I have the pleasure to be, sir, your most obedient servant,

P. ANSTRUTHER, Lieutenant Royal Fusileers.

To *Richard Peters*, Esq., *Philadelphia*.

ROBERT H. HARRISON TO THE PRESIDENT OF CONGRESS.

White-Plains, October 31, 1776.

SIR: Since I had the honour of addressing you on the 29th instant, no event of importance has occurred. The enemy are throwing up some lines and redoubts in our front, with a view of cannonading as soon as they are ready, and at the same time are extending their wings further by our right and left. It is supposed that one of their objects is to advance a part of their troops, and seize on the bridge over *Croton* river, that the communication may be cut off with the upper country. To prevent this, a part of our force is detached with orders to proceed with the utmost expedition, and to secure the pass if possible. We are trying to remove, to guard against their designs, but are greatly impeded by reason of the scarcity of wagons in proportion to our baggage and stores. Every exertion has been employed to obtain a sufficiency, but they cannot be had in this part of the country. The Quartermaster has sent to *Connecticut* to get a supply if possible. Our army is decreasing fast: several gentlemen who have come to camp within a few days have observed large numbers of Militia returning home on the different roads; nor are any measures taken as yet to raise the new army, no committees having come from the States to appoint or signify the nominations of their officers. If this was done, perhaps many who are now here might be induced to engage, but at present there are none authorized to recruit.

His Excellency would have wrote himself by the person who carries this, to the care of General *Greene*, but his attention is totally engaged in ordering the affairs of the army and the best mode for its removal.

I have the honour to be, with the greatest respect, sir, your most obedient servant,

ROB'T H. HARRISON.

GENERAL ORDERS.

Head-Quarters, White-Plains, October 30, 1776.

(Parole, .) (Countersign, .)

The frequent, indeed constant complaints of the men for want of provisions upon any move which is necessary for them to make, induces the General once more to desire the commanding officers of regiments and corps to see that they are never without three days' provisions ready dressed by them.

All detachments and parties are to parade wherever ordered with their packs and provisions, that they may be ready for any service they are ordered upon.

It is strictly enjoined upon all officers to disengage themselves of heavy and cumbrous baggage, as the difficulty of procuring teams for transportation for necessary baggage and stores, which necessarily occasions all heavy boxes, chests, &c., to be thrown away.

The General insists upon having the rolls regularly called, that the officers may account for, and know where the men are, who are always to be ready to turn out upon any alarm, when waiters are always to appear under arms. Upon any alarm the drums are to beat through the whole lines "To Arms" as quick as possible, and continue beating till the whole line is formed.

The Out-guard to examine all persons riding into camp without arms, and turn any back who are not known, or cannot give sufficient reasons for their coming into camp.

The Brigade-Majors immediately to settle a General Court-Martial; no member under the rank of Captain; a Brigadier to preside.

Head-Quarters, White-Plains, October 31, 1776.

(Parole, .)

(Countersign, .)

The General positively forbids any person going down to the lines, and firing upon the enemy without an order from a General officer. Proper scouting parties are to be kept out by each Major-General, for intelligence.

The General, in a ride he took yesterday, to reconnoitre the grounds about this, was surprised and shocked to find both officers and soldiers straggling all over the country, under one idle pretence or other, when they cannot tell the hour or minute the camp may be attacked, and their services indispensably necessary.

He once more positively orders that neither officer or soldier shall stir out of camp without leave: the first from the Brigadier under whom he serves, and the latter from the commanding officer of the corps they belong to.

The Provost Marshal is to take up all stragglers; and it is enjoined upon all officers to seize every man who fires his gun without leave, and to have him tied up immediately and receive twenty lashes.

The General desires that the commanding officers of corps will always report their killed and wounded to the Brigadier they belong to, who is to give an account thereof to the Commander-in-Chief.

The Court-Martial whereof General Beall was President having found Captain Weisner guilty of misbehaviour before the enemy in the "attack on Montresor's Island," and ordered him to be cashiered with infamy; the General approves the sentence, and orders him to be dismissed the army.

Ensign Joseph Chapman, having resigned his commission, is appointed Paymaster to Colonel Varnum's regiment.

It is with astonishment the General hears that some officers have taken horses between the enemy's camp and ours, and sent them into the country for their private use. Can it be possible that persons bearing commissions and fighting in such a cause, can degrade themselves into plunderers of horses? He hopes every officer will set his face against it in future; and does insist that the Colonels and commanding officers of regiments immediately inquire into the matter, and report to him who have been guilty of these practices; and that they take an account of the horses in their respective encampments, and send to the Quartermaster-General all that are not in some publick service.

Wounded men to be sent to Doctor Morgan, at the houses about a mile from the lines on the road to North-Castle.

Peter Buise, of Colonel Haslett's regiment, convicted by a General Court-Martial, whereof Colonel Hitchcock was President, of desertion from this camp, and found near the enemy's sentinels, is sentenced to suffer death. The General approves the sentence, and orders it to be executed tomorrow at eleven o'clock, on the crutch of the road which leads to Young's and North-Castle.

Commanding officers of regiments are immediately to have the arms and ammunition of their regiments inspected, the guns that were loaded before the rain to be discharged in volleys; and they are acquainted that three wagons loaded with ammunition now wait about a mile on the nearest road to North-Castle, in order to serve such as are deficient.

TENCH TILGHMAN TO WILLIAM DUER.

White-Plains, October 31, 1776.

DEAR SIR: I was from home yesterday when yours of the 29th came to hand. The German troops are kept so very ignorant of what would be their happy situation in this country that I do not expect much from desertion. Mine of the 29th would inform you that we keep a garrison in Fort Washington, and that we soon taught the ships that came up that they would not lay at anchor before our batteries. If the garrison is too strongly pushed, they can always effect a retreat to Jersey, under the guns of Fort Lee. The men that were left at Fort Independence have withdrawn themselves into Mount Washington. The enemy, from their late movements, seem inclined to cross over to the North River by our rear, and march up the Albany road to Croton's river. To hinder them from effecting this, if such should be their intention, General Beall, with three good regiments of Maryland troops, has marched to take possession of Croton Bridge, and Lord Stirling, who is keeping pace with the enemy's left flank, has orders to push up

also to Croton's river, should he plainly perceive that the enemy's route lays that way. I think if we get possession of Croton river and the passes in the Highlands, our army will be safe from further pursuit, will have time to recruit themselves after their amazing fatigue, and will be fresh and able to harass the enemy if they should think fit to winter up the country. The campaign hitherto has been a fair trial of Generalship, in which I flatter myself, we have had the advantage. If we, with our motley army, can keep Mr. Howe and his grand appointment at bay, I think we shall make no contemptible military figure. It is impossible to form any judgment of the numbers of the enemy from deserters: they all magnify amazingly.

General Mifflin desires me to say to you that he has sent up a number of carpenters to Peekskill; but the conductors, not finding you there, have been at some loss, but he has ordered them to proceed to you at Fishkills, and begs you and your body will give them all possible assistance. Another band of one hundred carpenters will soon go up. We are impatient for, and yet dread to hear from Ticonderoga. As I said before, in a former letter, I am afraid of news from that quarter. My Lord Stirling being absent from this division of the army, I have not an opportunity of making your compliments to him, but will do it when I see him.

I am, with regard, your most obedient servant,
TENCH TILGHMAN.

GENERAL GEORGE CLINTON TO JOHN M'KESSON.

Camp near White-Plains, October 31, 1776.

DEAR SIR: We are exactly in the same situation in which we were when I wrote you yesterday. The enemy seem still to be endeavouring to outflank us, especially our right wing. Our advanced guards, I hear, are a little south of Young's tavern, on the road leading to White-Plains. Where the main body is I can't say, as I am so closely confined to my post on the left of the whole as not to have been a quarter mile west from this for four days past. Near three thousand of the enemy yesterday and the evening before filed off to the left, and were seen advancing towards King's street and the Purchase road, from which it appears they intend to flank our left as well as right wing. We had reason to apprehend an attack last night or by day-break this morning, (as was said, what they were I know not.) Our lines were manned all night in consequence of this; and a most horrid night it was to lay in cold trenches. Uncovered as we are, daily on fatigue, making redoubts, flèches, abattis, and lines, and retreating from them and the little temporary huts made for our comfort before they are well finished, I fear will ultimately destroy our army without fighting. This I am sure of, that I am likely to lose more in my brigade by sickness occasioned by extra fatigue and want of covering than in the course of an active campaign is ordinarily lost in the most severe actions. However, I would not be understood to condemn measures. They may be right for aught I know. I do not understand much of the refined art of war: it is said to consist of stratagem and deception. This, nevertheless, is too obvious: the enemy are daily increasing their army by new recruits in those parts of the country which they have already acquired, whilst ours are daily decreasing by sickness, deaths, and desertions; add to this, one month more disbands a very considerable part of our army. How a new one will be recruited, God only knows. This I know, many are disgusted with the service. Those will not reënter; and what is worse, will prevent others, by representing, on their return home, the hardships they have endured. So much for military politicks. I write this in confidence. If what I have said be true, and the evils which I fear prevented in any degree by the honourable body in which you sit, it is devoutly to be wished.

When I wrote you a few days ago, I mentioned the situation in which Fort Washington was, and that three of the enemy's shipping had come up, with design to obstruct Beaurdet's Ferry, and, after a heavy cannonade, were drove back. This was the truth, but not the whole truth. I happened to be out of the way of news that day. Those ships came up, it seems, to enfilade our lines below that fort, whilst Lord Percy attacked them, which he did three different times, but was as often repulsed by the garrison of

Fort Washington, who manned and defended them like heroes. The particulars I have not yet been happy enough to hear more fully.

Last night Captain *Townsend*, with a detachment of my brigade, consisting of about thirty, brought in prisoner a certain Mr. *Wetworth*, late of *Boston*, and now a Commissary in the regular service, which they took prisoner near *Rye*.

I have only time to add that I am with usual health, though in no better lodging than a soldier's tent, with our old friend General *Scott*.

Your most affectionate, humble servant,

GEO. CLINTON.

To John McKesson, Esq.

Since writing the above, I am favoured with yours of the 29th. I find you have not received my two last as yet, the first of which I must beg you will answer, and attend to the prisoner brought in by my boys since writing the above.

AUGUSTIN LAWRENCE AND SAMUEL TUDER TO THE NEW-YORK CONVENTION.

Poughkeepsie, October 31, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: Enclosed we send you an extract from a letter we have just received from the Marine Committee at *Philadelphia*. You will see by it we are referred to your honourable House for directions and advice respecting the launching and securing of the frigates and their stores, which we desire to have as soon as possible, as, unless you direct to the contrary, we shall launch the ship *Montgomery* on *Monday* and the other as soon as possible afterwards. The custom of giving the carpenters a treat at launching we suppose you would not mean to break through. The master carpenters judge one hundred dollars for each ship on that occasion will be reasonable to allow, as we are directed to advise with you by your opinion in that matter.

We are, gentlemen, your most obedient, humble servants,

AUGUSTIN LAWRENCE,
SAMUEL TUDER.

To the Hon. *Pierre Van Cortlandt*, Esq., President of the Convention at *Fishkill*.

COMMITTEE OF SAFETY TO AUGUSTIN LAWRENCE AND SAMUEL TUDER.

Fishkill, November 1, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: Yours of yesterday, with copy of that to you from the Marine Committee at *Philadelphia* enclosed, came to hand. We advise you to proceed, by all means, to launch the frigates as soon as you can, and then to proceed with the vessels to the place most safe in *Roundout Kill*, near *Esopus* Landing. We are sensible of the custom to give a treat to the workmen after launching; nor do we know that the sum of one hundred dollars for each is too much. We would recommend to you to have it properly considered, that you may not be blamed of extravagance and we of giving a sanction thereto. We are obliged to you for your invitation to see the launching; but whether any of the members will be able to attend, we know not. There are so few members present that few, if any, can be spared.

To Messrs. *Augustin Lawrence* and *Samuel Tudor*, *Poughkeepsie*.

COLONEL WELCH TO THE NEW-HAMPSHIRE COMMITTEE OF SAFETY.

Fishkill, State of New-York, October 31, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: Colonel *Tash*, agreeable to your directions, marched on for Head-Quarters, till he received the General's orders to pass on with his regiment to the Highlands, and post his men from *Peakskill* to *Fishkill*, about twenty miles along the post road and from fifty to seventy miles north of *New-York*, to assist the State of *New-York* against their Tories, and be ready, in case the *British* ships should come so far up the river, to prevent their landing men and doing damage.

I am stationed at the *Fishkill*, with Captain *Calif's* and Captain *Robinson's* companies, under the direction of a

FIFTH SERIES.—VOL. II.

committee appointed by the Convention of the State of *New-York* "for inquiring into, detecting, and defeating all conspiracies which may be formed in the said State against the liberties of *America*." Numbers of disaffected persons have been taken up and sent to the States of *Pennsylvania*, *Connecticut*, and *Massachusetts-Bay*; but as their numbers are still great, and the committee, at a loss where to send them to prevent their mischievous designs from hurting the common cause, applied to me to know whether I thought they might venture to send any to the State of *New-Hampshire*, I informed them that our State was well disposed to the cause of *America*, and it was my opinion would readily give their assistance in that affair; and if they did send any, to order them to the honourable Court, to be disposed of by them in such manner as they should judge best; which opinion of your goodness and judgment in this matter I hope will be kindly accepted from, gentlemen, your most humble servant,

JOSEPH WELCH.

To the honourable the Council and Representatives of the State of *New-Hampshire*.

N. B. The companies under my command are very healthy.

JOHN JAY TO THE GENERAL COURT OF NEW-HAMPSHIRE.

Fishkill, October 31, 1776.

GENTLEMEN: The Committee appointed by the Convention of this State for the purpose of inquiring into, detecting, and defeating all conspiracies which may be formed therein against the liberties of *America*, find it indispensably necessary to remove a number of dangerous and disaffected persons, some of whom have been taken in arms against *America*, to one of the neighbouring States.

On conferring with Lieutenant-Colonel *Welch* relative to sending them to *New-Hampshire*, he was of opinion that the zeal which your honourable body have uniformly manifested for the *American* cause, would induce you cheerfully to receive and dispose of them, in such manner as to prevent the further execution of their wicked and malicious designs.

The Committee desire that all such of the prisoners as are not directed to be confined, and not in circumstances to maintain themselves, be put to labour and compelled to earn their subsistence. And they have directed the bearer, *Egbert Benson*, Esquire, chairman of the Committee of this County, to pay you two hundred dollars on account of the expenses you may be put to by complying with their request.

The Committee beg leave to recommend this gentleman to your notice and confidence. He will communicate to you the instructions given him by the Committee, and readily give you any information that may be necessary to enable you to form a judgment of the characters of the several prisoners and the degrees of restrictions proper to enjoin.

By order of the Committee, I am, gentlemen, your most obedient, humble servant,

JOHN JAY, Chairman.

To the honourable the General Court of the State of *New-Hampshire*.

GENERAL SCHUYLER TO GENERAL GATES.

Saratoga, October 31, 1776.

DEAR SIR: Enclose you a paper containing a resolve of Congress respecting the *Canadian* prisoners, in consequence of which you will, if you think proper, detain or send back Lieutenant *Evans*.

I am, dear sir, your obedient, humble servant,

PH. SCHUYLER.

To Hon. Major-General *Gates*.

GENERAL GATES TO GENERAL SCHUYLER.

Tyonderoga, October 31, 1776.

SIR: *Monday* morning, between eight and nine o'clock, our advanced guard boat down the lake made a signal for the approach of the enemy's fleet. In about one hour, five of their largest boats, or gondolas, appeared in sight; and a number of troops, *Indians* and *Canadians* were seen landing upon *Three-Mile Point*. Soon after, two of the armed boats stood over to the east side of the lake, inclining

upwards, as if sent to reconnoitre. When they came considerably within shot, they were fired upon from the redoubts very near the shore, and by a row-galley which is stationed to cover the boom. They thereupon retired. In the mean time, the enemy's troops were distinctly seen to land upon the back of the point; and presently after, thirteen small batteaus and birch canoes crossed from the west to the east side of the lake into a bay about four miles below our redoubts. Upon these threatenings of an attack, our lines, redoubts and posts were all manned, and as the motions of the enemy seemed to indicate they were gathering their main force upon the west side of the lake, as if intending to make their push there, I ordered three regiments (*Poor's, Reed's, and Greaton's*) from *Mount Independence* to reinforce this side. The orders were instantly obeyed; and nothing could exceed the spirit and alertness which was shown by all officers and soldiers in executing every order that was given. About four in the evening, the boats and canoes that had passed to the west side of the lake returned; and the enemy were seen plainly to embark at the *Three-Mile Point*. I immediately ordered the guard boat to resume her station, and by sunset it was observed the body of the enemy had retired. By the information I receive daily, I find that General *Carleton* continues in his post, and that three large vessels are anchored near *Putnam's Point*, a little below which all the Light-Infantry, Grenadiers and a large body of *Indians and Canadians* are encamped. *Chimney-Point* and *Crown-Point* are also occupied by the enemy.

Yesterday I received the enclosed intelligence from *Newbury, Co's*. If Sir *John Johnson* did actually march at the time he is said to have done it, he must be upon the *Mohock* river now, or if he arrives at *Fort George, Dayton's* regiment cannot be better fixed than there. Surely your *Oneidas* will give you all the necessary information upon this head. But how could Sir *John* get back, should he meet with a check? I have seen the *Mohock* river fast frozen the 10th of *November*.

Colonel *Lewis* set off yesterday morning by *Skeen*. He has memorandums of our wants, and will be with you as soon as this letter. Colonel *Gansevoort* writes to me for spades. You must answer his demand, for I cannot.

We received the good news you sent us from *New-York* with joyful hearts. It was immediately made publick to the army in the manner you advised.

To General *Schuyler*.

GOVERNOUR TRUMBULL TO GENERAL WASHINGTON.

New-Haven, October 31, 1776.

SIR: Am to acquaint you that this State, considering the near approach of the enemy, and the critical situation of the Continental army, and the danger of having the communication cut off, have thought proper to send a reinforcement from our Militia, including all the able-bodied effective men that can be raised out of four of our Militia regiments, which probably will amount to about four hundred, exclusive of a part of the Ninth Regiment of this State, ordered to be stationed at *Norwalk, Stamford, and Greenwich*, together with about one hundred and fifty of our Troops-of-Horse, to be under the command of Major-General *Wooster*, especially appointed for that purpose, who is ordered and directed to repair with said forces, to coöperate with you, and to obey such orders as you shall give therein.

Am likewise desired by the Assembly of this State, to request your Excellency to discharge, as soon as may be, all the sick in the Militia now in service who shall be judged incapable of further service, and that some way might be devised to provide blankets and clothing for those of the Militia who have been so unfortunate as to lose them in retreating from the enemy; or that some suitable persons might be permitted, on furlough, to repair to the various parts of this State as may be convenient to procure those articles of the friends of those soldiers who are thus deprived of them; and would also observe that we are in hopes, upon the arrival of our troop of Horse, that those now in service may be relieved, and they supply their place.

We have been amused for several days with various accounts of your situation and the movements of our enemies, but have had no direct intelligence, which makes us very anxious to hear from you.

And am, with esteem and regard, sir, your humble servant,

JONTH. TRUMBULL.

To His Excellency General *Washington*.

GOVERNOUR TRUMBULL TO GENERAL GATES.

New-Haven, October 31, 1776.

SIR: *Saturday* last, at noon, I received your favour of the 22d instant. Rejoice to find that a supply of medicine is arrived. Wish your Surgeons may do well. Orders will be sent out directly to procure and forward to *Skeensboro'* ten tons of flour, to *Tyconderoga* two hundred iron spades and shovels. Shingle-nails are not to be purchased. Workmen shall be employed immediately to make them; please to inform, by return of this post, the quantity necessary.

No general engagement hath taken place between the two armies near *New-York*; some skirmishing, wherein the enemy have not been gainers.

I fancy the General Officers will, if possible without giving the enemy advantage, avoid a general action this season, which will be almost equal to a defeat. However, I am not in the secret of their counsels. None of their ships were able to pass *Fort Washington* at their attempt on *Sunday* last. One tender was sunk, two ships of war damaged and towed back.

The attack the enemy made at the same time by land was repulsed. We are put to difficulty to gain any clear intelligence, not having any late letters from the army. I hope for full intelligence from you; and wishing you Divine protection and blessing, I am, with great esteem and regard, sir, your most obedient, humble servant,

JONTH. TRUMBULL.

To Hon. General *Gates*.

Boston, October 31, 1776.

Donations received *October, 1776*, by the hands of the Hon. *Samuel Adams, Esq.*, viz:

From <i>Bucks County, Pennsylvania</i> , - -	£162	5	11
From the County of <i>Cumberland, Pennsylvania</i> , - - - - -	168	11	2
From the County of <i>Hunterdon, in New-Jersey</i> , - - - - -	10	11	4
<i>Philadelphia</i> currency, - - - -	£341	8	5
Is lawful money, - - - - -	£273	2	9

We hear from the eastward that on *Friday*, the 20th of *September* last, a number of persons belonging to the private armed schooner *Hannah-and-Molly, Agreen Crabtree* master, went into the port of *Liverpool*, in *Nova-Scotia* Government, and crossed by land till they came within call of a large ship of five hundred tons, mounting four carriage-guns, four cohorns, and four swivels. The leader of the party hailed the ship, and desired them to send the boat on shore. Accordingly, the mate came with the boat. The privateer's men got into her, went on board the ship, and took her. They brought the guns to bear upon a brig loaded for *England*, and ordered the master of the brig to come alongside the ship with the brig. They then stripped the ship of every thing valuable, and put the effects on board the brig, and let the ship go on shore, and came off with the brig. The same crew also, at the same time, took two schooners and a sloop. The schooners and sloop have arrived; but the brig had not arrived in port the 6th of *October*, so that we fear she is retaken. The Captain of the privateer was so careful as to put all the guns and cannon, with a quantity of powder, on board his own privateer, so that they have arrived safe. The schooners and sloop had nails, fish, and a number of valuable articles on board.

Last *Sunday* se'nnight, arrived at *Saco* a small prize schooner sent in by the *Putnam* privateer, *John Harman* commander, having on board three hundred bushels of salt and some oil. Next day arrived another schooner, taken by the same privateer, having on board three hundred and seventy-five quintals of green fish, and some oil; she brings an account of another small vessel taken that is not yet arrived, and one that they took which was afterwards drove on shore by a frigate, the vessel lost, but the people got on board the privateer again; the frigate drove the privateer

into a harbour, and came to anchor with intention to keep her in; but Captain *Harman* got one of his guns ashore on a point of land, and fired on the frigate, when she returned whole broadsides into the woods at them, but did no damage. Captain *Harman*, after a few shot, was so lucky as to cut away her fore-stay, which obliged her to come to sail and put to sea.

Captain *Simmons*, who arrived at *Dartmouth* on *Friday* last, in twenty days from *St. Eustatia*, informs that the Governour of that place assured him that a war would soon be declared by the King of *France* against *Great Britain*; that one of the *British* pirate ships, being in that port in pursuit of *American* property, had actually been fired upon by their forts; and that great encouragement was given to all *American* vessels throughout the *French* dominions.

Last week arrived in town, from *Philadelphia*, the Hon. *John Adams*, Esq., member of the Grand Council of *America*.

We learn from *Ticonderoga* that eight *American* prisoners, taken in one of our gondolas at the late engagement on the lakes, were last week permitted by the humane General *Burgoyne* to return to their several States, after extorting an oath from them that they would not again presume to take up arms in opposition to his *Britannick* Majesty's forces.

SAMUEL CURWEN TO JUDGE SEWALL.

Exeter, October 31, 1776.

DEAR SIR: By a letter from Mr. *Danforth*, I was informed some of my countrymen were about to apply to Administration for relief. As my residence has been much longer than the most, and the suddenness of my departure from home rendering it morally impossible for me to become possessed of much money, and my pretensions, for aught I know, being as good as any and better than many, I presume I shall not be the only exile left in a forlorn condition if any provision be made; and if never made, forlorn I shall truly be, my finances every day very sensibly lessening. Had I received Mr. *Deberdt's* letter in time, I should have returned to *London*, but it was otherwise; and if my presence now can be dispensed with, it will be more agreeable, as I live pleasantly enough among a few acquaintances, at the rate of twenty guineas a year, in a state of rigid economy that I never before was reduced to the necessity of putting in practice.

In my answer to Mr. *Deberdt* I referred him to you, whose friendship on this occasion I doubted not; nor need I now repeat my request of your assistance if that shall be necessary.

With great regard, etc.,
To the Hon. Judge *Sewall*, *Brompton-Row*, *London*.

TO THE INDEPENDENT SONS OF AMERICA.

By the favour of Providence, we have reached that political point which the wise have long seen to be the only foundation of safety—*independence*. Our work is now plain before us: to persevere to the end in supporting the declaration we have made to the world. To do this, every consideration urges us; to retreat is death, is slavery, calamities of every name, and all the gloomy horrors of the most odious and execrable tyranny; before us is all the glory of freedom, pregnant with every felicity our wishes can grasp or human nature enjoy. If we continue our exertions with that wisdom and magnanimity with which we began, liberty will soon triumph, wealth flow in through ten thousand channels, and *America* become the glory of all lands. Tyranny is now exerting her utmost power; and if resisted a little longer, *George* and all his murderers must bid adieu to *America* forever. Then we shall have the double honour and happiness of subduing the tyrants and enjoying liberty. The expense and dangers it has cost us will sweeten the blessing. If we have not suffered enough to make us duly prize the inestimable jewel, let us patiently bear what is yet to come. But if we continue in the ways of well-doing, we shall certainly succeed; for unerring Wisdom has told us "if we trust in the Lord and do good, we shall dwell in the land and be fed;" therefore, we have nothing to do but be faithful to God and our country, and the blessings we contend for will be the portion of us and

our children. The prize of liberty is not to be gained in a day, nor bought with a small price, but is the reward of long labour and unremitted exertions; and a people are commonly made to realize their dependence on Heaven for so great a favour before they are crowned with complete success. The poor *Dutch* Provinces were oppressed by a *Spanish* tyrant, much like *George* of *Britain*, and they, although poor and small in number compared with the States of *America*, resisted the tyrant, who had at his command a great and rich nation, and, after a bloody contest of many years, gloriously triumphed in the complete freedom of their country. During the conflict, they were at some times reduced to such extreme difficulties as would have sunk any but free minds into absolute despair; but they were blessed with a succession of heroes and statesmen who wisely preferred liberty to every thing else, and persevered, through a long series of the severest calamities of every kind, with undiminished fervour in the glorious cause, until they arrived at the blissful period of independent States; and remain to this day a glorious monument of the supereminent virtue and valour of freemen. Let us imitate this bright example, and with them we shall shine in the history of mankind until the heavens are no more. The blood and treasure it may cost will heighten the value of liberty, and brighten the future days of peace and glory, when we or posterity shall recount the noble exertions and amazing intrepidity of those who were honoured by Heaven as the instruments of saving this great people from infernal tyranny. It will add to the joys of prosperity and sweeten the sacred triumph of freemen, when encircled with the charms of peace, to look back upon the trying scenes of the present time, and review the difficulties surmounted through a series of conflicts, while each moment was big with importance, and the fate of thousands hung upon every hour.

A SOLDIER.

Boston, October 31, 1776.

THE QUARTERMASTER-GENERAL'S ESTIMATE OF THE PROBABLE EXPENSE OF HIS DEPARTMENT FOR ONE MONTH.

The Quartermaster's Salary, at 80 dollars a month,	
is, - - - - -	£24
Two Assistant Quartermasters at <i>Roxbury</i> and <i>Winter-Hill</i> , 20 dollars each, - - - - -	12
Clerks' Assistants, &c., at the Office, Camp Equipage, Store, Stables, Granary in <i>Cambridge</i> , and expense of Riders, - - - - -	48
Two Clerks for the Assistant Quartermaster at <i>Roxbury</i> and <i>Winter-Hill</i> , - - - - -	8
One hundred Carpenters, at 20s. a month advance pay, - - - - -	100
One hundred Armourers, ditto, - - - - -	100
Wood and Coal, - - - - -	2,000
Hay for 100 Horses, fifty tons per month at £5, -	250
Oats and Straw, - - - - -	200
Two Wagonmasters, at 20 dollars a month each, -	12
Hire of Teams, - - - - -	350
Camp Utensils, worn and lost, say, - - - - -	150
Intrenching and Carpenter's Tools, - - - - -	100
Three Captains of Floating Batteries, at 20 dollars each, - - - - -	18
Repairing Boats, - - - - -	50
One Assistant in the Lumber-yard, - - - - -	4
Incidental charges, such as marching expenses for Regiments, Recruits, subsistence of Deserters, <i>Indians</i> , &c., - - - - -	474
Repairs of Tents, with waste of Boards, Nails, &c. -	100
Lawful, -	£4,000

In this estimate notice is not taken of the Barracks; one hundred and twenty Barracks, each ninety feet by sixteen, are now building. They will contain twelve thousand men, and will cost £12,000 lawful.

A LIST OF BRITISH SHIPS ON THE AMERICAN STATION.

	Guns.		Guns.
Eagle, Admiral Howe, -	64	Bristol, Commodore Sir	
Asia, Captain Vandeput, -	64	Peter Parker, -	50
Jersey, hospital ship, -	60	Preston, Com. Hotham, -	50
Chatham, Admiral Shuldham, -	50	Renown, Captain Banks, -	50
		Isis, Captain Douglass, -	50

	Guns.		Guns.		Guns.		Guns.
Experiment, Scott, -	50	Active, Williams, -	28	Garland, Pearson, -	24	Scorpion, Tolemache, -	16
Centurion, Braithwaite, -	50	Boreas, Thompson, -	28	Lively, Bishop, -	24	Tamer, Thornborough, -	16
Phoenix, Parker, -	44	Carysfort, Fanshaw, -	28	Mercury, Montague, -	24	Albany, Mowatt, -	14
Roebuck, Hammond, -	44	Cerberus, Symonds, -	28	Sphinx, Hunt, -	24	Hope, Dawson, -	14
Rainbow, Sir G. Collier, -	44	Daphne, Henry, -	28	Glasgow, Howe, -	20	Martin, Parker, -	14
Amazon, Jacobs, -	32	Fox, Fotheringham, -	28	Rose, Wallace, -	20	Swan, Ayscough, -	14
Bruné, -	32	Lizard, Inglis, -	28	Scarborough, Barclay, -	20	Senegal, Duddington, -	14
Diamond, Fielding, -	32	Liverpool, Bellew, -	28	Seaford, Colpoy, -	20	Hawke, Cooper, -	10
Emerald, Caldwell, -	32	Milford, Burr, -	28	Falcon, Lindzey, -	19	Otter, Squire, -	10
Flora, Brisbane, -	32	Solebay, -	28	Merlin, Bernaby, -	18	Viper, Price, -	10
Juno, Dalrymple, -	32	Surprise, -	28	Nautilus, Collins, -	18	Carcass, Dring, -	8
Lark, Smith, -	32	Syren, Furneaux, -	28	Kingfisher, Graham, -	16	Cruiser, Parry, -	8
Niger, Talbot, -	32	Tatar, Ommanie, -	28	Raven, Stanhope, -	16	Savage, Bromedge, -	8
Orpheus, Hudson, -	32	Triton, Lutwidge, -	28	Carcas, Thunder, bomb-vessels.			
Pearl, O'Hara, -	32	Unicorn, Ford, -	28	Strombolo, fire-ship.			
Repulse, Davis, -	32	Deal Castle, Worth, -	24	Canceaux, Cherokee, Diligence, and a number of other			
Thetis, -	32	Fowey, C. Montague, -	24	armed vessels.			
Actæon, Atkins, (burnt,) -	28	Greyhound, Dickson, -	24				

Return of the Seventh Regiment of Foot in the service of the UNITED COLONIES, commanded by Colonel WILLIAM PRESCOTT, October 31, 1776.

COMPANIES.	OFFICERS PRESENT.														RANK AND FILE.					Wanting to complete.	Alterations since last Return.																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																									
	Commissioned.				Staff.				Non- Com'd.						Sergeants. Drums and Fifes.	Privates.	Inlisted. Dead.	Discharged.	Deserted.																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																											
	Colonel.	Lieut. Colonel.	Majors.	Captains.	First Lieutenants.	Second Lieut'nts.	Ensigns.	Chaplain.		Adjutant.	Quartermaster.	Surgeon.	Mate.	Paymaster.						Sergeants.	Drums and Fifes.	Fit for duty.	Sick, present.	Sick, absent.	On command.	On furlough.	Total.																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																																			

N. B. The Major, 2 Captains, 3 Lieutenants, 3 Ensigns, the Surgeon and Mate, 5 Sergeants, 4 Drums and Fifes, and the Quartermaster, sick, absent; 2 Lieutenants, 2 Sergeants, 1 Drummer, sick, present; 1 Lieutenant, 3 Sergeants, on command; 30 Rank and File, on command, in the Artillery; 14 Rank and File, on command, in the works; 9 Rank and File, on command, in the row-galleys; 7 Rank and File, on command, taking care of the sick; 1 Sergeant, 2 Privates, missing leaving York, returned on command.

WM. PRESCOTT, Colonel.

Return of the Regiment of Foot in the service of the UNITED STATES OF AMERICA, commanded by Colonel THOMAS THOMAS, in Brigadier-General GEORGE CLINTON's Brigade, October 31, 1776.

COMPANIES.	OFFICERS PRESENT.													RANK AND FILE.					Wanting to complete.	Alterations since last Return.								
	Commissioned.					Staff.			Non- Com'd.																			
	Colonel.	Lieut. Colonel.	Major.	Captains.	First Lieutenants.	Second Lieut'ns.	Ensigns.	Chaplain.	Adjutant.	Quartermaster.	Surgeon.	Mate.	Paymaster.	Sergeants.	Drums and Fifes.													
	Present, fit for duty.	Sick, present.	Sick, absent.	On command.	On furlough.	Total.	Sergeants.	Drums and Fifes.	Privates.	Inlisted.	Dead.	Discharged.	Deserted.															
Captain William Dutcher.....	1	-	-	-	1	1	-	-	1	1	1	-	-	3	-	31	1	3	4	-	39	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Captain Abraham Ledew.....	-	-	-	-	1	1	-	-	-	-	1	1	-	-	2	1	6	2	4	4	5	21	-	-	14	-	-	-
Captain Nathaniel Delivan.....	-	-	-	1	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	3	1	23	2	6	5	1	38	-	-	12	-	-	-	-
Captain James Cronkhyte.....	-	-	-	1	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	3	1	19	4	8	7	-	38	-	-	6	-	-	-	-
Captain Benoni Platt.....	-	-	-	-	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	2	17	2	11	13	-	44	-	-	6	-	-	-	-
Captain Abijah Gilbert.....	-	-	-	-	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	3	3	17	1	18	3	1	40	-	-	11	-	-	-	-
Captain Elijah Hunter.....	-	-	-	1	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	3	3	18	3	11	4	-	36	-	-	15	-	-	-	-
Captain Samuel Townsend.....	-	-	-	1	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	1	19	1	3	9	-	32	-	-	15	-	-	-	-
Captain David Dan.....	-	-	-	-	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	1	15	-	21	3	-	39	-	-	9	-	-	-	-
Total.....	1	-	-	4	6	4	-	-	1	1	1	1	-	23	9	165	17	85	52	7	327	-	-	113	-	-	-	5

Lieutenant-Colonel Hammon and Major Purdy, sick, absent.
Captain Dutcher and his Fifer, absent, to move their families; sick, at home, Drummer; of the persons on command, 1 with carts, and 3 with Commissary.
Captain Ledew, sick, present; his First Lieutenant, in Artillery; Second Lieutenant, left at Fort Independence, with 1 Sergeant and the 4 mentioned on command; Fifer, sick, absent; Sergeant, sick, present; deserted in whole, 8, including Drummer.
Second Lieutenant to Captain Delivan, left at Fort Independence, with 4 of the persons mentioned on command; other, in Artillery; deserted in whole, including Fifer, 4.
First Lieutenant to Captain Cronkhyte, under an arrest for desertion; Second Lieutenant, sick, absent; of the persons returned sick, absent, 4 are in Hospital, and 2 in outhouses; of the persons on command, 1 on General's guard, and 6 left at Fort Independence and up North River, by order; deserted in whole, 10, including Drummer.
Captain Platt, retired about one mile to recruit; Sergeant, sick, absent by leave; of the persons mentioned sick, absent, 9 in Hospital, and 2 home by leave; of the persons on command, 9 left at Fort Independence, 3 with Teams, and 1 with Commissary; deserted in all, 4.
Captain Gilbert, sick, absent with leave of the General; First Lieutenant, sick, absent; the persons mentioned as sick, absent, are in Hospital, and 1 sick, absent by my leave; of the persons on command, 1 on General's guard, and 2 at Blue-Bell Fort, exclusive of Fifer, who is also there; deserted in whole, 2.
Captain Hunter's Lieutenant, sick, absent; Fifer, sick, present; of the persons on command, 3 in Artillery, and one at the Bridge.
Captain Townsend's First Lieutenant, Adjutant of my Regiment; Second Lieutenant, sick, present; Sergeant and Drummer, sick, absent; of the persons on command, 1 with Quartermaster, 2 in Artillery, 2, my clerk and waiter, and 4 left at Fort Independence; 3, not returned as present, fit for duty, taken at Morrisania and at Maroneck as deserters, and 1 taken at Maroneck.
Captain Dan, sick, in hospital, and his Sergeant; of the persons returned sick, 20 in hospital, 1 absent by my leave; of the persons on command, 1 to guard teams, 1 Adjutant's waiter and 1 Doctor's Mate, Drummer, at Fort Independence; deserted in whole, 5; the cooks and waiters of the above mentioned companies included in the present, fit for duty.

THOMAS THOMAS, Colonel.

Weekly Return of the Eighth Regiment of Militia, from State of CONNECTICUT, commanded by OLIVER SMITH, Esq., Lieutenant-Colonel, October 31, 1776.

COMPANIES.	OFFICERS PRESENT.													RANK AND FILE.					Wanting to complete.	Alterations since last Return.						
	Commissioned.					Staff.			Non-Com'd.																	
	Colonel.	Lieut. Colonel.	Major.	Captains.	First Lieutenants.	Second Lieut'nts.	Ensigns.	Chaplain.		Adjutant.	Quartermaster.	Surgeon.	Mate.	Paymaster.	Sergeants.	Drums and Fifes.										
	Present, fit for duty.	Sick, present.	Sick, absent.	On command.	On furlough.	Total.	Sergeants.	Drums and Fifes.	Privates.	Inlisted.	Dead.	Discharged.	Deserted.													
Captain Gallop.....	-	-	-	1	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	3	1	5	4	15	4	-	28	-	-	-	-	-
Captain James Morgan.....	-	-	-	1	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	4	1	10	1	3	-	14	-	-	-	-	-	-
Captain John Morgan.....	-	-	-	1	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	2	5	5	-	-	5	-	-	-	-	-	-
Captain Boardman.....	-	-	-	1	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	4	4	9	1	2	-	11	-	-	-	-	-	-
Captain Wheeler.....	-	-	-	1	1	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	5	2	11	4	1	-	16	-	-	-	-	-	-
Captain Stoddart.....	-	-	-	1	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	2	3	2	1	-	6	-	-	-	-	-	-
Captain Stanton.....	-	-	-	1	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	3	3	7	2	1	-	10	-	-	-	-	-	-
Captain Holmes.....	-	-	-	1	1	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	3	1	6	1	5	-	12	-	-	-	-	-	-
Captain Burrows.....	-	-	-	1	1	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	6	1	3	-	10	-	-	-	-	-	-
Total.....	-	-	-	9	9	4	7	-	1	1	1	1	-	27	5	62	15	28	7	112	-	-	-	-	-	-

N. B. Five Captains, 2 Subs., 3 Sergeants, sick, absent; 2 Subs., sick, present.

Those on command are accounted for as follows: 4 Field and Staff Officers' waiters, 3 Privates, tending on sick.

OLIVER SMITH, Lieutenant-Colonel.

Return of the Regiment of Foot, in the service of the UNITED STATES, commanded by Colonel JACOBUS SWARTWOUT, WHITE-PLAINS, October 31, 1776.

COMPANIES.	OFFICERS PRESENT.													RANK AND FILE.				Wanting to complete.	Alterations since last Return.									
	Commissioned.						Staff.				Non- Com'd.																	
	Colonel.	Lieut. Colonel.	Major.	Captains.	First Lieutenants.	Second Lieut'nts.	Ensign.	Chaplain.	Adjutant.	Quartermaster.	Surgeon.	Mate.	Paymaster.	Sergeants.	Drums and Fifes.													
	Present, fit for duty.	Sick, present.	Sick, absent.	On command.	On furlough.	Total.	Sergeants.	Drums and Fifes.	Privates.	Inlisted.	Dead.	Discharged.	Deserted.															
Captain Vanwyck.....	-	-	-	-	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	3	-	24	7	1	6	-	38	-	-	-	5	-	-	-
Captain Veal.....	-	-	-	-	1	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	3	3	14	6	-	7	2	30	-	-	-	20	-	-	-
Captain Pearce.....	-	-	-	-	1	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	3	2	26	5	6	8	2	48	-	-	-	5	-	-	-
Captain Swartwout.....	-	-	-	-	1	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	3	1	26	6	-	14	8	46	-	-	-	7	-	-	-
Captain Duryee.....	-	-	-	-	1	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	1	28	6	-	3	8	45	-	-	-	8	-	-	-
Captain Schenck.....	-	-	-	-	1	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	3	2	16	2	2	4	1	26	-	-	-	17	-	-	-
Captain Ludenton.....	-	-	-	-	1	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	3	2	9	10	10	7	3	36	-	-	-	18	-	-	-
Captain Godwin.....	-	-	-	-	1	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	1	10	2	7	3	3	25	-	1	28	28	-	-	-
Captain Lane.....	-	-	-	-	1	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	3	1	7	5	4	3	-	19	-	1	34	7	-	-	-
Captain Colkin.....	-	-	-	-	1	1	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	2	24	4	6	9	3	46	-	-	-	7	-	-	-
Total.....	1	-	-	8	7	9	-	-	1	1	1	1	-	27	12	184	54	36	64	19	358	1	2	147	-	-	-	-

The Lieutenant-Colonel on command at Peekskill; Captain Vanwyck killed.
Captain Swartwout on command at the King's Bridge; Lieutenant Langdon absent.
One of Captain Ludenton's Lieutenants and two Sergeants sick, in quarters.

Captain Godwin's First Lieutenant has not joined company yet.
One of Captain Lane's Lieutenants sick, in quarters.
I omitted the Major, sick, absent. The Adjutant sick, in quarters.
Those on command are at the King's Bridge, and some in Artillery.
The deserters, discharged, and dead, we refer to our last.
Two Lieutenants on command at King's Bridge.

JACOBUS SWARTWOUT, Colonel.

Return of the Regiment of Foot, in the service of the UNITED STATES OF AMERICA, under the command of Colonel MORRIS GRAHAM, Camp WHITE-PLAINS, October 31, 1776.

COMPANIES.	OFFICERS PRESENT.										RANK AND FILE.				Wanting to complete.	Alterations since last Return.											
	Commissioned.					Staff.		Non-Comm'd.																			
	Colonel.	Lieut. Colonel.	Major.	Captains.	First Lieutenants.	Second Lieut'ns.	Adjutant.	Quartermaster.	Surgeon.	Sergeant-Major.	Fife and Drum-Major.	Sergeants.	Fifes and Drums.	Corporals.	Present, fit for duty.	Sick, present.	Sick, absent.	On command.	On furlough.	Total.	Sergeants.	Fifes and Drums.	Privates.	Inlisted.	Discharged.	Dead.	Deserted.
Captain Paine.....	1	1	1	4	7	8	1	1	1	1	2	19	11	16	86	22	53	67	4	248	-	-	176	-	2	-	-

Captain Paine, sick, absent; Lieutenant Waters, of his company, and 1 Sergeant, absent after clothing for their men.
Captain Stoughtenburgh, sick, absent; 1 Lieutenant, unfit for duty, in camp.
Captain Platt, absent with leave; and 1 Sergeant, sick, absent.
Captain Barlow, sick, absent, and 1 Sergeant.
Captain Hearmanel, sick, absent, and Lieutenant Sharpe, lame, in camp;

1 Sergeant, on command as Quartermaster Sergeant, and 1 Sergeant, sick, absent; 1 Lieutenant on Rear Guard, and Drummer, sick, absent.
Lieutenant Egot, of Captain Van Steenberg's company, absent without leave, and 1 Sergeant, sick, absent, and 1 Sergeant on the Rear Guard; Fifer, absent.
Two of Captain Tiller's Sergeants, sick, in camp, and Drummer, sick, absent.

Per ROSWELL HOPKINS, Lieutenant-Colonel.

NAVY BOARD OF SOUTH-CAROLINA.

Charlestown, South-Carolina, Wednesday, October 9, 1776.

In pursuance of an act of the General Assembly, passed the 4th October, 1776, the following Commissioners appointed by the said act, viz: *Edward Blake, Thomas Corbett, Thomas Savage, Josiah Smith, Jun., Roger Smith, George Abbott Hall, and George Smith*, to superintend and direct the Naval affairs of this State, met, and previous to their forming a Board, took the following Oath of Qualification, viz:

"I do swear that I will well and truly execute the duties of my office as a Commissioner of the Navy Board, to the best of my skill and judgment. So help me God."

The Commissioners then proceeded to the election of the First Commissioner, and *Edward Blake, Esq.*, was by a majority of votes chosen First Commissioner of the Navy, and took his seat accordingly.

Resolved, That the following Advertisement for a Clerk of the Board be published, viz:

"The Commissioners of the Navy Board give this public notice, that they are in want of a Clerk whose duty and business will be to keep regular accounts and journals of all transactions relating to the said Board, also, when required, to go on-board the vessels of war in the service of this State, and take exact accounts of officers and seamen on board, to pay off the wages due them respectively, and to make proper returns thereof to the said Board on oath. The salary allowed for such business will be fourteen hundred pounds currency per annum. Any person willing to engage will apply before nine o'clock on *Saturday* morning, the 12th instant, by letter directed to *Edward Blake, First Commissioner*."

The Board upon inquiry into the state of the Navy, found that there was a vacancy for a Captain to command the brigantine-of-war *Comet*.

Ordered, That the following Letter be sent to the General Assembly then sitting, viz:

"To the Hon. JAMES PARSONS, Esq., Speaker, and Gentlemen of the General Assembly:

"The Commissioners of the Navy Board on inquiry find that a Captain is wanted for the brigantine *Comet*. They recommend Captain *Stephen Seymour* and Captain *Edward Allen* as proper persons for the Legislature to make choice of."

Adjourned to next *Saturday* morning, nine o'clock.

Navy Board, Saturday, October 12, 1776.

The Board met according to adjournment.

Present: *Edward Blake, First Commissioner; Thomas Savage, Josiah Smith, Jun., George Abbott Hall, Thomas Corbett, Roger Smith, George Smith*.

Read several applications to the Board for the Clerk's office, and then proceeded to choose a Clerk by ballot, and Mr. *John Calvert* was declared unanimously elected to be Clerk of this Board, and he took the following Oath of Qualification, viz:

"I, *John Calvert*, do swear that I will well and truly execute the duties of my office as Clerk of the Navy Board, to the best of my skill and judgment, and that I will faithfully keep secret the business of said Board when required. So help me God."

Received a Muster-Roll of the Brigantine *Defence*.

Received a Muster-Roll of the Brigantine *Comet*.

The following Letter was sent to Captain *Thomas Pickering*.

"Captain THOMAS PICKERING:

"You are hereby required to use the utmost diligence in manning the brigantine *Defence*, under your command, and getting her ready for sea; in particular, we recommend that you take the most effectual means for recovering the seamen who have deserted from your vessel as speedily as possible, if they are to be found in town, and make a return to the Navy Board of your complement of men by *Tuesday* next, at nine o'clock in the morning."

A similar Letter was also sent to Captain *Edward Allen*, commander of the Brigantine *Comet*.

Adjourned to next *Tuesday* morning, nine o'clock.

Navy Board, Tuesday, October 15, 1776.

The Board met according to adjournment.

Present: *Edward Blake, Esq., First Commissioner; George Abbott Hall, Josiah Smith, Thomas Savage, Thomas Corbett, George Smith, Esqs.*

Read the Minutes of last meeting.

Ordered, That the following Advertisement be inserted in the *Gazette*, and that three hundred Handbills be struck off and dispersed in the country:

"The Commissioners of the Navy are in want of a quantity of Salted Beef and Pork in barrels. Any persons inclined to furnish them therewith are desired to send proposals in writing to the subscriber, mentioning the quantity of salt required for each barrel of Beef and Pork, (which the Commissioners will supply the contractors with upon their entering into contract with them,) and the price they will deliver the Beef and Pork at in *Charlestown*, the same being properly cured and packed in tight barrels, weighing two hundred pounds neat weight. They are also in want of a quantity of Ship Bread and Flour, for which they will give the market price, or enter into contract with any person inclined to supply them.

"EDWARD BLAKE, First Commissioner."

Returns were received from the officers of the Brigantine *Comet* and the Brigantine *Defence*.

Orders were given to Captain *Edward Allen* to get his Water, Provisions, and other necessities on board, ready to proceed to sea as soon as possible, and to report when he is ready.

Orders were given to Captain *Thomas Pickering* to apply to the Commissary to furnish him with such Sails as are wanting for the Brigantine *Defence*, and other necessities to get her ready for sea.

Alexander Horn, the Publick Boatkeeper, was ordered to attend the next meeting.

Adjourned to next *Thursday* morning, nine o'clock.

Navy Board, Thursday, October 17, 1776.

The Board met according to adjournment.

Present: *Edward Blake, Esq., First Commissioner; Thomas Savage, Thomas Corbett, George Abbott Hall, Josiah Smith, George Smith, Roger Smith, Esqs.*

Read the Minutes of last meeting.

The following Letter was agreed to be sent to Mr. *Anthony Bonneau*, at *Georgetown*:

"Navy Office, Charlestown, October 17, 1776.

"Mr. ANTHONY BONNEAU:

"SIR: Captain *Seymour* having represented to the Commissioners of the Navy the necessity of having a proper person at *Georgetown* to furnish provisions, &c., for the armed schooner *Rattlesnake* stationed there, they will be glad if it should suit your convenience to transact that business; and in order that you may be acquainted with the nature of it, you will find enclosed an indent of such provisions as the seamen in the navy are allowed daily; also a form of a return to be made and signed by the Purser monthly, when your accounts ought to be made out and transmitted to this Board, for the amount of which they will pay your order, upon the account being separately certified by the Purser and yourself. Captain *Seymour* is to send to you for the provisions as they are wanted; for which purpose the Board recommend that you buy a good canoe and oars for the schooner, to be used only as a harbour boat; and whenever she may be ordered to sea, the canoe to be left in your or some other person's custody, to be taken care of until her return. The Commissioners will be glad to know on what terms you will transact the above business, to which they will give you an immediate answer.

"By order of the Board:

"EDWARD BLAKE, First Commissioner."

The following Letter was wrote to Captain John Copithorn:

"Captain JOHN COPITHORN:

"SIR: The Commissioners of the Navy request that you do immediately make use of your utmost endeavours to procure as many Schooners as you can hire for the service of the publick, and inform me as soon as possible of your success.

"I am, sir, your humble servant,

"EDWARD BLAKE, *First Commissioner*."

The following Letter was wrote to Alexander Horn:

"Navy Board, Charlestown, October 17, 1776.

"Mr. ALEXANDER HORN:

"You are hereby required to hire a sufficient number of negroes to cleanse the entrance at the flood-gate of the stones and rubbish now lying there, in order to make it convenient to receive the boats belonging to the publick; and you are likewise required to have them moved immediately there as the place is made convenient, and where, after being at any time employed, they are to be put, until a more convenient place for their reception is fixed upon. You are also to take particular care that all the boats are kept in good order, and constantly supplied with oars, rudders, and tillers.

"By order of the Board:

"EDWARD BLAKE, *First Commissioner*."

The following Letter was wrote to Edward Darrell, Esq.:

"EDWARD DARRELL, Esq.:

"SIR: The Commissioners of the Navy Board require that you will, with all possible despatch, furnish Captain Edward Allen, of the brigantine *Comet*, and Captain Thomas Pickering, of the brigantine *Defence*, with all such stores as are necessary to complete said vessels for sea.

"I am, sir, your humble servant,

"EDWARD BLAKE, *First Commissioner*.

"October 17, 1776."

The following Letter was wrote to Captain Stephen Seymour:

"Navy Board, Charlestown, October 17, 1776.

"Captain STEPHEN SEYMOUR:

"SIR: An act having passed the General Assembly the 9th April last, for the more effectual prevention of the desertion of the soldiers and sailors in the service of this State, the Commissioners of the Navy now furnish you with some copies of the same for your guide at the station where your vessel is; and you are hereby required to give your utmost assistance for the apprehension, securing, and sending to their respective vessels or regiments such deserters as may be taken at or about *George-Town*, and that you furnish the keeper of the *George-Town* ferry with one of the acts, that he may be assisting therein; also, that you desire the attention of the Magistrates and others to the same. The Commissioners have wrote a letter to Mr. Bonneau, desiring him to furnish you with the necessary provisions for the *Rattlesnake*; and in order that there may be proper regulations observed, Mr. Bonneau is desired to purchase a canoe for the purpose of carrying the provisions which you are to send for as often as they are wanted, the daily allowance of which for each man is enclosed, with a form for your Purser, or other officer appointed for that purpose, who is to give an account to the Commissioners what time the provisions are wanted, when they are to be punctually sent for, and yourself and your Purser, or person appointed for the purpose, are to make a monthly return upon oath of the provisions which shall be received and the expenditure thereof, which you are to transmit to us, that the Commissary's accounts may be examined. You will also direct your Boatswain, Carpenter, and Gunner to make a quarterly return of their stores to you, which you are to sign and forward to this Board.

"By order of the Board:

"EDWARD BLAKE, *First Commissioner*."

The following Letter was wrote to Captain Edward Allen:

"Captain EDWARD ALLEN:

"SIR: The Commissioners of the Navy have thought fit to appoint Nathaniel Havens to be Purser of the brigantine *Comet*; and desire that you will receive him to act

in that station, and put all such stores as are now on board belonging to his department into his charge.

"EDWARD BLAKE, *First Commissioner*.

"October 17, 1776."

The following Advertisement was ordered to be given to Mr. Samuel Prioleau, Jr.:

"To be sold at auction, on *Thursday*, the 24th instant, before the Exchange, two Schooners, one lying at Colonel Gadsden's wharf, the other on the marsh near thereto, with their furniture and tackle, as they now lie.

"By order of the Commissioners of the Navy:

"SAMUEL PRIOLEAU, JUN., & Co.

"October 17, 1776."

Then the Board adjourned to next *Saturday* morning, at nine o'clock.

Navy Board, Saturday, October 19, 1776.

Present: Edward Blake, Esq., First Commissioner; George Abbot Hall, Josiah Smith, George Smith, Thomas Corbett, Esqs.

Read the Minutes of last meeting.

Received a Letter from Archibald Brown & Co., with proposals to contract for Pork and Bread.

Received a Letter from William Hopkins, with proposals to contract for twenty barrels of Flour.

An Order was sent to Edward Darrell, Esq.:

"SIR: You are desired by the Commissioners of the Navy Board to procure the within-mentioned instruments for the use of the Brigantine *Defence*.

"EDWARD BLAKE, *First Commissioner*.

"To Edward Darrell, Esq., Commissary.

"October 19, 1776."

The following Letter was sent to Mr. Anthony Bonneau:

"Mr. ANTHONY BONNEAU:

"SIR: The Commissioners of the Navy are in want of one hundred barrels of hard pitch, one hundred barrels tar, and twenty barrels of good, clean turpentine, the casks to be very good; also, any quantity of tallow that can be procured. They will be glad that you will purchase, and ship them by any good opportunity for *Charlestown*, and as speedily as possible, the above articles; for the amount of which, your order on the Commissioners of the Navy will be punctually paid.

"The Commissioners are informed that you have a quantity of cordage by you, such as the publick are at present in want of. They will be glad to have it sent round to *Charlestown* at the same time as the naval stores are shipped; also, any other cordage and sail-duck that you can purchase at *George-Town*; for which your order will be paid.

"By order of the Board:

"EDWARD BLAKE, *First Commissioner*.

"P. S. The price of cordage in *Charlestown* is £15 per one hundred pounds, which the Commissioners are willing to allow at *George-Town*."

Captain Stephen Seymour applied to the Board to know what number of men would be allowed for the Schooner *Rattlesnake*; and the Board resolved to allow the said vessel fifty men as her full complement.

Then the Board adjourned to next *Monday* evening, five o'clock.

Navy Board, Monday, October 21, 1776.

Adjourned to to-morrow evening, at five o'clock.

Navy Board, Tuesday, October 22, 1776.

Adjourned to *Thursday* evening, five o'clock.

Navy Board, Thursday, October 24, 1776.

The Board met according to adjournment.

Present: Edward Blake, Esq., First Commissioner; Thomas Savage, George Abbott Hall, Roger Smith, Esqs.

Read the Minutes of last meeting.

A Letter was wrote to Messrs. *Archibald Brown & Co.*, viz:

"Navy Board, Charlestown, October 24, 1776.

"GENTLEMEN: Your proposals to contract with the Board for two hundred barrels of good pork, at fifteen pounds per barrel, (allowing you one bushel of salt for each,) they agree to enter into contract with you for that quantity, to be delivered in *Charlestown* as speedily as possible.

"The bread they will treat with you for as it comes to market.

"By order of the Board: EDWARD BLAKE."

One thousand Certificates were ordered to be struck off immediately in the following words, viz:

"Know all men, that I, , have entered, and do hereby certify that I have voluntarily entered, into the Navy of this State aforesaid, on board the ; and I do hereby engage to be true and faithful in the said service until I shall be discharged by publick authority, and also to be bound by and to obey all and every rule, resolve, order, and regulation, made, or to be made, by the Legislature of the State aforesaid, or by the Commissioners of the Navy. And I do hereby acknowledge the receipt of . Witness my hand, this ."

A Letter was sent to Captain *John Turner*:

"Captain JOHN TURNER: You are hereby requested to attend the Commissioners of the Navy at the Board to-morrow evening.

"By order of the Board:

"EDWARD BLAKE, First Commissioner.

"Navy Board, October 24, 1776."

Adjourned to to-morrow evening, five o'clock.

Navy Board, Friday, October 25, 1776.

The Board met according to adjournment.

Present: *Edward Blake*, Esq., First Commissioner; *Roger Smith*, *George Smith*, *George Abbott Hall*, Esqrs.

Read the Minutes of last meeting.

Agreed to take Mr. *William Hopkins's* twenty barrels of Flour, at £8 10s. per cwt., to be delivered to *Edward Darrell*, Esq., Commissary.

A Letter was wrote to Captain *Edward Allen*:

"Captain EDWARD ALLEN:

"SIR: The Commissioners of the Navy desire you will take out of the brigantine *Comet*, four of the carriage-guns, as they think the number now on board rather hurtful than of service.

"By order of the Board:

"EDWARD BLAKE, First Commissioner.

"October 25, 1776."

Resolved, That the following Spars be provided for the use of the Navy of this State, and that Mr. First Commissioner do give directions for the same:

20 Spars from 50 to 70 feet long, and from 16 to 30 inches diameter.

10 Spars from 30 to 40 feet long, and from 16 to 22 inches diameter.

50 Spars from 30 to 40 feet long, and from 10 to 16 inches diameter.

40 Spars from 36 to 46 feet long, and from 10 to 15 inches diameter.

100 Spars from 24 to 36 feet long, and from 6 to 10 inches diameter in the middle.

100 Spars from 20 to 35 feet long, and from 5 to 9 inches diameter in the middle.

The following Letter was received from his Excellency the President, in consequence of an application having been made to him by the First Commissioner for his opinion whether the Commissioners of the Navy have not full power to order the vessels belonging to the State upon a cruise when they shall think proper?

"SIR: I proposed to the Council your query, whether the Commissioners of the Navy have authority to order the armed vessels of this State to sea, or on a cruise? and the Board was unanimously of opinion that they have not.

"I shall be glad that the vessels may as soon as possible

be in readiness to proceed to sea on the shortest notice, and from time to time to have the earliest intimation whenever they are so, and of what destination the Commissioners think proper to recommend, as much attention will be had to their recommendation.

"I am, sir, your very humble servant,

"J. RUTLEDGE.

"October 25, 1776."

Resolved, That this Board are unanimously of opinion, that, by the act establishing the Board of Commissioners full powers are vested in them to superintend and direct all matters relative to the Navy except contracting for building Ships and materials for the same, erecting publick Rope-walks and Ship-yards, altering or making void any contract heretofore made by the President and Privy Council, or the appointment of Officers of the Navy.

Adjourned to to-morrow evening, six o'clock.

Navy Board, Saturday, October 26, 1776.

Adjourned to Monday, 28th, six o'clock.

Navy Board, Monday, October 28, 1776.

The Board met according to adjournment.

Present: *Edward Blake*, Esq., First Commissioner; *Thomas Savage*, *George Abbott Hall*, *Roger Smith*, *George Smith*, *Thomas Corbett*, Esqrs.

Read the Minutes of last meeting.

Resolved, That the Commissary of the Naval Department be directed to purchase such a quantity of Flour as there is an immediate occasion for at the lowest price; also to purchase two or three tons of Iron.

The following message was agreed to, to be sent to his Excellency the President, viz:

"Navy Board, Charlestown, October 28, 1776.

"SIR: The Commissioners of the Navy, on inquiry, find that no contract has yet been made for any of the galleys; and agreeable to the act appointing that Board, the Commissioners have no authority to enter into any contract for building without the concurrence of the President and Privy Council. The Commissioners therefore desire your Excellency will, if it is judged necessary, give directions to enter into contract with such persons as are willing to undertake the building of galleys, and to provide necessaries for the same.

"By order of the Board:

"EDWARD BLAKE, First Commissioner."

The First Commissioner was desired to wait upon the President, and acquaint him that the Board were of opinion it would be for the service of this State that the armed vessels *Comet* and *Defence* should proceed directly to one of the *French* islands in the *West-Indies*, in order to procure seamen, where, by information they have received, there are good grounds to believe they may be readily obtained, and that they should carry indigo to the value of five hundred pounds sterling each, to defray their expenses and purchase such necessaries as may be wanting.

Adjourned to Wednesday evening, six o'clock.

Navy Board, Wednesday, October 30, 1776.

Adjourned to to-morrow evening, five o'clock.

Navy Board, October 31, 1776.

The Board met pursuant to adjournment.

Present: *Edward Blake*, First Commissioner; *George Abbott Hall*, *Thomas Savage*, *Thomas Corbett*, *Roger Smith*, Esqrs.

Read the Minutes of the last meeting.

Ordered, Captain *Pickering* to drop the Brigantine *Defence* down to *Rebellion Road* to-morrow.

Agreed, That a Letter of Instructions be drawn up for Captain *Pickering*, of the *Defence* brigantine-of-war, to proceed on a cruise; and Mr. *Hall* was desired to prepare and report the same to-morrow evening.

Adjourned to to-morrow evening, five o'clock.

CONTINENTAL CONGRESS.

Philadelphia, Tuesday, September 3, 1776.

A Memorial from Colonel *Moses Hazen* was read and referred to the Committee appointed to inquire into the causes of the miscarriages in *Canada*.

General *Sullivan* having reduced to writing the verbal message from Lord *Howe*, the same was read, as follows:

"The following is the purport of the message sent from Lord *Howe* to Congress, by General *Sullivan* :

"That, though he could not at present treat with Congress as such, yet he was very desirous of having a conference with some of the members, whom he would consider for the present only as private gentlemen, and meet them himself, as such, at such place as they should appoint :

"That he, in conjunction with General *Howe*, had full powers to compromise the dispute between *Great Britain* and *America* upon terms advantageous to both ; the obtaining of which delayed him near two months in *England*, and prevented his arrival at this place before the declaration of independency took place :

"That he wished a compact might be settled at this time, when no decisive blow was struck, and neither party could say, that they were compelled to enter into such agreement :

"That, in case Congress were disposed to treat, many things which they had not as yet asked might and ought to be granted them ; and that if, upon the conference, they found any probable ground of accommodation, the authority of Congress must be afterwards acknowledged, otherwise the compact would not be complete."

Copy of General SULLIVAN'S Letter to Lord HOWE.

"New-York, 30th of August, 1776.

"MY LORD: Agreeable to your Lordship's request I have conversed with General *Washington*, who says that he has no power to treat upon the subject your Lordship mentioned, but has no objection to my going to *Philadelphia* to inform Congress of what your Lordship has been pleased to communicate to me upon the subject. I shall wait your Lordship's further direction ; and am, with much esteem, your Lordship's most obedient servant,

"JNO. SULLIVAN.

"Right Hon. Lord Viscount *Howe*."

His Lordship's Answer.

"Eagle, 30th August, 1776.

"SIR: Understanding by your letter that the only doubt of the propriety of going to *Philadelphia* is by your conversation with General *Washington* removed, I do not see occasion to give you further trouble, but to recommend the prosecuting of your journey as you were pleased on that condition to propose.

"I am, sir, your most obedient, humble servant,

"HOWE.

"General *Sullivan*."

The Committee appointed to inquire into the particulars of the late action on *Long-Island*, reported that they have made inquiry, and from the best information they could get have prepared an account thereof.

Ordered to lie on the table.

The Board of War brought in a Report, which was read:

Resolved, That the part of the said Report which relates to the establishing a Post between *Philadelphia* and *Ticonderoga* be referred to the Committee for regulating the Post-Office, and that the remainder of the Report lie on the table :

That two Members be added to the said Committee :

The Members chosen, Mr. *Hooper* and Mr. *Huntington*.

Congress proceeded to the election of a Regimental Paymaster to Colonel *Magaw's* Battalion ; and the ballots being taken,

John Mifflin, brother to Brigadier-General *Mifflin*, was elected.

Resolved, That *Jeduthun Baldwin*, Esq., be appointed an Engineer in the Continental Army, with the rank of Colonel, and pay of sixty Dollars a month.

A Letter from a number of Officers who are prisoners at *Carlisle*, was read, complaining of some ill-treatment they have received, and of their baggage having been plundered, contrary to the capitulation upon which they surrendered.

FIFTH SERIES.—VOL. II.

General *Wooster*, who happened to be in the outer room, being examined touching the facts stated in the said Letter :

Resolved, That a Letter be written to General *Schuyler*, directing him to make particular inquiry whether the Baggage of the Officers taken at *St. John's* and *Chamble* was plundered, and by whom, and report to Congress :

That the Secretary of the Board of War be directed to inform the Officers, that inquiry has been made of General *Wooster*, to whom they refer, respecting the plunder of their Baggage, and that he says he knows nothing of the matter, and that no information or complaint was ever made to him respecting that matter : And further, to inform them that Congress have given orders to General *Schuyler* to cause strict inquiry to be made into this affair, and report thereon.

A Letter, of the 2d, from General *Washington*, and one from *William Palfrey*, Paymaster-General, were read.

Resolved, That the Letter from General *Washington* be referred to a Committee of the Whole Congress :

Congress then resolved itself into a Committee of the Whole to take into consideration the Letter from General *Washington* ; and after some time, the President resumed the chair, and Mr. *Nelson* reported that the Committee have had under consideration the Letter to them referred, and have come to sundry Resolutions, which he was ordered to report.

The Resolutions from the Committee of the Whole, being severally read, were agreed to, as follows :

Resolved, That General *Washington* be acquainted that Congress would have especial care taken, in case he should find it necessary to quit *New-York*, that no damage be done to the said city by his troops, on their leaving it : The Congress having no doubt of being able to recover the same, though the enemy should, for a time, obtain possession of it.

Resolved, That three more Battalions be ordered from *Virginia*, of which that commanded by Colonel *Stephen* to be one, to reinforce the Army at *New-York* :

That for the same purpose, two of the *North-Carolina* Battalions be ordered to march with all possible expedition to *New-York*, under the command of Brigadier-General *Moore* :

That it be recommended to the Assemblies and Conventions of the several States to the northward of *Virginia*, immediately to send all the aid in their power to the Army at *New-York* :

That one of the Continental Battalions in *Rhode-Island* be ordered immediately to march to reinforce the Army at *New-York* :

That it be recommended to the Assembly of *Massachusetts-Bay*, to send to *Rhode-Island* a Battalion of their Militia, to supply the place of the Continental Battalion ordered from thence.

The several matters to this day referred being postponed, Adjourned to ten o'clock, to-morrow.

— Wednesday, September 4, 1776.

Resolved, That Mr. *J. Mease* be directed to pay the *Virginia* Battalion, now on their march to *New-York*, one month's pay, and to supply them with such necessary Clothing as they may stand in need of.

Resolved, That another Brigadier-General be appointed in the Continental Army :

The ballots being taken, Colonel *Adam Stephen* was unanimously elected.

Resolved, That the Board of War be directed to call in the several recruiting parties of the *German* Battalion, and to have them formed and armed with all possible expedition, and forwarded to *New-York*, taking measures and giving proper directions to have the Battalion recruited to the full complement, as soon as the same can conveniently be done.

Resolved, That the proposal made by General *Howe*, as delivered by General *Sullivan*, of exchanging General *Sullivan* for General *Prescot*, and Lord *Stirling* for Brigadier-General *McDonald*, be complied with.

Mr. *J. Mease* having, in consequence of the Resolution of the 30th August, made a report that he cannot find there is any Cloth in this city fit for making Tents, except a parcel

of light Sail-Cloth, which is in the hands of the Marine Committee:

Resolved, That the Marine Committee be directed to deliver to Mr. *J. Mease* all the light Sail-Cloth in their possession: And that Mr. *Mease* be directed to have the same made into Tents as soon as possible, and forwarded to General *Washington*:

That the Secret Committee be directed to write to the Continental Agents in the Eastern States, desiring them to purchase all the Duck and other Cloth fit for Tents, which they can procure in their respective States, for the use of the Continent.

Congress took into consideration the Report of the Board of War; and, after some time spent thereon,

Resolved, That the further consideration thereof be postponed till to-morrow.

The several matters to this day referred being postponed, Adjourned to ten o'clock to-morrow.

Thursday, September 5, 1776.

A Petition from *John Schott* was read, and referred to the Board of War.

Two Petitions from the Owners of the Privateers *Lee* and *Putnam* were presented to Congress, and read:

Resolved, That they be referred to the Marine Committee.

A Memorial from *Jeremiah Halsey* was presented to Congress, and read:

Resolved, That it be referred to the Board of War.

Resolved, That General *Prescot* and General *McDonald* be sent by the Board of War, under an escort, to General *Washington*, to be exchanged for General *Sullivan* and Lord *Sirling*.

Resolved, That the Marine Committee be directed to supply Mr. *Hewes* with four hundred three-pound Cannon Shot, for the use of the Continental Army in *North-Carolina*.

Two Soldiers having escaped from *Quebeck*, and applied to Congress for their pay,

Resolved, That this matter be referred to the Committee on the Treasury.

A Memorial of Captain *John Doyle* was presented to Congress and read, setting forth, that in consequence of the Resolution passed the 16th of *July* last, he has enlisted eighty Men, whereof about sixty have passed muster, as appears by the Roll produced, and that the other twenty are at *Lancaster*, and, therefore, praying that a Commission may be granted to him, pursuant to the said Resolution:

Resolved, That the prayer of the Petition be granted; and that a Commission be granted to *Samuel Brady* to be First Lieutenant, and to *William McMurray* to be Second Lieutenant, of the Company commanded by Captain *Doyle*.

The Congress then resumed the consideration of the Report of the Board of War; and thereupon,

Resolved, That General *Sullivan* be requested to inform Lord *Howe*, that this Congress, being the Representatives of the free and independent States of *America*, cannot, with propriety, send any of its Members to confer with his Lordship in their private characters, but that, ever desirous of establishing peace on reasonable terms, they will send a Committee of their body to know whether he has any authority to treat with persons authorized by Congress for that purpose, in behalf of *America*, and what that authority is, and to hear such propositions as he shall think fit to make respecting the same:

That the President be desired to write to General *Washington*, and acquaint him that it is the opinion of Congress, no proposals for making peace between *Great Britain* and the *United States of America* ought to be received or attended to, unless the same be made in writing, and addressed to the Representatives of the said States in Congress, or persons authorized by them; and if application be made to him by any of the Commanders of the *British* Forces on that subject, that he inform them that these *United States*, who entered into the war only for the defence of their lives and liberties, will cheerfully agree to peace on reasonable terms, whenever such shall be proposed to them in manner aforesaid.

Resolved, That a copy of the first of the two foregoing Resolutions be delivered to General *Sullivan*, and that he be directed to repair immediately to Lord *Howe*.

Resolved, That to-morrow be assigned for electing the Committee.

The several matters to this day referred being postponed, Adjourned to ten o'clock to-morrow.

Friday, September 6, 1776.

Resolved, That General *Sullivan* be requested to deliver to Lord *Howe* the copy of the Resolution given to him.

Resolved, That the Committee "to be sent to know whether Lord *Howe* has any authority to treat with persons authorized by Congress for that purpose, in behalf of *America*, and what that authority is, and to hear such propositions as he shall think fit to make respecting the same," consist of three:

Congress then proceeded to the election; and, the ballots being taken, Mr. *Franklin*, Mr. *J. Adams*, and Mr. *E. Rutledge*, were elected.

Sundry Letters were laid before Congress and read:

One of the 4th, from General *Washington*, with sundry Letters and Papers enclosed;

One of the 29th *August*, from General *Schuyler*, enclosing Four Letters of the 18th, 20th, 26th, and 27th of the same month, from General *Gates*, with a Return of the Army at *Ticonderoga*, and other Papers;

A Letter of the 4th, from Brigadier-General *Mercer*; and

A Letter of the 28th of *August*, from Colonel *Maxwell*, enclosing a Memorial from *Jacobus Wyncoop*, were read:

Resolved, That the several Letters, with the Papers enclosed, except the Memorial from *Jacobus Wyncoop*; be referred to the Board of War, and that the Memorial from *Jacobus Wyncoop* be referred to the Marine Committee.

Resolved, That an Order for 2,794 15-90 Dollars be drawn on the Treasurer, in favour of *George Morgan, Esq.*, Agent for *Indian* Affairs in the Middle Department, he to be accountable;

That Mr. *Morgan* be supplied with a copy of the Resolutions of Congress relating to *Indian* Affairs in the Middle Department, and a copy of the Treaty held with the *Indians* at the *German-Flats*.

Resolved, That the Secret Committee be directed to deliver to Captain *Sheerer* six pounds of Powder and twenty-four pounds of Lead, for the use of two Companies of Riflemen, to try their Rifles.

A Memorial from *George Nicholson*, with an Account, was presented to Congress and read:

Resolved, That it be referred to the Board of Treasury.

A Letter from Captain *William Jenkins* was laid before Congress and read, praying for leave, on account of his family affairs, to resign his Commission:

Resolved, That leave be granted to him to resign.

The Board of War brought in a Report, which was taken into consideration; Whereupon,

Resolved, That *John Paul Shott*, who is well recommended as an experienced officer, be appointed a Captain in the Continental Army, with directions to raise a Company as soon as possible; but, that as he may be usefully employed immediately, that he be forthwith sent to General *Washington* at *New-York*, and that one month's pay be advanced to him.

Resolved, That the further consideration of the Report be deferred till to-morrow.

The several matters to this day referred being postponed, Adjourned to ten o'clock to-morrow.

Saturday, September 7, 1776.

Sundry Letters and Petitions were laid before Congress and read:

A Letter from the *Indian* Commissioners at *Pittsburg*, of the 16th of *August*, enclosing a Memorial from *Alexander Ross*:

Resolved, That the said Memorial be referred to the Standing Committee for *Indian* Affairs;

A Letter from *R. Dallam*, Deputy Paymaster-General, of the 6th; Whereupon,

Resolved, That an Order for £440, *Pennsylvania* currency, equal to 1,173 30-90 Dollars, be drawn on the Treasurer in favour of Colonel *Charles Read*, being in full of a Draft in his favour of the 6th instant, by *R. Dallam*, Deputy Paymaster-General, and that the same be charged to the account of *Richard Dallam*.

That 200,000 Dollars be sent to *Richard Dallam*, Deputy Paymaster-General, for the use of the Flying-Camp and Militia, he to be accountable.

A Letter of the 5th, from *Charles Preston*, Major of the Twenty-sixth Regiment:

Resolved, That it be referred to the Board of War

A Letter and Memorial from *William Wild*, of the 29th of *August*:

Resolved, That the same be referred to the Convention of *Pennsylvania*.

The State of *Virginia* having appointed, on the 23d of *July* last, *William Bready* to be Captain of a Rifle Company in the Battalion to be commanded by Colonel *Hugh Stevenson*; *William Pile* to be First Lieutenant of a Company in the said Battalion; *Christopher Bready* to be Second Lieutenant in a Company of the said Battalion; and *Amos Thompson* to be Chaplain to the said Battalion;

Resolved, That Commissions be granted to them accordingly.

Congress proceeded to the election of an Adjutant for the Battalion ordered to be raised in *Westmoreland* County; and, the ballots being taken,

Michael Hoofnagel was elected.

A Petition from *Charles Roberts*, master of the Schooner *Thistle*, was presented to Congress, and read.

Resolved, That *Mr. Bartlett*, *Mr. Stockton*, *Mr. Stone*, *Mr. F. L. Lee*, *Mr. Penn*, and *Mr. Walton*, be appointed members of the Committee on the cause of the miscarriages in *Canada*, in the room of those who are absent.

Resolved, That two Members be added to the Committee appointed on the 24th of *July* last to consider the proposal made by the President of *South-Carolina* respecting General *Lee*, in the room of those who are absent:

The Members chosen, *Mr. R. H. Lee* and *Mr. Walton*.

Resolved, That an Order for 1600 Dollars be drawn on the Treasurer, in favour of *David S. Franks*; for which he is to account on the settlement of his Accounts.

The State of *Rhode-Island* having recommended sundry gentlemen for Field Officers of the two Battalions raised in that State, Congress proceeded to the election: when *William Richmond* and *Christopher Lippit* were elected Colonels; *Caleb Gardner* and *Adam Comstock*, Lieutenant-Colonels; *Benjamin Tallman* and *James Tew*, Majors.

Resolved, That the Battalion commanded by Colonel *Lippit* be ordered to *New-York*, unless that commanded by Colonel *Richmond* has already marched.

Resolved, That *Mr. J. Mease* be directed to deliver to the Delegates of *Maryland* three pieces of coarse Cloths, for the use of the *Maryland* Troops; the said Delegates to be accountable.

Resolved, That *Mr. Risberg*, assistant to Colonel *Biddle*, be directed to take proper measures for providing the sick soldiers in *Philadelphia* with proper lodgings and attendance.

A Letter from Brigadier-General *McDonald* to the Board of War was read; Whereupon,

Resolved, That he be allowed four days to prepare for his journey:

That a copy of that part of his Letter respecting his treatment in *North-Carolina*, be sent to the Convention of that State.

Resolved, That a copy of the Resolutions passed by Congress on the message brought by General *Sullivan*, and the names of the Committee appointed, be sent to General *Washington*.

The Committee of Treasury reported, that there is due, To *Richard Welsh*, for his services as Clerk, for delivering Stores and Provisions in *Canada*, certified by *Henry Men-son*, in which service he entered the 24th of *April*, and was discharged the 7th of *June*, 1776, at 50-90ths of a Dollar per day, 25 Dollars:

To *Casper Carver*, for the hire of a Team from *York-Town*, in *Pennsylvania*, to *Williamsburg*, in *Virginia*, 16 days, at 4 Dollars a day, 64 Dollars; and for ferriages, 6 6-90 Dollars, and for the hire of another Team from *York-Town* to *New-York*, with Captain *Grier's* Company, 14 days, at 4 Dollars a day, and for ferriage, 3 54-90 Dollars; the whole being 129 60-90 Dollars:

To *John Sparhawk*, for two Maps, a Court Calendar, &c., for the War-Office, as per *R. Peters's* certificate, 10 60-90 Dollars:

To *John Bates*, for two hundred Camp-Kettles delivered to *C. Biddle*, Deputy Quartermaster-General, the 2d instant, 266 60-90 Dollars:

To the following persons, for which a Warrant is to be drawn in favour of Mons. *Rouville*, for the sum of 788 10-90 Dollars, the amount of his six Accounts, viz:

1. To hostages sent by General *Schuyler* to *Reading*, in *Pennsylvania*, namely: *Allan McDonald*, Sen., *Allan McDonald*, Jun., *Alexander McDonald*, *Rennel McDonald*, and *Archibald McDonald*, their allowance from the 4th of *June* to the 3d of *September*, both days inclusive, is 13 weeks, at 2 Dollars each, is, for the five, 130 Dollars, and for *Angus McDonald* and *George McDonald*, two servants, 13 weeks each, at one Dollar a week, 26 Dollars; of which they have received from the Committee of *Reading*, 27 3-90 Dollars; the balance 128 87-90 Dollars:

2. To Lieutenant *Simon Evans*, a prisoner sent from *Canada* to *Reading*, for expenses from *Montreal* to *Albany*, 12 Dollars; and allowance from the 10th of *February* to the 23d of *August*, inclusive, is 28 weeks, at 2 dollars a week, is, 56 Dollars; the whole 68 Dollars; of which he received from the Committee of *Esopus*, for 13 weeks' allowance, 26 Dollars; leaves a balance due to Lieutenant *Evans*, of 42 Dollars:

3. To Captain *Anstruther*, of the Twenty-Sixth Regiment, for his allowance from the 18th of *November* to the 23d of *August*, both days inclusive, is 40 weeks, at 2 Dollars a week, 80 Dollars:

4. To *Marcus Lucullus Royal*, Master of the *Gaspee*, taken the 19th of *November*, in the river *St. Lawrence*, for his allowance to the 22d of *August*, is 39 weeks and 4-7ths, at 2 Dollars a week, 79 Dollars and 13-90ths; of which he has received from the Committee of *Esopus*, 44 Dollars; the balance due to him is 35 Dollars and 13-90ths:

5. To the *Canadian* Prisoners at *Bristol*, viz: Mons. *St. Ours*, *Hervieux*, *Heurimont*, *de Chambault*, and *la Marque*, from the 3d of *November*, the time they were taken, to the 30th of *August*, inclusive, 43 weeks each, at 2 Dollars, 430 Dollars:

6. To *George McKenzie*, Mate of the Sloop *Hunter*, taken the 4th of *November*, to the 25th of *August*, inclusive, is 42 weeks, at 2 Dollars, 84 Dollars; of which he has received at *Albany*, 12 Dollars; the balance is 72 Dollars:

To the following persons, 564 and 85-90ths Dollars, namely: to *Adam Drinkhouse*, for his Team from *Philadelphia* to *Fredericksburg*, in *Virginia*, 29 days, at 4 Dollars, and ferriage 7 Dollars, is 123 Dollars; to *Martin Hausman*, *Bernard Keppelar*, and *Nathaniel Hoop*, who went on the same journey with their Teams, each 123 Dollars, is 369 Dollars; and to *Matthias Koop*, for the hire of his Wagon from *Philadelphia* to *Bergen Point*, with Powder, 9 days, at 4 Dollars, and ferriage, 2 Dollars and 35-90ths, is 38 and 35-90ths Dollars; and to *Andrew Read*, for the hire of his Wagon from *Philadelphia* to *New-York*, with Medicines, 8 days, at 4 Dollars a day, and ferriage, 2 Dollars and 50-90ths, is 34 and 50-90ths Dollars, and that the same ought to be paid to *Robert Erwin*, Wagonmaster General:

To *Joseph Hewes*, Esq., for cash advanced to the Guard going with five Wagons to *North-Carolina*, with wagon-hire, and casks for Powder, 140 and 25-90ths Dollars:

To *John Dennis*, for escorting Powder from *Egg-Harbour* to *Philadelphia*, by order of the Secret Committee, 35 and 23-90ths Dollars.

To Colonel *Jonas Clapham*, for 53 Rifle Guns bought of him for the use of Colonel *Hugh Stevenson's* Rifle Battalion, in *Virginia*, 896 and 52-90ths Dollars; which is to be charged to the said Battalion:

Ordered, That the above Accounts be paid.

Congress resumed the consideration of the Report of the Board of War; Whereupon,

Resolved, That all Letters to and from the Board of War and Ordnance, or the Secretary of the same, be free of all expense in the Post-Office of the *United States*.

The Board having reported, that they have considered the Petition of *Jeremiah Halsey*, and perused his written evidence, are of opinion, that the said *Halsey* ought to receive the arrears of his pay, and that the resolution of Congress of the 9th of *January* last be repealed: as it appears, that the said *Halsey* was discharged from the service, upon a regular certificate from the Surgeon, by the commanding officer at *St. John's*, on account of sickness, on the 13th day of *November* last, in pursuance of the order of General *Montgomery*; the Congress agreed to the said Report.

Congress proceeded to fill up the vacancies in the Second *Pennsylvania* Battalion; and the ballots being taken, *Joseph Wood*, Esq., was elected Colonel, *Thomas Craig*, Esq., was elected Lieutenant-Colonel, and *William Butler*, Esq., Major.

The several matters to this day referred being postponed, Adjourned to ten o'clock on *Monday*.

Monday, September 9, 1776.

Resolved, That four months' Pay, being 106 and 2-3ds Dollars, be advanced to Mons. *La Marquisie*, Captain and Engineer in the Northern Army, he to be accountable.

A Letter of the 6th, from General *Washington*, was read, and referred to the Board of War.

Resolved, That 500,000 Dollars be sent to the Paymaster-General, for the use of the Army at *New-York*.

Resolved, That a Committee of five be appointed to hear the parties on the appeal against the verdict and sentence of condemnation passed against the Schooner *Thistle* and her Cargo.

The Members chosen, Mr. *Stockton*, Mr. *Huntington*, Mr. *Paine*, Mr. *Wilson*, and Mr. *Stone*.

Resolved, That in all Continental Commissions and other Instruments where heretofore the words "*United Colonies*" have been used, the style be altered, for the future, to the "*United States*."

The Board of War brought in a Report, which was read.

Ordered, To lie on the table, to be taken into consideration to-morrow morning.

A Memorial from Mons. *Pannelier de la Falconniere* was read, and referred to the Marine Committee.

Congress proceeded to the election of a Quartermaster for the *German* Battalion; and the ballots being taken, *Frederick Seeger* was elected.

Resolved, That an Order for 136 Dollars be drawn on the Treasury, in favour of *George Meade & Co.*, the same being in full of a Draft of *Samuel Chase* and *Charles Carroll* of *Carrollton*, in favour of *John Vienne* or order, drawn at *Montreal*, 28th *May*, 1776; and that the same be charged to the account of the said Messrs. *Chase* and *Carroll*.

Resolved, That Mr. *J. Mease* be empowered to pay the Drafts of Captain *John Douglass* for such parts of the monthly pay of the Privates in his Company as he shall specify, and the same, as paid, be charged to the account of the said Captain.

The Committee of Treasury reported that there is due to *William Smith*, Continental Druggist, 2490 Dollars and 13-90ths.

Ordered, That the same be paid.

Three Petitions, one from *Pierre du Calvert*, another from *Jacques Pileur*, and the third from *Andre Pepin*, were read, and referred to the Board of War.

The several matters to this day referred being postponed, Adjourned to ten o'clock to-morrow.

Tuesday, September 10, 1776.

A Letter of the 8th, from General *Washington*, with sundry Papers enclosed, was read; Whereupon,

Resolved, That the President inform General *Washington* it was by no means the sense of Congress, in their Resolve of the 3d instant respecting *New-York*, that the

Army, or any part of it, should remain in that city a moment longer than he shall think it proper for the publick service that troops be continued there:

That the Letter from the General be referred to the Board of War.

A Letter of the 31st of *August*, from the Commissioners of *Indian* Affairs, at *Pittsburg*, was read, and referred to the Standing Committee for *Indian* Affairs.

Resolved, That Mr. *J. Mease* be directed to supply Captain *West*, of the *Virginia* Riflemen, with forty Blankets.

A Petition from *Jean Longeay*, and two from Colonel *Seth Warner*, with sundry Papers enclosed, were read.

Resolved, That the Petitions from Colonel *Warner*, with the Papers enclosed, be referred to the Commissioners appointed to audit and settle the accounts of the Army in the Northern Department.

A Letter of the 8th, from *M. Tilghman*, was read.

The Congress took into consideration the Report of the Board of War, and, after some time spent thereon,

Resolved, That this Congress will to-morrow resolve itself into a Committee of the Whole, to take into consideration the said Report.

Resolved, That Mr. *J. Mease* be directed to supply the Delegates of *Maryland* with forty Blankets, for the use of the Troops from that State.

Resolved, That 4,000 Dollars be sent to *Zebulon Butler*, Esq., for the use of the two Companies ordered to be raised in the Town of *Westmoreland*, he to be accountable for the same, and that the money be delivered to and forwarded by the *Connecticut* Delegates:

That Major *William Judd* be authorized to muster the said Companies.

Adjourned to ten o'clock to-morrow.

Wednesday, September 11, 1776.

Resolved, That an Order for 60,000 Dollars be drawn on the Treasurer, in favour of Mr. *J. Mease*, Commissary for the publick service, he to be accountable.

A Letter from *Joseph Trumbull*, Esq., Commissary-General, of the 7th, with sundry Papers enclosed, was read.

Resolved, That it be referred to a Committee of three, and that they be directed and empowered to inquire into the conduct of Mr. *Livingston*, Deputy Commissary-General in the Northern Department.

The Members chosen, Mr. *Lee*, Mr. *Hooper*, and Mr. *Sherman*.

Resolved, That Mr. *J. Mease*, Commissary, be directed to provide Clothing and other Necessaries for the First *Virginia* Battalion, now on their march to *New-York*.

A Memorial from *Stephen Pater de la Cossade* was read, and referred to the Marine Committee.

Also, a Memorial from *Seth Warner*, and one from Captains *Waite Hopkins* and *Gideon Brownson*, of Colonel *Warner's* Battalion, were read, and referred to the Board of War.

Resolved, That a Member be added to the Board of War, in the room of Colonel *Harrison*.

The Member chosen, Mr. *F. L. Lee*.

Congress resolved itself into a Committee of the Whole, to take into consideration the Report of the Board of War; and after some time the President resumed the chair, and Mr. *Nelson* reported that the Committee have taken into consideration the matter to them referred, and made some amendments therein, but not having had time to go through the whole, desired leave to sit again.

Resolved, That this Congress will to-morrow resolve itself into a Committee of the Whole, to take into consideration the Report of the Board of War.

The matters to this day referred being postponed,

Adjourned to ten o'clock to-morrow.

Thursday, September 12, 1776.

A Letter of the 31st of *August*, from *Joseph Wentworth* to the Secretary of Congress, with an appeal from the verdict and sentence passed on the trial of the Brigantine named the *Elizabeth*, was laid before Congress and read.

The Committee for *Indian Affairs*, to whom the Letter of the 31st of *August*, from the Commissioners in the Middle Department, was referred, brought in a Report, which was taken into consideration: Whereupon,

Resolved, That two tons of Powder and four tons of Lead be immediately sent to *Pittsburg*, to be disposed of as the Commissioners shall direct:

That the Resolution of Congress respecting the destination of the Battalion commanded by Colonel *M'Coy*, be suspended, and that the Commissioners for *Indian Affairs* in the Middle Department be empowered, during their stay at *Pittsburg*, to direct the operations of that Battalion:

That the measures adopted by the Commissioners, in the present critical situation of *Indian* affairs, is approved of by Congress, who have the greatest confidence in the prudence and vigilance of their future conduct.

Resolved, That an Order for 7000 Dollars be drawn on the Treasurer, in favour of Colonel *M'Coy*, for the use of his Battalion, he to be accountable.

Resolved, That application be made to the Committee of *Pennsylvania* for ten thousand Flints to be delivered to *George Morgan*, Esq.

The Committee to whom the Letter from *Joseph Trumbull*, Esq., with the Papers enclosed, was referred, reported,

"That having considered the same, and recurring to the Journal of Congress on Mr. *Trumbull's* appointment to the Commissariat, find the following Resolve on the 8th of *July*, 1776: 'That the Commissary-General have full power to supply both Armies, that upon the Lakes as well as that at *New-York*, and also to appoint and employ such persons under him, and to remove any Deputy Commissary, as he shall judge proper and expedient; it being absolutely necessary that the supply of both Armies should be under one direction:'" Whereupon,

Resolved, That the above Resolution is so clear and explicit, and so well contrived to procure the due and proper discharge of the Commissary's business, that the same ought to be adhered to, and immediately transmitted to the Commanding Officer in the Northern Department, and to the Commissary-General, as the full sense of Congress on the Commissary-General's right to direct the operations of his department, both as contractor and issuer of provisions; and that Mr. *Trumbull* be informed, Congress expect this will remove his difficulties, and induce his continuance in the office of Commissary for both Armies at *New-York* and on the Lakes.*

* IN CONGRESS, September 11, 1776.

A Letter from *Joseph Trumbull*, Esq., Commissary-General, with sundry Papers enclosed, was read:

Resolved, That it be referred to a Committee of three, and that they be directed and empowered to inquire into the conduct of Mr. *Livingston*, Deputy Commissary-General in the Northern Department.

The Members chosen: Mr. *Lee*, Mr. *Hooper*, and Mr. *Sherman*.

PHILADELPHIA, November 13, 1775.

Mr. *James Dean* says that on his passage from *Albany* to *New-York*, on board Captain *Legrange's* vessel, he heard one *Leach*, a merchant from *Schenectady*, say that he sold some provision to Mr. *Walter Livingston*, Commissary in the Northern Department, for the use of the army; that Mr. *Livingston* produced a receipt for him to sign for twenty-four pounds more than the sum he was to receive; that he refused to sign it, alleging that it would be unjust; that Mr. *Livingston* replied that if he had his due it would be no damage to him; and that he would not pay him unless he signed the receipt. Mr. *Leach* said he still refused to sign it, and told the Commissary that he would complain to Congress; but after some further altercation he told Mr. *Livingston* that for one half of the extra sum he would sign the receipt, which was complied with, and the articles of his account altered to correspond with the receipt. Flour was altered from sixteen shillings and six pence to eighteen shillings per cwt.; the price of peas increased nine pence per bushel, and three pence added to the price of each flour barrel. Mr. *Leach* mentioned at the same time another instance wherein Mr. *Livingston* demanded and took a receipt for eight pounds more than he paid for some service done for the publick, that amounted to about fifty pounds. Mr. *Leach's* due was about two hundred pounds. He signed a receipt for two hundred and twenty-four pounds. Captain *Legrange* and his wife, and Mr. *James Dean*, *Indian* Interpreter, were present on board the vessel, and heard the discourse aforesaid.

The Committee appointed to inquire into the conduct of Mr. *Livingston*, late Deputy Commissary-General in the Northern Department, report, as their opinion, that the inquiry ought to be made in the department where the business was transacted and the witnesses reside: Therefore,

Resolved, That it is the opinion of this Committee that the Commissioners appointed to settle Accounts in the Northern Department be empowered and directed to inquire into the conduct of *Walter Livingston*, Esq., late Deputy Commissary-General in said Department, as to his management of the business of said office, and that this Committee transmit to said Commissioners what information they have received on the subject, and suggest such matters as in their opinion may require the attention of said Commissioners in the course of the inquiry.

Congress then proceeded to the election of sundry officers; and the ballots being taken,

David M'Clure was elected Chaplain, and *Ephraim Douglass* Quartermaster of the Battalion commanded by Colonel *M'Coy*.

John Trumbull, Esq., was elected Deputy Adjutant-General of the Army in the Northern Department, and *Morgan Lewis*, Esq., Deputy Quartermaster-General of the said Army.

Resolved, That the Board of War be directed to order the *French* Officers who have received Commissions from Congress to repair immediately to the places of their destination.

Resolved, That Mr. *J. Mease* be directed to pay the First Battalion of *Virginia* Troops, on their march to *New-York*, the arrears due to them.

The Committee of *Treasury*, to whom the Petition of *George Nicholson* was referred, returned the same, and reported that it ought to be referred to the Board of War:

Resolved, That the said Petition be referred to the Board of War.

The Board of War brought in a Report, which was taken into consideration: Whereupon,

Resolved, As it appears from Colonel *Warner's* representation of the state of his Regiment, that Major *Painter's* appointment much obstructs the raising the said Regiment, that, therefore, Major *Painter* be directed to repair to the City of *Philadelphia*, that the matter may be inquired into, and that it be recommended to Colonel *Warner* and the other officers, that they proceed forthwith to raise their men and complete the Regiment, relying on the justice of Congress for the settlement of the uneasiness among them:

That the Militia at *New-York* be paid by the Paymaster-General there, before discharged.

Resolved, That the remainder of the Report be recommitted.

The Congress resolved itself into a Committee of the Whole, to take into their further consideration the Report of the Board of War; and after some time the President resumed the chair, and Mr. *Nelson* reported, that the Committee have had under consideration the matter to them referred, but not having come to a conclusion, desire leave to sit again.

Resolved, That this Congress will to-morrow resolve itself into a Committee of the Whole, to take into consideration the Report of the Board of War.

Resolved, That Mr. *J. Mease* be directed to deliver such a number of Blankets as he has belonging to the Continent to Captain *Watkins*, for the use of his Company, which is enlisted to serve during the war, not exceeding one to each man.

Adjourned to ten o'clock to-morrow.

Friday, September 13, 1776.

Two Letters, of the 7th and 11th, from General *Washington*; one of the 8th from General *Greene*, and a Resolution of the Committee of Safety of *Pennsylvania*, of the 13th, were read, and referred to the Board of War.

The Committee appointed to confer with Lord *Howe*, having returned, made a verbal Report.

Ordered, That they make a Report in writing as soon as conveniently they can.

The Committee of the *Treasury* reported, that there is due,

To *Peter Baker* for 1149 Rations supplied Colonel *Peter Grubb's* Battalion of Militia, and 204 Meals to different Companies of Militia, on their march to *New-Jersey*, 123 19-90 Dollars:

To *John Bates* for 266 Camp-Kettles, delivered to *Gustavus Risburg*, Assistant to the Deputy Quartermaster-General, for the Flying-Camp, 354 60-90 Dollars:

To *Richard Cheney* for 291 Meals supplied the Militia on their march to *New-Jersey*, 29 9-90 Dollars:

To *Charles Ford* for ten weeks' Board, Lodging, and Washing for *William Whiting*, a wounded Sergeant, from the 8th *June* to 17th *August*, ten weeks, at 1 1-3 Dollars per week, 13 30-90 Dollars:

To Major *Regonville*, Captain *Duchene*, Lieutenant

Smith, and Lieutenant *Demuraux*, Canadian prisoners, for their allowance from 3d November, 1775, to 6th September, 1776, inclusive, is 44 weeks, at 2 Dollars a week, 352 Dollars, and that the same be paid to Mons. *Regonville*.

To *Robert Towers*, for Artillery Stores for two three-pound travelling Cannon, ordered by *Joseph Hewes*, Esq., for the State of *North-Carolina*, 72 64-90 Dollars:

To *Graaf, M^cClenachan, Hollingsworth*, and *Grigson*, for which a Warrant is to be drawn in favour of the Hon. *Thomas Lynch*, Esq., for his expenses to and from *Williamsburg*, with the hire of a Wagon, with Money for *South-Carolina*, 267 32-90 Dollars:

To *Joseph Beck* going Express from *Philadelphia* to *Virginia*, 340 miles, at 1-6 of a Dollar, 56 Dollars:

To *Michael Millenberger*, for five days' use of his two-horse Wagons, in transporting the sick Troops in *New-Jersey*, of Captain *Brown's* Company, 13 30-90 Dollars:

To *Frederick Bicking*, for 221 reams of Paper for Continental Currency, at 6 84-90 Dollars a ream, 1532 24-90 Dollars:

To *William Clayton*, for 338 Meals of victuals, supplied the Militia on their march to *New-Jersey*, 32 72-90 Dollars:

Ordered, That the said Accounts be paid.

Two Letters of the 8th, from General *Schuyler*, with sundry Papers enclosed; one from *Walter Livingston*, of the 7th; and one of the 12th of August, from Brigadier-General *Armstrong*, were read:

Ordered, That the foregoing Letters, with the Papers enclosed in that from General *Schuyler*, except what relates to General *Montgomery's* Accounts, be referred to the Board of War, and that the Papers relative to the said Accounts be referred to the Board of Treasury.

Congress then resolved itself into a Committee of the Whole to take into consideration the Report of the Board of War; and, after some time, the President resumed the chair, and Mr. *Nelson* reported, that the Committee have had under consideration the matter referred to them, but, not having yet come to a conclusion, desired leave to sit again.

Resolved, That this Congress will, to-morrow, resolve itself into a Committee of the Whole, to take into consideration the Report of the Board of War.

Adjourned to ten o'clock to-morrow.

Saturday, September 14, 1776.

A Letter from *R. H. Harrison*, Secretary to General *Washington*, was read.

Four French Officers, who arrived in the *Reprisal*, Captain *Weeks*, being recommended to Congress,

Resolved, That they be referred to the Board of War.

The Board of War brought in a Report, which was taken into consideration; Whereupon,

Resolved, That the Officers of Militia, when on their march, and while in service, be allowed Rations like the Officers on the Continental Establishment, without any allowance of Mileage:

That the Commander-in-Chief in the Northern Army be directed to erect Barracks and other accommodations in the most convenient places in that department, and provide Magazines of Straw, Fuel, and other necessaries for winter quarters, for such number of Troops as he shall think proper:

That General *Schuyler* be informed that his Letter of the 16th of last month was duly received, and referred to the Committee appointed to inquire into the causes of the miscarriages in *Canada*:

That Captain *Martindale* and Lieutenant *Turner* be allowed their Pay and Rations to this time, and that they be referred to the Treasury Board for a settlement of their Accounts:

That fifteen tons of Powder, twenty thousand Flints, ten tons of Lead, and one hundred reams of Cartridge-paper, be immediately sent to General *Gates*, for the use of the Army in the Northern Department:

That Brigadier-General *Armstrong* have leave to return from *South-Carolina* to *Philadelphia*:

That Deputy-Commissary *Livingston's* Resignation be accepted:

That Captains *Wait Hopkins* and *Gideon Brownson* be referred to the Commissioners appointed to audit Accounts in the Northern Department, for a settlement of their Accounts:

That all Continental Troops and Militia going home from service, restore all Continental Arms and other property, and also all Ammunition remaining in their possession at the time of their being about to return. Their pay to be withheld unless they produce certificates from the Commissary of Stores, or Quartermaster-General, or their Deputies in the Department where such Continental Troops or Militia shall serve. And if any Continental property or ammunition be carried away by the Militia before this Resolve, stoppages to be made from such as have not received their pay, and that measures be taken with those who have been paid by the Councils of Safety, or Legislatures of each State, for the restoration of such Continental property and ammunition.

A Memorial from *Jonathan Glover* was read, and referred to the Marine Committee.

A Letter of the 9th, from General *Lee* to the Board of War, was laid before Congress and read.

A Petition from Captains *Joseph Gardner, James McDowell, John McDowell, Samuel Evans, Ephraim Blackburn*, and *Stephen Cochran*, was read.

Resolved That 25,000 Dollars be advanced to the State of *Maryland*, which is to be accountable for the same.

The Committees of *Westmoreland* and *Bedford* having, in pursuance of the Resolution of Congress of the 15th July, recommended *Van Swearingen, Moses Carson, Samuel Miller, James Piggott, Wendal Oury, David Killgore, Eliezer Miers*, and *Andrew Mann*, for Captains in the Regiment commanded by Colonel *McCoy*; and

Robert Mosley First Lieutenant, *William Thompson* Second Lieutenant, and *Benjamin Neely* Ensign, in Captain *Van Swearingen's* Company;

John Findly First Lieutenant, *Alexander Sumrall* Second Lieutenant, and *Joseph Kerr* Ensign, in Captain *Carson's* Company;

Matthew Jack First Lieutenant, *James Guthry* Second Lieutenant, and *John Simms* Ensign, in Captain *Miller's* Company;

Ezekiel Hickman First Lieutenant, *Philip Rodgers* Second Lieutenant, and *David Wherry* Ensign, in Captain *Piggott's* Company;

Richard Carson First Lieutenant, *Samuel Smith* Second Lieutenant, and *Devalt Mecklin* Ensign, in Captain *Oury's* Company;

William M. Geary First Lieutenant, *William Mountz* Second Lieutenant, and *Fealty Weaver* Ensign, in Captain *Killgore's* Company;

James McDowell First Lieutenant, *James Beelor, Jun.*, Second Lieutenant, and *John Reed* Ensign, in Captain *Miers's* Company;

Thomas Cook First Lieutenant, *John Crawford* Second Lieutenant, and *Aquilla White* Ensign, in Captain *Mann's* Company:

Resolved, That they be accepted, and that Commissions be granted to them accordingly.

Whereas the Delegates of *South-Carolina* have represented that, by an arrangement made by Congress on the 18th day of June last, the Regiment of Artillery and two Regiments of Riflemen raised in that Province will obtain precedence over a Regiment of Rangers, though the latter was raised before either of the former, which may be attended with consequences extremely prejudicial to the service; Therefore,

Resolved, That the said Regiment of Rangers, commanded by Colonel *William Thompson*, do still keep the same station it had in the Provincial arrangement, and be entitled to rank in the same way as other regiments in the Continental service.

The several matters to this day referred being postponed, Adjourned to ten o'clock on Monday.

Monday, September 16, 1776.

A Letter of the 14th, from General *Washington*; one of the 9th, from General *Schuyler*, enclosing a copy of one

from General *Gates*, dated the 6th; and one of the 2d, from General *Gates*, with sundry Papers enclosed, were read, and referred to the Board of War.

A Letter of the 2d, from General *Schuyler*, was also read:

Ordered, That this be referred to the Committee on Indian Affairs.

There being sundry vacancies in Colonel *Warner's* Battalion, Congress proceeded to the election of Officers to fill up the same; when, the ballots being taken,

John Fasset and — *McUne* were elected Captains in the room of *John Grant* and *Jacob Vorsborough*, who have declined to accept their Commissions on account of their ill state of health;

Joseph Safford, *Thomas Ranson*, *John Chipman*, and *Robert Torrence*, First Lieutenants in the room of — *Dean*, deceased, *Woolbridge* and *Allen*, who decline serving, and *J. Fassett*, promoted; *Benjamin Hopkins*, Adjutant.

Resolved, That there be an addition of three Brigadiers-General in the Continental Army, and that Congress proceed immediately to the choice:

The ballots being taken, *Christopher Gadsden*, *William Moultrie*, and *Lachlan McIntosh*, were elected.

A Letter of the 31st of *August*, from Brigadier-General *Lewis*, and one of the 30th of the same month, from *William Rickman*, Director of the Hospital in the Southern Department, were read:

Ordered, That the Letter from *W. Rickman* be referred to the Medical Committee.

Resolved, That 50,000 Dollars be advanced to the Delegates of *Georgia*, for the use of the Continental Troops in that State, the said Delegates to be accountable.

Resolved, That to-morrow be assigned for appointing Commissioners to audit the Publick Accounts in *Virginia*.

It being represented by the Delegates of *North-Carolina*, that, from late accounts, it appears that the situation of affairs in that State is such as to render it dangerous, if not impracticable, to execute the Resolution of Congress of the 3d instant, ordering two of the *North-Carolina* Battalions, under the command of Brigadier-General *Moore*, to march to reinforce the Army at *New-York*; Whereupon,

Resolved, That it be left to the discretion of the Council of Safety of *North-Carolina*, to execute or suspend that Resolution, according as they shall think it most conducive to the publick service, and the safety of their particular State.

Congress then resolved itself into a Committee of the Whole, to take into consideration the Report of the Board of War; and, after some time, the President resumed the Chair, and Mr. *Nelson* reported, that the Committee have had under consideration the Report from the Board of War, and have made sundry amendments, which they ordered him to lay before Congress:

Congress then took into consideration the Report of the Board of War, and the amendments offered by the Committee of the Whole; and, thereupon, came to the following Resolutions:

That eighty-eight Battalions be inlisted as soon as possible, to serve during the present war, and that each State furnish their respective quotas in the following proportions, viz:

<i>New-Hampshire</i> , - - - - -	3 Battalions.
<i>Massachusetts-Bay</i> , - - - - -	15 do.
<i>Rhode-Island</i> , - - - - -	2 do.
<i>Connecticut</i> , - - - - -	8 do.
<i>New-York</i> , - - - - -	4 do.
<i>New-Jersey</i> , - - - - -	4 do.
<i>Pennsylvania</i> , - - - - -	12 do.
<i>Delaware</i> , - - - - -	1 do.
<i>Maryland</i> , - - - - -	8 do.
<i>Virginia</i> , - - - - -	15 do.
<i>North-Carolina</i> , - - - - -	9 do.
<i>South-Carolina</i> , - - - - -	6 do.
<i>Georgia</i> , - - - - -	1 do.

That twenty Dollars be given as a bounty to each Non-Commissioned Officer and Private Soldier, who shall

inlist to serve during the present war, unless sooner discharged by Congress:

That Congress make provision for granting Lands, in the following proportions: to the Officers and Soldiers who shall so engage in the service, and continue therein to the close of the war, or until discharged by Congress, and to the representatives of such Officers and Soldiers as shall be slain by the enemy:

Such lands to be provided by the *United States*, and whatever expense shall be necessary to procure such land, the said expense shall be paid and borne by the States in the same proportion as the other expenses of the war, viz:

To a Colonel, 500 acres; to a Lieutenant-Colonel, 450; to a Major, 400; to a Captain, 300; to a Lieutenant, 200; to an Ensign, 150; each Non-commissioned Officer and Soldier, 100:

That the appointment of all Officers, and filling up vacancies, (excepting General Officers,) be left to the Governments of the several States, and that every State provide Arms, Clothing, and every necessary for its quota of troops, according to the foregoing estimate: The expense of the Clothing to be deducted from the pay of the Soldiers, as usual:

That all Officers be commissioned by Congress:

That it be recommended to the several States, that they take the most speedy and effectual measures for inlisting their several quotas:

That the money to be given for Bounties be paid by the Paymaster in the Department where the Soldiers shall inlist:

That each Soldier receive pay and subsistence from the time of inlistment.

The Committee of Treasury reported, that there is due,

To *Adam Zantzinger*, for the expense of five Light-Horse escorting Money to *New-York*, and one from thence to *Albany*, 94 64-90 Dollars:

To *John Bates*, for 300 Camp-Kettles delivered to *Gustavus Risberg*, 400 Dollars:

To *Philip Baker*, for 289 Meals of victuals, supplied Captains *Grier's* and *Nelson's* Companies of Continental Troops, 18 31-90 Dollars:

To *David Tryon*, *William Green*, *Peter Peterson*, *George Landers*, and *Samuel Brush*, for the hire of their Shallops, with Continental Troops and Baggage, from *Wilmington* to *Trenton*, 104 Dollars:

Ordered, That the said Accounts be paid.

Resolved, That to-morrow be assigned for taking into consideration the Articles of War.

The several matters to this day referred being postponed, Adjourned to ten o'clock to-morrow.

Tuesday, September 17, 1776.

A Letter, of the 23d of *August*, from *V. De Coetiry Prejent*, was read:

Resolved, That the same, with the Papers enclosed, be referred to the Marine Committee.

The State of *Maryland* having recommended *Thomas Beale*, Esq., to be Captain; *Peter Contee Hanson*, First Lieutenant; *James Lingan*, Esq., Second Lieutenant; and *Richard Dorsey*, Third Lieutenant, in Colonel *Stevenson's* Battalion; and *Elijah Evans*, to be a Third Lieutenant in the said Battalion, in the room of *Henry Hardman*, who has resigned,

Resolved, That they be accepted, and Commissions granted accordingly.

The Committee appointed to confer with Lord *Howe*, agreeable to the order of Congress, brought in a Report in writing, which was read, as follows:

"In obedience to the orders of Congress, we have had a meeting with Lord *Howe*. It was on *Wednesday* last, upon *Staten-Island*, opposite to *Amboy*, where his Lordship received and entertained us with the utmost politeness.

"His Lordship opened the conversation, by acquainting us, that, though he could not treat with us as a Committee of Congress, yet, as his powers enabled him to confer and consult with any private gentlemen of influence in the Colonies, on the means of restoring peace between the two countries, he was glad of this opportunity of conferring with us on that subject, if we thought ourselves at liberty to

enter into a conference with him in that character. We observed to his Lordship, that, as our business was to hear, he might consider us in what light he pleased, and communicate to us any propositions he might be authorized to make for the purpose mentioned; but that we could consider ourselves in no other character than that in which we were placed, by order of Congress. His Lordship then entered into a discourse of a considerable length, which contained no explicit proposition of peace, except one, namely, that the Colonies should return to their allegiance and obedience to the government of *Great Britain*. The rest consisted principally of assurances, that there was an exceeding good disposition in the King and his Ministers to make that government easy to us, with intimations, that, in case of our submission, they would cause the offensive acts of Parliament to be revised, and the instructions to Governors to be reconsidered: that so, if any just causes of complaint were found in the acts, or any errors in government were perceived to have crept into the instructions, they might be amended or withdrawn.

"We gave it as our opinion to his Lordship, that a return to the domination of *Great Britain* was not now to be expected. We mentioned the repeated humble petitions of the Colonies to the King and Parliament, which had been treated with contempt, and answered only by additional injuries; the unexampled patience we had shown under their tyrannical Government, and that it was not till the last act of Parliament which denounced war against us, and put us out of the King's protection, that we declared our independence; that this declaration had been called for by the people of the Colonies in general; that every Colony had approved of it, when made, and all now considered themselves as independent States, and were settling, or had settled, their Governments accordingly; so, that it was not in the power of Congress to agree for them, that they should return to their former dependent state; that there was no doubt of their inclination to peace, and their willingness to enter into a treaty with *Great Britain* that might be advantageous to both countries; that though his Lordship had, at present, no power to treat with them as independent States, he might, if there was the same good disposition in *Britain*, much sooner obtain fresh powers from thence, for that purpose, than powers could be obtained by Congress, from the several Colonies, to consent to a submission.

"His Lordship then saying, that he was sorry to find that no accommodation was like to take place, put an end to the conference.

"Upon the whole, it did not appear to your Committee, that his Lordship's commission contained any other authority than that expressed in the act of Parliament, namely, that of granting pardons, with such exceptions as the Commissioners shall think proper to make, and of declaring *America*, or any part of it, to be in the King's peace, upon submission; for, as to the power of inquiring into the state of *America*, which his Lordship mentioned to us, and of conferring and consulting with any persons the Commissioners might think proper, and representing the result of such conversations to the Ministry, who, provided the Colonies would subject themselves, might, after all, or might not, at their pleasure make any alterations in the former instructions to Governors, or propose in Parliament any amendment of the acts complained of, we apprehended any expectation from the effect of such a power would have been too uncertain and precarious to be relied on by *America*, had she still continued in her state of dependence."

Ordered, That the foregoing Report, and also the Message from Lord *Howe*, as delivered by General *Sullivan*, and the Resolution of Congress in consequence thereof, be published by the Committee who brought in the foregoing Report.

Ordered, That the said Committee publish Lord *Drummond's* Letters to General *Washington*, and the General's Answers.

Sundry Resolutions being moved and seconded, in addition to those passed yesterday, relative to the new Army: after debate,

Resolved, That they be referred to the Board of War.

A Letter of the 10th, from Brigadier-General *Lewis* was read; also, a Letter of the 13th, from *James Forrest* was read, and referred to the Board of War.

Congress took into consideration the plan of Treaties* to be proposed to foreign nations, with the amendments agreed to by the Committee of the Whole; and the same was agreed to.

Resolved, That the following plan of a Treaty be proposed to His Most Christian Majesty:

Plan of a Treaty with FRANCE.

There shall be a firm, inviolable, and universal peace, and a true and sincere friendship, between the Most Serene and Mighty Prince, *Lewis* the Sixteenth, the most Christian King, his heirs and successors, and the *United States of America*; and the subjects of the Most Christian King, and of the said States; and between the countries, islands, cities, and towns, situate under the jurisdiction of the Most Christian King, and of the said *United States*, and the people and inhabitants thereof of every degree; without exception of persons or places. And the terms herein mentioned shall be perpetual between the Most Christian King, his heirs and successors, and the said *United States*.

ARTICLE I. The subjects of the Most Christian King shall pay no other duties, or imposts, in the ports, havens, roads, countries, islands, cities, or towns, of the said *United States*, or any of them, than the natives thereof, or any commercial companies established by them, or any of them, shall pay, but shall enjoy all other the rights, liberties, privileges, immunities, and exemptions in trade, navigation, and commerce, in passing from one part thereof to another, and in going to and from the same, from and to any part of the world, which the said natives or companies enjoy.

ARTICLE II. The subjects, people, and inhabitants, of the said *United States*, and every of them, shall pay no other duties, or imposts, in the ports, havens, roads, countries, islands, cities, or towns of the Most Christian King, than

* *Plan of Treaties gone through in Committee of the Whole, August 27, 1776, and recommitted, that Instructions may be drawn conformable thereto.*

August 29, 1776.—The Committee further empowered to prepare such Instructions as to them shall seem proper, and make report thereof to Congress.

There shall be a firm, inviolable, and universal peace, and a true and sincere friendship between *A*. and *B*., and the subjects of *A*. and of *B*., and between the countries, islands, cities, and towns, situate under the jurisdiction of *A*. and of *B*., and the people and inhabitants thereof of every degree, without exception of persons or places; and the terms hereinafter mentioned shall be perpetual between *A*. and *B*.

I. The subjects of *A*. shall pay no other duties or imposts in the ports, havens, roads, countries, islands, cities, or towns of *B*., than the natives thereof, or any commercial companies established therein shall pay, but shall enjoy all other the rights, liberties, privileges, immunities, and exemptions in trade, navigation, and commerce, in passing from one part thereof to another, and in going to and from the same, from and to any part of the world, which the said natives or companies enjoy.

II. The subjects of *B*. shall pay no other duties or imposts in the ports, havens, roads, countries, islands, cities, or towns of *A*., than the natives thereof, or any commercial companies established therein; but shall enjoy all other the rights, liberties, privileges, immunities, and exemptions in trade, navigation, and commerce, in passing from one part thereof to another, and in going to and from the same from and to any part of the world, which the said natives or companies enjoy.

III. *A*. shall endeavour by all the means in his power, to protect and defend all vessels, and the effects belonging to the subjects and people of *B*. being in his ports, havens, or roads, or on the seas near to his countries, islands, cities, or towns, and to recover and restore to the right owners, their agents, or attorneys, all such vessels and effects which shall be taken within his jurisdiction; and his ships of war or any convoys sailing under his authority, shall upon all occasions take under their protection all vessels belonging to the subjects or people of *B*., and holding the same course, or going the same way, and shall defend such vessel so long as they hold the same course or go the same way, against all attacks, force, and violence, in the same manner as they ought to protect and defend vessels belonging to the subjects or people of *A*.

IV. In like manner *B*. and his ships of war, and convoys sailing under his authority, shall protect and defend all vessels and effects belonging to the subjects or people of *A*., and endeavour to recover and restore them, if taken in his jurisdiction.

V. *A*. and *B*. shall not receive nor suffer to be received into any of their ports, havens, roads, countries, islands, cities, or towns, any pirates or sea-robbers, or afford or suffer any entertainment, assistance, or provision to be afforded to them, but shall endeavour by all means that all pirates and sea-robbers and their partners, sharers, and abettors be found out, apprehended, and suffer condign punishment; and all the vessels and effects piratically taken and brought into the ports and havens of *A*. or *B*., which can be found, although they be sold, shall be restored, or satisfaction given therefor, to the right owners, their agents or attorneys demanding the same, and making the right of property to appear by due proof.

VI. *A*. shall protect, defend, and secure, as far as in his power, the subjects or people of *B*., and their vessels and effects of every kind, against all attacks, assaults, violences, injuries, depredations, or plunderings by or from the King or Emperor of *Morocco* or *Fez*, and the States of *Algiers*, *Tunis*, and *Tripoli*, and any of them, and every other Prince, State, and Power on the coast of *Barbary*, in *Africa*, and the subjects of the said Kings, Emperors, &c., in as full a manner, &c.

VII. If, in consequence of this treaty, the of should declare war against *A*., the said *B*. shall not assist with men, money, ships, or any of the articles in this treaty denominated contraband

the natives of such countries, islands, cities, or towns of *France*, or any commercial companies established by the Most Christian King, shall pay, but shall enjoy all other the rights, liberties, privileges, immunities, and exemptions in trade, navigation, and commerce, in passing from one port thereof to another, and in going to and from the same, from and to any part of the world, which the said natives or companies enjoy.

ARTICLE III. His Most Christian Majesty shall retain the same rights of fishery on the banks of *Newfoundland*, and all other rights relating to any of the said islands, which he is entitled to by virtue of the treaty of *Paris*.

ARTICLE IV. The Most Christian King shall endeavour, by all the means in his power, to protect and defend all vessels, and the effects belonging to the subjects, people, or inhabitants of the said *United States*, or any of them, being in his ports, havens, or roads, or on the seas near to his countries, lands, cities, or towns; and to recover and to restore to the right owners, their agents, or attorneys, all such vessels and effects which shall be taken within his jurisdiction; and his ships of war, or any convoys sailing under his authority, shall upon all occasions take under their protection all vessels belong to the subjects, people, or inhabitants, of the said *United States*, or any of them, and holding the same course or going the same way; and shall defend such vessels as long as they hold the same course or go the same way, against all attacks, force, and violence, in the same manner as they ought to protect and defend vessels belonging to the subjects of the Most Christian King.

ARTICLE V. In like manner the said *United States*, and their ships of war, and convoys sailing under their authority, shall protect and defend all vessels and effects belonging to the subjects of the Most Christian King; and endeavour

goods, or in any other way. And if *A.*, to favour the said *B.*, shall join in the present war against *A.*, shall not make a separate peace.

VIII. In case of any war between *A.* and *B.*, *A.* shall never invade, nor attempt to invade, or get possession for himself of *B.*, nor any of the countries, cities, or towns, on the continent of *B.*, nor of the islands of *B.*, nor any other island near to the said continent, in the seas, or in any gulf, bay, or river thereof, it being the true intent and meaning of this treaty, that the said *B.* shall have the sole, exclusive, undivided, and perpetual possession of all the countries, cities, and towns, on the said continent, and of all islands near to it, whenever they be confederated or united with *B.*

That *A.* be permitted to retain the same rights of fishery on the banks of *Newfoundland*, and all other rights relating to any the said islands, which he is entitled to by virtue of the treaty of *Paris*.

IX. Nor shall *A.* at any time make any claim or demand to the said countries, islands, cities, and towns mentioned in the next preceding article, or any of them, or to any part thereof, for or on account of any assistance afforded to *B.* in attacking or conquering the same, or in obtaining such submission or confederation as has been mentioned in the preceding articles, nor on any other account whatever.

X. If in any war *A.* shall conquer or get possession of *B.*, now under the jurisdiction of *A.*, or any of them, or any dominions of *B.*, in *B.*, the subjects or people of *B.* shall enjoy the same rights, liberties, privileges, immunities, and exemptions in trade, commerce, and navigation, to and from the said *B.*, that are mentioned in the second article in this treaty.

XI. It is the true intent and meaning of this treaty, that no higher or other duties shall be imposed on the exportation to *B.* of any thing of the growth, production, or manufacture of *B.*, now belonging to, or which may hereafter belong to *A.*, than the lowest that are or shall be imposed on the exportation thereof to *A.*, or to any other part of the world.

XII. It is agreed by and between the said parties, that no duties whatever more than *A.* shall ever hereafter be imposed on the exportation of *B.* from any of the islands and dominions of *A.* to *B.*

XIII. The subjects or people of *B.* being merchants and residing in *B.*, and their property and effects, shall be exempt from *A.*

XIV. The merchant ship of either of the parties, which shall be making into a port belonging to the enemy of the other ally, and concerning whose voyage, and the species of goods on board her, there shall be just grounds of suspicion, shall be obliged to exhibit, as well upon the high seas as in the ports and havens, not only her passports, but likewise certificates expressly showing that her goods are not of the number of those which have been prohibited as contraband.

XV. If, by the exhibiting of the abovesaid certificates, the other party discover there are any of those sorts of goods which are prohibited and declared contraband, and consigned for a port under the obedience of his enemies, it shall not be lawful to break up the hatches of such ship, or to open any chest, coffers, packs, casks, or any other vessels found therein, or to remove the smallest parcels of her goods, whether such belong to the subjects or people of *A.* or *B.*, unless the lading be brought on shore in the presence of the officers of the Court of Admiralty, and an inventory thereof made, but there shall be no allowance made to sell, exchange, or alienate the same in any manner, until after that due and lawful process shall have been had against such prohibited goods, and the Court of Admiralty shall, by a sentence pronounced, have confiscated the same, saving always as well the ship itself as any other goods found therein, which by this treaty are to be esteemed free; neither may they be detained on pretence of their being, as it were, infected by the prohibited goods, much less shall they be confiscated as lawful prize; but if not the whole cargo, but only part thereof, shall consist of prohibited or contraband goods, and the commander of the ship shall be ready and willing to deliver them to the captor who has discovered them, in such case the captor, having received those goods,

to recover and restore them, if taken within the jurisdiction of the said *United States*, or any of them.

ARTICLE VI. The Most Christian King and the said *United States*, shall not receive nor suffer to be received, into any of their ports, havens, roads, countries, islands, cities, or towns, any pirates or sea-robbers, or afford or suffer any entertainment, assistance, or provision, to be afforded to them; but shall endeavour by all means, that all pirates and sea-robbers, and their partners, sharers, and abettors, be found out, apprehended, and suffer condign punishment; and all the vessels and effects piratically taken, and brought into the ports and havens of the Most Christian King, or the said *United States*, which can be found, although they be sold, shall be restored, or satisfaction given therefor: the right owners, their agents, or attorneys, demanding the same, and making the right of property to appear by due proof.

ARTICLE VII. The Most Christian King shall protect, defend, and secure, as far as in his power, the subjects, people, and inhabitants of the said *United States*, and every of them, and their vessels and effects of every kind, against all attacks, assaults, violences, injuries, depredations, or plunderings, by or from the King or Emperor of *Morocco* or *Fez*, and the States of *Algiers*, *Tunis*, and *Tripoli*, and any of them, and every other Prince, State, and Power on the coast of *Barbary*, in *Africa*, and the subjects of the said King, Emperor, States, and Powers, and every of them, in the same manner, and as effectually and fully, and as much to the benefit, advantage, ease, and safety of the said *United States*, and every of them, and of the subjects, people, and inhabitants thereof, to all intents and purposes, as the King and Kingdom of *Great Britain*, before the commencement of the present war, protected, defended, and

shall forthwith discharge the ship, and not hinder her by any means freely to prosecute the voyage on which she was bound.

XVI. On the contrary it is agreed, that whatever shall be found to be laden by the subjects or people of either party, on any ship belonging to the enemy of the other, or to his subjects, although it be not of the sort of prohibited goods, may be confiscated in the same manner as if it belonged to the enemy himself, except such goods and merchandises as were put on board such ship before the declaration of war, or even after such declaration, if so be it were done without the knowledge of such declaration. So that the goods of the subjects and people of either party, whether they be of the nature of such as are prohibited or otherwise, which, as is aforesaid, were put on board any ship belonging to an enemy before the war, or after the declaration of it without knowledge of it, shall nowise be liable to confiscation, but shall well and truly be restored without delay to the proprietors demanding the same, but so as that if the said merchandises be contraband, it shall not be any ways lawful to carry them afterwards to any ports belonging to the enemy.

XVII. And that the more effectual care may be taken for the security of the subjects and people of both parties, that they suffer no injury by the men-of-war or privateers of the other party, all the commanders of the ships of *A.* and of *B.*, and all their subjects and people, shall be forbid doing any injury or damage to the other side; and if they act to the contrary they shall be punished, and moreover shall be bound to make satisfaction for all matter of damage and the interest thereof, by reparation, under the pain and obligation of their person and goods.

XVIII. All ships and merchandises, of what nature soever, which shall be rescued out of the hands of any pirates or robbers on the high seas, shall be brought into some port of either State, and shall be delivered to the custody of the officers of that port, in order to be restored entire to the true proprietor as soon as due and sufficient proof shall be made concerning the property thereof.

XIX. It shall be lawful for the ships of war of either party, and privateers, freely to carry whithersoever they please, the ships and goods taken from their enemies, without being obliged to pay any duty to the officers of the Admiralty or any other judges: nor shall such prizes be arrested or seized where they come to and enter the ports of either party; nor shall the searchers or other officers of those places search the same, or make examination concerning the lawfulness of such prizes; but they may hoist sail at any time, and depart and carry their prizes to the place expressed in their commissions, which the commanders of such ships of war shall be obliged to show. On the contrary, no shelter or refuge shall be given in their ports to such as shall have made prizes of the subjects, people, or property of either parties; but if such should come in, being forced by stress of weather or the danger of the sea, all proper means shall be vigorously used, that they go out and retire from thence as soon as possible.

XX. If any ships belonging to either of the parties, their subjects or people, shall, within the coasts or dominions of the other, stick upon the sands or be wrecked, or suffer any other damage, all friendly assistance and relief shall be given to the persons shipwrecked, or such as shall be in danger thereof; and letters of safe conduct shall likewise be given to them for their free and quiet passage from thence, and the return of every one to his own country.

XXI. In case the subjects and people of either party, with their shipping, whether publick and of war, or private and of merchants, be forced, through stress of weather, pursuit of pirates or enemies, or any other urgent necessity, for seeking of shelter and harbour, to retreat and enter into any of the rivers, creeks, bays, havens, roads, ports, or shores belonging to the other party, they shall be received and treated with all humanity and kindness, and enjoy all friendly protection and help; and they shall be permitted to refresh and provide themselves at reasonable rates with victuals and all things needful for the sustenance of their persons or reparation of their ships and conveniency of their voyage; and they shall no ways be detained or hindered from returning.

secured the people and inhabitants of the said *United States*, then called *British Colonies* in *America*, their vessels and effects, against all such attacks, assaults, violences, injuries, depredations, and plunderings.

ARTICLE VIII. If, in consequence of this treaty, the King of *Great Britain* should declare war against the Most Christian King, the said *United States* shall not assist *Great Britain* in such war with men, money, ships, or any the articles in this treaty denominated "contraband goods."

ARTICLE IX. The Most Christian King shall never invade, nor, under any pretence, attempt to possess himself of *Labrador*, *New-Britain*, *Nova-Scotia*, *Acadia*, *Canada*, *Florida*, nor any of the countries, cities, or towns on the Continent of *North America*, nor of the Islands of *Newfoundland*, *Cape Breton*, *St. John's*, *Anticosti*, nor of any other island lying near to the said continent in the seas, or in any gulph, bay, or river, it being the true intent and meaning of this treaty, that the said *United States* shall have the sole, exclusive, undivided, and perpetual possession of the countries, cities, and towns on the said continent, and of all islands near to it, which now are, or lately were under the jurisdiction of, or subject to the King or Crown of *Great Britain*, whenever they shall be united or confederated with the said *United States*.

ARTICLE X. The subjects, inhabitants, merchants, commanders of ships, masters and mariners of the States, Provinces, and dominions of each party respectively, shall abstain and forbear to fish in all places possessed, or which shall be possessed by the other party. The Most Christian King's subjects shall not fish in the havens, bays, creeks, roads, coasts, or places which the said *United States* hold, or shall hereafter hold; and, in like manner, the subjects, people, and inhabitants of the said *United States* shall not fish in

out of the said ports or roads, but may remove and depart when and whither they please, without any let or hindrance.

XXII. The subjects, inhabitants, merchants, commanders of ships, masters and mariners of the States, Provinces, and dominions of each party respectively, shall abstain and forbear to fish in all places possessed, or which shall be possessed, by the other party. *A.*'s subjects shall not fish in the havens, bays, creeks, roads, coasts, or places which *B.* holds, or shall hereafter hold; and, in the like manner, the subjects and people of *B.* shall not fish in the havens, bays, creeks, roads, coasts, or places which *A.* possesses, or shall hereafter possess; and if any ship or vessel shall be found fishing contrary to the tenour of this treaty, the said ship or vessel, with its lading, proof being made thereof, shall be confiscated.

XXIII. For the better promoting of commerce on both sides, it is agreed, that if a war shall break out between the said two nations, six months after the proclamation of war shall be allowed to the merchants in the cities and towns where they live, for settling and transporting their goods and merchandises; and if any thing be taken from them, or any injury be done them within that term by either party, or the people or subjects of either, full satisfaction shall be made for the same.

XXIV. No subjects of *A.* shall apply for or take any commission or letters of marque for arming any ship or ships to act as privateers against *B.*, or the subjects or people of *B.*, or any of them, or the property of any of them, from any Prince or State with which *B.* shall be at war; nor shall any citizen or subject of *B.* apply for or take any commission or letters of marque for arming any ship or ships to act as privateers against the subjects or people of *A.*, or any of them, or the property of any of them, from any Prince or State with which *A.* shall be at war; and if any person of either nation shall take such commission or letters of marque, he shall be punished as a pirate.

XXV. It shall not be lawful for any foreign privateers not belonging to the subjects or people of *A.* or of *B.*, who have commissions from any other Prince or State in enmity with either nation, to fit their ships in the ports of either the one or the other of the aforesaid parties, to sell what they have taken, or in any other manner whatsoever to exchange either ships, merchandises, or any other lading; neither shall they be allowed even to purchase victuals, except such as shall be necessary for their going to the next port of that Prince or State from which they have commissions.

XXVI. It shall be lawful for all and singular the subjects and people of *A.* and *B.* to sail with their ships, with all manner of liberty and security, no distinction being made who are the proprietors of the merchandises laden thereon from any port to the places of those who now are, or hereafter shall be, at enmity with *A.* or *B.* It shall likewise be lawful for the subjects and people aforesaid to sail with the ships and merchandises aforementioned, and to trade with the same liberty and security from the places, ports, and havens of those who are enemies of both or either party, without any opposition or disturbance whatsoever, not only directly from the places of the enemy aforementioned to neutral places, but also from one place belonging to an enemy to another place belonging to an enemy, whether they be under the jurisdiction of the same Prince or under several: and it is hereby stipulated that free ships shall also give a freedom to goods, and that every thing shall be deemed to be free and exempt which shall be found on board the ships belonging to the subjects of either of the confederates, although the whole lading or any part thereof should appertain to the enemies of either, contraband goods being always excepted. It is also agreed, in like manner, that the same liberty be extended to persons who are on board a free ship with this effect, that, although they be enemies to both or either party, they are not to be taken out of that free ship, unless they are soldiers and in actual service of the enemies.

XXVII. This liberty of navigation and commerce shall extend to all kinds of merchandises, excepting those only which are distinguished by the name of contraband; and under the name of contraband or prohibited goods shall be comprehended arms, great guns, bombs, with their

the havens, bays, creeks, roads, coasts, or places which the Most Christian King possesses, or shall hereafter possess. And if any ship or vessel shall be found fishing contrary to the tenour of this treaty, the said ship or vessel, with its lading, proof being made thereof, shall be confiscated.

ARTICLE XI. If in any war the Most Christian King shall conquer, or get possession of the islands in the *West-Indies*, now under the jurisdiction of the King or Crown of *Great Britain*, or any of them, or any dominions of the said King or Crown in any other parts of the world, the subjects, people, and inhabitants of the said *United States*, and every of them, shall enjoy the same rights, liberties, privileges, immunities, and exemptions, in trade, commerce, and navigation, to and from the said islands and dominions, that are mentioned in the second article of this treaty.

ARTICLE XII. It is the true intent and meaning of this treaty, that no higher or other duties shall be imposed on the exportation of any thing of the growth, production, or manufacture of the islands in the *West-Indies* now belonging, or which may hereafter belong to the Most Christian King, to the said *United States*, or any of them, than the lowest that are or shall be imposed on the exportation thereof to *France*, or to any other part of the world.

ARTICLE XIII. It is agreed by and between the said parties, that no duties whatever shall ever hereafter be imposed on the exportation of molasses from any of the islands and dominions of the Most Christian King in the *West-Indies*, to any of these *United States*.

ARTICLE XIV. The subjects, people, and inhabitants of the *United States*, or any of them, being merchants, and residing in *France*, and their property and effects of every kind, shall be exempt from the *droit d'aubaine*.

ARTICLE XV. The merchant ship of either of the par-

fusees and other things belonging to them, fire-balls, gunpowder, match, cannon-balls, pikes, swords, lances, spears, halberds, mortars, petards, granadoes, saltpetre, muskets, musket-balls, helmets, head-pieces, breast-plates, coats of mail, and like kinds of arms proper for arming soldiers, musket-rests, belts, horses with their furniture, and all other warlike instruments whatever. These merchandises which follow shall not be reckoned among contraband or prohibited goods, that is to say, all sorts of cloths, and all other manufactures woven of any wool, flax, silk, cotton, or any other materials whatever; all kinds of wearing apparel, together with the species whereof they are used to be made; gold and silver as well coined as uncoined, tin, iron, lead, copper, brass, coals; as also wheat and barley, and any other kind of corn or pulse; tobacco, and likewise all manner of spices; salted and smoked flesh, salted fish, cheese and butter, beer, oils, wines, sugars, and all sorts of salt; and in general all provisions which serve for the nourishment of mankind and the sustenance of life; furthermore, all kinds of cotton, hemp, flax, tar, pitch, ropes, cables, sails, sailcloth, anchors, and any parts of anchors; also ship masts, planks, boards and beams of what trees soever, and all things proper either for building or repairing ships, and all other goods whatever, which have not been worked into the form of any instrument or thing prepared for war by land or sea, shall not be reputed contraband, much less such as has been already wrought and made up for any other use, all which shall wholly be reckoned among free goods, as likewise all other merchandises and things which are not comprehended and particularly mentioned in the foregoing enumeration of contraband goods, so that they may be transported and carried in the freest manner by the subjects of both confederates, even to places belonging to an enemy, such towns and places being only excepted as are at that time besieged, blocked up, or invested.

XXVIII. To the end that all manner of dissensions and quarrels may be avoided and prevented on one side and the other, it is agreed, that in case either of the parties hereto shall be engaged in war, the ships and vessels belonging to the subjects and people of the other ally must be furnished with sea letters or passports expressing the name, property, and bulk of the ship, as also the name and place of habitation of the master or commander of the said ship, that it may appear thereby that the ship really and truly belongs to the subjects of one of the parties, which passport shall be made out and granted according to the form annexed to this treaty: they shall likewise be recalled every year, that is, if the ship happens to return home within the space of the year. It is likewise agreed, that such ships being laden are to be provided not only with passports as above mentioned, but also with certificates containing the several particulars of the cargo, the place whence the ship sailed and whither she is bound, that so it may be known whether any forbidden or contraband goods be on board the same, which certificates shall be made out by the officers of the place whence the ship set sail, in the accustomed form; and if any one shall think it fit or advisable to express in the said certificates the person to whom the goods on board belong, they may freely do so.

XXIX. The ships of the subjects or people of either of the parties coming upon any coasts belonging to either of the said allies, but not willing to enter into port, or being entered into port, and not willing to unload their cargoes or break bulk, shall not be obliged to give an account of their lading, unless they should be suspected, upon some manifest tokens, of carrying to the enemy of the other ally any prohibited goods called contraband; and in case of such manifest suspicion, the said subjects or people of either of the parties, shall be obliged to exhibit in the ports their passports and certificates, in the manner before specified.

XXX. If the ships of the said subjects or people of either of the parties, shall be met with either sailing along the coasts, or on the high seas, by any ship of war of the other, or by any privateers, the said ships of war or privateers, for the avoiding of any disorder, shall remain out of cannon-shot, and may send their boats aboard the merchant ship which they shall so meet with, and may enter her to the num-

ties which shall be making into a port belonging to the enemy of the other ally, and concerning whose voyage, and the species of goods on board her, there shall be just grounds of suspicion, shall be obliged to exhibit, as well upon the high seas as in the ports and havens, not only her passports, but likewise certificates expressly showing that her goods are not of the number of those which have been prohibited as contraband.

ARTICLE XVI. If, by exhibiting the above certificates, the other party discover there are any of those sorts of goods which are prohibited and declared contraband, and consigned for a port under the obedience of his enemies, it shall not be lawful to break up the hatches of such ship, or to open any chest, coffers, packs, casks, or any other vessels found therein, or to remove the smallest parcels of her goods, whether such ship belong to the subjects of *France* or the inhabitants of the said *United States*, unless the lading be brought on shore, in the presence of the officer of the Court of Admiralty, and an inventory thereof made; but there shall be no allowance to sell, exchange, or alienate the same in any manner, until after that due and lawful process shall have been had against such prohibited goods, and the Courts of Admiralty shall, by a sentence pronounced, have confiscated the same; saving always as well the ship itself as any other goods found therein, which by this treaty are to be esteemed free; neither may they be detained on pretence of their being, as it were, infected by the prohibited goods, much less shall they be confiscated as lawful prize. But if not the whole cargo, but only part thereof, shall consist of prohibited or contraband goods, and the commander of the ship shall be ready and willing to deliver them to the captor who has discovered them, in such case the captor, having received those goods, shall forthwith discharge the ship, and

ber of two or three men only, to whom the master or commander of such ship or vessel shall exhibit his passport concerning the property of the ship, made out according to the form inserted in this present treaty; and the ship, when she shall have showed such passport, shall be free and at liberty to pursue her voyage, so as it shall not be lawful to molest or search her in any manner, or to give her chase, or force her to quit her intended course.

It is also agreed that all goods, when once put on board the ships or vessels of either party, shall be subject to no further visitation; but all visitation or search shall be made beforehand, and all prohibited goods shall be stopped on the spot, before the same be put on board the ships or vessels of the respective States; nor shall either the persons or goods of the subjects of His Most Christian Majesty, or the *United States*, be put under any arrest or molested by any other kind of embargo for that cause; and only the subjects of that State to whom the said goods have been or shall be prohibited, and shall presume to sell or alienate such sort of goods, shall be duly punished for the offence.

Form of the Passports and Letters which are to be given to the Ships and Barks which shall go according to the Article of this Treaty.

To all who shall see these presents, Greeting: It is hereby made known, that leave and permission has been given to _____, master and commander of the ship called _____, of the town of _____, burthen _____ tons or thereabouts, lying at present in the port and haven _____, and bound for _____, and laden with _____, after that his ship has been visited, and before sailing he shall make oath before the officers who have the jurisdiction of maritime affairs, that the said ship belongs to one or more of the subjects of _____, the act whereof shall be put at the end of these presents; as likewise, that he will keep, and cause to be kept by his crew on board, the marine ordinances and regulations, and enter into the proper office a list signed and witnessed of the crew of his ship, and all who shall embark on board her whom he shall not take on board without the knowledge and permission of the officers of the marine; and in every port or haven where he shall enter with his ship, he shall show this present leave to the officers and judges of the marine, and shall give a faithful account to them of what passed and was done during his voyage.

Witness whereof we have signed these presents, and put the seal of our arms thereunto, and caused the same to be countersigned by _____, at _____, the _____ day of _____, A. D. _____.

Form of the Act containing the Oath.

We _____, of the Admiralty of _____, do certify _____, master of the ship named in the above passport, hath taken the oath mentioned therein. Done at _____, the _____ day of _____, A. D. _____.

Form of the Certificate to be required of and to be given by the Magistrates or Officers of the Customs of the Town and Port in their respective Towns and Ports, to the ships and vessels which sail from thence, according to the directions of the Article of this present Treaty.

We _____, magistrates [or officers of the customs] of the town and port of _____, do certify and attest, that on the _____ day of the month of _____, in the year of our Lord _____, personally appeared before us _____, of _____, and declared by a solemn oath that the ship or vessel called _____, of about _____ tons, whereof _____, of _____, his usual place of habitation, is master or commander, does rightfully and properly belong to him and other subjects of _____, and to them alone; that she is now bound from the port of _____ to the port of _____, laden with the goods and merchandises hereunder particularly described and enumerated, that is to say as follows:

not hinder her by any means freely to prosecute the voyage on which she was bound.

ARTICLE XVII. On the contrary, it is agreed that whatever shall be found to be laden by the subjects and inhabitants of either party, on any ship belonging to the enemy of the other, or to his subjects, although it be not of the sort of prohibited goods, may be confiscated in the same manner as if it belonged to the enemy himself, except such goods and merchandise as were put on board such ship before the declaration of war, or even after such declaration, if so be it were done without the knowledge of such declaration, so that the goods of the subjects or people of either party, whether they be of the nature of such as are prohibited, or otherwise, which, as is aforesaid, were put on board any ship belonging to an enemy before the war, or after the declaration of it, without the knowledge of it, shall no wise be liable to confiscation, but shall well and truly be restored without delay to the proprietors demanding the same; but so as that if the said merchandises be contraband, it shall not be any ways lawful to carry them afterwards to any ports belonging to the enemy.

ARTICLE XVIII. And that more effectual care may be taken for the security of the subjects and inhabitants of both parties, that they suffer no injury by the men-of-war or privateers of the other party, all the commanders of the ships of the Most Christian King, and of the said *United States*, and all their subjects and inhabitants, shall be forbid doing any injury or damage to the other side; and if they act to the contrary they shall be punished; and shall moreover, be bound to make satisfaction for all matter of damage, and the interest thereof, by reparation, under the penalty and obligation of their persons and goods.

ARTICLE XIX. All ships and merchandises of what

In witness whereof we have signed this certificate, and sealed it with the seal of our office.

Given the _____ day of the month of _____, in the year of our Lord _____.

Report of the Committee on the plan of Treaties, &c., September 10, 1776.

There shall be a firm, inviolable, and universal peace and a true and sincere friendship between the Most Serene and Mighty Prince *Lewis* the Sixteenth the Most Christian King, his heirs and successors, and the *United States of America*; and the subjects of the Most Christian King, and of the said States; and between the countries, islands, cities, and towns situate under the jurisdiction of the Most Christian King and of the said *United States*, and the people and inhabitants thereof, of every degree without exception of persons or places; and the terms hereinafter mentioned shall be perpetual between the Most Christian King, his heirs and successors, and the said *United States*.

ARTICLE 1. The subjects of the Most Christian King shall pay no other duties, or imposts, in the ports, havens, roads, countries, islands, cities, or towns of the said *United States*, or any of them, than the natives thereof, or any commercial companies established by them, or any of them, shall pay, but shall enjoy all other the rights, liberties, privileges, immunities, and exemptions in trade, navigation, and commerce, in passing from one part thereof to another, and in going to and from the same, from and to any part of the world, which the said natives, or companies, enjoy.

ARTICLE 2. The subjects, people, and inhabitants of the said *United States*, and every of them, shall pay no other duties, or imposts, in the ports, havens, roads, countries, islands, cities, or towns of the Most Christian King, than the natives of such countries, islands, cities, or towns of *France*, or any commercial companies established by the Most Christian King, shall pay, but shall enjoy all other the rights, liberties, privileges, immunities, and exemptions in trade, navigation, and commerce, in passing from one part thereof to another, and in going to and from the same, from and to any part of the world, which the said natives, or companies, enjoy.

ARTICLE 3. The Most Christian King shall endeavour, by all the means in his power, to protect and defend all vessels, and the effects belonging to the subjects, people, or inhabitants, of the said *United States*, or any of them, being in his ports, havens, or roads, or on the seas, near to his countries, islands, cities, or towns, and to recover or restore, to the right owners, their agents, or attorneys, all such vessels, and effects, which shall be taken within his jurisdiction, and his ships of war, or any convoys sailing under his authority, shall upon all occasions take under their protection all vessels belonging to the subjects, people, or inhabitants of the said *United States*, or any of them, and holding the same course, or going the same way, and shall defend such vessels as long as they hold the same course, or go the same way, against all attacks, force, and violence, in the same manner as they ought to protect and defend vessels belonging to the subjects of the Most Christian King.

ARTICLE 4. In like manner the said *United States*, and their ships of war, and convoys sailing under their authority, shall protect and defend all vessels and effects belonging to the subjects of the Most Christian King, and endeavour to recover and restore them, if taken within the jurisdiction of the said *United States*, or any of them.

ARTICLE 5. The Most Christian King, and the said *United States*, shall not receive, nor suffer to be received into any of their ports, havens, roads, countries, islands, cities, or towns, any pirates or sea-robbers, or afford or suffer any entertainment, assistance, or provisions to be offered to them, but shall endeavour by all means, that all pirates and sea-robbers, and their partners, sharers, and abettors, be found out, apprehended, and suffer condign punishment; and all the vessels and effects piratically taken, and brought into the ports or havens of the Most Christian King, or the said *United States*, which can be found, although they be sold, shall be restored, or satisfaction given therefor, to

nature soever, which shall be rescued out of the hands of any pirates or robbers on the high seas, shall be brought into some port of either State, and shall be delivered to the custody of the officers of that port, in order to be restored entire, to the true proprietor, as soon as due and sufficient proof shall be made concerning the property thereof.

ARTICLE XX. It shall be lawful for the ships of war of either party, and privateers, freely to carry, whithersoever they please, the ships and goods taken from their enemies, without being obliged to pay any duty to the officers of the Admiralty, or any other judges; nor shall such prizes be arrested or seized when they come to and enter the ports of either party; nor shall the searchers or other officers of those places search the same, or make examination concerning the lawfulness of such prizes; but they may hoist sail at any time, and depart, and carry their prizes to the place expressed in their commissions, which the commanders of such ships of war shall be obliged to show. On the contrary, no shelter or refuge shall be given in their ports to such as shall have made prize of the subjects, people, or property of either of the parties; but if such should come in, being forced by stress of weather, or the danger of the sea, all proper means shall be vigorously used, that they go out and retire from thence as soon as possible.

ARTICLE XXI. If any ships belonging to either of the parties, their subjects, or people, shall, within the coasts or dominions of the other, stick upon the sands, or be wrecked, or suffer any other damage, all friendly assistance and relief shall be given to the persons shipwrecked, or such as shall be in danger thereof; and letters of safe conduct shall likewise be given to them for their free and quiet passage from thence, and the return of every one to his own country.

ARTICLE XXII. In case the subjects and people of

the right owners, their agents or attorneys demanding the same, and making the right of property to appear by due proof.

ARTICLE 6. The Most Christian King shall protect, defend, and secure, as far as in his power, the subjects, people, and inhabitants of the said *United States*, and every of them, and their vessels and effects of every kind, against all attacks, assaults, violences, injuries, depredations, or plunderings, by or from the King or Emperor of *Morocco* or *Fez*, and the States of *Algiers*, *Tunis*, and *Tripoli*, and any of them, and every other Prince, State, and Power, on the coast of *Barbary* in *Africa*; and the subjects of the said Kings, Emperors, States, and Powers, and of every of them, in the same manner, and as effectually and fully, and as much to the benefit, advantage, ease, and safety, of the said *United States*, and every of them, and of the subjects, people, and inhabitants thereof, to all intents and purposes, as the King and Kingdom of *Great Britain*, before the commencement of the present war, protected, defended, and secured the people and inhabitants of the said *United States*, then called the *British Colonies in North America*, their vessels and effects, against all such attacks, assaults, violences, injuries, depredations, and plunderings.

ARTICLE 7. If in consequence of this treaty the King of *Great Britain* should declare war against the Most Christian King, the said *United States* shall not assist *Great Britain* in such war with men, money, ships, or any of the articles in this treaty denominated contraband goods.

ARTICLE 8. In case of any war between the Most Christian King and the King of *Great Britain*, the Most Christian King shall never invade, nor under any pretence attempt to possess himself of *Labrador*, *New Britain*, *Nova Scotia*, *Acadia*, *Canada*, *Florida*, nor any of the countries, cities, or towns, on the Continent of *North America*, nor of the islands of *Newfoundland*, *Cape Breton*, *St. John's*, *Anticosti*, nor of any other island lying near to the said Continent, in the seas, or in any gulf, bay, or river, it being the true intent and meaning of this treaty, that the said *United States* shall have the sole, exclusive, undivided, and perpetual possession of all the countries, cities, and towns, on the said Continent, and of all islands near to it, which now are, or lately were, under the jurisdiction of, or subject to, the King or Crown of *Great Britain*, whenever they shall be united or confederated with said *United States*.

ARTICLE 9. Nor shall the Most Christian King at any time make any claim or demand to the said countries, islands, cities, and towns, mentioned in the next preceding article, or any of them, or to any part thereof, for or on account of any assistance afforded to the said *United States* in attacking or conquering the same, or in obtaining such a submission, or confederation, as has been mentioned in the said preceding articles, nor on any other account whatever.

ARTICLE 10. If in any war, the Most Christian King shall conquer, or get possession of the islands in the *West Indies* now under the jurisdiction of the King or Crown of *Great Britain*, or any of them, or any dominions of the said King or Crown in any other parts of the world, the subjects, people, and inhabitants of the said *United States*, and every of them, shall enjoy the same rights, liberties, privileges, immunities, and exemptions, in trade, commerce, and navigation, to and from the said islands and dominions, that are mentioned in the second article of this treaty.

ARTICLE 11. It is the true intent and meaning of this treaty, that no higher or other duties shall be imposed on the exportation of any thing of the growth, production, or manufacture of the islands in the *West-Indies* now belonging, or which may hereafter belong, to the Most Christian King, to the said *United States*, or any of them, than the lowest that are or shall be imposed on the exportation thereof to *France*, or to any other part of the world.

ARTICLE 12. It is agreed by and between the said parties, that no duties whatever shall ever hereafter be imposed on the exportation of molasses from any of the islands and dominions of the Most Christian King in the *West-Indies* to any of these *United States*.

ARTICLE 13. The subjects, people, and inhabitants of the said *United*

either party, with their shipping, whether publick and of war, or private and of merchants, be forced, through stress of weather, pursuit of pirates or enemies, or any other urgent necessity for seeking of shelter and harbour, to retreat and enter into any of the rivers, creeks, bays, havens, roads, ports, or shores, belonging to the other party, they shall be received and treated with all humanity and kindness, and enjoy all friendly protection and help; and they shall be permitted to refresh and provide themselves at reasonable rates with victuals and all things needful for the sustenance of their persons, or reparation of their ships, and conveniency of their voyage; and they shall no ways be detained or hindered from returning out of the said ports or roads, but may remove and depart when and whither they please, without any let or hindrance.

ARTICLE XXIII. For the better promoting of commerce on both sides, it is agreed, that if a war shall break out between the said two nations, six months after the proclamation of war shall be allowed to the merchants in the cities and towns where they live, for settling and transporting their goods and merchandises; and if any thing be taken from them, or any injury be done them, within that time, by either party, or the people or subjects of either, full satisfaction shall be made for the same.

ARTICLE XXIV. No subjects of the Most Christian King shall apply for or take any commission, or letters of marque for arming any ship, or ships, to act as privateers against the said *United States*, or any of them, or against the subjects, people, or inhabitants of the said *United States*, or any of them, or against the property of any of the inhabitants of any of them, from any Prince or State with which the said *United States* shall be at war. Nor shall any citizen, subject, or inhabitant of the said *United States*, or

States, or any of them, being merchants and residing in *France*, and their property, and effects of every kind, shall be exempt from the *droit d'aubaine*.

ARTICLE 14. The merchant ship of either of the parties which shall be making into a port belonging to the enemy of the other ally, and concerning whose voyage, and the species of goods on board her, there shall be just grounds of suspicion, shall be obliged to exhibit, as well upon the high seas as in the ports and havens, not only her passports, but likewise certificates expressly showing that her goods are not of the number of those which have been prohibited as contraband.

ARTICLE 15. If, by exhibiting of the above-said certificates, the other party discover there are any of those sorts of goods which are prohibited and declared contraband, and consigned for a port under the obedience of his enemies, it shall not be lawful to break up the hatches of such ship, or to open any chest, coffers, packs, casks, or any other vessels found therein, or to remove the smallest parcels of her goods, whether such ship belong to the subjects of *France* or the inhabitants of the said *United States*, unless the lading be brought on shore in the presence of the officers of the Court of Admiralty, and an inventory thereof made; but there shall be no allowance to sell, exchange, or alienate the same in any manner, until after that due and lawful process shall have been had against such prohibited goods, and the Courts of Admiralty shall, by a sentence pronounced, have confiscated the same, saving always as well the ship itself as any other goods found therein which by this treaty are to be esteemed free; neither may they be detained on pretence of their being, as it were, infected by the prohibited goods, much less shall they be confiscated as lawful prize: But if not the whole cargo, but only part thereof shall consist of prohibited or contraband goods, and the commander of the ship shall be ready and willing to deliver them to the captor who has discovered them, in such case the captor, having received those goods, shall forthwith discharge the ship, and not hinder her by any means freely to prosecute the voyage on which she was bound.

ARTICLE 16. On the contrary it is agreed, that whatever shall be found to be laden by the subjects and inhabitants of either party on any ship belonging to the enemy of the other, or to his subjects, the whole, although it be not of the sort of prohibited goods, may be confiscated in the same manner as if it belonged to the enemy himself, except such goods and merchandise as were put on board such ship before the declaration of war, or even after such declaration, if so be it were done without knowledge of such declaration. So that the goods of the subjects and people of either party, whether they be of the nature of such as were prohibited or otherwise, which, as is aforesaid, were put on board any ship belonging to an enemy before the war, or after the declaration of the same, without knowledge of it, shall noways be liable to confiscation, but shall well and truly be restored without delay to the proprietors demanding the same; but so as that if the said merchandises be contraband, it shall not be any ways lawful to carry them afterwards to any ports belonging to the enemy.

ARTICLE 17. And that more effectual care may be taken for the security of the subjects and inhabitants of both parties, that they suffer no injury by the men-of-war or privateers of the other party, all the commanders of the ships of the Most Christian King and of the said *United States*, and all their subjects and inhabitants, shall be forbid doing any injury or damage to the other side, and if they act to the contrary, they shall be punished, and shall moreover be bound to make satisfaction for all matter of damage, and the interest thereof, by reparation, under the pain and obligation of their person and goods.

ARTICLE 18. All ships and merchandises of what nature soever, which shall be rescued out of the hands of any pirates or robbers on the high seas, shall be brought into some port of either State, and shall be delivered to the custody of the officers of that port, in order to be restored entire to the true proprietor, as soon as due and sufficient proof shall be made concerning the property thereof.

ARTICLE 19. It shall be lawful for the ships of war of either party,

any of them, apply for, or take any commission or letters of marque for arming any ship or ships to act as privateers against the subjects of the Most Christian King, or any of them, or the property of any of them, from any Prince or State with which the said King shall be at war; and if any person of either nation shall take such commissions or letters of marque, he shall be punished as a pirate.

ARTICLE XXV. It shall not be lawful for any foreign privateer, not belonging to the subjects of the Most Christian King, nor citizens of the said *United States*, who have commissions from any other Prince, or State, in enmity with either nation, to fit their ships in the ports of either the one or the other of the aforesaid parties, to sell what they have taken, or in any other manner whatsoever to exchange either ships, merchandises, or any other lading; neither shall they be allowed even to purchase victuals, except such as shall be necessary for their going to the next port of that Prince or State from which they have commissions.

ARTICLE XXVI. It shall be lawful for all and singular the subjects of the Most Christian King, and the citizens, people, and inhabitants of the said States, to sail with their ships with all manner of liberty and security, no distinction being made, who are the proprietors of the merchandises laden thereon, from any port to the places of those who now are, or hereafter shall be, at enmity with the Most Christian King, or the *United States*. It shall likewise be lawful for the subjects and inhabitants aforesaid to sail with the ships and merchandises aforementioned, and to trade with the same liberty and security from the places, ports, and havens of those who are enemies of both, or either party, without any opposition or disturbance whatsoever, not only directly from the places of the enemy aforementioned to neutral places, but also from one place belonging to an enemy

and privateers, freely to carry whithersoever they please the ships and goods taken from their enemies, without being obliged to pay any duty to the officers of the Admiralty or any other judges; nor shall such prizes be arrested or seized, when they come to and enter the ports of either party; nor shall the searchers, or other officers of those places, search the same, or make examination concerning the lawfulness of such prizes, but they may hoist sail at any time and depart, and carry their prizes to the place expressed in their commissions, which the commanders of such ships of war shall be obliged to show: on the contrary, no shelter or refuge shall be given in their ports to such as shall have made prize of the subjects, people, or property of either of the parties; but if such should come in, being forced by stress of weather or the dangers of the sea, all proper means shall be vigorously used, that they go out and retire from thence as soon as possible.

ARTICLE 20. If any ships belonging to either of the parties, their people, or subjects, shall, within the coasts or dominions of the other, stick upon the sands or be wrecked, or suffer any other damage, all friendly assistance and relief shall be given to the persons shipwrecked, or such as shall be in danger thereof; and letters of safe conduct shall likewise be given to them for their free and quiet passage from thence, and the return of every one to his own country.

ARTICLE 21. That in case the subjects and inhabitants of either party, with their shipping, whether publick, and of war, or private, and of merchants, be forced through stress of weather, pursuit of pirates or enemies, or any other urgent necessity for seeking of shelter and harbour, to retreat and enter into any of the rivers, creeks, bays, havens, roads, posts, or shores, belonging to the other party, they shall be received and treated with all humanity and kindness, and enjoy all friendly protection and help; and they shall be permitted to refresh and provide themselves, at reasonable rates with victuals and all things needful for the sustenance of their persons or reparation of their ships and conveniency of their voyage; and they shall noways be detained or hindered from returning out of the said ports or roads, but may remove and depart when and whither they please, without any let or hindrance.

ARTICLE 22. The subjects, inhabitants, merchants, commanders of ships, masters and marines of the States, Provinces, and dominions of each party respectively, shall abstain and forbear to fish in all places possessed, or which shall be possessed by the other party. The Most Christian King's subjects shall not fish in the havens, bays, creeks, roads, coasts, or places which the said *United States* hold, or shall hereafter hold, and in like manner, the subjects, people, and inhabitants of the said *United States* shall not fish in the havens, bays, creeks, roads, coasts, or places which the Most Christian King possesses or shall hereafter possess; and if any ship or vessel shall be found fishing contrary to the tenour of this treaty, the said ship or vessel, with its lading, proof being made thereof, shall be confiscated.

ARTICLE 23. For the better promoting of commerce on both sides, it is agreed, that if a war should break out between the said two nations, six months after the proclamation of war shall be allowed to the merchants in the cities and towns where they live, for selling and transporting their goods and merchandises; and if any thing be taken from them, or any injury be done them within that term by either party, or the people or subjects of either, full satisfaction shall be made for the same.

ARTICLE 24. No subject of the Most Christian King shall apply for, or take any commission or letters of marque for arming any ship or ships to act as privateers against the said *United States*, or any of them, or against the subjects, people, or inhabitants of the said *United States* or any of them, or against the property of any of the inhabitants of any of them, from any Prince or State with which the said *United States* shall be at war; nor shall any citizen, subject, or inhabitant of the said *United States*, or any of them, apply for or take any commission or letters of marque for arming any ship or ships to act as privateers against the subjects of the Most Christian King or any of them, or the property of any of them, from any Prince or State with which the said King

to another place belonging to an enemy, whether they be under the jurisdiction of the same Prince, or under several. And it is hereby stipulated, that free ships shall also give a freedom to goods; and that every thing shall be deemed to be free and exempt, which shall be found on board the ships belonging to the subjects of either of the confederates, although the whole lading, or any part thereof, should appertain to the enemies of either; contraband goods being always excepted. It is also agreed, in like manner, that the same liberty be extended to persons who are on board a free ship, with this effect, that although they be enemies to both, or either party, they are not to be taken out of that free ship, unless they are soldiers and in actual service of the enemies.

ARTICLE XXVII. This liberty of navigation and commerce shall extend to all kinds of merchandises, excepting those only which are distinguished by the name of contraband; and under this name of contraband or prohibited goods, shall be comprehended arms, great guns, bombs with their fusees and other things belonging to them, fire-balls, gunpowder, match, cannon ball, pikes, swords, lances, spears, halberds, mortars, petards, granadoes, saltpetre, muskets, musket balls, helmets, headpieces, breastplates, coats of mail, and the like kind of arms proper for arming soldiers, musket rests, belts, horses with their furniture, and all other warlike instruments whatsoever. These merchandises which follow shall not be reckoned among contraband or prohibited goods, that is to say, all sorts of cloths, and all other manufactures woven of any wool, flax, silk, cotton, or any other material whatever, all kinds of wearing apparel, together with the species whereof they are used to be made, gold and silver, as well coined as uncoined, tin, iron, lead, copper, brass, coals, as also wheat and barley, and any

shall be at war; and if any person of either nation shall take such commissions or letters of marque, he shall be punished as a pirate.

ARTICLE 25. It shall not be lawful for any foreign privateers, not belonging to subjects of the Most Christian King nor citizens of the *United States*, who have commissions from any other Prince or State in enmity with either nation, to fit their ships in the ports of either the one or the other of the aforesaid parties, to sell what they have taken, or in any other manner whatsoever to exchange either ships, merchandises, or any other lading; neither shall they be allowed even to purchase victuals, except such as shall be necessary for their going to the next port of that Prince or State from which they have commissions.

ARTICLE 26. It shall be lawful for all and singular the subjects of the Most Christian King, and the citizens, people, and inhabitants of the said *United States*, to sail with their ships, with all manner of liberty and security, no distinction being made who are the proprietors of the merchandises laden thereon, from any port to the places of those who now are, or hereafter shall be, at enmity with the Most Christian King or the *United States*. It shall likewise be lawful for the subjects and inhabitants aforesaid, to sail with the ships and merchandises aforementioned, and to trade with the same liberty and security, from the places, ports, and havens of those who are enemies of both or either party, without any opposition or disturbance whatsoever, not only directly from the places of the enemy aforementioned to neutral, but also from one place belonging to an enemy to another place belonging to an enemy, whether they be under the jurisdiction of the same Prince or under several. And it is hereby stipulated that free ships shall also give a freedom to goods, and that every thing shall be deemed to be free and exempt which shall be found on board the ships belonging to the subjects of either of the confederates, although the whole lading, or any part thereof, should appertain to the enemies of either, contraband goods being always excepted. It is also agreed in like manner, that the same liberty be extended to persons who are on board a free ship, with this effect, that although they be enemies to both or either party, they are not to be taken out of that free ship unless they are soldiers and in actual service of the enemies.

ARTICLE 27. This liberty of navigation and commerce shall extend to all kinds of merchandises, excepting those only which are distinguished by the name of contraband; and under this name of contraband, or prohibited goods, shall be comprehended arms, great guns, bombs with their fusees and other things belonging to them, fire-balls, gunpowder, match, cannon-balls, pikes, swords, lances, spears, halberds, mortars, petards, granadoes, saltpetre, musket-ball, helmet, headpieces, breastplates, coats of mail, and the like kinds of arms proper for arming soldiers, musket-rests, belts, horses with their furniture, and all other warlike instruments whatever. These merchandises which follow shall not be reckoned among contraband or prohibited goods: that is to say, all sorts of cloths, and all other manufactures woven of any wool, flax, silk, cotton, or any other materials whatever; all kinds of wearing apparel, together with the species whereof they are used to be made; gold and silver, as well coined as uncoined, tin, iron, lead, copper, coals, as also wheat and barley, and any other kind of corn and pulse, tobacco, and likewise all manner of spices, salted and smoked flesh, salted fish, cheese and butter, beer, oils, wines, sugars, and all sorts of salt, and in general all provisions which serve for the nourishment of mankind and the sustenance of life; furthermore, all kinds of cotton, hemp, flax, tar, pitch, ropes, cables, sails, sail-cloth, anchors, and any parts of anchors; also ships' masts, planks, boards and beams, of what trees soever; and all other things proper either for building or repairing ships, and all other goods whatever, which have not been worked into the form of any instrument or thing prepared for war by land or by sea, shall not be reputed contraband, much less such as have been already wrought and made up for any other use; all which shall wholly be reckoned among free goods; as likewise all other merchandises and things which are not comprehended and particularly mentioned in the foregoing enumeration of contraband goods, so that they may be trans-

other kind of corn and pulse, tobacco, and likewise all manner of spices, salted and smoked flesh, salted fish, cheese and butter, beer, oils, wines, sugars, and all sorts of salt, and in general all provisions which serve for the nourishment of mankind, and the sustenance of life. Furthermore, all kinds of cotton, hemp, flax, tar, pitch, ropes, cables, sails, sail cloth, anchors and any parts of anchors, also ships' masts, planks, boards, and beams, of what tree soever, and all other things proper either for building or repairing ships, and all other goods whatsoever which have not been worked into the form of any instrument or thing prepared for war by land or by sea, shall not be reputed contraband, much less such as have been already wrought and made up for any other use; all which shall wholly be reckoned among free goods; as likewise all other merchandises, and things which are not comprehended and particularly mentioned, in the foregoing enumeration of contraband goods; so that they may be transported and carried in the freest manner, by the subjects of both confederates, even to places belonging to an enemy, such towns and places being only excepted as are at that time besieged, blocked up, or invested.

ARTICLE XXVIII. To the end that all manner of dissensions and quarrels may be avoided and prevented, on one side and the other, it is agreed, that in case either of the parties hereto should be engaged in a war, the ships and vessels belonging to the subjects or people of the other ally must be furnished with sea letters or passports, expressing the name, property, and bulk of the ship, as also the name and place of habitation of the master or commander of the said ship, that it may appear thereby, that the ship really and truly belongs to the subjects of one of the parties; which passports shall be made out and granted according to

ported and carried in the freest manner by the subjects of both confederates, even to places belonging to an enemy, such towns or places being only excepted as are at that time besieged, blocked up, or invested.

ARTICLE 28. To the end that all manner of dissensions and quarrels may be avoided and prevented on one side and the other, it is agreed, that in case either of the parties hereto should be engaged in war, the ships and vessels belonging to the subjects or people of the other ally must be furnished with sea-letters or passports expressing the name, property, and bulk of the ship, as also the name and place of habitation of the master or commander of the said ship, that it may appear thereby that the ship really and truly belongs to the subjects of one of the parties; which passports shall be made out and granted according to the form annexed to this treaty: they shall likewise be recalled every year, that is, if the ship happens to return home within the space of a year. It is likewise agreed, that such ships, being laden, are to be provided, not only with passports as above mentioned, but also with certificates containing the several particulars of the cargo, the place whence the ship sailed, and whither she is bound, that so it may be known whether any forbidden or contraband goods be on board the same, which certificates shall be made out by the officers of the place whence the ship set sail, in the accustomed form. And if any one shall think it fit or advisable to express in the said certificates the person to whom the goods on board belong, he may freely do so.

ARTICLE 29. The ships of the subjects and inhabitants of either of the parties coming upon any coast belonging to either of the said allies, but not willing to enter into port, or being entered into port, and not willing to unload their cargoes or break bulk, shall not be obliged to give an account of their lading, unless they should be suspected, upon some manifest tokens, of carrying to the enemy of the other ally any prohibited goods called contraband. And in case of such manifest suspicion, the said subjects and inhabitants of either of the parties shall be obliged to exhibit in the ports their passports and certificates in the manner before specified.

ARTICLE 30. That if the ships of the said subjects, people, or inhabitants of either of the parties shall be met with, either sailing along the coasts or on the high seas, by any ships of war of the other, or by any privateers, the said ships of war or privateers, for the avoiding of any disorder, shall remain out of cannon-shot, and may send their boat aboard the merchant ship which they shall so meet with, and may enter her to the number of two or three men only, to whom the master or commander of such ship or vessel shall exhibit his passport, concerning the property of the ship, made out according to the form inserted in this present treaty; and the ship, when she shall have showed such passport, shall be free and at liberty to pursue her voyage, so as it shall not be lawful to molest or search her in any manner, or to give her chase, or force her to quit her intended course. It is also agreed, that all goods, when once put on board the ships or vessels of either party, shall be subject to no further visitation, but all visitation or search shall be made beforehand, and all prohibited goods shall be stopped on the spot, before the same be put on board the ships or vessels of the respective State: nor shall either the persons or goods of the subjects of his Most Christian Majesty or the United States be put under any arrest or molested by any other kind of embargo for that cause; and only the subject of that State by whom the said goods have been or shall be prohibited, and shall presume to sell or alienate such sort of goods, shall be duly punished for the offence.

Form of the Passports and Letters which are to be given to the Ships and Barks which shall go according to the Twenty-seventh Article of this Treaty.

To all who shall see these presents, Greeting:

It is hereby made known, that leave and permission has been given to _____, master and commander of the ship called _____, of the town of _____, burthen _____ tons, or thereabouts, lying at present in the

the form annexed to this treaty. They shall likewise be recalled every year; that is, if the ship happens to return home within the space of a year. It is likewise agreed that such ships, being laden, are to be provided not only with passports, as above mentioned, but also with certificates containing the several particulars of the cargo, the place whence the ship sailed, and whither she is bound, that so it may be known whether any forbidden or contraband goods be on board the same; which certificates shall be made out by the officers of the place whence the ship set sail, in the accustomed form; and if any one shall think it fit or advisable to express in the said certificates the persons to whom the goods on board belong, he may freely do it.

ARTICLE XXIX. The ships of the subjects and inhabitants of either of the parties, coming upon any coast belonging to either of the said allies, but not willing to enter into port, or being entered into port, and not willing to unload their cargoes or break bulk, shall not be obliged to give an account of their lading, unless they should be suspected, upon some manifest tokens, of carrying to the enemy of the other ally any prohibited goods called contraband; and in case of such manifest suspicion, the parties shall be obliged to exhibit, in the ports, their passports and certificates in the manner before specified.

ARTICLE XXX. If the ships of the said subjects, people, or inhabitants of either of the parties, shall be met with, either sailing along the coast, or on the high seas, by any ship of war of the other, or by any privateers, the said ships of war or privateers, for the avoiding of any disorder, shall remain out of cannon shot, and may send their boats on board the merchant ship which they shall so meet with, and may enter her to the number of two or three men only, to whom the master or commander of such ship or

port and haven of _____, and bound for _____, and laden with _____, after that his ship has been visited, and before sailing, he shall make oath before the officers who have the jurisdiction of maritime affairs, that the said ship belongs to one or more of the subjects of _____, the act whereof shall be put at the end of these presents, as likewise he will keep, and cause to be kept by his crew on board, the marine ordinances and regulations, and enter into the proper office a list, signed and witnessed, containing the names and surnames, the places of birth and abode of the crew of his ship, and of all who shall embark on board her whom he shall not take on board without the knowledge and permission of the officers of the marine; and in every port or haven where he shall enter with his ship, he shall show this present leave to the officers and judges of the marine, and shall give a faithful account to them of what passed and was done during his voyage, and he shall carry the colours, arms, and ensigns of the King, [or of the United States,] during his voyage.

In witness whereof we have signed these presents, and put the seal of our arms thereunto, and caused the same to be countersigned by _____, at _____, the _____ day of _____, 17 _____.

Form of the Act containing the Oath.

We _____, of the Admiralty of _____, do certify that _____, master of the ship named in the above passport, hath taken the oath mentioned therein.

Done at _____, the _____ day of _____, 17 _____.

Form of the Certificates to be required of, and to be given by the Magistrates or Officers of the Customs of the Town or Port, in their respective Towns and Ports, to the Ships and Vessels which sail from thence, according to the directions of the _____ Article of this present Treaty.

We, *A. B.*, magistrate, [or, officers of the customs,] of the town and port of *C.*, do certify and attest, that on the _____ day of the month of _____, in the year of our Lord 17 _____, *D. E.*, of *F.*, personally appeared before us, and declared by a solemn oath, that the ship or vessel called *G.*, of about _____ tons, whereof *H. I.*, of *K.*, his usual place of habitation, is master or commander, does rightfully and properly belong to him and other subjects of _____, and to them alone; that she is now bound from the port of *L.* to the port of *M.*, laden with the goods and merchandises hereunder particularly described and enumerated, that is to say, as follows:

In witness whereof we have signed this certificate, and sealed it with the seal of our office, given the _____ day of the month of _____, in the year of our Lord 17 _____.

Report of the Committee on Instructions, brought in SEPTEMBER 10, 1776.

Instructions to

There is delivered to you herewith a plan of a treaty with His Most Christian Majesty of France, approved of in Congress on the part of the United States of America.

It is the wish of Congress that the treaty should be concluded; and you are hereby instructed to use every means in your power for concluding it conformable to the plan you have received.

If you shall find that to be impracticable, you are hereby authorized to relax the demands of the United States, and to enlarge their offers agreeably to the following directions:

If *A.* shall not consent that the subjects of *B.* shall have the privileges proposed in the second article, then *B.* ought not to give the subjects of *A.* the privileges proposed in the first article; but, that *B.* shall give to *A.* the same privileges, liberties, and immunities, at least, and the like favour in all things, which any foreign nation the most favoured shall have, provided *A.* shall give to *B.* the same benefits, privileges, and immunities, which any the most favoured foreign nation now has, uses,

vessel shall exhibit his passport concerning the property of the ship, made out according to the form inserted in this present treaty; and the ship, when she shall have showed such passport, shall be free and at liberty to pursue her voyage, so as it shall not be lawful to molest or search her in any manner, or to give her chase, or force her to quit her intended course. It is also agreed, that all goods, when once put on board the ships or vessels of either parties, shall be subject to no further visitation; but all visitation or search shall be made beforehand, and all prohibited goods shall be stopped on the spot, before the same be put on board the ships or vessels of the respective States; nor shall either the persons or goods of the subjects of His Most Christian Majesty or the *United States*, be put under any arrest, or molested by any other kind of embargo for that cause; and only the subject of that State to whom the said goods have been or shall be prohibited, and shall presume to sell or alienate such sort of goods, shall be duly punished for the offence.

The form of the Sea-Letters and Passports to be given to Ships and Vessels according to the 28th Article.

To all who shall see these presents, greeting:

It is hereby made known that leave and permission has been given to _____, master and commander of the ship called _____, of the town of _____, burthen _____ tons, or thereabouts, lying at present in the port and haven of _____, and bound for _____, and laden with _____, after that his ship has been visited, and before sailing, he shall make oath before the officers who have the jurisdiction of maritime affairs, that the said ship belongs to one or more of the subjects of _____, the act whereof shall be put at the end of these presents; as likewise that he will keep and cause to be kept, by his crew on board, the marine ordinances and regulations, and enter in the proper office a list signed and witnessed of the crew of his ship, and of all who shall embark on board her, whom he shall not

or enjoys. And in case neither of these propositions of equal advantages are agreed to, then the whole of the said articles are to be rejected, rather than obstruct the further progress of the treaty.

The third article must be insisted upon.

The sixth article ought to be obtained if possible; but should be waived, rather than that the treaty should be interrupted by insisting upon it. *A.* agreeing, nevertheless, to use his interest and influence to procure passes from the States mentioned in this article for the vessels of *B.* upon the *Mediterranean*.

The seventh article will probably be attended with some difficulty. If you find *A.* determined not to agree to it, you are empowered to add to it any of the following proposals, offers, or two of them, or all of them, if one or two of them should be discovered to be unsatisfactory:

1. If *A.* should undertake an expedition to recover what she lost in the *West-Indies* during the last war with *Great Britain*, the *United States* will in that expedition supply *France* with provisions, if required, and will not supply *Great Britain* with any.

2. The *United States* will agree to an exclusive contract in favour of *A.* during the term of _____ years, for masts and naval stores, as far as they can spare them.

3. The *United States* will not, upon a peace with *Great Britain*, grant to her terms of commerce more advantageous than those they will grant to *A.*

The eleventh and twelfth articles are to be waived, if you find that the treaty will be interrupted by insisting on them.

You will press the thirteenth article; but let not the fate of the treaty depend upon obtaining it.

If *A.* should be unwilling to agree to the fifteenth and twenty-sixth articles, you are directed to consent that the goods and effects of enemies on board the ships and vessels of either party shall be liable to seizure and confiscation.

The twenty-fifth article is not to be insisted upon. As the scarcity of arms, artillery, and other military stores, is so considerable in the *United States*, you will solicit the Court of *France* for an immediate supply of twenty or thirty thousand muskets and bayonets, and a large supply of ammunition and brass field-pieces, to be sent under convoy by *France*. The *United States* engage for the payment of the arms, artillery, and ammunition, and to indemnify *France* for the expense of the convoy.

Engage a few good Engineers in the service of the *United States*.

It is highly probable that *France* means not to let the *United States* sink in the present contest. But as the difficulty of obtaining true accounts of our condition may cause an opinion to be entertained that we are able to support the war on our own strength and resources longer than in fact we can do, it will be proper for you to press for the immediate and explicit declaration of *France* in our favour, upon a suggestion that a reunion with *Great Britain* may be the consequence of a delay.

Should *Spain* be disinclined to our cause, from an apprehension of danger to her dominions in *South America*, you are empowered to give the strongest assurances that that Crown will receive no molestation from the *United States*, in the possession of those territories.

You will transmit to us the most speedy and full intelligence of your progress in this business, and of any other *European* transaction that it may import us to know.

In conducting this important business, the Congress have the greatest confidence in your address, abilities, vigilance, and attachment to the interests of the *United States*, and wish you every success.

take on board without the knowledge and permission of the officers of the marine; and in every port and haven, where he shall enter with his ship, he shall show this present leave to the officers and judges of the marine, and shall give a faithful account to them, of what passed and was done during his voyage; and he shall carry the colours, arms, and ensigns of _____ during his voyage.

In witness whereof we have signed these presents, and put the seal of our arms thereunto, and caused the same to be countersigned by _____, at _____, the _____ day of _____, A. D. _____.

The form of the Act containing the Oath.

We _____, of the Admiralty of _____, do certify that _____, master of the ship named in the above passport, hath taken the oath mentioned therein.

Done at _____, the _____ day of _____, A. D. _____.

The form of the Certificate to be required of, and to be given by, the Magistrates or Officers of the Customs of the Town and Port, in their respective Towns and Ports, to the Ships and Vessels which sail from thence, according to the directions of the 28th Article of this present Treaty.

We _____, magistrates [or officers of the customs] of the town and port of _____, do certify and attest, that on the _____ day of the month of _____, in the year of our Lord _____, personally appeared before us _____, of _____, and declared, by a solemn oath, that the ship or vessel called _____, of about _____ tons, whereof _____, of _____, his usual place of habitation, is master or commander, does rightfully and properly belong to him and other subjects of _____, and to them alone; that she is now bound from the port of _____ to the port of _____, laden with the goods and merchandises hereunder particularly described and enumerated, that is to say,

In witness whereof we have signed this certificate, and sealed it with the seal of our office.

Given the _____ day of the month of _____, in the year of our Lord _____.

Instructions to

There is delivered to you herewith a plan of a treaty with His Most Christian Majesty of *France*, approved of in Congress, on the part of the *United States*; and you are hereby instructed to use every means in your power for concluding it, conformably to the plan you have received.

If you shall find that to be impracticable, you are hereby authorized to relax the demands of the *United States*, and to enlarge their offers agreeably to the following directions:

If His Most Christian Majesty shall not consent that the inhabitants of the *United States* shall have the privileges proposed in the second article, then the *United States* ought not to give the subjects of His Most Christian Majesty the privileges proposed in the first article; but that the *United States* shall give to His Most Christian Majesty the same privileges, liberties, and immunities at least, and the like favour in all things which any foreign nation the most favoured shall have, provided His Most Christian Majesty shall give to the *United States* the same benefits, privileges, and immunities which the most favoured nation now has, uses, or enjoys. And, in case neither of these propositions of equal advantages is agreed to, then the whole of the said articles are to be rejected, rather than obstruct the further progress of the treaty.

The fourth article must be insisted on.

The seventh article ought to be obtained, if possible; but should be waived, rather than that the treaty should be interrupted by insisting upon it. His Most Christian Majesty agreeing, nevertheless, to use his interest and influence to procure passes from the States mentioned in this article for the vessels of the *United States* upon the *Mediterranean*.

The eighth article will probably be attended with some difficulty. If you find His Most Christian Majesty determined not to agree to it, you are empowered to add to it, as follows: That the *United States* will never be subject, or acknowledge allegiance, or obedience, to the King, Crown, or Parliament of *Great Britain*; nor grant to that nation

any exclusive trade, or any advantages, or privileges in trade, more than to His Most Christian Majesty; neither shall any treaty for terminating the present war between the King of *Great Britain* and the *United States*, or any war which may be declared by the King of *Great Britain* against His Most Christian Majesty in consequence of this treaty, take effect until the expiration of six calendar months after the negotiation for that purpose shall have been duly notified, in the former instance by the *United States* to His Most Christian Majesty, and in the other instance by His Most Christian Majesty to the *United States*; to the end that both these parties may be included in the peace, if they think proper.

The twelfth and thirteenth articles are to be waived, if you find that the treaty will be interrupted by insisting on them.

You will press the fourteenth article; but let not the fate of the treaty depend upon obtaining it.

If His Most Christian Majesty should be unwilling to agree to the sixteenth and twenty-sixth articles, you are directed to consent that the goods and effects of enemies, on board the ships and vessels of either party, shall be liable to seizure and confiscation.

The twenty-fifth article is not to be insisted on.

You will solicit the Court of *France* for an immediate supply of twenty or thirty thousand muskets and bayonets, and a large supply of ammunition and brass field-pieces, to be sent under convoy by *France*. The *United States* engage for the payment of the arms, artillery, and ammunition, and to indemnify *France* for the expense of the convoy.

Engage a few good engineers in the service of the *United States*.

It is highly probable that *France* means not to let the *United States* sink in the present contest. But as the difficulty of obtaining true accounts of our condition may cause an opinion to be entertained that we are able to support the war on our own strength and resources longer than in fact we can do, it will be proper for you to press for the immediate and explicit declaration by *France* in our favour, upon a suggestion that a reunion with *Great Britain* may be the consequence of a delay.

Should *Spain* be disinclined to our cause, from an apprehension of danger to his dominions in *South America*, you are empowered to give the strongest assurances that that Crown will receive no molestation from the *United States*, in the possession of these territories.

You will transmit to us the most speedy and full intelligence of your progress in this business, and of any other transactions that it may import us to know.

You are desired to get the best and earliest information that you possibly can of any negotiations that the Court of *London* may be carrying on for obtaining foreign mercenaries to be sent against these States the next campaign; and if any such design is in agitation, you will endeavour to prevail with the Court of *France* to exert its influence in the most effectual manner to prevent the execution of such designs.

You are desired to obtain, as early as possible, a public acknowledgment of the independency of these States on the Crown and Parliament of *Great Britain*, by the Court of *France*.

In conducting this important business, the Congress have the greatest confidence in your address, abilities, vigilance, and attachment to the interests of the *United States*, and wish you every success.

A Letter of the 16th, from General *Washington*, was received and read.

Resolved, That the consideration of the Instructions to be given to the Commissioners to foreign States, be postponed till to-morrow.

Ordered, That 1066 2-3 Dollars be advanced to *Robert Erwin*, Wagonmaster-General.

Resolved, That the Secret Committee be directed, after arming the *German* Battalion, to arm the *Maryland* Company on its march to *New-York* with the remainder, or with as many arms as shall then be in their possession, belonging to the Continent.

The several matters to this day referred being postponed, Adjourned to ten o'clock, to-morrow.

Wednesday, September 18, 1776.

A Letter of the 16th, from *R. Dallam*, Deputy Paymaster-General, was read.

The Board of War brought in a Report,* which was taken into consideration; Whereupon,

Resolved, That if Rations be received by the Officers or Privates in the Continental Army, in money, they be paid at the rate of 8-90ths of a Dollar per Ration:

That *Monsieur Jacque Paul Govert* have the rank and pay of a Captain-Lieutenant of Artillery in the Continental army, and that a commission be given to him accordingly:

That the Medical Committee send an assortment of proper Medicines to the Northern Army:

That *Monsieur de Vermonet* have the rank and pay of a Major by brevet, he being a gentleman of considerable military abilities:

That the Bounty and Grants of Land offered by Congress, by a Resolution of the 16th instant, as an encouragement to the Officers and Soldiers to engage to serve in the Army of the *United States* during the war, shall extend to all who are or shall be enlisted for that term; the bounty of 10 Dollars, which any of the Soldiers have received from the Continent on account of a former enlistment, to be reckoned in part payment of the 20 Dollars offered by the said Resolution:

That no Officer in the Continental Army be allowed to hold more than one Commission, or to receive pay but in one capacity at the same time.

Resolved, That the remainder of the Report be postponed.

Resolved, That the Board of War be directed to prepare a Resolution for enforcing and perfecting discipline in the Army.

Ordered, That 1564 45-90 Dollars be paid in specie to *John Bonfield*, and charged to the account of Brigadier-General *Arnold*, the same being in full of Brigadier-General *Arnold's* note of the 11th of *May* last:

That an Order for 1000 Dollars be drawn on the Treasurer, in favour of the Committee appointed to contract for casting Cannon; they to be accountable:

That the Secret Committee furnish the said Committee with two barrels of Powder for proving Cannon.

Resolved, That Captain *McKenzie*, a prisoner in the Gaol of *Philadelphia*, be liberated on his parole, the state of his health requiring air and exercise; and that he be ordered to *Reading*, in *Pennsylvania*, there to reside under the same restrictions as other prisoners on their parole.

The Committee of Treasury brought in a Report on the ways and means of raising five millions of Dollars, which was read.

Ordered, To lie on the table.

Congress took into consideration the Instructions to the Commissioners; and after debate,

Resolved, That the further consideration thereof be postponed.

The several matters to this day referred being postponed, Adjourned to ten o'clock to-morrow.

Thursday, September 19, 1776.

The Board of Treasury reported that they have examined the Vouchers brought into their office by *Joseph*

* At a Board of War, September 14, 1776, agreed to report to Congress,

That if Rations be received by the Officers or Privates in the Continental Army, in money, they be paid at the rate of eight ninetieths parts of a dollar per ration:

That *Mons. Jacque Paul Govert* have the rank and pay of Captain-Lieutenant of Artillery in the Continental Army, and that his commission be given him accordingly:

That although this Congress cannot approve of the behaviour of Brigadier-General *Arnold* towards the Court-Martial of which Colonel *Poor* was the President, held at *Tyconderoga* in *July* last, and although the resolution of the Court-Martial in support of their dignity deserves applause, yet the conduct of General *Gates*, in putting an end to so dangerous an altercation, which appears to have been too warm on both sides, at a critical time, by dissolving the Court-Martial, was prudent, and highly deserves the approbation of Congress: (*Postponed*.)

That the prudence, vigilance, and activity of General *Gates* since he had the command of the Northern Army, in general, and especially in composing differences, removing jealousies and animosities, and exterminating the small-pox from that army, deserves the thanks of Congress, and that the thanks of Congress be accordingly transmitted him by the President: (*Postponed*.)

That the Medical Committee send an assortment of proper Medicines to the Northern Army.

Hewes, Esq., one of the Naval Committee, by which it appears that the Naval Committee have expended the sum of 134,333 27-90 Dollars in fitting out eight armed vessels.

Resolved, That the same be allowed and passed to the credit of the said Committee.

The Naval Committee having laid before Congress an Account of sundry outstanding debts, and of sundry goods by them purchased and put into the hands of different persons who have not yet accounted for the same,

Resolved, That the said Account be delivered to the Marine Committee, and that they be directed to take effectual measures to have the said outstanding Debts collected and Accounts settled.

Resolved, That two months' pay as Major, being 66 2-3 Dollars, be advanced to Major le Chevalier *de Vermonet*, he to be accountable:

That Major *de Vermonet* be referred to the Board of Treasury, for a settlement of his accounts for Rations:

That 100 Dollars be advanced to Captain *William Davies*, of *Virginia*, for the use of his Company on their march to *New-York*, he to be accountable.

A Petition from Captain *Woelper* was read:

Ordered, That it be referred to the Delegates of *Pennsylvania* and *Maryland*, who are directed to settle the rank of the Captains and Subalterns in the *German* Battalion, and report to Congress.

The Board of War brought in a Report, which was taken into consideration; Whereupon,

Resolved, That Mons. Marquis *de Malmady* be appointed to the rank and pay of a Major by brevet in the Continental Army, and receive a commission accordingly:

That Mons. *Jean Louis Imbert*, a gentleman well recommended as an Engineer, be sent to General *Washington* to be employed in that capacity, in order to show his abilities, and that one month's pay as a Captain be advanced for his expenses:

That Mons. *Christian de Colerus* be appointed to the rank and pay of a Major by brevet, and that his commission be forthwith given him.

That Mons. *Jean Louis de Virnejout* be appointed to the rank and pay of a Captain by brevet, and commissioned accordingly:

That the Commander-in-Chief of the forces of these States in the several departments, be directed to give positive orders to the Brigadier-Generals and Colonels, and all other officers in their several armies, that the troops, under their command, may, every day, be called together, and trained in arms, in order that officers and men may be perfected in the manual exercise and manœuvres, and inured to the most exemplary discipline, and that all officers be assured, that the Congress will consider activity and success, in introducing discipline into the army, among the best recommendations for promotion.

The Commissioners for settling the Publick Accounts in the Northern Army, having represented to the Board of Treasury, that sundry officers in the Army, holding two commissions, had, previous to the time of General *Schuyler's* receiving the order of Congress, not to allow to any person for more than one commission, received warrants from the General for payment in their double capacity, and desiring to know whether such Accounts are to be allowed:

Resolved, That such Warrants drawn by General *Schuyler* previous to the time of his receiving the order of Congress, be allowed by the Commissioners:

That, to prevent, for the future, Warrants being drawn by any General in the Continental Army, in favour of any officer, for more than one commission, the order of Congress be published, that no officer in the Continental Army is allowed to hold more than one commission, or to receive pay but in one capacity.

The Committee of Treasury reported, that there is due,

To *Henry Brothers*, 54 Dollars; *George Troxsell*, 64 Dollars and 72-90ths, and *Jacob Miller*, 60 Dollars; the whole amounting to 178 Dollars and 72-90ths; to be paid to Colonel *George Stricker*, for the hire of three wagons from *Maryland* to *Philadelphia*, with the baggage of two Field-Officers, and two Companies belonging to the *German* Battalion:

To the late Colonel *Caleb Perry*, for Provisions supplied the Militia on their march to *New-Jersey*, with their ferriage, and the ferriage of baggage-wagons over *Schuylkill*, 53 Dollars; to be paid to *John Jacobs*:

Ordered, That the said Accounts be paid.

A Memorial from the Chevalier *Dorre* was read:

Ordered, That it be referred to the Board of War.

The Committee for *Indian* Affairs brought in a Report, which was taken into consideration; Whereupon,

Resolved, That 66 Dollars and 60-90ths be paid to *Jacob Fowler*, of the *Montauk* tribe of *Indians* on *Long-Island*, for his trouble in going to the *Mohawk* and *Oneida* Nations of *Indians*, and for his services whilst he remained amongst them:

That the Commanding Officers at the several Posts on the frontiers of *Virginia* and *Pennsylvania*, be desired to give the earliest intelligence they can of every important occurrence they may have notice of, respecting the *Indians*, to the Commissioners, or, when they are not in the way, to the Agent for *Indian* Affairs:

That it be recommended to the inhabitants of the frontiers, and to the Officers at all the Posts there, to treat the *Indians*, who behave peaceably and inoffensively, with kindness and civility, and not to suffer them to be ill-used or insulted:

That 400 Dollars be paid to the Agent for *Indian* Affairs in the Middle Department, for expenditures, and to be accounted for by him:

That the Orders drawn by the Commissioners for *Indian* Affairs in the Middle Department, on the Committee for *Indian* Affairs, for £1,104 17s. 7½d., *Pennsylvania* currency, and for £73 0s. 9d. of like money, being 3,141 Dollars and 10-90ths, the cost of sundry Merchandise bought by the Agent for the *Indians*, the former payable to *James Heron*, and the other to *James Heron* and *James Bavard*, be accepted, and that the money be paid by the Treasurer of the *United States*:

That a Talk be delivered to the Chiefs and Warriours of the *Shawanese Indians*, now in *Philadelphia*, to be communicated by them to their Nation, in these words:

"THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA to their Brethren, the Chiefs and Warriours of the SHAWANESE Nation:

"We have heard from you by Mr. *Morgan*, our Agent, and are much pleased with your reception of him into your towns, and with your answers to our messages by him. We expect that you and our Commissioners will shortly meet in council at *Pittsburg*, when we hope our old friendship will be renewed, and such a peace established between us as will last forever.

"Our young brothers, *Wenthissicia* and *Pellawa*, have visited their white brethren here in company with Mr. *Morgan*. They can tell you that we keep our roads clear of thorns and briars, and open for all our *Indian* brethren who think proper to visit us. We shall always be pleased to see our brothers the *Shawanese*, and our brothers of every other *Indian* nation. We wish to see some of their wise men at our great council-fire, which we preserve bright and clear for all nations."

As it may be a means of conciliating the friendship of the *Canadian Indians*, or, at least, of preventing hostilities from them in some measure, to assist the President of *Dartmouth* College, in *New-Hampshire*, in maintaining their youth who are now there under his tuition, and whom the revenues of the College are not at this time sufficient to support; that, for this purpose, 500 Dollars be paid to the Rev. Dr. *Eleazer Wheelock*, President of the said College.

Resolved, That the Adjutants of Regiments in the Continental Army be allowed the pay and rations of Captains, and have the rank of First Lieutenants.

Congress resumed the consideration of the Articles of War; and, after some time, the further consideration thereof was postponed.

Ordered, That the Secret Committee supply the State of *New-Jersey* with one ton of Powder, the said State to be accountable.

The several matters to this day referred being postponed, Adjourned to ten o'clock to-morrow.

Friday, September 20, 1776.

A Letter of the 18th, from General *Washington*, and one of the 13th, from the General Assembly of *Massachusetts-Bay*, enclosing sundry Papers, were read:

Ordered, That the Letter from the Assembly of *Massachusetts-Bay* be referred to the Marine Committee.

In order to prevent the Officers and Soldiers who shall be entitled to the Lands hereafter to be granted by the Resolution of Congress of the 16th, from disposing of the same during the War,

Resolved, That this Congress will not grant Lands to any person or persons claiming under the assignment of an Officer or Soldier.

Ordered, That the Medical Committee forward 300 pounds of *Peruvian Bark* to the Southern Department, for the use of the Troops there.

Congress resumed the consideration of the Articles of War, which, being debated by paragraphs, were agreed to, as follows:

Resolved, That from and after the publication of the following Articles in the respective Armies of the *United States*, the Rules and Articles by which the said Armies have heretofore been governed, shall be, and they are hereby repealed.

SECTION I.

ARTICLE 1. That every officer who shall be retained in the Army of the *United States* shall, at the time of his acceptance of his commission, subscribe these rules and regulations.

ART. 2. It is earnestly recommended to all officers and soldiers diligently to attend divine service; and all officers and soldiers who shall behave indecently or irreverently at any place of divine worship, shall, if commissioned officers, be brought before a general court-martial, there to be publicly and severely reprimanded by the President; if non-commissioned officers or soldiers, every person so offending shall, for his first offence, forfeit one-sixth of a dollar, to be deducted out of his next pay; for the second offence, he shall not only forfeit a like sum, but be confined for twenty-four hours; and for every like offence, shall suffer and pay in like manner; which money, so forfeited, shall be applied to the use of the sick soldiers of the troop or company to which the offender belongs.

ART. 3. Whatsoever non-commissioned officer or soldier shall use any profane oath or execration, shall incur the penalties expressed in the foregoing article; and if a commissioned officer be thus guilty of profane cursing or swearing he shall forfeit and pay, for each and every such offence, two-thirds of a dollar.

ART. 4. Every Chaplain who is commissioned to a regiment, troop, or garrison, and shall absent himself from the said regiment, company, troop, or garrison, (excepting in case of sickness or leave of absence,) shall be brought to a court-martial, and be fined not exceeding one month's pay, besides the loss of his pay during his absence, or be discharged, as the said court-martial shall judge most proper.

SECTION II.

ART. 1. Whatsoever officer or soldier shall presume to use traitorous or disrespectful words against the authority of the *United States* in Congress assembled, or the Legislature of any of the *United States* in which he may be quartered, if a commissioned officer, he shall be cashiered; if a non-commissioned officer or soldier, he shall suffer such punishment as shall be inflicted upon him by the sentence of a court-martial.

ART. 2. Any officer or soldier who shall behave himself with contempt or disrespect towards the General, or other Commander-in-Chief of the forces of the *United States*, or shall speak words tending to his hurt or dishonour, shall be punished according to the nature of his offence, by the judgment of a court-martial.

ART. 3. Any officer or soldier who shall begin, excite, cause, or join in any mutiny or sedition in the troop, company, or regiment to which he belongs, or in any other troop or company in the service of the *United States*, or in any part, post, detachment, or guard, on any pretence whatsoever, shall suffer death, or such other punishment as by a court-martial shall be inflicted.

ART. 4. Any officer, non-commissioned officer, or soldier, who, being present at any mutiny or sedition, does not use

his utmost endeavour to suppress the same, or coming to the knowledge of any intended mutiny, does not, without delay, give information thereof to his commanding officer, shall be punished by a court-martial with death, or otherwise, according to the nature of the offence.

ART. 5. Any officer or soldier who shall strike his superiour officer, or draw, or shall lift up any weapon, or offer any violence against him, being in the execution of his office, on any pretence whatsoever, or shall disobey any lawful command of his superiour officer, shall suffer death, or such other punishment as shall, according to the nature of his offence, be inflicted upon him by the sentence of a court-martial.

SECTION III.

ART. 1. Every non-commissioned officer and soldier, who shall enlist himself in the service of the *United States*, shall at the time of his so enlisting, or within six days afterwards, have the articles for the government of the forces of the *United States* read to him, and shall, by the officer who enlisted him, or by the commanding officer of the troop or company into which he was enlisted, be taken before the next Justice of the Peace, or Chief Magistrate of any city or town-corporate, not being an officer of the army, or, where recourse cannot be had to the civil magistrate, before the Judge-Advocate, and, in his presence, shall take the following oath, or affirmation if conscientiously scrupulous about taking an oath:

"I swear [or affirm as the case may be] to be true to the *United States of America*, and to serve them honestly and faithfully against all their enemies or opposers whatsoever; and to observe and obey the orders of the Continental Congress, and the orders of the Generals and officers set over me by them."

Which Justice or Magistrate is to give the officer a certificate signifying that the man enlisted did take the said oath or affirmation.

ART. 2. After a non-commissioned officer or soldier shall have been duly enlisted and sworn, he shall not be dismissed the service without a discharge in writing; and no discharge granted to him shall be allowed of as sufficient, which is not signed by a field-officer of the regiment into which he was enlisted, or commanding officer where no field-officer of the regiment is in the same State.

SECTION IV.

ART. 1. Every officer commanding a regiment, troop, or company, shall, upon the notice given to him by the Commissary of Musters, or from one of his deputies, assemble the regiment, troop, or company under his command in the next convenient place for their being mustered.

ART. 2. Every Colonel or other field-officer commanding the regiment, troop, or company, and actually residing with it, may give furloughs to non-commissioned officers and soldiers, in such numbers and for so long a time as he shall judge to be most consistent with the good of the service; but no non-commissioned officer or soldier shall, by leave of his Captain, or inferior officer commanding the troop or company (his field-officer not being present) be absent above twenty days in six months, nor shall more than two private men be absent at the same time from their troop or company, excepting some extraordinary occasion shall require it, of which occasion the field-officer present with, and commanding the regiment, is to be judge.

ART. 3. At every muster, the commanding officer of each regiment, troop, or company there present, shall give to the Commissary certificates signed by himself, signifying how long such officers who shall not appear at the said muster have been absent, and the reason of their absence; in like manner, the commanding officer of every troop or company shall give certificates signifying the reasons of the absence of the non-commissioned officers and private soldiers; which reasons, and time of absence, shall be inserted in the muster-rolls opposite to the names of the respective absent officers and soldiers; the said certificates shall, together with the muster-rolls, be remitted by the Commissary to the Congress, as speedily as the distance of place will admit.

ART. 4. Every officer who shall be convicted before a general court-martial of having signed a false certificate, relating to the absence of either officer or private soldier, shall be cashiered.

ART. 5. Every officer who shall knowingly make a false

muster of man or horse, and every officer or Commissary who shall willingly sign, direct, or allow the signing of the muster-rolls, wherein such false muster is contained, shall, upon proof made thereof by two witnesses before a general court-martial, be cashiered, and shall be thereby utterly disabled to have or hold any office or employment in the service of the *United States*.

ART. 6. Any Commissary who shall be convicted of having taken money, or any other thing, by way of gratification, on the mustering of any regiment, troop, or company, or on the signing the muster-rolls, shall be displaced from his office, and shall be thereby utterly disabled to have or hold any office or employment under the *United States*.

ART. 7. Any officer who shall presume to muster any person as a soldier who is, at other times, accustomed to wear a livery, or who does not actually do his duty as a soldier, shall be deemed guilty of having made a false muster, and shall suffer accordingly.

SECTION V.

ART. 1. Every officer who shall knowingly make a false return to the Congress, or any committee thereof, to the Commander-in-Chief of the forces of the *United States*, or to any his superiour officer authorized to call for such returns, of the state of the regiment, troop, or company, or garrison, under his command, or of arms, ammunition, clothing, or other stores thereunto belonging, shall, by a court-martial, be cashiered.

ART. 2. The commanding officer of every regiment, troop, or independent company, or garrison of the *United States*, shall, in the beginning of every month, remit to the Commander-in-Chief of the *American* forces, and to the Congress, an exact return of the state of the regiment, troop, independent company or garrison under his command, specifying the names of the officers not then residing at their posts, and the reason for, and time of, their absence: whoever shall be convicted of having, through neglect or design, omitted the sending such returns, shall be punished according to the nature of his crime, by the judgment of a general court-martial.

SECTION VI.

ART. 1. All officers and soldiers, who, having received pay, or having been duly inlisted in the service of the *United States*, shall be convicted of having deserted the same, shall suffer death, or such other punishment as by a court-martial shall be inflicted.

ART. 2. Any non-commissioned officer or soldier who shall, without leave from his commanding officer, absent himself from his troop or company, or from any detachment with which he shall be commanded, shall, upon being convicted thereof, be punished according to the nature of his offence, at the discretion of a court-martial.

ART. 3. No non-commissioned officer or soldier shall inlist himself in any other regiment, troop, or company, without a regular discharge from the regiment, troop, or company in which he last served, on the penalty of being reputed a deserter, and suffering accordingly; and in case any officer shall knowingly receive and entertain such non-commissioned officer or soldier, or shall not, after his being discovered to be a deserter, immediately confine him, and give notice thereof to the corps in which he last served, he, the said officer so offending, shall, by a court-martial, be cashiered.

ART. 4. Whatsoever officer or soldier shall be convicted of having advised or persuaded any other officer or soldier to desert the service of the *United States*, shall suffer such punishment as shall be inflicted upon him by the sentence of a court-martial.

SECTION VII.

ART. 1. No officer or soldier shall use any reproachful or provoking speeches or gestures to another, upon pain, if an officer, of being put in arrest: if a soldier, imprisoned, and of asking pardon of the party offended, in the presence of his commanding officer.

ART. 2. No officer or soldier shall presume to send a challenge to any other officer or soldier to fight a duel, upon pain, if a commissioned officer, of being cashiered, if a non-commissioned officer or soldier, of suffering corporeal punishment, at the discretion of a court-martial.

ART. 3. If any commissioned or non-commissioned officer commanding a guard, shall, knowingly and willingly, suffer

any person whatsoever to go forth to fight a duel, he shall be punished as a challenger; and likewise all seconds, promoters, and carriers of challenges, in order to duels, shall be deemed as principals, and be punished accordingly.

ART. 4. All officers, of what condition soever, have power to part and quell all quarrels, frays, and disorders, though the persons concerned should belong to another regiment, troop, or company; and either to order officers into arrest, or non-commissioned officers or soldiers to prison, till their proper superiour officers shall be acquainted therewith; and whosoever shall refuse to obey such officer (though of an inferiour rank) or shall draw his sword upon him, shall be punished at the discretion of a general court-martial.

ART. 5. Whatsoever officer or soldier shall upbraid another for refusing a challenge, shall himself be punished as a challenger; and all officers and soldiers are hereby discharged of any disgrace, or opinion of disadvantage, which might arise from their having refused to accept of challenges, as they will only have acted in obedience to the orders of Congress, and done their duty as good soldiers, who subject themselves to discipline.

SECTION VIII.

ART. 1. No sutler shall be permitted to sell any kind of liquors or victuals, or to keep their houses or shops open, for the entertainment of soldiers, after nine at night, or before the beating of the reveilles, or upon *Sundays*, during Divine service or sermon, on the penalty of being dismissed from all future suttling.

ART. 2. All officers, soldiers, and suttlers, shall have full liberty to bring into any of the forts or garrisons of the *United American States*, any quantity or species of provisions, eatable or drinkable, except where any contract or contracts are or shall be entered into by Congress, or by their order, for furnishing such provisions, and with respect only to the species of provisions so contracted for.

ART. 3. All officers commanding in the forts, barracks, or garrisons of the *United States*, are hereby required to see that the persons permitted to suttle shall supply the soldiers with good and wholesome provisions at the market price, as they shall be answerable for their neglect.

ART. 4. No officers commanding in any of the garrisons, forts, or barracks of the *United States*, shall either themselves exact exorbitant prices for houses or stalls let out to suttlers, or shall connive at the like exactions in others; nor, by their own authority and for their private advantage, shall they lay any duty or imposition upon, or be interested in, the sale of such victuals, liquors, or other necessities of life, which are brought into the garrison, fort, or barracks, for the use of the soldiers, on the penalty of being discharged from the service.

SECTION IX.

ART. 1. Every officer commanding in quarters, garrisons, or on a march, shall keep good order, and, to the utmost of his power, redress all such abuses or disorders which may be committed by any officer or soldier under his command; if, upon complaint made to him of officers or soldiers beating, or otherwise ill treating any person; of disturbing fairs or markets, or of committing any kind of riots to the disquieting of the good people of the *United States*, he, the said commander, who shall refuse or omit to see justice done on the offender or offenders, and reparation made to the party or parties injured, as far as part of the offenders' pay shall enable him or them, shall, upon proof thereof, be punished, by a general court-martial, as if he himself had committed the crimes or disorders complained of.

SECTION X.

ART. 1. Whenever any officer or soldier shall be accused of a capital crime, or of having used violence, or committed any offence against the persons or property of the good people of any of the *United American States*, such as is punishable by the known laws of the land, the commanding officer and officers of every regiment, troop, or party, to which the person or persons so accused shall belong, are hereby required, upon application duly made by or in behalf of the party or parties injured, to use his utmost endeavours to deliver over such accused person or persons to the civil magistrate; and likewise to be aiding and assisting to the officers of justice in apprehending and securing the person or persons so accused, in order to bring them to a trial. If

any commanding officer or officers shall wilfully neglect or shall refuse, upon the application aforesaid, to deliver over such accused person or persons to the civil magistrates, or to be aiding and assisting to the officers of justice in apprehending such person or persons, the officer or officers so offending shall be cashiered.

ART. 2. No officer shall protect any person from his creditors, on the pretence of his being a soldier, nor any non-commissioned officer or soldier who does not actually do all duties as such, and no further than is allowed by a resolution of Congress, bearing date the 26th day of *December*, 1775. Any officer offending herein, being convicted thereof before a court-martial, shall be cashiered.

SECTION XI.

ART. 1. If any officer shall think himself to be wronged by his Colonel, or the commanding officer of the regiment, and shall, upon due application made to him, be refused to be redressed, he may complain to the General, commanding in chief the forces of the *United States*, in order to obtain justice, who is hereby required to examine into the said complaint, and, either by himself or the Board of War, to make report to Congress thereupon, in order to receive further directions.

ART. 2. If any inferior officer or soldier shall think himself wronged by his Captain, or other officer commanding the troop or company to which he belongs, he is to complain thereof to the commanding officer of the regiment, who is hereby required to summon a regimental court-martial, for the doing justice to the complainant; from which regimental court-martial either party may, if he thinks himself still aggrieved, appeal to a general court-martial; but if, upon a second hearing, the appeal shall appear to be vexatious and groundless, the person so appealing shall be punished at the discretion of the said general court-martial.

SECTION XII.

ART. 1. Whatsoever commissioned officer, storekeeper, or commissary, shall be convicted at a general court-martial of having sold, (without a proper order for that purpose,) embezzled, misapplied, or wilfully or through neglect suffered any of the provisions, forage, arms, clothing, ammunition, or other military stores belonging to the *United States*, to be spoiled or damaged, the said officer, storekeeper, or commissary so offending, shall, at his own charge, make good the loss or damage; shall moreover forfeit all his pay, and be dismissed from the service.

ART. 2. Whatsoever non-commissioned officer or soldier shall be convicted at a regimental court-martial of having sold, or designedly or through neglect wasted, the ammunition delivered out to him to be employed in the service of the *United States*, shall, if a non-commissioned officer, be reduced to a private sentinel, and shall besides suffer corporeal punishment in the same manner as a private sentinel so offending, at the discretion of a regimental court-martial.

ART. 3. Every non-commissioned officer or soldier who shall be convicted at a court-martial of having sold, lost, or spoiled, through neglect, his horse, arms, clothes, or accoutrements, shall undergo such weekly stoppages, (not exceeding the half of his pay,) as a court-martial shall judge sufficient for repairing the loss or damage, and shall suffer imprisonment, or such other corporeal punishment, as his crime shall deserve.

ART. 4. Every officer who shall be convicted at a court-martial of having embezzled or misapplied any money with which he may have been entrusted for the payment of the men under his command, or for inlisting men into the service, if a commissioned officer, shall be cashiered and compelled to refund the money: if a non-commissioned officer, shall be reduced to serve in the ranks as a private soldier, be put under stoppages until the money be made good, and suffer such corporeal punishment (not extending to life or limb) as the court-martial shall think fit.

ART. 5. Every Captain of a troop or company is charged with the arms, accoutrements, ammunition, clothing, or other warlike stores belonging to the troop or company under his command; which he is to be accountable for to his Colonel, in case of their being lost, spoiled, or damaged, not by unavoidable accidents, or on actual service.

SECTION XIII.

ART. 1. All non-commissioned officers and soldiers who shall be found one mile from the camp without leave, in

writing, from their commanding officer, shall suffer such punishment as shall be inflicted upon them by the sentence of a court-martial.

ART. 2. No officer or soldier shall lie out of his quarters, garrison, or camp, without leave from his superior officer, upon penalty of being punished according to the nature of his offence, by the sentence of a court-martial.

ART. 3. Every non-commissioned officer and soldier shall retire to his quarters or tent at the beating of the retreat; in default of which he shall be punished, according to the nature of his offence, by the commanding officer.

ART. 4. No officer, non-commissioned officer, or soldier, shall fail of repairing, at the time fixed, to the place of parade or exercise, or other rendezvous appointed by his commanding officer, if not prevented by sickness or some other evident necessity; or shall go from the said place of rendezvous or from his guard, without leave from his commanding officer, before he shall be regularly dismissed or relieved, on the penalty of being punished according to the nature of his offence, by the sentence of a court-martial.

ART. 5. Whatever commissioned officer shall be found drunk on his guard party, or other duty under arms, shall be cashiered for it: any non-commissioned officer or soldier so offending shall suffer such corporeal punishment as shall be inflicted by the sentence of a court-martial.

ART. 6. Whatever sentinel shall be found sleeping upon his post, or shall leave it before he shall be regularly relieved, shall suffer death, or such other punishment as shall be inflicted by the sentence of a court-martial.

ART. 7. No soldier belonging to any regiment, troop, or company, shall hire another to do his duty for him, or be excused from duty, but in case of sickness, disability, or leave of absence; and every such soldier found guilty of hiring his duty, as also the party so hired to do another's duty, shall be punished at the next regimental court-martial.

ART. 8. And every non-commissioned officer conniving at such hiring of duty as aforesaid, shall be reduced for it; and every commissioned officer, knowing and allowing of such ill practices in the service, shall be punished by the judgment of a general court-martial.

ART. 9. Any person, belonging to the forces employed in the service of the *United States*, who, by discharging of fire-arms, drawing of swords, beating of drums, or by any other means whatsoever, shall occasion false alarms in camp, garrison, or quarters, shall suffer death, or such other punishment as shall be ordered by the sentence of a general court-martial.

ART. 10. Any officer, or soldier who shall, without urgent necessity, or without the leave of his superior officer, quit his platoon or division, shall be punished according to the nature of his offence, by the sentence of a court-martial.

ART. 11. No officer or soldier shall do violence to any person who brings provisions or other necessaries to the camp, garrison, or quarters of the forces of the *United States* employed in parts out of said States, on pain of death, or such other punishment as a court-martial shall direct.

ART. 12. Whatsoever officer or soldier shall misbehave himself before the enemy, or shamefully abandon any post committed to his charge, or shall speak words inducing others to do the like, shall suffer death.

ART. 13. Whatsoever officer or soldier shall misbehave himself before the enemy, and run away, or shamefully abandon any fort, post, or guard, which he or they shall be commanded to defend, or speak words inducing others to do the like; or who, after victory, shall quit his commanding officer or post to plunder and pillage: every such offender, being duly convicted thereof, shall be reputed a disobeyer of military orders; and shall suffer death, or such other punishment as, by a general court-martial, shall be inflicted on him.

ART. 14. Any person, belonging to the forces of the *United States*, who shall cast away his arms and ammunition, shall suffer death, or such other punishment as shall be ordered by the sentence of a general court-martial.

ART. 15. Any person, belonging to the forces of the *United States*, who shall make known the watch-word to any person who is not entitled to receive it according to the rules and discipline of war, or shall presume to give a parole or watch-word different from what he received, shall

suffer death, or such other punishment as shall be ordered by the sentence of a general court-martial.

ART. 16. All officers and soldiers are to behave themselves orderly in quarters, and on their march; and whosoever shall commit any waste or spoil, either in walks of trees, parks, warrens, fish-ponds, houses or gardens, corn-fields, enclosures or meadows, or shall maliciously destroy any property whatsoever belonging to the good people of the *United States*, unless by order of the then Commander-in-Chief of the forces of the said States, to annoy rebels or other enemies in arms against said States: he or they that shall be found guilty of offending herein, shall (besides such penalties as they are liable to by law) be punished according to the nature and degree of the offence, by the judgment of a regimental or general court-martial.

ART. 17. Whosoever, belonging to the forces of the *United States*, employed in foreign parts shall force a safeguard, shall suffer death.

ART. 18. Whosoever shall relieve the enemy with money, victuals, or ammunition, or shall knowingly harbour or protect an enemy, shall suffer death, or such other punishment as by a court-martial shall be inflicted.

ART. 19. Whosoever shall be convicted of holding correspondence with, or giving intelligence to the enemy, either directly or indirectly, shall suffer death, or such other punishment as by a court-martial shall be inflicted.

ART. 20. All publick stores taken in the enemy's camp, towns, forts, or magazines, whether of artillery, ammunition, clothing, forage, or provisions, shall be secured for the service of the *United States*; for the neglect of which the commanders-in-chief are to be answerable.

ART. 21. If any officer or soldier shall leave his post or colours to go in search of plunder, he shall upon being convicted thereof before a general court-martial, suffer death, or such other punishment as by a court-martial shall be inflicted.

ART. 22. If any commander of any garrison, fortress, or post, shall be compelled by the officers or soldiers under his command to give up to the enemy, or to abandon it, the commissioned officers, non-commissioned officers, or soldiers, who shall be convicted of having so offended, shall suffer death, or such other punishment as shall be inflicted upon them by the sentence of a court-martial.

ART. 23. All sutlers and retainers to a camp, and all persons whatsoever serving with the armies of the *United States* in the field, though no enlisted soldier, are to be subject to orders, according to the rules and discipline of war.

ART. 24. Officers having brevets, or commissions of a prior date to those of the regiment in which they now serve, may take place in courts-martial and on detachments, when composed of different corps, according to the ranks given them in their brevets or dates of their former commissions; but in the regiment, troop, or company to which such brevet officers and those who have commissions of a prior date do belong, they shall do duty and take rank both on court-martial and on detachments which shall be composed only of their own corps, according to the commissions by which they are mustered in the said corps.

ART. 25. If upon marches, guards, or in quarters, different corps shall happen to join or do duty together, the eldest officer by commission there, on duty, or in quarters, shall command the whole, and give out orders for what is needful to the service: regard being always had to the several ranks of those corps, and the posts they usually occupy.

ART. 26. And in like manner also, if any regiments, troops, or detachments of horse or foot shall happen to march with, or be encamped or quartered with any bodies or detachments of other troops in the service of the *United States*, the eldest officer, without respect to corps, shall take upon him the command of the whole, and give the necessary orders to the service.

SECTION XIV.

ART. 1. A general court-martial in the *United States* shall not consist of less than thirteen commissioned officers, and the President of such court-martial shall not be the commander-in-chief or commandant of the garrison where the offender shall be tried, nor be under the degree of a field-officer.

ART. 2. The members both of general and regimental courts-martial shall, when belonging to different corps, take

the same rank which they hold in the army; but when courts-martial shall be composed of officers of one corps, they shall take their ranks according to the dates of the commissions, by which they are mustered in the said corps.

ART. 3. The Judge-Advocate General, or some person deputed by him, shall prosecute in the name of the *United States of America*; and in trials of offenders by general courts-martial, administer to each member the following oaths:

"You shall well and truly try and determine, according to your evidence, the matter now before you, between the *United States of America* and the prisoners to be tried. So help you God."

"You *A. B.* do swear, that you will duly administer justice according to the rules and articles for the better government of the forces of the *United States of America*, without partiality, favour, or affection; and if any doubt shall arise which is not explained by the said articles, according to your conscience, the best of your understanding, and the custom of war in the like cases. And you do further swear, that you will not divulge the sentence of the court until it shall be approved of by the General, or commander-in-chief; neither will you upon any account, at any time whatsoever, disclose or discover the vote or opinion of any particular member of the court-martial, unless required to give evidence thereof as a witness by a court of justice, in a due course of law. So help you God."

And as soon as the said oath shall have been administered to the respective members, the President of the court shall administer to the Judge-Advocate, or person officiating as such, an oath in the following words:

"You *A. B.* do swear, that you will not, upon any account, at any time whatsoever, disclose or discover the vote or opinion of any particular member of the court-martial, unless required to give evidence thereof, as a witness, by a court of justice, in a due course of law. So help you God."

ART. 4. All the members of a court-martial are to behave with calmness and decency; and in the giving of their votes, are to begin with the youngest in commission.

ART. 5. All persons who give evidence before a general court-martial are to be examined upon oath; and no sentence of death shall be given against any offender by any general court-martial, unless two-thirds of the officers present shall concur therein.

ART. 6. All persons called to give evidence, in any cause, before a court-martial, who shall refuse to give evidence, shall be punished for such refusal, at the discretion of such court-martial: the oath to be administered in the following form, viz:

"You swear the evidence you shall give in the cause now in hearing, shall be the truth, the whole truth, and nothing but the truth. So help you God."

ART. 7. No field-officer shall be tried by any person under the degree of a captain; nor shall any proceedings or trials be carried on excepting between the hours of eight in the morning and of three in the afternoon, except in cases which require an immediate example.

ART. 8. No sentence of a general court-martial shall be put in execution, till after a report shall be made of the whole proceedings to Congress, or to the General or Commander-in-Chief of the forces of the *United States*, and their or his directions be signified thereupon.

ART. 9. For the more equitable decision of disputes which may arise between officers and soldiers belonging to different corps, it is hereby directed, that the courts-martial shall be equally composed of officers belonging to the corps in which the parties in question do then serve; and that the Presidents shall be taken by turns, beginning with that corps which shall be eldest in rank.

ART. 10. The commissioned officers of every regiment may, by the appointment of their Colonel or commanding officer, hold regimental courts-martial for the inquiring into such disputes or criminal matters, as may come before them, and for the inflicting corporeal punishments for small offences, and shall give judgment by the majority of voices; but no sentence shall be executed till the commanding officer (not being a member of the court-martial) or the commandant of the garrison shall have confirmed the same.

ART. 11. No regimental court-martial shall consist of less than five officers, excepting in cases where that number

cannot conveniently be assembled, when three may be sufficient; who are likewise to determine upon the sentence by the majority of voices; which sentence is to be confirmed by the commanding officer of the regiment, not being a member of the court-martial.

ART. 12. Every officer commanding in any of the forts, barracks, or elsewhere, where the corps under his command consists of detachments from different regiments, or of independent companies, may assemble courts-martial for the trial of offenders in the same manner as if they were regimental, whose sentence is not to be executed until it shall be confirmed by the said commanding officer.

ART. 13. No commissioned officer shall be cashiered or dismissed from the service, excepting by an order from the Congress, or by the sentence of a general court-martial; but non-commissioned officers may be discharged as private soldiers, and, by the order of the Colonel of the regiment, or by the sentence of a regimental court-martial, be reduced to private sentinels.

ART. 14. No person whatever shall use menacing words, signs, or gestures, in the presence of a court-martial then sitting, or shall cause any disorder or riot so as to disturb their proceedings, on the penalty of being punished at the discretion of the said court-martial.

ART. 15. To the end that offenders may be brought to justice, it is hereby directed, that whenever any officer or soldier shall commit a crime deserving punishment, he shall, by his commanding officer, if an officer, be put in arrest: if a non-commissioned officer or soldier, be imprisoned till he shall be either tried by a court-martial, or shall be lawfully discharged by a proper authority.

ART. 16. No officer or soldier who shall be put in arrest or imprisonment, shall continue in his confinement more than eight days, or till such time as a court-martial can be conveniently assembled.

ART. 17. No officer commanding a guard, or provost-martial, shall refuse to receive or keep any prisoner committed to his charge, by any officer belonging to the forces of the *United States*: which officer shall, at the same time, deliver an account in writing, signed by himself, of the crime with which the said prisoner is charged.

ART. 18. No officer commanding a guard, or provost-martial, shall presume to release any prisoner committed to his charge without proper authority for so doing; nor shall he suffer any prisoner to escape, on the penalty of being punished for it by the sentence of a court-martial.

ART. 19. Every officer or provost-martial to whose charge prisoners shall be committed, is hereby required, within twenty-four hours after such commitment, or as soon as he shall be relieved from his guard, to give in writing to the Colonel of the regiment to whom the prisoner belongs, (where the prisoner is confined upon the guard belonging to the said regiment, and that his offence only relates to the neglect of duty in his own corps,) or to the commander-in-chief, their names, their crimes, and the names of the officers who committed them, on the penalty of his being punished for his disobedience or neglect, at the discretion of a court-martial.

ART. 20. And if any officer under arrest shall leave his confinement before he is set at liberty by the officer who confined him, or by a superiour power, he shall be cashiered for it.

ART. 21. Whatsoever commissioned officer shall be convicted, before a general court-martial, of behaving in a scandalous, infamous manner, such as is unbecoming the character of an officer and a gentleman, shall be discharged from the service.

ART. 22. In all cases where a commissioned officer is cashiered for cowardice, or fraud, it shall be added in the punishment that the crime, name, place of abode, and punishment of the delinquent, be published in the newspapers in and about the camp, and of that particular State from which the offender came, or usually resides; after which, it shall be deemed scandalous for any officer to associate with him.

SECTION XV.

ART. 1. When any commissioned officer shall happen to die, or be killed, in the service of the *United States*, the Major of the regiment, or the officer doing the Major's duty in his absence, shall immediately secure all his effects or equipage then in camp or quarters; and shall, before the

next regimental court-martial, make an inventory thereof, and forthwith transmit the same to the office of the Board of War, to the end that his executors may, after payment of his debts in quarters, and interment, receive the overplus, if any be, to his or their use.

ART. 2. When any non-commissioned officer or soldier shall happen to die, or to be killed, in the service of the *United States*, the then commanding officer of the troop or company shall, in the presence of two other commissioned officers, take an account of whatever effects he dies possessed of above his regimental clothing, arms, and accoutrements, and transmit the same to the office of the Board at War; which said effects are to be accounted for, and paid to the representative of such deceased non-commissioned officer or soldier. And in case any of the officers so authorized to take care of the effects of dead officers and soldiers, should, before they shall have accounted to their representatives for the same, have occasion to leave the regiment, by preferment or otherwise, they shall, before they be permitted to quit the same, deposite in the hands of the commanding officer, or of the agent of the regiment, all the effects of such deceased non-commissioned officers and soldiers, in order that the same may be secured for and paid to their respective representatives.

SECTION XVI.

ART. 1. All officers, conductors, gunners, matrosses, drivers, or any other persons whatsoever, receiving pay or hire in the service of the Artillery of the *United States*, shall be governed by the aforesaid rules and articles, and shall be subject to be tried by courts-martial in like manner with the officers and soldiers of the other troops in the service of the *United States*.

ART. 2. For differences arising amongst themselves, or in matters relating solely to their own corps, the courts-martial may be composed of their own officers; but where a number sufficient of such officers cannot be assembled, or in matters wherein other corps are interested, the officers of Artillery shall sit in courts-martial with the officers of the other corps, taking their rank according to the dates of their respective commissions, and no otherwise.

SECTION XVII.

ART. 1. The officers and soldiers of any troops, whether Minute-men, Militia, or others, being mustered and in Continental pay, shall, at all times and in all places, when joined, or acting in conjunction with the regular forces of the *United States*, be governed by these rules or articles of war, and shall be subject to be tried by courts-martial in like manner with the officers and soldiers in the regular forces, save only that such courts-martial shall be composed entirely of Militia officers of the same Provincial corps with the offender.

That such Militia and Minute-men as are now in service, and have, by particular contract with the respective States, engaged to be governed by particular regulations while in Continental service, shall not be subject to the above articles of war.

ART. 2. For the future, all General officers and Colonels, serving by commission from the authority of any particular State, shall, on all detachments, courts-martial, or other duty wherein they may be employed in conjunction with the regular forces of the *United States*, take rank next after all Generals and Colonels serving by commissions from Congress, though the commissions of such particular Generals and Colonels should be of elder date; and in like manner Lieutenant-Colonels, Majors, Captains, and other inferior officers, serving by commission from any particular State, shall, on all detachments, courts-martial, or other duty wherein they may be employed in conjunction with the regular forces of the *United States*, have rank next after all officers of the like rank serving by commissions from Congress, though the commissions of such Lieutenant-Colonels, Majors, Captains, and other inferior officers, should be of elder date to those of the like rank from Congress.

SECTION XVIII.

ART. 1. The foregoing articles are to be read and published once in every two months at the head of every regiment, troop, or company, mustered, or to be mustered, in the service of the *United States*; and are to be duly observed and exactly obeyed by all officers and soldiers who are or shall be in the said service.

ART. 2. The General, or Commander-in-Chief for the time being, shall have full power of pardoning or mitigating any of the punishments ordered to be inflicted, for any of the offences mentioned in the foregoing articles; and every offender convicted as aforesaid, by any regimental court-martial, may be pardoned, or have his punishment mitigated by the Colonel, or officer commanding the regiment.

ART. 3. No person shall be sentenced to suffer death, except in the cases expressly mentioned in the foregoing articles; nor shall more than one hundred lashes be inflicted on any offender, at the discretion of a court-martial.

That every Judge-Advocate, or person officiating as such, at any general court-martial, do, and he is hereby required to transmit, with as much expedition as the opportunity of time and distance of place can admit, the original proceedings and sentence of such court-martial to the Secretary at War, which said original proceedings and sentence shall be carefully kept and preserved in the office of said Secretary, to the end that persons entitled thereto may be enabled, upon application to the said office, to obtain copies thereof.

That the party tried by any general court-martial, shall be entitled to a copy of the sentence and proceedings of such court-martial, upon demand thereof, made by himself, or by any other person or persons on his behalf, whether such sentence be approved or not.

ART. 4. The field-officers of each and every regiment are to appoint some suitable person belonging to such regiment, to receive all such fines as may arise within the same, for any breach of any of the foregoing articles, and shall direct the same to be carefully and properly applied to the relief of such sick, wounded, or necessitous soldiers as belong to such regiments; and such person shall account with such officer for all fines received, and the application thereof.

ART. 5. All crimes not capital, and all disorders and neglects which officers and soldiers may be guilty of, to the prejudice of good order and military discipline, though not mentioned in the above articles of war, are to be taken cognizance of by a general or regimental court-martial, according to the nature and degree of the offence, and be punished at their discretion.

Ordered, That the foregoing Articles of War be immediately published.

Ordered, That the Resolutions for raising the new Army be immediately published, and copies thereof sent to the Commanding Officers in the several departments, and to the Assemblies and Conventions of the respective States.

A Petition from *Charles Roberts*, Commander of the Schooner *Thistle*, was read:

Ordered, To lie on the table.

Resolved, That the sum of 6,700 Dollars be advanced to the Delegates of *New-York*, for the use of that State, the said State to be accountable.

Ordered, That *Mr. Paine* write to Governour *Trumbull* respecting the practicability of enlarging the Furnace at *Salisbury*, for casting heavy cannon there, and request his opinion concerning the same.

The Delegates from *New-York* having communicated to Congress a Letter of the 9th, from the Committee of Safety of that State, with sundry Papers enclosed:

Resolved, That a Committee of three be appointed to take the same into consideration, and report thereon with all convenient despatch:

The Members chosen, *Mr. Chase*, *Mr. Paine*, and *Mr. Stockton*.

Resolved, That a Committee of three be appointed to repair to Head-Quarters, near *New-York*, to inquire into the state of the Army, and the best means of supplying their wants:

The Members chosen, *Mr. Sherman*, *Mr. Gerry*, and *Mr. Lewis*.

Resolved, That an Assistant Physician to *Dr. Shippen* be appointed for the Fying-Camp and Troops in *New-Jersey*, and that his pay be 2 Dollars and 2-3ds per day:

The ballots being taken, *Dr. William Brown* was elected.

The several matters to this day referred being postponed, Adjourned to ten o'clock on *Monday*.

Monday, September 23, 1776.

A Letter of the 20th and 21st, from General *Washington*, with sundry Papers enclosed; two of the 19th, from *J. Trumbull*; one of the 21st, from the Convention of *Delaware*; one of the 14th, from *R. Varick*; one of the 19th, from Governour *W. Livingston*; one of the 14th, from General *Schuyler*, with sundry Papers enclosed, and one of the 19th, from Colonel *Van Schaick*, and one from *Dr. William Shippen*, were read:

Ordered, That the Letter from *Dr. Shippen* be referred to the Medical Committee, and the rest to the Board of War.

Two Petitions, one from Colonel *J. Stark*, and the other from Mons. *Devourouy*, were read, and referred to the Board of War.

A Petition from Captain *Archibald Hamilton* was read, praying that he may be permitted to return home and reside with his wife and children:

Resolved, That the prayer of the Petition be granted.

Resolved, That two months' pay be advanced to Mons. *Colerus*, as Major; the same to Mons. *Malmedy*, and two months' pay to Mons. *de Vernejoux*, as Captain.

A Letter from the Speaker of the Assembly of *New-Jersey*, with an extract of a Letter from *Amboy* enclosed, was laid before Congress and read:

Ordered, That a copy of the Letter from the Speaker of the Assembly of *New-Jersey*, and of the enclosed Letter from *Amboy*, be sent to General *Mercer*; and that he be desired to take such steps as shall effectually introduce order, and remove the complaints of the inhabitants of the State of *New-Jersey*.

Resolved, That two Members be added to the Committee on the Treasury:

The ballots being taken, *Mr. Hooper* and *Mr. Ellery* were elected.

Resolved, That a Committee of three be appointed to devise ways and means for providing Clothing and other necessities for the Army:

The Members chosen, *Mr. R. H. Lee*, *Mr. Wythe*, and *Mr. R. Morris*.

Two Letters, of the 22d, from General *Washington*, being received, were read.

The Committee, to whom were referred the several Papers from the Convention of the State of *New-York*, brought in a Report, which was taken into consideration: Whereupon,

Resolved, That the *German Battalion* be ordered immediately to join the Army under General *Washington*; and that the President inform his Excellency of their march, and desire that he will order an equal number of men from his Army, to garrison the forts in the Highlands.

Resolved, That *Mr. J. Mease* be directed to supply the *German Battalion* with such articles of Clothing as they may stand in need of; the same to be charged to their account, and deducted out of the pay of the men:

That three tons of the fifteen tons of Powder, lately ordered to the Northern Army, and now on its way thither, be left at *New-Windsor*, in the State of *New-York*, and from thence conveyed to *Fort Montgomery*; and that five tons be immediately sent from the City of *Philadelphia*.

That two Companies of the Marines lately raised, and now in *Philadelphia*, be also ordered to march immediately to *Fort Montgomery*:

That application be made to the Council of Safety of the State of *Pennsylvania*, to order one-half of the Artillerymen, now in the service of their State, to proceed to *Fort Montgomery* as soon as possible:

That Congress approve the measures adopted by the Convention of *New-York* for the defence of the Highlands, and will cheerfully defray all the necessary expenses that may accrue.

The several matters to this day referred being postponed, Adjourned to ten o'clock to-morrow.

Tuesday, September 24, 1776.

A Petition from *Benjamin Marshall* and brothers, and one from *John Hazard*, were read, and referred to the Marine Committee.

A Petition from *Charles Startin* was read :

Ordered, To lie on the table.

The Board of War brought in a Report, which was read :

Ordered, To lie on the table.

The Committee to whom was referred the Petition of Colonel *Hazen*, brought in a Report, which was taken into consideration : Whereupon,

Resolved, That Colonel *Hazen* and Lieutenant-Colonel *Edward Antill*, be continued in their offices, in the Army of the *United States*, and that they recruit their Regiment to the number of a Battalion on the Continental establishment :

That the settlement of Colonel *Hazen's* Accounts of moneys advanced by him, for the service of the *United States*, in *Canada*, be referred to the Commissioners appointed to audit Accounts in the Northern Department :

That 1095 Dollars be paid to Colonel *Hazen*, in full satisfaction for his neat Cattle, Sheep, Swine, Poultry, Hay, and other articles, alleged to have been taken and used for the benefit of the Continental Army, near *St. John's* ; which sum, together with 533 Dollars and 1-3 already received by him on that account, is the amount of the said articles, as estimated by Commissioners appointed by General *Wooster* for that purpose, pursuant to an order of Congress :

That the damages done to the Buildings, Farms, &c., by our Troops or those of the enemy, ought not to be paid, unless general provision be made for compensating all others who, by means of the war, have, in like manner, been damnified ; which may be a subject worthy to be considered, after the close of the war.

Resolved, That the Committee be discharged from inquiring into what respects the conduct of General *Arnold* ; the Congress having directed General *Washington* to cause an inquiry to be made into the conduct of the officers who served in *Canada*.

Resolved, That a Committee of five be appointed to devise ways and means for effectually providing the Northern Army with Provisions and Medicines, and supplying their other necessary wants :

The Members chosen, Mr. *Rush*, Mr. *Hall*, Mr. *Chase*, Mr. *Johnson*, and Mr. *Stockton*.

Resolved, That the Medical Committee be directed to apply to the Council of Safety of *Pennsylvania* for a quantity of Medicines : to be repaid in kind or in cash, as they shall choose.

The Board of War brought in a further Report :

Ordered, To lie on the table.

Congress resumed the consideration of the Instructions to the Commissioners ; and the same being debated by paragraphs, and amended, were agreed to.

Ordered, That the Committee of Secret Correspondence lay before Congress to-morrow morning the intelligence they have lately received from abroad.

Resolved, That *Thursday* next be assigned for the appointment of Commissioners to transact the business of the *United States* at the Court of *France*.

The several matters to this day referred being postponed, Adjourned to ten o'clock to-morrow.

Wednesday, September 25, 1776.

Two Letters from General *Lee* ; one of the 24th of *August* to the President, the other of the 27th of the same month to the Board of War, both dated from *Savannah*, being received, were read.

The Committee on the Treasury reported, that there is due,

To *John Bates*, for 212 Camp-Kettles delivered to *Gustavus Risberg*, Assistant to the Deputy Quartermaster-General, 282 60-90 Dollars :

To *Melchior Meng*, for Wagon-hire, carrying Money to *Albany*, with expenses, going and returning, 117 7-90 Dollars :

To *Samuel Johnson*, for 1047 Meals supplied the Militia on their march to *New-Jersey*, 104 63-90 Dollars :

To *John Kerlin*, for entertaining Militia on their march to *New-Jersey*, 55 27-90 Dollars :

To Messrs. *St. Luke la Corn*, Major *Campbell*, and Captain *Frazier*, prisoners from *Canada*, for their allowance of

two Dollars a week each, and for their three servants at one Dollar a week each, from the 8th of *July* to the 23d of *September*, 1776, inclusive, 11 weeks, 90 Dollars :

To *Peter Mather*, for entertaining Militia on their march to *New-Jersey*, 32 72-90 Dollars :

To *Samuel Pews*, for supplying the Militia with 269 Meals of victuals, on their march to *New-Jersey*, 26 81-90 Dollars :

To *Francis Lee*, for the hire of a Stage-Coach, agreeable to a certificate of *Richard Peters*, Esq., to convey General *Prescot* and General *M'Donald*, with their Guard, 26 60-90 Dollars :

To *Jacob Henkles*, for supplying Troops with Provisions, on their march to *New-Jersey*, 215 52-90 Dollars :

To *Robert Tolbert* 18 18-90 Dollars, and to *Joseph M'Kellup* 45 18-90 Dollars, for entertaining Troops on their march to *New-Jersey*, both sums amounting to 63 36-90 Dollars, to be paid to the said *Joseph M'Kellup* :

To Colonel *Allen M'Donald* of *Kingsborough*, and his son *Alexander M'Donald*, for their allowance of two Dollars a week for 21 weeks, and for their servants' allowance, 21 weeks, at one Dollar a week, settled to the 17th of *September*, 105 Dollars :

Ordered, That the above Accounts be paid.

The Committee of Treasury further reported, that there is due,

To *John Pluckrose*, for going express from Congress to *Charleston, South-Carolina*, 132 Dollars :

To the Steward of the *Pennsylvania* Hospital, for boarding *William Whiting*, a wounded soldier, 4 weeks, by order of Congress, 5 30-90 Dollars :

To *Jacob Peterman*, to be paid to *John Ebert* for 83 Meals of victuals supplied the Troops of the Flying-Camp, on their march to *New-Jersey*, 8 22-90 Dollars :

To *Gunning Bedford*, Esq., for his Pay and Rations from the 17th of *June* to the 17th of *September*, 1776, being 3 months, 152 64-90 Dollars :

Ordered, That the said Accounts be paid.

The said Committee further reported, that they have considered the Petition of Captain *James Ross* to Congress, and are of opinion that he should be credited with the following sums charged to his account, he not having received the accounts in time to make the stoppages, viz :

For sundry articles supplied by Mr. *Slough*, amounting to 486 65-90 Dollars :

For Drums, &c., by *Simons & Henry*, 17 24-90 Dollars :

For cash, to a Wagoner, by Committee of *Lancaster* County, 66 60-90 :

For part of an account of expenses of his Company, on their march to *Cambridge*, 17 78-90 Dollars :

The whole amounting to 588 47-90ths Dollars :

Ordered, That the said sum be passed to his credit.

Resolved, That an Order for 40 Dollars be drawn on the Treasurer, in favour of Mons. *P. Gouvert*, as Captain-Lieutenant of Artillery, the same being two months' pay advanced, for which he is to be accountable.

A Letter from General *Washington*, enclosing one from Brigadier-General *Greene* and a Return of the Army, was read.

Resolved, That the Captains, or Commanding Officers of the Companies of the Militia of *Pennsylvania*, make up the Pay-Rolls of such Companies as have been regularly discharged from the camp, in *New-Jersey*, from the time of their being last paid, with the addition of a day to each man for every twenty miles between the camp and his respective place of abode ; for which an allowance of one penny per mile is to be made, without rations or subsistence : the sums due on the said rolls to be attested by the oaths or affirmations of the respective Captains or Commanding Officers, and certified by one of their Field-Officers. And the Paymaster in *Philadelphia* is hereby directed to discharge the said rolls, on certificates being produced from the Commissary of Stores at the Flying-Camp, and in this city, of the re-delivery of such of the publick stores as have been received by the Companies aforesaid, or the Regiments to which they respectively belong, or upon deducting the amount thereof from the pay of those who have not returned them :

That the Captains or Commanding Officers of such of the said Militia as are not yet returned from the camp, be

directed, when discharged, to procure from the Commanding Officer of the camp certificates of the sums due in their respective rolls; and in every other respect, the said Captains or Commanding Officers, and the Paymasters aforesaid, are to observe the rules prescribed in the foregoing resolve for payment of the said Militia.

Resolved, That three gentlemen be appointed to audit and settle the Accounts of the *Pennsylvania* Militia:

The ballots being taken, the following gentlemen were chosen, viz: Mr. *P. Chevalier*, Mr. *J. Wilcox*, and Mr. *James Mease*.

The Committee appointed to devise ways and means for providing Clothing, and other necessities, for the Army, brought in their Report, which was taken into consideration: Whereupon,

Resolved, That it be recommended to the General Assemblies and Conventions of the *United States* to forward to Head-Quarters the Clothing, Blankets, and necessities which they may have provided in consequence of the Resolution of Congress of the 19th of *June* last, drawing on the President for the cost and conveyance thereof; in which it is hoped the utmost diligence and expedition will be used, that those who expose themselves to danger in defending and protecting their fellow-citizens may suffer as little as possible from inclement seasons:

That a Committee of Congress, consisting of one Delegate from each State, be appointed, with authority to employ proper persons to purchase, in their respective States, a sufficient number of Blankets and Woollens fit for soldiers' Clothes, and that they take the most effectual and speedy methods for getting such Woollens made up, and distributed among the Regular Continental Army in such proportion as will best promote the publick service: And that they also purchase all other necessary Clothing for the soldiers in such proportion as they judge, upon the best information, will be wanted; and that the said Committee be authorized to draw on the President of Congress for the sums necessary to execute this business, they to be accountable for the amount of their drafts and disbursements:

That Mr. *J. Mease* be directed immediately to send to General *Gates* all the white Shirts, Shoes, and Stockings, he now has in his possession, and which are unappropriated, for the use of the Northern Army; and that he use the utmost diligence in buying, collecting, and getting made immediately, as many more of those articles as possible, making weekly reports to Congress of what he obtains:

That General *Schuyler*, or the Commanding Officer at *Albany*, be desired to employ proper persons immediately to make up into soldiers' Clothes the Woollens mentioned in General *Schuyler's* Letter of the 29th of *August* last, and transmit the same without delay to the General commanding the Northern Army, for the use of such of the Troops in that Army as have enlisted for three years, or will enlist during the war.

Resolved, That the Commissaries and Quartermaster General, and Deputy Quartermasters General, and their Assistants in the several Departments, be directed to apply to Mr. *Mease* for such articles of Clothing, Camp Equipage, and other utensils which they may want to purchase in the State of *Pennsylvania*, for the use of the Army.

Congress then proceeded to the appointment of the Committee, when the following gentlemen were chosen, viz:

Mr. *Bartlett*, Mr. *Paine*, Mr. *Ellery*, Mr. *Williams*, Mr. *Floyd*, Mr. *Stockton*, Mr. *Ross*, Mr. *McKean*, Mr. *Paca*, Mr. *Wythe*, Mr. *Hewes*, Mr. *Middleton*, and Mr. *Hall*.

Resolved, That Lieutenant *Boger* and Lieutenant *Ball* be released from Prison on signing the like parole as the other officers, prisoners at *York-Town*, in *Pennsylvania*.

Resolved, That the Committee to whom was entrusted the care of publishing the Journals of this House be empowered to collect from the several Printers such parts of the said Journals as they have printed, and lodge them with *Robert Aitken*, for sale; the several Printers to be paid out of the sales, in such manner as the Committee shall find just and equitable; and that the said Committee make a publication of the Journals as far as printed, as soon as possible.

The Committee appointed to devise ways and means for providing the Northern Army with Provisions, Medicines,

and other necessities, brought in a Report, which was taken into consideration: Whereupon,

Resolved, That a Committee be immediately sent to *Ticonderoga*; that they give orders that a number of Sheep, and a quantity of Indian Meal, Rice, and Oatmeal, and Molasses, be immediately sent to *Lake George* and *Ticonderoga*; that they endeavour to contract for the Provisions for the Northern Army, by the ration, the particulars of which to be valued, and any part not supplied to be paid for in money by the contractor; and that such contract be made, as far as may be, agreeable to the mode recommended by General *Schuyler* in his Letter to Congress of the 25th of *August*: that the Committee consult with the Commanding Officer in the Northern Department, and such other of the General officers as may be thought proper, on the best mode to re-enlist the Army there, and to provide barracks and clothing for the troops, and especially that they engage the goods mentioned by General *Schuyler*, and apply such of them as may be necessary for the Northern Army:

That the Committee be empowered to make Regulations for the Hospitals in the Northern Department, and to remove or suspend any person employed therein, and to employ such as they may think necessary and proper; and that they report to Congress the state and condition of the Army, and any further regulations which they may think necessary, for the better government and supplying the said Army:

That the Committee consist of two, and that to-morrow be assigned for electing the said Committee.

Congress took into consideration the Report of the Board of War: Whereupon,

Resolved, That Mr. *J. Mease* be directed to purchase as many Tents, Camp-Kettles, Canteens, and other Camp furniture, and as much Clothing, as he can possibly procure, for the use of the Army under the command of General *Washington*:

That Captain *James Ross* be appointed Major in Colonel *Hand's* Regiment, and that the other vacancies in that Battalion be filled up as recommended by the Colonel, in manner following, viz:

First Lieutenant *John Halliday* to be Captain, in the room of *James Ross*, promoted:

Second Lieutenant *William Wilson* to be First Lieutenant, Third Lieutenant *John Dougherty* to be Second Lieutenant, and *Benjamin Lyon* to be Third Lieutenant; Third Lieutenant *John Dick* to be Second Lieutenant, in the room of *Jacob Zanch*, resigned; and *Robert Cunningham* to be Third Lieutenant, vice *John Dick*:

That the vacancies in Colonel *Ward's* Regiment of the *Massachusetts-Bay* be filled up in the manner recommended by the Colonel, viz:

Captain *James Mellen* to be Major; commission to be dated from the time of doing duty, viz: - *August 15, 1776*.

Captain, *Ephraim Burr*, - - - - - *April 1*, "

" *Ebenezer Cleveland*, - - - - - *July 12*, "

" *Nahum Ward*, - - - - - *September 11*, "

First Lieutenant, *Baxter Howe*, - - - - - *July 12*, "

" *Samuel Shelden*, - - - - - *September 11*, "

Second Lieutenant, *Jonathan Champeney*, *July 12*, "

" *Samuel Clofflin*, *September 11*, "

Ensign, *Jonas Snow*, - - - - - *July 12*, "

" *Caleb Noble*, - - - - - *July 20*, "

" *Joseph Freeland*, - - - - - *September 11*, "

Chaplain, *Ebenezer Cleveland*, - - - - - *January 1*, "

Surgeon, *Elihu Wright*, - - - - - *August 11*, "

Surgeon's Mate, *Israel Whiting*, - - - - - *July 1*, "

That *Leonard Gansevoort, Jun.*, be appointed Paymaster to Colonel *Van Schaick's* Regiment:

That *Richard Varick*, late Captain in Colonel *McDougall's* Regiment, which office he resigned, Secretary to the Hon. Major-General *Schuyler*, be appointed Deputy Mustermaster-General to the Northern Army; and

That Major *Henry Brockholst Livingston*, Aid-de-Camp to General *Schuyler*, be provided for by Congress in a station equal to his merit, when a proper vacancy happens, he being recommended by the General as a very deserving officer:

That the part of General *Schuyler's* Letter referred to the Board of War, which relates to *Indian Affairs*, be referred to the Committee for *Indian Affairs*:

That the Commissary-General be directed to procure such quantities of Salt, and to buy, cure, and lay up, in proper places, such quantities of Provisions, as he shall judge necessary for the next campaign :

That the Commissary-General's Letter relative to his having drawn an Order on Mr. President *Hancock*, in favour of Colonel *Lowry*, for 60,000 Dollars, be referred to the Treasury Board :

That Monsieur *Devourouy's* Petition be referred to the Marine Committee :

That the Letters from his Excellency Governour *Livingston*, of *New-Jersey*, respecting the payment of the Militia, be referred to the Treasury Board :

That so much of General *Arnold's* Letter to General *Schuyler* as relates to Clothing be referred to the Committee for providing Clothing for the Army.

The Committee appointed to settle the rank of the Captains and Subalterns in the *German Battalion* reported the same as follows, which was agreed to :

Captains: *Daniel Burkhart, Philip Graybill, George Hubley, Henry Fister, Jacob Bonner, George Keeports, Benjamin Weiser, William Keyser, and David Woelpper.*

First Lieutenants: *Frederick Rowhwagen, John Lora, Peter Boyer, Charles Balsel, William Rice, Jacob Kotz, Jacob Bower, Samuel Gerock, and Bernard Hubley.*

Second Lieutenants: *George Hawbecker, Christian Meyers, John Landenberger, Michael Layer, George Schaeffer, Adam Smith, Frederick Yeiser, William Ritter, and Philip Schrawder.*

Ensigns: *John Weidman, Martin Shugart, Christian Helm, Jacob Crummet, Jacob Cramer, Paul Christman, Christopher Godfrey Swartz, and John Landenberger.*

The Committee appointed to hear and determine upon the Appeal against the sentence of condemnation passed upon the Schooner *Thistle*, having reversed the decree,

Resolved, That a passport and safe-conduct be granted to *Charles Roberts*, Master of the Schooner *Thistle*, for himself and the said Schooner, for the space of sixty days.

The several matters to this day referred being postponed, Adjourned to ten o'clock to-morrow.

Thursday, September 26, 1776.

Agreeable to the order of the day, Congress proceeded to the appointment of Commissioners to the Court of *France*.

Resolved, That three be appointed :

The ballots being taken, Mr. *Franklin*, Mr. *Deane*, and Mr. *Jefferson* were elected.

Resolved, That a Committee of four be appointed to prepare the draft of Letters of Credence to the above gentlemen ; and that the said Committee report the ways and means of providing for their subsistence :

The Members chosen, Mr. *Morris*, Mr. *Richard H. Lee*, Mr. *Wythe*, and Mr. *J. Adams*.

Resolved, That secrecy shall be observed until the further order of Congress ; and that, until permission be obtained from Congress to disclose the particulars of this business, no Member be permitted to say any thing more upon this subject than that Congress have taken such steps as they judged necessary for the purpose of obtaining foreign alliance.

Resolved, That an Express be sent to Mr. *Jefferson*, to inform him of his appointment ; and that a copy of the Resolve for secrecy be at the same time transmitted to him ; and that he be requested to inform the President at what time and place the vessel shall meet him.

Congress proceeded to the election of a Committee to go to *Ticonderoga* ; and the ballots being taken, Mr. *Stockton* and Mr. *Clymer* were elected.

Resolved, That the Committee now appointed be directed to draw up and report to Congress a set of Instructions for the Commissioners relative to their entering into Treaties or Negotiations with other foreign States in *Europe*.

Ordered, That the Secret Committee deliver to Lieutenant *Pendleton* eight pounds of Powder, for the use of his Company.

The Committee of Treasury reported, that there is due, To *Jacob Shizens*, for half Ferriages of the Militia and their Baggage over *Neshaminy Ferry*, 17 40-90 Dollars :

To *James McCree*, for boarding 9 Men of Captain *Grier's* Company 18 days, at the rate of 1 Dollar and 1-3d per week, 30 77-90 Dollars :

To *John Teney*, for supplying the Militia with 201 Meals of victuals on their march to *New-Jersey*, 20 9-90 Dollars ; and to *Philip Upright*, for supplying them with 996 Meals, 99 54-90 Dollars, both sums making 119 63-90 Dollars, to be paid to *Adam Kimmel* :

To *John White Swift*, for two Receipts of Brigadier-General *D. Wooster*, one dated 17th *January*, for 240 Dollars, and the other 8th of *March*, for 25 half-Johannes, with interest allowed thereon, being 6 months, 18 days, at 6 per cent., amounts to 206 54-90 Dollars, both sums making 446 54-90 Dollars :

To *John Shultz*, for boarding and lodging sundry Continental Troops, 201 60-90 Dollars ; and for boarding and nursing sundry sick Troops, 29 40-90 Dollars, both sums making 231 19-90 Dollars :

To Captain *Philip Graybill*, of the *German Battalion*, the balance of his Account for Arms, Accoutrements, &c., for the use of his Company, and for Provisions supplied them on their march from *Maryland* to *Philadelphia*, 1168 5-90 Dollars, agreeable to the following Account, viz :

Amount of Provisions' Account, - - -	£274	13	5
Of which he received,			
Of the Council of Safety of			
<i>Annapolis</i> , - - -	£100	0	0
Of Colonel <i>Stricker</i> , - - -	122	12	6
Of Major <i>Veltner</i> , - - -	37	10	0
	260	2	6
Balance, - - -	£14	10	11
Amount of Arms, Accoutrements, Blankets, &c. 423	9	6	
Amounting in the whole to - - -	£438	0	5
Equal to 1168 5-90 Dollars.			

Ordered, That the said Accounts be paid.

Resolved, That the Committee appointed to superintend the publication of the Journals be empowered and instructed to employ *Robert Aitkin* to reprint the said Journals from the beginning, with all possible expedition, and continue to print the same ; and that this House will purchase of him 500 copies of the said Journals when reprinted ; and further, that he be directed to purchase, on reasonable terms, such parts of the Journals as Mr. *Bradford, Cist & Co.* have printed, and not yet published, to be paid for by the Congress.

Resolved, That General *Washington* be directed to procure, as soon as possible, an exchange of the Officers and Soldiers taken on *Long-Island* for the same number of *British* Officers and Privates now prisoners to the *United States*.

The several matters to this day referred being postponed, Adjourned to ten o'clock to-morrow.

Friday, September 27, 1776.

Two Letters, of the 24th and 25th, from General *Washington*, with sundry Papers enclosed ; one, of the 20th, from the Convention of *New-York* ; one, of the 22d, from *Joseph Trumbull* ; one, of the 25th, from Colonel *John Shee*, enclosing his Commission ; and one, of the 25th, from *Jon. B. Smith*, requesting leave to resign his office of Deputy Mustermaster-General, were laid before Congress, and read.

Ordered, That the Letters from General *Washington* be referred to a Committee of five :

The Members chosen, Mr. *Wythe*, Mr. *Hopkinson*, Mr. *Rutledge*, Mr. *J. Adams*, and Mr. *Stone*.

Resolved, That 100,000 Dollars be advanced to the Delegates of *New-York*, for the use of that State, which is to be accountable.

Resolved, That the resignation of Colonel *J. Shee* and *Jonathan B. Smith* be accepted.

Certain Resolutions of the Convention of *New-York*, passed the 20th of this month, being laid before Congress,

Ordered, That they be referred to a Committee of three : The Members chosen, Mr. *M'Kean*, Mr. *Rutledge*, and Mr. *Hooper*.

Resolved, That *George M' Cabe*, in Captain *Douglas's*

Company in the Flying-Camp, be sent to *Philadelphia*, his service being necessary to the Marine Committee.

Ordered, That the Secret Committee deliver to the Board of War the care and custody of all Arms, Ammunition, and other warlike stores, now under their care, or that may hereafter be imported or purchased by them for account of the *United States of America*.

Resolved, That the Marine Committee be empowered to pursue such measures as they judge proper and effectual to import as much Salt as possible.

A Petition from *William M^cCue* was read, and referred to the Board of War.

A Petition from *Hamilton Young*, of *New-York*, was read, praying that he may have leave to return to *Long-Island*, to take care of his books and effects:

Resolved, That the prayer of the said Petition be granted.

Congress being informed that a number of men belonging to three of the *Pennsylvania* Battalions, have deserted from the Army,

Resolved, That it be recommended to the Convention of *Pennsylvania* to take the most effectual measures to compel such of their troops as have come off from the camp on *New-York Island* to return immediately to that place; that they inquire who were the ringleaders of the mutiny, and have them sent back, under guard, for trial; and that the Convention, if they think necessary, have the assistance of the *German Battalion*, to enable them to carry this resolve into execution; and the Convention are desired to use all proper means to furnish their troops with clothing and blankets. The said Convention are further desired to cause all deserters from their troops to be immediately apprehended, and sent back to General *Washington's* Head-Quarters.

The Marine Committee, to whom the Petition of *Francis Guillot* was referred, brought in a Report, which was taken into consideration: Whereupon,

Resolved, That *Francis Guillot* be permitted to fit out and arm a Privateer, under the colours of the *United States of America*, and that he be permitted to equip and arm the said vessel in such place as he thinks he can do it at the smallest expense, he giving the usual securities in such cases directed by Congress.

The several matters to this day referred being postponed, Adjourned to ten o'clock to-morrow.

Saturday, September 28, 1776.

A Memorial from *Gunning Bedford*, Mustermaster-General, was laid before Congress, and read:

Ordered, To lie on the table.

The Board of War, to whom the Petition of *William M^cCue* was referred, brought in a Report: Whereupon,

Resolved, As Congress have empowered the several States to provide for such Soldiers as may be disabled in the service of the Continent, that the Petition of *William M^cCue* be referred to the Commonwealth of *Virginia*.

The Committee appointed to prepare Letters of Credence, &c., brought in a Report, which was taken into consideration.

The Letters of Credence being read and amended, were agreed to, as follows:

The Delegates of the *United States of New-Hampshire, Massachusetts-Bay, Rhode-Island, Connecticut, New-York, New-Jersey, Pennsylvania, Delaware, Maryland, Virginia, North-Carolina, South-Carolina, and Georgia*, to all who shall see these presents, send greeting:

Whereas a trade upon equal terms between the subjects of His Most Christian Majesty the King of *France* and the people of these States, will be beneficial to both nations: Know ye, therefore, that we, confiding in the prudence and integrity of _____, have appointed and deputed, and by these presents do appoint and depute them, the said _____ our Commissioners, giving or granting to them the said _____, or any two of them, and in case of the death, absence, or disability of any two, to any one of them, full power to communicate, treat, agree, and conclude, with His Most Christian Majesty the King of *France*, or with such person or persons as shall by him be for that purpose authorized, of and upon a true

and sincere friendship, and a firm, inviolable, and universal peace, for the defence, protection, and safety of the navigation and mutual commerce of the subjects of His Most Christian Majesty and the people of the *United States*; and to do all other things which may conduce to those desirable ends; and promising in good faith to ratify whatsoever our said Commissioners shall transact in the premises.

Done in Congress, at *Philadelphia*, the thirtieth day of *September*, in the year of our Lord one thousand seven hundred and seventy-six. In testimony whereof the President, by order of the said Congress, hath hereunto subscribed his name and affixed his seal.

_____, President.

Attest: _____, Secretary.

Resolved, That the Commissioners should live in such a style and manner at the Court of *France* as they may find suitable and necessary to support the dignity of their publick character, keeping an account of their expenses, which shall be reimbursed by the Congress of the *United States of America*.

That besides the actual expenses of the Commissioners, a handsome allowance be made to each of them, as a compensation for their time, trouble, risk, and services.

That the Secretary of the Embassy be allowed a salary of one thousand Pounds sterling per annum, with the expenses of his passage out and home.

That the Secret Committee be directed to export produce, or remit bills, until they make an effectual lodgment in *France* of ten thousand Pounds sterling, subject to the orders of the said Commissioners, for their present support; and report to Congress when it is effected, in order that Congress may then consider what further remittances then to order for this purpose.

Resolved, That the further consideration of the Report be postponed.

Resolved, That 100,000 Dollars be advanced to the State of *Pennsylvania*, which is to be accountable.

Ordered, That Mr. *Mease* supply Captain *Doyle* with money sufficient to purchase Rifles and Blankets for his Company.

The several matters to this day referred being postponed, Adjourned to ten o'clock on *Monday*.

Monday, September 30, 1776.

Two Letters, of the 27th and 28th, from General *Washington*, and one of the 22d, from Governour *Trumbull*, were read:

Also, a Letter from *Robert Franklin* was read, and referred to the Marine Committee.

A Petition from *J. Rowe* and others, owners of goods on board the Ship *Elizabeth*, which was taken by Captains *John Manly, Daniel Waters*, and *John Ayres*, commanders of the three armed vessels *Hancock, Lee*, and *Lynch*, and libelled in the Court Maritime for the State of *New-Hampshire*, and, by the sentence of the said Court, acquitted, against which sentence an appeal has been entered, was laid before Congress and read, praying that the said appeal may be heard and determined: Whereupon,

Resolved, That a Committee of five be appointed, with full powers to hear and determine on the said appeal:

The Members chosen, Mr. *Paine*, Mr. *Huntington*, Mr. *Stone*, Mr. *Wythe*, and Mr. *Smith*.

A Letter from *B. Flower*, Commissary of Military Stores, directed to the Board of War, was laid before Congress, and read:

Resolved, That the Board of War be empowered and directed, on requisition of the General or Commanding Officers in the several Departments, to send such articles of Military Stores and other necessities, which they may have in their possession or can procure.

Resolved, That the Board of War be directed to order the three *Virginia* Battalions, now on their march to *New-York*, to be lodged in the Barracks at *Wilmington*; there to remain till further orders.

Resolved, That the sum of 13,333 Dollars and 1-3d be advanced to Messrs. *Hughes*, in part payment for the Cannon they have contracted to make for the Continent, they to be accountable.

Resolved, That a Member be added to the Committee of Treasury :

The Member chosen, Mr. *Hopkinson*.

A Petition from Mons. *De Boy*, and one from Mons. *Ja. Vallier*, were read and referred to the Board of War.

A Petition from *Jacob Sheafe*, and a Petition from Colonel *M. Hazen*, were read :

Ordered, That the Petition from Colonel *Hazen* be referred to the *Canada* Committee.

The Committee to whom were referred the Letters from General *Washington* of the 24th and 25th instant, and the papers enclosed therein, brought in their Report, which was taken into consideration : Whereupon,

Resolved, That General *Washington* be directed to call upon such of the Members of the Court-Martial as sat upon the trial and concurred in the acquittal of Ensign *Macumber*, to assign their reasons for their first judgment; that those reasons, together with the names of such of the said Members who were for the acquittal, be returned to Congress :

That Mr. *McDonald*, having a commission of Brigadier-General from Governour *Martin*, be not exchanged for any officer under the rank of Brigadier-General in the service either of the *United States* or of any one of them :

That it be recommended to the Legislatures of the *United States* to appoint gentlemen in their respective States, skilful in physick and surgery, to examine those who offer to serve as Surgeons or Surgeons' Mates in the Army or Navy; and that no Surgeon or Mate shall hereafter receive a commission or warrant to act as such, in the Army or Navy, who shall not produce a certificate from some or one of the examiners so to be appointed, to prove that he is qualified to execute the office :

That all Regimental Surgeons and Mates, as well as those of the Hospital, be subject to the direction and control of the Directors in the several Departments :

That no Soldier be discharged from the service as disabled, unless the certificate of disability be countersigned by the Director, Assistant Physician, or First Surgeon of the Hospital; nor be excused from duty for sickness, unless the certificate of sickness be countersigned by one of those persons, where access may be had to them.

Resolved, That the remainder of the said Report be postponed.

The several matters to this day referred being postponed, Adjourned to ten o'clock to-morrow.

— Tuesday, October 1, 1776.

Resolved, That the sum of 60,000 Dollars be advanced to Mr. *James Mease*, for the payment of the Militia, and to pay for the articles he is ordered to purchase; he to be accountable.

Whereas a full representation in Congress of the several *United States* is highly necessary on business of much importance to *America*: Therefore,

Resolved, That the President be desired to write Letters to the Conventions and Assemblies of the respective States, requesting that measures be taken to cause, as speedily as possible, a full representation of the said States in Congress.

Stephen Moylan, Esq., having resigned his office of Quartermaster-General of the Continental Army,

Resolved, That Brigadier-General *Mifflin* be authorized and requested to resume the said office, and that his rank and pay, as Brigadier, be still continued to him :

That a Committee of four be appointed to confer with Brigadier-General *Mifflin* :

The Members chosen, Mr. *R. H. Lee*, Mr. *Sherman*, Mr. *J. Adams*, and Mr. *Gerry*.

Resolved, That a Committee of five be appointed to prepare and bring in a plan of a Military Academy at the Army :

The Members chosen, Mr. *Hooper*, Mr. *Lynch*, Mr. *Wythe*, Mr. *Williams*, and Mr. *J. Adams*.

The several matters to this day referred being postponed, Adjourned to ten o'clock to-morrow.

— Wednesday, October 2, 1776.

A Letter, of the 30th of *September*, from General *Washington*, with two Papers enclosed; one, of the 27th of *Sep-*

tember, from *S. Moylan*; one, of the 23d, from General *Gates*; one, of the 23d, from Colonel *Wayne*; one from Brigadier-General *Mercer*, recommending Colonel *Hampton* to the command of a Regiment in the new Army, and Captain *Dawson* to a Majority; and a Petition from *Bartholomew Van Heer*, were read, and referred to the Board of War.

Resolved, That *William Shephard* be promoted to the rank of Colonel of the Regiment whereof he is now Lieutenant-Colonel.

A Petition from *John Bayard*, *Alexander Henderson*, and *Matthew Irwin*, was presented to Congress, and read : Whereupon,

Resolved, That the Board of War be directed to sell to the petitioners 1600 lbs. of Powder and 800 lbs. of Lead, for the use of their Privateers General *Lee* and Colonel *Parry*.

The Committee appointed to confer with Brigadier-General *Mifflin* reported that, upon the conference, they find the following supplies will be necessary for the use and comfort of the Army, which ought to be procured as soon as may be, viz: 200 Wagons, with 4 Horses each; 50 Ox Teams, with 2 Oxen each, for sundry uses; 50 Drays, with 1 Horse each, for various small services; 100 strong Horses for the Artillery, 50 Horses for expresses and commissary uses, 25,000 bushels of Indian Corn, 15,000 bushels of Oats, 10,000 bushels of Rye-Meal, 10,000 bushels of Spelts, 1800 tons of Hay, 50 Cutting-Boxes, 2000 Axes, 2000 Wheel and Hand-Barrows, 8000 cords of Wood, a set of Carpenters' Tools for each Regiment, a Wagonmaster and one Deputy, 20 Conductors of Wagons on Captains' pay, allowing 10 wagons for each Conductor, 5 Conductors for Artillery, 100 casks of Nails and Spikes, 10,000 Knapsacks, 10,000 Camp-Kettles, two million feet of Boards, Planks, and Joists, for Barracks, platforms, &c.

That a Company of 50 Blacksmiths should be immediately sent to camp; 12 Harness and Collar-Makers, and 25 Wheelwrights.

Resolved, That for these various and necessary supplies 300,000 Dollars be advanced to the Quartermaster-General :

That one-eighth part of a Dollar over and above their soldiers' pay be allowed to such persons as are necessarily drafted for Quartermasters' uses :

That as 5,000 Tents will be necessary for the Spring campaign, they be provided in due time :

That it be recommended to the several States to make legal provision to compel the furnishing of necessary supplies and assistance to the Quartermaster-General of the Continental Army, on reasonable terms, for the publick use.

Resolved, That a Committee of three be appointed to consider of a plan for providing Carriages for the publick service, so as any demands may be speedily complied with, and all oppression of private persons effectually prevented.

The Members chosen, Mr. *Witherspoon*, Mr. *Smith*, and Mr. *Huntington*.

Resolved, That *Benjamin Fishbourne* be appointed Paymaster to the Second *Pennsylvania* Battalion, commanded by Colonel *Wood*.

A Memorial from the Council of Safety of *Pennsylvania* was read.

Ordered, That it be referred to the Committee on the Treasury, who are directed to report thereon as soon as possible.

The Committee of Treasury reported that there is due, To *George Measam*, on account of sundry articles supplied the Army in *Canada*, 9 47-90ths Dollars.

Ordered, That the said Account be paid.

The Committee to whom the Resolutions passed by the Convention of *New-York* were referred, brought in a Report, which was taken into consideration : Whereupon,

Resolved, That the President write to General *Schuyler*, and inform him that Congress cannot consent, during the present situation of their affairs, to accept of his resignation, but request that he continue the command which he now holds; that he be assured that the aspersions, which his enemies have thrown out against his character, have had no influence upon the minds of the Members of this House,

who are fully satisfied of his attachments to the cause of freedom, and are willing to bear their testimony of the many services which he has rendered his country; and that, in order effectually to put calumny to silence, they will, at an early day, appoint a committee of their own body to inquire fully into his conduct, which, they trust, will establish his reputation in the opinion of all good men.

Resolved, That the limits prescribed in the parole of *John Foxcroft* and *Francis Dashwood*, Esqs., be extended as far as the bounds of *Pennsylvania*, within which they are to confine themselves till further orders.

The several matters to this day referred being postponed, Adjourned to ten o'clock to-morrow.

Thursday, October 3, 1776.

On application from the Council of Safety of *North-Carolina*,

Resolved, That *Michael Holt*, a prisoner in the Gaol of *Philadelphia*, be discharged from his imprisonment, that he may return to his family; he taking the oath prescribed by the said Council of Safety.

Resolved, That *Mr. J. Mease* be directed to purchase, immediately, one hundred hogsheads of Rum, and forward the same to the Commissary-General, for the use of the Army.

The Board of War brought in a Report, which was taken into consideration: Whereupon,

Resolved, That the Letter from General *Mercer*, which was received and read yesterday, wherein he recommends Colonel *Humpton* to the command of a Regiment in the new Army, and Captain *Dawson* to a Majority, be referred to the Council of Safety of *Pennsylvania*:

That Captain *Persifer Frazer* be commissioned as Major of Colonel *Wayne's* Battalion of the *Pennsylvania* Troops, in the room of Major *Housigger*, promoted.

The Committee appointed to repair to the camp, having executed that service, and returned, brought in a Report,* which was read:

Ordered, To lie on the table.

* Report of the Committee sent to the Camp near *NEW-YORK*.

[October 3, 1776: Read and ordered to lie upon the table.]

The Committee appointed to inquire into the state of the Army at *New-York*, and the best means of supplying its wants, beg leave to report: that having left this city the 21st ultimo they arrived at the camp the 24th, and after three days' conference with the General Officers and an interview with many of the Staff, they found the following to be a state of facts:

That the number of men of which the Army then consisted, including non-commissioned officers and 3,649 men taken from the Flying-Camp, was 25,375; of which 16,905 were fit for duty, 1,543 on command, and the residue sick or absent. That of the effective troops about 4,500 were at different posts on the *Jersey* shore at and between *Fort Constitution* and *Bergen*, and the others on the Heights of *Harlem* and *King's Bridge*.

That it was necessary in the opinion of the General Officers to reinforce the Army aforesaid with 15,000 men, and to complete the levies for the Flying-Camp, agreeable to the former orders of Congress, by which means it would consist of about 11,500 men; that as part of 15,000 men, it was found that the Militia on their march from the *Massachusetts-Bay* and *Connecticut*, and Continental Troops from *Rhode-Island*, *Pennsylvania*, *Virginia*, and *North-Carolina*, with Colonel *Durkee's* Regiment, then at *Bergen* and not included in the return, would amount to upwards of 11,000 men.

That some of the troops in camp were badly officered, and not subject to that command which good troops ought ever to be. That articles of war and general orders were frequently transgressed, and the Commander-in-Chief had the mortification to see that some of his officers, on whom he ought to have depended for suppressing disorderly behaviour, encouraged the soldiers by their examples to plunder and commit other offences, or studiously endeavoured to excuse them from just punishment by partial trials.

That the Army was well supplied with provisions, excepting vegetables, which were not then to be procured, and that the Commissary-General was in want of salt.

That the sick have been greatly neglected, and numbers, to the prejudice of the service, have died from want of necessities and attendance: each Regiment has been hitherto furnished with an hospital under the care of the Regimental Surgeon, in consequence of which on a removal of the Army, the numerous sick of all the said hospitals have been suddenly delivered to the Director-General, who, not being provided with a general hospital or Surgeons and nurses sufficient for the purpose, has not been able to prevent the evils complained of; added to this the Adjutants have frequently neglected to make returns to the Director and Commissary-General of the sick in their respective Regiments, without which they could not receive the amount of their rations, agreeable to order of Congress, in necessities provided by the Director.

That in the department of the Colonel of Artillery and Commissary of Military Stores ten tons of musket and rifle powder, twenty tons of buckshot, two hundred thousand flints, eighteen brass field-pieces, six-pounders, and eighteen three-pounders, one thousand yards of fine white flannel, and a quantity of tin, were wanted. The number of conductors now employed are insufficient, and the Army is found to be in improper place for the principal laboratory of the Continent.

Resolved, That *Charles Startin* be permitted to return to *England* with his wife and family, from any of the *United States* he thinks proper, except *New-York*.

The Committee of Treasury reported, that there is due, To *Martin Housman*, for the hire of his Wagon and ferriages, with Generals *Prescot* and *McDonald's* Baggage to *Newark*, 43 Dollars.

To *George Campbell*, for his own and *Mr. Caldwell's* and *Mr. Tod's* expenses, as an escort to money from *Philadelphia* to *Albany*, 189 67-90ths Dollars:

To *John Sparhawk*, for Quills, &c., for the use of the Treasury-Office, 27 84-90ths Dollars:

To *Ludwick Karcher*, a balance of 3,150 36-90ths Dollars; the whole of his Account amounting to 8,483 66-90ths Dollars, of which he has received 5,333 30-90ths Dollars; the balance is 3,150 36-90ths:

Ordered, The the said Accounts be paid.

Congress took into consideration the Report of the Board of Treasury, on the ways and means for raising a further sum of Money: Whereupon,

Resolved, That five millions of Continental Dollars be immediately borrowed for the use of the *United States*, at the annual interest of four per cent. per annum:

That the faith of the *United States* be pledged to the lenders for the payment of the sums to be borrowed, and the interest arising thereon, and that certificates be given to the lenders in the form following, viz:

"The *United States of America* acknowledge the receipt of _____ Dollars from _____, which they promise to pay to the said _____, or bearer, on the _____ day of _____, with interest annually, at the rate of four per cent. per annum, agreeable to a resolution of the *United States*, passed the third day of *October*, 1776. Witness the hand of the Treasurer, this _____ day of _____, A. D. _____.

"Countersigned" by the Commissioners of one of the Loan-Offices hereafter mentioned.

That for the convenience of the lenders, a Loan-Office be established in each of the *United States*, and a Commissioner, to superintend such office, be appointed by the said

That the military chest has been too frequently unsupplied with money, which ought to be remedied in future; but that at present the Paymaster has a sum fully equal to the General's wishes.

That clothing and blankets are greatly wanted, and a supply has been neglected as well from the want of a proper officer to superintend the business as from the scarcity of the articles.

That military discipline has been omitted in consequence of the unskillfulness of many of the regimental officers, and the want of a proper officer detached from other services to instruct them therein.

To remedy these inconveniences the Committee beg leave to report the following Resolutions:

Resolved, as the opinion of the Committee, That it be recommended to the Assemblies and Conventions of the respective States from *Virginia* to *New-Hampshire* inclusively, to take the most effectual measures for completing, by the 10th *November*, their respective proportions of the levies to be raised during the war.

Resolved, That the Army having greatly suffered through the defect of some of its Regimental Officers, it be recommended to the Assemblies and Conventions of the respective States to use their utmost endeavours that all the officers to be hereafter appointed be men of honour and known abilities, without a particular regard to their having before been in service.

Resolved, That for the further encouragement of the non-commissioned officers and soldiers who shall engage in the service during the war, a suit of Clothes be annually given to each of said officers and soldiers: to consist, for the present, of two linen hunting-shirts, two pair of overalls, a leather or woollen waistcoat with sleeves, one pair of breeches, a hat or leather cap, two shirts, two pair of hose, and two pair of shoes.

Resolved, That no Regimental Hospitals be in future allowed in the neighbourhood of a General Hospital.

That *John Morgan*, Esq., provide and superintend a Hospital at a proper distance from the camp for the Army posted on the east side of *Hudson's* river.

That *William Shippen*, Esq., provide and superintend a Hospital for the Army in the State of *New-Jersey*.

That each of the Hospitals be supplied by the respective Directors with such a number of Surgeons, Apothecaries, Surgeons' Mates, and other assistants, and also with such quantities of Medicine, Bedding, and other necessities as they shall judge expedient.

That they make weekly returns to Congress, and to the Commander-in-Chief, of the officers and assistants of each denomination, and also the number of sick and deceased, in their respective Hospitals.

That the Regimental Surgeons be directed to send to the General Hospitals such officers and soldiers of their respective Regiments as, confined by wounds or other disorders, shall require nurses or constant attendance, and from time to time to apply to the Quartermaster-General or his Deputy for convenient wagons for this purpose, and also that they apply to the Directors in their respective departments for medicine and other necessities.

That the wages of Nurses be augmented to one Dollar per week.

That the Commanding Officer of each Regiment be directed once a week to send a commission officer to visit the sick of his respective Regiment in the General Hospital, and report their state to him.

Resolved, That a Commissary of Clothing be appointed for each of

States respectively, which are to be responsible for the faithful discharge of their duty in the said offices :

That the business of the said Commissioners shall be to deliver certificates for all such sums of money as shall be brought into their respective offices, agreeable to these resolutions, which certificates shall be indented and the checks kept in the said office ; to keep books, in which regular entries shall be made of the sums borrowed, and of the time when, and the names of the persons by whom, the said sums were lent ; to transmit to the Continental Treasurer once a month an account of the cash in their respective offices, and to answer all drafts of the Treasurer to the amount of the cash which they shall, at any time, have in their hands, as aforesaid :

That the Treasurer of the *United States* shall send to the respective Loan-Offices, such a number of certificates and of such denominations as shall be ordered by the Commissioners of the Treasury :

That no certificate be issued for a less sum than 300 Dollars :

That the several sums of money to be borrowed shall be repaid at the office where the same was lent, at the expiration of three years, and that the annual interest shall be likewise paid at the said office :

That the said Commissioners of the respective Loan-Offices be entitled to receive of the *United States* one-eighth per cent. on all moneys which shall be brought into their respective Loan-Offices, in lieu of all claims and demands that they may have for transacting the business of the said office.

Resolved, That the Secret Committee be empowered to take such measures as they shall judge necessary for purchasing, arming, and equipping a Frigate and two Cutters, in *Europe*, and to give proper orders for the said Frigate making a cruise in the *British Channel* against our enemies, and for the said Cutters to be employed in transporting to these States such articles as the said Committee have been ordered to import.

The several matters to this day referred being postponed,

Adjourned to ten o'clock to-morrow.

the Armies of the *United States*, whose duty shall be to make constant returns to the Assemblies or Conventions of the respective States of the Clothing wanted for their several Regiments ; to receive and pay for the same, to deliver it to the Paymasters of the respective Regiments, to be by them distributed to the non-commissioned officers and soldiers, and deducted from their wages respectively, unless allowed as a bounty by order of Congress.

Resolved, That the Commissary-General be empowered to employ suitable persons to import such quantities of Salt as he shall judge necessary, on account and risk of the *United States*.

Resolved, That for promoting health in the Army, the Commissary-General be directed to cause the same to be well supplied with Indian Meal and Vegetables.

Resolved, That the Commander-in-Chief be empowered to appoint as many Conductors for the Commissary of Stores, and Assistants to the Commissary of Clothing, as he shall from time to time judge necessary, and report their names to Congress.

Resolved, That there be a Deputy Commissary of Stores for the Army at *New-York*, with the pay of thirty Dollars per month.

Resolved, That the Board of War be directed to send to a Commissary of Stores at *New-York* ten tons Musket and Rifle Powder, twenty tons Buck-shot, a quantity of Tin, as many brass Field-pieces, six and three-pounders, as they can procure ; and that they employ the Overseer of the Foundry in this place to cast eighteen brass Field-pieces, six-pounders, and eighteen three-pounders, as soon as may be, and order Carriages to be completed for the same.

Resolved, That Mr. *Mease* be directed forthwith to send to the Colonel of Artillery at *New-York* one thousand yards of fine white Flannel.

Resolved, That the Board of War be directed to prepare a plan for establishing a Continental Laboratory and a Military Academy, and provide the same with proper officers ; also for establishing a suitable number of Artillery Regiments, and a Corps of Artificers for said Regiments.

Report of the Committee appointed to go to the Camp, brought in OCTOBER, 1776, respecting the Artillery.

HEAD-QUARTERS, HARLEM HEIGHTS, September 27, 1776.

The following hints for the improvement of the Artillery of the *United States* is humbly submitted to the Committee of the honourable Congress now in camp :

That there be one or more capital Laboratories erected at a distance from the seat of war, in which shall be prepared large quantities of ordnance stores of every species and denomination.

That at the same place a sufficient number of able artificers be employed to make carriages for cannon of all sorts and sizes, ammunition wagons, tumbrils, harness, &c., &c.

That as contiguous as possible to this same place, a Foundry for casting brass cannon, mortars, and howitzers, be established upon a large scale.

And as officers can never act with confidence until they are masters of their profession, an academy established on a liberal plan would be

Friday, October 4, 1776.

A Petition from the Officers and Men of the Brig *Andrew Doria* was presented and read : Whereupon,

Resolved, That the Continental Agents in *Philadelphia* be directed, with all despatch, to make an estimate of the prizes taken by the *Andrew Doria*, and lay the same before the Marine Committee for their approbation ; and that the said Agents be directed to pay to the officers and men of the *Andrew Doria*, one-half of what may be estimated to be due to them :

That the said Agents be further directed to make an estimate of the stores and prizes taken by the fleet, commanded by Commodore *Hopkins*, and brought from *Providence*, and lay the same before the Marine Committee for approbation, as aforesaid, and pay to the officers and men entitled thereto, one-half of what may be estimated to be due to them.

A Letter of the 2d and 3d, from General *Washington*, and two, of the 25th and 26th *September*, from General *Schuyler*, being received, were read.

Congress took into consideration the Report of the Committee sent to Head-Quarters ; and, after debate, the further consideration thereof was postponed.

The several matters to this day referred being postponed,

Adjourned to ten o'clock to-morrow.

Saturday, October 5, 1776.

A Letter, of the 23d of *September*, from *James Bowdoin*, with a copy of Resolutions passed by the General Assembly of *Massachusetts-Bay* ; one, of the 24th of the same month, from the Committee of Safety of *New-Hampshire* ; and one, of the 3d instant, from Governour *Livingston*, were read.

Ordered, That the Letters from General *Washington* and General *Schuyler*, with the Papers enclosed, which were read yesterday, be referred to the Board of War :

That the Letter from Mr. *Bowdoin* be referred to the Marine Committee :

That the Letter from Governour *Livingston* be referred to a Committee of three, and that the said Committee be

of the utmost service to the Continent, where the whole theory and practice of fortification and gunnery should be taught ; to be nearly on the same plan as that at *Woolwich*, making allowances for the difference of circumstances, a place to which our enemies are indebted for the superiority of their Artillery to all who have opposed them.

That these and all other matters respecting the Artillery and Artillery stores be under the direction of a Board of Ordnance, whose business shall be the regulation and management of the affairs of this department, and to whom returns shall be made.

The corps of Artillery now in the service of the *United States* is exceedingly insufficient for the operations of an extensive service. It consists of a little more than six hundred, officers included : of these nearly one hundred are in the Northern Army, where their numbers are very unequal to the service.

His Excellency General *Washington* has, to supply the deficiency of this corps, drafted from the different Regiments six hundred men, and General *Gates* a proportionate number. This is a temporary remedy, attended with a variety of inconveniences.

There ought to be a respectable body of Artillery established, which shall be equal to all the services of the war. In proportion to every thousand men in the marching regiments there ought to be one company of Artillery of sixty men, including officers. This number will be found to be small when the various contingencies of the Artillery shall be considered. Supposing, then, the Army to consist of eighty battalions of seven hundred and twenty-six men each, which will make nearly sixty thousand, the number of Artillery requisite will be 3,360. These may be thrown into two or three battalions, as shall be thought best.

If any circumstance shall happen to render the movement of this Army necessary, one hundred covered wagons will be wanting to transport the stores, reckoning one ton and a half to each wagon and six horses.

Three hundred strong horses to draw the travelling artillery.

All the heavy artillery on garrison carriages and the heaviest stores are not included in the above estimate. Wagons and drivers for the above ; a Wagonmaster to be established for the Artillery ; also a Quartermaster for the horses and wagons, whose business shall be to purchase hay, horses, &c., as may be wanted.

Exclusive of the artificers at the fixed laboratories, there must be an hundred, of different branches, attached to the Artillery, to repair carriages when broken, make platforms, and a thousand other matters belonging to the Artillery.

Besides the Commissary of Stores it will be necessary to have a Deputy Commissary, who shall be a capable, active man. The number of conductors and clerks to be twelve ; if the service should require more, they to be added during the pleasure of the Commander-in-Chief.

The commanding officer of Artillery to have a clerk attached to him, for the purpose of collecting, arranging, and disposing the various returns of cannon and stores.

The following brass field-pieces are wanting ; and, as there is a considerable quantity of copper collected, it is to be wished that the founder might be employed to cast some of them immediately, viz : 18 six-pounders, 18 three-pounders.

HENRY KNOX, Colonel Artillery.

directed to take into consideration the case of the Prisoners in the Gaol of *Philadelphia*:

The Members chosen, Mr. *Lynch*, Mr. *Ross*, and Mr. *Floyd*.

Ordered, That the Petition of *Jacob Sheafe* be referred to the Commissioners appointed to hear and determine upon the appeal against the sentence on the libel against the ship *Elizabeth*:

That *R. Peters*, Esq., be empowered to prosecute the said appeal.

Resolved, That the Board of War be directed to sell to *Joseph Golden* ten pounds of Powder.

Resolved, That five months' pay be advanced to the Officers, and three months' pay to the Men, who were taken prisoners in *Canada*, and sent to these *United States* by General *Carleton*.

Resolved, That the Report of the Board of War, which was brought in the 14th of *September*, be taken in consideration on *Monday* next.

Ordered, That the Board of War at that time lay before Congress the papers relative to the dispute between the Court-Martial and Brigadier-General *Arnold*.

Resolved, That the Continental Agents be directed to deliver to the Commissary-General, for the use of the Army, all the Salt in their hands belonging to the Continent.

The several matters to this day referred being postponed, Adjourned to ten o'clock on *Monday*.

Monday, October 7, 1776.

Resolved, That 8,000 Dollars be advanced to the Committee of *Lancaster*, for the purpose of defraying the expenses of enclosing the Barracks in that Borough with a stockade, and supporting a guard, the said Committee to be accountable.

Congress proceeded to the election of a Deputy Muster-master-General for the Flying-Camp, in the room of *Jonathan B. Smith*; and, the ballots being taken,

William Davies was elected.

A Letter, of the 14th of *September*, from Brigadier-General *Moore*, and one from *John Hanson*, dated *St. Croix*, 14th *August*, being received, were read:

Resolved, That it be recommended to the Assemblies and Conventions of the *United States* respectively, to annex such penalties by law to the crime of counterfeiting the Certificates or Notes of the Continental Loan-Office, as are or shall be annexed to the crime of counterfeiting the Continental Currency.

Ordered, That the Resolutions for borrowing Five Millions of Dollars, together with the above Resolve, be published, and copies thereof sent to each of the *United States*, and that the respective States be desired to send to the Committee of the Continental Treasury the names of the Commissioners by them appointed in consequence of the said Resolutions.

A Petition from *James Browne*, a prisoner, was laid before Congress, and read, praying for leave to return to *Ireland*, the place of his nativity:

Resolved, That the prayer of the Petition be granted.

General *Lee* having informed Congress of his arrival in *Philadelphia*, and that he waited their orders:

Ordered, That General *Lee* attend in Congress.

Resolved, That a Commissary of Prisoners of War be appointed in each of the *United States*:

That the said Commissaries be directed to make monthly returns of the state and condition of the Prisoners under their respective care, to the Board of War:

That the said Commissaries be appointed by the respective States.

Agreeable to order, General *Lee* attended; and having given an account of the state of affairs in the Southern Department, he withdrew.

The Secret Committee informed Congress that they have chartered, and loaded in *Virginia*, the *Aurora*, late the prize-ship called the *Oxford*, for account of the Continent: Whereupon,

Resolved, That the President write to the Governour and Council of *Virginia*, and request them to give all the

assistance in their power, in manning and despatching the said Ship.

Resolved, That *Matthias Hite*, a First Lieutenant of the Eighth *Virginia* Battalion, have a Continental commission, in lieu of that which he received from the Committee of Safety of that State; and that his commission bear date the 19th of *February* last.

Resolved, That General *Lee* be directed to repair to the camp at *Haerlem*, with leave, if he thinks proper, to visit the posts in *New-Jersey*.

The Committee appointed to take into consideration the application from the President of *South-Carolina*, in behalf of General *Lee*, reported:

That this Congress, having a just opinion of the abilities of General *Lee*, applied to him to accept a command in their service, which he readily agreed to, provided the Congress would indemnify him against any loss which he might sustain in consequence thereof, he having, at that time, a considerable sum of money due to him by persons in the Kingdom of *Great Britain*, which he was resolved to draw from thence as soon as possible. That the Congress unanimously concurred in his proposal: that he accordingly entered into their service; that he has since drawn bills upon his agent in *England*, which bills have been returned protested. That General *Lee*, having purchased an estate in *Virginia*, the purchase money for which has been long due, is likely to sustain, by means of the protested bills, many injuries, unless this House prevent the same by an advance of thirty thousand Dollars: Whereupon,

Resolved, That the sum of 30,000 Dollars be advanced to General *Lee*, upon his giving Bond to the Treasurer to account for the same, and taking such steps, in conjunction with *Robert Morris*, Esq., on behalf of the Congress, as will secure the most effectual transfer of his estate in *England*, to reimburse the Congress for the advance now made to him.

Ordered, That the Committee who brought in the foregoing Report prepare a suitable Bond.

Congress took into consideration the Report of the Board of War of the 4th instant: Whereupon,

Resolved, That Monsieur *Pierre François de Bois* be commissioned as a Major by brevet, and sent to General *Mercer*, to be employed in such way as he shall think proper:

That Mr. *Bartholomew Van Heer's* Account be referred to the Board of Treasury.

The Committee appointed to inquire into the causes of the miscarriages in *Canada* brought in a Report:*

Ordered, To lie on the table.

* Report concerning *BERNARD & WADDING's* Goods: brought in OCTOBER 7, 1776.

The Committee appointed to inquire into the causes of the miscarriages in *Canada* having, pursuant to the directions of Congress, inquired how certain goods, taken from *John Bernard* and *Wadding*, of *Montreal*, were disposed of, report:

That, upon examining several witnesses and papers, it appears, that about the middle of the month of *March* last, the said *Bernard & Wadding* sent from *Montreal* twenty-nine sleighs, laden with goods to be carried to the *Indian* country, contrary to the orders of the commanding officer in *Canada*; that said sleighs were pursued by order of General *Wooster*, and seven of them taken and brought back, and the goods contained in them delivered to the keepers of stores for the use of the army, and proper receipts taken for the same as follows, viz: one pair of three-point and half blankets to *Francis Duclos*; three camp-kettles, for the use of the Hospital, to *W. V. Wimple*, Surgeon; one pair two-point and half blankets to *John Higgins*; seventeen bags of bread, partly damaged, nineteen bags of flour, twenty-seven bags of corn, one bag of peas, three kegs of hog's lard, eleven kegs of pork, and four kegs of rum, to *Henry Benson*, Assistant Deputy Commissary; five bales of goods such as are usually sent in the *Indian* trade, one bundle of *Indian* truck, containing coarse hats, shirts, &c., one roll of pigtail tobacco, one barrel of powder, one piece of blue strouds, a parcel of oilcloth, cords, &c., to *George Measam*, Superintendent of Stores.

It further appears, by an account exhibited by *George Nicholson*, that he and Captain *Scott* kept for their own use one five-gallon keg of red wine, one keg of *New-England* rum, four pounds chocolate, and three pounds of loaf sugar. That said *Nicholson* delivered five camp-kettles to Colonel *Hazen*, three ditto to Dr. *Lynn*, for the General Hospital, and three ditto for the Red Hospital at *St. Foy's*; one bale of tobacco to the friend *Indians* at different times, by order of General *Wooster*. The said *Nicholson* further says that the aforesaid articles are the whole of the goods that were taken from said *Bernard & Wadding* as aforesaid.

That said *Measam* delivered to the Commissioners in *Canada* an invoice of the goods contained in the several packages received by him.

Resolved, That it is the opinion of this Committee that the settlement of the accounts respecting the disposition of said goods with the several persons who received the same as aforesaid, ought to be referred to the Commissioners appointed to settle accounts in the Northern Department, and that the receipts and other papers relating thereto be transmitted to them.

Congress took into consideration the Report of the Committee on the Letters from General Washington of the 24th and 25th of September: Whereupon,

Resolved, That as a further encouragement for gentlemen of abilities to engage as commission officers in the Batta-

Receipts of Goods taken from BERNARD & Co.

MONTREAL, March 21, 1776.—Received of Major Nicholson, by order of General Wooster, one pair of three-point and half blankets.

FRANCIS DUCLOS.

MONTREAL, March 21, 1776.—Received of Major Nicholson three copper camp-kettles, taken from Mr. Woodin, and is for the use of the Continental Hospital, by order of General Wooster.

W. V. WIMPLE, Sen., Surgeon to General Hospital.

MARCH 22.—Received of Major Nicholson, by order of the General, one pair of two-point and half blankets and knife, the property of Woodon & Bernard.

JNO. HIGGINS.

MONTREAL, March 24, 1776.—Received of Major George Nicholson eighty-one fuses for the use of the Continental Army: fuses taken from the Tories of Montreal by order of the General.

JOHN SHEPHERD, Conductor of Artillery.

Received, MONTREAL, 25th March, 1776, of Major George Nicholson, Aid-de-Camp to General Wooster, seventeen bags of bread, partly damaged, nineteen bags flour, twenty-seven bags corn, one bag peas, three kegs hog's lard, eleven kegs pork, and four kegs rum, for the use of the Continental troops.

HENRY BENSON, A. D. C.

March 24, 1776.—Received of Major George Nicholson, for the use of the Congress, five bales of goods such as are usually sent in the Indian trade, and one bundle of Indian truck, containing coarse hats, shirts, &c., one roll pigtail tobacco, likewise one barrel powder, seized by Major Nicholson, and claimed by Messrs. Woodin & Bernard, merchants of Montreal, also one piece of blue stroud, parcel of oilcloth, cords, &c.

GEO. MEASAM, Superintendent Stores.

lions to be furnished by the several States, to serve during the war, their monthly pay be increased as follows:

A Colonel, 75 Dollars; Lieutenant-Colonel, 60 Dollars; Major, 50 Dollars; Captain, 40 Dollars; Lieutenant, 27 Dollars; Ensign, 20 Dollars; Quartermaster, 27½ Dollars; Adjutant, 40 Dollars.

Resolved, That the further consideration of the Report be postponed.

The several matters to this day referred being postponed, Adjourned to ten o'clock to-morrow.

Tuesday, October 8, 1776.

Two Letters, of the 4th and 5th, from General Washington, with sundry Papers enclosed; one, of the 4th, from the Convention of New-York; one, of the 27th of September, from the Council of Massachusetts-Bay; one, of the 2d instant, from John Livingston; and one from John Heyleger, dated St. Croix, 4th September, were read:

Ordered, That the Letter from John Heyleger be referred to the Board of War; that the Letter from John Livingston be referred to the Secret Committee, who are directed to send to Mr. Livingston's Mill the ten tons of Saltpetre sent last winter to Massachusetts-Bay.

Three Petitions from sundry Prisoners were read, and referred to the Committee on the state of the Prisoners.

Resolved, That a Member be added to the said Committee:

The Member chosen, Mr. Rush.

Whereas it is necessary that the most speedy and effectual measures be taken for raising the new Army,

Resolved, That it be recommended to the Assemblies, Conventions, and Councils of Safety of the several States which have any Regiments now in the Continental service, either at New-York, Ticonderoga, or New-Jersey, that they forthwith appoint Committees to proceed to those places, with full powers to appoint all the officers of the Regiments to be raised by their States under the new establishment, that such officers may proceed immediately to enlist such men as are now in the service, and incline to reinlist during the war, and that such Committees be instructed to advise with the General Officers, and promote such officers as have distinguished themselves for their abilities, activity, and vigilance in the service, and especially for their attention to military discipline.

That the said Committees be also instructed not to appoint any officer who has left, or shall leave, his station in the Army, and is absent without leave from the General, or some other officer having authority to grant the same.

Ordered, That a copy of the above Resolutions be sent to each of the United States.

Congress resumed the consideration of the Reports of the Committee on the General's Letters, and of that which went to the camp: Whereupon,

Resolved, That, for the further encouragement of the non-commissioned officers and soldiers, who shall engage in the service during the war, a suit of Clothes be annually given to each of the said officers and soldiers: to consist, for the present year, of two linen hunting-shirts, two pair of overalls, a leathern or woollen waistcoat with sleeves, one pair of breeches, a hat or leathern cap, two shirts, two pair of hose, and two pair of shoes, amounting, in the whole, to the value of twenty Dollars, or that sum to be paid to each soldier who shall procure those articles for himself, and produce a certificate thereof, from the Captain of the company to which he belongs, to the Paymaster of the Regiment.

Memorandum of Goods taken from BERNARD, not delivered to the Commissary, &c.

The following goods were kept by Captain Scott and myself out of the effects of Messrs. Woodon & Bernard, taken at the Cedars, March 25, 1776: one five-gallon keg of red wine, one ditto common New-England rum, four pounds chocolate, three pounds loaf sugar, for which we are accountable.

GEORGE NICHOLSON.

Five camp-kettles delivered to Colonel Hazen, three ditto to Dr. Lynn, for the General Hospital, three ditto to the Red Hospital at St. Foy's, for which Colonel Hazen and Dr. Lynn are to be accountable.

GEORGE NICHOLSON.

One bale of tobacco delivered to the friend Indians at different times by order of General Wooster.

The above account, together with the receipts given to General Wooster, is a true account of the goods taken from Messrs. Woodon & Bernard.

Test:

GEORGE NICHOLSON.

Some provisions were delivered to the Commissary, Mr. Benson. For the remainder, I imagine Major Nicholson is the only one that can give any particular account.
MONTREAL, May 2, 1776.
For the honourable Commissioners for regulating the Army in Canada.

GEO. MEASAM, Superintendent Stores.

TO WHOM DELIVERED, AND BY WHOSE ORDER.		
Price & Haywood, order Brig. General Arnold.	36	Blankets, two and a half points.
Captain Painter, order Colonel Elmore.	18	Robes, Children's.
Price & Haywood, order Colonel Hazen's order.	27	Shirts, white.
To five Savages, order Colonel Hazen.	13	Trousers, cotton and calico.
Colonel Redd, order Colonel Hazen.	9	Waistcoats, spotted.
Conductor Artillery.	24	Pieces Gartering.
In Store.	35	Scalping Knives.
Total.	109	Vermillion, half lb. bags.
	9	Beads, in bunches.
	11	Mantlets, Calimanco.
	12	Hats, plain.
	25	Capots, Molton.
	4	Brass Wire, rings of.
	2	Brass Wire, larger sort.
	6	Jackets, calico.
	12	White Shirts, Infants'.
	11	Box Combs.
	2	Paper Rings.
	19	Pairs Sleeves, Molton.
	2	Pairs Leggings.
	7	Fishing Nets.
	2	Head Lines for Fishing Nets.
	4	Papers of Awls.
	1	Half papers Ribbon.
	2	Pieces silk Fereting.
	1	Shut Knives, box hand.
	48	Looking Glasses, small.
	5	Rolls Hogtail Tobacco.
	1	Pieces Calico.
	1	Cotton Shirts.
	19	Calico Shirts.
	6	Pieces blue Strouds.
	1	Cod Lines.
	4	Remnant Linen Check.
	1	Flints, small parcel.
	1	Pcs. Barnezone Handkerchiefs.
	2	Dozen black Handkerchiefs.
	1	Lbs. white Thread.
	2	Painted Cloths.
	1	Small barrel Powder.

Account of sundry Indian Goods received in the publick Stores, being part of the Goods seized by Major Nicholson, viz: five bales and one bundle.

Resolved, That it be recommended to the Assemblies and Conventions of the respective States, from *Virginia* to *New-Hampshire*, inclusively, to take the most effectual measures for completing, by the 10th of *November*, their proportions of the levies to be raised during the war.

As the Army has greatly suffered through the defect of some of its regimental officers,

Resolved, That it be recommended to the Assemblies and Conventions of the respective States, to use their utmost endeavours that all the officers to be hereafter appointed be men of honour and known abilities, without a particular regard to their having before been in service.

Resolved, That the further consideration of the Reports be postponed till to-morrow.

The Secret Committee having informed Congress that a vessel was arrived with sundry articles by them imported on account of the Continent,

Ordered, That the said Committee deliver to the Board of War such articles as are suitable for the Army, and to the Marine Committee such as are for the Navy, and to Mr. *J. Mease* such as are for Clothing, to be made up for the soldiers.

The several matters to this day referred being postponed, Adjourned to ten o'clock to-morrow.

Wednesday, October 9, 1776.

Two Letters, of the 3d, from General *Schuyler*, with sundry Papers enclosed, were laid before Congress, and read:

Ordered, That they be referred to the Board of War, and that the Letters heretofore received from General *Washington*, General *Schuyler*, and the other General Officers, be lodged in the War Office.

Resolved, That two months' pay be advanced to Major *Pierre François de Bois*, he to be accountable.

A Petition from *Jean Baccarere* and his partner was read, and referred to the Marine Committee.

Application being made in behalf of Captain *Dirks*, late from *Surinam*, to be taken into the service of the Continent, as an Engineer,

Resolved, That he be referred to the Board of War.

The Committee appointed to prepare the form of a Bond to be given by General *Lee* for the 30,000 Dollars advanced to him, brought in a draft, which was read and agreed to.

Congress resumed the consideration of the Report of the Committee who went to the camp: Whereupon,

Resolved, That no Regimental Hospitals be, for the future, allowed in the neighbourhood of the General Hospital:

That *John Morgan*, Esq., provide and superintend a Hospital, at a proper distance from the camp, for the Army posted on the east side of *Hudson's* river.

That *William Shippen*, Esq., provide and superintend a Hospital for the Army in the State of *New-Jersey*:

That each of the Hospitals be supplied by the respective Directors with such a number of Surgeons, Apothecaries, Surgeons' Mates, and other assistants, and also such quantities of Medicines, Bedding, and other necessities, as they shall judge expedient:

That they make Weekly Returns to Congress and the Commander-in-Chief, of the officers and assistants of each denomination, and also the numbers of sick and deceased in their respective Hospitals:

That the Regimental Surgeons be directed to send to the General Hospitals such officers and soldiers of their respective Regiments as, being confined by wounds or other disorders, shall require nurses or constant attendance, and, from time to time, to apply to the Quartermaster-General, or his Deputy, for convenient wagons for this purpose; also, that they apply to the Directors in their respective Departments, for Medicines and other necessities:

That the wages of Nurses be augmented to one Dollar a week:

That the Commanding Officer of each Regiment be directed, once a week, to send a commissioned officer to visit the sick of his respective Regiment in the General Hospital, and report their state to him:

That a Commissary of Clothing be appointed for each of

the Armies of the *United States*, whose duty shall be to make constant returns to the Assemblies or Conventions of the respective States, of the Clothing wanted for their several Regiments, to receive and pay for the same, to deliver it to the Paymasters of the respective Regiments, to be by them distributed to the non-commissioned officers and soldiers, and deducted from their wages respectively, unless allowed as a bounty by order of Congress:

That the Commissary-General be empowered to employ suitable persons to import such quantities of Salt as he shall judge necessary, on account and risk of the *United States*.

That for promoting health in the Army, the Commissary-General be directed to cause the same to be well supplied with Indian Meal and Vegetables:

That the Commander-in-Chief be empowered to appoint as many Conductors for the Commissary of Stores, and Assistants to the Commissary of Clothing, as he shall, from time to time, judge necessary, and report their names to Congress:

That there be a Deputy Commissary of Stores for the Army at *New-York*, with the pay of thirty Dollars a month.

Resolved, That the further consideration of the Report be postponed till to-morrow.

Ordered, That the Board of War send 300 pounds of Powder to Colonel *Mark Bird*, to prove the Cannon he has made for the *United States*.

The several matters to this day referred being postponed, Adjourned to ten o'clock to-morrow.

Thursday, October 10, 1776.

A Petition from Captain *Daniel Morgan*, and one from Captain *Smith*, Lieutenant *Steel*, and Lieutenant *Nichols*, late returned from *Canada*, were read:

Ordered, That they be referred to the Board of Treasury, who are directed to liquidate and settle the accounts enclosed in the said Petitions, and to pay or allow for such arms as were lost or taken by the enemy in the assault on *Quebeck*.

A Petition from *Frederick Seegar* was read, praying for leave to resign his office of Quartermaster to the *German* Battalion:

Resolved, That leave be granted.

A Petition of *John Melchior Neff*, and one from *Paul Fooks*, were read, and referred to the Board of War.

The Marine Committee having recommended Captain *Whipple*, of the Ship *Columbus*, to the command of the *Providence* Frigate, at *Rhode-Island*,

Resolved, That he be promoted accordingly.

The Committee further reported, that they have had under consideration the rank of the Captains of the Navy, and agreed to a Report, which was read: Whereupon,

Resolved, That the rank of the Captains be as follows:

1. *James Nicholson*, of the *Virginia*, of - - 28 guns.
2. *John Manly*, - - - *Hancock*, - - - 32
3. *Hector McNeil*, - - - *Boston*, - - - 24
4. *Dudley Saltonstall*, - - - *Trumbull*, - - - 28
5. *Nicholas Biddle*, - - - *Randolph*, - - - 32
6. *Thomas Thompson*, - - - *Raleigh*, - - - 32
7. *John Barry*, - - - *Effingham*, - - - 28
8. *Thomas Reed*, - - - *Washington*, - - - 32
9. *Thomas Grennall*, - - - *Congress*, - - - 28
10. *Charles Alexander*, - - - *Delaware*, - - - 24
11. *Lambert Wickes*, - - - *Reprisal*, - - - 16
12. *Abraham Whipple*, - - - *Providence*, - - - 28
13. *John Hopkins*, - - - *Warren*, - - - 32
14. *John Hodge*, - - - *Montgomery*, - - - 24
15. *William Hallock*, - - - *Lexington*, - - - 16
16. *Hoysted Hacker*, - - - *Hamden*.
17. *Isaiah Robinson*, - - - *Andrew Doria*, - 14
18. *John Paul Jones*, - - - *Providence*, - - 12
19. *James Josiah*.
20. *Elisha Hinman*, - - - *Alfred*, - - - 28
21. *Joseph Olney*, - - - *Cabot*, - - - 16
22. *James Robinson*, - - - *Sachem*, - - - 10
23. *John Young*, - - - *Independence*, - 10
24. *Elisha Warner*, - - - *Fly*.
- Lieutenant *Baldwin*, - - - *Wasp*, - - - 8
- Lieutenant *Albertson*, - - - *Musquito*, - - - 4

Resolved, That the Marine Committee be empowered to settle the rank of the Lieutenants of the Navy.

Resolved, That a Committee of three be appointed to prepare the form of an Oath to be taken by the officers of the Army and Navy:

The Members chosen, Mr. *Wythe*, Mr. *Stone*, and Mr. *Paine*.

The Board of War brought in a Report, which was taken into consideration: Whereupon,

Resolved, That General *Schuyler* be directed to take such steps as are necessary for procuring a sufficient number of as large vessels as the navigation of the Lakes will admit of, for the service of the States the next campaign, that the command of the Lakes may be effectually secured:

That *William Patten* be appointed third Lieutenant in Colonel *Hand's* Regiment, in the place of Lieutenant *Clark*, resigned:

That the Regimental Paymasters in the Army of the *United States*, have the rank of First Lieutenants, and receive rations as Captains:

That General *Washington* be directed to negotiate with General *Howe* an exchange of the officers returned from *Canada*, and that they have a preference to those taken on *New-York Island* and *Long-Island*:

That General *Washington* be directed, if he shall judge it necessary, to sink the new Ships mentioned in his Letter of the 5th instant.

Resolved, That the further consideration of the Report be postponed.

The Committee to whom was referred the case of *William Faulkner*, brought in a Report, which was taken into consideration: Whereupon,

Resolved, That *William Faulkner*, a prisoner confined at *Reading*, be permitted to return to his family in *Tryon* County, upon giving his parole.

The Committee appointed to devise a plan for providing Carriages, &c., brought in a Report, which was taken into consideration: Whereupon,

Resolved, That the Quartermasters in every department be ordered to avoid pressing Horses and Carriages, as much as possible; and when it is necessary, that they be directed to go to the country houses for that purpose, and discharge, as soon as the service will admit, such Horses and Carriages so impressed; and that no violence whatever be done to any persons, their Horses or Carriages, who go to the camp of their own accord, to sell provisions, or other necessities of any kind.

An application from the Council of Safety of *Pennsylvania* was laid before Congress, and read, desiring that a Committee of Congress may be appointed to confer with a Committee of their body on the expediency of having Troops stationed near the City of *Philadelphia*, for the defence of *Pennsylvania*:

Ordered, That the Board of War confer with the Committee of the Council of Safety on the subject proposed.

A Petition of *William Mackay* was read, praying for leave to return home:

Ordered, That the prayer of the Petition be granted.

Resolved, That the following promotions and appointments be made in the *Virginia* Battalions, viz:

William Crawford, Colonel of the Seventh; commission to be dated the 14th of *August*:

Josiah Parker, Lieutenant-Colonel of the Fifth; commission to be dated the 13th of *August*:

Thomas Elliott, Colonel of the Fourth; commission to be dated the 3d of *September*:

James Hendricks, Lieutenant-Colonel of the Sixth; commission to be dated the 13th of *August*:

John Markham, Major of the Second; commission to be dated the 13th of *August*:

John Seayres, Major of the Fourth; commission to be dated the 13th of *August*:

George Johnston, Major of the Fifth; commission to be dated the 13th of *August*:

Richard Parker, Jr., Major of the Sixth; commission to be dated the 13th of *August*:

William Taliaferro, Major of the Third; commission to be dated the 13th of *August*:

John Taylor, Captain in the First; commission to be dated the 29th of *April*:

John Chilton, Captain in the Third; commission to be dated the 29th of *April*:

John Blackwell, First Lieutenant in do.; commission to be dated the 29th of *April*:

Joseph Blackwell, Second Lieutenant in do.; commission to be dated the 29th of *April*:

John Ashby, Captain in the Third; commission to be dated the 18th of *March*:

William Neilson, First Lieutenant; commission to be dated the 18th of *March*:

Isham Keith, Second do.; commission to be dated the 18th of *March*:

Nathaniel Ashby, Ensign in the Third; commission to be dated the 18th of *March*:

Charles Read, an Ensign, in the room of *Robert Dade*.

Resolved, That Commissions be made out to all the officers of the Regiments in the service of the *United States*, who have been appointed in the places of others resigning and promoted, and bear dates the days on which the resignations and promotions were respectively made.

A Memorial from *George Measam* was presented to Congress, and read:

Ordered, To lie on the table.

Resolved, That three Members be added to the Committee of Clothing, in the room of those who are absent:

The Members chosen, Mr. *Witherspoon*, Mr. *Stone*, and Mr. *Penn*.

Congress took into consideration the Report of the Board of War of the 19th of *September*: Whereupon,

Resolved, That the inhabitants, of *Canada* captivated by the *United States*, and not taken in arms, be released and sent home, except *St. Luke la Corn* and Mons. *Rouville*, the elder, upon this condition, that they sign a parole not to take up arms against the *United States*, nor give intelligence to the enemies of these States:

That a register be kept of their names.

Ordered, That the Board of War deliver Gunpowder for proving Cannon made for the *United States*, upon application to them for that purpose.

The Committee of Treasury reported, that there is due, To *Joseph Donaldson*, for supplies to recruits to General *Lee's* Guard, and provisions to Captain *Grier's* Company, and a guard with powder to *Virginia*, 20 60-90ths Dollars:

To *William Faulkner*, a prisoner, sent by General *Schuyler* to *Reading*, for his allowance from the 9th of *April* to the 7th of *October*, inclusive, 26 weeks, at 2 Dollars, 52 Dollars:

To Captain *Hazlewood*, Captain *Greenway*, and Mr. *Bedford*, a balance of 267 10-90ths Dollars, their whole account of charge for preparing six sail of fire-ships at *New-York*, and their expenses going to, in, and coming from, *New-York* to *Philadelphia*, being 392 10-90ths Dollars; of which they have received from *S. Moylan, Esq.*, Quartermaster General, 125 Dollars; the remainder is 267 10-90ths Dollars:

Ordered, That the said Accounts be paid.

Resolved, That to-morrow be assigned for appointing the Commissaries of Clothing and Deputy Commissary of Stores.

The several matters to this day referred being postponed, Adjourned to ten o'clock to-morrow.

Friday, October 11, 1776.

Two Letters, of the 7th and 8th, from General *Washington*, with sundry Papers enclosed, were read: Whereupon,

Resolved, That the release of Mons. *de Chambault*, as proposed by General *Washington*, on the request of the Count *D'Emery*, Governour-General of the *French* port of *St. Domingo*, be agreed to:

That the General's Letters, with the Papers enclosed, be referred to the Board of War.

Resolved, That General *Washington* be desired, if it be practicable, by every art, and whatever expense, to obstruct effectually the navigation of the *North River* between *Fort Washington* and *Mount Constitution*, as well, to prevent

the regress of the enemies' Frigates lately gone up, as to hinder them from receiving succours.

The Secret Committee informed Congress that a vessel was arrived at *Rhode-Island*, with sundry articles imported by their order, for account of the *United States*:

Ordered, That the Secret Committee report in what manner the said goods ought, in their opinion, to be disposed of.

Resolved, That Mr. *S. Collins* be requested to order the Tents fit for use which were found in the possession of *William Barrel*, lately deceased, to be delivered to *J. Mease*, for the Army, and that the amount thereof be paid by Mr. *Mease*, on application of Mr. *Collins*, or other person properly authorized for that purpose.

Ordered, That the Marine Committee deliver over to the direction of the Committee of Secret Correspondence, two of the Continental Cruisers now ready for sea, to perform such voyages as they shall think necessary for the service of the States:

That the Marine Committee give orders to the remainder of the Continental Cruisers, now in the port of *Philadelphia*, and ready for sea, to proceed on such voyages, or perform such immediate services, as the Secret Committee shall direct, in writing, addressed to the commanders thereof.

Resolved, That three Members be added to the Committee of Secret Correspondence.

The Members chosen, Mr. *R. H. Lee*, Mr. *Witherspoon*, and Mr. *Hooper*.

The Marine Committee, to whom was referred the Account of Captain *Martindale*, brought in a Report, which was taken into consideration: Whereupon,

Resolved, That there be paid to Captain *Sion Martindale* the sum of 144 18-90 Dollars, in full of expenses and disbursements on the Brig *Washington*, and other expenses from *Halifax* to *Casco Bay*.

The Committee of Treasury reported, that *Edward Snikers*, of *Virginia*, produced an account of Rifles and other articles, furnished for the use of Colonel *Stevenson's* Battalion, amounting to £347 4, *Virginia* currency, of which Captain *Abraham Sheppard* is to account for £67 15, and the remainder, being £279 9, to be charged to the said Battalion; that the said *Snikers* give credit for £64 16, money aforesaid, received from Colonel *Stevenson*, the balance due to the said *Snikers* being £282 8, equal to 941 30-90 Dollars, to be paid to *Thomas Rutherford*:

That *William Brady*, of Colonel *Stevenson's* Battalion, drew an order on Colonel *Valentine Crawford*, one of the executors of the late Colonel *Stevenson*, for the use of the said Battalion, for the sum of 150 Dollars, which order was paid by the said *V. Crawford*, and that he ought to be reimbursed the same, which is to be charged to the said *Brady*:

That they have had under consideration the Accounts of Captain *Daniel Morgan*, amounting, with his own and three Lieutenants' pay, the loss of Rifles when he was taken at the storm of *Quebeck*, expenses of recruiting his company, repairing guns, which he is charged with, and ought to be allowed, in the whole, to 1389 80-90 Dollars:

That the said *Morgan* credits the several charges against him in the Continental Books, amounting to 1614 8½-90 Dollars; by which there appears to be a balance due to the publick of 224 18½-90 Dollars:

Ordered, That the said Accounts be paid and credited, agreeable to the said Report.

A Petition from *William Jenkins* was read, and referred to the Board of Treasury.

Resolved, That General *Washington* be empowered to appoint a Deputy Commissary of Stores for the Army near *New-York*.

The Committee appointed to prepare the form of an Oath to be taken by the officers of the Army and Navy, brought in the same, which was read:

Ordered, To lie on the table.

Resolved, That a Member be added to the Marine Committee, in the room of Mr. *Hopkins*, who is absent:

The Member chosen, Mr. *Ellery*.

The several matters to this day referred being postponed, Adjourned to ten o'clock on Monday.

Monday, October 14, 1776.

A Letter of the 12th, from General *Lee*; one of the 10th, from General *Mercer*; one, of the 30th *September*, from General *Gates*; one, of the 1st instant, from *Joseph Trumbull*, advising that he has drawn on the President in favour of *Thomas Lowry*, for 60,000 Dollars; and one, of the 7th, from General *Washington*, enclosing a Letter from Dr. *Morgan*, were read:

Ordered, That the Letters from Generals *Lee* and *Mercer* be referred to the Board of War:

That the Letter from Dr. *Morgan* be referred to the Medical Committee.

A Petition from *Francis Mentges* was read and referred to the Board of War.

The Board of War, to whom were referred the Letters from General *Washington*, of the 7th and 8th instant, brought in a Report,* which was taken into consideration: Whereupon,

Resolved, That General *Washington* be informed the Congress approve of his appointing *P. Penett* his Aid-de-Camp by brevet, and that a commission of Aid-de-Camp be accordingly transmitted to him:

That the several States in which Prisoners have been lodged be desired to furnish Congress with an account of such expenses as have been incurred by the said States, respectively, on account of the said Prisoners:

That the sum of 500,000 Dollars be immediately sent to the Paymaster-General, that he may be enabled to pay the bounty to such of the Troops as shall reenlist to serve during the war.

Resolved, That the further consideration of the Report be postponed.

The Committee appointed to hear and determine upon the appeal brought against the sentence passed on the libel, *Joshua Wentworth* vs. the Ship *Elizabeth*, reports as follows:

"*Joshua Wentworth*, Esq., for and in behalf as well of the *United States of America*, as of *John Manly*, *Daniel Waters*, and *John Ayres*, commanders; and the officers, marines, and mariners of the three armed vessels *Hancock*, *Lee*, and *Lynch*, in the service of the said States, having exhibited a libel before *Joshua Brackett*, Esq., Judge of the Court Maritime of the State of *New-Hampshire*, against the brigantine *Elizabeth*, commanded by *Peter Ramsay*, and her cargo, and *Richard Hart*, of *Portsmouth*, in *New-Hampshire*, owner of the said brigantine, and *William Jackson* and others, of *Boston*, in the State of *Massachusetts-Bay*, owners of sundry goods and merchandise on board of her, having put in their several claims thereto, and the said Judge of the Court aforesaid having, on the 21st day of *August*, in the year of our Lord 1776, decreed and ordered the said brigantine, and so much of her cargo as was claimed, to be restored to the respective claimants, and that the claimants recover their legal costs of court, from which decree and sentence the said *Joshua Wentworth* appealed to Congress."

The Committee of Congress, to whom it was referred to hear and determine the said appeal, have diligently inspected the proceedings, and heard the parties by their counsels, and it appearing, that on the 1st day of *October*, in the year of our Lord 1775, General *Gage*, Commander-in-Chief of the *British* forces, then in *Boston*, in the State of *Massachusetts-Bay*, by his commission to *Creon Brush*, Esq., directed him to receive into his care all such goods, chattels, and effects of the inhabitants of that town, some of whom had departed from it, as might be voluntarily delivered into his charge by the owners, or by other persons with whom they were left, giving his receipt for them, and to deliver them to the owners when he should be required; that, on the 10th

* At the Board of War, October 12, 1776:

The Board of War, to whom were referred General *Washington's* Letters of the 7th and 8th instant, beg leave to report as their opinion, that General *Washington* be informed the Congress approve of his appointing *P. Penett* his Aid-de-Camp by brevet, and that a commission of Aid-de-Camp be accordingly transmitted.

That the several States in which Prisoners have been lodged be desired to furnish Congress with an account of expenses as have been incurred by the said States respectively.

That all Prisoners captivated by any of the *United States*, whether mechanics or not, be included in the exchange to be made between General *Washington* and the enemy.

That the sum of five hundred thousand dollars be immediately sent to the Paymaster-General, that he may be enabled to pay the bounty to such of the troops as shall reenlist to serve during the war.

day of *March* then following, General *Howe*, who had succeeded General *Gage* in the command of the *British* forces, by his commission to the said *Crean Brush*, reciting, that as he was informed there were large quantities of goods in *Boston*, which, if in the possession of the Rebels, (as he termed the *Americans*,) might enable them to carry on war, and that he had given notice to all loyal inhabitants to remove such goods from thence, and that those who would not remove them, or deliver them to the care of the said *Crean Brush*, would be considered as abettors of Rebels, required him to take into his possession all such goods as answered that description, and give certificates to the owners that he had received them for their use, and would deliver them to the owners' orders, unavoidable accidents excepted, and to seize any such goods as, upon inquiry, should be found secreted, or left in stores, and put them on board of the *Minerva* ship, or brigantine *Elizabeth*. That thereupon, the said *Crean Brush*, assisted by other persons, took into his possession the goods of the claimants, amongst others, and put them into the said brigantine *Elizabeth*, and other vessels in the harbour of *Boston*, without the knowledge of some of the owners, and without the consent of all the others, unless it be *William Jackson* and *James Jackson*, of whose consent, however, there are no other proofs than that one of them went with his goods, and watched there on the wharf from whence they were shipped, and that the other was a passenger in the said brigantine *Elizabeth*, in her voyage towards *Halifax*. That the said *Crean Brush*, by certificates under his hand, acknowledged several parcels of the said goods to be in his custody, and engaged to preserve them safely, to make up exact invoices thereof, and, with the approbation of the Commander-in-Chief, to return them to the owners. That, on the 29th day of *March* afterwards, the said *Peter Ramsay*, by orders from Admiral *Shuldham*, of the *British* fleet, given about eight days before, went on board the said brigantine *Elizabeth*, into which some of the claimants' goods had been shifted from the other vessels; and the same day, between the hours of three and four in the afternoon, sailed with her, under convoy of the *British* ship of war *Niger*, for *Halifax*, in *Nova-Scotia*; and that, on the *Tuesday* following, the said *John Manly*, in the *Hancock*, coming up with the said brigantine *Elizabeth*, which had, in the mean time, parted from her convoy, fired a broadside at her, which was returned by a volley of small arms; when the said *Daniel Waters*, in the *Lee*, and the said *John Ayres*, in the *Lynch*, joining the said *John Manly*, the said *Peter Ramsay* struck, it being about four or five of the clock in the afternoon, and the said brigantine was seized and carried into *Piscataqua* river, in *New-Hampshire*; whereupon, the Committee, after mature deliberation, are of opinion, that the said brigantine *Elizabeth* is not comprehended in the description of vessels which, with their cargoes, by the resolutions of Congress of the 25th day of *November* last, may be forfeited, not being an armed or a transport vessel employed in the present war against the *United States*, nor carrying provisions, or other necessities, to the *British* Army or Navy, within any of the *United Colonies*; and that the cases of recaptures, mentioned in the resolution of Congress of the 5th day of *December* last, adjusting the proportions of salvage, those cases only were intended, in which the vessels and their cargoes remaining in possession of the enemy, might, by the law of nations, be condemned as prize, which is conceived not to be the case with the said brigantine *Elizabeth* and her cargo; but that, notwithstanding, it was the duty of the recaptors to recover the said brigantine and her cargo, and that the owners, who otherwise might, and probably would, have lost their whole property, ought to make a reasonable satisfaction; and that, therefore, the said sentence is erroneous, and ought to be reversed and annulled: That the said brigantine *Elizabeth*, and such parts of her cargo as were claimed in the said Court Maritime, be restored to the respective claimants, upon their paying to the *United States* and the recaptors one-twelfth part of the value thereof, to be determined by the appraisement of appraisers on oath, appointed by the Judge of the said Court: That the residue of the cargo be sold, and the proceeds, after deducting the like proportion and for the same uses, retained for the persons who shall hereafter prove their right to the same; that *William Burk*, commander, and the marines and mariners, of the *Warren*, an armed vessel in the service of the *United*

States, who claimed a part of the said brigantine *Elizabeth* and her cargo, as being joint captors, are not entitled to a share of the salvage, it not appearing that they were present, or in sight, at the time of the recapture: And that the appellants recover against the claimants their costs as well in the said Court Maritime, as in the prosecution of their appeal here; and that the cause be sent back to the said Court Maritime, for that Court to proceed in carrying this sentence into execution.

And the said Report being read, was agreed to.

Resolved, That such part of the twelfth, adjudged in the foregoing Report to be paid in lieu of salvage, as belongs to the *United States*, be released, and given up to the owners of the goods.

The Committee on the state of the Prisoners, brought in a Report, which was read:

Ordered, To lie on the table.

The Board of Treasury, for the more regular settlement of Accounts, proposed sundry queries to Congress: Whereupon,

Resolved, That no allowance be made to Officers for any arms lost or taken from them by the enemy:

That the allowance to Officers of 1 1-3 Dollar, for inlisting soldiers, be not extended or given for the reinlisting of soldiers in camp:

That no Officer, holding two appointments in the Continental Army, be paid for more than one, after notice was given to the commanders of the respective Armies of the resolution of Congress against Officers holding double commissions.

Resolved, That a Committee of three be appointed to devise ways and means for supplying the Treasury with a further sum of Money:

The Members chosen, Mr. *R. H. Lee*, Mr. *Wilson*, and Mr. *Hall*.

Resolved, That a Committee of three be appointed, to consider what is to be done with Negroes taken by vessels of war, in the service of the *United States*:

The Members chosen, Mr. *Wilson*, Mr. *R. H. Lee*, and Mr. *Huntington*.

Resolved, That 600 Dollars be advanced to Mr. *R. Erwin*, Wagonmaster, he to be accountable.

Resolved, That the Board of War be directed to order the *Virginia* Troops on their march to *New-York*, to halt at *Trenton*, till further orders.

Resolved, That the Colonels of the *New-Jersey* Militia make out regular Pay-Rolls of such of the Troops as have been under their command, when called into the Continental service, and have not been paid by the Convention of the said State:

That such rolls be attested by the oaths of the Commanding Officer and Captains of the respective Regiments, and paid by warrants on the Paymaster there, by General *Mercer*, or the Commanding Officer in that Department; he paying due attention to the Resolutions of Congress transmitted herewith:

That one penny a mile be allowed, in lieu of rations, to such men as have paid their expenses while on their march to and from the camp, from and to their respective homes.

The several matters to this day referred being postponed, Adjourned to ten o'clock to-morrow.

Tuesday, October 15, 1776.

A Letter, of the 11th, 12th, and 13th, from General *Washington*; one, of the 10th, from General *Lee*; one, of the 10th, from General *Schuyler*; one, of the same date, from General *Greene*; one, of the 9th, from *Joseph Trumbull*; one, of the 4th, from *Seth Warner*; and one, of the same date, from Brigadier-General *Lewis*, were read:

Ordered, That the Letters from General *Washington* and General *Lee*, and Mr. *Trumbull*, be referred to the Board of War:

That the Letter from General *Greene* be referred to the Medical Committee, and the Letter from General *Lewis* to the Board of Treasury.

Application being made to Congress by *John Foxcroft*, Esq., for leave to go to *New-York*, to remove his family

from the horrors of war, and relieve them from the distress in which they are at present involved :

Resolved, That leave be granted him, upon giving his parole to the Board of War ; but he is not to set out on his journey before next week.

The Board of War brought in a Report,* which was taken into consideration : Whereupon,

Resolved, That General *Gates* be informed, that Congress have it not in their power at present to supply him with the Artillery he desires, but will procure such as soon as possible :

That two independent Companies, consisting of 50 men each, be immediately raised, to be commanded by Lieutenant *Whitecombe*, who should be appointed Captain-Commandant ; that he nominate the Officers of the said two Companies, who are to be appointed when approved of by the Commanding Officer in the Northern Department.

Resolved, That the further consideration of the Report be postponed.

William Davies, who was appointed Deputy Mustermaster-General of the Flying-Camp, having requested leave to resign that commission,

Resolved, That leave be granted, and that to-morrow be assigned for appointing a Deputy Mustermaster-General for the Flying-Camp.

Resolved, That 27 Dollars be advanced to the Captain of the Guard appointed to attend the Wagons carrying Goods to *Ticonderoga*.

The Committee of Treasury reported, that there is due to the following persons, the sum of 913 43-90 Dollars ; for which an order is to be drawn in favour of *Thomas Armour*, viz :

To <i>Peter Schlemmer</i> , for victualling the Militia on their march to <i>New-Jersey</i> , - - - -	43 42
To <i>Frederick Rummel</i> , for ditto, - - - -	65 49
To <i>William Thompson</i> , victualling General <i>Lee's</i> guard, - - - -	50 71
To <i>Elizabeth Kuntz</i> , for victualling Militia, - - - -	4 86
For supplies to Army, - - - -	23 55
For do. to sick and wounded, - - - -	36 00
	64 51
To <i>George Stake</i> , for supplies to Militia on their march, - - - -	84 45
For do. to Army, - - - -	2 09
	86 54
To <i>Adam Gartner</i> , for supplies to do., - - - -	30 08
For do. to Militia on their march, - - - -	88 13
For do. to sick soldiers, in small-pox, belonging to General <i>Lee's</i> guard, - - - -	142 65
	260 86
To sundries, for supplies to Militia on their march, - - - -	44 62
For do. to sick of General <i>Lee's</i> guard, - - - -	4 00
For do. to General <i>Lee's</i> guard, - - - -	7 42
	47 49
To <i>Elizabeth Robinson</i> , for do. to do., - - - -	12 48
To <i>Andrew Nebbenger</i> , for do. to Militia on their march, - - - -	39 86
To <i>Gudrup Zigel</i> , for do. to General <i>Lee's</i> guard, - - - -	9 19
To <i>Zach's Sturgent</i> , for do. to sick of do., - - - -	4 50
For do. to General <i>Lee's</i> guard, - - - -	4 17
	8 67
To <i>Martin Brenesy</i> , for do. to do., - - - -	40 00
To <i>Fred. Rumble</i> , for do. to do., - - - -	12 17
For do. to sick of do., - - - -	60 16
	72 33

* At a Board of War, October 14, 1776, agreed to report to Congress : That a Mustermaster be immediately appointed to the Flying-Camp, with orders to proceed immediately to *Amboy*.
That General *Gates* be informed that Congress have it not in their power at present to supply him with the Artillery he desires, and will procure them as soon as possible.
That two independent Companies, consisting of fifty men each, be immediately raised, to be commanded by Lieutenant *Whitcomb*, who should be appointed Captain-Commandant. That he nominate the Officers of the said two Companies, who are to be appointed when approved of by the Commanding Officer in the Northern Department.
That Colonel *John Philip De Haas*, be appointed a Brigadier-General in the Army of the United States.

To <i>Jacob Bushong</i> , for do. to do. of do., - - - -	58 27
To <i>Daniel Kyser</i> , for do. to do. of do., - - - -	29 66
To <i>Andrew Hortzeg</i> , for repairing arms of General <i>Lee's</i> guard, - - - -	23 15

Whole amounting to, - - - -	Dollars, 913 43
To <i>Baltzar Spangler</i> , and to be paid to <i>Thomas Armour</i> for victualling a part of General <i>Lee's</i> guard, nursing in the small-pox, &c., at <i>York-Town</i> , and for provisions to Militia, 158 Dollars and 12-90ths :	
To Lieutenant <i>Francis Nichols</i> , of the late Captain <i>Hendrick's</i> Company, for two months' pay extraordinary to the following officers, viz :	
To the late Captain <i>Hendricks</i> , killed at the assault of <i>Quebeck</i> , - - - -	\$53 30
To Lieutenant <i>John M. Cleland</i> , who died on the march to <i>Quebeck</i> , - - - -	36 00
To the said Lieutenant <i>Nichols</i> , - - - -	36 00
For the use of the executors of Captain <i>Hendrick's</i> , inlisting money, when the company was raised, 85 men, at 1 Dollar and 1-3d each, - - - -	113 30

The whole amounting to - - - - \$238 60
That there should be advanced to Lieutenant *Francis Nichols*, for the purpose of paying the soldiers of his company returned from *Quebeck*, the sum of 1753 Dollars and 30-90ths, until he can settle the accounts of the company ; for which he is to be charged :

Ordered, That the said sums be paid.
Resolved, That two Members be added to the Committee of Treasury :

The Members chosen, Mr. *Wythe* and Mr. *Smith*.
The Secret Committee brought in a Report on the distribution of the cargo lately arrived at *Providence, Rhode-Island*, in the Brig *Happy Return* : Whereupon,
Resolved, That a copy of the invoice of the Cloths and Blankets be sent to General *Mifflin*, Quartermaster-General, with an order to Messrs. *Browns*, of *Rhode-Island*, to deliver the whole to his order, and that it be recommended to the said Quartermaster-General, to have the Cloths immediately made up for the soldiers, either in *Rhode-Island, Connecticut*, or by the tailors in the Army, as may be thought best by General *Washington* and himself :

That Messrs. *Browns* be directed to deliver to the Continental Agent, at *Rhode-Island*, the remaining part of the cargo, with orders to apply the Lead, Bullets, Flints, Muskets, and Powder, to the use of the Continental Frigates and Cruisers, or such part thereof as may be wanted for that service, and the rest to remain for future orders :
That the said Agent be directed to buy as much good fat Beef and Pork as can be cured by the Salt in his possession, for the use of the Navy :
That the Agent be directed to forward the Sulphur of the said cargo to the Powder-Mills in *Connecticut* and *Rhode-Island*, and the five tons of Saltpetre, formerly sent by Congress from *Philadelphia* to *Rhode-Island*, from thence to the Powder-Mills of Messrs. *Livingston* and *Wisner*, on the *North River*, in the State of *New-York*, to be manufactured into Gunpowder, for the Continental service.

Resolved, That 40,000 Dollars be sent to *R. Dallam*, Esq., Deputy Paymaster-General, for the use of the Flying-Camp and Militia ; he to be accountable.

The several matters to this day referred being postponed, Adjourned to ten o'clock to-morrow.

Wednesday, October 16, 1776.
A Letter, of the 9th, from *E. Pendleton*, Speaker of the Assembly of *Virginia* ; one, of the 11th, from *T. Jefferson*, were read :
Also, a Letter, of the 12th, from *Jos. Trumbull*, wherein he informs Congress, that he has empowered *Carpenter Wharton* to purchase Salt to the westward of *New-Jersey*, and as much Pork, for the use of the Army, as Salt can be had for, and requests that Mr. *Wharton* may be supplied with such sums of money as may be necessary for this purpose, and charged to the accounts of him the said *J. Trumbull* :
Resolved, That Mr. *Wharton* be supplied accordingly.

Resolved, That 16,803 Dollars and 6-90ths be paid to Brigadier-General *Thomas Mifflin*, or order, and charged to the account of *Jona. Trumbull*, Jun., Esq., Deputy Paymaster-General in the Northern Department; the same being in full of a draft in his favour, by *John Pierce*, Assistant Paymaster, in behalf of the said *J. Trumbull*, dated *Albany, October 7, 1776*, for so much stopped for him from the pay of several Regiments at *Ticonderoga*, by the said Paymaster.

Congress proceeded to the election of a Commissary of Clothing for the Northern Army; and, the ballots being taken,

George Measam was elected.

Resolved, That *George Measam* be allowed the pay and rations of a Major in the Continental service.

Resolved, That the Commander-in-Chief of the Northern Department appoint suitable persons to appraise, on oath, and deliver to the said Commissary, all articles of Clothing there, belonging to the *United States*, and transmit his receipts, with the appraisement, to the Treasury Office in *Philadelphia*:

That the said Commissary employ suitable persons to make the Clothing, and add to the appraised value of the goods the charges of making; and that he deliver the same to the Regimental Paymasters, agreeable to the orders he may receive from the commander aforesaid.

Resolved, That General *Washington* be empowered to appoint a Commissary of Clothing for the Army under his immediate command, and that he be also empowered to appoint a Deputy Mustermaster for the Flying-Camp.

Resolved, That one ton of Powder be sent to *North-Carolina*, for the use of the Continental forces in that State.

A Letter, of the 1st of *October*, from *John Roche*, was read:

Ordered, That it be referred to the Marine Committee, and that they do therein what they shall think proper.

Congress took into consideration the Report of the Committee on the state of the Prisoners: Whereupon,

Resolved, That *William Livingston*, Esq., Governour of *New-Jersey*, be informed, that Congress have considered his Letter relative to certain Prisoners confined in *Somerset Gaol*, and being unacquainted either with their characters, or the causes of their being apprehended, request him to inquire into the same, and report to Congress their names and characters:

That soldiers and sailors confined in gaol be hereafter allowed one Dollar and one-third a week; the allowance of one Dollar being found insufficient to support them comfortably.

Resolved, That the remainder of the Report be recommended.

The Marine Committee, to whom were referred the Petition of *B. Marshall & Brothers*, and certain propositions from the State of *Massachusetts-Bay*, brought in their Report, which was taken into consideration: Whereupon,

Resolved, That what relates to *B. Marshall & Brothers* be postponed to *Wednesday*, the 23d instant.

Resolved, That it be recommended to the General Court of *Massachusetts-Bay*, to give the Continental Agent the full weight of their influence to make the Frigate *Hancock* ready for sea immediately; that whatever expense shall accrue to the State of *Massachusetts-Bay*, either for procuring guns or other stores for fitting the said Frigate, shall be reimbursed on demand; and that, in directing the cruise of the said Frigate, the Congress will pay all the regard to the protection of the commerce of *Massachusetts-Bay* that the zeal of that State, in the common cause, justly entitles it to.

A Petition from Captain *C. Roberts* was read, and referred to Mr. *Walton*, Mr. *Hopkinson*, and Mr. *F. L. Lee*, who are directed to inquire into the facts therein set forth, and report to Congress.

A Memorial from the Chevalier *d'Antignac* was read, and referred to the Board of War.

A Memorial from Colonel *D. Campbell* was read: Whereupon,

Resolved, That the Commanding Officer in the Northern Department be desired to confirm or disapprove the sentence of the court-martial on Colonel *D. Campbell*, as he, upon mature judgment, shall think proper, and report to Congress.

Whereas sundry Prizes have been heretofore taken by the cruisers fitted out by General *Washington*, at the Continental expense, and on Continental accounts, and no accounts thereof have yet been rendered by the Agents who received and sold the said Prizes; and whereas a just distribution of such shares of the said Prizes as are due to the officers and men, agreeable to the rules and regulations of Congress, ought to be made:

Resolved, That the Marine Committee be empowered to order such distribution of the said Prize Money amongst the parties interested therein; and that they recover from the said Agents the Continental share of all the said Prizes:

That the present Continental Agents do account with the Marine Committee, from time to time, for the Continental share of all Prizes received and sold by them, and that they pay the amount of such Prizes to the order of the said Committee:

That the said Agents make just distributions of the shares in all Prizes that appertain to the officers and crews of the Continental ships of war, agreeable to the rules and regulations of Congress, as soon after the sales of each Prize as possible:

That the Marine Committee apply all the Prize Money they receive from the Agents to the service of the Marine department, and hereafter render accounts thereof to Congress:

That the Marine Committee report, from time to time, all sums of money they receive for Prizes, to the Treasury, in order that the same may be charged to their account in the Treasury books.

The Committee of Treasury reported that there is due, To Captain *Sion Martindale* and Lieutenant *Moses Turner*, for their pay and rations from the 1st of *January* to the 14th of *October, 1776*, the sum of 572 76-90ths Dollars.

Ordered, That the said Account be paid.

The several matters to this day referred being postponed, Adjourned to ten o'clock to-morrow.*

Thursday, October 17, 1776.

A Petition from *Henry Keppeler* was laid before Congress and read, setting forth that he hath entered an appeal against the sentence passed on the Ship *Charming-Peggy*, and praying that a convenient day may be assigned for hearing the said appeal.

Resolved, That a Committee of five be appointed, with full power to hear and determine upon said appeal:

The Members chosen, Mr. *Huntington*, Mr. *Paine*, Mr. *Wythe*, Mr. *Smith*, and Mr. *Wilson*.

Resolved, That a Committee of four be appointed to review such of the Resolutions of Congress as relate to the

* IN CONGRESS, October 16th, 1776.

Additional Instructions to BENJAMIN FRANKLIN, SILAS DEANE, and ARTHUR LEE, Commissioners from the UNITED STATES OF AMERICA to the KING OF FRANCE.

Whilst you are negotiating the affair you are charged with at the Court of France, you will have opportunities of conversing frequently with the Ministers and Agents of other European Princes and States, residing there.

You shall endeavour, when you find occasion fit and convenient, to obtain from them a recognition of our independency and sovereignty, and to conclude treaties of peace, amity, and commerce, between their Princes or States and us; provided that the same be not inconsistent with the treaty you shall make with His Most Christian Majesty, that they do not oblige us to become a party in any war which may happen in consequence thereof, and that the immunities, exemptions, privileges, protection, defence, and advantages, or the contrary, thereby stipulated, be equal and reciprocal. If that cannot be effected, you shall, to the utmost of your power, prevent their taking part with *Great Britain*, in the war which His Britannick Majesty prosecutes against us, or entering into offensive alliances with that King, and protest and present remonstrances against the same, desiring the interposition, mediation, and good offices, on our behalf, of His Most Christian Majesty the King of France, and of any other States whose dispositions are not hostile towards us. In case overtures be made to you by the Ministers or Agents of any European Princes or States, for commercial treaties between them and us, you may conclude such treaties accordingly.

By order of Congress:

JOHN HANCOCK, President.

capture and condemnation of Prizes, and report what alterations or additions should be made respecting the same:

The Members chosen, Mr. *Wythe*, Mr. *Rutledge*, Mr. *Paine*, and Mr. *Huntington*.

A Petition from *Carpenter Wharton* was read:

Resolved, That it be referred to the Council of Safety of *Pennsylvania*.

Resolved, That a Commissary be appointed to supply the Battalion commanded by Colonel *Mackay* with Provisions. The ballots being taken,

Ephraim Blaine, Esq., was elected.

Resolved, That *Francis Lewis*, Jr., be permitted to go to the State of *New-York* with Mr. *Foxcroft*.

The Committee to whom the Report on the state of the Prisoners in the Gaol of *Philadelphia* was recommitted, brought in a further Report, which was taken into consideration: Whereupon,

Resolved, That the Prisoners from *North-Carolina* be permitted to return to their families, if the Convention of that State shall be of opinion they may do so without danger to that or any other of the *United States*; and, in the mean time, that bedding, blankets, and other necessities, be furnished the Gaoler by Mr. *Mease*, for the use of such Prisoners as are unprovided with them:

That Captain *M-Kenzie* be permitted to apply to the State of *North-Carolina* for liberty to return there; and, in the mean time, that he be allowed 10 Dollars to bear his expenses to *Lancaster County*:

That Lieutenant *M-Clean*, an half-pay officer, taken in *Canada*, be permitted to reside at *Reading*, on his parole.

Resolved, That a Committee of Intelligence be appointed to select and report such authentick accounts, as are, from time to time, received by Congress, of the state of the Armies and Navy of the *United States*, as they shall judge proper to be published by authority of Congress:

The Members chosen, Mr. *Rush*, Mr. *R. H. Lee*, and Mr. *Hopkinson*.

Resolved, That a Committee be appointed to bring in a plan for the better regulating the Treasury Board:

The Members chosen, Mr. *Gerry*, Mr. *Livingston*, and Mr. *Hopkinson*.

Mr. *Duché* having, by Letter, informed the President that the state of his health, and his parochial duties, were such as obliged him to decline the honour of continuing Chaplain to Congress,

Resolved, That the President return the thanks of this House to the Rev. Mr. *Duché*, for the devout and acceptable manner in which he discharged his duty during the time he officiated as Chaplain to it; and that 150 Dollars be presented to him, as an acknowledgment from the House of his services.

The Committee of Treasury reported that there is due,

To Captain *A. H. Brice*, for his allowance as an officer-prisoner from 19th *April* to 17th *October*, 1776, inclusive, being 26 weeks, at 2 Dollars a week, 52 Dollars:

To Captain *Thomas Hesketh*, for his allowance from 20th *July* to 19th *October*, 13 weeks, at 2 Dollars a week, 26 Dollars:

To *George Haas*, for the hire of his Wagon and his expenses with money from *Philadelphia* to *Boston*, the sum of 131 24-90 Dollars:

To Colonel *Hausegger*, for the expenses of himself and two Prisoners from *Ticonderoga* to *Philadelphia*, 57 9-90 Dollars:

To Captain *Matthew Smith*, to be paid to Lieutenant *Archibald Steel*, for inlisting his Company, consisting of 80 men, at 1 Dollar and 1-3d each, 106 60-90 Dollars:

That they have examined the Accounts exhibited by Lieutenant *Archibald Steel*, of Captain *Smith's* Company, for the pay of 34 Officers, and of Adjutant *Christian Febiger*, taken prisoners at *Quebeck*, amounting to 1,575 30-90 Dollars, (exclusive of the pay of one Sergeant, one Corporal, and 12 Privates, who inlisted in the service of the King of *Great Britain*, amounting to 476 60-90 Dollars, which is retained,) of which he received from Mr. *J. Mease* the sum of 314 30-90 Dollars, which leaves a balance due to the said *Steel* of 1,261 Dollars:

That there is due to *George Steyer*, for Linens furnished,

and to be charged to Captain *John Nelson*, for the use of his Company, 24 Dollars:

To *Adam Zantzinger*, for the hire of two Wagons and the expense of an escort of Light-Horse with money from *Philadelphia* to the camp near *New-York*, 150 60-90 Dollars:

To *William Clayton*, for Provisions supplied Militia on their march to *New-Jersey*, 24 27-90 Dollars:

To *John Bates*, for 499 Camp-Kettles delivered by him to *Gustavus Risberg*, Assistant to the Deputy Quartermaster-General, 665 30-90 Dollars:

To *William Bentley*, to be paid to Colonel *Stricker*, for Provisions supplied the *Virginia* Troops on their march, 17 54-90 Dollars:

To *Joseph Bentley*, for Provisions supplied the Militia and Flying-Camp on their march to *New-Jersey*, 19 72-90 Dollars:

To *Nicholas Bazin*, a *Canadian* prisoner, for his allowance from 3d *March* to 17th *October*, is 32 weeks and 5-7ths, at 2 Dollars a week, 65 38-90 Dollars.

Ordered, That the said Accounts be paid.

The several matters to this day referred being postponed, Adjourned to ten o'clock to-morrow.

Friday, October 18, 1776.

The Board of War brought in a Report, which was taken into consideration: Whereupon,

Resolved, That *Thaddeus Kosciuszko* be appointed an Engineer in the service of the *United States*, with the pay of 60 Dollars a month, and the rank of Colonel.

The Committee to whom the Petition of Colonel *M. Hazen* was referred, brought in their Report, which was read.

The several matters to this day referred being postponed, Adjourned to ten o'clock on Monday.

Monday, October 21, 1776.

A Letter, of the 14th and 17th, from *R. Harrison*, the General's Secretary; one, of the 18th, from General *Washington*, enclosing the copy of a Letter from General *Arnold* and other papers; two, of the 17th and 19th, from General *Mercer*; and one from *Kenneth Hankanson*, Captain of a vessel stranded on the *Jersey* shore, were laid before Congress and read:

Ordered, That they be referred to the Board of War.

A Letter of the 13th, from *R. Dallam*, was also read: Whereupon,

Resolved, That 19,740 Dollars be paid to *Gustavus Risberg*, Assistant to the Deputy Quartermaster-General for the Flying-Camp, and charged to the account of the said *R. Dallam*:

That 500,000 Dollars be sent to *Jon. Trumbull*, Esq., Deputy Paymaster-General for the Northern Department:

That 2,000 Dollars be advanced to the Delegates of *North-Carolina*, and charged to that State.

A Letter, of the 5th, from Colonel *James Easton*, was read.

The Secret Committee having informed Congress that a vessel was arrived in *New-Hampshire*, with a cargo on account of the Continent, among which was a quantity of Flints, it was thereupon,

Resolved, That the Secret Committee be directed to order 30,000 of the said Flints to General *Schuyler*, for the use of the Army in the Northern Department, and the remainder to General *Washington*, for the use of the Army under his immediate command.

A Letter, of the 20th, from General *Greene*, was read:

Ordered, That it be referred to the Board of War, and that they be directed to apply to the Council of Safety of *Pennsylvania* for the loan of as many Cartridges as they can spare, which are to be sent, with all possible despatch, to General *Washington*, and that they take the most effectual measures to have a sufficient quantity of Cartridges made up in *Philadelphia*, and forwarded to General *Washington*.

Resolved, That the Powder in the Magazine be kept for the publick service.

Congress being informed that there is at the Lead Mines in *Virginia* a quantity of Lead for the use of the Continent,

Resolved, That the Board of War be directed to give orders to have it brought to *Philadelphia*.

A Memorial from Monsieur *Dorre* was presented to Congress and read :

Ordered, That it be referred to the Marine Committee.

A Letter, of the 20th, from *R. Harrison*, the General's Secretary, enclosing copies of Letters from General *Gates* and General *Arnold*, of the 15th, and one from General *Schuyler*, of the 16th ; also one, of the 16th, from General *Schuyler*, and one, of the 19th, from the Convention of *New-York*, being received, were read :

Ordered, That they be referred to the Board of War.

The Board of War brought in a Report, which was taken into consideration : Whereupon,

Resolved, That the Deputy Commissary-General in *Virginia* be directed to make contracts for the supply of the Troops in that department, provided they can be made at a rate not exceeding eight pence, *Virginia* currency, a ration, the contractors to have the use of the publick wagons on any motion or march of the Army, from the place or places where stationed :

That the Commander-in-Chief of each department be empowered, at the instance of the Commissary-General, or his Deputies, to employ as many persons under him or them, at such salary or wages as he shall think adequate, and as he may think the service, from time to time, requires :

That the Rations allowed to the several officers on the staff in the Army of the *United States* not heretofore settled, be as follows, and that the Deputy Commissary of *Virginia* be informed thereof :

To the Deputy Commissary-General, 6 rations ; Deputy Quartermaster-General, 6 do. ; Deputy Paymaster-General, 6 do. ; Deputy Adjutant-General, 6 do. ; Deputy Muster-master-General, 6 do. ; Deputy Judge Advocate, 6 do. ; Chaplain, 3 do. ; Regimental Surgeon, 3 do. ; Surgeon's Mate, 2 do. ; that the Deputy Commissary-General of *Virginia* be allowed his reasonable travelling charges, to be settled by the Treasury Board.

The Committee of Treasury reported, that they have examined the following Accounts paid by *John Gibson*, Esq., Auditor-General, by order of the Board, amounting to 687 27-90 Dollars, of which he received, by the President's warrant, 500 Dollars, and there remains due to him 187 27-90 Dollars :

For Parchment for the use of the Treasury Office,	Dls. 90ths.	2	0
<i>George Hofnagle's</i> Account for 15 of the Militia,		1	45
<i>John Sparhawk's</i> Account for Quills, Paper-Books, &c., for the use of the Commissioners sent to <i>Albany</i> , - - - - -		40	0
<i>Henry Deering's</i> Account for entertaining Militia,		16	18
<i>Andrew Smith's</i> Account for do., - - - - -		12	78
<i>Joseph Sheerer's</i> Account for do., paid <i>T. Wygins</i> ,		14	20
<i>John Druit</i> , for <i>Bernard Romans's</i> order, to be charged to the said <i>Romans</i> , - - - - -		16	0
<i>Conrad Alster's</i> Account for entertaining Militia on their march, - - - - -		5	45
<i>Philip Upright's</i> do. for do., and guard of Powder to <i>Virginia</i> , - - - - -		3	6
<i>John Nice's</i> do. for do., - - - - -		17	36
<i>Levi Hollingsworth's</i> Account for escorting Money to <i>Amboy</i> , - - - - -		16	75
<i>William Perkins</i> , for supplies to Troops, - - - - -		2	84
Porterage of a Box with the <i>Massachusetts</i> Papers, Captain <i>Read's</i> account of expenses of his Company on their march to camp, - - - - -		40	72
Captain <i>Wheely's</i> account of do. do., - - - - -		27	54
Captain <i>McKenzie</i> , for subsistence, - - - - -		3	39
Monsieur <i>Lotbiner</i> , <i>French</i> Chaplain, one month's pay and rations, - - - - -		41	30
<i>Benjamin Condry</i> , for Cake-Ink, - - - - -		6	36
Thread for the use of the Office, - - - - -		15	
Secretary <i>Peters's</i> order for transporting Lieutenant <i>Symes's</i> Baggage, - - - - -		10	30
<i>Allen McDonald</i> , Sen., <i>Allen McDonald</i> , Jun., <i>Alexander McDonald</i> , <i>Rennel McDonald</i> , for three weeks' allowance to themselves, and two servants, to 24th <i>September</i> , - - - - -		36	0
<i>William Ross's</i> Account of subsistence to Militia on their march, - - - - -		9	53

<i>Valentine Vanholt's</i> Account of subsistence to Militia on their march, - - - - -	9	9
<i>R. Lumsden</i> , for Wood, Hauling and Sawing, - - - - -	9	22
<i>John Streeper's</i> Account for subsisting Militia on their march, - - - - -	12	9
Postage of a Letter from <i>Ticonderoga</i> , - - - - -	49	
Monsieur <i>Lotbiner</i> , <i>French</i> Chaplain, one month's pay and rations, - - - - -	41	30
<i>Allen McDonald</i> , for the hire of a Woman-servant, allowed him from the 4th <i>June</i> to 24th <i>September</i> , 16 weeks, - - - - -	16	0
<i>John McKinzie</i> , a prisoner from <i>North-Carolina</i> , his allowance from 20th <i>September</i> to 17th <i>October</i> , 4 weeks, - - - - -	8	0
<i>Bartholomew Vonheer's</i> account of disbursements to the Army in <i>Canada</i> , and for six months' pay as Lieutenant, - - - - -	145	31
<i>Uriah Forrest</i> , Captain of a Company in Colonel <i>Irvine's</i> Battalion, furnishing 86 men, non-commissioned officers and privates, with Provisions, from <i>Annapolis</i> to <i>Philadelphia</i> , 115 miles, at 1d. a mile, each ; also to one Captain and three Subalterns, 115 miles, at 9d. ; in the whole, - - - - -	121	35
Total, - - - - -	687	27
Of which received, 500	0	

The balance due, 187 27

That there is due to *Robert Jewel*, for the maintenance of State Prisoners in the new Gaol, and for Candles, Vinegar, &c., 489 43-90 Dollars :

To the late Captain *William Hendrick's* Company, and to be paid to Lieutenant *Francis Nichols* of the said Company, for the balance of an account for their Pay, Arms lost at the storm of *Quebeck*, Hunting-Shirts, &c., 1622 22-90 Dollars :

To *William Pollard*, for the expense of himself and others of the Light-Horse, as an escort with Money from *Philadelphia* to *New-York* and *Boston*, 291 57-90 Dollars :

To *Jacob Hartman*, for the hire of his Wagon bringing the baggage of the Prisoners from *Canada*, from *Elizabeth-Town* to *Philadelphia*, 16 60-90 Dollars :

To *John Hall* and *Samuel Parker*, for cleaning and repairing 200 Muskets with Bayonets, Scabbards, &c., for the *German* Battalion, 215 78-90 Dollars :

To *Coxe, Furman & Coxe*, for carriage of Powder from *Philadelphia* to *Virginia*, and the pay of Captain *Matthias* for taking charge of the same, 233 81-90 Dollars :

Ordered, That the said Accounts be paid.

Congress took into consideration the form of the Oath to be taken by the Officers in the service of the Continent, which was agreed to, as follows :

"I, do acknowledge the thirteen *United States of America*, namely : *New-Hampshire, Massachusetts-Bay, Rhode-Island, Connecticut, New-York, New-Jersey, Pennsylvania, Delaware, Maryland, Virginia, North-Carolina, South-Carolina*, and *Georgia*, to be free, independent, and sovereign States, and declare, that the people thereof owe no allegiance or obedience to *George* the Third, King of *Great Britain* ; and I renounce, refuse and abjure any allegiance or obedience to him ; and I do swear, that I will, to the utmost of my power, support, maintain, and defend the said *United States* against the said King, *George* the Third, and his heirs and successors, and his or their abettors, assistants and adherents ; and will serve the said *United States* in the office of _____, which I now hold, and in any other office which I may hereafter hold by their appointment, or under their authority, with fidelity and honour, and according to the best of my skill and understanding. So help me God."

Resolved, That every Officer who holds, or shall hereafter hold, a commission or office from Congress, shall subscribe the above Declaration, and take the foregoing Oath.

Resolved, That 100,000 Dollars be sent to the Deputy Paymaster-General in *Virginia*.

The several matters to this day referred being postponed, Adjourned to ten o'clock to-morrow.

Tuesday, October 22, 1776.

A Letter from General *Mifflin* to Captain *Falkner* was laid before Congress and read :

Ordered, That it be referred to a Committee of three, and that they be directed to engage, and send to Headquarters, a skilful, active Wharf-Builder, with proper assistants:

The Members chosen, Mr. *Morris*, Mr. *Wilson*, and Mr. *Ross*.

The Committee of Treasury reported, that there is due, To Monsieur *O. H. Rouville*, his servant *P. H. de Beaubassin*, *J. B. H. de Rouville*, *Joseph de Jarlais*, and *Joseph and Gabriel Heiter*, for their allowance from the 13th of July to the 18th of October, 1776, 186 60-90 Dollars:

That they have examined the Accounts of *D. S. Franks* for sundry goods supplied the Army in *Canada*, amounting to 3748 84-90 Dollars; of which he received a warrant of the 7th of September, for 1600 Dollars, and that there is a balance now due to him of 2148 84-90 Dollars:

That there is due to *Nathan Sellers*, for a Paper-Mould, Letters and Borders, 39 Dollars:

That there should be advanced to Colonel *Hollingsworth*, the sum of 1626 60-90ths Dollars, for supplies of Rations, and Wagons for the *Virginia* Battalions, from the *Head-of-Elk* to *Chester*; he to be accountable:

Ordered, That the said sums be paid.

The Board of War brought in a Report, which was taken into consideration: Whereupon,

Resolved, That General *Schuyler's* application to the Eastern States, and to the State of *New-York*, for their Militia, is approved:

That the Resolution for sending home the *Canadians* be suspended till further orders:

That the Board of War order the several Prisoners, in *Philadelphia*, to the places of their destination, and that they write to the several Committees, who have the charge of prisoners, not to suffer them to go beyond the bounds allowed them, nor to permit any of them to come to *Philadelphia*, without leave first obtained from the Board of War.

Resolved, That the Commissioners going to the Court of *France* be directed to procure from that Court, at the expense of these *United States*, either by purchase or loan, eight line-of-battle Ships of 74 and 64 guns, well manned and fitted in every respect for service:

That as these Ships may be useful in proportion to the quickness with which they reach *North America*, the Commissioners to be directed to expedite this negotiation with all possible diligence.

Resolved, That Mrs. *Antil*, with her child and sister, Miss *Colden*, be permitted to go to General *Mercer*, who is desired to permit them to proceed to *New-York*, taking especial care that they carry no intelligence to the enemy.

The Secret Committee reported, that the cargo lately arrived at *Portsmouth*, in the Brig *Marquis of Kildare*, Captain *Palmer*, consists of the following articles, viz., 5000 pounds Powder, 250 Small-Arms, 100,000 Flints, 4000 yards of small Canvas, 4 to 500 Jackets, 100 Knapsacks, 100 Leggings, 80 large Rugs, 2 bales of Woollens, 1 bale of Linens, and 10 tons of Lead: Whereupon,

Resolved, That the Powder, 100 Small-Arms, 2000 Flints, part of the Canvas, 80 Rugs, and part of the Lead, be applied by the Continental Agent for the use of the Continental-Frigate *Rawleigh*:

That 60,000 Flints be sent to General *Washington*:

That 38,000 Flints, 150 Small-Arms, 100 Knapsacks, 100 Leggings, and 8 tons of Lead, be sent to the Northern Army, under General *Schuyler* and General *Gates*:

That the remainder of the Canvas be made into Tents, and sent to the Northern Army:

That the Jackets, if fit for soldiers, be sent to the Northern Army; if fit for sailors, that they be distributed amongst the Continental frigates at *Portsmouth* and *Boston*:

That the two bales of Woollens be made up into soldiers' Clothes, for the Northern Army:

That the bale of Linens, if fit for soldiers' Shirts, or other purposes, for the Army, be made up, and sent to the Northern Army; if not suitable for publick use, that they be sold to the best advantage.

Mr. *Jefferson* having informed Congress that the state of his family will not permit him to accept the honour of going their Commissioner to *France*: Whereupon,

FIFTH SERIES.—VOL. II.

Resolved, That another be elected in his room. The ballots being taken,

Arthur Lee, Esq., was elected.

Resolved, That the Committee of Secret Correspondence be directed to acquaint him of his appointment, and that his powers and instructions are lodged in *Paris*.

The Committee to whom was referred the Petition of *Charles Roberts*, brought in a Report, which was read, and disagreed to.

The several matters to this day referred being postponed, Adjourned to ten o'clock to-morrow.

Wednesday, October 23, 1776.

Congress being informed that a vessel from *London* to *Quebeck*, laden with Dry Goods, among which are a quantity of Blankets and coarse Cloths, fit for soldier's Clothing, was lately taken, and brought to *Rhode-Island*:

Resolved, That Governour *Cooke* be requested immediately to purchase, at Continental expense, for the use of the Army under General *Washington*, all the said Blankets and Cloths; that the Blankets be sent to General *Washington*, and the Cloths made up, agreeable to the directions of Brigadier-General *Mifflin*, Quartermaster-General.

Ordered, That the Committee of Clothing forward the above Resolution, and acquaint General *Washington* and Brigadier-General *Mifflin* therewith.

Resolved, That two more Brigadier-Generals be appointed:

The ballots being taken, Colonel *William Maxwell* and Colonel *William Smallwood* were elected.

Certain Resolutions passed by the Convention of *Maryland*, respecting the raising the eight Battalions allotted to their State,* were laid before Congress and read:

Ordered, That they be referred to a Committee of three, who are directed to report an answer thereto:

The Members chosen, Mr. *Wilson*, Mr. *Paine*, and Mr. *Rutledge*.

Resolved, That it be referred to the Board of War to consider in what way Monsieur *De Roche Fermoy* may be employed in the service of the Continent:

That the application in favour of Lieutenant *Von Hederich* be referred to the Board of War:

That *Samuel Fairlamb's* Account be referred to the Board of Treasury.

The Committee of Treasury reported that there is due, To *Joseph Borden*, Esq., for Wagonage, Boat-hire, &c., transporting Carpenters and their Baggage from *Philadelphia* to *Powle's Hook*, after deducting 2 Dollars, and the

* Resolutions of Convention of MARYLAND.

[Referred to Mr. *Wilson*, Mr. *Paine*, and Mr. *Rutledge*.]

ANNAPOLIS, October 9, 1776.

Resolved, That the eight Battalions required by Congress to be raised by this State, exceeds its just quota, being, as they presume, founded on a calculation of white and black inhabitants, of both sexes and of all ages; whereas the quotas of men to be raised by the several States ought to be in proportion to the number of white inhabitants only in each State respectively:

That this State ought not to comply with the proposed terms of granting Lands to the officers and soldiers, because there are no Lands belonging solely and exclusively to this State. The purchases of land might eventually involve this State in an expense exceeding its abilities. An engagement by this State to defray the expense of purchasing Lands, according to its number of souls, would be unequal and unjust:

That this State, desirous of exerting the most strenuous efforts to support the liberties and independence of the *United States*, will therefore use its utmost endeavours to raise the eight Battalions required (including the troops already raised and in the service of the *United States*) as soon as possible:

That for this purpose the State will give a bounty of ten dollars to each non-commissioned officer and soldier who will enlist in the service of the *United States* for the war, in lieu of the hundred acres of Land offered to them by Congress:

That four Commissioners be appointed to repair to the camps in the *Jerseys* and *New-York*, and there obtain a list of such of the officers in the Regular troops and Flying-Camp from this State now in the service of the *United States*, as are willing to engage in the service during the war, and also enlist, or cause to be enlisted, all or every of the said Regular troops or Flying-Camp Militia in the service of the *United States* during the war, continuing the regular battalions, and forming the independent companies into a battalion, and filling both up according to the Continental establishment, and also forming such of the Flying-Camp Militia as shall enlist as aforesaid into battalions; and the commissioners, or any three of them, may also fill up such of the blank commissions sent to this Convention by Congress as may be immediately necessary for the officering of the said corps; but in filling up the said commissions, they are required not to introduce into the corps of the new Regulars any officer other than such as are of those Regulars, nor into the corps which may be formed of the Flying-Camp Militia any officer not now an officer in the said Regulars or Flying-Camp

sum of 23 30-90 Dollars, for the hire of a four-horse Team of *William Allen*, deducted for want of a voucher, and 2 Dollars paid by Captain *Casdorp*, 94 Dollars:

That they have examined the Account of *Elihu Spencer*, for his salary, as a Missionary to *North-Carolina*, from the 14th of *December*, 1775, to the 4th of *May*, 1776, being 4 months and 21 days, at 40 Dollars per month, - 186 45

That the said Missioner ought to be allowed an addition of 16 Dollars per month to his salary for the above time, - - - - - 75 18
261 63

That he received a warrant of the 20th *December* last, for - - - - - 120 00

Leaves a balance in his favour, - - - - - 141 ⁶³/₉₀

That there is due to *Alexander McWhorter*, for his salary as a Missioner to *North-Carolina*, from 14th *December*, 1775, to the 4th *May*, 1776, being 4 months and 21 days, at 40 Dollars, - - - - - 186 45

That the said Missioner be allowed an addition of 16 Dollars per month to his salary for the above time, - - - - - 75 18
261 63

That he received a warrant of the 20th *December* last, for - - - - - 120 00

Which leaves a balance due to him, - - - - - 144 ⁹³/₉₀

That there is due to Adjutant *Christian Ferbiger* and Lieutenant *Archibald Steel*, and to be paid to the latter, for 2 months' extraordinary pay to *Ferbiger*, at 18 Dollars and 1-3d, - - - - - Dolls. 36 60-90ths,

For two months' ditto to *Steel* as Lieutenant, at 18 Dollars, - - - - - 36 0

For 9 months, 22 days, to ditto as Adjutant, from the 9th of *November* to the 1st of *August*, 1776, at 18 Dollars and 1-3d, - - - - - 160 10-90ths,

The whole amounting to - Dolls. 232 70-90ths:

That there is due to *John Dunlap*, for 97 reams of Cartridge Paper sent to *Ticonderoga*, 323 Dollars and 30-90ths:

To *Alexander Rutherford*, for 100 Bayonet Scabbards supplied Captain *Ralph Falkner*, of the Fifth *Virginia* Regiment, 40 Dollars:

To Captain *Hendrick Smock*, for expenses of a Guard and Prisoners, from Head-Quarters, *New-Jersey*, to *Philadelphia*, 44 Dollars and 18-90ths:

To *Rene O. H. de Rouville*, a *Canadian* prisoner, for

Militia; and the Commissioners are also required to leave some of the offices vacant, that cadets of merit may be provided for; which list of the officers so to be obtained, as well as a list of the appointments which shall be made as aforesaid, the said Commissioners shall return to this Convention, or, in its recess, to the Council of Safety:

That the Commissioners exert their utmost endeavours to procure the enlistment of the Regular troops and Militia from this State in the Continental service; and make report of the state and condition of the forces from this State now in camp:

That the Commissioners be furnished with money sufficient to advance the bounty of ten dollars aforesaid:

That the Council of Safety, in the recess of the Convention, be empowered to issue warrants for the enlistment of such number of non-commissioned officers and privates, and also to appoint and commission such field and commissioned officers, as may be necessary to make up the said eight Battalions:

That the said Commissioners, or any three or two of them, be empowered to receive of Congress any sum not exceeding thirty-six thousand one hundred and twenty pounds, in dollars, at seven shillings and sixpence per dollar, on the account of this State, to be applied in the said bounties:

That the officers to whom warrants issued for the enrolment of non-commissioned officers and privates for the two last battalions directed by the Convention to be raised for the Flying-Camp, immediately return the list of the men by them enrolled, in pursuance of those warrants, to the Council of Safety, and forbear any further enrolment:

That such of the companies as are full, or nearly full, be equipped and marched as soon as may be; and such of the companies as are not nearly full be discharged, and that the bounty money not expended be returned:

That the Commissioners be instructed to consult with and take advice from his Excellency General *Washington* respecting the promotion or appointment of officers in Colonel *Smallwood's* Regiment, and the appointments to be made in the battalion to be formed of the independent companies of this State.

Extract from the Minutes:

G. DUVAL.

The Convention appointed *James Boyd Chamberlaine*, *Benjamin Ramsey*, *Thomas Ponter*, and *John Hanson, Jr.*, Esqs.; the Commissioners aforesaid.

Test:

G. DUVAL.

his allowance from the 16th *January* to 13th *July* last, 25 weeks and 5-7ths, at 2 Dollars a week, 51 Dollars and 38-90ths:

For his Servant's allowance, 25 weeks and 5-7ths, 34 Dollars and 25-90ths:

Amounting to 85 Dollars and 63-90ths:

Ordered, That the said Accounts be paid.

Upon application of the Delegates of *Delaware*, Resolved, That 120 Dollars be advanced to Captain *John Woodgate*, of Colonel *Patterson's* Battalion. he to account for the same with the Paymaster of the said Battalion.

Congress took into consideration the Report of the Committee on the Petition of Colonel *M. Hazen*: Whereupon,

Resolved, That the sum of 966 Dollars and 2-3ds be paid to Colonel *Moses Hazen*, for his Farming, Smith's and Potash, Carpenters, Joiners, Coopers, and Stave-maker's Tools, and for Anchors and Cables, said to be taken by, and appropriated to, the use of the Army under General *Montgomery*:

That the Regiment under the command of the said Colonel *Hazen* remain on the original establishment thereof, and be recruited to its full complement in any of the thirteen *United States*, as it was upon these terms he entered into the service, and the said Regiment cannot be said to belong to any particular State, nor to be any additional expense in the mode of officering the same.

The several matters to this day referred being postponed, Adjourned to ten o'clock to-morrow.

Thursday, October 24, 1776.

A Petition from *William Moore*, and one from *William Rigg*, were presented to Congress and read:

Ordered, That they be referred to the Marine Committee; and that the said Committee furnish them with subsistence during their residence in *Philadelphia*.

Application being made in behalf of *Samuel Horlock* and *Livingston*, Esqrs., for leave to go to *Boston*, and from thence back to *New-York*:

Resolved, That leave be granted them on giving their parole.

Resolved, That an order for 133 and Dollars 1-3d be drawn on the Treasurer in favour of *R. Peters*, Esq., Secretary to the Board of War, to pay for a light Wagon purchased for the use of the Congress, and that he be empowered to purchase another light Wagon.

Resolved, That 500 Dollars be advanced to the Committee appointed to contract with, and send, an active Wharf-builder and proper assistants to General *Washington*, for the use of the said Wharf-builders.

Resolved, That the Board of War be directed to order the *Virginia* Battalions to march to *Trenton*, and there halt until further orders.

A Representation from the Council of Safety of *Pennsylvania* to the Board of War was laid before Congress and read:

Ordered, To lie on the table.

A Memorial from *David Franks* was laid before Congress and read, desiring leave for himself, and *Patrick Rice*, his Clerk, to go to *New-York*, in order to lay his receipts and vouchers for the Provisions furnished to the *British* prisoners, before the Commissary-General, and obtain certificates to be presented to, and signed by, the General of the *British* forces, without which he cannot be reimbursed.

Resolved, That leave be granted them, upon giving their parole, not to give any intelligence to the enemy, and that they will return to this city.

A Petition of *Benjamin Eyre* was read:

Ordered, That it be referred to a Committee of three: The Members chosen, Mr. *Lewis*, Mr. *Paine*, and Mr. *F. L. Lee*.

A Petition from Captain *Anstruther*, a prisoner, and one from *Simon Carbolais*, were read:

Resolved, That they be rejected.

Resolved, That 5,000 Dollars be advanced to *E. Blaine*, Esq., for the use of the Battalion raised on the western frontiers of *Pennsylvania*, he to be accountable.

The several matters to this day referred being postponed, Adjourned to ten o'clock to-morrow.

Friday, October 25, 1776.

A Letter of the 21st, from *R. H. Harrison*, was read; also, a Certificate from Brigadier-General *H. Mercer* and *P. Dickinson*, in favour of the Rev. *John Nevelling*, who officiated as Chaplain to nine Battalions of *New-Jersey*:

Ordered, That the Certificate be referred to the Board of Treasury, and that they inquire how long Mr. *Nevelling* officiated, as mentioned in the said Certificate, and allow him for his services at the rate of 50 Dollars a month.

A Petition from *Alice Brazier* and Daughter, *Hannah Haynes*, and *Elizabeth Bouwe*, was presented to Congress and read:

Ordered, That it be referred to the Board of Treasury.

Resolved, That 3,000 Dollars be advanced to Colonel *Hazen* towards inlisting his Battalion, he to be accountable.

A Letter of the 20th, from *P. Zabriskie* and *J. Morgan*, was read:

Ordered, That it be referred to the Board of Treasury.

A Memorial from Mr. *Irwin* was presented to Congress and read:

Ordered, That it be referred to a Committee of three, and that they confer with the Council of Safety of *Pennsylvania* respecting the same, and report thereon to Congress:

The Members chosen, Mr. *S. Adams*, Mr. *Whipple*, and Mr. *Hart*.

The Committee of Treasury reported that there is due,

To *Robert Chase*, late Commander of the *Gaspe* ship of war, for his allowance from 1st March to 24th October, 1776, inclusive, 34 weeks, at 2 Dollars, 68 Dollars.

That they have examined an Account exhibited by Captain *Robert Cluggage*, for sundry articles charged to him, which he prays an allowance of, and that he ought to be credited for the following sums, charged in the *Bedford* County accounts, viz:

For Drilling for Haversacks, Account No. 1,	£6	5	10
Part of articles charged in Account No. 31,	1	13	6
Cash paid <i>Barnard Dougherty</i> ,	0	15	0
An overcharge in a Rifle bought of <i>William Peeble</i> ,	0	10	0
A charge of <i>Abraham Cable</i> , Esq., in additional Account No. 2,	3	7	4
Repairing Arms, charged in Colonel <i>Irwin's</i> Account, per Vouchers Nos. 7 and 8,	9	2	5
Occasional expenses which he paid for his Company, on their march from <i>Bedford</i> to <i>Boston</i> ,	9	7	9

The whole amounting to 82 82-90 Dollars, £31 1 10

That there is due to *J. Mitchel*, for expenses of a party of Light-Horse, going with money from *Philadelphia* to *Ticonderoga*, a balance of £32 16s. 6d., and for coach-hire, expenses, &c., for himself and Mr. *Dunlap*, as a guard with General *Prescot* and Brigadier-General *McDonald*, and their two servants, to *New-York*, to be exchanged, £78 18s. 6d., both sums amounting to £109 15s., equal to 292 60-90 Dollars:

That there should be advanced to Mr. *Hodgkin* and Mr. *Cronstedt*, two Midshipmen, taken prisoners, three weeks' allowance each, at 2 Dollars, 12 Dollars:

To *Roger Sherman*, Esq., for the expenses of the Committee appointed to inquire into the state of the Army at *New-York*, and two servants ten days absent, 76 70-90 Dollars, to be paid to *Elbridge Gerry*, Esq.:

Ordered, That the said Accounts be paid.

Resolved, That two months' pay be advanced to Lieutenant *David Zeigler*, who was wounded, and is come to *Philadelphia* for the purpose of perfecting his cure.

Resolved, That it be recommended to the several Assemblies and Conventions of the *United States*, forthwith to import, or otherwise procure, full supplies of Fire-Arms, Bayonets, Brass, or other Field-Pieces, Powder, Lead, Flints, Medicines, Intrenching Tools, Tent-Cloth, Blankets, and other Clothing, for such of their Militia as are deficient therein, and to send to the Board of War and Ordnance a copy of their Resolutions for this purpose, that the same may be laid before Congress.

The several matters to this day referred being postponed, Adjourned to ten o'clock on Monday.

Monday, October 28, 1776.

Resolved, That 1,000 Dollars be advanced to the Committee appointed to engage Wharf-Builders, for the use of the workmen engaged, and that they render an account of the expenditure.

A Letter of the 17th, from General *Schuyler*, was read, together with the Report of the Court of Inquiry appointed to discover what Stores were on board the enemy's Fleet taken in the river *St. Lawrence*:

Ordered, That the Report be referred to the Board of Treasury.

A Letter of the 6th, from Brigadier *Andrew Lewis*, was read, and referred to the Board of War.

A Petition, from *William Savage*, *Thomas Corbett*, and *John Scott*, in behalf of *William Wilson*, together with sundry Papers therein referred to, were read and referred to the Marine Committee.

A Letter of the 16th, from the Convention of *New-York*, and a Letter from *Thomas Cushing*, dated in *August*, were read:

Ordered, That the last be referred to the Committee on Indian Affairs.

Resolved, That Mons. *du Bois*, upon resigning his commission, have leave to return to *Martinico*.

Congress, being informed that certain persons were busy in monopolizing and engrossing the articles necessary for the Army, with a view to enhance their price, and prevent the Army from being supplied,

Resolved, That a Committee of three be appointed to inquire into this matter, and report thereon to Congress:

The Members chosen, Mr. *Wythe*, Mr. *Gerry*, and Mr. *Rutledge*.

The Committee to whom the Memorial of *Matthew Irwin* was referred, reported, that they have conferred with the Council of Safety of *Pennsylvania*, who say they have some Salt, the quantity they cannot ascertain, which they are willing to sell for the use of the Army:

Ordered, That the said Committee apply to the Council of Safety, and request them to sell to Mr. *M. Irwin*, for the use of the Army, as much Salt as they can possibly spare.

The Marine Committee brought in a Report, which was read: Whereupon,

Resolved, That the Marine Committee be empowered to employ such persons as they shall think proper, to execute the business entrusted to them, and report their names to Congress:

That the further consideration of the Report be postponed till to-morrow.

The Committee of Treasury reported that there is due, To *Thomas Dunahoo*, a *Canadian* prisoner, for his allowance from 13th July to 25th October, instant, 15 weeks, at 1 Dollar and 1-3d a week, 20 Dollars:

To Captain *William Brady*, of the late Colonel *Stevenson's* Battalion, for twelve Rifles, purchased by him for the use of his company, 177 Dollars:

Ordered, That the said Accounts be paid.

The several matters to this day referred being postponed, Adjourned to ten o'clock to-morrow.

Tuesday, October 29, 1776.

Congress being informed that *Tim. Dodd*, an express from *Boston*, who was entrusted with despatches from General *Washington*, has had them stolen from him at *Bristol*, in this State,

Resolved, That a Committee of two be appointed, with powers to make every necessary inquiry, and to take every step they think proper, for the recovery of the despatches, and the discovery of the person or persons by whom said Papers were stolen; that if they have good reason to suspect any person or persons, they immediately secure them till the further order of Congress, and return their names, with the causes of suspicion, to this House; that they dispose of the Continental prisoners at *Bristol* in such manner as they shall think best:

That all Civil Officers be requested, and all Continental Military Officers be ordered, to afford every assistance that may be required by the said Committee:

The Members chosen, Mr. *Wilson* and Mr. *Hopkinson*.

Resolved, That Colonel *Cadwallader* and Colonel *Bayard* be requested to accompany the said Committee to *Bristol*.

Resolved, That 40,000 Dollars be advanced to *J. Mease* for the publick service, he to be accountable.

That 6000 Dollars be advanced to Colonel *Buckner*, of the Sixth *Virginia* Battalion, for the use of the said Battalion, he to be accountable.

Resolved, That *Charles Hughes* have leave to go to the *West-Indies* in the Schooner *Thistle*.

A Letter from Mr. *Bache* was read :

Ordered, That it be referred to a Committee of three.

The Members chosen, Mr. *Wythe*, Mr. *Payne*, and Mr. *Livingston*.

Whereas the fortifying the entrance of the river *Cape-Fear*, in the State of *North-Carolina*, will tend greatly to the advantage and security of that State, by furnishing a safe Harbour for foreigners, and excluding the enemy's ships :

Resolved, therefore, That it be recommended to the Convention of the State of *North-Carolina*, to fortify and secure immediately, at the expense of their State, the entrance of the said river, by erecting Batteries and other works of defence, by placing obstructions in proper parts of the said river, and pursuing such other measures as, in their opinion, will best conduce to prevent the introduction of the enemy's ships, and protect the trade of the said State ; and, in case heavy cannon cannot be procured in the State of *North-Carolina*, it is further recommended to the said Convention, to apply to the State of *South-Carolina*, requesting the loan of such cannon as they can spare from their own necessities, who, it is not doubted, will contribute, as far as may be in their power, to accomplish a purpose which will be of general utility to the Southern States.

Congress resumed the consideration of the Report of the Marine Committee : Whereupon,

Resolved, That no private ships or vessels of war, merchant-ships, or other vessels belonging to the subjects of these States, be permitted to wear pendants when in company with Continental ships or vessels of war, without leave from the Commanding Officer thereof.

That, if any Merchant-ship or vessel shall wear pendants in company with Continental ships or vessels of war, without leave first obtained from the commander thereof, such commander be authorized to take away the pendant from the offender.

That, if private ships or vessels of war refuse to pay the respect due to the Continental ships or vessels of war, the Captain or Commander, so refusing, shall lose his commission.

Resolved, That the further consideration of the Report be postponed till to-morrow.

The several matters to this day referred being postponed, Adjourned to ten o'clock to-morrow.

—
Wednesday, October 30, 1776.

The Committee of Treasury reported, that there is due, To Mr. *Allen*, for his expenses while detained here for the purpose of taking charge of Money for *Virginia*, the sum of 17 20-90 Dollars :

That a further sum of 77 46-90 Dollars be paid to Mr. *Fairlamb*, which will be the balance due to him on his account as it now stands, exclusive of his request for a further allowance on the ration stipulation in his contract, and of 27 cords of Wood, not allowed for want of vouchers :

Ordered, That the above Accounts be paid.

Resolved, That the sum of 30 Dollars be paid to Captain *Moore*, to enable him to proceed to *Europe*.

A Letter, of this day, from Colonel *M. Hazen*, was read : also, a Petition from *Andrew Stalker*, late Commander of the Brig *Three Friends*, praying for leave to depart the States of *America*, and revisit his native country :

Resolved, That the prayer of the Petition be granted.

A Petition from *John Tillman* was read.

A Letter, of the 25th, from Governour *Livingston* was read, and referred to Dr. *Rush*, Mr. *Ross*, and Mr. *Lynch*.

Resolved, That 2,000 Dollars be advanced to Colonel *Scott*, of the Fifth *Virginia* Battalion, for the use of the said Battalion, he to be accountable.

Resolved, That 2,000 Dollars be advanced to Colonel *Hausegger*, of the *German* Battalion, for the use of the said Battalion, he to be accountable.

The Board of War having recommended *Jacob Myle* to be Quartermaster, and *Eberhart Michael*, Paymaster, to the *German* Battalion :

Resolved, That they be accepted, and Commissions granted to them accordingly.

Mr. *Duché* having, by a Letter to the President, acknowledged his obligations for the kind manner in which Congress have expressed their approbation of his services, and requested, as he accepted their appointment from motives perfectly disinterested, that the 150 Dollars voted to him may be applied to the relief of the widows and children of such of the *Pennsylvania* Officers as have fallen in battle in the service of their country :

Resolved, That the Money be deposited with the Council of Safety of *Pennsylvania*, to be applied agreeable to the request of Mr. *Duché*.

A Memorial from *Robert Jewell* was read :

Ordered, That it be referred to the Committee on Governour *Livingston's* Letter.

Resolved, That 133 1-3 Dollars be advanced to *Evans* and *Stretch*, the commanding officers of the guard going with Money and Clothing for the Northern Army, they to be accountable.

The Committee of Treasury reported, that there is due,

To Mons. *Pierre Gamelin*, a prisoner from *Canada*, for his allowance from 26th *March* to 28th *October*, inclusive, being 31 weeks, at 2 Dollars a week, 62 Dollars :

To *Marcus Lucullus Ryal*, a prisoner, for his allowance from 22d *August* to 24th *October*, inclusive, being 9 weeks, at 2 Dollars per week, 18 Dollars :

To Lieutenant *Jacob Schalch*, a prisoner, for his allowance from 19th *July* to 25th *October*, inclusive, being 14 weeks, at 2 Dollars per week, 28 Dollars :

To Dr. *James Gill*, a prisoner, for his allowance from 19th *July* to 25th *October*, inclusive, being 14 weeks, at 2 Dollars per week, 28 Dollars :

To Lieutenant *Simon Evans*, a prisoner, for his allowance from 23d *August* to 18th *October*, inclusive, being 8 weeks, at 2 Dollars per week, 16 Dollars :

To *Pelatih Webster*, for 200 pounds Rhubarb, 600 Dollars :

To *Alexander Middleton*, of the Fifth *Virginia* Battalion, for his account of Medicines, Board, Nursing, and necessaries for the sick of the said Battalion, 86 60-90 Dollars :

Ordered, That the said Accounts be paid.

The Committee to whom were referred the Resolutions of the Convention of *Maryland*, brought in a Report, which was taken into consideration : Whereupon,

Resolved, That the President write to the Convention of *Maryland*, and inform them, that their Resolutions relative to their paying ten Dollars in lieu of the 100 acres of Land, determined by Congress to be given to such non-commissioned officers and soldiers as shall enlist to serve during the war, will, in the opinion of this House, if carried into execution, prove extremely detrimental to these States, as it will, in all probability, induce such soldiers as are to compose the remainder of the levies, to require an equal sum from the *United States*, and, by refusing to enlist until their demands shall be complied with, compel the Congress to the immediate payment of an additional bounty, far beyond what is reasonable :

That this House, being satisfied with the propriety of offering Land to the soldiery, as an inducement to enlist in the service, cannot rescind the said Resolution, and are of opinion, that the faith which this House, by virtue of the power with which they were vested, has plighted, must be obligatory upon their constituents ; that no one State can, by its own act, be released therefrom, and that the interest of the *United States* would be deeply and injuriously affected, should the Congress, at this time, consent to a compromise between any State and the forces to be by them raised :

That the said Convention, by their said Resolutions, seem to apprehend, that their State would be obliged, in their individual capacity, to make good the bounty of Land hereafter to be given to the soldiery ; whereas, it was the intention of Congress to provide the said Land at the expense of the *United States* :

That the said Convention be requested to reconsider the said Resolutions, and to give to their Commissioners, appointed to repair to the camp, such instructions as will enable them to carry into execution the views of Congress: That the said Convention be informed, that the Paymaster-General has been furnished with a sum of money for the purpose of paying the bounty of 20 Dollars ordered by Congress to such soldiers as shall enlist to serve the *United States* during the war.

Congress resumed the consideration of the Report of the Marine Committee: Whereupon,

Resolved, That the rank of Officers of Marines be the same as Officers of similar commissions in the land service:

That the Commanders, Officers, Seamen, and Marines, in the Continental Navy, be entitled to one half of merchantmen, transports, and storeships, by them taken, from and after the first day of *November*, 1776, to be divided amongst them in the shares and proportions fixed by former resolutions of Congress:

That the Commanders, Officers, Seamen, and Marines, in the Continental Navy, be entitled to the whole value of all ships and vessels of war belonging to the Crown of *Great Britain*, by them made prize of, and all privateers authorized by his *Britannick* Majesty to war against these States, to be divided as aforesaid.

Resolved, That the part of the Report relative to the rank and pay of Naval Officers, be referred to a Committee of three:

The Members chosen, Mr. *Morris*, Mr. *Whipple*, and Mr. *R. H. Lee*.

Resolved, That the remainder of the Report be recommended.

The several matters to this day referred being postponed, Adjourned to ten o'clock to-morrow.

Thursday, October 31, 1776.

A Letter, of the 28th, from General *Greene*, was read:

Ordered, That it be referred to the Committee of Intelligence.

Resolved, That 2,000 Dollars be advanced to Colonel *Zebulon Butler*, for the use of the two Companies raised in the town of *Westmoreland*, he to be accountable:

That leave be granted to *Zebulon Butler*, Esq., or his agent, to purchase, of the Salt belonging to the Continent, 50 bushels for the use of the Continental Troops raised in *Westmoreland*.

A Letter, of the 29th, from *Robert H. Harrison*, the General's Secretary, was read.

The Committee appointed to make strict inquiry respecting some late Despatches from Head-Quarters, said to have been lost on *Monday* last at *Bristol*, reported,

That they have pursued every probable method that

might lead to a discovery of the said despatches, without effect; that they have strictly and carefully examined every person who could be supposed to have any knowledge of the circumstances related by the express, charged with the said despatches, respecting his loss, but can discover no traces of the robbery or stealth; that the said express does not give so clear and satisfactory an account of this matter as fully to exculpate himself in the opinion of this Committee, and that they have therefore brought him back in order to submit him to the further examination of Congress: Whereupon,

Resolved, That *Timothy Dod*, who had charge of the Despatches from General *Washington*, and alleges he lost them at *Bristol*, be committed to the custody of *R. Jewell*, Keeper of the publick Prison, to be safely kept till further orders of Congress:

That Mr. *Jewell* be directed to keep *Timothy Dod* in his own apartments and family, and not to permit any of the prisoners, nor any person, except those of his own family, to converse with him, till further orders of Congress.

Resolved, That a Committee of five be appointed to prepare an effectual plan for suppressing the internal enemies of *America*, and preventing a communication of intelligence to our other enemies:

The Members chosen, Mr. *S. Adams*, Mr. *Wythe*, Mr. *R. H. Lee*, Mr. *Wilson*, and Mr. *Ross*.

Ordered, That the Board of War remove the Prisoners from *Bristol*, and the publick post-roads, to some convenient places back in the country:

That they have a sufficient guard kept at the publick Prison, and over the Continental stores in and near *Philadelphia*.

Whereas it has been represented to Congress, that sundry inhabitants of these *United States*, to keep supplies from the Army, or promote their own interest, have purchased considerable quantities of Clothing, and refuse to dispose of the same, unless upon extravagant or unreasonable terms:

Resolved, That it be recommended to the Assemblies, Conventions, Councils, or Committees of Safety of the several States, forthwith to take suitable measures for obtaining, for the use of the Army, such necessary articles as, being thus engrossed in their respective States, cannot be otherwise immediately procured, allowing to the owners reasonable prices for the same; and that laws be provided in each of the States, for effectually preventing monopolies of necessities for the Army, or inhabitants of the same.

Ordered, That the Committee to whom Mr. *Bache's* Letter was referred report, as soon as possible, ways and means of establishing Expresses, and conveying intelligence to and from the Army with safety and despatch.

The several matters to this day referred being postponed, Adjourned to ten o'clock to-morrow.

END OF THE SECOND VOLUME OF THE FIFTH SERIES.

WASHINGTON, April, 1851.

INDEX

TO THE SECOND VOLUME OF THE FIFTH SERIES.

A.		Address—Continued	
Abbot, Colonel Samuel, ordered to march his Militia towards New-York, -	206	Remarks on the, of "Conti—," by "Doria," -	433
Abeel, James, letter from, to Robert Harper, -	1266	Of New-Jersey Assembly to Governour Livingston, -	491
Abingdon, Earl of, Address of, at Wallingford, England, -	808	Of Governour Livingston to New-Jersey Assembly, -	492
Declares the war to be unjust, unconstitutional, and ruinous, -	809	Of Pennsylvania Convention to the Freemen of Pennsylvania, -	582
Accounts, Pennsylvania Council of Safety order sundry, to be paid, 61, 62, 63, 64, 65, 66, 67, 68, 69, 70, 71, 72, 73, 74, 75, 76, 77, 78, 79, 80, 81, 82, 83, 84, 85, 86, 87, 88, 89, 90, 91, 92, 93, 94, 95, 96, 97, 98		Of New-Jersey Council to Governour Livingston, -	587
Connecticut Council of Safety order sundry, to be paid, -	129, 130, 295, 386, 557, 848, 849, 1302	Of Governour Livingston to New-Jersey Council, -	588
Pennsylvania Assembly order sundry, to be paid, -	544, 545, 546	Of the Earl of Abingdon, at Wallingford, England, -	808
Maryland Council of Safety order sundry, to be paid, -	625, 626, 627, 628, 629, 630, 631, 632, 633, 634, 635, 636, 637, 638, 639, 640, 641, 642, 643, 644, 645, 654, 655, 656, 657, 658, 659, 660	Of "A Militia-Man," to Connecticut Assembly, -	983
Resolve relative to vouchers of, against the Continent, -	765, 778	Of Inhabitants of New-York to Lord and General Howe, -	1074
Congress appoint Commissioners to liquidate the publick, in the Northern Department, -	1308	Of Inhabitants of New-York to Governour Tryon, -	1075
Sundry, ordered by Congress to be paid, -	1333, 1334, 1338, 1339, 1342, 1360, 1375, 1376, 1379, 1380, 1386, 1396, 1401, 1402, 1404, 1405, 1406, 1407, 1408, 1409, 1410, 1411, 1412, 1413, 1414, 1415, 1416	Of Governour Tryon to Inhabitants of New-York, -	1075
Actions, Massachusetts passes a resolution to revive, -	735	Of the Lord Mayor, &c., of York, to the King, -	1126
Adair, Gideon, recommended for a Captaincy of Marines, -	1268	Of Inhabitants of Queen's County to Governour Tryon, -	1164
Adams, Daniel, letter from, to Maryland Convention, -	613	Of Governour Tryon to Inhabitants of Queen's County, -	1164
Adams, Major Daniel Jenifer, recommended for promotion, -	947	Of "A Carolinian" to Lord and General Howe, -	1180
Adams, John, letters from, to Mrs. Adams, -	192, 324, 443, 864, 938	Adjutant-General of the Army, a post of great concern and difficulty, -	826
Opposed to taking any notice of Lord Howe's proposition for an interview, -	192	Affidavit of Elizabeth Franklin, -	367
Appointed, with Dr. Franklin and Edward Rutledge, to confer with Lord Howe, -	1332	Africa, Captain John Paul Jones suggests an expedition to the coast of, -	1106
Letter to, from Stephen Hopkins, -	837	Agent for building Continental ships, resolution to furnish the, with guns, -	768
President of the Board of War, -	850	Ague and Fever, cold weather the best doctor for, -	356
Letter to, from William Aylett, -	850	Air Furnace, resolve for erecting, for casting cannon, -	773
Adams, Mrs., letters to, from John Adams, -	192, 324, 443, 864, 938	Aids-de-Camp, Mons. Penet appointed one of Washington's, -	927
Adams, Josiah, appointed a Paymaster, -	448	Alaby, Isaac, sentenced to be flogged, -	473
Adams, Obadiah, resolve to pay the heirs of, for the loss of a gun, -	756	Albany, scarcity of carpenters at, -	858
Adams, Peter, letter from, to Maryland Delegates in Congress, -	1308	A great number of disaffected persons in and about, -	1143
Adams, Richard, memorial of, to Massachusetts General Court, -	1308	Commissioners appointed to examine the publick accounts open their office at, -	614
Adams, Samuel, Secretary of Massachusetts Assembly, -	487	Albany Committee, instructions from, to their Deputies in New-York Convention, -	708
Adams, Ensign, promoted to a First Lieutenantcy, -	478	Letter from, to New-York Convention, -	1141
Adams, Windham, commissioned Major of Second Battalion of New-Hampshire troops, -	1177	Letter to, from Colonel Whiting, -	1169
Address, to the Publick, -	211	Albertson, Lieutenant Thomas, orders to, from Marine Committee, -	823
Of William Gordon to the inhabitants of Massachusetts, -	227	Aitkin, Robert, appointed to reprint the Journals of Congress, -	1390
Of the General Assembly of South-Carolina to President Rutledge, -	394	Alexander, A. J., letter from, to General Washington, -	403
Of "Conti—," to the People of Pennsylvania, -	430	Alexandria, order of Virginia Council for supplying the fortification at, with cannon, -	1127
Postscript to the above, by "Conti—," -	432	Letter from Committee of, to the President of Congress, -	1127
		Alger, Lieutenant William B., letter from, to New-York Convention, -	831
		Deposition of, -	1123
		"Alfred," ship, account of provisions on board the, -	1107
		Allen, Benjamin, sentenced to be flogged for desertion, -	613
		Allen, Captain Edward, recommended as a proper person to command the Brig Comet, -	1323
		Instructions to, from South-Carolina Navy Board, -	1324
		Letter to, from South-Carolina Navy Board, -	1325, 1327
		Allen, Colonel Ethan, prisoner at Halifax, efforts for the relief of, -	1133
		Resolution of Connecticut Assembly in favour of, -	1225
		Allen, Jolley, permitted to sell a part of his effects, -	779
		Allen, Lieutenant Noah, appointed to a Captaincy, -	1083

- Allison, Francis, appointed Surgeon of Pennsylvania troops, - 86
- Ambler, Joshua, Chairman of Poundridge Committee, - 1066
- Amboy, New-Jersey, Pennsylvania Associators at, permitted to return home, - 181
- Grievances of the inhabitants of, - 365, 366
- General Mercer requested to take measures to remove the complaints of the inhabitants of, - 366
- Extract of a letter from, - 366
- Firewood greatly needed at, - 366
- America, ordinance for punishing persons guilty of speaking and writing against, - 37
- The cause of, the cause of mankind, - 283
- People of, will resist force, - 390
- Independence of, essential to peace, liberty, and safety, - 395
- The war upon, unjust, unconstitutional, and ruinous, - 909
- The appearance of cruisers of, in European seas, viewed with amazement, - 937
- The spirit of venality will ruin, if she ever is ruined, - 939
- Philo-Alethias on the present States of, - 967
- Oppressive acts of Great Britain towards, - 1044
- Judge Drayton's remarks on the rise of the empire of, - 1047
- Considerations on the present revolted state of, by Camillus, - 1115
- A Soldier to the Independent Sons of, - 1174, 1317
- At all events, must be free, - 1207
- America, privateer, captures a valuable prize, - 1004
- American, an, to the Printer of the London Chronicle, - 390
- Americanus, on the Conference between Lord Howe and the Committee of Congress, - 914
- Ammunition, petitions for, from Northampton, Pennsylvania, - 39
- Resolutions of the Council of New-Jersey respecting a supply of, &c., - 366
- Scarcity of, at Ticonderoga, - 619
- A large quantity of, forwarded to Fort Montgomery, - 672
- A large supply of, forwarded from Massachusetts to Connecticut, - 767
- Andre, Peter, an Indian, money voted for the support of, - 775
- "Andrew Doria," ship, Captain Biddle, takes several valuable prizes, - 225, 282, 378
- Arrival of the, at Philadelphia, - 378
- Resolution of Congress respecting prizes taken by the, - 1388
- Anderson, Lieutenant, wounded in the action on Long-Island, - 882
- Anderson, Lieut. A., recommended for promotion, - 1007
- Anderson, John, memorial of, to Massachusetts Council, - 808
- Permitted to import warlike stores and other effects, - 808
- Annapolis, extract of a letter received at, from Philadelphia, - 595
- Extract of a letter from White-Plains to a gentleman in, - 1284
- Anne Arundel, Delegates for, in Convention, resign their seats, - 297
- New election of Delegates for, - 297
- Anstruther, Lieutenant P., (prisoner,) asks permission to go to Philadelphia, - 1310
- Antil, Mrs., permitted to go to New-York, - 1409
- "Appius," to the Printer of the London Chronicle, - 391
- Arbuthnot, Commodore, makes prize of a flag-of-truce, - 307
- Archibald, John, order for the arrest and examination of, - 688
- Arichat, taken possession of by Captain Jones, of the sloop Providence, - 443
- Armourer, an, much wanted at Fort Montgomerie, - 666
- An, ordered to be sent to Fort Montgomery, - 672
- Armed vessels, order to provide supplies for, - 780
- List of American, on Lake Champlain, - 1041, 1179
- List of British, on Lake Champlain, - 1080, 1172, 1179
- Secret Committee order the purchase of, in Europe, - 1387
- Arms—
- Of Non-Associators, ordinance respecting, - 6
- Colonels Carnahan and Proctor apply to Pennsylvania Convention for, - 33
- Petitions for, from Northampton, Pennsylvania, - 39
- Return of, belonging to Pennsylvania, ordered, - 77
- Resolution of Lancaster Committee respecting the distribution of, - 234
- A large quantity of, &c., forwarded to Fort Montgomery, - 672
- Memorandum of money paid to purchase, - 862
- Memorandum of payments for, stopped from the Reg. old establishment, - 862
- Arms—Continued.
- Maryland Council of Safety furnish funds to purchase, - 988
- Colonel Zedwitz's plan for obtaining, for the use of the Continental Army, - 1218
- Arms and accoutrements, Pennsylvania Council of Safety order a return of, - 86
- Receipt for, - 276
- Return of, taken from the enemy on Staten-Island, - 1094
- Armstrong, General John, letter from, to the President of Congress, - 924
- Armstrong, ———, arrested for making Indians drunk, &c., - 859
- Army, evacuation of Long-Island by Washington's, - 118, 170
- The state of Washington's, - 120, 121
- Numerous desertions from the, - 120, 121, 714
- Washington's, under twenty thousand, - 121
- Importance of strengthening the, in New-York, - 136
- Troops ordered from Virginia, &c., to strengthen, - 136
- Ministerial, in Canada, fifteen thousand strong, - 148, 485
- Prevalence of desertion in the Northern, - 149
- American, composed principally of raw Militia, - 158
- Loss of the American, in the skirmish on Long-Island, - 167, 399
- Critical state of the, at New-York, - 182
- General Greene recommends the retreat of the, from the Island of New-York, - 182
- Operations of Howe's, on Long-Island, - 188
- Reasons for the evacuation of Long-Island by Washington's, - 197
- Embarrassment of the, at New-York, - 198
- Said by Colonel Reed to be "between hawk and buzzard," - 198
- Extract of a letter from an officer in the, - 198
- Howe's, twenty-one thousand strong on Long-Island, - 200
- Washington's, thirty-three thousand strong, - 234
- One-fourth of the, on the sick list, - 237
- Arrangements of the, preparatory to the evacuation of New-York, - 237
- Main body of Howe's, at Newtown, - 239
- Northern, in great distress for clothing, - 246
- Movements of the Ministerial, in the neighbourhood of New-York, - 256, 257, 1064, 1077, 1137, 1138, 1166, 1167, 1188, 1189, 1311, 1312
- Northern, in great distress for medicines and hospital stores, - 263, 685
- Washington's concern at the spirit of robbery and plunder in the, - 312, 413
- Returns of Washington's, - 327, 328, 449, 607, 907
- Retreat of the, from New York, - 351
- Main body of the, encamp upon the Heights of Harlem, - 351
- Skirmish of the, with the enemy at Harlem, - 369, 370, 381, 384, 417, 430, 887
- Admirable retreat of Washington's, from Long-Island, - 370, 820
- Howe's, take possession of the City of New-York, - 378, 384
- Eight thousand five hundred men fit for duty in the Northern, - 441
- Washington's, reduced by sickness and desertion to twelve or fourteen thousand, - 446
- Howe's, not less than twenty-five thousand strong, - 446
- A regular standing, essential, - 460
- General Gates's plan for recruiting the new, in the Northern department, - 470
- Return of the Northern, - 470
- Decrease of sickness in the Northern, - 484, 981
- High spirits of the Northern, - 484
- Congress resolve to augment the, - 488, 560
- Bounty for enlistments for the, during the war, - 488
- Ill consequences of short enlistments for the, - 488
- A well-disciplined, essential to success, - 488, 489
- Washington's, too strongly posted to be attacked in front, and difficulty of turning its wings, - 519
- Resolve of Massachusetts for raising one-fifth of her militia to reinforce the, - 762
- Necessity for a train of field artillery in the Northern, - 615
- Resolve of Massachusetts respecting deserters from the Northern, - 762
- Resolve for procuring clothing for the, - 770
- Northern, in want of arms, tents, and clothing, - 821
- Northern, strongly intrenched at Ticonderoga, - 821
- High spirits and improved health of Washington's, - 840
- Measures taken to intercept Tories on their way to join Howe's, - 841, 845
- Washington's, "upon the eve of political dissolution," - 867
- An increase of the pay of the, recommended by Washington, - 867

Army—Continued.

- Northern, well supplied with provisions, - - - 922
 Six thousand New-Hampshire and Massachusetts militia march to join Washington's, - - - 934
 Return of General Mercer's, at Perth-Amboy, in New-Jersey, - - - 941
 Congress increase the inducements to enter the, for the war, - - - 952, 953
 Loss of the Ministerial, in the skirmish at Harlem, 990
 Loss of the American, in the skirmish at Harlem, 990
 Movements and operations of Washington's, in the vicinity of New-York, - - - 1064, 1097, 1130, 1188, 1189, 1311, 1312
 Skirmishes of the, with the enemy near New-York, 1066, 1077, 1097, 1130, 1188, 1166, 1167, 1188, 1189, 1203, 1263, 1311, 1312
 Howe's, in good health and have plenty of provisions, - - - 1073
 Howe's, reinforced by the arrival of Hessians, - 1076
 General Schuyler calls upon the neighbouring States for reinforcements for the Northern, - - - 1087
 Ministerial, in possession of Crown-Point, - 1144, 1206
 Old men, without experience and genius, "useless old boys" in the, - - - 1166
 Position of Howe's, - - - 1203
 Position of Washington's, - - - 1203
 Movements of General Heath's division of the, (note,) - - - 1203
 Plan of obtaining arms for the Continental, - - 1218
 Head-Quarters of Washington's, at White-Plains, 1239
 Skirmish of the, with the enemy at White-Plains, - 1271, 1272, 1282
 Militia desert in great numbers from the Northern, 1299
 Commissioners appointed to audit the accounts of the Northern, - - - 1308
 Articles for the government of the American, - 1363
 Supplies necessary for the use and comfort of the, 1384
 Measures taken by Congress for raising the new, - 1392
 Rations allowed to officers on the staff in the, - 1407
 Arndt, Major, obtains leave of absence, - - - 34
 Arnold, General Benedict—
 Letter to, from William Gilleland, - - - 112
 Letters to, from General Gates, - - - 186, 302, 402, 484, 555, 847, 860, 1017
 Letters from, to General Gates, - - - 223, 251, 265, 353, 354, 440, 531, 532, 591, 933, 982, 1038
 Requests General Gates to forward a reinforcement to Isle-aux-Motte, - - - 224
 Asks for a reinforcement of seamen, - - - 224
 Complaints of calumny, - - - 224, 354
 List of sick on board the fleet commanded by, - 224
 Fleet of, consists of seventeen sail, - - - 294
 Position and operations of the fleet of, 353, 354, 531
 Fleet of, arrives at Windmill Point, - - - 353
 Scouts sent out by, - - - 353
 Isle Motte best stand for the fleet of, - - - 353
 Requests Gates to send troops to Isle Motte, - 353
 Fleet of, arrive at Isle Motte, - - - 354
 Requests that mounted howitzers be forwarded to him, - - - 354
 Swivels wanted by, - - - 355
 Requests more seamen and gunners, - - - 440
 Arrives, with his fleet, at Bay St. Amond, - - 440
 Expects that the enemy will soon pay him a visit, - 481
 Complaints of the character of his men, - - - 481
 Asks for howitzers, shot, shells, cables, anchors, &c., - - - 481
 Said to have destroyed most of the enemy's boats at the north end of Lake Champlain, - - - 486
 Six hundred prisoners said to have been taken by, - 486
 A reinforcement of seamen sent to, - - - 556
 His fleet reinforced by the arrival of the Trumbull row-galley, - - - 556
 A reinforcement of seamen join the fleet of, - - 834
 List of articles wanted by, - - - 835
 Great complaints against, - - - 911
 Absolute necessity of augmenting the fleet of, - 982
 Battle between the fleet of, and the British on Lake Champlain, - - - 1028
 His account of the battle on Lake Champlain, - 1038
 List of the fleet of, - - - 1039
 Total defeat of the fleet of, - - - 1040, 1079
 "Our evil genius to the North," - - - 1143
 Articles of Agreement, between Silas Deane and Monsieur Coudray, - - - 283
 Articles for the government of the Armies of the United States, - - - 1363
 Artificers, engineers, &c., Colonel Putnam's plan for establishing a corps of, - - - 893
- Artillery, of Pennsylvania, at Amboy, desire to be placed on the same footing with militia, - - - 28
 Detachment of Pennsylvania, ordered to Fort Montgomery, - - - 94
 Return of Knox's train of, - 329, 451, 607, 909, 1130
 Necessity for a train of field, in the Northern army, - 615
 Return of Major Badlam's corps of, - - - 479, 619
 Return of officers in Knox's regiment of, - - - 905
 Ashburn, George, petition of, to Massachusetts General Court, - - - 782
 Permitted to go to England, - - - 782
 Ashby, John, appointed a Captain, - - - 1396
 Ashby, Nathaniel, appointed an Ensign, - - - 1396
 Assessors, resolve authorizing the election of, in Maduncook, Massachusetts, - - - 776
 Associators, to be armed with weapons taken from Non-Associators, - - - 6
 Desertion of, from the Flying-Camp, - - - 22
 Resolves of Pennsylvania Convention respecting, - 22
 Ordinance to equalize burdens of, and Non-Associators, - - - 42
 Moneys arising from assessments upon Non-Associators to be given to the families of poor, - 43
 Those, who refuse to march into Jersey, to be considered as Non-Associators, - - - 60
 Officers of Fourth Battalion of Pennsylvania, - 82
 Accounts of, to be settled without delay, - - - 83
 Philadelphia, at Amboy, allowed to return home, - 181
 Hart's battalion of Pennsylvania, discharged from camp at Amboy, - - - 256
 Colonel Slough's battalion of, dismissed the service, with thanks, - - - 940
 Colonel Allison's battalion of, permitted to return home, - - - 1009
 Atherton, Cornelius, memorial of, to New-York Convention, - - - 719
 Atkins, Captain, sends in a valuable prize, loaded with stores for General Howe, - - - 1228
 Atlee, Colonel, taken prisoner in the battle on Long-Island, - - - 108
 Atlee, William, chairman of Lancaster Committee—
 Letter to, from Colonel Burd, - - - 255
 Letter from, to John Cox, - - - 971
 Letter from, to Richard Peters, - - - 1309
 Aubray, Frederick, recommended for a Second Lieutenantcy, - - - 1069
 Auchmuty, James, (prisoner,) letter from, to John Jay, 1168
 Augusta, Virginia—
 Sentiments of the Militia and Freeholders of, - 815
 Strictures on the Sentiments, &c., of, by "A Member of the Established Church," (note,) - - - 815
 Austin, Benjamin, authorized to supply stores, cannon, &c., to certain vessels of war, - - - 780
 Accounts of, against Massachusetts, - - - 805
 Letter to, from Selectmen of Boston, - - - 1227
 Avery, Elisha, Commissary, letter to, from Joseph Trumbull, - - - 214
 Remarks of General Schuyler on, - - - 111, 249
 Succeeds Mr. Livingston as Deputy Commissary-General, - - - 922
 Letter from, to General Gates, - - - 1068
 Letter to, from H. Glen, - - - 1132
 Letter from, to New-York Convention, - - - 1141
 Avery, John, Deputy Secretary to Massachusetts Council, - - - 230
 Letter to, from Captain Jackson, - - - 538
 Letter from, to the President of Congress, - - - 837
 Letter from, to E. Thompson, - - - 1005
 Aylett, William, Deputy Commissary General—
 Letter from, to John Adams, - - - 850
- B.
- Babbidge, James, prisoner of war, parole of, - - - 594
 Babcock, Adam, memorial of, to Connecticut Council of Safety, - - - 1277
 Babcock, Colonel Joshua, letter from, to Governour Cooke, - - - 442
 Backus, Major, appointed to command Connecticut Horse, - - - 295
 Orders to, - - - 439, 845
 Badlam, William, appointed a Quartermaster, - - - 478
 Badlam, Major, return of Artillery commanded by, 479, 619
 Baggage, loss of, on the evacuation of New-York, - 351
 Bailey, John, appointed a First Lieutenant, - - - 347
 Bailey, Lieutenant-Colonel John, Jun., appointed to command the levies to reinforce Forts Montgomery and Constitution, - - - 670
 Baker, Samuel, appointed a First Lieutenant in the Flying-Camp, - - - 629

- Baker's Block-House, on Onion River, an advantageous post for the defence of the frontier, - 111
- Baldhead, at the mouth of Cape Fear River, the enemy erect a fort at, - 970
- Baldwin, Jeduthun, letter from, to General Gates, - 1133
- Appointed an Engineer in the Continental Army, - 1329
- Baldwin, John, declared to be an enemy to his country, and committed to prison, - 98, 1309
- Baldwin, Colonel Nahum, ordered to march to New-York, - 508
- Baldwin, Captain, takes into Philadelphia a valuable prize, - 1072
- Ball, Blackwell William, appointed an Ensign, - 88
- Ball, Jonas, and others, memorial of, to Massachusetts General Court, - 733
- Ball, Lieutenant, discharged from prison on parole, - 1377
- Ballard, Captain Robert, desires to sell his commission, - 604
- Balls, cannon, forwarded to New-Hampshire, - 119
- Northern Army in want of, - 246
- A large quantity of musket, discovered in a suspected house, - 461
- A thousand pounds of, forwarded from Boston to Hartford, - 559
- A supply of, delivered to Jonathan Eddy and others, Massachusetts forwards to Fairfield a large quantity of leaden, for the use of their Militia, - 767
- Account of, delivered by Peter T. Curtenius, - 830
- Baltimore Committee, members of, - 117
- Proceedings of, 118, 253, 308, 347, 458, 601, 925, 1005
- Letters from, to Maryland Convention, - 117, 310
- Letters to, from Maryland Council of Safety, 271, 541, 578
- Letter from, to Maryland Council of Safety, - 1032
- "Baltimore Hero," sloop, permitted to go to Martinique, - 631
- Bamper, Jacob, letter from, to New-York Committee of Arrangement, - 1149
- Bancroft, Doctor, of London, merits much of the Colonies, - 810
- Bancker, Evert, and others, letter from, to John M. Hobart, - 845
- Letter from, to New-York Marine Committee, - 846
- Instructions from, to Captain Rogers, - 846
- Letter to, from John Sloss Hobart, - 950
- Bancker, Gerard, Deputy Treasurer of New-York—
- Ordered to proceed to Philadelphia for the loan voted by Congress to New-York, - 998
- Bangs, Captain Abijah, orders to, - 795
- Letter from, to Massachusetts Council, - 1046
- Bankson, Andrew, appointed an Ensign, - 473
- Barbadoes, extract of a letter from a merchant in, - 231
- An American armed schooner sent into, as a prize, - 231
- An agent sent from, to London, to represent their distresses, - 810
- Speech of the Governour of, to the Council and Assembly, - 812
- Reply of the Assembly of, to the Governour's speech, - 813
- Barber, Captain John, permitted to take his schooner to Boston, - 766
- Barclay, John, chairman of Albany Committee, - 964
- Barclay, Ensign John, promoted to a Second Lieutenantcy, - 1086
- Bard, William, appointed a Second Lieutenant, - 88
- Barden, Stephen, deposition of, against Samuel Sprague, - 755
- Barker, Jacob, chairman of Sunbury (Nova-Scotia) Committee, - 785
- Barnard, John Beardwell, petition of, to Massachusetts Council, - 788
- Permitted to depart for Great Britain, - 788
- Barnes, Captain Amos, payment to, for Militia, - 947
- Barnett, David, advertised as a deserter, - 362
- Barnstable, Massachusetts, draughts from, ordered to Rhode-Island, - 767
- Barracks, order to construct, at King's Bridge, - 257
- Necessary to build, for a strong garrison at Ticonderoga and Mount Independence, - 470
- To be built on the Gurnet in Plymouth Harbour, - 752
- Ground purchased for the erection of, at Schenectady, - 980
- A sufficient number of, erected at Crown-Point, - 981
- General Schuyler preparing to build, for three thousand men at Saratoga and Stillwater, - 1078
- Memorandum respecting, near Fishkill, - 1254
- Barrett, Colonel John, ordered to cut a road from Number Four to Mount Independence, - 222
- Letters from, to General Gates, - 402, 557, 835
- Barry, John, sentenced to be flogged for desertion, - 590
- Barstow, Nathaniel, petition of, to Massachusetts General Court, - 750
- Bartholomew, Edward, elected a member of Pennsylvania Council of Safety, - 9
- Bartlett, Josiah, a Delegate in Congress from Rhode-Island—
- Letter from, to John Langdon, - 105, 253, 350, 459, 602, 1063, 1128
- Letter from, to General Folsom, - 118
- Letter from, to William Whipple, - 137, 272, 323
- Bad health of, - 602
- Bartlett, William, letter from, to General Washington, - 983
- Batchelder, Josiah, Jun., petition of, to Massachusetts Council, - 740
- Bates, Elnathan, letter from, to Richard Devens, - 133, 442
- Bates, George, petition of, to Massachusetts General Court, - 788
- Permitted to depart for England, - 788
- Battersbee, William, appointed a Storekeeper, - 474
- Bayard, John, elected a member of Pennsylvania Council of Safety, - 37
- Bayley, Colonel Jacob, letter from, to New-Hampshire Committee of Safety, - 145
- Letter from, to Colonel Hurd, - 508
- Letters from, to General Washington, - 1067, 1168
- Account of, against the United States, - 1068
- Letter to, from General Washington, - 1095
- Bayley, John, deposition of, in relation to a treasonable plan, - 150
- Bayley, Joseph, commander of privateer Putnam, - 799
- Bayly, Captain Mountjoy, letter from, to General Washington, - 333
- Beale, Thomas, appointed a Captain, - 1342
- Beall, General Rezin, letter to, from Maryland Council of Safety, - 272
- Letter to, from Colonel Reed, - 895
- Letter from, to Colonel Reed, - 895
- Return of Field-Officers of Maryland Flying-Camp commanded by, - 897
- Return of Field-Officers fit for duty in the brigade commanded by, - 1011
- Letter from, to Maryland Council of Safety, - 1011
- Ordered, with three regiments of Maryland troops, to Croler Bridge, - 1311
- Beatty, John, appointed a Major in the Continental service, - 94
- Becker, Major Henry, transferred to Continental service, - 94
- Beckford, Ebenezer, powder delivered to, - 734
- Bedford Committee, letter from, to New-York Convention, - 1272
- Bedford, Gunning, Mustermaster-General, memorial of, to Congress, - 579
- Beelor, James, Jun., appointed a Second Lieutenant, - 1340
- Bell, William, appointed an Ensign, - 474
- Bellows, Colonel Benjamin, Jun., ordered to raise a company and march to New-York, - 340
- Order to march to New-York countermanded, - 360
- Appointed Mustermaster to Captain House's company, - 360
- Letter from, to General Gates, - 1146
- Letter to, from General Gates, - 1244
- Bells, proceedings of New York Convention relative to removal of, - 184, 665, 672
- Removal of, from New-York highly approved by General Washington, - 240
- Removal of, attributed by Governour Tryon to a design to prevent an alarm of fire, - 493
- Benjamin, Ensign Ca., promoted to a Second Lieutenantcy, - 1083
- Benedict, Major Joseph, letter to, from Thaddeus Crane, - 373
- Letter from, to Colonel Drake, - 384
- Bennington Committee, letter to, from J. Trumbull, - 1143, 1191, 1300
- Letter to, from James Yancey, - 1143
- Letter to, from General Schuyler, - 1258
- Benson, Egbert, letter to, from Tench Tilghman, - 854
- Benson, Robert, letter to, from James William Payne, - 243
- Letter to, from Colonel Stockton, - 1254
- Bergen, American Army posted at, - 523
- Extract of a letter from Head-Quarters at, - 867
- Bergen-Neck, post at, strengthened, - 158
- Berks County, Pennsylvania, a frontier, - 22
- Proceedings of Committee of, - 1309
- Berkshire, Mass., Col. Simons and others appointed to execute the resolve for raising Militia in, - 770
- Letter to Committee of, from General Schuyler, - 1087
- Bermuda, representations of an agent from, to the British Ministry, - 810
- Bernard & Wadding, report concerning the goods taken from, by order of General Wooster, (note,) 1390

- Berruyer, Mons. de, letter from, to Gen. Washington, 269
- Betsey, schooner, Hugh Sherwood commander, permitted to sail for Martinico, - - - 628
- Betsey, schooner, Alexander Wilson commander, captured and stranded on the coast of New-Jersey, 1093
- Betsey, sloop, Josh. Hayman commander, permitted to go to Caiman, - - - 632
- Biddle, Col. Clement, Deputy Quartermaster-General, letter from, to General Heath, - - - 183
- Letter from, to the Board of War, - - - 235
- Biddle, Owen, elected a member of Pennsylvania Council of Safety, - - - 8
- Biddle, Captain, of the "Andrew Doria," captures a number of valuable prizes, - - - 227, 282, 307
- Bigelow, Major, recommended by General Gates, - 1192
- Bilboa, Spain, extract of a letter from, - - - 917
- An American privateer detained at, as a pirate, 1091, 1092
- Bill, Thomas, money voted to, to enable him take up deserters, - - - 575
- Billingsport, fortifications at, - - - 74
- Bills of Credit—
- An ordinance of Pennsylvania to prevent the counterfeiting of, - - - 15
- John Baldwin refuses to receive Continental, 98, 1309
- Act of New-York rendering certain, a legal tender, 411
- Pennsylvania issue, - - - 543
- Impacticability of emitting, in New-York, - - - 711
- Massachusetts appoints a Committee to sign, 773, 774
- Edward Smith convicted of counterfeiting, - - - 935
- Bingham, William, letter to, from Committee of Secret Correspondence, - - - 425, 822, 1198, 1199
- Letter to, from Marine Committee, - - - 864
- Letter to, from Silas Deane, - - - 1092
- Bird, Samuel, and others, to Governour Trumbull, - 965
- Birdsall, Colonel Benjamin, letter from, to New-York Convention, - - - 201
- Petition of, to New-York Convention, - - - 666
- Bishop, P., appointed a First Lieutenant, - - - 617
- Blackwell, John, appointed a First Lieutenant, - 1396
- Blackwell, Joseph, appointed a Second Lieutenant, - 1396
- Blaine, Ephraim, elected Commissary to Col. Mackay's Battalion, - - - 1405
- Blake, Edward, appointed a Commissioner of South-Carolina Navy Board, - - - 1323
- Blanchard, Jonathan, appointed by New-Hampshire to visit Washington's camp, - - - 1175
- Appointed on a Committee to visit Gates's camp, - 1176
- Return of the Committee's doings at Ticonderoga, by, 1176
- Bland, Colonel Theodorick, arrival of light horse of, at Williamsburg, - - - 405
- Blank commissions, supplied to Commissioners appointed to form the Flying-Camp, - - - 21
- General Ten Broeck requests to be supplied with, - 679
- Blankets, Washington's army in great want of, 381, 520
- An abundance of, and other woollens, to be had in the French Islands, - - - 602
- Resolution of Congress for the purchase of, &c., - 926
- Maryland Council of Safety order the purchase of, 988
- A quantity of, taken in a prize, offered to the Continent, - - - 1133
- Five hundred arrive at Rhode-Island from France, 1136
- Forty, delivered to Captain Harris, - - - 1307
- Blewer, Joseph, elected a member of Pennsylvania Council of Safety, - - - 8
- Block-Island, two of the enemy's ships cruising off, - 1076
- Bloomfield, Captain, arrives with his command at Fort Schuyler, - - - 355
- Blue, Samuel, sentenced to be flogged, &c., for desertion, - - - 1081
- Bluff, Thomas, letter to, from David Williams, - - 648
- Board of War, letter to, from John Trumbull, - - - 127
- Letter to, from General McDonald, (prisoner,) - - 191
- Letter to, from Colonel Biddle, - - - 235
- Letter to, from Colonel Griffin, - - - 235
- Letters from, to General Washington, - - - 298, 320, 348, 407, 1062, 1185, 1210, 1211, 1308
- Letter to, from the Delaware Convention, - - - 424
- Letter to, from General Mercer, - - - 547
- Letter to, from General Washington, - - - 603
- Letter from, to Lancaster Committee, - - - 956
- Order of, respecting prisoners, - - - 1185
- Letter to, from Robert H. Harrison, - - - 1187
- Plan of, to enable discharged soldiers to receive their pay where discharged, - - - 1211
- Letter to, from General Schuyler, - - - 1298
- Letter to the Secretary of, from Gen. Schuyler, - 1298
- Report from the, (note,) - - - 1360, 1401
- Report of, on General Washington's request to be allowed to appoint P. Penet one of his aids, - 1398
- Boards, a large quantity of, wanted at King's Bridge, 470
- An enormous expense in, occasioned by the want of tents, - - - 1298
- Bog, Archibald, allowed to return to England, - - - 791
- Boger, Lieutenant, discharged from prison on parole, 1377
- Bois, Pierre François de, appointed a Major by brevet, 1390
- Two months' pay advanced to, - - - 1393
- Bond, form of, given by agents for captures, - - - 790
- Bond, Nathaniel, appointed a First Lieutenant, - - 308
- Letters from, to Maryland Council of Safety, 1022, 1113
- Bond, Richard, letter from, to Maryland Council of Safety, - - - 1292
- Bond, Colonel Thomas, letters to, from Maryland Council of Safety, - - - 988, 1113
- Bond, Colonel William, death of, - - - 169
- Bonneau, Anthony, letters to, from South-Carolina Navy Board, - - - 1324, 1326
- Boon, Hawkins, appointed a Captain, - - - 80
- Boone, Samuel, to Maryland Council of Safety, - - 938
- Booth, Daniel, a deserter from Canada, intelligence received from, - - - 508
- Bordley, James, elected a Lieutenant-Colonel, - - - 405
- Boston, extract of a letter from, - - - 252
- Orders of the Selectmen of, relating to the small-pox, - - - 297
- Selectmen of, declare the town nearly free from small-pox, - - - 339
- Prize ship sent into, by Captain Paine, - - - 560
- Fortification of the harbour of, - - - 721
- Instructions to Committee of, relative to ship William and her passengers, - - - 792, 793
- Committee for fortifying the harbour of, ordered to forward twelve guns to Captain McNeil, - - - 804
- A French ship, with sixty-two guns, arrives at, - 849
- A new battery erected near the entrance of the harbour of, - - - 849
- A prize ship sent into, by Captain Whipple, - - - 863
- Letter from a gentleman in, to his friend in the country, - - - 914
- Letter to a gentlemen in, from his friend in the country, - - - 1043
- Letter from General Schuyler to the Selectmen of, 1087
- Letter from Governour Trumbull to the Commanding Officer at, - - - 1133
- Letter from the Selectmen of, to Benjamin Austin, - 1227
- Donations received at, by the hands of Samuel Adams, - - - 1316
- Boucher, Commodore, letter to, from Captain Cooke, - 488
- Boundary between Pennsylvania and Virginia, propositions of Virginia to settle the, - - - 41
- Civil war likely to grow out of disputes about the, 41, 42
- Pennsylvania declines the proposals of Virginia, - 42
- Bounty—
- Pennsylvania orders, to be paid to Associators who join the Flying Camp, - - - 19
- For enlistments during the war in the fleet of Pennsylvania, - - - 86
- Not likely to produce the desired effect, - - - 121
- Land in addition to, recommended by Washington, - - - 121
- Allowed by Congress inferior to that allowed Militia, - 126
- Offered for enlistments for the war, - - - 443
- Increase of, for enlistments for the war, - - - 488
- Bowdoin, James, President of Massachusetts Council—
- Letters from, to the President of Congress, - 486, 1109
- Letter to, from Benjamin Davis, Jun., - - - 984
- Letter from, to General Washington, - - - 1108
- Letter to, from Richard Derby, Jun., - - - 1175
- Letter to, from John Gibson, - - - 1247
- Bowen, Charles, sentenced to be flogged for robbery and drunkenness, - - - 551
- Boyd, Abraham, authorized to enlist men for the Flying-Camp, - - - 627
- Boyd, John, appointed a Second Lieutenant, - - - 88
- Boyd, John, member of Baltimore Committee, - - - 117
- Boyd, William, appointed an Ensign, - - - 88
- Boyle, George, convicted of being an enemy to the common cause, - - - 1142
- Bozman, Ballard, appointed a Second Lieutenant, - 634
- Bracco, Captain, of Maryland, killed in the action at White-Plains, - - - 1284
- Bradford, Benjamin, appointed a Captain, - - - 640
- Bradford, C. J., to Massachusetts Council, - - - 784
- Letter to, from the Marine Committee, - - - 428
- Letter to, from Commodore Hopkins, - 914, 1134, 1195
- An account of plaids and military stores in the possession of, - - - 924
- Letter from, to the President of Congress, - - - 984

- Bradford, William, Deputy-Governour of Rhode-Island—
 Letter from, to Massachusetts Assembly, - 312
 Letter from, to the President of Congress, - 337
 Letter from, to General Washington, - 337, 485
 Letter to, from Massachusetts Assembly, - 376
 Letter to, from General Washington, - 595
 Bradford, Adjutant, appointed temporary Aid-de-Camp to General Lee, - 1284
 Bradstreet, Lyonel, petition of, to Massachusetts Council, - 782
 Permitted to depart for Great Britain, - 782
 Brady, John, appointed a Captain, - 86
 Brady, Samuel, appointed a First Lieutenant, - 1331
 Braithwaite, Captain, of the Hampden packet, letter from, - 403
 Brandon, Thomas, appointed a First Lieutenant, - 80
 Brandt, Capt. John, inlists batteau-men at Schenectady, - 221
 Brass knockers to be taken from the doors of New-York, and sent to New-Jersey, - 670
 Bready, Christopher, appointed a Second Lieutenant, - 1333
 Bready, William, appointed a Captain of Virginia Rifles, - 1333
 Brest, a fleet fitting at, - 427
 Brewer, Colonel Samuel, letters from, to General Gates, 1040, 1144, 1192, 1300
 Brewster, William, letter from, to General Clinton, - 832
 Brice, John, appointed Captain of fire-sloop Etna, - 90
 Brigade-Majors, ordered to attend at Head-Quarters every day, - 382
 Ordered to settle a Court-Martial for the trial of prisoners, - 382
 Brigs, John, committed to prison for speaking against the liberties of America, - 86
 Brigs, Mrs., note from, to Admiral Hopkins, - 1005
 Brinley, Nathaniel, said to be "a very villain," - 743
 Memorial of, to Massachusetts General Court, - 744
 Asks to be removed from the town of Framingham, - 745
 Ordered into custody, - 774
 Personal estate of, taken into custody, - 1070
 Britain—see Great Britain.
 British Army—see Army.
 British Navy—see Navy.
 British statements, of affairs in America, 123, 135, 168, 200, 463, 519, 562, 564, 1136, 1293
 British troops, bad blood between the, and the Hessians, - 848, 996
 British and American naval officers, table showing the pay of, - 1107
 British West-Indies suffer greatly from the interruption of the trade with the United States, - 812
 Dependence of, upon the United States for supplies, - 813
 Brodhead, Lieutenant-Colonel, letter from, to Pennsylvania Convention, - 36
 Brodhead, Daniel, appointed a Lieutenant-Colonel of Pennsylvania troops in Continental service, - 94
 Bromfield, Henry, elected Colonel of Boston regiment of Militia, - 753
 Brook-Haven, Committee of, revoke their former proceedings, and own allegiance to the King, - 1220
 Broome, John, letter from, to Abraham Yates, - 557
 Letter from, to Peter R. Livingston, - 1077
 Brown, Lieut. Col. Abijah, ordered to Ticonderoga, - 278
 Brown, Archibald, & Co., letter to, from South-Carolina Navy Board, - 1327
 Brown, Sergeant Francis, promoted to an Ensigncy, - 1083
 Brown, Colonel Jabez, empowered to inlist men, - 376
 Brown, Col. John, complaint of, against Gen. Arnold, - 143
 Brown, John, petition of, to Massachusetts Council, - 789
 Permitted to depart for England, - 789
 Brown, Robert, petition of, to Massachusetts Council, - 784
 Permitted to depart for Great Britain, - 785
 Brown, Dr. William, appointed Assistant Physician for Flying-Camp, - 1373
 Brown, William, prisoner at Lancaster, permitted to go to Reading, - 120
 Brown, William, petition of, to Massachusetts Council, - 790
 Commissioned commander of privateer Boston, - 790
 Browne, James, (prisoner,) permitted to return to Ireland, - 1389
 Browne, Governour Montfort, General Howe proposes to exchange Lord Stirling for, - 437
 Orders respecting, - 574
 Arrives at Washington's Head-Quarters, - 919
 Exchanged for Lord Stirling, - 942
 Brownson, Capt. Gideon, memorial of, to Congress, - 273
 Brownson, Col. Timothy, letter from, to General Gates, - 1207
 Brunday, Lieutenant Daniel, found guilty of violating the Continental Association, - 935
 Brush, John, chairman of Suffolk County (New-York) Committee, - 1220
 Brutus, to the People of Pennsylvania, - 864
 Reply to, by "A Friend to Truth and the People," - 865
 Buchanan, Andrew, member of Baltimore Committee, - 117
 Buchanan, General, letter to, from Maryland Council of Safety, - 271
 Buchanan, Colonel William, letter from, to Maryland Council of Safety, - 364
 Buck, James, appointed Surgeon's Mate, - 92
 Buckman, Edward, deposition of, against Asa Porter, - 152
 Buckmore, Thomas, petition of, to Massachusetts Council, - 783
 Discharged from the militia service, - 783
 Buckner, Colonel Mordecai, orders the immediate return of absent officers and soldiers, - 255
 Budd, James, (a Tory prisoner,) examination of, - 1265
 Buel, Lieutenant Colonel, conduct of, - 619
 Buise, Peter, sentenced to suffer death for desertion, - 1296
 Bull, John, elected a member of Pennsylvania Council of Safety, - 8
 Allowed leave of absence, - 24
 Appointed superintendent of the works at Billingsport, - 77
 Bull, Joseph, (prisoner,) letter from, to General Woodhull, - 109
 Bull, Captain Nathan, prisoner at Halifax, makes his escape, - 358
 Bullitt, Colonel T., letter from, to Joseph Reed, - 191
 Burd, Colonel James, letter from, to William Atlee, - 255
 Burges, John, deposition of, against Samuel Sprague, - 755
 Burgoyne, General, preparations of, to cross the Lake to Crown-Point, - 485
 Troops of, in general very sickly, - 485
 Reported to be advancing on Albany with a large corps of troops and Indians, - 519
 Said to have an army of twenty thousand men, besides Indians, - 519
 Industrious in fitting out vessels to dispute the mastery of Lake Champlain, - 603
 Orders the troops at Chamblé and Sorel to St. John's, - 1018
 Burke, Mr., remarks of, in the House of Commons, on the Proclamation for a fast, (note,) - 1290
 Burr, Mary Hay, letter from, to John Hay Burn, - 1094
 Burr, Aaron, letter from, to Mrs. Edwards, - 552
 Burr, Ephraim, appointed a Captain, - 1378
 Burr, John, commander of the Milford frigate, - 538
 Burr, Thaddeus, letter from, to General Washington, - 537
 Letter from, to New-York Convention, - 575
 Burrell, John, letter from, to Maryland Council of Safety, - 117
 Burt, Jonathan, petition of, - 1177
 Burton, Ensign, promoted to a Second Lieutenantcy, - 616
 Bush, Jotham, petition of, to Massachusetts General Court, - 730
 Bushing, John, testimony of, on the trial of Lieutenant Pope, - 1065
 Bussell, Stephen, and others, petition of, to Massachusetts General Court, - 729
 Butler, Captain, appointed a Major, - 616
 Butler, Francis, resolve on the petition of, - 736
 Butler, Richard, recommended for a Majority, - 7
 Butler, Solomon, deposition of, - 651
 Butler, Walter, commands a party of Indians against Oswego, - 248
 Butler, William, appointed a Major, - 616, 1335
 Butler, Colonel Zebulon, letter from, to Roger Sherman, - 824
 Conference of, with Indians at Wyoming, - 825
 Byers, Captain Joseph, complaint against, - 1278
 C.
 Cabell, Captain Samuel Jordan, advertises deserters, - 362
 Cable, J., Tory, intercepted letter from, - 1029
 Cabot, Continental brig, prizes taken by the, - 1174, 1260
 Cadwalader, Lambert, appointed a Colonel of Pennsylvania troops in Continental service, - 93
 Return of officers under the command of, - 880
 Letter to, from Thomas Wharton, Jun., - 1128
 Caldwell, Rev. James, letter from, to William Patterson, - 595
 Calton, Captain, prizes taken by, - 1046
 Calvert, John, elected Clerk of South-Carolina Navy Board, - 1323
 Calwell, Captain Samuel, letter from, to Maryland Council of Safety, - 579
 Cambridge, Mass., petition of Committee of, in relation to the estates of inimical persons, - 774
 Camillus, considerations by, on the present revolted state of America, - 1115

- Camp, Abiathar, suspected of being unfriendly to the American cause. - - - - - 374
 Cited to appear before the General Assembly of Connecticut, - - - - - 375
 Found guilty, - - - - - 375
 Camp-kettles, difficulty of obtaining, in Connecticut, - 281
 Washington's Army in great want of, - - - 381, 520
 A number of, forwarded to Washington's Army by General Ward, - - - - - 600
 One hundred, ordered to be sent to Annapolis, - - 629
 Order for, to Captain Harris, - - - - - 988
 Campbell, James, Captain of the privateer Enterprise, letter from, to the President of Congress, - - 232
 Campbell, Lieutenant-Colonel, (British,) letter to, from General Washington, - - - - - 596
 Campbell, Robert, Adjutant of Colonel Richardson's Regiment, - - - - - 900
 Campbell, Robert, prisoner in Boston jail, petition of, to Massachusetts General Court, - - - - - 770
 Canada, thirteen regiments of British troops stationed in different parts of, - - - - - 509
 Force of the enemy in, and on the Lakes, - - - 566
 John Noble Cumming's account of the campaign in, - - - - - 1244
 Report of the Committee appointed to inquire into the causes of the miscarriages in, - - - - 1390
 Inhabitants of, taken prisoners, allowed to return on parole, - - - - - 1396
 Canadians, none of the, in the King's service, - - 485
 Wretched situation of the, - - - - - 485
 Desire to be formed into a regiment and commanded by French officers, - - - - - 1109
 Very numerous in the enemy's Army, - - - - 1144
 Candidates, for office, should have just pretensions to the character of gentlemen, - - - - - 890
 Cannon, James, elected a member of Pennsylvania Council of Safety, - - - - - 8
 Cannon, a number of, forwarded to New-Hampshire, - - - - - 119
 Total want of brass, in the State of New-York, - 184
 Washington authorized to fabricate, from the bells in New-York, - - - - - 184
 New-York borrows twenty pieces of, from Connecticut, - - - - - 260
 Some heavy, lost by the Americans on the evacuation of New-York, - - - - - 351
 Brass knockers, to be taken for manufacture of, - 670
 Massachusetts appoints a committee to view places suitable for furnaces for casting, - - - - - 735
 Resolve for delivering an iron, to Joseph Homan and others, of Marblehead, - - - - - 761
 Resolve relative to purchasing, of the Town of Newburyport, - - - - - 765, 777
 Resolve for supplying Martha's Vineyard with, - 766
 Resolve for supplying the ship Boston with, - - 770
 Machine for boring, reward voted by Massachusetts to the inventor of, - - - - - 773
 Resolve for erecting an air furnace for casting, - 773
 Order for procuring, for ship Boston, - - - - 791
 Alexandria (Virginia) Committee apply to Congress for, - - - - - 1127
 Governour Trumbull requested to furnish, for frigates building in New-Hampshire, - - - - - 1237
 Proof of, - - - - - 1237
 Cannon Foundry, resolves of Connecticut Council of Safety in relation to, - - - - - 1171
 Canteens, order for, to Captain Harris, - - - - 988
 Canterbury, Joseph, advertised as a deserter, - - 362
 Cape Ann, prize ship sent into, by a Rhode-Island privateer, - - - - - 863
 A three-decker prize ship sent into, by Capt. Coas, 863
 Cape Breton, American citizens detained as prisoners and slaves in the coal-pits of, - - - - - 1105
 Cape Elizabeth Committee, petition of, to Massachusetts General Court, - - - - - 730
 Cape Fear River, North-Carolina—
 Three British vessels of war, with forty prizes, in, 970, 990
 Enemy erect a fort at the mouth of, - - - - 970
 Marine Committee project an expedition against the enemy in, - - - - - 970, 1200
 Congress recommend the erection of a fortification on, - - - - - 1415
 Cape Nicola Mole, extract of a letter from, - - - 377
 Capithorn, Captain John, letter to, from South-Carolina Navy Board, - - - - - 1325
 Captains of Pennsylvania galleys, petition of the, referred to the Council of Safety, - - - - - 25
 Captains in the Navy, rank of the, - - - - - 1394
 Captures—see Prizes.
 Carleton, General Sir Guy, industrious in fitting out vessels for the mastery of Lake Champlain, - 603
 Commands the British fleet in the battle on Lake Champlain, - - - - - 1028
 His account of the battle on Lake Champlain, - 1040
 Gives a list of American vessels on the Lake before the action, - - - - - 1041
 In possession of Crown-Point, - - - - - 1192, 1206
 Carlisle, John, appointed a First Lieutenant in the Flying-Camp, - - - - - 643
 Carlisle, Pennsylvania, proceedings of Committee of, 939
 Proceedings of a meeting of Delegates at, - - 1201
 Carmichael, William, recommended by Silas Deane to M. Dumas, - - - - - 951
 Letters from, to C. W. F. Dumas, - - - - - 1179, 1260
 Carnahan, Colonel, petition of, to Pennsylvania Convention for arms, - - - - - 33
 Carnes, Major John, letter from, to General Gates, - 386
 Caroline County, Virginia, action of Committee of, in relation to disaffected persons, - - - - - 104
 Carolinian, address of a, to Lord and General Howe, 1180
 Carpenter, Nehemiah, Sen., pass for, - - - - 169
 Carpenters, a great number of the, at Skenesborough discharged, - - - - - 185
 More should be sent to Ticonderoga, - - - - 620
 At Ticonderoga, worn down by the ague, - - - 620
 Scarcity of, at Albany, - - - - - 868
 Scarcity of, at Schenectady, - - - - - 1190
 Carr, James, promoted to a First Lieutenantcy, - - 474
 Carrington, Edward, inimical to American liberty, - 374
 Cited to appear before Connecticut Assembly, - - 375
 Carson, Moses, appointed a Captain, - - - - - 1340
 Carson, Richard, appointed a First Lieutenant, - 1340
 Carter, Ephraim, appointed an Ensign, - - - - 616
 Carter, John, sentenced to be flogged for desertion, - 590
 Carter, John, letter to, from General Gates, - - 885
 Carter, Landon, letter from, to General Washington, - 1304
 Cartouch-boxes, order for, to Captain Harris, - - 988
 Cartridge paper, scarcity of, at Albany, - - - 110
 A large quantity of, wanted at Ticonderoga, - - 185
 Two hogsheads of, arrive at Ticonderoga, - - - 203
 General Gates complains of the want of, - - 353, 619
 Massachusetts forwards thirteen reams of, to Fairfield, Connecticut, - - - - - 767
 One hundred reams of, sent to General Gates, - 1339
 Cartridges, Colonel Hartley asks for, - - - - 556
 The Army at King's Bridge in great want of, - 1136
 Board of War order two hundred thousand to be forwarded to General Washington, - - - - 1185
 Eighty thousand forwarded to General Washington, 1281
 Cary, Archibald, elected Speaker of the Senate of Virginia, - - - - - 988
 Cary, Joseph, (prisoner,) letter from, to Richard Peters, - - - - - 460
 Cary, Colonel Richard, Jun., Aid-de-Camp to General Washington, letters from, to General Heath, 108, 976
 Castlehaven (Maryland) Company, petition of, to Maryland Convention - - - - - 1278
 Castleton, the Tories below, laying a cursed plan, - 1207
 Cattle, removed from Long-Island to Connecticut, 336, 623
 General Howe orders the seizure of, on Long-Island, 825
 Cattle, Shubael, petition of, to Massachusetts General Court, - - - - - 746
 Cerberus, British frigate, prizes captured by, - 358, 1019
 Ceronio, Stephen, letter to, from Secret Committee of Correspondence, - - - - - 1198, 1213
 Certificate, John Pierce's, relating to Captain Johnson, 856
 General Clinton's, relating to Captain Johnson, - 855
 Of Selectmen of Pepperell, in favour of Aaron Wood, - - - - - 951
 Of Major Williams, in favour of Captain Long, - 1033
 Of Moses Yeoman, - - - - - 1222
 Of Thomas Muse, - - - - - 1279
 Of inlistment in the Navy of South-Carolina, - 1327
 Certificate of loan, form of, - - - - - 1386
 Chace, Nathaniel, sentenced to be flogged, - - - 473
 Chambaron, Chevalier d'Antignac, memorial of, to Congress, - - - - - 1032
 Chambault, Mons. de, taken prisoner in Canada, - 928
 Released at the request of the French Governour of St. Domingo, - - - - - 1390
 Chamberlain, Ensign Benjamin, dismissed for disobedience of orders, &c., - - - - - 1086
 Chamberlain, Thomas, deposition of, - - - - - 155
 Chamberlaine, James Lloyd, letter from, to Maryland Council of Safety, - - - - - 135
 Chambers, Rowland, letter from, to Governour Livingston, - - - - - 1237
 Chambers, Stephen, appointed a First Lieutenant, - 88

- Champeney, Jonathan, appointed a Second Lieutenant, - - - - - 1378
 Champigny, Goueslardde, letter from, to Continental Congress, - - - - - 509
 Champlain—see Lake Champlain.
 Champney, Mr., proceedings of a court-martial for the trial of, - - - - - 882
 Chandler, John, charges John Grout with being an enemy to his country, - - - - - 217
 Channel—see English Channel.
 Chapin, Leonard, appointed a Quartermaster, - - - 477
 Chapin, Lieutenant Phinehas, Jun., ordered to march his men to join the Northern Army, - - - 721
 Chaplain, extract from the Journal of a, - - - 460
 Chapman, Joseph, appointed Paymaster to Colonel Varnum's regiment, - - - - - 1311
 Charlestown, (Number Four,) letter from Selectmen of, to New-Hampshire Committee of Safety, - 208
 Charlestown, South-Carolina, General Lee arrives at, on his way to the North, - - - - - 285
 Charge of Judge Drayton to the Grand Jury of, - 1047
 Presentment of the Grand Jury of, - - - 1059
 Charlotte County (New-York) Committee, resolutions of, - - - - - 1132
 Chase, Enoch, promoted to a Second Lieutenantcy, - 474
 Chase, Colonel, letter to, from John Hurd, - - 423
 Chase, Henry, (a prisoner,) petition of, to New-York Convention, - - - - - 666
 Prays to be released from imprisonment, - - 694
 Chase, Samuel, letter from, to General Gates, - 232, 429
 Expresses respect and friendship for Gen. Schuyler, - 232
 Delegate in Congress from Maryland, - - - 408
 Letter from, to General Sullivan, - - - - 1197
 Chatham, John, commander of the privateer "General Lee," - - - - - 79
 Cheever, Ezekiel, letter from, to General Gates, - 332
 Cherokee Indians—see Indians.
 Cheshier, Joseph, sentenced to receive twenty lashes for desertion, - - - - - 613
 Cheshire's, Captain Veeder and his company ordered to the saw-mill at, - - - - - 1037
 Chester, General John, letter from, to Captain Isham, - 301
 Chester, Colonel, orders to, from General Heath, - 855
 Return of officers in the regiment commanded by, - 870
 Chesterfield's Letters, a volume of, lent or taken from Gates's Head-Quarters, - - - - - 480
 Chevaux-de-Frise, calls for information respecting the, in Hudson's River, - - - - - 689
 Enemy's ships pass, through the, - 943, 958, 973, 975, 978
 Chew, Captain Richard, petition of a majority of the Company of, to Maryland Council of Safety, - 887
 Child, Captain Thomas, prizes taken by, - - - 935
 Chilton, John, appointed a Captain, - - - - 1396
 Chincy, William, promoted to an Ensigncy, - - - 1084
 Chingoteague Inlet, fortification of, recommended, - 232
 Chipley, William, recommended for an Ensigncy, - 560
 Chipman, John, elected a First Lieutenant, - - 1341
 Christian, Colonel William, marches in pursuit of Indians, - - - - - 540, 1031
 Penetrates to the heart of the Indian settlements on the Tennessee River, - - - - - 1196
 Christy, John, ordered to be whipped for desertion, - 292
 Church, Constant, an Indian, declaration of, - - 168
 Ordered into close confinement at Cambridge on suspicion of being a spy, - - - - - 269
 Order for the discharge of, - - - - - 800
 Church, Sergeant Isaac, promoted to an Ensigncy, - 1083
 Church, established, Strictures of a member of, on "The Sentiments of the several companies of Militia and Freeholders of Augusta," (note,) - 815
 Cilley, Joseph, commissioned Lieutenant Colonel of Third Battalion New-Hampshire troops, - - - 1176
 Clap, Preserved, resolve on the petition of, - - 773
 Clark, Abram, letter, to from Colonel Dayton, - - 1248
 Clark, John, appointed a Captain of Associators, - 82
 Clark, John, Jun., appointed a Major in the Flying-Camp, - - - - - 892
 Clark & Nightingale, letter from, to Richard Devens, - 317
 Letter from, to New-York Convention, - - - 357
 Clark, Nathan, Chairman of Bennington Committee, Letter from, to James Yancey, - - - - - 1223
 Clark, Lieutenant, testimony of, on the trial of Captain Poole, - - - - - 1295
 Clarke, James, petition of, to Maryland Council of Safety, - - - - - 966
 Letters from, to Maryland Council of Safety, - 966, 1268, 1308
 Clarke, Joshua, letter from, to Maryland Convention, 1261
 Clarke, William, taken prisoner at Quebec, escape of, 486
 Clayjon, William, Secretary to General Gates, - - 534
 Claysaddle, Daniel, commissioned a Captain, - - 636
 Cleaves, Lieutenant Nathaniel, letter from, to General Washington, - - - - - 963
 Clements, Sergeant, reduced to the ranks for "remissness of duty," - - - - - 331
 Clements, Leonard, discharged from the service, - 655
 Four months' pay advanced to, - - - - - 655
 Clergy, remarks on, in a letter to London, - - - 463
 Petition from, to be exempt from the burthen of civil officers, - - - - - 48
 Petition from, respecting incorporations for religious and charitable purposes, - - - - - 48
 Cleveland, Ebenezer, appointed a Captain, - - - 1378
 Cleveland, Ebenezer, appointed a Chaplain, - - - 1378
 Clinton, General George, letters from, to New-York Convention, - - - - - 140, 241, 310, 975
 Complaints of the desertion of the militia of his brigade, - - - - - 246, 686
 Letter from, to Committee of New-York Convention, - - - - - 383
 Orders to, from General Washington, - - - - 607
 Letters to, from New-York Committee of Safety, 689, 979
 Letters from, to John McKesson, - - - - - 1221, 1312
 Clinton, General James, letters to, from General Washington, - - - - - 240, 300, 894
 Letters from, to General Washington, - - - - 276, 832
 Earnestly requests a reinforcement of the fortresses in the Highlands, - - - - - 672
 Letter from, to New-York Committee of Safety, - 674
 Letter to, from New-York Committee of Safety, - 676
 Letters from, to New-York Convention, 856, 997, 1285
 Certificate of, relating to Captain Johnston, - - 857
 Clocks, leaden weights taken from, in Pennsylvania, 3
 Cloffin, Samuel, appointed a Second Lieutenant, - 1378
 Cloth, six thousand yards of, arrive from France, - 1136
 Clothing, a quantity of, sent to Pennsylvania troops in the Flying-Camp, - - - - - 69
 A quantity of, received at Skenesborough, - - 142
 Northern Army in great want of, - - - - - 246, 555
 Arnold's fleet extremely bare of, - - - - - 251
 Sent by Governour Trumbull to the Northern department, - - - - - 279
 Silas Deane promises to send a large quantity of, from France, - - - - - 361
 American Army in great want of woollen, - - - 426
 Washington's Army in great want of, - - - - 520
 Congress order, to be sent to the Northern Army, - 561
 Resolves of Massachusetts for procuring, for the Army, - - - - - 770
 Connecticut votes money for the purchase of, - - 849
 Colonel Curtenius purchases a large quantity of, for New-York troops, - - - - - 1135
 Resolutions of Congress for supplying the Army with, - - - - - 1377
 A suit of, voted to soldiers who enlist for the war, 1392
 Clouston, John, (Captain of sloop Freedom,) instructions to, - - - - - 174, 782
 Iron ballast delivered to, - - - - - 801
 Cluff, Thomas, deposition of, - - - - - 653
 Cluggage, Captain Robert, letter to Colonel Hand, - 921
 Clymer, George, elected a Delegate to Continental Congress, - - - - - 6
 Appointed on a Committee to confer with General Gates respecting the Northern Army, 561, 922, 1142
 Letter from, to the President of Congress, - - 1256
 Coas, Captain, of the privateer Warren, prizes taken by, - - - - - 346
 A valuable prize ship sent into Cape Ann by, - - 863
 Cock, Robert, promoted to a First Lieutenantcy, - 721
 Cockey, Edward, appointed a Colonel, - - - - 642
 Codman, John, petition of, to Massachusetts General Court, - - - - - 752
 Powder voted to, - - - - - 757
 Codwise, Christopher, recommended for a Captaincy, 1266
 Coffin, Captain Alexander, letter from, to Massachusetts Council, - - - - - 539
 Case of, recommended to the consideration of Congress, - - - - - 576
 Coffin, Captain, takes a valuable prize, - - - 936, 1019, 1174
 Coffin, Captain, escapes from Staten-Island, - - 1009
 Cohos, inhabitants of, in great terror of the Indians, 147
 Plan of inhabitants of, to obtain the protection of British troops in Canada, - - - - - 149
 Coit, Colonel Samuel, letter to, from Colonel Livingston, - - - - - 311
 Excused from marching to New-York, - - - - 386
 Coit, William, letter from, to Richard Devens, - - 950
 Ordered on a cruise, - - - - - 1209

- Colborn, Jeremiah, flints, powder, and lead, delivered to, - - - - - 776
- Colbourne, Major, appointed to command the Rangers lately under Colonel Knowlton, - - - - - 843
- Colburn, Benjamin, deposition of, against William Gardner, - - - - - 740
- Colburn, Jeremiah, petition of, to Massachusetts General Court, - - - - - 729
- Colchester Point, on Onion River, an advantageous post for the defence of the frontier, - - - - - 111
- Colden, David, address of, to Governour Tryon, - 1164
- Cole, Elisha, deposition of, - - - - - 538
- Cole, Philip, appointed a Colonel of Pennsylvania Associators, - - - - - 82
- Cole, William, appointed a First Lieutenant in the Flying-Camp, - - - - - 644
- Colerus, Christian de, appointed a Major by brevet, - - - - - 407, 1361
- Two months' pay advanced to, - - - - - 1374
- Collyer, Isaac, petition of, to Massachusetts General Court, - - - - - 752
- Powder voted to, - - - - - 757
- Colt, Peter, agent for Commissary-General Trumbull, 226
- Columbus, Continental ship, three valuable prizes captured by, - - - - - 595
- Comet, South-Carolina brig of war, Captain Turpin, captures ship Clarissa, - - - - - 285
- Edward Allen, commander of, - - - - - 1324
- To be sent to the West Indies, for seamen, - - 1328
- Commissary of Clothing, to be appointed for each Army of the United States, - - - - - 1393
- George Measam elected, for the Northern Army, - 1403
- General Washington authorized to appoint, for the Army under his immediate command, - - 1403
- Commissioners, Pennsylvania appoint, to form the Flying-Camp, - - - - - 19
- Appointed to collect assessments upon Non-Associators, - - - - - 43, 44
- Election of, for raising the Flying-Camp, - - - 50
- Appointed to visit Pennsylvania troops at New-York and Ticonderoga, - - - - - 60
- Commission and instructions to, - - - - - 60
- Appointed by Congress to settle Army accounts, arrive at Albany, - - - - - 342, 614
- Some account of the proceedings of the British, - 562
- Commissioners, to negotiate a treaty with France—
- Letter from Committee of Secret Correspondence, accompanying instructions to, - - - - - 839
- Instructions to, - - - - - 1211
- Instructions proposed to be given to, to foreign States, - - - - - 1358
- Election of, - - - - - 1379, 1410
- Letters of credence to, - - - - - 1381
- Pay of, - - - - - 1382
- Additional instructions to, (note,) - - - - - 1404
- Directed to procure from the French Court eight line-of-battle ships, - - - - - 1409
- Commissioners for Indian Affairs, letter from, to Committee of Congress, - - - - - 511
- Account of their proceedings, - - - - - 512
- Visited by some of the Chippewa and Seneca Indians, 512
- Report of William Wilson to the, - - - - - 514
- Commissioners for Pennsylvania, letter from, to General Washington, - - - - - 1202
- Commissions, Pennsylvania Convention to grant, to officers for the Flying-Camp, - - - - - 21
- Blank, delivered to Commissioners appointed to form the Flying-Camp, - - - - - 21
- General Ten Broeck requests a supply of blank, - 679
- Resolve for continuing, in Massachusetts, - - 772
- "United States" to be substituted for "United Colonies" in all, - - - - - 1335
- Committee appointed by Congress to visit Washington's Head-Quarters, - - - - - 1373
- Report of the, (note,) - - - - - 1385
- Letter to, from Colonel Reed, - - - - - 826
- Committee of Secret Correspondence—see Secret Correspondence, Committee of.
- Committees—see names of States, Counties, &c.
- Commodore of the Fleet of Pennsylvania, Samuel Mifflin appointed, - - - - - 61, 63
- Samuel Mifflin declines appointment of, - - - 70
- Thomas Seymour appointed, - - - - - 74
- Instructions to the, - - - - - 74
- Directed to get the fleet in a proper state of defence, 86
- Comstock, Adam, appointed a Lieutenant-Colonel, - 1333
- Comstock, Ethan, petition of, to Massachusetts General Court, - - - - - 764
- Confederation, no progress making with the, - 272, 324
- Conference, of Committee of Congress with Lord Howe—
- Proposed by Lord Howe, - - - - - 1329
- Mr. Witherspoon's speech on, in Congress, - - 178
- Resolutions of Congress on Lord Howe's proposal for, 1331
- Appointment of Committee, - - - - - 1332
- Resolutions of Congress on, to be sent to General Washington, - - - - - 1333
- Letter from President of Congress to General Washington, informing him of, - - - - - 233
- Dr. Franklin to Lord Howe on, - - - - - 234
- Letter from General Washington to Lord Howe, enclosing Dr. Franklin's letter, - - - - - 257
- Lord Howe to Dr. Franklin on, - - - - - 274
- Report of Committee on, - - - - - 1342
- Report of Committee on, ordered to be published, 1343
- Remarks of Josiah Bartlett on, in a letter to General Folsom, - - - - - 119
- Remarks of Josiah Bartlett on, in letters to William Whipple, - - - - - 137, 272, 323
- Remarks of Josiah Bartlett on, in letters to John Langdon, - - - - - 105, 253
- Remarks of John Adams on, in letters to Mrs. Adams, - - - - - 192, 324
- Remarks of General Lee on, in a letter to the President of Congress, - - - - - 972
- Account of, in a letter from New-York, published in the London Chronicle, - - - - - 563
- Americanus on, - - - - - 914
- A Country Gentleman on, - - - - - 1043
- Conkling, Major Thomas, parole of, - - - - - 1027
- Congress, Continental—
- Recommend to Pennsylvania Convention to take measures for procuring lead, - - - - - 3
- Resolve of, for disarming Non-Associators, not effectually executed, - - - - - 3
- Request Pennsylvania Convention to nominate Field Officers of a frontier battalion, - - - - - 5
- Pennsylvania Convention requested by, to increase her quota of militia for the Flying-Camp, - - 7
- Loan to Pennsylvania one hundred thousand dollars, 28
- Request Pennsylvania to forward aid to New-York, 34
- Affairs of New-York engross the attention of, - 118
- Resolve that no damage shall be done to the city of New-York, - - - - - 135
- Petition of Jeremiah Halsey to, - - - - - 137
- Letter to, from John Heyliger, - - - - - 156
- Letter to, from Cornelius Haight, - - - - - 157
- Petition of John Paul Schott to, - - - - - 157
- Decline to confer with Lord Howe "as private gentlemen," - - - - - 192
- Committee of, appointed to confer with Lord Howe, 192
- Strictures of Colonel Reed on, - - - - - 198
- Authorize the exchange of Generals Prescott and McDonald for Generals Sullivan and Stirling, - 233
- Resolution of, in relation to carrying the mails, - 256
- Petition of Seth Warner to, - - - - - 273
- Order the inlistment of ninety regiments for five years, - - - - - 324
- Return of Committee of, appointed to confer with Lord Howe, - - - - - 324
- Requested to forward tents, camp-kettles, &c., to Washington's Army, - - - - - 381
- In account current with the State of New-York, - 420
- Called upon to form an article against plundering, &c., in the Army, - - - - - 446
- Determine to augment the Army, and to engage the troops for the war, - - - - - 488
- Letter to, from M. Champigny, - - - - - 509, 922
- Resolutions of, respecting the Northern Army, - 561
- Appoint a Committee to confer with General Gates respecting the Northern Army, - - - - - 561
- Letter from Col. Reed, to the Committee of, at Head-Quarters, to inquire into the state of the Army, - 826
- A full representation of the several States in, absolutely necessary, - - - - - 838
- Appoint Dr. Franklin, Mr. Jefferson and Mr. Deane to negotiate a treaty with France, - - - - - 839
- Advance one hundred thousand dollars to New-York Convention, - - - - - 884
- Should determine the mode by which promotions are regulated, - - - - - 892
- Letter from a Committee of, to New-York Convention, 925
- Resolution of, for the purchase of blankets, &c., - 926
- Names of the Committee appointed to carry the above resolution into effect, - - - - - 926
- Committee of, forward ten thousand dollars to New-York Convention for the purchase of blankets, &c., 925
- Loan one hundred thousand dollars to New-York, 926

- Congress, Continental—*Continued.*
 Pennsylvania Council of Safety to, - - - 939
 Resolution of, relative to the trial of Ensign McCumber, - - - 945
 Strictures of General Lee on the proceedings of, - 1035
 Resolves of, relative to Continental Agents, - 1114
 Letter from a Committee of, to General Gates, - 1142
 Resolutions of, respecting prisoners, - - 1185
 Washington's despatches to, said to be stolen from the express, at Bristol, - - - 1269
 Proceedings of, - - - 1329-1418
 Congress, privateer, commission granted for the, - 79
- Connecticut—
 Instructions from a town in, to their Representatives, - - - 113
 All the troops of Horse of, east of Connecticut River, ordered to New-York, - - - 188
 Nine regiments of Militia and two of Horse ordered to march towards New-York, - - - 188
 Spirit and zeal of the people of, - - - 278
 Proclamation by the Governour of, - - 535, 1171
 The whole of the Militia from, discharged by Washington, - - - 494, 549
 Cowardice of the troops of, on the landing of the British on New-York Island, - - - 1013
 Resolutions of the General Assembly of, - 1172, 1173
 Positions of the Militia of, under the command of General Saltonstall, - - - 828
 Proposed appointment of officers for, - - 959, 960
- Connecticut Assembly—
 Letter to, from the President of Congress, - - 136, 489, 839, 953
 Address of "A Militia-Man" to, - - - 983
 Memorial of Stonington Committee to, - - 1003
 Petition of the town of Groton to, - - - 1004
 Resolution of, in relation to Colonel Ethan Allen and others, - - - 1225
- Connecticut Council of Safety—
 Proceedings of, - - 114, 129, 143, 188, 226, 266, 280, 295, 305, 386, 422, 557, 575, 848, 1171, 1194, 1208, 1259, 1302
 Order the purchase of sheep for the Northern Army, 226
 Advise the Governour to permit James Church to go to the West-Indies for a load of salt, - - 386
 Vote to supply distressed citizens from Long-Island with necessaries, - - - 387
 Vote of, to provide hospitals for the sick, &c., from the Army at New-York, - - - 387
 Instructions from, to Captain John Deshon, - - 848
 Proceedings of, relative to the expedition to Long-Island, - - - 1002
 Resolutions of, in relation to the Cannon Foundry, 1172
 Memorial of Adam Babcock to, - - - 1277
- Connecticut Council of War—
 Letters to, from Colonel Livingston, - - 170, 225
 Connell, Daniel, sentenced to be flogged for desertion, - - - 551
 Connell, William, appointed Commander of armed schooner General Thompson, - - - 80
 Connolly, Mrs. Susanna, letter from, to the President of Congress, - - - 254
 Conrad, George, appointed a First Lieutenant, - 82
 Consideration, on the Proceedings of a Meeting held at Philadelphia, - - - 1152
- Conspiracies, Committee for the detection of, in New York, - - - 1189
 Discovery of, upon Cortlandt's Manor, New-York, 711, 712, 714, 724, 829
- See Disaffected Persons.
- Constitution of Pennsylvania, - - - 51
 Conti—, to the People of Pennsylvania, - - 430
 Postscript to the Address of, - - - 432
 Continent, resolves relative to vouchers of accounts against the, - - - 765
 Continental Agents, list of, - - - 1114
 Ordered to account with Marine Committee, - 1144
 Continental Bills of Credit—see Bills of Credit.
 Continental Currency, Essay on, by "Conti—," - 430
 General Gates forbids the receipt of any other than, - 477
 Continental frigates, Massachusetts resolves to aid in fitting out one of the, - - - 736
 Resolve for furnishing the Agent for building the, with guns for one of them, - - - 768
 Difficulty of manning the, - - - 1070
- Cook, Ensign, promoted to a Second Lieutenantcy, - 617
 Cook, Lieut. Stanley, Colonel Ennals requests a Court-Martial for the trial of, - - - 1236
 Complaint of, against Captain Byers, - - - 1278
 Cook, Thomas, appointed a First Lieutenant, - - 1340
- Cook, William, appointed Colonel of Twelfth Battalion of Pennsylvania Regulars, - - - 79
 Cooke, George, appointed Commander of ship Defence, 308
 Letters from, to Maryland Council of Safety, - 458, 487, 488, 863, 1291
 Cooke, George, letter from, to Commodore Boucher, 488
 Prizes captured by, - - - 863, 1291
 Cooke, Nicholas, Governour of Rhode-Island—
 Letters from, to General Washington, - 207, 912, 1133
 Letters to, from William Ellery, - - 210, 989, 1248
 Letters to, from Massachusetts Council, 316, 538, 1070, 1089
 Letters to, from General Washington, - 367, 1009, 1094
 Letters to, from General Greene, - - 396, 996, 1076
 Letter to, from Colonel Babcock, - - - 442
 Letter to, from Governour Trumbull, - - - 1208
- Corbett, Thomas, appointed a Commissioner of South-Carolina Navy Board, - - - 1323
 Corbin, William, required to give security for his good behaviour, - - - 631
 Cordage, General Gates in the greatest distress for, - 705
 Resolve for supplying General Gates with, - 705
- Corn, Lieutenant, wounded in the battle on Long-Island, - - - 882
 Cornell, Daniel, an enemy to his country, - - 1276
- Correspondence, New-York Convention appoint a Committee of, - - - 713
- Cortlandt, Colonel Philip, letter to, from General Gates, - - - 278
 Letters from, to General Gates, - 335, 342, 573, 860
 Cortlandt's Manor, conspiracies discovered upon, - 829
 Costigan, Lieut. Lewis Johnston, complaint against, - 344
 Letter from, to General Gates, - - - 1088
 Costigan, Ensign, sentenced to be reprimanded, - 1082
 Cottle, Jabez, deposition of, against Samuel Sprague, - 755
 Cottle, Shubael, petition of, to Massachusetts Court, 758
 Coudray, Sieur du, Articles of Agreement between, and Silas Deane, - - - 283
- Council of General Officers—
 Held at New York, - - - 237
 Reconsideration of proceedings of proposed, - 326
 Determination of, reconsidered and reversed, - 329
 To be held at King's Bridge, - - - 1026
 Held at General Lee's Head-Quarters, - - - 1117
- Council of War, held at Williston, proceedings of, - 621
 Held at New-London, - - - 170
- Counterfeiting, an ordinance of Pennsylvania against, 15
 Eleazar Smith punished for, - - - 1082
- County Conventions and Committees, "Speculator" on, - - - 339
- Country Gentleman, letter from, to his friend in Boston, - - - 1043
 Couriers, resolve for procuring, - - - 764
- Court of Inquiry, ordered on the conduct of Col. Van Cortlandt and Major Day, - - - 992
 Ordered on the dispute between Mr. Fisk, the Engineer, and Mr. Kinsey, the Wagonmaster, - 993
- Court-Martial—
 Remarks of Captain J. P. Jones on sentences of, - 173
 Proceedings of, on Lieutenant Marshall, - - 175
 Proceedings of a General, held at Harlem Heights, 467, 498, 550, 569, 589, 610, 929
 On Ensign Macumber, decline to give Congress reasons for their verdict, - - 500, 943, 944, 945
 Proceedings of a General, held at King's Bridge, 550, 551, 590, 883
 Ordered for the trial of Captains Weisner and Scott, 606
 Proceedings of a General, on Captain Wisner, - 610
 Sentence Captain Weisner to be cashiered, - - 613
 Ordered for the trial of Lieutenant Levi Willin and Ensign Job Todd, - - - 654
 Proceedings of, held at Mount Washington, on Mr. Champney, - - - 882
 Requested to reconsider their finding in the case of Captain Weisner, - - - 895
 Defend their verdict, - - - 895
 Proceedings of a, held by order of Gen. Heath, 930, 948
 Proceedings of a Brigade, - - - 1139, 1140
 Proceedings of a General, held at White-Plains, 1242, 1294
 Proceedings of a General, held by order of General Lee, - - - 1295
 Rules for government of, - - - 1370
- Courtney, Hercules, elected a First Lieutenant of Artillery, - - - 80
- Coward, Richard, appointed Master of schooner Dolphin, - - - 656
 Cowardice, to be punished with death, - - - 415
 Cowing, James, deposition of, against Samuel Sprague, 755
 Cox, Ezekiel, appointed a Second Lieutenant, - - 642

- Cox, Isaac, appointed Paymaster for Pennsylvania troops in Continental service, - - - - 69
 Resigns his commission, - - - - 88
 Cox, John, elected a member of Pennsylvania Council of Safety, - - - - 37
 Letter to, from William Atlee, - - - - 971
 Coxspar, Georgia, three British vessels of war stationed off, - - - - 863
 Crabtree, Agreen, proceedings of, in Liverpool, Nova-Scotia, - - - - 1316
 Crafts, Thomas, memorial of, to Massachusetts Council, - - - - 766
 Crafts, Colonel, order for supplying the regiment of, with muskets, - - - - 806
 Cragg, Thomas, petition of, to Massachusetts General Court, - - - - 748
 Craig, Captain Thomas, appointed a Lieutenant Colonel, - - - - 616, 1335
 Crane, Joseph, Surgeon to Col. Pawling's regiment, - 469
 Crane, Thaddeus, Chairman of Westchester (New-York) Committee, letter from, to Major Benedict, - - - - 373
 Crane, Thomas, one large Copper delivered to, for use of powder-mill, - - - - 769
 Cravath & Dugan, letter to, from Maryland Council of Safety, - - - - 838
 Crawford, Captain Arthur, captures three valuable prizes, - - - - 936, 1019
 Crawford, James, appointed Major of Twelfth Battalion of Pennsylvania Regulars, - - - - 79
 Crawford, John, appointed a Second Lieutenant, - 1340
 Crawford, Colonel William, letter from, to General Washington, - - - - 404
 Appointed Colonel of Seventh Virginia Battalion, - 1395
 Creagar, Valentine, appointed a Captain, - - - - 638
 Creed, Major, bearer of despatches from Lord and General Howe, arrives at London, - - - - 811
 Cregier, Captain Thomas, his crew complain of his conduct, - - - - 215
 Letter from, to New-York Convention, - - - - 553
 Letter from, to Peter R. Livingston, - - - - 572
 Crew of the Putnam refuse to serve, - - - - 714
 Advises that his vessel be laid up, or sold, - - - 720
 Cremarty, Thomas, permitted to go to England, - - 795
 Crespigny, Claude, letter from, to Ralph Izard, - - 190
 Crommit, Moses, sentenced to be flogged, - - - - 373
 Cromwell, Stephen, appointed a Second Major, - - 642
 Crown-Point—
 Arnold desired to return a detachment of Colonel Hartley's regiment to, - - - - 204
 Heavy cannonading heard at, - - - - 204, 353
 Great importance of maintaining, - - - - 204
 Colonel Hartley ordered to abandon, in case of the defeat of the fleet, - - - - 204
 Grape shot greatly wanted at, - - - - 556
 A couple of thousand musket cartridges wanted at, - 556
 Very unhealthy, - - - - 981
 Enemy approaching, - - - - 1028
 Americans evacuate, and retire to Ticonderoga, - 1040
 Enemy's fleet three miles below, and "their army doubtless at their heels," - - - - 1080
 Enemy in possession of, - - - - 1144, 1206
 Movements of the enemy in the neighbourhood of, - 1144
 Croxall, Charles Moale, appointed a Second Lieutenant, - - - - 308
 Cruise of the sloop-of-war Providence, account of the, 1303
 Cuddeback, Abraham, Jun., promoted to a Captaincy, 721
 Cumberland County, New York, proceedings of Committee of, in the case of John Grout, - - - - 216
 Proceedings of New-York Committee of Safety on a letter from the Committee of, - - - - 722, 724
 Notification for a town-meeting in, - - - - 883
 Cumberland, Pennsylvania, proceedings of Committee of, - - - - 1201
 Cumming, John Noble, letter from, to Dr. Scudder, - 1244
 Cunningham, James, prisoner, order respecting, - 633
 Cunningham, James, return of officers in the regiment of the Flying-Camp commanded by, - - - - 873
 Cunningham, Joseph, commissioned Commander of the privateer Phoenix, - - - - 787
 Cunningham, Robert, appointed a Third Lieutenant, - 1378
 Curgenvin, James, suspected of being inimical to the American cause, - - - - 374
 Cited to appear before Connecticut Assembly, - - 375
 Currency—see Bills of Credit.
 Currie, Dr. William, asks leave to resign his commission as Surgeon, - - - - 61
 Curry, Nicholas, disabled by accident, allowed half pay, - - - - 76
 Curtenius, Colonel Peter T., letters from, to New-York Convention, - - - - 351, 1135, 1219
 Account of ball and flints delivered by, - - - - 830
 Curtis, Francis, (prisoner,) applies to Massachusetts Council to be exchanged, - - - - 116
 Curtis, James, appointed an Ensign, - - - - 634
 Curtis, Seth, letter from, to Captain E. Hasbrouck, - 1273
 Curwen, Samuel, letter from, to Judge Sewall, - - 1317
 Cushing, John, letter from, to Massachusetts Council, 1018
 Cushing, Thomas, letter to, from Marine Committee, 427
 Memorial of, to Massachusetts Council, - - - - 805
 Military stores delivered to, - - - - 805
 Custis, John, arrival of, at Baltimore, - - - - 510
 Cuyler, Jacob, letter from, to New-York Convention, 356
 D.
 Dallam, Richard, Deputy Paymaster-General—
 Letter from, to Maryland Council of Safety, - - - 192
 Letter from, to the President of Congress, - - - 193, 350
 Letter from, to Michael Hillegas, - - - - 1024
 Two hundred thousand dollars sent to, for the use of the Flying-Camp, &c., - - - - 1333
 Forty thousand dollars sent to, for the use of the Flying-Camp, - - - - 1402
 Dames, John, elected a First Major, - - - - 405
 Danbury, Connecticut, letter from Committee of, to Ebenezer Lockwood, - - - - 1194
 Daniel, James, sentenced to receive thirty-nine lashes and forfeit two months' pay, - - - - 1283
 Dargie, James, petition of, to Massachusetts General Court, - - - - 800
 Darrell, Edward, letter to, from South-Carolina Navy Board, - - - - 1325
 Davenport, John, prisoner, examination of, - - - 597
 David, John, Lieutenant of a gondola, authorized to enlist fifty men, - - - - 656
 Davies, William, elected Deputy Mustermaster-General for the Flying-Camp, - - - - 1389
 Davis, Abner, resigns his commission, - - - - 90
 Davis, Benjamin, Jun., prisoner, letter from, to James Bowdoin, - - - - 984
 Davis, John, sentenced to be flogged for desertion, - 238
 Davis, John, deposition of, - - - - 652
 Davis, Colonel Joshua, letter from, to General Washington, - - - - 282
 Davis, William, declines the appointment of Deputy Mustermaster-General to the Flying-Camp, - - 1032
 Dawes, Thomas, elected Lieutenant-Colonel of Boston regiment of Militia, - - - - 753
 Dawes, William, elected Second Major of Boston regiment of Militia, - - - - 753
 Day, Elkanah, Clerk of Cumberland Committee of Safety, - - - - 217
 Letter from, to New-York Convention, - - - - 1207
 Day, James, Adjutant of Colonel Tyler's regiment, - 872
 Day, Thomas, a deserter, examination of, and intelligence received from, - - - - 532
 Testimony on oath of, - - - - 592
 Dayton, Colonel Elias, letters from, to General Schuyler, - - - - 247, 859
 Letter to, from Thomas Spencer, - - - - 247
 Letter to, from Onondaga Chiefs, - - - - 248
 Letter from, to General Gates, - - - - 355
 Ordered to Fort George, - - - - 999
 Ordered to Ticonderoga, - - - - 1028
 Deakins, William, Jun., letter from, to Maryland Council of Safety, - - - - 117
 Deams, Frederick, appointed a Captain, - - - - 308
 Letter from, to Maryland Council of Safety, - - 1148, 1261
 Dean, James, charge of, against Walter Livingston, (note,) - - - - 1336
 Deane, Jacob, refuses to take Continental money, - 1123
 Deane, Silas, letters from, to C. W. F. Dumas, - - 283, 849, 916, 951, 1020
 Articles of Agreement entered into between, and Sieur du Coudray, - - - - 283
 Letters from, to Robert Morris, - - - - 361, 601, 1235
 Letters from, to the Secret Committee, - - - - 809, 937, 1090, 1091, 1234
 Letters to, from the Committee of Secret Correspondence, - - - - 819, 839, 1197, 1198, 1214
 Appointed Commissioner to the Court of France, - 1379
 Letter from, to the President of Congress, - - - 1092
 Letter from, to William Bingham, - - - - 1092
 Deards, Captain, letter to, from Maryland Council of Safety, - - - - 117
 De Berruyer, M., letter from, to General Washington, 269
 De Bois, Pierre François, appointed a Major by brevet, 1390
 Two months' pay advanced to, - - - - 1393

- Debtors, confined in the jail of Philadelphia, pray to be released, - - - - - 3
- Ordinance of Pennsylvania to compel, to give security in certain cases, - - - - - 39
- Report of a bill in New-York Committee of Safety, for the relief of, - - - - - 704
- De Chambeau, Sieur de, prisoner, release of, requested by the Compté d'Emery, Governor-General of the French part of St. Domingo, - - - - - 928
- General Washington recommends to Congress the release of, - - - - - 927
- Congress agree to release of, - - - - - 1396
- General Washington informs the Compté d'Emery of the release of, - - - - - 928
- Decker, John, sentenced to receive twenty lashes for desertion, - - - - - 613
- Declaration of Lord and General Howe, - - - - - 398, 565
- Explanation of the, - - - - - 398
- Declaration of Committees of Suffolk County, New-York, - - - - - 1220
- Declaration—see Independence.
- Declaration of Rights, of Pennsylvania, - - - - - 22, 52
- By Delaware Convention, - - - - - 286
- Deerfield, Committee of, authorized to sell the personal estate of Nathaniel Dickenson, - - - - - 777
- Defence, Connecticut brig, - - - - - 886, 1209
- Defence, Maryland ship, - - - - - 863, 1291
- Defence, South-Carolina brigantine, - - - - - 1323
- De Haas, Colonel Philip, recommended to Congress for promotion, - - - - - 615
- De Hart, Cyrus, appointed an Ensign, - - - - - 477
- De Hart, Colonel William, letter from, to Governour Livingston, - - - - - 834
- Letter from, to Theunis Day and John C. Symes, - - - - - 1258
- De la Bussière, M., captured by the enemy on his way to Philadelphia, - - - - - 161
- De Lancey, General Oliver—
- Endeavours to raise a brigade of Tories on Long-Island, - - - - - 494
- A Brigadier-General under Howe, - - - - - 504
- Offers a reward for the head of Colonel Livingston, - - - - - 504
- Letter from, to Colonel Conkling, - - - - - 505
- Orders of, to Colonel Fanning, - - - - - 505
- Advertisement of, for recruits, - - - - - 505
- De Lancey, Mrs., requests permission to return to West-Chester, - - - - - 894
- Reply enclosed to General Howe, - - - - - 919
- Delap, Samuel & J. H., despatches for Silas Deane enclosed to, - - - - - 1198
- Delaware, State of—
- Declaration of Rights of, - - - - - 286
- Gallantry of the troops of, in the battle on Long-Island, - - - - - 840, 882
- A return of the officers of the regiment of, at Headquarters, - - - - - 898
- Delaware Convention, Proceedings of, - - - - - 285
- Letters to, from the President of Congress, - - - - - 136, 489
- Letter from, to the Board of War, - - - - - 424
- Letter from, to the President of Congress, - - - - - 425
- Delegates in Congress—
- Election of Pennsylvania, - - - - - 6
- Instructions to the Pennsylvania, - - - - - 11
- Letters from New-York Committee of Safety to, - - - - - 260, 998
- Letters from Maryland Council of Safety to, - - - - - 407, 541
- Letters from New-York Convention to, - - - - - 418, 709
- Letter to New-York Convention from, - - - - - 926
- Letter from Council of Virginia to, - - - - - 986
- Letter from Colonel Smallwood to the Maryland, - - - - - 1205
- Letter from Peter Adams to the Maryland, - - - - - 1308
- Delezeune, Christopher Joseph, appointed an Assistant Engineer, - - - - - 617
- D'Emery, Compté, Governour of St. Domingo—
- Letter from, to General Washington, - - - - - 928
- Letter to, from General Washington, - - - - - 928
- Democracy, principles of, prevail universally in the Army, - - - - - 994
- Demophilus, to the People of Pennsylvania, - - - - - 957
- Denaquara, Joseph, an Indian, money voted for the support of, - - - - - 775
- Dennison, Captain, extract of a letter from, - - - - - 134
- De Peyster, Abraham W., deposition of, against Joseph Reade, - - - - - 680
- Deposition—
- Of Daniel Hall against Colonel Porter and others, - - - - - 149
- Of John Bayley relative to a treasonable plan, - - - - - 150
- Of Joseph Hayes against Asa Porter, - - - - - 151
- Of Ebenezer Rice against Asa Porter, - - - - - 152
- Of Thomas Minor against Asa Porter, - - - - - 152
- Of Edward Buckman against Asa Porter, - - - - - 152
- Deposition—Continued.
- Of Robert Haseltine against Asa Porter, - - - - - 153
- Of John Sanborn against Asa Porter, - - - - - 153
- Of Joshua Howard against Asa Porter, - - - - - 154
- Of Benjamin Hall against Colonel Porter, - - - - - 154
- Of Ephraim Wesson against Colonel Porter, - - - - - 154
- Of Thomas Chamberlain against Daniel Hall, - - - - - 155
- Of Ezekiel Ladd in relation to Colonel Porter, - - - - - 155
- Of Noah Moulton as to the character of Daniel Hall, - - - - - 155
- Of Daniel Ranney, - - - - - 218
- Of Elisha Cole, - - - - - 538
- Of Thomas Day, - - - - - 592
- Of Edward Pettitt, - - - - - 645
- Of Mary Robbins, - - - - - 646
- Of Joseph Robins, - - - - - 646
- Of Joshua Selby, - - - - - 646
- Of William Townsend, - - - - - 647
- Of Samuel Parker, - - - - - 647
- Of Matthew Hopkins, - - - - - 648
- Of Philip Rain, - - - - - 648
- Of William Handy, - - - - - 648
- Of Bartley Tounsend, - - - - - 649
- Of Isaac Hammond, - - - - - 649
- Of Nicholas Hamon, - - - - - 649
- Of Stephen Riley, - - - - - 649
- Of Barclay White, - - - - - 650
- Of Hugh Vestery, - - - - - 650
- Of Solomon Butler, - - - - - 651
- Of John Davis, - - - - - 652
- Of Smith Lingo, - - - - - 652
- Of William Willis, - - - - - 652
- Of Thomas Cluff, - - - - - 653
- Of Guisbert Schenck against William Warne, - - - - - 659
- Of Abraham De Peyster against Joseph Reade, - - - - - 680
- Of Nathaniel Thuring against William Gardner, - - - - - 739
- Of Benjamin Colburn against William Gardner, - - - - - 740
- Of Stephen Barden against Samuel Sprague, - - - - - 755
- Of James Cowen against Samuel Sprague, - - - - - 755
- Of John Burgess against Samuel Sprague, - - - - - 755
- Of Jabez Cottle against Samuel Sprague, - - - - - 755
- Of David Evans against Francis Sanderson, - - - - - 1005
- Of John Rowe, - - - - - 1045
- Of William B. Alger, - - - - - 1123
- Of Joseph Payn, Sen., - - - - - 1279
- Depuy, Benjamin, to New-York Convention, - - - - - 502
- Derby, Elias Hasket, petition of, to Massachusetts Council, - - - - - 745
- Derby, Richard, Jun., appointed to lay claim to the ship Lord Dartmouth, - - - - - 765
- Instructions to, from Massachusetts Council, - - - - - 943
- Letters from, to Massachusetts Council, - - - - - 943, 1175
- Letter from, to Richard Devens, - - - - - 1045
- Deserters, resolves of Pennsylvania Convention respecting, - - - - - 22
- From the British Armies and Fleet, intelligence received from, 203, 381, 484, 509, 523, 532, 1076, 1202
- Committees of Dutchess and Westchester desired to apprehend, - - - - - 242
- Three, advertised by Captain Jordan, - - - - - 362
- Two Albany skippers with supplies for the Army, - - - - - 373
- Severe examples ought to be made of some of the, - - - - - 549
- Sentences of Courts-Martial on, - - - - - 551, 590, 613, 629, 992, 1296
- From Montreal, sent to General Gates for examination, - - - - - 599
- General Howe offers a pardon to all, who shall surrender themselves, - - - - - 603
- Colonel Livingston complains of, - - - - - 622
- General Clinton informs New-York Convention of, - - - - - 686
- Resolution to prevent harbouring, - - - - - 687
- From the American Army, supported by the disaffected, - - - - - 714
- Deshon, Captain John, instructions to, - - - - - 848
- Despatches, Washington's, said to be stolen from the express, at Bristol, - - - - - 1269
- Committee appointed to recover, - - - - - 1414
- Report of Committee, - - - - - 1417
- Detroit, Speech of the Governour of, to the Wyandots, - - - - - 516
- Deuch, Lieutenant Roger, promoted to a Captaincy, - - - - - 1083
- Devens, Richard, letter to, from Isaac Lathrop, - - - - - 133, 317
- Letter to, from Elnathan Bates, - - - - - 133, 317, 442
- Letter to, from Clark & Nightingale, - - - - - 317
- Letter to, from Joseph Josselyn, - - - - - 317, 318
- Letter to, from Aaron Hobart, - - - - - 359, 560
- Letter to, from Walter Spooner, - - - - - 594
- Letter to, from Nathaniel Guild, - - - - - 594
- Letter to, from Richard Derby, Jun., - - - - - 1045
- Letter to, from William Sever, - - - - - 1209
- Letter to, from Oliver Prescott, - - - - - 1227

- De Vermonet, Monsieur, appointed a Major by brevet, 1360
Two months' pay advanced to, - - - - - 1361
- De Vernejout, Jean Louis, appointed a Captain by brevet, - - - - - 407
Two months' pay advanced to, - - - - - 1374
- Deweese, William, Sheriff of Philadelphia, - - - 7
- De Witt, A., letter from, to Matthew Cantine, - - 613
- De Witt, Captain, trial of, for liberating a prisoner under sentence of death, - - - - - 948
- De Witt, Charles, letter to, from Hubert Ostrander, - 980
Letter from, to New-York Convention, - - - 1222
- Dexter, David, appointed Brigade Major to Colonel Lippett's brigade, - - - - - 992
- Diamond, privateer, ship captured by the, - - - 1260
- Dick, John, appointed a Second Lieutenant, - - - 1378
- Dickens, Thomas, sentenced to be flogged for desertion, 992
- Dickenson, J., appointed a First Lieutenant, - - 1083
- Dickerson, Captain, letter to, from H. Glen, - - 184
- Dickinson, Colonel John, complains of the desertion of Pennsylvania Associators, - - - - - 20, 22
- Dike, Colonel Nicholas, letter from, to Massachusetts Council, - - - - - 268
Sends an Indian spy to Massachusetts Council, - 268
- Diligent, schooner, petition of the officers of the, to Massachusetts Council, - - - - - 780
- Dimon, Jonathan, appointed Major of Connecticut Militia, - - - - - 122
- Disaffected persons—
Pennsylvania Council of Safety take measures of defence against, - - - - - 88
Action of Caroline County (Virginia) Committee in relation to, - - - - - 104
Letter from John White to Captain Platt, respecting, 352
Letter from Thaddeus Crane to Major Benedict, respecting, - - - - - 373
Letter from Major Benedict to Colonel Drake, respecting, - - - - - 384
The above letters read in New York Convention, - 714
An act of New-Jersey for punishing, - - - 865
Letters from Samuel Ten Broeck to New York Convention, respecting, - - - - - 963, 977
Letter from John Field to New York Convention, respecting, - - - - - 931
Letter from Petrus Van Gaasbeck to New York Convention, respecting, - - - - - 977
Letter from New York Committee of Safety to General Washington, respecting, - - - - - 991
Letter from Robert H. Harrison to President of Congress, respecting, - - - - - 1034
Letter from Committee of Poundridge to New York Convention, respecting, - - - - - 1066
Letter from Henry Wisner to New York Convention, respecting, - - - - - 1102
Seven, sent from Skenesborough to Litchfield, - 1142
Great number of, in and about Albany, - - - 1143
Letter from Colonel Welsh to New Hampshire Committee of Safety, respecting, - - - - - 1314
Proceedings in New York Convention respecting, 660, 669, 688, 694, 697, 712, 713, 714, 715, 717, 724
- See Tories.
- Disbrow, Josiah, apprehended as inimical, - - - 310
- Divine service, to be performed in every brigade, - 478
- Division orders, - - - - - 1096, 1164
- Dixon, Samuel, appointed a Second Lieutenant, - 634
- Dobbs's Ferry, extract of a letter from, - - - 214
Post Office at, removed to Head-Quarters, - - 255
Ebenezer Hazard proposes a post from, to Head-Quarters, - - - - - 680
Enemy reported to have landed at, - - - 962
A detachment of troops ordered to, - - - 962
- Dobson, Henry, appointed a First Lieutenant, - - 636
- Dodd, Timothy, despatches said to have been stolen from, - - - - - 1269
Resolution of Congress in relation to the robbery of, 1414
Report of the Committee appointed to examine into the robbery of, - - - - - 1417
Committed to prison, - - - - - 1418
- Doggett, Samuel, petition of, to Massachusetts Council, 745
- Doliver, P., Major of Brigade, - - - - - 875
- Dolphin, Maryland schooner, officers of, - - - 656
- Dolphin, privateer, petition of the owners of, - - 799
- Donaldson, Joseph, elected a member of Pennsylvania Council of Safety, - - - - - 39, 76
- Donehoe, Thomas, Court-Martial ordered on, - - 1195
- Donnavan, Daniel, petition of, to Massachusetts General Court, - - - - - 788
Permitted to go to England, - - - - - 788
- Donnelly, John, sentenced to be flogged, - - - 476
- Donneston, John, allowed to go to London, - - - 798
- Donning, Richard, appointed an Assistant Surgeon in the Flying-Camp, - - - - - 628
- Donoval, Daniel, sentenced to be flogged for plundering a house, - - - - - 291
- Doolittle, Ephraim, Moderator of a Town-Meeting at Petersham, - - - - - 576
- Dorchester Heights, importance of fortifying, - - 624
- Doria, remarks by, on the Paper addressed to the People of Pennsylvania, - - - - - 433
- Dorset, (New-Hampshire Grants,) proceedings of a Convention held at, - - - - - 528
- Dorsey, Ely, appointed a Second Lieutenant, - - 627
- Dorsey, Colonel Thomas, letter from, to Maryland Council of Safety, - - - - - 347
- Dorsey, Richard, appointed a Third Lieutenant, - 1342
- Dougherty, Ensign, promoted to a Second Lieutenantcy, 1083
- Dougherty, Sergeant, promoted to an Ensigncy, - 1083
- Douglass, Ephraim, elected a Quartermaster, - - 1338
- Douglass, George, sentenced to receive thirty-nine lashes, - - - - - 929
- Douglass, Captain, (British,) letter from, to Mr. Stephens, - - - - - 1178
- Douglass, William, loses his arm by an accident while firing at the enemy, - - - - - 332
- Douglass, Colonel William, return of Officers in the regiment commanded by, - - - - - 880
Return of absent officers in the regiment commanded by, - - - - - 905
- Doyle, John, appointed a Captain, - - - - - 1331
- Dragoons, Sixteenth Regiment of British, sail for New-York, - - - - - 944
Arrival of, at New York, - - - - - 1265
- Drake, Colonel Gilbert, letter to, from Major Benedict, 384
Orders from, to Captain Osborne, - - - - - 1078
- Drake, Colonel Samuel, return of officers in the regiment commanded by, - - - - - 906
- Drake, Colonel Samuel H., letter from, to John McKesson, - - - - - 1097
- Drayton, Judge William Henry, charge of, to the Grand Jury of Charleston, - - - - - 1047
- Driver, Major Matthew, letter from, to Maryland Convention, - - - - - 560
- Duane, Mr., Minutes by, of a meeting of a Committee with General Schuyler, - - - - - 1190
- Dublin, extract of a letter from, - - - - - 1278
- Duché, Rev. Jacob, letter to, from the President of Congress, - - - - - 1269
Note from, to the President of Congress, - - 1280
- Duck, a quantity of, delivered to Daniel Tillinghast, - 119
- Du Coudray, Sieur, Articles of Agreement between, and Silas Deane, - - - - - 283
- Dudfield, Captain, application in favour of, - - 798
Permitted to sail for England, - - - - - 799
- Duer, William, letter from, to General Washington, - 453
Letters to, from Tench Tilghman, 523, 528, 870, 896, 920, 931, 948, 1077, 1095, 1138, 1204, 1264, 1284, 1311
Letters to, from General Mifflin, - - - - - 1137, 1254
Letter to, from Robert H. Harrison, - - - - 1165
Letter to, from Petrus Van Gaasbeck, - - - 1285
Letter to, from Peter R. Livingston, - - - 1286
- Duffy, Patrick, elected a Third Lieutenant of Artillery, 80
- Dugan, Cumberland, letter to, from Maryland Council of Safety, - - - - - 406
- Dumond, Captain Egbert, letter from, to John McKesson, - - - - - 524
Ordered to render his accounts to the Treasurer, - 684
- Dumas, Charles W. F., letter from, to the Committee of Secret Correspondence, - - - - - 99
Letter to, from William Lee, - - - - - 270
Letters to, from Silas Deane, - 283, 849, 916, 951, 1020
Letter to, from Arthur Lee, - - - - - 455
Letter to, from Dr. Franklin, - - - - - 823
Letters to, from William Carmichael, - - - 1179, 1260
Letters to, from Committee of Secret Correspondence, - - - - - 1180, 1213
- Dunlap, James, appointed a Lieutenant-Colonel of Pennsylvania forces in Continental service, - 94
- Dunmore, Lord, letters from, to Lord George Germain, - - - - - 158, 159, 161, 162
Captures from fleet of, - - - - - 633, 634
A number of Tories enlist in the service of, - 653
Sloop sunk by fleet of, - - - - - 655
Letter to, from Lord George Germain, - - - 1110
- Dunn, Henry, appointed an Ensign, - - - - - 308
- Dunn, Captain Samuel, takes a valuable prize, - 338, 359
- Dunscome and Frazer, letter to, from Commodore Hopkins, - - - - - 1043
- Dupuy, Samuel, promoted to an Ensigncy, - - - 721
- Dutchess County, proceedings of Committee of, - 373

- Duvall, George, Clerk of Maryland Convention, - 645
 Duvall, Samuel, letter from, to Maryland Council of Safety, - 1061
 Dyer, Dr. Benjamin, account of, for drugs, &c., ordered to be paid, - 849

E.

- Eagle, privateer, a valuable prize captured by the, - 346
 Earl of Abingdon, Address of, at Wallingford, - 808
 East-Chester, N. Y., smart skirmish near, between the enemy and Colonel Glover's brigade, - 1130, 1138
 Colonel Glover's account of several skirmishes near, - 1188
 Extract of a letter from, - 1203
 Easthampton, letter from Trustees of, to Governour Trumbull, - 225
 People of, take the oath of allegiance to George III, - 252
 Distressed situation of the people of, - 454
 Committee of, revoke their former proceedings and acknowledge allegiance to the King, - 1220
 Easton, Colonel James, released from prison, - 12
 Letter from, to the President of Congress, - 911
 East River, four of the enemy's ships of war enter the, - 326
 Six more of the enemy's ships pass up the, - 351
 Eccleston, Thomas Firmin, appointed a First Lieutenant, - 630
 Eddy, Jonathan, and others, late of Nova Scotia—
 Petition of, to Massachusetts General Court, - 733
 Powder, ball and flints voted to, - 735
 Pork and bread voted to, - 746
 Edgar, James, advance made to, for the purchase of clothing, &c., - 849
 Edget, Lieutenant, letter from, to New-York Convention, - 110
 Edmenston, Major William, prisoner, requests leave to wait on General Washington, - 614
 Edward, schooner, permitted to go to Martinique, - 655
 Edwards, Thomas, prisoner, petition of, to Massachusetts General Court, - 732
 Eisenford, Captain John, letter to, from H. Glen, - 250
 Elderkin, Dr. Joshua, directed to provide cloth for hammocks for ship Oliver Cromwell, - 575
 Elections, resolution of Pennsylvania Convention respecting, - 49
 Elizabeth, ship, appeal from sentence passed on, - 1336, 1382
 Report on the case of, - 1398
 Elizabeth River, Lord Dunmore compelled to leave, - 162
 Elizabethtown, N. J., a large number of American prisoners arrive at, from Canada, on parole, - 588, 597
 Jail of, filled with prisoners, - 853
 Ellery, William, Delegate in Congress from Rhode Island, letters from, to Governour Cooke, - 210, 989, 1248
 Elliott, Thomas, appointed Colonel of Fourth Virginia Battalion, - 1395
 Ellis, John, promoted to a First Lieutenantcy, - 473
 Ellsworth, Oliver, letter from, to Governour Trumbull, - 388
 Ely, Major John, ordered to march towards New-York, - 189
 Letter to, from Colonel Livingston, - 297
 Emes, Worsley, elected First Lieutenant of Artillery, - 80
 Emle, William, permitted to return to England, - 794
 Emmes, John, petition of, to Massachusetts Council, - 788
 Permitted to go to Great Britain, - 788
 Endeavour, schooner, permit granted to, to go to North-Carolina, - 657
 Enemy, great strength of the, near New-York, - 136
 Movements of the, near New-York, - 141, 351
 Shipping of the, opposite Hunt's Point, - 141
 Take possession of posts evacuated on Long-Island and Nutten-Island, - 141
 Mean to winter in New-York, - 238
 Governour Trumbull's plan for clearing the Sound of the, - 258, 304
 Move from Long-Island to Montessor's Island, - 275
 Take post on the islands about Hell-Gate, - 292
 Commence operations against New-York, - 351
 Position and operations of the, in and around New-York, - 378
 A general attack by the, expected, - 430
 Strength of the, in Canada greater than was supposed, - 565
 Force of the, in Canada and on the Lakes, - 566
 Meditate a speedy and general attack, - 606
 Expedition to Long-Island to check the practices of the, - 610
 Prosecute the recruiting scheme with uncommon industry, - 841
 Have a battalion of Tories nearly completed on Long-Island, - 867
 Take possession of the town of Harlem, - 896
 Operations of ships of, in Hudson's River, - 961, 990
- Enemy—*Continued.*
 Said to have landed at Dobbs's Ferry, - 962
 Exert themselves to augment their Navy on the Lake, - 982
 Land at Frog's Point, - 991
 Probable intentions of the, - 1008
 Are approaching Crown-Point, - 1028
 About to invest Ticonderoga, - 1028
 Attempt to land at Nyack, but are driven back by a party under Colonel Hay, - 1066
 List of fleet of, on Lake Champlain, - 1080, 1172, 1179
 Skirmishes with the, near East-Chester, - 1130, 1138, 1203
 Extend themselves from Frog's Point to New-Rochelle, - 1137, 1203
 Intelligence from the, by Captain Scott, - 1144
 Take possession of the posts upon the Sound, - 1166
 Information relating to the, communicated to the New-York Convention, - 1167
 Land ten thousand men at Rodman's Point, - 1174
 Prodigies of labour effected by the, in Canada, - 1178
 Colonel Glover's account of several skirmishes with, - 1188
 Loss of the, in the above skirmishes, - 1202
 Main body of the, at East-Chester, - 1203
 Two hundred sail of the fleet of the, lying near Hart-Island, - 1209
 Moving towards White-Plains, - 1221
 Design to surround the American Army, - 1265
 Reinforced by the arrival of Hessians and Hanoverians and a regiment of Dragoons, - 1265
 Attack Washington's Army at White-plains, - 1271
 Movements and supposed objects of the, - 1310, 1311
 Engineers, Colonel Putnam's plan for establishing a corps of, - 891, 893
 Christopher Pelissiere, - 264, 484, 1170
 Jean Louis Imbert, - 407, 1094, 1096, 1361
 Jeduthan Baldwin, - 1133, 1329
 Christopher Joseph Delezeune, assistant, - 617
 Thaddeus Kosciusko, - 92, 1406
 Recommendation of John Hadler, - 891
 Application of Captain Dirks, - 1393
 England, unanimity of the people of, against America, - 190
 Extract of a letter received in, from the master of the Dorothy transport, at New-York, - 564
 Extract of a letter received in, by the packet-boat Earl of Halifax, - 564
 Engle, Andrew, appointed an Ensign, - 88
 English Channel, Mr. Hodge authorized to purchase a frigate to cruise in the, - 851
 Captain Wickes ordered to cruise in the, - 1215
 Two ships taken by an American privateer in the chops of the, - 1245
 Ennalls, John, appointed a Colonel, - 654
 Requests a Court-Martial for the trial of Lieutenant Cook, - 1236
 Enterprise, privateer, letter from the Commander of, to the President of Congress, - 232
 Entrenching tools—see Intrenching tools.
 Espey, David, elected a member of Pennsylvania Council of Safety, - 9
 Estates, of inimical persons, petition concerning, - 774
 Of Tories, resolve for staying executions on attachments of, - 779
 Estimate, of the provisions, &c., necessary to be laid in at various posts, - 1281
 Of the probable expense of the Quartermaster-General's Department for one month, - 1318
 Ethiopian Corps, Dunmore's, - 160
 Europe, a general war at hand in, - 361, 938
 By proper management a general war may be produced in, - 459
 The appearance of American cruisers in the seas of, viewed with amazement, - 937
 Eustace, John, appointed Aid-de-Camp to General Lee, - 1284
 Evans, Alexander, letter from, to Abraham Lott, - 307
 Evans, David, appointed a First Lieutenant, - 308
 Evans, David, deposition of, - 1005
 Evans, Elijah, appointed a Third Lieutenant, - 1342
 Evans, John, appointed an Ensign, - 634
 Evans, Samuel, appointed a Captain, - 636
 Evans, Stephen, letter from, to Mesheck Weare, - 340
 Ewing, General, commissioned as Second Brigadier-General of Pennsylvania, - 60
 Ewing, Colonel Thomas, letters from, to Maryland Council of Safety, - 177, 1024
 Return of officers in the battalion commanded by, - 903
 Great number of sick in the battalion commanded by, - 1024
 President of a General Court-Martial, - 1065
 Ewing, William, appointed an Ensign, - 641

Examination—

- Of Anthony Hasselaband, a deserter from Colonel Riedesel's dragoons at Montreal, - - - 203, 708
 Of Richard Emanuel Gabriel and Richard King, - 216
 Of Ludwick Potier, a German, taken by the Indians and carried to Montreal, - - - 421
 Of Sergeant Stiles, - - - 482
 Of Antoine Girard, a Canadian, - - - 533
 Of Thomas Day, - - - 592
 Of Prisoners, - - - 597
 Of John Woolley, - - - 663
 Of William Warne, - - - 677
 Of three prisoners taken on Staten-Island, - 1073
 Of James Budd, a Tory prisoner, - - - 1265
 Exports, of the United Colonies to Europe and the West-Indies, - - - 917
 Express, Washington's despatches said to be stolen from, - - - 1269, 1414, 1417
 Exuen, Alexander, letter from, to the New-York Congress, - - - 422

F.

- Fairfield, Connecticut, disposition of prisoners by Committee of, - - - 537
 A large supply of ammunition forwarded to, from Massachusetts, - - - 767
 Falconer, Nathaniel, elected a member of Pennsylvania Council of Safety, - - - 8
 Declines the appointment, - - - 10
 Appointed to inspect the Continental frigates lately built at Providence, - - - 955
 Letter to, from Marine Committee, - - - 1022
 Falmouth, England, a large fleet of transports sail from, for New-York, - - - 944
 Falmouth, Casco Bay, extract of a letter from, - 1071
 Two large prizes sent into, - - - 1196
 Falmouth, Massachusetts, resolve for supplying the town of, with powder and ball, - - - 772
 Faneuil, M., and others, petition of, to Massachusetts Assembly, - - - 1109
 Fanning, Colonel Phineas, orders to, from General De Lancey, - - - 505
 Apprehension of, by Colonel Livingston, - - 1042
 Evidences of the unfriendliness of, - - - 1088
 Parole of, - - - 1104
 Fanny, sloop, permitted to sail for Hispaniola, - 629
 Farley, Brigadier-General, ordered to hold himself in readiness to march to New-York, - - - 377
 Farnwell, Ebenezer, elected an Adjutant of Massachusetts Militia, - - - 752
 Fasselaband, Anthony, a Hessian deserter, examination of, - - - 708
 Fassett, John, elected a Captain, - - - 1341
 Orders of, to Lieutenant Lee, - - - 187
 Orders to, from General Gates, - - - 222
 Letter from, to General Gates, - - - 621
 Member of a Council of War, - - - 621
 Court-Martial ordered for the trial of, - - 1083
 Fassett, Captain Jonathan, orders to, from General Gates, - - - 222
 Letters from, to General Gates, - - - 556, 621
 Member of a Council of War, - - - 621
 Court-Martial ordered for the trial of, - - 1083
 Fast, appointed by Connecticut Council of Safety, - 188
 Proclamation of the King for a general, in England and Wales, - - - 1289
 Mr. Burke's remarks on the foregoing proclamation, 1290
 Proclamation of the King for a general, in Scotland, 1290
 Faulkner, William, a prisoner at Reading, permitted to go to Tryon County on parole, - - - 1395
 Fauntleroy, Captain John. Colonel Stainston requests a Court-Martial for the trial of, - - - 362
 Favourite, prize brig, sent in by Captain Jones, - 226
 Favourite, privateer, captures a valuable ship, - 1019
 Felling axes, a number of, received at Skenesborough, 185
 Fellows, General, return of brigade commanded by, - 898
 Return of Field-Officers in brigade commanded by, - 902
 Fenton, Elizabeth, permitted to go to England, - 754
 Ferguson, William, elected a Third Lieutenant of Artillery, - - - 80
 Ferrill, Morris, sentenced to receive twenty lashes for sleeping on his post, - - - 1081
 Ferris, Lieutenant-Colonel, permitted to decline the service, - - - 695
 Ferris, Joshua, petition of, to New-York Congress, - 141
 Fiddeman, Captain, letter to, from Maryland Council of Safety, - - - 177
 Field, John, Captain of privateer Joseph, sends a prize into Providence, Rhode-Island, - - - 227

- Field, John, letter from, to New-York Convention, - 931
 Field, Joseph, recommended for a Lieutenancy, - 931

Field-Officers—

- Election of, for the battalion to be raised for Northampton and Northumberland, Pennsylvania, - 60
 To be promoted according to the line, - - - 93
 List of, in the service of Virginia, - - - 320
 Council of, held at New-York, - - - 329
 Of the Boston Regiment of Militia, - - - 753
 Finance, address to the People of Pennsylvania on, by Conti—, - - - 430
 Remarks on, by Doria, - - - 433
 Observations on, by Pelatiah Webster, - - - 434
 Resolutions in New York Convention on, - - 710
 Finch, Nathaniel, memorial of, - - - 554
 Findly, John, appointed a First Lieutenant, - - 1340
 Fines, for absence from Pennsylvania Convention, - 1724
 For disobedience of orders, - - - 527, 528
 Fire-Arms, return of, &c., belonging to Massachusetts, 231
 Seven effective, delivered to Richard Maberry, - 768
 Resolve for encouraging the manufacture of, - - 778
 Firelocks, a number of, delivered to Captain Leighton, 748
 Four, delivered to Captain Lyman, - - - 748
 Fire-Ships, two, ordered to Fort Washington, - - 713
 Firewood, scarcity of, at Amboy, - - - 366
 Fishbourn, Benjamin, asks the appointment of Paymaster to Colonel Wood's battalion, - - - 490
 Appointed a Paymaster, - - - 1384
 Fisher, Hendrick, appointed Paymaster to Prescott's regiment, - - - 331
 Fishkill, New-York, resolution to establish post-riders between, and Head-Quarters, - - - 694
 Fitch, Eleazer, Jun., Inhabitants of Windham petition for removal of, from the office of Sheriff, - 130, 131
 Fitzgerald, John, appointed a Major, - - - 891
 Fitzgerald, Michael, petition of, to Congress, - - 119
 Fitzgerald, Captain, appointed to act as Major to Colonel Weeden's regiment, - - - 844
 Fitzhugh, William, letter from, to General Washington, 1020
 Flag of truce, made prize of by Commodore Arbuthnot, 307
 Flatbush, Long-Island, advance of the enemy towards, 198
 Fleet, manœuvres of Dunmore's, in the Potomack, - 165
 Seventy men sent by General Gates to Arnold's, - 186
 General Waterbury second officer in Arnold's, - 186
 Colonel Wigglesworth appointed third officer in Arnold's, - - - 186
 Two hundred seamen inlisted in New-York for Arnold's, - - - 186
 Arnold's, arranged in three divisions, - - - 186
 Enemy's, drawing more together, and getting close in with Governour's Island, - - - 193
 Arnold's, extremely bare of clothing, - - - 251
 Arnold's, consists of seventeen sail, - - - 294
 Position and operation of Arnold's, 353, 354, 531, 591
 Operations of the British, near New-York, - - 379
 Wretched motley crew in Arnold's, - - - 481
 Arnold's, arrive at Isle Valcour, - - - 591
 Arnold's, reinforced by the arrival of three row-galleys, - - - 615
 Importance of, on Lake Champlain, - - - 705
 Twenty sail of the line could take the whole British, at New-York, - - - 820
 Galley Trumbull and a reinforcement of seamen join Arnold's, - - - 834
 Absolute necessity of augmenting Arnold's, - 861, 982
 Battle between the American and English, on Lake Champlain, - - - 1028, 1038
 Arnold's, consists of sixteen sail and eight hundred men, - - - 1037
 Sir Guy Carleton's account of the battle between the American and British, - - - 1040
 Captain Pringle's account of the destruction of Arnold's, - - - 1069
 Destruction of Arnold's, announced, - - - 1079
 List of the enemy's, on Lake Champlain, 1080, 1172, 1179
 Strength of Arnold's, after the battle, - - - 1172
 Near two hundred sail of the enemy's, lying near Hart-Island, - - - 1209
 General Waterbury's account of the defeat of Arnold's, - - - 1224
 See Navy.
 Fleet of Pennsylvania—
 Matter respecting the command of, postponed by the Convention, - - - 12, 17
 Day for visiting, appointed by the Convention, - 12
 Petition of Captains of the galleys referred to the Council of Safety, - - - 25
 Resolution respecting promotions, - - - 25
 Samuel Mifflin appointed Commodore of, - - 61, 63

Fleet of Pennsylvania—*Continued.*

Samuel Mifflin declines the command of, - - -	70
Captain Price to raise men for the armed-boat Convention, - - -	71
Captain Brown to raise men for the floating battery, - - -	71
Committee to form regular muster roll, - - -	71
Recruiting officers allowed twenty shillings for each recruit, - - -	72
Thomas Seymour appointed Commodore, - - -	74
Instructions to the Commodore, - - -	74
Pay of officers, - - -	75
The Commodore accompanied to Fort Island by a number of the Council, - - -	75
Half pay allowed to a disabled seaman of, - - -	76
New Commissions to the Captains of the galleys, &c., - - -	79
The Commodore to take the most effectual measures to man, to its full complement, - - -	86
John Brice appointed Captain of the fire-sloop Etna, - - -	90
Order for ammunition to prove the guns for the floating battery, - - -	93
Advertisement for volunteers for the floating battery, - - -	841
Fletcher, Thomas, letter to, from Massachusetts Council, - - -	230
Flints, want of, at Ticonderoga, - - -	185, 619
New-York Convention order a supply of, to Charlotte and Tryon Counties, - - -	673
Three hundred, delivered to Jonathan Eddy, - - -	735
Massachusetts resolves to send, to Fairfield for the use of her Militia, - - -	767
Resolve to supply Jeremiah Colborn with, - - -	776
Account of, delivered by Peter T. Curtenius, - - -	830
A quantity of, arrive from France, - - -	1019
Twenty thousand, ordered to be sent to General Gates, - - -	1339
A quantity of, arrive in New-Hampshire, - - -	1406
Flour, large quantities of, left behind in the retreat from New-York, - - -	699
Commissary-General requests New-York Convention to supply him with, - - -	699
Resolutions of New-York Convention for procuring, - - -	700
Low price of, at St. Pierre, Martinique, - - -	1134
Two thousand barrels of, wanted for the Northern Department, - - -	1141
High price of, in France, - - -	1234
Floyd, William, letter from, to New-York Convention, - - -	1066
Flying-Camp—	
General Washington orders the men intended for, to New-York, - - -	121
Resignation of Jonathan Smith, Deputy Mustermaster-General, - - -	511
Colonels Weedon and Hand ask permission to recruit from, - - -	841, 842
Many of the Pennsylvanians in the, willing to enter the service on the new establishment, - - -	1202
Two hundred thousand dollars voted by Congress for the use of the, - - -	1333
Dr. Brown elected Assistant Physician for the, - - -	1373
William Davies elected Deputy Mustermaster-General for the, - - -	1389
Forty thousand dollars voted by Congress for the use of the, - - -	1402
General Washington authorized to appoint a Deputy Mustermaster for the, - - -	1403
Gustavus Risberg Assistant to the Deputy Quartermaster-General, - - -	1406
Flying-Camp, Pennsylvania—	
Letter from President of Congress requesting increase of, - - -	7
Committee to fix proportions for, - - -	8
Committee on granting commissions for, - - -	17
Committee to consider measures for raising, - - -	18
Report of Committee on raising, - - -	18
Report of Committee on commissions, - - -	18
Particulars of the rations to be printed and dispersed among the men, - - -	18
Ordinance respecting, - - -	19
Commissioners to go to Head-Quarters to form, - - -	20
Proportion of different Counties, - - -	20
Ten thousand pounds appropriated for, - - -	20
Regulation for inlistments, - - -	20
Resolution respecting commissions, - - -	20
Resolutions respecting deserters, - - -	22
Letter from Colonel Matlack read in Convention, - - -	28
Bounty money for, sent to Northampton, - - -	29
Committee to report regulations for, - - -	36
Information from one of the Commissioners for forming, - - -	36
Command of a battalion accepted by Michael Swoope, - - -	39, 76

Flying-Camp, Pennsylvania—*Continued.*

Commissioners for forming, to account with the Council of Safety, - - -	50
Bounty money to Matthew Hand, - - -	61
Servants and apprentices not to be inlisted for, without consent of their masters, - - -	70
Company for, furnished by Colonel Hart's battalion of Associators, - - -	256
Resolution of Congress for payment of discharged companies, - - -	1376
Flying-Camp, Maryland—	
Captains Forrest and Bourke immediately to march, - - -	625
Warrant to Abraham Boyd to enroll fifty men, - - -	627
All the guns belonging to, to be stamped with the word Maryland, - - -	629
Warrants issued to officers of Captain Roboson's company, - - -	629
Warrants issued to officers of Captain Watkins's company, - - -	632
Warrant issued to Captain Teems, - - -	633
Warrant issued to Levi Covington, - - -	634
Commission to Ensign Richardson, - - -	638
Commissions issued to officers of Captain Hynes's company, - - -	642
Commissions issued to officers of Captain Holland's company, - - -	643
Commissions issued to officers of Captain Harris's company, - - -	644
List of officers and privates in Captain Smith's company, - - -	1062
Payments for bounty, subsistence, &c., - - -	626
627, 628, 629, 632, 633, 634, 636	
Folsom, General, letter to, from Josiah Bartlett, - - -	118
Fonteroy, Captain John, Court-Martial ordered for the trial of, - - -	633
Forage, order of the English Commissary on Long-Island concerning, - - -	565
Estimate of the quantity of, necessary to be laid in at several posts, - - -	1281
Forbes, James, prisoner in Lancaster jail, petition of, - - -	12
Forbes, James, promoted to an Ensigncy, - - -	1086
Forbes, William, prisoner, memorial of, to New-York Congress, - - -	1259
Forman, Colonel, return of officers in the battalion commanded by, - - -	877
Forrest, Thomas, elected a Captain of Artillery, - - -	80
Forrester, Captain Simon, sends a valuable prize into Falmouth, - - -	1196
Fort Constitution, New-York Convention take measures to strengthen, - - -	261
A number of spades, bill-hooks, &c., ordered to be sent to, - - -	262, 672
Great want of men at, - - -	667
New-York Convention resolve to reinforce the garrison at, - - -	667, 668
Preamble and resolutions of New-York Convention respecting, - - -	670
A large quantity of munitions of war forwarded to, - - -	672
A return of necessities wanted at, - - -	674
Cannonade of British ships by, - - -	943, 961
The sick at, in a most wretched situation, - - -	974
(See Fort Lee.)	
Fort George, General Gates requests General Schuyler to reinforce, - - -	203
Colonel Phinney's regiment ordered to, - - -	203
Sickness at, abates, - - -	388
General Gates directed to detach a battalion to the support of the garrison at, - - -	833
Colonel Dayton's regiment ordered to, - - -	999
Fort Independence, in possession of the enemy, - - -	1294
Fort Island, resolution for completing the piers sunk in the channel near, - - -	65
Account to be rendered of articles used in sinking the piers near, - - -	69
No person to go on shore at, - - -	89
Channel to be sounded at, - - -	90
Fort Lee, (late Fort Constitution,) extracts of letters from, - - -	1130, 1239, 1266
Fort Montgomery, New-York Convention take measures to strengthen, - - -	261
A number of spades, bill-hooks, &c., sent to, - - -	262, 672
An armourer, with the tools of his trade, wanted at, - - -	666
Great want of men at, - - -	667
New-York Convention resolve to reinforce the garrison at, - - -	667, 668
Preamble and resolutions of New-York Convention in relation to, - - -	670
A large quantity of munitions of war forwarded to, - - -	672
A return of necessities wanted at, - - -	674

- Fort Schuyler, strength of, - - - - 355
 Captain Bloomfield, with his command, arrives at, 355
 About forty Indians, chiefs and warriors, visit Colonel Dayton at, - - - - 859
 A blow meditated against, - - - - 860
 A good stock of provisions at, - - - - 1190
 Fort Stanwix—see Fort Schuyler.
 Fort Washington, two fire-ships despatched to, - 713
 Cannonade of British ships by, - - - 943, 961
 Resolution to maintain, - - - - 1034
 Three of the enemy's ships make an attack upon, and are repulsed, - - - - 1271, 1311
 Fosdick, Ensign Thomas, sentenced to be reprimanded, 589
 Fosdick, Adjutant, testimony of, on the trial of Lieutenant Pope, - - - - 1065
 Foster, Captain John, complaint against, - - 925
 Foster, Thomas, appointed a Major of Pennsylvania Associators, - - - - 82
 Fountain, Stephen, a Tory, intercepted letter from, 1030
 Fowler, Jacob, arrested as being inimical to his country, 148
 Fox, John, powder delivered to, - - - - 734
 Petition of, to Massachusetts General Court, - 737
 Fox, Joseph, appointed a Second Lieutenant, - 477
 Foxcroft, John, confined by his parole within the bounds of Pennsylvania, - - - - 1385
 Permitted to go to New-York, on his parole, - 1400
 Frame of Government for Pennsylvania, - - 53
 Framingham Committee, petition of, to Massachusetts Assembly, - - - - 143
 Letter from, to Massachusetts Council, - - 1070
 France, officers from the army of, captured on their way to Philadelphia, - - - - 161
 Ministry of, order a number of ships of war to be fitted out for America, - - - - 232
 Friendly disposition of, towards America, - 325, 996
 American vessels find free trade with, - - 358
 Only waiting for a declaration of independence to strike a decisive blow, - - - - 358
 Orders from, to Cape Nicola Mole to protect all American vessels, - - - - 377
 American ships protected in the islands of, - 425, 854
 On the eve of a war with Great Britain, - - 602
 The natural ally of America, - - - - 811
 Arrival of a vessel from, with powder, small-arms, flints, lead, &c., - - - - 1019
 Representations of Silas Deane favourably received at the Court of, - - - - 1090
 Warlike preparations daily making in, - - 1091
 Arrival of a ship from, with cloths and blankets, - 1136
 Plan of a treaty with, - - - - 1344
 American Commissioners to, - 839, 987, 1379, 1410
 Instructions to Commissioners to, - - 1356, 1358
 Letters of credence to Commissioners to, - - 1381
 Pay of Commissioners to, - - - - 1382
 Additional instructions to the American Commissioners to, (note,) - - - - 1404
 Commissioners to, directed to procure from the French Court eight line-of-battle ships, - - 1409
 Franklin, Dr. Benjamin, chosen President of Pennsylvania Convention, - - - - 2
 Elected a Delegate to Continental Congress, - 6
 Appointed on a Committee to confer with Lord Howe, - - - - 192
 Letter from, to Lord Howe, - - - - 234
 Letter to, from Lord Howe, - - - - 274
 Payments to, for his attendance as a Delegate in Congress, - - - - 545
 Appointed a member of the Committee of Secret Correspondence, - - - - 823
 Letter from, to C. W. F. Dumas, - - - - 823
 Appointed a Commissioner to France, - - 839, 1379
 Unchangeably in favour of independence, - - 916
 Extract of a letter from, to D. C., - - - 1245
 Franklin, Elizabeth, deposition of, - - - 367
 Franklin, Robert, - - - - 1382
 Franks, David, permitted, by Continental Congress, to go to New-York on parole, - - - - 1412
 Frazier, Captain John, petition of, to Massachusetts Council, - - - - 781
 Permitted to go to Great Britain, - - - - 781
 Frazier, Captain Persifer, appointed a Major, - 616, 1385
 Freedom, armed sloop, return of officers on board the, 174
 Arms, ammunition, and stores for the, - - 174
 Iron ballast delivered to the, - - - - 801
 Freeland, Joseph, appointed an Ensign, - - 1378
 Freeman, John Quin, Brigade-Major, gives a pass to Antoine Gerouse, - - - - 335
 Freeman, Nathaniel, commissioned Commander of the privateer Wolfe, - - - - 746
 Freeman, Samuel, resolve for paying, for his services as Clerk, - - - - 764
 French, Lieutenant, promoted to a Captaincy, - 473
 French officers, in the service of the States, ordered to repair to their posts, - - - - 324
 Several, arrive at Philadelphia from Martinico, - 324
 Arrival of five, at Head-Quarters, - - - 855
 Embarrassment of Washington on account of, - 927
 Names of ten, arrived at Boston, - - - 1108
 Propose to raise a regiment of Canadians, - - 1109
 Frey, John, appointed Brigade-Major for Tryon County, - - - - 664
 Friend to Truth and Freedom, reply of, to Brutus, - 865
 Friend to American Freedom, to the Editor of the Pennsylvania Evening Post, - - - - 1158
 Frog's Point, the enemy land at, - 991, 1010, 1025, 1076
 Operations of the hostile forces near, - - 1016
 Main body of the enemy at, - - - - 1034
 Five of the enemy's ships between Hell-Gate and, 1076
 British Army move from, - - - - 1130
 Frontiers, Pennsylvania resolves to raise troops for the defence of the, - - - - 16
 Advantageous post on Onion River for the defence of, - - - - 111
 Advices from the Southwestern, - - - - 540
 Fry, George, letter to, from John Harris, - - 256
 Frye, General Joseph, memorial of, to Massachusetts General Court, - - - - 725
 Letter to, from Massachusetts House of Representatives, - - - - 726
 Fulford, John, Captain of a company of Artillery, 377, 639
 Fuller, Joshua, promoted to a First Lieutenantcy, - 1083
 Fulton, James, liberty granted to, to return to England, 796
 Certificate in favour of, - - - - 797
 Furnaces, Massachusetts appoints a Committee to view places suitable for erecting, - - - - 735
 Petition to excuse workmen in, from military duty, 747
 Furnival, Alexander, appointed Captain of a company of Matrosses, - - - - 658
 G.
 Gaberle, Nichs. Emc., Adjutant of Colonel Swartwout's regiment, - - - - 872
 Gabriel, Nicholas Emanuel, testimony of, - - 216
 Gadsden, Christopher, letters from, to John Lewis Gervais, - - - - 424, 938
 Elected a Brigadier-General, - - - - 1341
 Gaither, Vach., appointed a Second Lieutenant in the Flying-Camp, - - - - 629
 Galatea, British man-of-war, intelligence from three deserters from the, - - - - 842
 Cruising off the Capes of Virginia, - - - 1200
 Gale, Samuel, order for the arrest of, - - 688, 702
 Gamble, William, resigns the command of the fire sloop Etna, - - - - 90
 Gaming, order of General Washington against, - 946
 Gansevoort, Leonard, recommended for the office of Paymaster, - - - - 356
 Appointed a Paymaster, - - - - 1378
 Gansevoort, Colonel P., orders to, from General Gates, 1170
 Letter from, to General Gates, - - - - 1288
 Gantt, Thomas, letter from, to Maryland Council of Safety, - - - - 396
 Gardiner, Abraham, letter from, to Governour Trumbull, 225
 Gardiner, Colonel, a Tory, taken prisoner by Colonel Livingston, - - - - 296
 Gardner, Caleb, elected a Lieutenant-Colonel, - 1333
 Gardner, Henry, letter to, from James McCobb, - 144
 Gardner, James, appointed Deputy Commissary of Artillery, - - - - 477
 Gardner, William, charged with being inimical to the American cause, - - - - 738
 Garrett, Amos, letters from, to Maryland Council of Safety, - - - - 1071, 1278, 1307
 Letter from, to Matthew Tilghman, - - - 1128
 Garrigues, Jacob, chosen Assistant Clerk to Pennsylvania Convention, - - - - 2
 Garwood, William, arrested for abusive language to Colonel Phinney, - - - - 143
 Gates, Major-General, letters to, from—
 General Arnold, - - - - 223, 251, 265, 266, 353, 354, 440, 531, 532, 591, 834, 933, 982, 1038
 Elisha Avery, - - - - 1068
 J. Baldwin, Engineer, - - - - 1133
 Colonel Barrett, - - - - 402, 557, 835
 Colonel Brewer, - - - - 1040, 1144, 1192, 1300
 Colonel Brownson, - - - - 1207
 Major Carnes, - - - - 387
 John Carter, - - - - 1027

Gates, Major-General—Continued.

Letters to, from—

Samuel Chase, - - - - -	232, 429
Ezekiel Cheever, - - - - -	332
Committee of Congress, - - - - -	1142
Colonel Cortlandt, - - - - -	335, 342, 573, 860
Lewis T. Costigan, - - - - -	1088
Colonel Dayton, - - - - -	355
Captain Fassett, - - - - -	556, 621
Colonel Gansevoort, - - - - -	1287
Elbridge Gerry, - - - - -	572
Robert H. Harrison, - - - - -	292
Colonel Hartley, 113, 128, 204, 222, 251, 278, 421, 504, 556, 621, 834, 981, 1000, 1018, 1028	836, 924
Joseph Hawley, - - - - -	995
Ebenezer Hazard, - - - - -	36, 1018
Major Hoisington, - - - - -	1034
General Lee, - - - - -	453
Walter Livingston, - - - - -	1217
John Lucas, - - - - -	441
Massachusetts Council, - - - - -	1063
Mease and Caldwell, - - - - -	1262
Robert Morris, - - - - -	106
Dr. Morgan, - - - - -	1176
New-Hampshire Committee of Safety, - - - - -	1112
James Nourse, - - - - -	484
M. Christopher Pelissier, - - - - -	222
Colonel Porter, - - - - -	277
Dr. Potts, - - - - -	561
President of Congress, - - - - -	549
Colonel Rufus Putnam, - - - - -	110, 142, 220, 249, 264, 293, 334, 335, 374, 469, 555, 833, 859, 909, 923, 999, 1039, 1103, 1125, 1142, 1243, 1274, 1287, 1299, 1314
General Scott, - - - - -	828
John B. Scott, - - - - -	1103, 1267
Major Shepardson, - - - - -	303
Colonel Simonds, - - - - -	303
Captain Stewart, - - - - -	1191
Dr. Stringer, - - - - -	923
John Taylor, - - - - -	599
Governour Trumbull, - - - - -	280, 536, 912, 1104, 1316
Joseph Trumbull, - - - - -	417, 995
Henry J. Van Rensselaer, - - - - -	924
Richard Varick, - - - - -	250, 335, 1036, 1102
General Ward, - - - - -	600
Seth Warner, - - - - -	1146
General Waterbury, - - - - -	142, 185, 221
Ensign Webster, - - - - -	356
Colonel Wilkinson, - - - - -	1243
Captain Williams, - - - - -	169
Colonel Winds, - - - - -	964
John Witherspoon, - - - - -	1293
Colonel Wynkoop, - - - - -	1069, 1088, 1103, 1142, 1275
Christopher Yates, - - - - -	923
Letters from, to—	
General Arnold, 186, 302, 402, 484, 555, 847, 860, 1017	
Colonel Bellows, - - - - -	1244
John Carter, - - - - -	885
Colonel Cortlandt, - - - - -	278
Colonel Hartley, - - - - -	204, 264
Major Hoisington, - - - - -	421
President of Congress, - - - - -	470, 614
General Schuyler, - 185, 203, 204, 205, 294, 343, 353, 481, 530, 619, 885, 1000, 1017, 1080, 1257, 1287, 1314	
Colonel Simonds, - - - - -	343
Captains Stilton and Parker, - - - - -	1170
Governour Trumbull, - - - - -	127, 356, 620, 1192
Richard Varick, - - - - -	277
Colonel Warner, - - - - -	1169
General Waterbury, - - - - -	127
General return of the forces commanded by, -	479, 618
General Orders issued by, - - - - -	471, 616, 1081
Gates, Robert, letter from, to Colonel Stewart, -	299
Gay, Colonel Fisher, letter to, from General Washington, - - - - -	166
Return of officers in the regiment lately commanded by, - - - - -	902
Gazart, Michael, confined on suspicion of being a deserter, - - - - -	726
Gazette, Gates suggests the propriety of Congress publishing a, on the occurrence of any great event, -	615
Geale, Edward, appointed a Recruiting Sergeant for Artillery, - - - - -	657
Geary, William M., appointed a First Lieutenant, -	1340
Gee, Peter, prisoner, examination of, - - - - -	1073
Gelston, David, letter from, to New-York Convention, -	189
Letter from, to New-London Committee, - - - - -	207
General Gates, privateer, captures made by the, -	1046

General Greene, the, captures a valuable prize, -	486
General Lee, privateer, commission granted for the, -	79
General Orders, issued by Washington, - - - - -	121, 194, 238, 290, 330, 381, 413, 447, 501, 566, 605, 842, 944, 991, 1118, 1282, 1310
Issued by General Gates, - - - - -	471, 616, 1081
General Putnam, schooner, complaint against the Captain of the, - - - - -	215
State and condition of the, - - - - -	553
Petition of the officers and marines, - - - - -	714
Captain Cregier's verbal statement, - - - - -	718
Generalship, the present campaign a fair trial of, in which Washington has the advantage, - - - - -	1312
Georgetown, (Mass.), subscription of inhabitants of, to carry on the Canada expedition, - - - - -	144
Georgia—	
Letters from the President of Congress to Convention of, - - - - -	489, 838
Congress advance fifty thousand dollars for the use of the Continental troops in, - - - - -	1341
Germain, Lord George—	
Letters to, from Sir William Howe, - - - - -	123, 378, 380, 462, 492, 518
Letters to, from Lord Dunmore, 158, 159, 161, 162, 166	
Character of, - - - - -	456
Letter to, from Governour Tryon, - - - - -	493
Letters from, to General Howe, - - - - -	600, 1111
Letter to, from Sir Guy Carleton, - - - - -	1040
Letter from, to the Earl of Dunmore, - - - - -	1110
German Battalion, officers of, - - - - -	1379
German Flats, in want of pork and salt, - - - - -	264
John Post appointed Commissary at the, - - - - -	1132
A good stock of provisions at the, - - - - -	1190
Germans, General Howe proposes an increase of, -	123
A number of, arrive at Quebec, - - - - -	203
Desertions of, from the enemy, - - - - -	203
Geroure, Antoine, permitted to pass from Isle-aux-Noix to his home, - - - - -	335
Intelligence received from, - - - - -	532
Examination of, - - - - -	533
Gerry, Elbridge, Delegate in Congress from Massachusetts, letter from, to General Gates, - - -	572
Appointed on a Committee to visit Washington's Head-Quarters, - - - - -	1373
Gervais, John Lewis, Commissary General, letters to, from Colonel Gadsden, - - - - -	424, 938
Note to, from Colonel Roberts, - - - - -	424
Gettig, Christopher, appointed a First Lieutenant, -	86
Gibson, John, Auditor-General, letter from, to James Bowdoin, - - - - -	1247
Letter from, to New-Hampshire Assembly, - - -	1308
Giddings, Andrew, petition of, to Massachusetts Council, - - - - -	780
Commissioned Commander of the letter-of-marque Civil Usage, - - - - -	780
Gifford, Lieutenant, sent to Albany for examination, -	857
Giles, Benjamin, Chairman, &c., orders of, to Colonel Bellows, - - - - -	340
Orders of, to Captain House, - - - - -	341
Giles, Eleazer, Commander of the privateer Retaliation, - - - - -	741
A valuable prize sent into Falmouth by, - - - -	1196
Gilt, John, sentenced to be flogged, &c., for defrauding the Continent, - - - - -	1082
Gill, William, appointed a Second Lieutenant of Pennsylvania Associators, - - - - -	82
Gilliland, William, complains of the wanton conduct of Arnold's troops, - - - - -	112
Arrested on suspicion of conveying intelligence to the enemy, - - - - -	592
Testimony of Thomas Day against, - - - - -	592
Gates proposes to send, to General Schuyler, - -	847
Gilman, Colonel David, letter from, to New-Hampshire Assembly, - - - - -	318
Girard, Antoine—see Geroure, Antoine.	
Glason, Adam, appointed an Ensign, - - - - -	638
Glen, H., letters from, to General Schuyler, - - -	142, 184, 221, 534, 980, 1190
Letter from, to Captain Dickerson, - - - - -	184
Letters from, to Walter Livingston, - - - - -	185, 264, 311
Complains of the inlistment of the batteau-men, -	221
Letter from, to Captain Eisenford, - - - - -	250
Letter from, to Elisha Avery, - - - - -	1132
Glen, William, suspected of being an enemy to the American cause, - - - - -	374
Cited to appear before Connecticut Assembly, - -	375
Glenn, Cornelius, letter from, to Abraham Yates, Jun., - - - - -	311
Gliden, Charles, promoted to a Second Lieutenantcy, -	474

- Glover, Colonel, skirmish of the brigade commanded by, with the enemy near East-Chester, - 1130, 1138
 Extract of a letter from, giving an account of several skirmishes with the enemy, - - - 1188
 Thanked in General Orders, - - - 1240
 Glover, Samuel, instructions to, from Captain Smith, (English,) - - - 1024
 Goddard, William, Surveyor of the General Post-Office, - - - 256
 Godet, Thomas, letter to, from Marine Committee, - 970
 Godfrey, Captain James, a valuable prize taken by, - 935
 Goldsborough, Massachusetts, money loaned to, - 774
 Goodall, El., appointed a First Lieutenant, - - 1083
 Goodhue, Benjamin, Jr., petition of, to Massachusetts Council, - - - 803
 Goodrich, Captain Charles, declared to be an enemy to his country, - - - 134
 To the Printer of the Connecticut Courant, - - 388
 Petition of, to Massachusetts General Court, - 741
 Report of the Committee in the case of, - - 742
 Acquitted of the charge of being an enemy to his country, - - - 743
 Goodrich, old Mr., a Tory, and two of his sons, taken prisoners and sent to Williamsburgh jail, - 162
 Gordon, Captain A., prisoner, servant permitted to reside with him, - - - 181
 Gordon, Robert, Ireland, letter to Thomas White, - 863
 Gordon, Robert, convicted of being an enemy to the common cause, - - - 1142
 Gordon, Rev. William, address of, to the inhabitants of Massachusetts, - - - 227
 Letter from, to General Gates, - - - 1276
 Gostelow, Jonathan, Assistant Commissary of Stores, 1264
 Goulay, Peter, prays permission to return to England, 787
 Prayer of the petition of, granted, - - - 788
 Governour's Island, enemy in possession of, - - 119
 Grace, Richard, appointed a Second Lieutenant, - 627
 Govert, Jacques Paul, appointed a Captain-Lieutenant of Artillery, - - - 1360
 Two months' pay advanced to, - - - 1376
 Graham, Colonel Morris, return of regiment commanded by, - - - 872, 1321
 Grain, General Howe orders the seizure of, on Long-Island, - - - 825
 A quantity of, removed from Harlem Plains, - 855
 Grand Jury of Charleston, Judge Drayton's charge to, 1047
 Presentment of the, - - - 1059
 Grant, General, killed in the battle on Long-Island, - 111
 Grape-shot greatly wanted, at Crown-Point, - - 556
 Graves, John, ordered into close confinement, - 777
 Gray, Major, recommended for Commissary-General in the Northern Department, - - - 245
 Gray, George, elected a member of the Pennsylvania Council of Safety, - - - 8
 Gray, Doctor Thomas, appointed Surgeon's Mate to the ship Oliver Cromwell, - - - 281
 Grayson, Colonel William, Aid-de-Camp to General Washington, letters from, to General Heath, - 439, 827, 853, 854, 1027
 Great Britain, oppressive acts of, towards America, - 1044
 Address of the Lord Mayor, &c., of York, to the King, - - - 1126
 Proclamation to encourage enlistments in the Navy, 1228
 Order in Council prohibiting the exportation of provisions from, - - - 1233
 Proclamation for a general fast in, - - - 1289, 1290
 Greaton, Colonel, dangerously ill at Fort George, - 387
 Greely, Jonathan, Commander of the privateer Speedwell, - - - 749
 Green, Sergeant, promoted to an Ensigncy, - - 617
 Greene, Major Joseph, (British,) letter to Captain Smith, - - - 1186
 Greene, General Nathanael—
 Letter to, from General Washington, - - - 182
 Letters from, to the President of Congress, - - 241, 973, 1136, 1269
 Letters from, to Governour Cooke, - - - 369, 996, 1076
 Letters from, to General Washington, - - - 494, 1015, 1221, 1280, 1281, 1294
 Return of the forces commanded by, - - - 607, 1250
 A first-rate military genius, - - - 870
 Letter from, to General Mifflin, - - - 1263
 Greene, Major, of First Virginia Regiment, wounded, - - - 1188, 1270
 Greenway, William, Commander of privateer sloop Congress, - - - 79
 Greer, David, appointed a Major of Pennsylvania troops in Continental service, - - - 94
 Greer, Vincent, appointed a Second Lieutenant, - 308
 Griffin, David, petition of, to Massachusetts General Assembly, - - - 802
 Griffin, Colonel Samuel, Deputy Adjutant-General, letter from, to the Board of War, - - - 235
 Letter from, to Richard Peters, - - - 1136
 Griffin, Colonel, wounded, - - - 1073, 1093
 Griffith, Benjamin, member of Baltimore Committee, 117
 Griffith, Charles C., letter from, to Maryland Council of Safety, - - - 947
 Griffith, Dennis, appointed an Ensign in the Flying-Camp, - - - 637
 Grimaldy, Marquis of, order from, to the Commissary of Marine, - - - 917
 Grindstones, a number of, arrive at Ticonderoga, - 203
 Griswold, John, appointed officer of guard at the mouth of Connecticut River, - - - 189
 Groton, Committee of, advised to assist inhabitants of Long Island to come off, - - - 188
 Petition of the town of, to Connecticut Assembly, - - - 1004
 Grout, John, case of, - - - 216-220
 Grubb, Colonel Peter, misconduct of troops under the command of, - - - 38
 Grymes, John, joins Lord Dunmore, - - - 163
 Grymes, Philip, made prisoner, - - - 163
 Guild, Nathaniel, letter from, to Richard Devens, - 594
 Petition of, to Massachusetts General Court, - 746
 Resolve on the petition of, - - - 778
 Guiler, Christian, a Hessian, examination of, - 1073
 Guilford, South-Carolina, extract of a letter from, - 208
 Guillot, Francis, permitted to fit out a privateer, - 1381
 Gunpowder—
 A quantity of, delivered to Daniel Tillinghast, - 119
 Fifteen tons of, wanted at Ticonderoga, - - 185
 General Schuyler requests a further supply of, - 246
 One hundred half-barrels of, sent to Baltimore, - 271
 Over nine thousand pounds of, manufactured by Henry Wisner, Jun., - - - 293
 Arrival of a quantity of, from Martinico, - - 323
 Order for the delivery of a ton of, for proving cannon, - - - 510
 Seventy barrels of, shipped at St. Eustatia, for Charleston, South-Carolina, - - - 547
 Five hundred pounds of, forwarded from Boston to Hartford, - - - 559
 Complaint of the non-arrival of, at Ticonderoga, - 619
 All the, at Wisner and Livingston's mills, ordered to be sent to King's Bridge, - - - 722
 Waldoborough (Massachusetts) Committee ask for a supply of, - - - 730
 Supplies of, voted by Massachusetts, - - - 734, 737, 748, 753, 756, 757, 767, 772, 801, 805
 Petition for a supply of, for the privateer Dolphin, - 752
 One hundred and twenty half-barrels of, shipped at St. Eustatia for Maryland, - - - 965
 A quantity of, arrives from France, - - - 1019
 Six tons of, arrive at Ticonderoga, - - - 1169
 Two hundred tons of, purchased in France by Silas Deane, - - - 1234
 Six pounds of, delivered to Captain Sheerer, - - 1332
 Congress resolve to send two tons of, to Pittsburgh, - - - 1337
 Fifteen tons of, sent to General Gates, - - - 1339
 One ton of, supplied to New-Jersey, by Congress, - 1362
 One ton of, sent to North-Carolina, for the use of the Continental forces there, - - - 1403
 Gurnet, resolve relative to building a barrack on the, 752
 Gurney, Francis, elected a member of Pennsylvania Council of Safety, - - - 37
 Appointed a Lieutenant-Colonel, - - - 94
 Guthry, James, appointed a Second Lieutenant, - 1340
 Gwin's Island, letter of Lord Dunmore from, - - 162
 H.
 Hacker, Captain Hoystead, letter to, from Commodore Hopkins, - - - 268
 Instructions to, from Commodore Hopkins, - - 1042, 1089, 1195, 1303
 Haddaway, William Webb, appointed a Major, - - 655
 Hadler, John, recommended by Washington to Congress as an Engineer, - - - 891
 Hague, The, letter from, to a gentleman in London, 361
 Haight, Cornelius, letter from, to Continental Congress, - - - 157
 Haines, Samuel, prisoner, examination of, - - 310
 Hale, Nathaniel, commissioned Lieutenant-Colonel, 1177
 Half-pay, grant of, in certain cases, during life, - 448
 Halifax, Cumberland County, New-York, proceedings of a town-meeting at, - - - 124

Halifax, Nova-Scotia—

- Governour of, refuses to permit the publication of the Declaration of Independence, - 189
 Great fear at, of an attack by American troops, - 189
 The Tories at, greatly alarmed, - 190
 List of Tories at, - 190
 Escape of prisoners from, - 212, 241
 Treatment of American prisoners at, - 252, 307
 No ships and but fifteen hundred troops at, - 358
 A number of transports arrive at, - 358
 Extract of a letter from, received in London, - 837
 Hall, Colonel Aquila, letter to, from Maryland Council of Safety, - 456
 Letter from, to Maryland Council of Safety, - 1021
 Hall, Benjamin, deposition of, against Colonel Porter, 154
 Hall, Daniel, deposition of, against Colonel Porter, - 149
 His general character that of a lying fellow, - 155
 Hall, George Abbott, appointed a Commissioner of South Carolina Navy Board, - 1323
 Hall, Joseph, appointed a Surgeon in the Flying-Camp, - 628
 Hall, Josiah, appointed Third Lieutenant of a Rifle company, - 644
 Hall, Judge J., declines the appointment of Judge of Admiralty, - 578
 Hall, Matthew, appointed a Second Lieutenant, - 476
 Hall, Sergeant, testimony of, on the trial of Captain Poole, - 1295
 Haller, Colonel Henry, return of officers in the battalion commanded by, - 878
 Hallet, Joseph, account of, for the freight of his sloop, 548
 Hallett, Joseph, letter to, from New-York Convention, 702
 Letter from, to New-York Convention, - 1185
 Halliday, Lieutenant James, appointed a Captain, - 1378
 Hallock, Captain William, instructions to, from Marine Committee, - 1115
 Halsey, Jeremiah, petition of, to Congress, - 137
 Halm, or Emom, Samuel, Court-Martial ordered for the trial of, for mutiny, - 1195
 Hamilton, Captain A., certificate of, in favour of William Douglass, - 332
 Hamilton, Captain Archibald, permitted to return home, - 1374
 Hamilton, Frederick, an American gentleman in Paris, letter from, to John Hancock, intercepted by the enemy, - 231
 Hamilton, Governour, speech of, to the Indians at Detroit, - 516
 Hamilton, Thomas, appointed an Ensign, - 88
 Hammond, Isaac, deposition of, - 649
 Hamon, Nicholas, deposition of, - 649
 Hamond, Captain, with Lord Dunmore at New-York, 159
 In the river Delaware, - 161
 In the Potomack river, - 165
 In the Hudson river, - 379
 Hampshire County, (Massachusetts,) men raised in, for the Northern Army, ordered to join their regiment, - 741
 Hampton, a vessel arrives at, laden with salt and rum, - 308
 Hancock, Continental frigate, measures taken to fit the, for sea, - 487
 Massachusetts resolves to furnish the, with guns, - 777
 Ordered on a cruise, - 1200
 Hancock, privateer, a brig captured by the, - 1126
 Sends into Philadelphia a prize brig laden with sugar and cotton, - 1309
 Hancock, Ebenezer, Continental Paymaster at Boston, 1115
 Hancock, John, correspondence of, with—
 Alexandria (Virginia) Committee, - 1127
 Connecticut Assembly, - 136, 489, 839, 953
 Delaware Convention, - 136, 425, 489
 Georgia Assembly, - 838
 Georgia Convention, - 489
 Maryland Convention, - 136, 489, 838
 Maryland Council of Safety, - 1113
 Massachusetts Assembly, - 136, 315, 489, 839, 953
 Massachusetts Council, - 576
 New-Hampshire Assembly, - 136, 489, 839
 New-Jersey Assembly, - 489, 839, 953
 New-Hampshire Committee of Safety, - 507
 New-York Convention, - 417, 489, 839, 884, 953, 978
 North-Carolina Convention, - 489, 838
 Pennsylvania Convention, - 3, 5, 7, 136, 489
 Rhode-Island Assembly, - 136, 489, 839, 953
 South-Carolina Assembly, - 489, 838
 Virginia Assembly, - 489, 838
 Virginia Council, - 209
 General Armstrong, - 924
 John Avery, - 837
 Hancock, John, correspondence of, with—
 James Bowdoin, - 486, 1109
 John Bradford, - 984
 William Bradford, - 337
 James Campbell, - 232
 Mrs. Susanna Connolly, - 254
 Richard Dallam, - 193, 350
 William Davis, - 1032
 Silas Deane, - 1092
 Rev. Jacob Duché, - 1269, 1280
 Colonel James Easton, - 911
 General Gates, - 470, 561, 614
 General Greene, - 241, 973, 1136, 1269
 Robert H. Harrison, - 299, 1034, 1137, 1282, 1310
 Commodore Hopkins, - 115, 623
 Thomas Jefferson, - 987
 General Charles Lee, - 972, 1008
 General Lewis, - 135, 271, 918
 Governour Livingston, - 853, 1237
 Walter Livingston, - 220
 Benjamin Marshall and Brothers, - 490
 Francis Mentges, - 596
 General Mercer, - 157, 972, 1093, 1129
 General Moore, - 136, 395
 Colonel Moylan, - 197, 570
 Commanding-Officer of the troops in Rhode-Island, 136
 Edward Pendleton, - 951
 Colonel Reed, - 417
 General Schuyler, 125, 245, 248, 263, 333, 525, 555, 560, 857, 858, 864, 922, 1078, 1197, 1205, 1296
 Colonel Shee, - 511
 Jonathan Smith, - 511
 General St. Clair, - 128
 Richard Stockton and George Clymer, - 1256
 George Taylor, - 1129
 Matthew Tilghman, - 233
 Governour Trumbull, - 441
 Joseph Trumbull, - 213, 348, 372, 453, 829, 851, 920, 963, 1011
 Colonel Van Schaick, - 355
 Colonel Seth Warner, - 884
 General Washington, - 120, 135, 193, 212, 233, 236, 290, 325, 348, 351, 380, 398, 412, 446, 463, 488, 494, 495, 519, 565, 589, 603, 839, 841, 864, 867, 890, 927, 941, 952, 990, 1116, 1210, 1269
 General Waterbury, - 1256
 Hand, Colonel Edward, letter from, to General Washington, - 413
 Asks permission to recruit from the Flying-Camp, - 842
 Return of the officers of the regiment commanded by, 897
 Return of the Field Officers of the regiment of, stationed at De Lancey's Mills, - 897
 Letter to, from Captain Cluggage, - 921
 Recruiting instructions to, - 993
 Skirmish of, with a body of Hessians, - 1205
 Handy, James, of privateer Harlequin, commissioned, 641
 Handy, William, deposition of, - 648
 Hannon, Hamilton, prisoner, permitted to reside at Reading, - 120
 Hanoverians, last division of, sail for New-York, - 944
 Arrival of a body of, at New-York, - 1265
 Hanson, John, Jun., letter from, to Maryland Council of Safety, - 1005
 Hanson, Peter Contee, appointed a First Lieutenant, 1342
 Hanson, Thomas, appointed an Adjutant, - 88
 Happy Return, brig, resolutions of Congress in relation to the cargo of, - 1402
 Hardenbergh, Captain Cornelius, cashiered, - 946, 1140
 Hardenbergh, Colonel, return of officers under the command of, - 875
 Testimony of, on the trial of Lieutenant Smedes, - 930
 Harding, Captain Seth, sends in a valuable prize, - 886
 Engagement with the Merlin ship-of-war, - 936
 Ordered on a cruise, - 1209
 Harlem, enemy make dispositions to land at, - 274
 Preparations made to meet the enemy at, - 274, 275
 Extracts of letters from, - 352, 439, 524, 855, 1025
 Accounts of the skirmish at, 369, 370, 371, 381, 384, 417, 430, 889
 British account of the skirmish at, - 379
 Corn, hay, &c., removed from the plains of, - 855
 Enemy take possession of the town of, - 896
 Loss of both sides in the action at, - 990
 Harlem Heights, secured by Washington, - 351
 Main body of Washington's Army encamp upon, - 351
 Post at, to be defended at all events, - 415
 Washington's Army withdraws from, - 1137
 Harlequin, Captain Woolsey, arrival of prize taken by, 510
 Commission issued to Captain Handy, - 641

- Harmon, Captain John, prizes taken by, and proceedings of, - - - - - 1046, 1316
- Harney, Lieutenant, taken prisoner, - - - - - 882
- Harper, John, promoted to an Ensigncy, - - - - - 1086
- Harper, Robert, letter to, from James Abeel, - - - - - 1266
- Harper, Captain William, dismissed the service, - - - - - 472
- Harpwell, petition of Selectmen of, to Massachusetts General Court, - - - - - 732
- Harrington, Moses, resolve to pay him for the loss of his son's gun, - - - - - 756
- Harris, George, sentenced to receive thirty-nine lashes, - - - - - 929
- Harris, John, appointed a Captain in Pennsylvania Foot, - - - - - 86
- Harris, John, letter from, to George Fry, - - - - - 256
- Harris, Captain Robert, supplied with blankets, and linen for tents, - - - - - 1307
- Harris, Robert, appointed a Captain in the Flying-Camp, - - - - - 644
- Harris, Thomas, petition of, to Massachusetts General Court for powder, - - - - - 758
- A supply of powder voted to, - - - - - 761
- Harrison, Benjamin, Jun., Deputy Paymaster-General, letter from, to the President of Congress, - - - - - 540
- Harrison, Colonel, elected a Delegate to Congress from Virginia, - - - - - 987
- Harrison, John C., appointed an Ensign, - - - - - 630
- Harrison, Robert, appointed a Lieutenant-Colonel of Maryland Militia, - - - - - 654
- Harrison, Robert H., letters from, to General Heath, 259, 292, 445, 451, 610, 869, 1010
- Letter from, to Joshua Wentworth, - - - - - 274
- Letter from, to General Gates, - - - - - 292
- Letters from, to the President of Congress, - - - - - 299, 1034, 1137, 1165, 1282, 1310
- Letter to, from Colonel Moylan, - - - - - 301
- Letter from, to Peter R. Livingston, - - - - - 1035
- Letter from, to General Schuyler, - - - - - 1120
- Letter from, to William Duer, - - - - - 1165
- Letter from, to Governor Trumbull, - - - - - 1187
- Letter from, - - - - - 1264
- Harrison, Mr., gives information relative to Nassau-Island, - - - - - 669
- Harrison & Vanbibber, letters from Maryland Council of Safety to, - - - - - 297, 298
- Harriss, Robert, authorized to raise a company of Militia, - - - - - 635
- Hart, Andries, order for the arrest and examination of, - - - - - 688
- Hart, John, Speaker of New-Jersey Assembly, letter from, to Richard Stockton, - - - - - 365
- Hart, J., Adjutant of the Twenty-First Regiment, - - - - - 877
- Hart, Sir John, Consul at Lisbon, letter from, to the Mayor of Bristol, - - - - - 177
- Harthorne, Captain Daniel, wounded, - - - - - 1227
- Hartley, Lieutenant-Colonel Thomas, letters from, to General Gates, 113, 128, 204, 205, 222, 251, 278, 421, 504, 556, 621, 831, 981, 1000, 1018, 1028
- Commanding Officer at Crown Point, - - - - - 353
- Letters to, from General Gates, - - - - - 204, 264
- Letter from, to General St. Clair, - - - - - 454
- Hartshorne, John, appointed a First Lieutenant, - - - - - 638
- Hasbrouck, Captain E., letter to, from Seth Curtis, - - - - - 1273
- Hasbrouck, Colonel Jonathan, letter from, to New-York Convention, - - - - - 1167
- Haseltine, Robert, deposition of, against Asa Porter, - - - - - 153
- Haslett, Colonel John, letter from, to Thomas Rodney, - - - - - 881
- Extracts of letters from, to General Cæsar Rodney, - - - - - 896, 1270
- Surprises Major Rogers and his Rangers, - - - - - 1188
- List of prisoners taken by, from Major Rogers's corps of Tories, - - - - - 1203
- Haslett, William, recommended for a Captaincy, - - - - - 560
- Hasselaband, Anthony, a deserter from the British Army at Montreal, examination of, - - - - - 203
- Hatch, William, Commander of privateer Hope, - - - - - 795
- Hathaway, William, testimony of, on the trial of Captain Poole, - - - - - 1295
- Hause, George, elected a Second Major, - - - - - 405
- Hausegger, Major, appointed Colonel of the German Battalion of Philadelphia, - - - - - 233
- Ordered to repair to Philadelphia, - - - - - 292
- Haverhill, letter from Colonel Hurd at, - - - - - 147
- Hawk, the privateer, takes five prizes on her passage to Spain, - - - - - 917
- Detained at Bilboa as a pirate, - - - - - 917, 1091
- Released on application to the Spanish Government, - - - - - 917
- Arrival of a prize of, at Newburyport, - - - - - 1245
- Hawkins, Henry, application of Commodore Hopkins for the exchange of, - - - - - 132
- Hawkins, Colonel Josias, letter from, to Maryland Convention, - - - - - 925
- Hawley, Joseph, letter from, to General Gates, - - - - - 836, 924
- Hay, Colonel Ann Hawkes, letters from, to New-York Convention, - - - - - 976, 1066
- Hay, Colonel Udney, letter from, to Captain Raymond, - - - - - 534
- Letter to, from Captain Raymond, - - - - - 534
- Haynes, Joseph, deposition of, against Asa Porter and others, - - - - - 151
- Hays, John, appointed a Second Lieutenant, - - - - - 88
- Haywood, Benjamin, appointed a Paymaster, - - - - - 332
- Hazard, sloop, permitted to sail for Martinique, - - - - - 631
- Hazard, Ebenezer, letters from, to John McKesson, 108, 201
- Letters from, to Abraham Yates, - - - - - 200, 301
- Letter to, from New-York Committee of Safety, - - - - - 680
- Letter from, to General Gates, - - - - - 995
- Head-Quarters—
- General Orders from, at New-York, - - - - - 121, 194, 238, 290, 292, 330, 381
- Extract of a letter from, to a gentleman at Annapolis, - - - - - 370
- General Orders from, at Harlem, - - - - - 413, 447, 501, 566, 605, 606, 944, 991
- Prisoners charged with capital offences to be sent to, for trial, - - - - - 827
- Arrival of five French officers at, - - - - - 855
- General Orders from, at White-Plains, - - - - - 1282, 1310
- Committee appointed by Congress to visit, - - - - - 1373
- Report of the Committee, (note,) - - - - - 1385
- Headfield, ship, from Ireland for New-York, with stores, captured by Captain Atkins, - - - - - 1228
- Heard, General, return of Field Officers in the brigade commanded by, - - - - - 901
- Heath, General William, letters to, from—
- Colonel Cary, - - - - - 108
- Colonel Grayson, - - - - - 439, 827, 853, 854, 1027
- Robert H. Harrison, 259, 292, 445, 451, 610, 869, 1010
- Colonel Lasher, - - - - - 1250
- General McDougall, - - - - - 275
- Colonel Moylan, - - - - - 140
- Colonel Nicoll, - - - - - 169, 244
- General Nixon, - - - - - 244
- William Palfrey, - - - - - 139
- General Putnam, - - - - - 962
- Adjutant-General Reed, - - - - - 275, 569, 597, 827, 845, 869, 962, 973, 1026
- General Saltonstall, - - - - - 828
- Colonel Sargent, - - - - - 976
- James Sayre, - - - - - 244
- General Scott, - - - - - 919
- Tench Tilghman, - - - - - 962
- General Washington, - - - - - 239
- Colonel Webb, - - - - - 829, 919
- Letters from, to—
- Major Backus, - - - - - 439, 845
- Captain Benson, - - - - - 975
- Colonel Chester, - - - - - 855
- Captain Horton, - - - - - 1123
- Hugh Hughes, - - - - - 332
- Colonel Lasher, - - - - - 1264
- General Mifflin, - - - - - 275
- Colonel Nicoll, - - - - - 169
- General Nixon, - - - - - 1035
- Captain Pain, - - - - - 896
- General Parsons, - - - - - 591
- General Putnam, - - - - - 1264
- General Saltonstall, - - - - - 591, 828, 844
- Colonel Sargent, - - - - - 962, 976, 1036
- Captain Stewart, - - - - - 882
- Disposition of the division under the command of, 1096
- Extracts from the Journal of, (note,) - - - - - 523, 961, 991, 1016, 1034, 1130, 1203, 1271, 1282
- Hedge, Elisha, petition of, to Massachusetts General Court, - - - - - 751
- Hedges, Colonel, compelled to take the oath of allegiance, - - - - - 281
- Hell-Gate, main body of the enemy encamped near, - - - - - 170
- The enemy open a battery upon the works at, - - - - - 258
- Five of the enemy's ships between, and Frog's Point, - - - - - 1076
- About two hundred sail of the enemy's fleet lying near, - - - - - 1209
- Hemenway, Ebenezer, Clerk of Framingham Committee, - - - - - 1071
- Hemstead, Sergeant, testimony of, on the trial of Lieut. Pope, - - - - - 1065
- Henderson, John, appointed a First Lieutenant, - - - - - 88
- Hendricks, James, appointed Lieutenant-Colonel, - - - - - 1395
- Henly, David, appointed Deputy Adjutant-General, - - - - - 195

- Henly, Major Thomas, Aid-de-Camp to General Heath, killed in an attempt to surprise the guard on Monttressor's Island, - 502, 523, 524, 939
 Commendation of, by Washington, - 502, 849
 Brief history and character of, - 552
 Henry, Ensign, promoted to a Second Lieutenantcy, - 473
 Henry, Patrick, Governour of Virginia, letter to, from General Washington, - 888
 Henshaw, Benjamin, Clerk of Middletown (Connecticut) Committee, - 886
 Henshaw, Daniel, Jr., resolve for paying, for his services as Deputy Commissary, - 776
 Herbert, Stewart, appointed an Ensign, - 88
 Herkheimer, Nicholas, appointed Brigadier-General of Tryon County Militia, - 664
 Hesler, John, appointed an Ensign of Pennsylvania Associators, - 82
 Hessians—
 General Howe calls upon the Ministry for more, - 123
 Ardour of, in the battle on Long-Island, - 159
 Desertions of, from the enemy, - 203
 Mutiny of, in Canada, - 203
 Averse to having their accounts methodized, - 519
 Continually engaged in plundering, - 524
 Bad blood between the English troops and the, 948, 996
 Examination of, taken prisoners, - 1073
 Enemy's Army reinforced by arrival of, 1076, 1158, 1265
 Steps taken by the Ministry to obtain a reinforcement of, - 1111
 Taken prisoners by a party from Colonel Glover's Regiment, - 1189
 Scheme for exciting the desertion of, - 1222
 Hewes, Joseph, letter from, to Samuel Purviance, - 364
 Hewes & Smith, letter to, from Marine Committee, - 853
 Heyliger, John, letter from, to Continental Congress, - 156
 Letter from, to Thomas Willing, - 157
 Hickman, Ezekiel, appointed a First Lieutenant, - 1340
 Hickman, Mathias, commissioned an Ensign, - 636
 Hickory, John, sentenced to be flogged, - 1081
 Hicks, John, sentenced to be flogged, - 477
 Higgins, William, sentenced to be flogged, - 569
 High, Adam, petition of, to Massachusetts Council, - 786
 Liberty granted to, to depart for England, - 786
 Highlanders, ardour of, in the battle on Long-Island, - 159
 Captured in the transport Oxford, - 163
 Highlands, Nathan, recantation of, - 325
 Highlands, New-York—
 General Washington requests reinforcements for, 240, 675
 Letter from New-York Committee of Safety to Delegates in Congress respecting, - 260, 677
 Report of Committee appointed to visit, - 666
 Reinforcements ordered for, - 667, 668, 670, 672
 List of necessities wanted at, - 674
 Necessaries ordered for, - 676, 678
 Importance of securing the passes in, - 1015
 Engineer sent to, by General Washington, - 1094
 Can be made defensible at very little expense, - 1123
 Congress adopt measures for the defence of the, - 1374
 Hill, John, prisoner in Boston jail, attempts to send intelligence to General Howe, - 1125
 Hill, Joseph, appointed a Second Lieutenant, - 659
 Hillegas, Michael, letter to, from Richard Dallam, - 1024
 Hindman, Captain James, letter from, to Maryland Council of Safety, - 1006
 Hindman, William, letter to, from Maryland Council of Safety, - 188
 Hinman, Captain, sends in a valuable prize, - 1174
 Sends into Providence two prize ships laden with rum, sugar, indigo, &c., - 1260
 Hitchcock, Colonel Daniel, spirited conduct of the regiment commanded by, - 996
 President of a General Court-Martial, - 1295
 Hobart, Aaron, letters from, to Richard Devens, 359, 560
 Hobart, John M., letter to, from Evert Bancker and others, 845
 Letter from, to Messrs. Harper, Bancker and Platt, - 950
 Hobart, John Sloss, letters from, to New-York Convention, - 206, 503, 553, 934, 975
 Hobby, Jonathan, powder voted to, - 757
 Hodge, John, letter to, from Francis Lewis, - 1149
 Hodge, Robert, letter from, to John McKesson, - 1131
 Hodge, William, Jun., bearer of despatches to Silas Deane, - 840
 Instructions to, from the Committee of Secret Correspondence, - 851, 852
 Hodges, James, permitted to return to England, - 793
 Hogmire, Conrad, resigns his commission, - 965
 Hoisington, Major Jacob, letter from, to General Gates, - 336
 Letter to, from General Gates, - 421
 Hoisington, Joab, letter from, to New-York Congress, 721
 Letter from, to General Gates, - 1018
 Holbrook, Robert, prisoner, examination of, - 1073
 Holdridge, Hezekiah, Major of Colonel Wylls's regiment, - 194, 876
 Holland, Francis, authorized to raise a Militia company, 635
 Appointed Captain of a Company, - 638
 Holland, refuses to close its ports in the West-Indies against the Americans, - 362
 Enormous price of tobacco in, - 937
 Silas Deane urges remittance of tobacco and rice to, 1090
 Sale of twenty thousand hogsheads of tobacco will establish the credit of the Congress in, - 1234
 Hollingsworth, Colonel Henry, letters from, to Maryland Council of Safety, - 105, 579, 1246
 Letters to, from Maryland Council of Safety, - 177, 271, 542, 518, 965
 Memorial of, to Maryland Council of Safety, - 1246
 Hollingsworth, Jesse, letters to, from Maryland Council of Safety, - 272, 407, 886, 952
 Letters from, to Maryland Council of Safety, 818, 966
 Hollister, Jesse, appointed an Ensign, - 476
 Hollyday, John Robert, appointed a Quartermaster, - 642
 Holmes, Captain, testimony of, on the trial of Lieutenant Pope, - 1065
 Holt, Michael, discharged from jail, - 1385
 Holt, John, sentenced to be flogged, - 477
 Hoofnagel, Michael, appointed Adjutant of Westmoreland Battalion, - 1333
 Hope, privateer, petition of the owners of, - 794
 Hope, British brig, captures an American privateer, - 1228
 Hopkins, Benjamin, elected an Adjutant, - 1341
 Hopkins, Commodore Esek, letters from, to—
 John Bradford, - 914, 1134, 1195
 Samuel Chew, - 267
 Dunscome & Frazer, - 1043
 Captain Hacker, 268, 1042, 1089, 1126, 1195, 1303
 Rev. Samuel Hopkins, - 837
 Captain Jones, - 1126, 1194, 1195, 1277
 Captain Josiah, - 132
 John Langdon, - 1226
 Marine Committee, - 115, 282, 454, 623, 1226
 Nathaniel Shaw, - 268
 Daniel Tillinghast, - 1004
 Governour Trumbull, - 455, 913
 General Washington, - 132
 Letters to, from—
 Mrs. Briggs, - 1005
 John Paul Jones, - 171
 Marine Committee, - 970, 1200, 1292
 Governour Trumbull, - 304, 861, 1002, 1070
 Reflection upon, by John Jay, - 999
 Hopkins, Gerard, letter from Maryland Council of Safety to, - 272
 Hopkins, John, Captain of the frigate Warren, - 1394
 Hopkins, Matthew, deposition of, - 648
 Hopkins, Rev. Samuel, letter to, from Commodore Hopkins, - 837
 Hopkins, Stephen, letter from, to John Adams, - 837
 Letter to, from Marine Committee, - 954
 Hopkins, Captain Wait, memorial of, to Congress, - 273
 Hopkins, Mr., Silas Deane's narrative of the conduct of, - 809
 Hopkinton, memorial of Committee of, to Massachusetts General Court, - 764
 Horlock, Samuel, prisoner, recommended to Congress, - 984
 Permitted to go to Boston and New-York, - 1412
 Horn, Alexander, letter to, from South-Carolina Navy-Board, - 1325
 Horn's Hook, enemy land their artillery at, - 372
 Horsemander, Daniel, address of, to Governour Tryon, 1075
 Horses, Quartermaster-General directed to furnish General Heath with, - 108
 Lancaster Committee authorize the impressment of, 1156
 Horton, Gilbert, declares himself a subject of King George, - 311
 Horton, Peter, deposition of, against William Warne, 682
 Horton, Captain, instructions to, from General Heath, 1123
 Hospitals, Connecticut Council of Safety resolve to provide, - 387
 Complaints of abuses in the, at Ticonderoga, - 591
 Barracks at Sewall's Point not to be used for, - 778
 Complaints of Col. Smallwood, respecting, - 1100
 To be established east of Hudson's River and in New-Jersey, - 1393
 Wages of Nurses in, augmented, - 1393
 House, Captain John, orders to, - 341
 Howard, Joshua, deposition of, - 154

- Howe, Baxter, appointed a First Lieutenant, - 1378
 Howe, John, petition of, to Massachusetts Council, - 789
 A supply of powder delivered to, - 789
 Howe, Vice-Admiral Lord Viscount—
 Verbal message of, to Congress by General Sullivan, - 105, 1329
 Letter to, from Dr. Franklin, - 234
 Head-Quarters of, at Newtown, Long-Island, - 239
 Letter to, from General Washington, - 257
 Letter from, to Dr. Franklin, - 274
 Age, appearance, and character of, - 324
 Extract of a letter from, to Mr. Stevens, - 379
 Declaration of, in conjunction with Gen. Howe, 398, 565
 Explanation of a late Declaration by, - 398
 Address of Inhabitants of New York to, - 1074
 Is highly complimented by Lord George Germain, 1111
 Strictures on "Declaration" of, by "A Carolinian," 1180
 Letter to, from General Sullivan, - 1329
 Answer of, to General Sullivan's letter, - 1329
 Resolutions of Congress in relation to the conference proposed by, - 1331
 Committee appointed by Congress to confer with, 1332
 Report of the Committee appointed to confer with, 1342
 See Conference.
 Howe, Lieutenant-General Sir William—
 Letters from, to Lord George Germain, - 123, 378, 380, 462, 492, 519
 Letters to, from General Washington, - 196, 399, 464, 521, 919
 Issues orders for inlisting and impressing men on Long-Island, - 345, 505
 Declaration of, in conjunction with Lord Howe, 398, 565
 Explanation of a late Declaration by, - 398
 Letters from, to General Washington, - 437, 520, 893
 Terms of submission proposed to inhabitants of Long-Island, - 505
 Much chagrined at the escape of Washington's Army from New York, - 569
 Letter to, from Lord George Germain, - 600, 1111
 Proclamation of, offering pardon to deserters, - 603
 Orders of, for seizing grain, &c., - 825
 Amount and quality of troops under, - 1073
 Address of Inhabitants of New-York to, - 1074
 Army of, reinforced by the arrival of Hessians, - 1076
 Is highly complimented by Lord George Germain for his conduct in the battle on Long-Island, - 1111
 Created a Knight of the Order of the Bath, - 1112
 Strictures on the "Declaration" of, by "A Carolinian," - 1180
 Is said to have compelled the people of New-York to swear obedience to the British Parliament, - 1200
 Howell, George, parole of, - 1027
 Howell, Jacob S., letter to, from William Trent, - 235
 Howell, Samuel, elected a member of Pennsylvania Council of Safety, - 8
 Howell, Stephen, Adjutant of Colonel Nicoll's regiment, - 871
 Howell, Zeb., an infamous abettor of the Ministry, taken prisoner, - 345
 Howell, Captain, appointed Major of Brigade, - 472
 Hubbard, Charles Holby, appointed Paymaster to Sargent's regiment, - 331
 Hubbard, Captain, killed in a skirmish on Montessor's Island, - 552
 Hubley, John, elected a member of Pennsylvania Committee of Safety, - 9
 Hucksters, frauds and impositions practised by, - 616
 Hudson's River—
 General Washington orders an encampment on, opposite to Mount Washington, - 139
 Colonel Putnam recommends strengthening the fortifications on, - 140
 Colonel Moylan instructed to erect barracks at the different posts on, - 257
 Importance of maintaining the possession of, - 261
 Measures taken to complete the obstructions in, 439, 699
 Call for information respecting the chevaux-de-frise sunk in, - 689
 Enemy's ships pass through the chevaux-de-frise in, 943, 958, 973, 975, 961, 978
 See Highlands.
 Huffman, Evert, chosen an Ensign, - 831
 Huges, Peter, recommended by Gates for Mustermaster, - 294
 Hughes, Charles, permitted to go to the West-Indies, 1415
 Hughes, Hugh, Assistant Quartermaster-General, letter to, from General Heath, - 332
 Letter from, to New-York Convention, - 373
 Letter from, to Captain Kierce, - 666
 Hughes, R., letter from, to Mr. Winslow, - 964
 Hughes, Thomas, letter from, to Maryland Convention, - 817, 1022
 Letter to, from Maryland Council of Safety, - 838
 Hulburt, Lieutenant John, sentenced to be cashiered, 930
 Humphrey, Colonel William, orders to, - 341
 Humphreys, Elisha, appointed a Paymaster, - 448
 Humpton, Richard, appointed a Colonel of Pennsylvania troops, - 94
 Hunter, Daniel, elected a member of Pennsylvania Council of Safety, - 9
 Hunter, James, chosen a First Lieutenant of New-York militia, - 831
 Hunter, John, letter from, to John McKesson, - 401
 Huntington, Andrew, advance made to, - 849
 Huntington, Benjamin, letter from, to Nathaniel Shaw, 1209
 Huntington, Jabez, letter from, to Colonel Livingston, 267
 Huntington, Colonel Jedediah, letter from, to Governor Trumbull, - 336
 Return of officers in the regiment commanded by, 877
 Huntington, Committee of, revoke their former proceedings, &c., - 1220
 Hurd, Colonel John, letter from, to New-Hampshire Committee of Safety, - 147
 Letter from, to President Weare, - 147
 Letter to, from Colonel Bayley, - 508
 Hurd, John, letter from, to Colonel Chase, - 423
 Hutchinson, Colonel Israel, return of officers in the regiment commanded by, - 901
 Hutchinson, Joseph, petition of, to the Governor of Connecticut, - 130
 Hutton, William, convicted of being an enemy to the common cause, - 1142
 Hutton, Sergeant-Major, appointed an Adjutant, - 501
 Hyer, Walter, account of, against the State of New-York, - 725
 Hynes, Andrew, authorized to raise a company of men, 634
 Appointed Captain of a company, - 642
 I.
 Ijams, John, Jun., recommended for an Ensigncy, - 347
 Appointed an Ensign, - 632, 656
 Illingsworth, Francis, Commander of the privateer Jupiter, - 65
 Imbert, Mons. Jean Louis, Engineer, sent by Continental Congress to General Washington, - 407, 1361
 Sent by General Washington to the Highlands, - 1094
 Impressment of seamen, proceedings in relation to, in London, - 1228-1232
 Incognito, to Governor Trumbull, - 454
 Independence, privateer, sends into Providence two valuable prizes, - 282
 Independence, galley, proceedings on board the, - 963
 Independence, declaration of, approved by Pennsylvania Convention, - 10
 An inevitable consequence of the measures of the Ministry, - 270
 A decree worthy of America, - 393
 Dr. Franklin inflexibly in favour of, - 916
 Congratulations of Grand Jury of Charleston on, - 1059
 Independency, privateer, sends in a prize, - 307
 Indian Affairs, Commissioners for, letter from the, to Committee of Congress, - 511
 Report of William Wilson to, - 514
 Indians, expected hostilities with the, - 13
 Frontier Counties of Pennsylvania greatly exposed to the incursions of, - 16
 War threatened by, on the frontiers of Pennsylvania, - 16, 36, 46, 47
 Encouraged by agents of Great Britain to fall on the frontiers, - 39
 Message of Pennsylvania Convention to the Shawanese, - 46
 Payment of two, messengers from Stockbridge to Fort Pitt, - 87
 Operations of General Rutherford against the Southern, - 208, 1235
 Southern, sick of their connection with the Tories, 209
 Penobscot tribe of, decline to engage in the Continental service, - 230
 A large body of, reported to be on their way to Oswego, - 247, 385
 Barbarous acts committed by the Cherokee, - 392
 Instigated by the British to fall on the frontier settlements, - 394
 A company of Stockbridge, under the command of Captain Whittlesey, - 476
 One thousand, under the command of Sir John Johnson, - 509

Indians—

- Watch the fleet on the Lake, and take every opportunity to annoy it, - 534
 Speech of the Governour of Detroit to the Wyandot, - 516
 A soldier killed and scalped by Southern, - 540
 Shawanese and Delaware, declare in favour of the King, - 564
 Inhabitants of Papaconk in great fear of a rupture with, - 613
 A party of hostile, discovered in the neighbourhood of Monkton, - 621
 Money voted for the support of two of the St. John's tribe of, - 775
 Upon the head waters of the Susquehannah, disposed for peace, - 824
 Conference held with, at Wyoming, - 825
 Seven of the Penobscot tribe of, enlist in the service of the United States, - 914
 Two Sachems of the Cayuga tribe of, visit General Washington, - 832
 Said to be breaking out on the frontiers, - 857
 About forty, chiefs and warriors, visit Colonel Dayton at Fort Schuyler, - 859
 The Carolinians utterly defeat the Cherokee, - 990
 Stockbridge, valuable as scouts, - 1120
 Employment of, in America, recommended by "A Soldier," - 1120
 Very numerous in the enemy's Army, - 1144
 Onenoghkwage and Tuscarora, to the officers at Otsego Lake, - 1193
 Settlers at the mouth of Wheeling killed by, - 1236
 Soldiers captured by, near Ticonderoga, - 1267
 Resolutions of Congress in relation to, - 1362
 Indigo, exported to France by the Secret Committee, 1215
 Great demand for, in Europe, - 1234
 Exported by South Carolina to the West-Indies, - 1328
 Industry, schooner, permitted to go to Hispaniola, - 642
 Industry, privateer, prizes taken by the, - 935, 1019
 Inglis, Sergeant, appointed an Ensign, - 478
 Inlistments, short, ill consequences of, - 488, 489, 496
 Inoculation, pernicious use of, by troops on their way to join the Army, - 110
 Instructions, to Pennsylvania Delegates in Congress, 11
 To the gentlemen appointed to visit the Pennsylvania troops, - 60
 To the Commodore of the fleet of Pennsylvania, 74, 75
 From the freemen of a town in Connecticut to their Representatives, - 113
 To Captain John Clouston, - 174, 782
 To Colonel Barrett, - 222
 To the Committee of Boston relative to the ship William and her passengers, - 792, 793
 To Captain John Deshon, - 848
 To Colonel Hand, - 993
 To Captain Hacker, - 1042, 1089, 1195, 1303
 To Recruiting Officers, - 1297
 To the Commissioners to France, - 1356, 1358
 Additional, to the Commissioners to France, (note,) 1404
 Intelligence, Colonel Hartley receives, from Ludwick Potier, a German, - 421
 Received from two prisoners taken by Lieutenant Whitcomb, - 482
 Received from a Frenchman who lives opposite Isle-la-Motte, - 592
 From three prisoners taken on Staten-Island, - 1073
 From American prisoners escaped from the enemy, 1294
 Intercepted letters, taken by Captain Jones from Epes Sargeant, - 226, 769
 Intrenching tools, badly wanted at Crown Point, - 205
 A large quantity of, sent to Forts Montgomery and Constitution, - 262, 672
 General Schuyler in want of a great quantity of, - 1079
 Ireland, order in Council prohibiting the exportation of provisions from, - 1233
 Irish Channel, two American privateers sail for the, - 863
 Iron pots, a number of, sent by Massachusetts to Washington's Army, - 594
 General Ward forwards a number of, to Washington's Army, - 600
 Irvine, James, appointed a Colonel of Pennsylvania troops in Continental service, - 93
 Isaac, an Indian, letter from, to the officers of the Rangers at Otsego, - 1193
 Isaacs, Ralph, suspected of being unfriendly, - 303, 374
 Petition of the Inhabitants of New-Haven for the removal of, - 374
 Convicted by Connecticut Assembly, - 375
 Isham, Captain John, letter to, from General Chester, 301
 Isle-aux-Noix, unhealthiness of, - 356
 About a thousand men at, - 482
 Isle Motte, letter from General Arnold at, - 354
 Islip, Committee of, revoke their former proceedings and acknowledge allegiance to the King, - 1220
 Izard, Ralph, letter to, from Claude Crespigny, - 190
 J.
 Jack, Matthew, appointed a First Lieutenant, - 1340
 Jackson, Captain Jonathan, letter from to John Avery, 538
 Jackson, Joseph, appointed a Paymaster, - 502
 Jackson, Colonel Michael, orders to, for an attack on Montrossor's Island, - 452
 Wounded, - 523
 Jacobs, John, appointed an Ensign, - 642
 Jamaica, insurrection of the negroes in, - 404
 James, Juliana, petition of, for the return of her furniture, - 771
 Prayer of the petition of, granted, - 774
 Jauncey, Captain, captures a transport laden with provisions for Howe's Army, - 1174, 1260
 Jay, John, letter to, from Robert Morris, - 459
 Extract of a letter from, to Gouverneur Morris, - 921
 Letter from, to Edward Rutledge, - 998
 Letter to, from James Auchmuty, - 1168
 Letter to, from Dr. John Morgan, - 1272
 Letter from, to New-Hampshire General Court, 1314
 Jefferson, Thomas, appointed on a commission to negotiate a treaty with France, - 839, 1379
 Declines the appointment, - 987, 1410
 Jenkins, Williams, petition of, to Massachusetts General Court, - 783
 Permitted to depart for Great Britain, - 784
 Jenkins, Captain William, resigns his commission, - 1332
 Jericho, on Onion River, the most advantageous post for the defence of the frontier, - 111
 Jersey Redoubt, observations of Lieutenant-Colonel Pelissiere on the, - 1170
 Jiams, John, Ensign of a company of Matrosses raised for the defence of Annapolis, - 656
 John, Captain, a Chief of the Six Nations, - 825
 John, ship, capture of the, by the Defence, - 886
 Johnson, Ensign David, promoted to a Second Lieutenantcy, - 1084
 Johnson, Sergeant, promoted to an Ensigncy, - 616
 Johnson, Sir John, in command of a thousand Indians, - 509
 Reported to have arrived at Oswego with a large force, - 859
 Said to have marched, with Indians, Canadians, &c., against the inhabitants on the Mohawk, - 1018
 In command of a body of troops and Indians, destined for the Mohawk River, - 1274
 Johnson, John, appointed an Assistant Surgeon in the Flying-Camp, - 628
 Johnson, Thomas, Jun., Delegate in Congress from Maryland, letter from, to Maryland Council of Safety, - 407
 Johnson, William, letter from, to Maryland Council of Safety, - 1236
 Johnston, George, appointed Major of Fifth Virginia Battalion, - 1395
 Johnston, William, letter from, - 385
 Johnstone, William, appointed a Second Lieutenant, - 638
 Jones, Rev. David, letter from, to General Gates, - 277
 Jones, Ichabod, petition of, to Massachusetts General Court, - 731
 Jones, Captain John Paul, letters from, to Marine Committee, - 171, 226, 624, 1303
 Letter from, to Commodore Hopkins, - 171
 Prizes captured by, - 1019, 1260
 Letters from, to Robert Morris, - 171, 1105
 Letters to, from Commodore Hopkins, - 1126, 1194, 1195, 1277
 Jones, John, memorial of, to Massachusetts General Court, - 764
 Jones, Jonathan, appointed a Major of Pennsylvania forces in Continental service, - 94
 Jones, Josiah, advertised as a deserter, - 362
 Jones, Pearson, petition of, to Massachusetts Council, 799
 Jones, Thomas, appointed a First Lieutenant, - 634
 Jones, Thomas, appointed a Second Major, - 654
 Josiah, Captain James, letter to, from Commodore Hopkins, - 132
 Josselyn, Joseph, letter from, to Richard Devens, 317, 318
 Journal, of a Chaplain in Colonel Durkee's regiment, 460
 Of Lieutenant Whitcomb, - 482
 Of Congress, resolutions respecting publishing, 1377, 1380
 Jupiter, privateer sloop, commission granted to the, - 65

K.	
Karne, James, Jun., chosen a Second Lieutenant of New-York Militia, - - - - -	831
Kearsley, Dr. John, removed from Yorktown, to the jail of Carlisle, - - - - -	97
Keil, Christopher, sentenced to be flogged, - - - - -	551
Keith, Isham, appointed a Second Lieutenant, - - - - -	1396
Keltie, Captain, appointed to get the schooner Ninety-two ready for sea, - - - - -	643
Kemp, David, petition of, to Massachusetts Court, - - - - -	755
Kennedy, James, allowed to return to London, - - - - -	797
Keppel, Admiral, ready to do his duty, but not in the line of America, - - - - -	1232
Keppeler, Henry, Jun., elected a member of Pennsylvania Council of Safety, - - - - -	8
Kerr, Joseph, appointed an Ensign, - - - - -	1340
Ketcham, Isaac, in the jail of Fairfield, - - - - -	576
Ordered to be brought, manacled, before the New-York Convention, - - - - -	711
Ketchum, Israel, sent under guard to Fishkill, - - - - -	975
Kidd, Lieutenant, dismissed the service, - - - - -	946, 1140
Kierse, Captain, letter to, from H. Hughes, - - - - -	1266
Killgore, David, appointed a Captain, - - - - -	1340
Killum, Henry, required to give security for his good behaviour, - - - - -	631
Kimball, Lieutenant Benjamin, promoted to a Captaincy, - - - - -	474
Kimball, Jesse, promoted to a Captaincy, - - - - -	477
King, Benjamin, appointed Captain of the schooner Resolution, - - - - -	642
King, Richard, testimony of, - - - - -	216
King, Robert, appointed a Second Lieutenant, - - - - -	80
King, Samuel, promoted to a Second Lieutenant, - - - - -	721
King, Thomas, receipt of, for tents to be delivered to General Washington, - - - - -	837
King, William, appointed a Second Lieutenant, - - - - -	634
King of Great Britain, address of the Lord Mayor, &c., of York, to, - - - - -	1126
Proclamation by, for encouraging seamen to enter on board the ships-of-war, - - - - -	1228
Proclamation by, for a general fast in England and Wales, - - - - -	1289
Proclamation by, for a general fast in Scotland, - - - - -	1290
King's Bridge, defensible state of the grounds above, - - - - -	106
Great importance of the posts at, - - - - -	106
An Assistant Quartermaster sent to, - - - - -	108
General Greene recommends taking post at, - - - - -	183
Post at, naturally strong, and well fortified, - - - - -	237
Order for the obstruction of the roads leading to, - - - - -	239, 259
Barracks to be erected at, - - - - -	257
Maryland troops at Head-Quarters ordered to, - - - - -	259
A large quantity of boards wanted at, - - - - -	470
A weekly post established from Kingston to, - - - - -	554
Proposed meeting of General Officers at, - - - - -	1026
Order of march of General Heath's division from, to White-Plains, - - - - -	1164
King's County, New-York, return of officers for, - - - - -	109
Kingston, Jamaica, extract of a letter from, - - - - -	1046
Kingston, Long-Island, Committee of, establish a weekly post to King's Bridge, - - - - -	554
Advance by New-York Convention to, for removing prisoners, - - - - -	663
Letter to, from New-York Committee of Safety, - - - - -	663
Resolve of, in relation to tea, - - - - -	950
Kinsey, Samuel, appointed an Ensign, - - - - -	308
Kinyon, William, taken prisoner at Quebec, makes his escape, - - - - -	486
Kirkbride, Colonel, obtains leave of absence, - - - - -	22
Knight, Lieutenant John, prisoner, letter from, to General Washington, - - - - -	1226
Knox, Colonel Henry, letter to, from Captain Newell, - - - - -	239
Return of Artillery Regiment commanded by, - - - - -	329, 451, 607, 905, 909, 1130
Supposed to have been taken by the enemy, - - - - -	352
Knowles, Charles, appointed a Paymaster, - - - - -	501
Knowlton, Lieutenant-Colonel, killed at Harlem, - - - - -	369, 371, 381, 384, 417, 430
Knyphausen, Hessian General, arrival of, at Sandy-Hook, - - - - -	1158
Kosciuszko, Thaddeus, appointed an Engineer, with the rank of Colonel, - - - - -	1406
Reward to, for laying out a fortification at Billingsport, - - - - -	92
Kuhl, Frederick, elected a member of Pennsylvania Council of Safety, - - - - -	8
L.	
La Cole, river, enemy building a battery for heavy cannon at, - - - - -	861

Lady Washington, privateer, a valuable prize taken by the, - - - - -	935
L'Hommedieu, Ezra, loan officer of Suffolk County, - - - - -	693
Lake Champlain, letter from the mate of a vessel on, to New-York Convention, - - - - -	386
Force of the enemy on, - - - - -	566
Absolute necessity of augmenting the Navy on, - - - - -	982
Battle on, between the fleets of Arnold and Carleton, - - - - -	1028
List of Arnold's fleet on, - - - - -	1039
Sir Guy Carleton's account of the battle on, - - - - -	1040, 1041
List of American vessels on, before the action, - - - - -	1041, 1179
Captain Pringle's account of the battle on, - - - - -	1069
Total destruction of Arnold's fleet on, - - - - -	1079
List of the British fleet on, - - - - -	1080, 1172, 1179
General Waterbury's account of the battle on, - - - - -	1224
La Marquisie, Mons., Captain and Engineer in the Northern Army, four months' pay advanced to, - - - - -	1335
Lancaster, Pennsylvania, Committee—	
Letter from, to the Committee of Carlisle, - - - - -	106
Letter to, from the Committee of Reading, - - - - -	120
Proceedings of, - - - - -	234, 287, 365, 490, 546, 1008, 1155
Letter to, from Pennsylvania Council of Safety, - - - - -	255
Letter to, from the Board of War, - - - - -	956
Letter from, to Richard Peters, - - - - -	1033
Letters from, to the different township Committees, - - - - -	1156
Letter to, from George Ross, - - - - -	1217
Congress advance eight thousand dollars to, - - - - -	1389
Landon, Jonathan, letter from, to Ezra Thompson, - - - - -	1078
Land Warrants, not assignable, - - - - -	1363
Langdon, John, letters to, from Josiah Bartlett, - - - - -	105, 253, 350, 459, 602, 1063, 1128
Letters to, from Marine Committee, - - - - -	429, 956, 1023
Letter to, from Commodore Hopkins, - - - - -	1226
Letter to, from William Whipple, - - - - -	1248
Langdon, Captain John, orders from New-Hampshire Assembly to, - - - - -	360
Langdon, Mr., (Major Skene's clerk,) charged with being an enemy to his country, - - - - -	1088
Convicted of being an enemy to his country, - - - - -	1142
Lasher, Colonel John, return of officers in the regiment commanded by, - - - - -	875
President of a Court-Martial, - - - - -	948
Letter from, to General Heath, - - - - -	1250
Lathrop, Isaac, letter from, to Richard Devens, - - - - -	133, 317
Laughlin, Alexander, Chairman of Cumberland, Pennsylvania, Committee, - - - - -	1201
Law, Richard, letter from, to Governour Trumbull, - - - - -	281
Appointed a Delegate in Congress from Connecticut, - - - - -	1209
Lawrence, Augustine, letter to, from Marine Committee, - - - - -	1148
Letter from, to New-York Convention, - - - - -	1313
Letter to, from New-York Convention, - - - - -	1313
Lawrence, Leven, recommended for a First Lieutenant, - - - - -	347
Appointed a First Lieutenant in the Flying-Camp, - - - - -	632
First Lieutenant of a company of Matrosses for defence of Annapolis, - - - - -	656
Lawrence, Thomas, asks permission to go to Long-Island, - - - - -	975
Lawson, Richard, sentenced to be flogged for desertion, - - - - -	590
Leach, John, Commander of privateer Dolphin, - - - - -	799
Lead, Pennsylvania Convention takes measures to procure, - - - - -	3
Ten tons of, required at Ticonderoga, - - - - -	185
New-York Convention order a supply of, to Charlotte and Tryon Counties, - - - - -	673
New-York Committee of Safety order a ton of, to Albany County, - - - - -	673
A supply of, voted to Jeremiah Colborn, - - - - -	776
Ten tons of, at Virginia mines, ready for the use of the Continental Army, - - - - -	986
A quantity of, arrives from France, - - - - -	1019
Three tons of, arrive at Ticonderoga, - - - - -	1080
A quantity of, arrives at Ticonderoga, - - - - -	1169
Congress resolve to send four tons of, to Pittsburgh, - - - - -	1337
Ten tons of, sent to General Gates, - - - - -	1339
Lead-Mine at Nine-Partners, state of the, - - - - -	1078
Learned, Simon, appointed Paymaster to Colonel Learned's regiment, - - - - -	331
Le Craw, William, Commander of privateer Necessity, - - - - -	801
Ledlie, Andrew, complains of ill usage from inhabitants of Easton, - - - - -	33
Lee, Arthur, letter from, to C. W. F. Dumas, - - - - -	455
Elected a Commissioner to France, - - - - -	1198, 1410
Letter to, from Committee of Secret Correspondence, - - - - -	1199

Lee, General Charles—

- Claude Crespigny believes him to be very able, but wants him to give proofs of his being to be trusted, - 190
- Hourly expected at New-York, as if from Heaven, with a legion of flaming swordsmen, - 197
- Arrival of, at Charlestown, S. C., - 285
- Expresses his approbation of the conduct of the officers of the South-Carolina battalions, - 285
- Arrival of, at Philadelphia, - 957
- Letters from, to the President of Congress, - 972, 1008
- Application to Congress for indemnification for losses sustained in consequence of entering the American service, - 998
- Attends in Congress, by order, - 1389
- Congress advance thirty thousand dollars to, - 1390, 1393
- Directed to repair to the camp at Harlem, - 1390
- Much wanted at New-York, - 999
- Letter from, to General Gates, - 1034
- Ordered to the command of the troops above King's Bridge, (note,) - 1034
- Arrival of, at Head-Quarters, Harlem, - 1035
- Boldness inspired by presence of, - 1095
- Skirmish of, with the enemy at Rodman's Point, - 1174
- Lee, Francis Lightfoot, letter to, from General Stephen, - 1092
- Lee, Captain John, prizes taken by, - 917, 1245
- Detention and release in Spain, - 917, 1091
- Lee, Richard Henry, letters from, to Samuel Purviance, Jun., - 350, 989
- Letter from, to General Washington, - 1261
- Lee, Dr. Samuel, appointed Surgeon on board the Oliver Cromwell, - 848
- Lee, Lieutenant Thomas, orders from Captain Fassett, - 187
- Lee, William, letter from, to C. W. F. Dumas, - 270
- Leech, Nathaniel, & Co., petition of, to Massachusetts Council, - 758
- Leech, Nathaniel, Commander of the privateer Polly, - 758
- Leech, Susannah, petition of, to Massachusetts General Court, - 803
- Leffenwell, Ebenezer, sentenced to suffer death, - 448
- Pardoned by General Washington, - 501
- Leffingwell, Christopher, letters from, to Governour Trumbull, - 336, 623
- Leghorn, the Grand Duke of Tuscana proposes a commerce between America and, - 811
- Leighton, Samuel, firelocks delivered to, - 748
- Leitch, Major, badly wounded in the skirmish at Harlem, - 369, 371, 381, 384, 417, 430
- Thanks of Washington to the troops commanded by, - 382
- Death of, - 844
- Lemmon, William, permitted to go to England, - 786
- Leonard, Samuel, appointed a Quartermaster, - 1083
- Leslie, Brigadier-General, (British,) return of killed and wounded in the Brigade commanded by, - 1270
- Lewis, Brigadier-General Andrew, letters from, to the President of Congress, - 271, 918
- Notification of, to soldiers on furlough, - 1304
- Lewis, Benjamin, prisoner, released from prison, - 26, 27
- Lewis, Francis, Delegate in Congress from New-York, letter from, to Captain Hodge, - 1149
- Letter to, from New-York Convention, - 1190
- Letter from, to New-York Convention, - 1247
- Appointed on a Committee to visit Washington's Head-Quarters, - 1373
- Lewis, Francis, Jun., permitted to go to the State of New-York, - 1405
- Lewis, Colonel Ichabod, letter from, to Governour Livingston, - 122
- Lewis, Morgan, elected Deputy Quartermaster-General to the Northern Army, - 1338
- Licenses, none to be taken out from the officers of the late Government of Pennsylvania, - 19
- Liddell, Alexander, allowed to return to England, - 795
- Light-Horse, two regiments of Connecticut, ordered to march towards New-York, - 187
- Troop of Connecticut, ordered to Westchester, New-York, - 267
- Chevalier d'Antignac proposes to raise a regiment, - 1032
- Lillie, John, sentenced to be flogged, - 239
- Lincoln, General Benjamin, letter from, to Massachusetts Council, - 389
- Letter to, from Massachusetts Council, - 402
- Chosen to command the Massachusetts Militia raised to reinforce Washington's Army, - 507, 772
- Letter to, from General Washington, - 609
- Ordered to the Highlands, to defeat the plans of the Tories, - 991
- Lincoln, Hannaniah, appointed a First Lieutenant, - 80

- Linen, Maryland Council of Safety furnishes funds to purchase, - 988
- A quantity of, taken in a prize, offered to the Continent for the use of the Army, - 1133
- A quantity of, delivered to Captain Harris, - 1307
- Two American privateers sail for the Irish Channel to intercept, - 1342
- Lingan, James, appointed a Second Lieutenant, - 1342
- Lingo, Smith, deposition of, - 652
- Link, Jacob, appointed a Captain, - 82
- Lippitt, Colonel Christopher, orders his regiment to march to New-York, - 338
- Return of the regiment commanded by, - 909
- Elected by Congress Colonel of a Rhode-Island battalion, - 1333
- List, of sick on board Arnold's fleet, - 224
- Of Field Officers in the service of Virginia, - 320
- Of Officers of Virginia forces while on Provincial Establishment, - 320
- Of Captains and Subalterns in Virginia service, with date of commissions, - 321
- Of Naval stores necessary to complete row-galleys at Ticonderoga, - 343
- Of persons held up to view as enemies to their country, - 485
- Of effects taken off the Island in Somerset County, - 633
- Of Officers in sundry regiments, - 870
- Of gentlemen recommended for promotion in the regiments about to be raised in Connecticut, - 959
- Of Arnold's fleet on Lake Champlain, - 1039
- Of American vessels on Lake Champlain before the action, - 1041, 1179
- Of Captain Smith's company of Maryland militia enrolled for the Flying-Camp, - 1062
- Of the enemy's fleet on Lake Champlain, 1080, 1172, 1179
- Of prisoners taken on Staten-Island, - 1094
- Of prizes taken by Captain Jones, - 1105
- Of Continental Agents, - 1114
- Of Prize Agents, - 1115
- Of Officers in Colonel Snyder's regiment, - 1124
- Of Officers commissioned for the First and Second Battalions of New-Hampshire levies, - 1177
- Of seamen detached from vessels in the St. Lawrence to serve on Lake Champlain, - 1179
- Of prisoners taken from the corps of Tories commanded by Major Rogers, - 1203
- Of Officers recommended as suitable persons to bear commissions, - 1254
- Of British ships on the American station, - 1318
- Litchfield, Connecticut, disaffected persons sent to, from Skenesborough, - 1142
- Livingston, Colonel Henry B., letters from, to Governour Trumbull, - 114, 281, 296, 312, 336, 375, 622, 1173, 1245
- Letter to, from General Washington, - 167
- Letters from, to Connecticut Council of War, - 170, 225
- Letters to, from Governour Trumbull, - 225, 252, 265, 266, 304, 344, 345, 1030
- Letter to, from Jabez Huntington, - 267
- Return of the regiment of, - 296
- Letters from, to General Washington, 297, 504, 1041, 1275
- Letter from, to Major Ely, - 297
- Letter from, to Robert R. Livingston, Jun., - 306
- Letter from, to Colonel Samuel R. Coit, - 311
- Zeal and activity of, - 934
- Recommended by Washington for preferment, - 948
- Letter from, to New-York Convention, - 1088
- Livingston, Major Henry Brockholst, Aid-de-Camp to General Schuyler, recommended to Congress, - 334
- Congress determine to provide for, - 1378
- Livingston, Gilbert, member of New-York Convention, letter from, to the Convention, - 333, 700
- Livingston, Gilbert, appointed an Ensign, - 997
- Livingston, Colonel Peter R., elected President of New-York Convention, - 719
- Letter to, from Captain Cregier, - 572
- Letters to, from Samuel Ten Broeck, - 963, 977
- Letter to, from John Sloss Hobart, - 975
- Letter to, from Petrus Van Gaasbeck, - 977
- Letter from, to New-York Delegates in Congress, - 998
- Letter to, from Robert H. Harrison, - 1035
- Letter to, from Peter Van Ness, - 1036
- Letter to, from John Broome, - 1077
- Letter to, from Robert R. Livingston, - 1205
- Letter from, to New-York Convention, - 1256
- Letter from, to William Duer, - 1286
- Letter from, to Pierre Van Cortlandt, - 1286
- Livingston, Peter V. B., Treasurer of the State of New-York, - 419, 697

- Livingston, Robert R., Jun., member of New-York Convention, letter to, from Colonel Henry B. Livingston, - - - - - 306
 Letter to, from Tench Tilghman, - - - - - 974
 Letters from, to General Washington, - - 1014, 1240
 Letter to, from Stephen Ward, - - - - - 1168
 Letter from, to Peter R. Livingston, - - - 1205
 Letter to, from Volkert Veeder, - - - - - 1267
 Livingston, Walter, Deputy Commissary-General, letters to, from H. Glen, - - - - - 185, 264
 Letter to, from Joseph Trumbull, - - - - - 213
 Letter from, to the President of Congress, - - 220
 Tenders to Congress his resignation, - - - 221
 Letter to, from Henry Glen, - - - - - 311
 Letter from, to General Gates, - - - - - 453
 Refuses to obey the orders of Mr. Avery, - - 453
 Congress appoint a Committee to inquire into the conduct of, - - - - - 1336
 Charge of James Deane against, (note,) - - 1337
 Congress accept the resignation of, - - - 1339
 Livingston, William, Governour of New-Jersey, speech of, to the General Assembly of New-Jersey, - 288
 Address of New-Jersey Assembly to, - - - 492
 Reply of, to the Address of the Assembly, - - 492
 Address of New-Jersey Council to, - - - 587
 Reply of, to the Address of the Council, - - 588
 Letter to, from Colonel De Hart, - - - - - 833
 Letters from, to the President of Congress, - 853, 1237
 Letter to, from General Washington, - - - 894
 Letter to, from General Maxwell, - - - - - 1143
 Letter to, from General St. Clair, - - - - - 1207
 Letter to, from Rowland Chambers, - - - - 1237
 Livingston, Mr., captured on his passage from Jamaica to London, introduced to Congress, - - - 984
 Permitted to go to Boston and New-York, - - 1412
 Lloyd, James, appointed a Second Lieutenant, - 629
 Loan, Pennsylvania Convention apply to Congress for a, - - - - - 25, 47
 New-York Convention apply to Congress for a, - 418
 Silas Deane directed to negotiate a, in France, - 822
 Congress resolve to negotiate a, of five millions of dollars, - - - - - 1386, 1389
 Lockwood, Ebenezer, letter to, from Danbury Committee, - - - - - 1194
 Logan, Walter, petition of, to Massachusetts Council for permission to return to England, - - - 749
 Prayer of the petition of, granted, - - - - 750
 London, extracts of letters from New-York, received in, - - - - - 135, 463, 519, 562, 1136
 Extracts of letters from Lisbon, received in, - 156, 951
 Extract of a letter from Lord Percy, received in, - 168
 Extracts of a letter from a British officer, received in, - - - - - 200, 1293
 Extract of a letter from Barbadoes, received in, - 231
 Extract of a letter from Philadelphia, received in, - 234
 Letter from Paris, received by a merchant in, - 423
 Reward offered by insurers of, - - - - - 811
 Extract of a letter from Halifax, received in, - 837
 Impressment of seamen in, - - - - - 1229
 London Chronicle, An American to the Printer of the, Appius to the Printer of the, - - - - - 390
 Appius to the Printer of the, - - - - - 391
 Long, Captain Andrew, resigns his commission, - 1033
 Long, Colonel Pierce, letter from, to New-Hampshire Committee of Safety, - - - - - 1089
 Long, Solomon, appointed a First Lieutenant, - - 627
 Long Island—
 Accounts of the battle on—
 By Colonel Brodhead, - - - - - 36
 By Josiah Bartlett, - - - - - 118
 By General Washington, - - 120, 167, 196, 399
 By a British Officer, - - - - - 200
 By Committee of Secret Correspondence, - - 820
 By Dr. Tilton, - - - - - 840
 By Colonel Haslet, - - - - - 881
 By Colonel Smallwood, - - - - - 1012
 Anonymous, - - - - - 107, 198
 Retreat from, judicious and necessary, - 370, 445, 820
 Return of the loss on, ordered by General Washington, - - - - - 946
 Submission of the inhabitants of, 187, 296, 593, 935, 1042
 Measures for the removal of inhabitants and stock from, - - - - - 357, 504, 623
 Efforts of General Howe to obtain recruits and provisions on, - - - - - 345, 565, 825, 841, 934
 Oppressions of the enemy on, - - - - - 325
 Petitions of certain inhabitants of, to Governour Trumbull, - - - - - 454, 593
 Proposed expedition to, - - - - - 607, 609, 841, 912, 1001, 1041, 1166, 1172
 Long-Island Sound—
 Projected naval enterprise against the enemy's ships in, - - - - - 454, 455, 861, 913, 1001, 1002
 Ten or eleven of the enemy's ships proceed up the, 1116
 Loring, Daniel, elected an Adjutant of Massachusetts Militia, - - - - - 753
 Lott, Abraham, Treasurer of the Colony of New-York, Committee appointed to report what further measures are necessary to bring him to account for the publick moneys, - - - - - 693
 Report of the Committee, - - - - - 696
 Resolutions of the Convention, - - - - - 696, 697
 Letters of, to the Convention, - - - - - 723, 1132
 Lovell, Mr., exchanged for Governour Skene, - - 437
 Lovejoy, Major, letter to, from John Grout, - - 216
 Lownsbury, Lieutenant, testimony of, on the trial of Captain Hardenbergh, - - - - - 1140
 Lucas, Lieutenant John, sent to Philadelphia to forward clothing for the Northern Army, - - - 615
 Letter from, to General Gates, - - - - - 1217
 Ludlow, Mr., appointed by the enemy Chief Justice on Long-Island, - - - - - 325
 Ludlow, Richard, convicted of being an enemy to the common cause, - - - - - 1142
 Ludlum, Benjamin, sent to New-York Convention for examination, - - - - - 310
 To be kept in custody till further order, - - 691, 702
 Released on bail, - - - - - 716
 Ludlum, Isaac, order for the arrest of, - - - 688
 Lumber, resolve respecting the exportation of, - - 736
 Lux & Bowley, letters from, to Maryland Council of Safety, - - - - - 818, 989, 1197
 Letter to, from Maryland Council of Safety, - - 887
 Lux, William, member of Baltimore Committee, - 117
 Letter from, to Maryland Council of Safety, - - 988
 Lyman, Abner, promoted to a Second Lieutenantcy, - 1083
 Lyman, Daniel, appointed a Major of Brigade, - 1120
 Testimony of, on the trial of Captain Poole, - - 1295
 Lyman, Captain, fire-locks delivered to, - - - 748
 Lynch, armed schooner, Captain Ayers, - - - 116
 Lyndsborough, petition of the town of, to New-Hampshire Committee of Safety, - - - - - 1289
 Lyon, Benjamin, appointed a Third Lieutenant, - 1378
 Lyon, William, elected a member of Pennsylvania Council of Safety, - - - - - 9
 M.
 Mabbett, Samuel, letter from, to the New-York Convention, - - - - - 911
 Macamly, John, memorial of, - - - - - 554
 Maccubbin, Nicholas, letters from, to Maryland Council of Safety, - - - - - 1062, 1148
 Machias Liberty, sloop-of-war, order for the supply of the, with provisions, - - - - - 800
 Mackay, William, permitted to return home, - - 1395
 Mackie, William, appointed a First Lieutenant, - 659
 Macumber, Ensign Matthew, acquitted by a Court-Martial of the charge of plundering, - - - 499
 Note on the evidence, by General Washington, - 500
 Cashiered, on reconsideration of the evidence, 501, 448
 Congress call on the Court-Martial for their reasons for their first judgment, - - - - - 1383, 945
 Court-Martial decline to give their reasons, - - 944
 General Washington advises that the matter rest where it is, - - - - - 943
 Maddox, Zerobabel, required to give security for his good behaviour, - - - - - 631
 Madrid, friendly disposition of the Court of, - - 917
 Maduncook, inhabitants of, authorized to choose Assessors, - - - - - 776
 Magaw, Colonel Robert, return of officers in the battalion commanded by, - - - - - 879
 Magazines of provisions, &c., necessity for the establishment of, at various points, - - - - 1281
 Magoon, Joseph, sentenced to receive thirty-nine lashes for stealing, - - - - - 1086
 Mahony, Thomas, permitted to return to England, - 792
 Mahony, William, arrested for inducing a soldier to desert, - - - - - 242
 Mails, regulations for carrying the publick, - - 256
 Mains, James, appointed an Ensign, - - - - 474
 Malcom, Colonel William, letter from, to John McKesson, - - - - - 197
 Malmedy, Marquis de, appointed a Major by brevet, 407, 1361
 Two months' pay advanced to, - - - - - 1374
 Manley, Captain, of the frigate Hancock, instructions to, - - - - - 1200
 Mamoraneck, defeat of Major Rogers and his corps of Tories at, - - - - - 1203

Mann, Andrew, appointed a Captain, - - -	1340
Manning, Nathaniel, appointed a Second Lieutenant, -	630
Marblehead, resolve for supplying, with cannon, -	761
Marine Committee, letters from, to—	
Lieutenant Albertson, - - - - -	823
William Bingham, - - - - -	864
John Bradford, - - - - -	428
Continental Agents, - - - - -	1023, 1113
Thomas Cushing, - - - - -	427
Committee for building Continental frigates at Providence, - - - - -	954, 955, 1023
Nathaniel Falconer, - - - - -	955, 1022
Governour of North-Carolina, - - - - -	1199
Captain Hallock, - - - - -	1115
Messrs. Hewes & Smith, - - - - -	853
Stephen Hopkins, - - - - -	954
Commodore Hopkins, - - - - -	970, 1200, 1292
John Langdon, - - - - -	429, 956, 1023
Augustine Lawrence and Samuel Tuder, - - - - -	1148
Captain McNeill, - - - - -	428
Captains Manley, McNeil, and Thompson, - - - - -	1200
New-York Convention, - - - - -	956
Prize Agents, - - - - -	1114
Captain Isaiah Robinson, - - - - -	1092
Captain James Robinson, - - - - -	1115
Captain Thompson, - - - - -	428
Daniel Tillinghast, - - - - -	119, 1292
Governour Trumbull, - - - - -	1237
Captain Wickes, - - - - -	429, 1213, 1215
Captain Young, - - - - -	410
Letters to, from—	
Commodore Hopkins, - - - - -	115, 282, 454, 623, 1226
Captain Jones, - - - - -	171, 226, 624, 1303
Marines, thirty-three, detailed for Arnold's fleet, -	472
Application of Gideon Adair to be appointed Captain of, on a Maryland schooner, - - - - -	1268
Maritime Court, resolve relative to the adjournment of a, at Pownalborough, - - - - -	751
Markham, John, appointed Major of the Second Virginia Battalion, - - - - -	1395
Markland, Edward, appointed Lieutenant of schooner Dolphin, - - - - -	656
Marony, Captain, late Provost Marshal, suspended for being absent without leave, - - - - -	843, 869
Marquis of Grimaldy, Prime Minister of Spain, orders from, to the Commissary of Marine, - - - - -	917
Marquis of Kildare, resolution of Congress relative to the cargo of, - - - - -	1409
Marsh, John, prisoner, examination of, - - - - -	598
Marshall, Colonel, order for supplying the regiment of, with muskets, - - - - -	806
Marshall, Lieutenant Andrew, dismissed the service for disobedience of orders, - - - - -	175
Petitions of, to New-Hampshire Assembly, - - - - -	175, 176
Restored to office, - - - - -	177
Marshall, Benjamin, and Brothers, letter from, to the President of Congress, - - - - -	490
Marston, Benjamin, a refugee, taken prisoner by Captain Paine, - - - - -	487
Confined in jail at Plymouth, - - - - -	507
Martha's Vineyard, resolve for the supply of, with cannon, - - - - -	766
Martin, Alexander, appointed an Ensign, - - - - -	476
Martin, Samuel, appointed a First Lieutenant, - - - - -	476
Martin, Colonel, return of officers in the regiment commanded by, - - - - -	899
Martindale, Simon, certificate in favour of, - - - - -	241
Allowed pay and rations to this time, - - - - -	1339
Expenses and disbursements paid to, - - - - -	1397
Martinico, friendly conduct of the Governour of, -	323, 425
Mary and James, brig, captured by an American privateer, - - - - -	177
Maryland, sickness among the troops of, - - - - -	169, 1014
Troops of, in New-Jersey, ordered to march to New-York, - - - - -	212
Troops of, on Long-Island, ordered to King's Bridge, - - - - -	259, 1014
Troops of, complimented by Washington for gallant conduct in the skirmish at Harlem, - - - - -	371
Return of the troops of, in Continental service, under Colonel Smallwood, - - - - -	567
Number of the soldiers of, taken prisoners on Long-Island, - - - - -	595
Bravery of the battalion of, - - - - -	882
Colonel Smallwood's account of the marches and operations of the troops of, near New-York, - - - - -	1012, 1097
Congress advance twenty-five thousand dollars to, -	1340
Resolutions of Convention, respecting the eight battalions allotted to, - - - - -	1410

Maryland—Continued.

Convention, letters to, from—

Major Adams, - - - - -	613
Baltimore Committee, - - - - -	117
Joshua Clarke, - - - - -	1261
Castlehaven Company, - - - - -	1278
President of Congress, - - - - -	136, 489, 838
Captain Chew's Company, - - - - -	887
Major Driver and Colonel Stainton, - - - - -	560
Charles C. Griffith, - - - - -	947
Colonel Hawkins, - - - - -	925
Thomas Hughes, - - - - -	817
Nathan Rumsey, - - - - -	1134
Joseph Whayland, - - - - -	1268
Council of Safety, Proceedings of, - - - - -	625-660

Correspondence of, with—

Baltimore Committee, - - - - -	117, 271, 309, 541, 578, 1032
General Beall, - - - - -	272, 1011
Colonel Bond, - - - - -	988
Lieutenant Nathaniel Bond, - - - - -	1022, 1113
Richard Bond, - - - - -	1292
Samuel Boone, - - - - -	938
Colonel Buchanan, - - - - -	364
General Buchanan, - - - - -	271
John Burrell, - - - - -	117
Samuel Calwell, - - - - -	579
James Lloyd Chamberlaine, - - - - -	135
James Clarke and Melchior Keener, - - - - -	966
James Clarke and others, - - - - -	966, 1268, 1308
Cravath & Dugan, - - - - -	838
Secret Committee of Congress, - - - - -	310, 510
Delegates in Congress, - - - - -	407, 541
President of Congress, - - - - -	1113
Captain Cooke, - - - - -	308, 458, 487, 488, 863
Richard Dallam, - - - - -	192
William Deakins, Jun., - - - - -	117
Captain Deams, - - - - -	1148, 1261
Captain Deans, - - - - -	117
Colonel Dorsey, - - - - -	347
Cumberland Dugan, - - - - -	406
Samuel Duvall, - - - - -	1061
John Ennalls, - - - - -	1236
Colonel Ewing, - - - - -	177
Captain Fiddeman, - - - - -	177
Thomas Gantt, - - - - -	396
Amos Garrett, - - - - -	1071, 1278, 1307
Colonel Hall, - - - - -	456, 1021
John Hanson, Jun., - - - - -	1005
James Hindman, - - - - -	1006
William Hindman, - - - - -	191
Conrad Hogmire, - - - - -	965
Colonel Henry Hollingsworth, - - - - -	105, 177, 271, 542, 579, 965, 1246
Jesse Hollingsworth, - - - - -	272, 407, 418, 886, 952, 966
Gerard Hopkins, - - - - -	272
Colonel Hughes, - - - - -	838, 1022
Th. Johnson, Jun., - - - - -	407
William Johnson, - - - - -	1236
William Lux, - - - - -	988
Lux & Bowley, - - - - -	818, 887, 889, 1197
Nicholas Maccubbin, - - - - -	1062, 1148
Alexander McFadon, - - - - -	363
Robert Morris, - - - - -	823
Captain B. Nicholson, - - - - -	209
Captain James Nicholson, - - - - -	104, 509, 578
Robert Peter and Thomas Richardson, - - - - -	1072
Richard Peters, - - - - -	1247
Colonel John Hatton Read, - - - - -	578
Colonel Richardson, - - - - -	104
Colonel Richmond, - - - - -	1122
Thomas Ringgold, - - - - -	457
Benjamin Rumsey, - - - - -	363, 578
Benjamin Rumsey and James Tilghman, - - - - -	308
Colonel Charles Rumsey, - - - - -	456, 542, 1128
Colonel Sim, - - - - -	396, 457
Colonel Smallwood, - - - - -	272, 838, 1097
P. Sim Smith, - - - - -	1209
Richard Smith, - - - - -	1062
Colonel Stainston, - - - - -	362
Stephen Steward, - - - - -	1071, 1268
Thomas Stone, - - - - -	156, 177, 601
J. A. Thomas, - - - - -	168
Colonel Travers, - - - - -	396
Vanbibber & Harrison, - - - - -	297, 298, 965, 1134
Captain Watkins, - - - - -	1236
Doctor Weisenthal, - - - - -	458, 817
George Wells, - - - - -	1072
Messrs. Willing and Morris, - - - - -	510
Colonel Wright, - - - - -	405

- Mason, G., Chairman of Fairfax (Virginia) Committee, 1127
- Massachusetts Armed Vessels—
 Diligent, Captain Lambert, - - - 764, 1045
 Freedom, Captain Clouston, - 174, 782, 801, 805
 Independence, Captain Samson, - - - 794
 Machias Liberty, Captain O'Brien, - - - 800
 Massachusetts, Captain Souther, - - 338, 943
 Republick, Captain Williams, - - - 801
 Rising Empire, Captain Welden, - - 734, 753
 Tyrannicide, Captain Fisk, - 767, 784, 798, 1046
- Massachusetts Assembly—
 Correspondence of, with—
 William Bradford, - - - 376
 President of Congress, - 136, 315, 489, 839, 953
 Governour Trumbull, - - - 205, 266, 315
 General Washington, - - - 312, 399, 596
 Extract of a letter to a member of, - - - 600
- Massachusetts Council—
 Letters from, to—
 Captain Clouston, - - - 174
 Governour Cooke, - - - 316, 538, 1070, 1089
 Richard Derby, - - - 943
 Richard Devens, - - - 594
 Generals Farley and Prescott, - - - 377
 Thomas Fletcher, - - - 230
 General Gates, - - - 441
 General Lincoln, - - - 402
 President of Congress, - - - 486, 576, 1109
 Captain Souther, - - - 338
 Governour Trumbull, - - - 507, 1146
 General Ward, - - - 886
 General Warren, - - - 316, 376
 General Washington, - - - 506, 594, 914
 Colonel Aaron Willard, - - - 174, 230
- Letters to, from—
 Captain Abijah Bangs, - - - 1046
 Alexander Coffin, - - - 539
 Colonel Cushing, - - - 1018
 Richard Derby, - - - 943
 Framingham Committee, - - - 1070
 Colonel Dike, - - - 268
 General Lincoln, - - - 389
 Aaron Root, - - - 1196
 Winthrop Sargent, - - - 116
 John Torrey, - - - 507
 Governour Trumbull, - - - 129, 836
 General Ward, - - - 624, 1245
 General Warren, - - - 487
 Mesheck Weare, - - - 1107
- Massachusetts General Court—
 Resolves of, petitions to, &c., - - - 116,
 133, 313, 315, 487, 725, 808, 984, 1109, 1175
- Matlack, Timothy, in the Pennsylvania Convention, - 1
 Acts as Secretary to the Convention, - - 2
 Elected a member of Pennsylvania Council of Safety, 8
 A Commissioner for forming the Flying-Camp, 20, 36
- Matthews, David, letter from, to Abraham Yates, - 558
 Matthews, Lieutenant James, dismissed the service, - 473
 Maxwell, James, appointed a Captain, - - 638
- Maxwell, General William, letter from, to Governour
 Livingston, - - - 1143
 Elected a Brigadier-General, - - - 1410
- May, Ephraim, elected First Major of Boston Regiment of Militia, - - - 753
- Mayberry, Richard, fire-arms delivered to, - - 768
- Mayhew, Joseph, petition of, to Massachusetts General Court, - - - 746
- Mayres, Thomas, examination into the conduct of, - 859
- Measam, George, elected Commissary of Clothing for the Northern Army, - - - 1403
- Mease, James, Commissary, ordered to send shirts, shoes, and stockings, to the Northern Army, - 561
 Sixty thousand dollars forwarded to, - - 1336
- Mease and Caldwell, letter from, to General Gates, - 1063
- Mecklin, Devalt, appointed an Ensign, - - 1340
- Medford, Massachusetts, petition of Committee of, to the General Court, - - - 802
- Medicines, suffering for, in the Northern Army, 263, 685
 A quantity of, sent by Governour Trumbull to the Northern Department, - - - 279
 Great want of, at Mount Independence, - - 574
 A chest of, captured from the enemy, - - 597
 Resolve for supplying Dr. Watts with, - - 761
 Dr. Stringer procures, for the Northern Army, - 923
 Fort Constitution entirely destitute of, - - 973
 Colonel Smallwood's regiment suffer for want of, - 1099
 Peruvian bark forwarded to the Southern Department, 1363
 Resolution for supplying the Northern Army with, 1378
- Mellen, James, appointed a Major, - - - 1378
- Melville, Thomas, petition of, to Massachusetts Council, - - - 749
 Prays for a supply of powder, - - - 754
 A supply of powder delivered to, - - - 757
 Memorandum, of articles wanted by General Arnold, 835
 Of money paid to purchase arms, - - - 862
 Of payments for arms stopped from the old establishment, - - - 862
 Of the names of French officers arrived at Boston, - 1108
 Of Lord Stirling respecting barracks, - - - 1254
- Memorial of—
 Cumberland County Committee to Pennsylvania Convention, - - - 30
 Westmorland County to Pennsylvania Convention, 33
 Colonel Warner and Captains Hopkins and Brownson, - - - 273
 First Lieutenants of Third Virginia Regiment, - 349
 John Macamly and Nathaniel Finch, - - - 554
 Gunning Bedford to Congress, - - - 579
 Lieutenant Colonel Shepard to General Washington, 604
 Cornelius Atherton to New-York Committee of Safety, - - - 719
 Joseph Frye to Massachusetts General Court, - 725
 Joseph Ball and others to Massachusetts General Court, - - - 733
 John Jones to Massachusetts General Court, - 764
 Jeremiah Colburn to Massachusetts General Court, 765
 Thomas Crafts to Massachusetts Council, - - 766
 Richard Adams to Massachusetts General Court, - 771
 Sunbury (Nova-Scotia) Committee to Massachusetts General Assembly, - - - 785
 The town of Spencer to Massachusetts General Court, - - - 801
 Thomas Cushing, agent for building the Continental frigates, - - - 805
 John Anderson to Massachusetts Council, - - 808
 John Melchior Neff to Continental Congress, - 953
 Stonington Committee to Connecticut Assembly, - 1003
 Chevalier d'Antignac to Congress, - - - 1032
 Henry Hollingsworth to Maryland Council of Safety, 1246
 William Forbes to New-York Congress, - - 1259
 Adam Babcock to Connecticut Council of Safety, - 1277
 See Petition.
- Mentges, Francis, application for commission of Major, 596
 Appointed a Major, - - - 94
- Mercer, General Hugh, complains of the desertion of Pennsylvania Militia, - - - 20
 Ordered to send men intended for the Flying-Camp, to New-York, - - - 121
 Letters to, from General Washington, - - - 139,
 181, 240, 292, 463, 548
- Letters from, to the President of Congress, - - 157,
 972, 1093, 1129
- Letters from, to General Washington, - 212, 367, 1073
 Letters from, to the Board of War, - - - 547
 Return of the Army under the command of, - - 941
- Merlin, frigate, engagement with a Connecticut brig, 936
- Merryman, Micajah, appointed a Major, - - 642
- Messeck, Nehemiah, appointed a Second Lieutenant, 632
- Michael, Eberheart, appointed Paymaster to German Battalion, - - - 1416
- Middleborough Committee, petition of, to Massachusetts General Court, - - - 747
- Middlesex (Connecticut) Committee, proceedings of, 885
- Miers, Eliezer, appointed a Captain, - - - 1340
- Mifflin, John, elected Paymaster to Colonel Magaw's battalion, - - - 1329
- Mifflin, Samuel, elected a member of Pennsylvania Council of Safety, - - - 8
 Appointed Commodore of the fleet of Pennsylvania, 61, 63
 Declines serving as Commander-in-Chief of the fleet, 70
 Letter to, from General Roberdeau, - - - 181
- Mifflin, Brigadier-General Thomas, letters from, to General Heath, - - - 199, 274
 Letters to, from Colonel Reed, - - - 258, 259
 Letter to, from General Heath, - - - 275
 Arrival of, at Philadelphia, - - - 840
 Appointed Quartermaster-General, - - 605, 1383
 Letters from, to William Duer, - - 1137, 1254
 Letter to, from General Greene, - - - 1263
 Invoice of ammunition sent to, - - - 1263
- Mildeberger, Lieutenant Oliver, cashiered, - - 591
- Miles, Colonel, proposed for Brigadier-General and Commander-in-Chief of Pennsylvania forces, - 3
 Taken prisoner in the battle on Long-Island, - 108
- Milford, frigate, cruising off the Capes of Delaware, - 116
 Cruising on the coast of Massachusetts, - - 315
 Plans for the capture of the - - - 427, 428, 460
 Resolve of Massachusetts for attacking the, - - 736

Military Academy, Committee appointed by Congress to bring in a plan of, -	1383
Military Stores, arrival of a cargo of, from France, -	916
Account of, in possession of John Bradford, Agent for Prizes, -	924
Militia, eight regiments of Connecticut, ordered to embark for Long-Island, -	115
Not to be depended on, -	120,
238, 441, 446, 488, 496, 1186, -	1299
Smell strong of cowardice, -	138
Discontent of Connecticut, at New-York, -	122
Orders respecting the Pennsylvania and New-Jersey, assembled at Bergen, -	158
On Long-Island, submit to General Howe, -	187
Nine regiments of Connecticut, ordered to march towards New-York, -	187, 188
Sick of, allowed to return home, -	194
Their want of discipline of pernicious tendency, -	258
Connecticut, ordered to march to Westchester, -	267
Of Southold, desert Colonel Livingston in a body, -	296
Flight of, at Bergen and Paulus-Hook, -	351, 367, 369
Resolutions of New-Jersey Council relative to pay of, -	366
Disorderly conduct of, in retreat from New-York, -	370
Necessity for a well-regulated, -	393, 394
One-fifth of the Massachusetts, preparing to march to New-York, -	486
General Washington discharges the whole of the Connecticut, -	494, 549
The Tryon County, formed into a brigade, -	664
New-York Convention resolve to send six hundred, to Forts Montgomery and Constitution, -	667
Resolve for paying the mileage of certain, -	756
Resolve for paying, raising men, &c., -	761
Resolves of Massachusetts for raising, to reinforce the Army at New-York, -	762
A large supply of ammunition forwarded to Fair-field for the use of the Massachusetts, -	767
One regiment of Massachusetts, ordered to Rhode-Island, -	767
Resolve for recalling the Massachusetts, ordered to New-York, -	775
Position of the Connecticut, near New-York, -	828
More expensive than any other kind of troops, -	889
Address of a Militia-Man to Connecticut Assembly on, -	983
Eight or ten thousand, should be immediately sent to Ticonderoga, -	1080
Prompt response of the Stockbridge, to the call of General Schuyler, -	1087
Ordered into Tryon County, under Colonel Van Schaick, -	1296
Desert in great numbers from the Northern Army, -	1299
Six thousand New-Hampshire and Massachusetts, march to join the grand Army, -	934
Resolutions of Congress respecting the Pennsylvania, discharged from the Flying-Camp, -	1376
Miller, Devalt, appointed standard-bearer to fourth battalion of Pennsylvania Associators, -	82
Miller, Nicholas, appointed a Captain, -	80
Miller, Richard, attempts to raise a company on Long-Island for Howe's Army, -	504
Shot through the body, -	504, 506, 886
Miller, Samuel, appointed a Captain, -	1340
Miller, William, letter to the Commanding-Officer at Mount Washington, -	829
Letters from, to Captain Osborne, -	829, 883
Minor, Thomas, deposition of, against Asa Porter, -	152
Miriam, Silas, appointed a Surgeon, -	476
Mitchell, Ambrose, recommended for a First Lieutenantcy, -	560
Mitchell, Uriah, recommended to New-York Convention for employment, -	206
Mitchell, Colonel Jonathan, orders to, -	781
Mohawk River, inhabitants on, threatened with invasion, -	385, 1018
Mollinedo, Manuel de, Commissary of Marine of Spain, ordered to release the American schooner Hawk, -	917
Money, Colonel Hollingsworth draws upon Maryland Council of Safety for, -	105
R. Dallam, Deputy Paymaster-General, applies to Congress for, -	193
Washington in great distress for want of, -	194
A sum of, paid to a company of Rangers, -	423
General Gates forbids the circulation of any, but Continental, -	477
H. Glen applies to General Schuyler for, -	534
Small amount of, in the hands of the Deputy Paymaster-General, -	540

Money—Continued.

Colonel Hollingsworth receives a remittance of, 578, 579	
Maryland Council of Safety furnishes five hundred pounds for the Flying-Camp, -	578
Silas Deane embarrassed for the want of, -	601
Colonel Birdsall petitions New-York Convention for, to pay bounty due his men, -	666
Paid by the Treasurer of New-York, for which no accounts have been rendered, -	697
Major Hoisington applies to New-York Congress for, to pay and subsist his Rangers, -	724
Paid Messrs. Pages and Parham for a two months' tour to Canada, -	768
A sum of, paid for blankets, -	768
Committees having publick, in their hands, ordered to return it to the Treasurer, -	773
Resolve to supply Robert McKown with, -	796
Captain O'Brien in want of, -	809
Application of some prisoners on parole for, -	830
Memorandum of, paid to purchase arms, -	862
Joseph Trumbull applies to Congress for, -	1011
Advanced by Congress to Maryland, -	1340
Advanced by Congress to New-York, -	1373, 1380
Advanced by Congress to Pennsylvania, -	1382
Advanced by Congress to North-Carolina, -	1406
Monopolizers, "P. W." on, -	1288
Montgomery, ship, in the service of Pennsylvania, -	79, 82
Montgomery, sloop, belonging to New-York, -	357, 702, 711
Montgomery, privateer, from Providence, -	1126
Montgomery, Continental ship, -	1394
Montgomery, Fort—see Highlands.	
Montgomery, General, death of, a consequence of short inlistments, -	488, 489
Montauk Point, cattle removed from, -	623
Montessor's Island, a thousand of the enemy land on, -	275
Three or four thousand of the enemy embark for, -	351
Attempt to surprise the guard on, -	445,
451, 452, 502, 523, 524, 552	
See Weisner, Captain.	
Moon, John, petition of, to Massachusetts Council, -	784
Moon, Nathaniel, appointed an Ensign, -	82
Mooney, Major Hercules, President of a Court-Martial, -	175
Petition of, and others, to New-Hampshire Committee of Safety, -	508
Mooney, Lieutenant Benjamin, cashiered, -	1081
Moor, James, appointed an Ensign, -	82
Moor, Captain Daniel, reprimanded, -	1081
Moore, General James, letter to, from the President of Congress, -	136
Letter from, to the President of Congress, -	395
Moore, John, elected a member of Pennsylvania Council of Safety, -	9
Moore, Captain, late commander of the "Mary and James," extract of a letter from, -	403
Morgan, Captain Daniel, recommended by Washington for Colonel of the Rifle Regiment, -	589
Morgan, James, recommended for promotion, -	1007
Morgan, Dr. John, letter from, to John Jay, -	1272
Directed to provide a hospital for the Army east of Hudson's River, -	1393
Morgan, Michael, appointed a Recruiting Sergeant for Artillery, -	657
Morgan, Robert, appointed an Ensign in the Flying-Camp, -	643
Morris, Alexander, permitted to depart for Hispaniola, -	84
Morris, Anthony James, appointed a Lieutenant-Colonel of Pennsylvania troops in Continental service, -	94
Morris, Gouverneur, letter from John Jay to, -	921
Letter from, to New-York Convention, -	1023
Morris, John, Secretary to Pennsylvania Convention, -	2, 4
Morris, Jonathan F., appointed an Ensign, -	476
Morris, General, letter to, from New-York Convention, -	693, 949
Morris, Robert, elected a Delegate to Continental Congress, -	6
Letters to, from Captain Jones, -	172, 1105
Letters to, from Silas Deane, -	361, 601, 1235
Letter from, to John Jay, -	459
Appointed a member of the Committee of Secret Correspondence, -	823
Letter from, to Maryland Council of Safety, -	823
Letter from, to General Gates, -	1262
Morris, Samuel, Sr., elected a member of Pennsylvania Council of Safety, -	8
Morris, Samuel, Jun., elected a member of Pennsylvania Council of Safety, -	8
Morris, Samuel Cad., elected a member of Pennsylvania Council of Safety, -	37

- Morris, Mr., a Major in the British service, sells his commission and comes to America, - 539
- Morris, Thomas, extract of a letter to, from the Secret Committee, - 1237
- Morrison, John, Commissary of Forage in the British Army, - 565
- Morristown, petition of prisoners in the jail of, - 830
- Morton, John, elected a Delegate to Continental Congress, - 6
- Mosley, Robert, appointed a First Lieutenant, - 1340
- Motin de la Balme, M., recommended to Congress by Silas Deane, - 1091, 1092
- Mott, Captain, appointed a Major, - 695
- Mott, Samuel, letter from, to Governour Trumbull, - 933
- Moultrie, William, elected a Brigadier-General, - 1341
- Mount Hope, near Ticonderoga, extract of a letter from, - 1223
- Mount Independence, extracts of letters from - 169, 222
- Barracks for a strong garrison should be built on, - 470
- Directions concerning the road from, to Otter Creek, - 534
- Much sickness at, - 574, 933
- Oration delivered at, by Rev. Mr. Tenent, - 1144
- Mount Washington, extract of a letter from, - 552
- Letter from Westchester Committee to Commanding Officer at, - 829
- Enemy's ships pass the obstructions opposite, - 979
- Extract of a letter from a General Officer at, - 1202
- A reinforcement ordered to, - 1221
- Mountz, William, appointed a Second Lieutenant, - 1340
- Moylan, Colonel Stephen, Quartermaster-General—Desired to place an Assistant-Quartermaster at King's Bridge, - 108
- Letter to, from General Washington, - 139
- Letter from, to General Heath, - 140
- Letters from, to the President of Congress, - 197, 570
- Letter to, from Tench Tilghman, - 257
- Letter from, to Colonel Harrison, - 301
- Resignation of, - 605, 1383
- Unable to conduct the business of so many troops, - 840
- Acted wisely and honestly in resigning, - 998
- Mulford, Col., compelled to take the oath of allegiance, - 281
- Munro, Captain, captures a valuable prize, - 486
- Murphey, Daniel, flogged for desertion, - 992
- Muse, Thomas, appointed a Major, - 654
- Certificate of, - 1279
- Muskeeto, advice-boat, - 853
- Muskets, arrival of a number of, from Martinico, - 323
- Taken from the enemy on Staten-Island, - 1130
- Taken from Major Rogers's regiment, - 1188
- Mutiny, on board the privateer Putnam, - 714
- Myle, Jacob, appointed Quartermaster to the German Battalion, - 92, 1416
- Mc.
- McCabe, Edward, appointed a Second Lieutenant, - 88
- McCabe, George, in the Flying-Camp, - 1380
- McCalvery, James, appointed a First Lieutenant, - 82
- McClallan, Cara, promoted to a First Lieutenantcy, - 474
- McClave, Captain, commendation of, - 1121
- McClean, Sergeant, promoted to an Ensigncy, - 1083
- McClintock, Nathaniel, appointed an Adjutant, - 1177
- McClintucke, Alexander, promoted to a First Lieutenantcy, - 1086
- McClure, James, elected Chaplain of Colonel McCoy's battalion, - 1338
- McCobb, James, letter from, to Henry Gardner, - 144
- McCormick, James, sentenced to suffer death for desertion and mutiny, - 551
- Ordered to Head-Quarters for execution, - 827
- Order for the execution of, - 842
- Makes his escape, - 845
- Trial of Captain De Witt for the liberation of, - 948
- McCoy, Aeneas, appointed Colonel of a battalion raised for the defence of the frontier, - 7
- McCoy, James, appointed an Adjutant of Pennsylvania Associators, - 82
- McCrakin, Isaac, appointed a First Lieutenant, - 642
- McCrea, Mr., Surgeon of Arnold's fleet, - 225
- McCully, George, promoted to a Second Lieutenantcy, - 478
- McCumber, Ensign—see Macumber.
- McDonald, Mr., employed to explore lead mines, - 1078
- McDonald, General, prisoner, letter from, to the Board of War, - 191
- General Howe refuses to exchange Lord Stirling for, - 437
- Directed to be returned to Philadelphia, - 464
- Resolutions of Congress in relation to, 1330, 1333, 1273
- McDonald, Lewis, Chairman of Bedford Committee, - 1273
- McDonough, Major, wounded in the battle on Long-Island, - 882
- McDougall, General Alexander, letter from, to General Heath, - 275
- Letter from, to Committee of Arrangement, - 1096
- Letter from, to Robert Yates, - 1166
- President of a General Court-Martial, - 1295
- McDowell, James, appointed a First Lieutenant, - 1340
- McElhatton, William, appointed a First Lieutenant, - 88
- McFadon, Alexander, letter from, to Maryland Council of Safety, - 363
- McGill, James, permitted to return to England, - 794
- McIntosh, Colonel Lachlan, letter to, from General Washington, - 1166
- Elected a Brigadier-General, - 1341
- McKenzie, Captain, prisoner, liberated on parole, - 1360
- McKerman, William, letter from, to Richard Peters, - 857
- McKesson, John, Secretary to New-York Convention—Letters to, from—
- General George Clinton, - 1221, 1312
- Colonel Samuel H. Drake, - 1097
- Captain Dumond, - 524
- Ebenezer Hazard, - 108, 201
- Robert Hodge, - 1131
- John Hunter, - 401
- Colonel Malcom, - 197
- Colonel Nicoll, - 597
- Johannes Sleght, - 554
- McKinley, Alexander, appointed a Captain, - 88
- McKown, Robert, Commissary, petition of, to Massachusetts Council, - 795
- McMurray, William, appointed a Second Lieutenant, - 1331
- McMullen, Nath., appointed an Ensign, - 477
- McNeill, William, petition of, to New-York Convention, - 1101
- McNeill, Captain Hector, letter to, from Marine Committee, - 428
- Order for delivering guns to, - 804
- Ordered on a cruise, - 1200
- McPherson, Colonel, obtains leave of absence, - 30
- McUne, Mr., elected a Captain, - 1341
- McWilliams, William, appointed a Brigade-Major, - 945
- N.
- Nagle, George, appointed a Lieutenant-Colonel of Pennsylvania troops in Continental service, - 94
- Nails, General Schuyler calls upon Congress for, - 246
- Application of General Gates to General Schuyler for, - 469
- General Schuyler not able to furnish, - 469
- Greatly needed at Ticonderoga, - 619, 1258
- Sent to Forts Montgomery and Constitution, - 672
- Twenty casks of, sent to General Gates, - 1064
- Building of barracks greatly retarded by want of, - 1087
- Scarcity of, in Boston, - 1227
- Namun, Colonel, spirited conduct of regiment of, - 996
- Nancy, ship, captured by Captain Lee, - 1245
- Nantes, military stores shipping from, for America, - 540
- Letter to General Washington from, - 928
- Nash, John, prisoner, examination of, - 868
- Nassau-Island, information relative to, given by Mr. Harrison, - 669
- Nautilus, British ship, cruising off the Capes of Virginia, - 1200
- Naval stores, list of, wanted to complete row-galleys at Ticonderoga, - 343
- Navy, Continental—
- Uniform of officers, - 181
- Wages allowed to seamen, - 364
- Difficulty of obtaining seamen, - 455, 623, 1070, 1105
- Commodore Hopkins recommends to make the shares of prize money equal to those of the privateers, - 283, 455
- Captain Jones recommends to inlist the seamen during pleasure and give them all the prizes, - 1105
- In settling the ranks of Captains, the merits of Captain Nicholson will not be forgotten, - 350
- The rank between Captains McNeill and Thompson not yet established, - 428
- In ranking the Captains, Captain Nicholson placed at the head, - 989
- Captain Manly uneasy about his being third, and desired leave to resign, - 1063
- Captain Thompson sixth on the list—William Whipple would have had him higher, - 1248
- Table of pay, proposed by Captain Jones, - 1107
- Coal wanted to make anchors and other smiths' work for the frigates at Philadelphia, - 1022
- A frigate and two cutters to be fitted out in Europe to cruise in the English Channel, - 851, 1387
- Sum expended in fitting out eight armed vessels, - 1361

Navy, Continental—*Continued.*

- Estimate to be made of the prizes taken by the fleet
commanded by Commodore Hopkins, - - 1388
- Rank of the Captains of, - - - 1394
- Marine Committee empowered to settle the rank of
the Lieutenants, - - - 1395
- Two ships to be delivered to the Committee of Se-
cret Correspondence, - - - 1397
- Accounts of the State of, to be published from time
to time, - - - 1405
- Form of oath to be taken by the officers of, - - 1408
- Commissioners to France directed to procure from
that Court eight line-of-battle ships, - - 1409
- Respect to be shown to, by private vessels of war
and merchant ships, - - - 1415
- Rules for the distribution of prize money, - 1417, 1114
- Rank and pay of officers, referred to a Committee, - 1417
- Captain Jones recommends an expedition to the
coast of Africa, - - - 1106
- Proposed expedition against the ships of the enemy
in Long-Island Sound, - - - 455, 1001, 1002
- Expedition planned to capture the British ships at
the South, - - - 970, 989
- List of vessels for the above expedition, - - 1199
- Letter from the Marine Committee to the Gov-
ernour of North-Carolina respecting the expe-
dition, - - - 1199
- Instructions to Commodore Hopkins for the
expedition, - - - 1200
- Instructions to Captains Manley, M'Neil, and
Thompson, - - - 1200
- Further instructions to Commodore Hopkins, - 1292
- See Marine Committee.
- Alfred, twenty-eight guns—
Lieutenant Pitcher proposed by Commodore
Hopkins for command of, - - - 115
- Going to Newport to be hove down, - - - 282
- Will be cleaned and ready for sea in a week, - 454
- Ready, all but men, - - - 623
- Ordered on the Southern expedition, - - - 970
- Orders to Captain Jones for a cruise to New-
foundland, - - - 1194, 1277
- Court-Martial held on board of, - - - 1195, 1226
- Manned and under sailing orders, - - - 1226
- Ready to sail, - - - 1106
- Andrew Doria, fourteen guns—
Captain Biddle, prizes captured by, 227, 282, 307, 455
- McDougall, Lieutenant of, - - - 282, 1292
- Estimate to be made of the prizes taken by, - 1388
- Off Bermuda, - - - 171
- Captain Jones recommends to substitute twelve
six-pounders for her fourteen fours, - - 1106
- Captain Isaiah Robinson, instructions to, for a
voyage under the direction of the Secret Com-
mittee, - - - 1092
- Despatches sent by, - - - 1148, 1198
- Sails faster and is of more force than the Sachem, 1199
- Boston, twenty-four guns—
Ordered to be got ready for sea, - - - 427, 428
- Instructions to Captain M'Neil, - - - 1200
- Resolves of Massachusetts to furnish guns for, - 768,
770, 791, 804
- Resolve of Massachusetts for furnishing powder
and other military stores to, - - - 805
- Cabot, sixteen guns—
Captain Hinman, on a cruise without orders, - 115
- Weaver, Lieutenant of, - - - 1226
- Prizes taken by, - - - 1174, 1226, 1260
- Ordered on the Southern expedition, - - 970, 1200
- Columbus—
Captain Whipple, in latitude thirty-six degrees, a
sixty gun ship in chase of her, - - - 282
- Prizes taken by, - - - 307, 455, 595, 624, 863
- Arrival at Providence, very foul, - - - 623
- Ordered on the Southern expedition, - - - 970
- Cleaned and taking her ballast on board, - 1070, 1226
- Congress, twenty-eight guns—
Building at Poughkeepsie, New-York, - 705, 956
- To be kept from being destroyed by the enemy, 1148
- Hampden, Captain Hacker—
Nearly ready for sea, - - - 115
- In bad order, - - - 268
- Ordered from New-London round to Newport, - 454
- Ready, all but men, - - - 623
- Instructions to Captain Hacker, - - - 1042, 1195
- Ordered out to gain intelligence, - - - 1070
- Manned and under sailing orders, - - - 1226
- Aground on a sunken ledge in the harbour, - 1106, 1303
- Captain Olney left in command of, - - - 1303

Navy, Continental—*Continued.*

- Hancock, thirty-two guns, Captain Manly—
Building at Newburyport, Massachusetts, - 486, 487
- Instructions to Captain Manly, - - - 1200
- Resolve of Massachusetts to furnish guns to, - 777
- Independence, ten guns, Captain Young—
Instructions for a voyage to Martinico, - - 410
- Despatches sent by, - - - 425, 819, 852, 864, 1148
- Lexington, sixteen guns, Captain Hallock—
Instructions for a voyage, under the direction of
the Secret Committee, - - - 1115
- Despatches sent by, - - - 1198, 1213
- Montgomery, twenty-four guns—
Building at Poughkeepsie, New-York, - 705, 956
- To be kept from being destroyed by the enemy, 1148
- Muskeito, four guns, Lieutenant Albertson—
Instructions for a voyage, as an advice boat, from
Philadelphia to North-Carolina, - - - 823
- Coal tar, tallow, and rosin to be brought back by, 853
- Providence, twenty-eight guns, Captain Whipple—
Fitting for sea at Providence, - - - 210, 454
- Will be ready in a week, if she can be manned, 913
- Instructions to Nathaniel Falconer for an inspec-
tion of, - - - 955
- Will be ready to sail in ten days, - - - 986
- Gone to Newport, - - - 1194
- Providence, twelve guns, Captain Jones—
Arrival at Providence, - - - 1043, 1226
- Account of the cruise of, - - - 171, 226, 624, 1303
- Captain Hacker ordered to the command of, - 1303
- Raleigh, thirty-two guns, Captain Thompson—
Fitting for sea, Portsmouth, New-Hampshire, 427, 460
- Committee of Massachusetts to aid in fixing out, 736
- Instructions to Captain Thompson, - - - 428, 1200
- The Captain's and other officers' commissions
will go forward immediately, - - - 956
- The Committee at Providence ordered to furnish
a set of cannon for, - - - 955
- The above order countermanded, - - - 1023
- Governour Trumbull requested to furnish cannon
for, - - - 1237
- Reprisal, sixteen guns, Captain Wickes—
Arrival at Philadelphia from Martinico, - 323, 324
- To be got ready for sea with the utmost expedi-
tion, - - - 429
- A fast-sailing ship, - - - 1212
- Plan of a cruise, under the direction of the Secret
Committee, - - - 1212
- Instructions to Captain Wickes, - - - 1213, 1215
- Despatches sent by, - - - 1237
- Sachem, ten guns, Captain James Robinson—
Prize sent into Philadelphia by, - - - 254
- Instructions for a voyage, under the direction of
the Secret Committee, - - - 1115
- Despatches sent by, - - - 1148, 1197
- Virginia, twenty-eight guns, Captain Nicholson—
Fitting for sea at Baltimore, - - - 350, 989
- One ton of powder ordered to be delivered to, - 636
- Warren, thirty-two guns, Captain John Hopkins—
Fitting for sea at Providence, - - - 210, 454
- Will be ready in a week, if she can be manned, 913
- Instructions to Nathaniel Falconer, for the in-
spection of, - - - 955
- Will be ready to sail in ten days, - - - 986
- Outsails all the boats in the river, - - - 1194
- Washington, thirty-two guns, Captain Reed—
Mr. Nicholson confirmed First Lieutenant of, - 350
- Wasp, eight guns, Lieutenant Baldwin—
Cannon, &c., supplied to, by Maryland, - - 510
- Prize brought into Philadelphia by, - - - 1072
- Navy, British—
Aid rendered by, in getting possession of New-York, 379
- Proclamation in London for inlistments, - - 1228
- Impressment of seamen for, - - - 1229
- List of ships on the American station, - - - 1318
- Cerberus, recaptures two prizes, - - - 358, 1019
- Cherokee, off Coxspur, in Georgia, - - - 863
- Cruiser, off North-Carolina, - - - 970
- Dunmore, off New-York, - - - 158
- In Elizabeth river, - - - 159, 161
- In Gwin's Island harbour, - - - 162
- In Potowmack river, - - - 164
- Eagle, at New-York, - - - 379
- Falcon, off North-Carolina, - - - 970
- Galatea, intelligence by deserters from, - - 842
- Cruising off the Capes of Virginia, - - - 1200, 1292
- Hope, prize taken by, - - - 1228
- Kinderhook, off St. Augustine, - - - 863
- Mercury, at New-York, - - - 519

Navy, British—Continued.

Milford, on coast of Massachusetts,	-	116, 315, 736
Nautilus, off coast of Virginia,	-	1200, 1292
Otter, off St. Augustine,	-	863
Pearl, at New York,	-	380
Perseus, arrival of, at New-York,	-	1158
Phoenix, up the North River,	-	943, 961
Renown, at New York,	-	380
Repulse, at New York,	-	380
Roebuck, at New-York,	-	158, 307, 492
Rose, in Long-Island Sound,	-	307
Scorpion, off North-Carolina,	-	970
Shark, at Martinico,	-	323
Sphinx, off coast of Georgia,	-	863, 990
Left Georgia,	-	957
Syren,	-	1133
Navy Board of South-Carolina—		
Proceedings of,	-	1323-1328
Neale, Francis, appointed Assistant Surgeon to Colonel Smallwood's battalion,	-	640
Neely, Benjamin, appointed an Ensign,	-	1340
Neff, John Melchior, memorial of, to Continental Congress,	-	953
Negroes, Dunmore attempts to raise a regiment of,	-	160
Great mortality among Dunmore's,	-	162
Taken into the pay of the enemy on Long-Island,	-	252
Attempts to plunder Wilmington-Island,	-	346
Insurrection of, in Jamaica,	-	404
Resolve of Massachusetts forbidding the sale of two, brought in as prisoners,	-	769
Taken by vessels of war in the service of the United States, Committee to consider what is to be done with,	-	1400
Neilson, Bloomer, prisoner, examination of,	-	310
Neilson, William, appointed a First Lieutenant,	-	1396
Neit, George, appointed a Second Lieutenant,	-	638
New-Ark, New-Jersey, a suitable place for a general hospital,	-	301
The jail of, filled with prisoners,	-	853
Newburyport, Massachusetts, the privateer Washington sends a prize into,	-	576
Resolve relative to the purchasing of cannon of the town of,	-	765, 777
Representation from the Committee of, to Massachusetts Council,	-	768
Captain Lee sends a prize ship, laden with provisions, into,	-	1245
Newcomb, Colonel, return of officers in the regiment commanded by,	-	871
Newell, Captain Eliphalet, letter from, to Col. Knox,	-	239
New-Hampshire—		
Case of Colonel Asa Porter,	-	145-155
Reinforcements from, for relief of Ticonderoga,	-	1227
Day of Thanksgiving in,	-	1245
New-Hampshire Assembly—		
Letters to, from the President of Congress,	-	136, 489, 839
Proceedings of, in the case of Lieutenant Marshall,	-	176
Notice of the adjournment of,	-	1245
Letter to, from John Gibson, Jun.,	-	1308
Letter to, from John Jay,	-	1314
New-Hampshire Committee of Safety—		
Letters from, to—		
Colonel Jacob Bayley,	-	145
President of Congress,	-	507
General Gates,	-	1176
Colonel Hurd and others,	-	1228
General Washington,	-	508, 1175
General Ward,	-	508
Letters to, from—		
Selectmen of Charlestown, Number-Four,	-	208
Colonel Pierce,	-	1089
Eleazer Russell,	-	269
Colonel Tash,	-	1255
General Ward,	-	559
Colonel Welch,	-	1313
Joseph Whipple,	-	1031
Dr. Wigglesworth,	-	574
Petition of Hercules Mooney and others to,	-	508
Instructions from, to Ticonderoga Committee,	-	1176
Report of the Ticonderoga Committee,	-	1176
Petition of the town of Lyndsborough to,	-	1289
New-Hampshire Grants, proceedings of Halifax, Cumberland County, town meeting,	-	124
Proceedings of Rockingham, Cumberland County, town meeting,	-	124
Proceedings of a General Convention of,	-	526, 1300
New-Haven, letter from Governour Trumbull to Committee of,	-	303
Petition of inhabitants of,	-	374

New-Jersey—

An act for the security of the Government of,	-	397
An act rendering certain Bills of Credit a legal tender,	-	411
An act for punishing traitors and disaffected persons,	-	865
One ton of powder supplied by Congress to,	-	1362
New-Jersey Assembly—		
Letter from the Speaker of, to Richard Stockton,	-	365
Resolution of, to furnish the troops at Amboy with fire-wood,	-	366
Address of, to the Governour,	-	491
The Governour's reply to the Address of,	-	492
New-Jersey Council—		
Report of a Committee of,	-	366
Resolutions of, respecting a supply of ammunition and the pay of the Militia,	-	366
Affidavit of Mrs. Franklin respecting records of,	-	367
Address of, to Governour Livingston,	-	587
The Governour's reply to the Address of,	-	588
Newkerk, Lieutenant, testimony of, on the trial of Captain Hardenbergh,	-	1140
New-London, Committee of Inspection of, advised to assist inhabitants of Long-Island,	-	188
Letter from David Gelston to Committee of,	-	207
Prizes sent into,	-	886, 1126
Colonel Richmond's regiment of Rhode-Island troops arrive at,	-	1125
Newman, Captain Wingate, captures a prize,	-	1126
New-Marlborough, New-York, call of a town-meeting at,	-	883
Newport, Rhode-Island, a prize brig arrives at,	-	935
Extracts from two letters from the westward received at,	-	1173
New-Rochelle, main body of Washington's Army possess the heights and passes near,	-	1137
Enemy's van arrives at,	-	1139
Newtown, Long-Island, Lord Howe's head-quarters at,	-	239
New-Windsor, Committee of, send two suspected persons to General Clinton,	-	832
Nevins, Lieutenant, appointed a Captain,	-	1120
New-York, City of—		
Orders of Congress for reinforcing the Army at,	-	136
Extracts of letters from,	-	107, 325, 463, 563, 1293
Question of destroying, submitted by General Washington to Congress,	-	121
General Greene's reasons in favour of burning,	-	182
Congress determine not to destroy,	-	135, 1330
Question of evacuating, proposed to a Council of General Officers,	-	237, 326, 329
General Greene advises the evacuation of,	-	182
Evacuation of, left by Congress to the discretion of General Washington,	-	1335
Evacuation of, resolved on,	-	325
Retreat of the American Army from,	-	351, 352, 383, 820
Large quantities of flour left behind in the retreat from,	-	699
Taken possession of by General Howe,	-	378
Movements of the enemy in the neighbourhood of,	-	257
Accounts of the fire at,	-	380, 439, 461, 462, 463, 466, 493, 503, 820
A "nest of Tories and sink of American villany,"	-	981
A broad R is put upon every door in, disaffected to Government,	-	1136
Inhabitants of, compelled to swear to submit to the laws of Parliament,	-	1200
New-York, State of—		
State of the Treasury of,	-	419
Congress advance a sum of money to,	-	1373, 1380
New-York Committee of Arrangement, letter to, from Jacob Bamber,	-	1149
New-York Committee of Correspondence, letters from Tench Tilghman to,	-	961, 1035
New-York Committee of Safety and Convention, Proceedings of,	-	123, 413, 659-726, 998
Committee of Safety, letters from, to—		
General George Clinton,	-	689
General James Clinton,	-	676
Generals Clinton and Schuyler,	-	979
Committee of Kingston,	-	663
Delegates in Congress,	-	260
Ebenezer Hazard,	-	680
New-York Delegates in Congress,	-	677
President of Congress,	-	1131
Colonel Remsen,	-	683
General Ten Broeck,	-	679
Samuel Ten Broeck,	-	1016
Governour Trumbull,	-	979
General Washington,	-	661, 665, 676, 991
Westchester Committee,	-	680

New-York—Continued.

Committee of Safety, letters to, from—	
General James Clinton, - - - - -	674
General Schuyler, - - - - -	685, 1131
General Washington, - - - - -	196, 674, 675
New-York Convention, letters to, from—	
Lieutenant Alger, - - - - -	831
Elisha Avery, - - - - -	1141
Colonel Birdsall, - - - - -	201
Thaddeus Burr, - - - - -	575
Clark & Nightingale, - - - - -	357
General George Clinton, - - - - -	140, 241, 310, 383, 975
General James Clinton, - - - - -	856, 996, 1285
Albany Committee, - - - - -	964
Bedford Committee, - - - - -	1272
Marine Committee, - - - - -	956
Poundridge Committee, - - - - -	1066
Shawangunk Committee, - - - - -	831
Tryon County Committee, - - - - -	911
Committee of Congress, - - - - -	925
Delegates in Congress, - - - - -	926
President of Congress, - - - - -	489, 839, 953
Captain Cregier, - - - - -	553
Colonel Curtienius, - - - - -	350, 1135, 1219
Jacob Cuyler, - - - - -	356
Elkanah Day, - - - - -	1207
Benjamin Depuy, - - - - -	502
Lieutenant Edget, - - - - -	110
Alexander Exuen, - - - - -	422
Joshua Ferris, - - - - -	141
John Field, - - - - -	931
William Floyd, - - - - -	1066
William Forbes, - - - - -	1259
David Gelston, - - - - -	189
Joseph Hallett, - - - - -	1185
Colonel Hasbrouck, - - - - -	1167
Colonel A. Hawkes Hay, - - - - -	976, 1066
John Sloss Hobart, - - - - -	206, 503, 553, 934
Hugh Hughes, - - - - -	373
Augustin Lawrence and Samuel Tuder, - - - - -	1313
Francis Lewis, - - - - -	1247
Gilbert Livingston, - - - - -	333
Henry B. Livingston, - - - - -	1088
Peter R. Livingston, - - - - -	1255
Abraham Lott, - - - - -	1132
Samuel Mabbett, - - - - -	911
Mate of a vessel on Lake Champlain, - - - - -	386
William McNeall, - - - - -	1101
Gouverneur Morris, - - - - -	1023
An Officer, - - - - -	1167
Colonel Pawling, - - - - -	469
Pliarne, Penet, & Co., - - - - -	1146
Prisoners in Morristown jail, - - - - -	830
Thomas Randall, - - - - -	215, 972
Henry Remsen, - - - - -	226, 547
Comfort Sands, - - - - -	979, 998
General Schuyler, - - - - -	707, 932, 1258
Peter Schuyler, - - - - -	978
General Scott, - - - - -	975
John Simpson and others, (prisoners,) - - - - -	830
Johannes Sleght, - - - - -	554
Colonel Snyder, - - - - -	1124
Colonel Swartwout, - - - - -	275
John Thomas, Jun., - - - - -	401
Ezra Thompson, - - - - -	845
Tench Tilghman, - - - - -	569, 721, 1194
Richard Thorne, - - - - -	202
Robert and James Totten, - - - - -	401
Joseph Trumbull, - - - - -	469, 699
Richard Varick, - - - - -	1037
Daniel Walker, - - - - -	949
General Washington, - - - - -	106,
240, 241, 299, 466, 691, 713, 1094	
Westchester Committee, - - - - -	310
Lieutenant Williams, - - - - -	201
Henry Wisner, - - - - -	1102, 1123, 1131
Charles D. Witt, - - - - -	1222
Letters from, to—	
Albany Committee, - - - - -	931
Delegates in Congress, - - - - -	418, 709
President of Congress, - - - - -	417, 884, 978
Commissary-General, - - - - -	700
Joseph Hallett, - - - - -	702
Augustin Lawrence and Samuel Tuder, - - - - -	1313
Francis Lewis, - - - - -	1190
General Morris, - - - - -	949
Recruiting Officers, - - - - -	1204
New-York Marine Committee, letter to, from Evert	
Bancker and others, - - - - -	846

Nichodemus, Frederick, commissioned a Lieutenant,	636
Nicholson, Captain B., letter from, to Maryland Council of Safety, - - - - -	209
Orders of, to Commanding Officer of the Independent Company, - - - - -	209
Nicholson, Captain James, letter from, to Maryland Council of Safety, - - - - -	104
Letter to, from Maryland Council of Safety, - - - - -	509
Placed by Congress at the head of the list of naval officers, - - - - -	989
Nicholas, Thomas, petition of, to Massachusetts Council, - - - - -	748
Commissioned Commander of the privateer America, - - - - -	748
Cannon and powder delivered to, - - - - -	753
Nickerson, Captain Thomas, sends in a valuable prize, - - - - -	1004
Nickols, William, commissioned Commander of privateer Independence, - - - - -	791
Nicoll, Colonel Isaac, letter from, to General Heath, - - - - -	169, 244
Letter to, from General Heath, - - - - -	169
Letter from, to John McKesson, - - - - -	597
Return of officers in the regiment commanded by, - - - - -	871
Nightingale & Clark, letter from, to New-York Convention, - - - - -	357
Niles, Robert, Commander of the Spy, captures two valuable prizes, - - - - -	312
Ordered to cruise in the Sound, - - - - -	848
Nine Partners, state of the lead mine at the, - - - - -	1078
Nixon, General John, letter from, to General Heath, - - - - -	244
Letter to, from General Heath, - - - - -	1035
Noble, Caleb, appointed an Ensign, - - - - -	1378
Non-Associators, ordinance of Pennsylvania Convention for disarming, - - - - -	3, 6
Ordinance of Pennsylvania Convention to equalize the burdens of Associators and, - - - - -	42
North, Mr., promoted to an Ensigncy, - - - - -	1086
North, Joseph, petition of, to Massachusetts General Court, - - - - -	737
Northampton County (Pennsylvania) greatly exposed to Indian incursions, - - - - -	16
North-Carolina, letter of General McDonald to the Board of War, respecting his treatment in, - - - - -	191, 1333
Letters from President of Congress to Convention of, - - - - -	489, 838
Letter from Marine Committee to Governour of, - - - - -	1199
Extract of a letter from, - - - - -	1235
Representation by Delegates of, to Continental Congress, - - - - -	1341
One ton of powder sent to, for the use of the Continental forces in, - - - - -	1403
Resolutions of Congress in relation to the prisoners from, in the Philadelphia jail, - - - - -	1405
Congress advance two thousand dollars to the Delegates of, - - - - -	1406
Northfield (Massachusetts) Committee, money voted to, for the use of prisoners, - - - - -	777
Northumberland County, Pennsylvania, greatly exposed to Indian incursions, - - - - -	16
Proceedings of Committee of, in relation to William Chattin and James Parker, - - - - -	255
Norwalk, Connecticut, Continental stores ordered to be removed from, - - - - -	1076
Norwood, Nicholas, appointed a Captain, - - - - -	308
Authorized to raise a company, - - - - -	634
Nourse, James, letter from, to General Gates, - - - - -	1112
Clerk in the office of the Board of War, - - - - -	322
Nurses, wages of, proposed to be increased, - - - - -	1393
Nyaack, enemy attempt to land at, - - - - -	1066
O.	
Oath, taken by the members of Pennsylvania Council of Safety, - - - - -	9
Prescribed for officers of Pennsylvania, - - - - -	58
Of allegiance administered to inhabitants of South and Easthampton, - - - - -	281
Taken by the Commissioners of South-Carolina Navy Board, - - - - -	1323
Taken by the Clerk of South-Carolina Navy Board, - - - - -	1323
To be taken by officers in the service of the Continent, - - - - -	1408
Obermier, George, appointed a Captain of Pennsylvania Associators, - - - - -	82
O'Brien, Captain Jeremiah, petition of, to Massachusetts Council, - - - - -	800
O'Bryon, James, elected a Colonel, - - - - -	405
Odell, Jacob, express rider, account of, against the State of New-York, - - - - -	694
Odiorne, Nathaniel, prize captured by, - - - - -	346
O'Farrell, Michael, confined on suspicion of being a deserter, - - - - -	726

- Officers, nomination of, for the Flying-Camp, - 19
 Election of, by Pennsylvania Council of Safety, - 80
 Arrangement of, for battalion to be kept in the pay of Pennsylvania, - 92, 93
 Of Pennsylvania troops prisoners with the enemy, entitled to pay and rations, - 92
 Of King's County, New-York, - 109
 Field, list of, in the service of Virginia, - 320
 Several French, arrive at Philadelphia from Martinico, 324
 Appointment of, a matter of the greatest importance, - 847, 912, 947, 957, 996, 1009, 1166
 Returns of—See Returns.
 Proposed appointment of Connecticut, - 959, 960
 Maryland appoint Commissioners to consult with General Washington on the appointment of, - 1021
 Appointment of, in Ulster County, New-York, - 1027
 List of, in Colonel Snyder's regiment, - 1124
 List of, recommended as suitable persons to bear commissions, - 1254
 Action of Congress on the memorial of, prisoners at Carlisle, - 1330
 Pay of, increased, - 1392
 Oath to be taken by, in the service of the Continent, 1408
 Rank of Marine, the same as those in the land service, 1417
 Old, Colonel, ordered to march into New-Jersey, - 18
 Oliver Cromwell, ship, Levi Young appointed master of, 1209
 Ordered on a cruise, - 1209
 Onion River, most advantageous post on, - 111
 A party of the King's troops burn and destroy everything near, - 231
 Onions, price of, regulated by General Gates, - 618
 Onondaga Indians, letter from Chiefs of the, to Colonel Dayton, - 248
 Orange County, New-York, many dangerous persons in, - 697
 Oration, delivered at Mount Independence by Rev. Mr. Tenent, - 1144
 Order in Council, prohibiting the exportation of provisions from Great Britain, - 1233
 Orders, peremptory, to Colonel Gay to make weekly returns, - 166
 Colonel Lippitt's, to his regiment to march to New-York, - 338
 For Colonel Bellows, - 360
 For Colonel Langdon, - 360
 For Captain Parker, - 361
 To Major Backus, - 439
 To Colonel Jackson, - 452
 To Alexander Shepard, - 780
 To Colonel Jonathan Mitchell, - 781
 Orders, General—See General Orders.
 Ordinances, of Pennsylvania—
 Respecting the arms of Non-Associators, - 6
 For the relief of prisoners in the jails, - 13
 To prevent counterfeiting paper money, - 15
 Respecting the Flying-Camp, - 19
 For the appointment of Justices of the Peace, - 31
 For punishing treason, - 34
 Respecting advisedly speaking and writing against the American cause, - 37
 To compel debtors, in certain cases, to give security to their creditors, - 39
 To equalize the burdens of Associators and Non-Associators, - 42
 Orme, William, ordered under arrest for refusing to join his corps near New-York, - 640
 Orne, John, petition of, to Massachusetts Council, - 801
 Orr, Alexander, appointed an Ensign, - 476
 Orrock, Wemyss, resolve for paying, - 764
 Osborne, Captain Joseph, letters to, from William Miller, - 829, 884
 Orders to, from Colonel Drake, - 1078
 Ostrander, Hubert, Chairman of the Committee of Hurley, - 980
 Oswego, threatened with a numerous Army, chiefly Indians, - 247
 Seven hundred of the enemy reported to be at, - 277
 Sir John Johnson said to have arrived at, with a large force, - 859
 Otter, sloop-of-war, stationed off St. Augustine, - 863
 Otter Creek, Colonel Barrett ordered to construct a bridge over, - 222
 Directions concerning the road from, to Mount Independence, - 534
 Oury, Wernial, appointed a Captain, - 1340
 Oxford, transport, with Highlanders on board, capture of the, - 163
 Oxford, Massachusetts, proceedings of a town-meeting at, - 936
- P.
 Paca, William, Delegate in Congress from Maryland, letter from, to Maryland Council of Safety, - 407
 Page, John, President of Virginia Council, letter from, to Virginia Delegates in Congress, - 319
 Pain, Captain Brenton, ordered to arrest Samuel Smith, - 896
 Paine, Benjamin, letter from, to Governor Trumbull, 912
 Paine, Elijah Freeman, prizes captured by, - 346
 Painter, Major Elisha, Captains refuse to serve under, 273
 Palfrey, William, letter from, to General Heath, - 139
 Palmer, Thomas, arrival of, from France, with a cargo of powder, small-arms, &c., - 1019
 Papaconk, inhabitants of, in great fear of a rupture with the Indians, - 613
 Park, Robert, permitted to return to England, - 791
 Parker, Major Edward, letter from, to Maryland Council of Safety, - 542
 Letter to, from Maryland Council of Safety, - 578
 Parker, Josiah, appointed Lieutenant-Colonel of Fifth Virginia Battalion, - 1395
 Parker, Richard, Jun., appointed Major of Sixth Virginia Battalion, - 1395
 Parker, Captain Robert, authorized to raise a company of Matrosses, - 361
 Parker, Captain Robert, prizes sent in by, 1019, 1046
 Parker, Samuel, deposition of, - 647
 Parker, Samuel F., Major of Colonel Forman's battalion, - 877
 Paris, letter from, to a merchant in London, - 423
 Parole, of James Babbige, - 594
 American prisoners sent from Canada on, - 588, 597
 Of Major Conkling, - 1027
 Of George Howell, - 1027
 Of Phineas Fanning, - 1104
 General Waterbury returns from Canada on, - 1125
 Of American prisoners of war at Quebec, - 1304
 Inhabitants of Canada allowed to return on, - 1396
 Parrott, William, appointed at Assistant Engineer, - 472
 Parry, Colonel, killed in the battle on Long-Island, - 824
 Parsons, James, Speaker of the General Assembly of South-Carolina, - 395
 Parsons, General Samuel H., letter from, to General Heath, - 183
 Ordered to place Colonel Tyler under arrest, - 591
 Pascall, William, petition of, to Massachusetts Council, 786
 Permitted to go to England, - 786
 Paterson, Colonel John, recommended to Congress for promotion, - 615
 Paterson, William Augustus, appointed a Captain, - 476
 Patten, William, appointed a Third Lieutenant, - 1395
 Patterson, Alexander, appointed a Captain, - 88
 Patterson, John, promoted to a Second Lieutenant, 473
 Patterson, Matt., promoted to a First Lieutenant, - 477
 Patterson, Colonel Samuel, letter from, to Cæsar Rodney, - 570, 918
 Patterson, William, authorized to enlist men for the Marine service, - 636
 Appointed Commander of the schooner Dolphin, - 656
 Patton, John, appointed a Major of Pennsylvania troops in Continental service, - 94
 Patton, William, prisoner, petition of, to Pennsylvania Convention, - 12
 Paulus Hook, post at, strengthened, - 158
 The enemy land at, - 494
 Evacuation of the post at, - 523
 Pawling, Colonel Levi, letter from, to New-York Convention, - 469, 718
 Pay, increase of, prayed for, - 124
 Washington recommends increase of, for the Army, 495, 520
 Congress resolve to increase the, of officers, - 952, 953
 Increase of, in the Navy, recommended by Captain Jones, - 1105, 1107
 Paymasters, Regimental, Washington recommends care in the appointment of, - 958
 Paymaster-General, necessity for furnishing the, with money, - 942
 Remittances to, - 1335, 1398
 Paymaster of the Northern department, chest of the, reduced below one hundred thousand dollars, - 1079
 Payne, Benjamin, letter from, to Wethersfield Committee, - 1288
 Payne, James William, letter from, to Robert Benson, 243
 Payne, Joseph, Sen., deposition of, - 1279
 Payne, Major, appointed an Assistant Engineer, - 472
 Paxton (Penn.) Committee, prisoners sent by, to Lancaster Committee, - 256
 Peacock, George, a prisoner, asks leave to go to Philadelphia, - 437

- Pearce, Captain Job, prize sent in by, - - - 1174
 Pearce, Leonard, ordered under arrest for refusing to join his corps near New-York, - - - 640
 Peets, Jacob, order for the arrest and examination of, 688
 Pierce, Ebenezer, commissioned Commander of the schooner Liberty, - - - 787
 Pelissier, M. Christopher, Engineer, leaves Albany for Ticonderoga, - - - 248
 Letter from General Schuyler to General Gates, introducing, - - - 264
 Letter from, to General Gates, - - - 484
 Observations of, on the Jersey Redoubt, - - 1170
 Pellawa, a Shawanese Indian, conference with, in Pennsylvania Convention, - - - 46
 Pelton, Lieutenant Daniel, accused of leaving camp without leave, - - - 468
 Pendleton, Edmund, Speaker of Virginia House of Delegates, letter from to the President of Congress, - - - 951
 Pendleton, John, chosen Clerk of the Senate of Virginia, - - - 988
 Pendock, Benomia, convicted of being an enemy to the common cause, - - - 1142
 Penet, Monsieur, appointed one of General Washington's Aids-de-Camp, - - - 927, 928, 1398
 Penn, John, Governour of Pennsylvania, pay of, - 544
 Pennsylvania—
 Instructions to the Delegates in Congress from, - 11
 Constitution of, - - - 51
 Instructions to the Commodore of the fleet of, 74, 75
 Conti—, to the People of, - - - 430
 Postscript to the Paper addressed to the People of, by Conti—, - - - 432
 Remarks on the Paper addressed to the People of, by Doria, - - - 433
 Incidental expenses of, for the year 1776, - - 544
 Brutus, to the People of, - - - 864
 Return of the Field Officers in the battalions of, near Head-Quarters, - - - 898
 Scipio, to the Freeman of, - - - 940
 Demophilus, to the People of, - - - 957
 Letter from Commissioners for, to General Washington, - - - 1202
 Congress advance one hundred thousand dollars to, 1382
 Pennsylvania Assembly, proceedings of, - - 542-546
 Pennsylvania Convention, proceedings of, - - 1-62
 Letters to, from the President of Congress, - 136, 489
 Resolutions of the Assembly against ordinances of, 543
 Address of, setting forth the reasons which induced them to make the several ordinances and resolves, 582
 Pennsylvania Council of Safety—
 Proceedings of, - - - 61-98
 Letter from, to Lancaster Committee, - - - 255
 Letter from, to Continental Congress, - - - 939
 Pennsylvania Evening Post, A Friend to American Freedom to the Editor of, - - - 1158
 Penobscot, petition of inhabitants of, for a guard, - 758
 Penobscot River, resolve for placing a guard on the, - 765
 Penrose, Joseph, appointed a Colonel of Pennsylvania troops in Continental service, - - - 94
 Pepin, Lieutenant Andrew, of Canada, petition of, to Congress, - - - 254
 Pepperell, certificate of Selectmen of, in favour of Aaron Wood, - - - 251
 Percy, Lord, extract of a letter from, to a gentleman in London, - - - 168
 Attacks Fort Washington, and is repulsed, - - 1312
 Perkins, Abraham, recommended for a Captaincy, - 508
 Perkins, Sergeant, appointed an Ensign, - - - 478
 Perkinson, John, appointed an Ensign, - - - 638
 Perry, John, appointed a Surgeon, - - - 640
 Perseus, British frigate, arrival of the, at New-York, 1158
 Perth-Amboy, the Camp at, in great want of blankets and clothing, - - - 235
 Return of the Army at, commanded by General Mercer, - - - 941
 A Mustermaster much wanted at, - - - 972
 Peruvian Bark, three hundred pounds of, forwarded for troops in the Southern department, - - - 1363
 Peter, Robert, and Thomas Richardson to Maryland Council of Safety, - - - 1072
 Peters, Captain Richard, directed to appoint a guard over certain stores, - - - 25
 Peters, Richard, Secretary to the Board of War—
 Letters to, from—
 Lieutenant Anstruther, - - - 1310
 William Atlee, - - - 1309
 Joseph Cary and Jonathan Pierson, - - - 460
 Lancaster Committee, - - - 1033
 Peters, Richard, Secretary to the Board of War—
 Letters to, from—
 Benjamin Fishbourn, - - - 490
 Colonel Griffin, - - - 1136
 Richard McKerman, - - - 857
 George Peacock, - - - 437
 General Schuyler, - - - 1298
 General Thompson, - - - 602
 Letters from, to—
 Jasper Yates, - - - 562
 Maryland Council of Safety, - - - 1247
 Publication by, of resolutions of Congress respecting prisoners, - - - 1185
 Petersham, proceedings of a town-meeting at, - - 576
 Petitions, of—
 The Captains of the galleys to Pennsylvania Convention, - - - 25
 Inhabitants of Northampton to Pennsylvania Convention, - - - 39
 Captain Fulford's company of Artillery, - - - 377
 Hercules Mooney and others to New-Hampshire Committee of Safety, - - - 508
 A majority of Captain Chew's company to Maryland Convention, - - - 887
 James Clarke and others to Maryland Council of Safety, - - - 966
 Officers of the late Colonel Waite's regiment to General Gates, - - - 1069
 Queen's County, Long-Island, to Lord and General Howe, - - - 1159
 Jonathan Burt, - - - 1177
 Joseph Whayland, Jun., prisoner, to Maryland Convention, - - - 1268
 Castlehaven company to Maryland Convention, - 1278
 Town of Lyndsborough to New-Hampshire Committee of Safety, - - - 1289
 Petitions to Governour, &c., of Connecticut—
 For removal of the Sheriff of Windham, - - 130, 131
 Of Inhabitants of New-Haven, - - - 374
 Of Inhabitants of Long-Island, - - - 593
 Of the Town of Groton, - - - 1004
 Petitions to New-York Convention, of—
 Captain Townsend's company, - - - 123
 Joshua Ferris, prisoner, - - - 141
 Henry Chase, prisoner, - - - 666, 694
 Colonel Birdsall, - - - 666
 Rynier Van Housen, - - - 694
 John Fowler, - - - 695
 Prisoners in Morristown jail, - - - 830
 Daniel Walker, - - - 949
 William McNeill, - - - 1101
 Petitions to Continental Congress, of—
 Michael Fitzgerald, - - - 119
 Jeremiah Halsey, - - - 137
 Lieutenant Andrew Pepin, of Canada, - - - 254
 Colonel Warner, - - - 273
 Second Lieutenants of First Virginia Regiment, - 348
 Petitions to General Washington, of—
 General Greene and others, - - - 326
 First Lieutenants of Third Virginia Regiment, - 349
 Lieutenant-Colonel Shepard, - - - 604
 Petitions to General Court, &c., of Massachusetts, of—
 Nathaniel Barstow and Daniel Whitmore, - - 750
 John Beardwell Barnard, - - - 788
 Josiah Batchelder, Jun., - - - 740
 Lyonel Bradstreet, - - - 782
 Captain Brown, - - - 790
 Robert Brown and John Moon, - - - 784
 John Browne, - - - 789
 Thomas Buckmore, - - - 783
 Jotham Bush, - - - 730
 Cambridge Committee, - - - 774
 Robert Campbell, prisoner in Boston jail, - - 770
 Committee of Cape Elizabeth, - - - 730
 John Codman, - - - 752
 Jeremiah Colburn and Joshua Eayre, - - - 729
 Isaac Collyer, - - - 752
 Ethan Comstock and Matthew Wing, - - - 864
 Shubael Cottle, - - - 753
 Thomas Cragg, - - - 748
 James Dargie, - - - 800
 Daniel Donnavan and others, - - - 788
 John Donneston, - - - 798
 Elias Hacket Derby and others, - - - 745
 Officers of the schooner Diligent, - - - 780
 Samuel Doggett and others, - - - 745
 Owners of schooner Dolphin, - - - 799
 Jonathan Eddy and others, - - - 733
 Thomas Edwards, - - - 732

Petitions, &c., Massachusetts, of—*Continued.*

William Emle and James McGill, -	793	Pickering, Captain Thomas, instructions to, from	
John Emmes, -	788	South-Carolina Navy Board, -	1323
Faneuil and others, -	1109	Pierce, John, Jun., certificate of, relating to Captain	
Elizabeth Fenton, -	754	Johnson, -	856
John Fox, -	737	Pierce, Isaac, Aid-de-Camp to General Gates, direc-	
Committee of Framingham, -	743	tions from, to Dr. Potts, -	591
John Frazier, -	781	Letter from, to Colonel Gansevoort, -	1170
James Fulton, -	796	Pierson, Jonathan, letter from, to Richard Peters, -	460
Andrew Giddinge, -	780	Piggott, James, appointed a Captain, -	1340
Benjamin Goodhue, -	803	Pikes, one thousand advertised for by Maryland Coun-	
Charles Goodrich, -	741	cil of Safety, -	629
Peter Goulay, -	787	Pile, William, appointed a First Lieutenant, -	1333
David Griffin, -	802	Pilots, fees allowed to Pennsylvania, in addition to	
Nathaniel Guild, -	746	salary, -	82
Selectmen of Harpswell, -	732	General Stephens impresses one of the Annapolis,	
Thomas Harris, -	758	Maryland Council of Safety procure, for General	
Elisha Hedge, -	751	Stephens, -	639
Adam High and William Lemmon, -	786	Pinkney, David, prisoner, examination of, -	597
James Hodges, -	793	Piper, Colonel Seth, taken prisoner in the battle on	
Owners of schooner Hope, -	794	Long-Island, -	108
John Howe, -	789	Pittsfield, Mass., proceedings of Committee of, -	134
Owners of schooner Independence, -	791	Pittee, Ensign Daniel, published as a coward, -	1193
Juliana James, -	771	Pittsburgh, Indians threaten the settlements in the	
William Jenkins, -	783	neighbourhood of, -	512
Ichabod Jones, -	731	Garrison at, consists of two hundred men, -	513
David Kemp, -	754	Congress resolve to send powder and lead to, -	1337
James Kennedy, -	797	Plan, of Government for Pennsylvania, -	53
Nathaniel Leech & Co., -	758	For clearing Long-Island Sound of the enemy, -	304
Susannah Leech, -	803	General Gates's, for recruiting the new Army in the	
Owners of sloop Liberty, -	787	Northern department, -	470
Alexander Liddell and Thomas Cremarty, -	795	Of Colonel Putnam, for establishing a corps of En-	
Walter Logan, -	749	gineers, -	893
Joseph Mayhew and Shubael Cattle, -	746	General Schuyler's, for recruiting the Army, -	1016
Robert McKown, -	795	Of the Board of War to enable discharged soldiers	
Medford Committee, -	802	to receive their pay where discharged, -	1211
Thomas Melvill, -	749, 754	For obtaining arms for the Continental Army, -	1218
Middleborough Committee, -	747	Of a treaty with France, -	1344
Thomas Nicholson, -	748	Platt, Captain Zephaniah, letter to, from John White, -	352
Joseph North, -	737	Deposition of, against William Warne, -	679
Captain O'Brien, -	800	Complains of desertions from the Army, -	713
Joshua Orne, -	801	Pleasure-boat, General Washington's, fired upon by	
William Pascal, -	786	mistake, -	991
Inhabitants of Penobscot, -	758	Pliarne, Penet, & Co., letter from, to New-York Con-	
Owners of sloop Phoenix, -	786	vention, -	1146
Richard Pyne, -	797	Plum, Reuben, trial of, for acting and speaking against	
Ebenezer Porter, -	806	the liberties of America, -	885
Owners of schooner Ranger, -	796	Plummer, Benjamin, powder delivered to, -	748
Charles Reid, -	791	Plundering, strictly forbidden, -	382, 413
Owners of brig Reprisal, -	804	Such a spirit of, gone forth as to threaten the exist-	
Committee of Rochester, -	754	ence of the Army, -	446
William Ross, -	792	Measures taken for the detection of persons en-	
Stephen Russell and others, -	729	gaged in, -	382, 447
Isaac Snow, -	766	Efforts of General Washington to prevent, -	498
Joseph Sprague and Samuel Ward, -	752	Plymouth, Massachusetts, drafts from, ordered to	
Joseph Sprague and others, -	737	Rhode-Island, -	767
John Stalker, -	789	Pollard, Jonathan, appointed Aid-de-Camp to Gen-	
Joseph Thompson, -	802	eral Heath, -	843
Alexander Touch and Thomas Mahony, -	792	Polly, schooner, permitted to sail for North-Carolina, -	657
Anne Tweedie and others, -	750	Polly, brig, captured by the privateer Hancock, -	1309
Nathan Utley and others, -	806	Pongius, Henry, appointed a First Lieutenant, -	82
Richard Valpy, -	807	Pool, Captain, cashiered, -	1295
Selectmen of Waldoborough, -	730	Poor, Colonel Enoch, recommended to Congress for	
Hugh Walker and others, -	790	promotion, -	615
Owners of brig Washington, -	804	Poor, Isaac, commissioned Colonel of Second Bat-	
William Whiting, -	759	talion of New-Hampshire troops, -	1177
John Winthrop, Jun., -	741	Poor, provision made for the, at Wiltse's Ferry from	
Pettitt, Charles, letter to, from Colonel Reed, -	1036	New-York, -	672
Pettitt, Edward, deposition of, -	645	Inadequacy of the provision made for the, by New-	
Phelps, Sergeant William, trial of, by Court-Martial, -	468	York Convention, -	934
Philadelphia, a large quantity of salt arrives at, -	325	Names of the, sent from New-York city to Bed-	
Extract of a letter received at, -	325	ford, -	1272
Notice of Committee of Accounts of, -	365	Pope, Captain, wounded in a skirmish with Major	
Extracts of letter from, -	595, 602	Rogers's Rangers, -	1270
High price of goods in, -	1006	Pope, Lieutenant, cashiered, -	1065
Proceedings of meeting in the State-House Yard at, -	1149	Popst, Major, dismissed the Army, -	291
Remarks on the above proceedings at, by Consid-		Pork, twenty barrels of, voted to Jonathan Eddy and	
eration, -	1152	others, -	735
Committee of Inspection of, dissolved, -	365	Not a barrel of, on Sullivan's Island, -	938
Proceedings of Committee of County of, -	888	Porter, Dr. Andrew, recommended for a Surgeoncy, -	210
Phillips, Colonel Joseph, return of officers in the		Porter, Colonel Asa, arrested as being inimical to the	
battalion commanded by, -	900	cause of America, -	145
General Washington returns thanks to, -	1010	Certificate in favour of, -	145
Philo-Alethias, on the present state of America, -	967	Objects to the jurisdiction of New-Hampshire As-	
Phinney, Colonel Edmund, requests the arrest of		sembly, -	145
William Garwood for abusive language, -	143	Depositions against, -	149-155
Regiment of, ordered to Fort George, -	203	Porter, Ebenezer, petition of, to Massachusetts Coun-	
Phoenix, British ship-of-war, passage of the, up the		cil, -	806
North River, -	943, 961	Prayer of the petition of, granted, -	806
		Porter, Colonel Elisha, letter from, to General Gates, -	222

Porter, John, appointed Paymaster to Colonel Ward's regiment, - - - - -	331
Portsmouth, New-Hampshire, arrival of a cargo of military stores, &c., at, - - - - -	916
A prize brig sent into, - - - - -	1196
Portugal, Court of, said to have ordered American ships away on ten days' notice, - - - - -	822
Pose, Lieutenant, cashiered, - - - - -	1120
Post, John, appointed Commissary for the post at the German Flats, - - - - -	1132
Post-Office, removal of the, from Dobbs's Ferry to Head-Quarters, - - - - -	256
Post-Riders, establishment of, between Fishkill and Head-Quarters, - - - - -	694
Potomack, operations of Dunmore's fleet in the, - - - - -	165
Potts, Dr. Jonathan, letter from, to General Gates, - - - - -	277
Letter to, from Isaac Pierce, - - - - -	591
Letter from, to Richard Varick, - - - - -	1040
Potts, Lieutenant, promoted to a Captaincy, - - - - -	1086
Poundridge, letter from Committee of, to New-York Convention, - - - - -	1066
Powder—see Gunpowder.	
Powder-Mill, certificate on Wisner's, - - - - -	293
One large copper delivered for the use of the, at Stoughton, - - - - -	769
Powell, Britain, appointed an Ensign, - - - - -	634
Powell, Jeremiah, President of Massachusetts Assembly, letter from, to General Washington, - - - - -	312
Powell, John, sentenced to receive thirty-nine lashes, - - - - -	1081
Pownall, Governour, extract from Speech of, in defence of the Americans, - - - - -	390
Pownalborough, Maritime Court to be held at, for the trial of two prizes, - - - - -	751
Pratt, Ensign John, dismissed the service, - - - - -	1086
Preble, Jedediah, Jun., and others, petition of, to Massachusetts General Court, - - - - -	758
Money paid to, for the use of two Indians, - - - - -	775
Prescott, General, ordered to hold himself in readiness to march to New-York, - - - - -	377
Prescott, General, (British,) to be exchanged for General Sullivan, - - - - -	193, 196, 290, 1330
At Elizabethtown for exchange, - - - - -	399
Arrangement for the exchange, - - - - -	437, 464
Prescott, Oliver, letter from, to Richard Devens, - - - - -	1227
Prescott, Colonel William, return of officers in the regiment commanded by, - - - - -	881
Return of the regiment commanded by, - - - - -	1319
President of Congress—see John Hancock.	
Pringle, Captain Thomas, letter from, to Mr. Stephens, Secretary of the Admiralty, - - - - -	1069
Prisoners, common, ordered to be removed from the Philadelphia jail, - - - - -	7
State, to be confined in the Philadelphia jail, - - - - -	7
Ordinance for the relief of, in the jails of Pennsylvania, - - - - -	13
Order respecting, taken by Captain Isaiah Robinson, - - - - -	64
Taken in a coasting sloop, ordered into custody, - - - - -	116
List of American, at Halifax, Nova-Scotia, - - - - -	190
Two, sent to Lancaster Committee, - - - - -	255
In irons in Halifax jail, - - - - -	252, 307
Examination of, - - - - -	310
Fourteen American, escape from Halifax, - - - - -	358
Exchange of, proposed by General Howe, - - - - -	437
Return of British, in possession of Americans, - - - - -	438
Return of, sent by General Carleton from Canada to New-York, - - - - -	438
Escape of Tory, from the jail of Frederick-Town, - - - - -	457
Information from two, captured between St. John's and La Prairie, - - - - -	481
Two, captured by Lieutenant Whitcomb, - - - - -	483
Washington requested to procure the exchange of five, taken in the merchant service, - - - - -	485
Two American, escape from Quebec, - - - - -	486
Disposition of, by Fairfield Committee, - - - - -	537
Washington requests a return of, in Connecticut, - - - - -	549
Sent from Canada on parole, arrive at Elizabethtown, New-Jersey, - - - - -	588, 597
Number of Maryland troops taken, on Long-Island, - - - - -	595
Congress take measures for the redemption of the, taken on Long-Island, - - - - -	595
Washington requests a return of, in Rhode-Island, - - - - -	595
Massachusetts Assembly requested to collect all the, in Massachusetts, preparatory to an exchange, - - - - -	596
Indians take a man and his two sons, near Monkton, - - - - -	621
Removal of, from Kingston, Long-Island, to Morris County, New-Jersey, - - - - -	653
Hopkinton Committee ask to be relieved from, - - - - -	764
Order of Massachusetts Council respecting, - - - - -	803
Those, charged with capital offences to be sent to Head-Quarters for trial, - - - - -	827

Prisoners—Continued.

Petition of the, in Morristown jail, - - - - -	830
Deplorable state of the, in New-Jersey, - - - - -	853
Disposition of the, taken by Captain Souther, - - - - -	943
Important intelligence received from, - - - - -	944
Two American, effect their escape from Staten-Island, - - - - -	1009
Letter relative to the, in Westchester, New-York, - - - - -	1066
Twenty British and Hessian, taken on Staten-Island, - - - - -	1073
One hundred and ten, returned by Carleton, - - - - -	1080
Hessian, treated with particular civility by General Mercer, - - - - -	1093
List of, taken on Staten-Island, - - - - -	1094
American, in the coal-pits of Cape Breton, - - - - -	1105, 1226, 1303
Six, taken on the Jersey shore, sent to Philadelphia, - - - - -	1129
Some of the Hessian, allowed to escape, - - - - -	1129
Resolutions of Congress and order of the Board of War respecting, - - - - -	1185
Of Major Rogers's corps of Tories, - - - - -	1188, 1203
Three Hessian, taken by a party of Colonel Glover's regiment, - - - - -	1189
Taken by the privateer Montgomery, and confined in Somerset jail, - - - - -	1238, 1403
Five British, and twelve Waldeckers, brought in by scouting parties, - - - - -	1264
Six officers, belonging to privateers taken by the enemy, make their escape, - - - - -	1294
Inhabitants of Canada taken, allowed to return on parole, - - - - -	1396
Resolutions of Congress in relation to, from North-Carolina, in the Philadelphia jail, - - - - -	1405
Privateers—	
Great numbers of, fitted out in New-England, - - - - -	282
Cruising off the Straits of Gibraltar, - - - - -	156, 177
To be unmolested in Spanish ports, - - - - -	917, 1091
Cruising off Cape Finisterre, - - - - -	951
Expected in the Irish Channel, - - - - -	863
Prizes taken by, in the English Channel, - - - - -	1245
Vessels of war sent against, in the English Channel, - - - - -	1278
Petition of owners of the Lee and the Putnam, to Continental Congress, - - - - -	1331
Permission given by Continental Congress to Francis Guillot to fit out one, at such place as he may choose, - - - - -	1381
Board of War directed to sell powder and lead to the owners of the General Lee and Colonel Parry, - - - - -	1384
Privateers, Maryland—	
Enterprise, Captain Campbell, prizes taken by, - - - - -	232
Harlequin, Captain Woolsey, prize taken by, - - - - -	510, 560
Application for a new commission, - - - - -	988
Commission issued to Captain Handy, - - - - -	641
Independence, Captain Tibbitt, commissioned, - - - - -	637
Molly, Captain Conway, commissioned, - - - - -	630
Montgomery, Captain Polk, commissioned, - - - - -	627
Potowmack, Captain Speake, commissioned, - - - - -	655
Privateers, Massachusetts—	
America, Captain Nicholson, commissioned, - - - - -	748
Prize taken by, - - - - -	1004
America, petition for powder, - - - - -	758
Powder sold to, - - - - -	761
America, Captain Snow, commissioned, - - - - -	766
Boston, Captain Browne, commissioned, - - - - -	790
Civil Usage, Captain Giddings, commissioned, - - - - -	780
Dolphin, Captain Waters, petition for powder, - - - - -	752
Powder sold to, - - - - -	757
Prize taken by, - - - - -	560
Commission issued to Captain Leach, - - - - -	799
General Gates, Captain Carlton, petition for powder, - - - - -	737
Powder sold to, - - - - -	734
Prize taken by, - - - - -	1046
Taken and carried into Halifax, - - - - -	1227
Hawk, Captain Lee, detention and release of, at Bilboa, - - - - -	917, 1091
Arrival of a prize of, at Newburyport, - - - - -	1245
Hope, Captain Hatch, commissioned, - - - - -	794
Independence, Captain Nickols, commissioned, - - - - -	791
Independency, Captain Gill, prize taken by, - - - - -	307
Langdon, petition for powder, - - - - -	752
Powder sold to, - - - - -	757
Liberty, Captain Peirce, commissioned, - - - - -	787
Necessity, Captain Le Craw, commissioned and powder sold to, - - - - -	801
Phoenix, Captain Cunningham, commissioned, - - - - -	787
Powder sold to, - - - - -	789
Polly, Captain Leech, petition for powder, - - - - -	752
Powder sold to, - - - - -	757
Commissioned, - - - - -	758

Privateers, Massachusetts—Continued.

Putnam, Captain Bayley, commissioned, -	799
Ranger, Captain Roberts, commissioned, -	796
Reprisal, Captain Wheelwright, commissioned, -	804
Retaliation, Captain Giles, commissioned, -	740
Prize taken by, -	1196
Retrieve, Captain Stone, petition for powder, -	737
Powder sold to, -	734
Revenge, Captain Warren, commissioned, -	745
Prize taken by, Captain White, -	786, 787, 789
Rover, Captain Forrester, prizes taken by, -	156,
	177, 403, 1196
Speedwell, Captain Greely, commissioned, -	749
Petition for powder, -	754
Powder sold to, -	757
Prize taken by, -	808, 936
Sturdy Beggar, Captain Rowland, commissioned, -	803
Union, Captain Somes, commissioned, -	741
Powder sold to, -	757
Viper, Captain Wormsell, commissioned, -	753
Warren, Captain Coas, prizes taken by, -	346, 863
Washington, Captain Smith, commissioned, -	804
Wolfe, Captain Freeman, commissioned, -	745
Yankee, ship Creighton taken by, -	787
<i>Privateers, Pennsylvania—</i>	
Congress, Captain Craigie, prize taken by, -	539, 576
Congress, Captain Greenway, commissioned, -	79
General Lee, Captain Chatham, commissioned, -	79
General Thompson, Captain Connell, commissioned, -	80
Hancock, Captain Newman, prizes taken by, -	750,
	1126, 1309
Jupiter, Captain Illingsworth, commissioned, -	65
Rutledge, Captain Smith, commissioned, -	84
Commissions delivered to James Mease and Robert Mease, for a ship and brig, to be fitted out by them in a foreign port, -	97
<i>Privateers, Rhode-Island—</i>	
Eagle, Captain Paine, prize taken by, -	346, 560
General Greene, prizes taken by, -	486, 560
Independence, Captain Jabez Whipple, prizes taken by, -	227, 282
Favourite, Captain Coffin, prizes taken by, -	936,
	1019, 1174
Industry, Captain Child, prizes taken by, -	935, 1019
Joseph, Captain Field, prize taken by, -	227
Montgomery, prizes taken by, -	486, 1126
Putnam, Captain Christopher Whipple, prize taken by, -	1260
Yankee Ranger, prizes taken by, -	338
Captain Tillinghast, prize taken by, -	227
Captain Crawford, prizes taken by, -	936, 1019
Prize Agents, letter from Marine Committee to, -	1115
Prize Money, increase of, recommended by Commodore Hopkins, -	282
Resolve of Massachusetts respecting, -	775
Resolve of Continental Congress respecting, -	1114
<i>Prizes, taken by—</i>	
Captain Atkins, -	936, 1228
Captain Baldwin, Continental schooner Wasp, -	1072
Captain Biddle, Continental ship Andrew Doria, -	227,
	282, 307, 455
Captain Carlton, privateer General Gates, -	1046
Captain Campbell, privateer Enterprise, -	232
Captain Child, privateer Industry, -	935
Captain Coas, privateer Warren, -	346, 863
Captain Coffin, privateer Favourite, -	936, 1019, 1174
Captain Cooke, Maryland ship Defence, -	863, 1291
Captain Craigie, privateer Congress, -	539, 576
Captain Crawford, -	936, 1019
Captain Dunn, sloop Revenge, -	338, 359, 486
Captain Field, privateer Joseph, -	227
Captain Forrester, privateer Rover, off the Straits of Gibraltar, -	156, 177, 403, 1196
Captain Giles, privateer Retaliation, -	1196
Captain Gill, privateer Independency, -	307
Captain Godfrey, privateer Lady Washington, -	935
Captain Greely, privateer Speedwell, -	808, 936
Captain Harding, Connecticut brig Defence, -	866
Captain Harmon, privateer Putnam, -	1046, 1316
Captain Harthorne, -	1227
Captain Hinman, Continental brig Cabot, -	1174, 1260
Captain Jones, Continental sloop Providence, -	171,
	226, 595, 624, 927, 1019, 1043, 1105, 1260, 1304
Captain Lee, privateer Hawk, -	917, 1091, 1245
Captain Munro, -	486, 560
Captain Nickerson, privateer America, -	1004
Captain Niles, Connecticut schooner Spy, -	312, 848
Captain Newman, privateer Hancock, -	750, 1126, 1309
Captain Paine, schooner Eagle, -	346, 560

Prizes, taken by—Continued.

Captain Parker, privateer, -	1019, 1046
Captain Pearce, -	1174
Captain Rogers, New-York sloop Montgomerie, 357, 702	
Captain Samson, Massachusetts brig Independence, -	346, 358
Captain Souther, brigantine Massachusetts, -	943
Captain Stacey, privateer Diamond, -	1174, 1260
Captain Turpin, South-Carolina brigantine-of-war Comet, -	285
Captain Waters, schooner Dolphin, -	560
Captain Waters, schooner Lee, -	116
Captain Abraham Whipple, Continental ship Columbus, -	307, 455, 595, 863
Captain Christopher Whipple, privateer Putnam, -	1260
Captain Jabez Whipple, privateer Independence, 227, 282	
Captain Woolsey, privateer Harlequin, -	510, 560
Sundry vessels, 307, 338, 439, 863, 1073, 1126, 1196, 1245	
British men-of-war, 116, 359, 455, 1019, 1158, 1201, 1227	
A day seldom passes without some being taken, -	936
Computed that a million sterling have been taken, -	1245
<i>Proceedings, of—</i>	
Pennsylvania Convention, -	1-62
Pennsylvania Council of Safety, -	61-98
Connecticut Council of Safety, -	114,
	129, 143, 188, 226, 266, 280, 295, 305, 386, 422,
	557, 575, 848, 1171, 1194, 1208, 1259, 1302
Baltimore Committee, -	118,
	253, 308, 347, 458, 601, 925, 1005
Town-meeting at Halifax, New-York, -	124
Town-meeting at Rockingham, Cumberland County, -	124
Massachusetts Council, -	133
Pittsfield (Massachusetts) Committee, -	134
Court-Martial on Lieutenant Marshall, -	175
New-Hampshire House of Representatives, -	176
Northumberland (Pennsylvania) Committee, -	255
Lancaster (Pennsylvania) Committee, -	234,
	287, 365, 490, 546, 1008, 1155
Council of General Officers, -	237, 329, 1117
Delaware Convention, -	285, 286
Dutchess County (New-York) Committee, -	373
Town Meeting at Providence, Rhode-Island, -	376,
	389, 1104, 1107
General Court-Martial, held at Harlem, -	467,
	498, 550, 569, 589, 610, 929
Court-Martial on Ensign Macumber, -	499, 500
Convention on the New-Hampshire Grants, -	526-530
Pennsylvania Assembly, -	542-546
General Court-Martial, held at King's Bridge, -	550,
	551, 590, 883
Town-Meeting at Petersham, -	576
General Court-Martial on Captain Wisner, -	610
Maryland Council of Safety, -	625-660
New-York Convention and Committee of Safety, 659-726	
Massachusetts General Court, -	725-808
Conference with the Six Nations at Wyoming, -	825
Court-Martial for the trial of Mr. Champney, -	882
Middletown (Connecticut) Committee, -	885
Court-Martial, held by order of General Heath, 930, 948	
Town-Meeting at Oxford, Massachusetts, -	936
Carlisle Committee, -	939
Council of General Officers, held at General Lee's Head-Quarters, -	1117
Brigade Court-Martial, -	1139, 1140
Meeting in the State-House Yard, Philadelphia, -	1149
Cumberland County (Pennsylvania) Committee, -	1201
Meeting of Delegates at Carlisle, -	1201
General Court-Martial, held at White-Plains, -	1242,
	1282, 1294
General Court-Martial, held by order of General Lee, 1295	
On impressment of seamen in London, -	1228-1232
Berks County (Pennsylvania) Committee, -	1309
South-Carolina Navy Board, -	1323-1328
Continental Congress, -	1329-1418
<i>Proclamation—</i>	
By General Howe, offering a pardon to deserters who surrender themselves, -	603
By Governour Trumbull, -	1171, 1225
By the King, for encouraging seamen to enter on board the ships-of-war, -	1228
By the King, for a general Fast in England and Wales, 1289	
By the King, for a general Fast in Scotland, -	1290
Proctor, Colonel, petition of, to Pennsylvania Convention for arms, -	33
Proctor, Captain, prisoner in the jail of Halifax, treatment of, by the enemy, -	252
Proctor, Francis, elected a Second Lieutenant of Artillery, -	80
Ordered to Fort Montgomery, -	81

- Proctor, Thomas, Major of Artillery, - - - 80
Promotions, remarks of General Washington on, - 603
Providence, Continental sloop-of-war, Captain John Paul Jones, cruise of, - 171, 226, 624, 1105, 1303
Providence, Continental frigate, Captain Whipple promoted to the command of, - - - 1394
Nearly ready for sea, - - - 986
Providence, R. I., prizes sent into, - - - 307, 560
Proceedings of a town-meeting at, 376, 389, 1104, 1107
Letter from Marine Committee to the Committee for building Continental frigates at, - - - 954
Extract of a letter from, - - - 1194
Provisions, plenty of, on Long-Island, except fresh meat, - - - 135
A good stock of, at Fort Stanwix, German-Flats, and Johnstown, - - - 534, 1190
Plenty of, in the British Army at New-York, - 564
Shameful waste of, - - - 605
A supply of, voted to Jeremiah Colborn, - - 776
Colonel Gadsden requests a supply of salted, for Sullivan's Island, - - - 938
Account of, on board the sloop-of-war Providence, 1106
Account of, on board the Alfred, - - - 1107
Alarming situation of Washington's Army on account of the state of, - - - 1138
Bennington Committee requested to forward, to Ticonderoga, - - - 1143
Orders in Council prohibiting the exportation of, from Great Britain and Ireland, - - - 1233
Quantity of, necessary to be laid in at the posts between Fort Lee and Philadelphia, - - - 1281
Resolution of Congress for supplying the Northern Army with, - - - 1378
Prussia, Mr. Deane urges the importance of treating with the King of, - - - 811
Purdy, Jonathan, Jun., declares himself a subject of King George, - - - 311
Prays, to be permitted to his parole, - - - 694
Purviance, Samuel, Jun., Chairman of Baltimore Committee, - - - 117
Letters to, from Richard Henry Lee, - - - 350, 989
Letter to, from Joseph Hewes, - - - 364
Putnam, Col. Rufus, report of, to General Washington, 140
Letters from, to General Washington, - - - 549, 892
Plan of, for a corps of Engineers, Artificers, &c., - 893
Putnam, General, spirited conduct of, at Harlem, - 370
Narrowly escapes being made prisoner in New-York, 352
Note from, to General Heath, - - - 962
Putnam, Lieutenant Jeremiah, of galley Independence, 963
Putnam, New-York schooner, mutiny on board the, 215, 714, 718, 720
P. W., on Monopolizers, - - - 1288
Pyne, Richard, petition of, to Massachusetts Council, 797
Permitted to leave the country for England, - - 798
Gives his parole not to act against the United States, 798
Certificate in favour of, - - - 798
- Q.
- Quartermaster-General, estimate of the expense of the department of the, for one month, - - - 1318
Queen-of-England, prize ship, finding of the Jury in the case of, - - - 767
Resolve respecting the distribution of, the proceeds of the sale of, - - - 776
Queen's County, New-York, petition of inhabitants of, to Lord and General Howe, - - - 1159
Address of the inhabitants of, to Governour Tryon, 1164
Quigley, Lieutenant Thomas, letters from, to Thomas Randall, one of the Marine Committee, - 215, 1074
Quin, Samuel, appointed a Second Lieutenant, - 88
- R.
- Rain, Philip, deposition of, against William B. Townsend, - - - 648
Raleigh, Continental frigate, orders for supplying the, with cannon, - - - 955
Ordered on a cruise, - - - 1200
Ramsey, Thomas, appointed a Second Lieutenant, - 636
Randall, Thomas, letters from, to New-York Convention, - - - 215, 972
Letters to, from Thomas Quigley, - - - 215, 1074
Randolph, Edmund, letter from, to Gen. Washington, 987
Ranger, privateer, petition of owners of the, - 796
Rank, relative, between English Navy and Army officers, - - - 172
Letter from Virginia Convention concerning, Of officers of Marines, - - - 1417
Ranney, Daniel, deposition of, - - - 218
Ranson, Thomas, elected a First Lieutenant, - - 1341
Rations, price of, in Virginia, - - - 850
Number of, claimed by Artillery officers, - - 850
Deputy Commissary-General requests instructions in relation to the, of certain officers, - - 850
Resolutions of Congress in relation to, - - - 1360
Allowed to officers on the staff in the Army of the United States, - - - 1407
Raymond, Edward, appointed a Wagonmaster, - 474
Raymond, Captain Edward, letter to, from Udney Hay, 534
Letter from, to Colonel Hay, - - - 534
Read, Charles, appointed an Ensign, - - - 1396
Read, George, President of Delaware Convention, - 424
Read, Colonel James, return of officers in the regiment commanded by, - - - 906
Read, Colonel John Hatton, letter to, from Maryland Council of Safety, - - - 578
Reading, Daniel, sentence of, - - - 473
Reading (Pennsylvania) Committee, empowered to appoint a guard, - - - 64
Letter from, to Lancaster Committee, - - - 120
Recantation, of Nathan Hilands, - - - 325
Recruiting, General Gates's plan of, for the Northern Army, - - - 470
Instructions from General Washington to Colonel Hand, - - - 993
Instructions for, from a Committee of New-York Convention, - - - 1204
Instructions for, from General Schuyler, - - - 1297
Redfield, Captain, taken by the enemy, and dismissed after a few days' detention, - - - 170
Red-Hook, works erecting at, - - - 261
Great want of men at, - - - 667
Redman, John, Jun., appointed Paymaster to Pennsylvania troops, - - - 88
Reed, Ames, sentenced to be flogged for speaking disrespectfully of the Commander-in-Chief, - 239
Reed, George, commissioned Major of First Battalion of New-Hampshire troops, - - - 1177
Reed, John, appointed an Ensign, - - - 1340
Reed, Adjutant-General Joseph, letters from, to—
General Beall, - - - 895
Committee of Congress appointed to inquire into the state of the Army, - - - 826
General Heath, 275, 569, 597, 827, 845, 962, 973, 1026
General Mifflin, - - - 253, 259
Charles Pettitt, - - - 1036
President of Congress, - - - 417
Mrs. Reed, - - - 123, 198, 332, 443, 994, 1250
Governour Trumbull, - - - 98, 1121
Letters to, from—
General Beall, - - - 895
Colonel Bullitt, - - - 191
Spirited conduct of, at Harlem, - - - 370
Tenders his resignation, - - - 826
Reed, Mrs., letters to, from Colonel Reed, - - 123, 198, 332, 443, 994, 1250
Reed, Moses, prisoner, examination of, - - - 598
Reed, Sergeant Major, promoted to an Ensigncy, - 1083
Reed, Lieutenant-Colonel Seth, absent on account of ill health, - - - 441
Rees, David, appointed an Ensign, - - - 477
Rees, Jacob, gives security for his good behaviour, - 1156
Refugees, from Long-Island, a regiment proposed to be raised from, - - - 935
Regimental Orders, by Colonel Lippitt, - - - 338
Regulations, for carrying the mails, - - - 256
Respecting the sale of vegetables, &c., - - - 616
Reid, Charles, petition of, to Massachusetts Council, 791
Permitted to go to England, - - - 791
Reid, Isaac, appointed a First Lieutenant, - - 631
Reiger, Jacob, appointed an Ensign, - - - 92
Reilly, John, appointed a First Lieutenant, - - 477
Reily, John, appointed a First Lieutenant, - - 88
Religion, equal liberty to all denominations of, urged upon the General Assembly of Virginia, - - 816
Provision respecting, in Constitution of Pennsylvania, 58
Remsen, Colonel Henry, letters from, to New-York Convention, - - - 226, 547
Letter to, from New-York Committee of Safety, - 683
Remsen, Colonel Jeronimus, permits Major Thorne to return home, - - - 202
Report, abstract of Lieutenant Whitcomb's, - - 483
Relative to the calling out the Militia of Westchester, Orange, Dutchess, and Ulster Counties, - 660
Of a sub-committee of New-York Committee of Safety on General Schuyler's letter, - - - 688
In relation to the finances of New-York, - - 710
On a more effectual mode of detecting and defeating the designs of internal enemies, - - - 714

Report—*Continued.*

Of the Committee appointed to investigate the case of Charles Goodrich, -	742
Of the evidence taken at the Court of Inquiry on the charge against Colonel Tyler of cowardice, -	1251
Of the Committee appointed by Congress to confer with Lord Howe, -	1342
Of the Committee appointed to visit General Washington's camp, (note,) -	1385
Concerning Bernard & Wadding's goods, (note,) -	1390
On General Washington's request to be allowed to appoint P. Penet one of his Aids, (note,) -	1398
On the case of the ship Elizabeth, libeled by John Wentworth, -	1398
Representation, Newburyport Committee send a, to Massachusetts Council, -	768
Of Abraham Lott, to New-York Convention, -	723
Reprisal, Continental ship-of-war, Captain Lambert Wickes, attack upon, by the Shark, in the harbour of Martinico, -	223
Arrival of, at Philadelphia, with muskets, powder, &c., -	323
Ordered to be got ready for sea immediately, -	429
Selected to carry Dr. Franklin to France, -	1211
Plan of the cruise of the, -	1211
Reprisal, privateer, petition of owners of the, to Massachusetts Council, -	804
Republick, armed sloop, iron ballast delivered to, -	801
Resolution, schooner, Benjamin King appointed Captain of the, -	642
Resolves of the Council and House of Representatives of Massachusetts, -	725-808
Retaliation, privateer, stores, appurtenances, and equipment of the, -	741
Returns, of—	
Arms belonging to Pennsylvania, ordered, -	77
Officers for King's County, New-York, -	109
Officers on board the armed sloop Freedom, -	174
Fire-arms, &c., of Massachusetts, -	231
Provisions, &c., at Fort Schuyler, -	248
Detachment under Colonel Livingston, -	296
General Washington's Army, at New-York, -	327-329
Knox's regiment of Artillery, -	329, 451, 607, 909, 1130
The names of those recommended to fill vacancies in Colonel Ward's regiment, -	413
British prisoners, -	438
Prisoners sent from Canada to New-York by Carleton, -	438, 522
Washington's Army at King's Bridge and its dependencies, -	449
The forces commanded by General Gates, -	479, 617
Major Badlam's corps of Artillery, -	479, 619
Ordnance and stores taken by the British in New-York and adjacent batteries, -	493
Prisoners taken on the Island of New-York, -	522
Maryland troops in Continental service under the command of Colonel Smallwood, -	567
Brigades under the immediate command of General Washington, at Harlem, -	607
Troops in General Greene's division, -	607
Necessaries wanted at the Fortifications in the Highlands, -	674
Absent officers to be made to Head-Quarters, -	844
Officers in Colonel Nicholson's regiment, -	857
Officers in Colonel Chester's regiment, -	870
Officers in Colonel Newcomb's regiment, -	871
Officers in Colonel Nicoll's regiment, -	871
Officers in Colonel Jacobus Swartwout's regiment, -	871
Officers in Colonel Tyler's regiment, -	872
Officers in Colonel Graham's regiment, -	872
Officers in Colonel Thomas's regiment, -	872
Officers of Colonel Cunningham's regiment of the Flying-Camp, -	873
Officers in Colonel Andrew Ward's regiment, -	873
Officers in Colonel Paul D. Sargent's regiment, -	874
Officers in Colonel Lasher's regiment, -	875
Officers in Colonel Hardenbergh's regiment, -	875
Field Officers in Colonel Sargent's brigade, -	875
Officers in Colonel Samuel Wylls's regiment, -	876
Officers in the Twenty-First Regiment, -	876
Officers of the Seventeenth Regiment, -	877
Officers absent in the Seventh Regiment, -	877
Officers in Colonel Forman's battalion, -	877
Officers in Brigadier-General Wadsworth's brigade, -	878
Officers in Colonel Haller's battalion, -	878
Officers in the Second Battalion Pennsylvania Rifle Regiment, -	878
Officers in Colonel Selden's regiment, -	879
Officers of Fifth Pennsylvania Battalion, -	879

Returns, of—*Continued.*

Officers of First Battalion Pennsylvania Rifle Regiment, -	879
Officers of late Colonel Selden's regiment, -	880
Officers in camp, of Colonel Douglass's regiment, -	880
Officers absent in Colonel Jonathan Smith's regiment, -	880, 904
Colonel Cadwalader's Officers, -	880,
Officers in Colonel Prescott's regiment, -	881
Officers in Colonel Edward Hand's regiment, -	897
Field Officers of Maryland Flying-Camp, at Morris's Heights, -	897
Field Officers of Colonel Hand's regiment, stationed at De Lancey's Mills, -	897
General Fellows's brigade, -	898
Officers of the Delaware regiment, -	898
Field Officers in the Pennsylvania Battalions encamped near Head-Quarters, -	898
Officers in Colonel Martin's regiment, -	899
Officers in Colonel Richardson's regiment, -	900
Officers of Colonel Phillips's battalion of Jersey levies, -	900
General Wadsworth's brigade, -	901
Field Officers of First Virginia Regiment, -	901
Officers in General Heard's brigade, -	901
Officers in Colonel Hutchinson's regiment, -	901
Field Officers in General Fellows's brigade, -	902
Officers in the late Colonel Gay's regiment, -	902
Officers in Colonel Ewing's battalion of Maryland forces raised for the Flying-Camp, -	903
Absent officers in the Tenth Regiment, -	903
Officers in Colonel Sage's regiment, -	904
Officers in Colonel Silliman's regiment, -	904
Absent officers in the Twenty-First Regiment, -	905
Absent officers in Colonel Douglass's regiment, -	905
Officers in Colonel Knox's regiment of Artillery, -	905
Officers in Colonel James Read's regiment, -	906
Officers in Colonel Drake's regiment, -	906
Two brigades of Militia, commanded by General Saltonstall and Colonel Lippett, -	909
General Mercer's Army, at Perth-Amboy, -	941
Officers in the Second Battalion of General Scott's brigade, -	1060
Officers of Colonel McDougall's regiment, -	1060
Officers of Colonel Ritzema's regiment, -	1060
Officers of Maryland troops commanded by Colonel Smallwood, -	1061
Officers of Colonel Varnum's regiment, -	1061
Arms and accoutrements taken from the enemy on Staten-Island, -	1094
New-Hampshire troops at Ticonderoga, -	1177
Forces encamped on the Jersey shore, under the command of General Greene, -	1250
Killed and wounded in the brigade commanded by Brigadier-General Leslie, (British,) -	1270
Seventh Regiment of Foot, commanded by Colonel William Prescott, -	1319
Regiment commanded by Colonel Thomas, -	1319
Regiment of Connecticut Militia commanded by Colonel Oliver Smith, -	1321
Regiment commanded by Colonel Jacobus Swartwout, -	1321
Regiment commanded by Colonel Morgan Graham, -	1321
Colonel Gay ordered to make, of the state of his regiment, -	166
Washington orders an immediate, of every regiment, -	194, 195
Revenge, brig captured by the, -	359, 486
Revenge, privateer, Captain Warren, -	745
Reyner, Ebenezer, recommended for a Second Lieutenancy, -	1247
Rhoads, Peter, elected a member of Pennsylvania Council of Safety, -	9
Rhode-Island Assembly—	
Letters to, from the President of Congress, -	136, 489, 839, 953
Alarm of, at the unexpected evacuation of Long-Island, -	207
Appoint a Committee to confer with General Washington upon the best means of defence, -	207
Troops of, worthy of the highest applause, -	997
Rice, high price of, in Holland, -	1090, 1234
Richards, Sergeant Peter, sentenced to be reduced to the ranks and whipped, -	291
Richards, Ensign Solomon, promoted to a Second Lieutenancy, -	1083
Richardson, Colonel William, letter from, to Maryland Council of Safety, -	104
Return of officers in the regiment commanded by, -	900

- Richardson, William, appointed an Ensign in the Flying-Camp, - - - - - 638
- Richmond, Colonel William, marches to join the expedition to Long-Island, - - - - - 1001
- Arrival of, at New-London, - - - - - 1125
- Elected by Congress Colonel of a Rhode-Island battalion, - - - - - 1333
- Richmond, Christopher, Adjutant of Colonel Smallwood's regiment, - - - - - 1014
- Letter from, to Maryland Council of Safety, - - - - - 1122
- Richmond, Staten-Island, surprise of a party of British and Hessians at, - - - - - 1073
- Ridgway, William, authorized to raise a company, - - - - - 636
- Rights, Declaration of, by Pennsylvania, - - - - - 22
- Riley, Stephen, deposition of, - - - - - 649
- Riley, order of New-York Committee of Safety for the arrest of, - - - - - 687
- Ringgold, Thomas, letter to, from Maryland Council of Safety, - - - - - 457
- Rising Empire, brig, resolve relative to, - - - - - 734
- Rittenhouse, David, elected a member of Pennsylvania Council of Safety, - - - - - 8
- Roads, orders to obstruct the, leading to King's Bridge, Directions concerning the, from Mount Independence to Otter Creek, - - - - - 534
- Robbins, Mary, deposition of, - - - - - 646
- Robenson, Siah, chosen a Captain of New-York Militia, - - - - - 831
- Roberdeau, General Daniel, letter from, respecting a guard for Philadelphia, - - - - - 3
- Complains of the slowness with which the Pennsylvania Militia arrive at Amboy, - - - - - 10
- Requests gun-screws for the use of the troops, - - - - - 11
- Address of, to the Associators under his command highly approved, - - - - - 24
- Commissioned as First Brigadier-General of Pennsylvania, - - - - - 59
- Letter from, to Samuel Mifflin, - - - - - 181
- Roberts, Charles, commander of schooner Thistle, - - - - - 1373
- Roberts, Major, promoted to a Lieutenant-Colonelcy, - - - - - 473
- Roberts, Peter, commander of privateer Ranger, - - - - - 796
- Robins, Josiah, letter from, to William Barkley Townsend, - - - - - 645
- Deposition of, - - - - - 646
- Robinson, Benjamin, sentenced to be flogged, - - - - - 477
- Robinson, Isaiah, Captain of the Andrew Doria, instructions to, - - - - - 1092
- Robinson, James, a Court-Martial ordered for the trial of, for mutiny, - - - - - 1195
- Robinson, Captain James, instructions to, - - - - - 1115
- Robinson, John, Court-Martial on, for mutiny, - - - - - 1195
- Robinson, Noah, appointed an Ensign, - - - - - 474
- Robson, Elijah, appointed a Captain in the Flying-Camp, - - - - - 629
- Rochester Committee, petition of, to Massachusetts General Court, - - - - - 754
- Rochford, Lord, character of, - - - - - 456
- Rockingham, Cumberland County, New-York, proceedings of a town-meeting at, - - - - - 124
- Rodgers, Philip, appointed a Second Lieutenant, - - - - - 1340
- Rodman's Point, a guard necessary at, - - - - - 1035
- The enemy land ten thousand men at, - - - - - 1174
- Rodney, Cæsar, letters from, to Thomas Rodney, 510, 840
- Letter to, from Colonel Patterson, - - - - - 570, 918
- Letters to, from Colonel Haslett, - - - - - 896, 1270
- Rodney, Thomas, letters to, from Cæsar Rodney, 510, 840
- Letter to, from Colonel Haslett, - - - - - 881
- Roe, Captain Daniel, proceedings of, at Brookhaven, Long-Island, - - - - - 506
- Roebuck, ship, one of Dunmore's fleet, seventy-five on the sick list of the, - - - - - 158
- Captures two small vessels bound to Philadelphia, 161
- Sails up the Potomack, - - - - - 165
- Sickness on board the, - - - - - 461
- Passage of the, up the North River, - - - - - 943, 961
- Rogers, Major Robert, endeavours to raise a corps of Provincials, - - - - - 494, 610
- Has a battalion nearly completed on Long-Island, 868
- Plans a descent upon Connecticut, - - - - - 1028, 1030
- Surprised by Colonel Hazlet, and thirty-six of his Rangers taken prisoners, - - - - - 1188, 1203
- List of prisoners taken from the corps commanded by, - - - - - 1203
- Said to have been the first to run off, - - - - - 1249, 1270
- Rogers, Captain, promoted to a Majority, - - - - - 473
- Rogers, Major Zabdiel, letter to, from General Washington, - - - - - 1165
- Rogers, William, commander of the armed sloop Montgomery, instructions to, - - - - - 846
- Rolston, John, a sutler, ordered off the ground for selling rum, &c., contrary to orders, - - - - - 1082
- Romans, Bernard, payment to, - - - - - 1407
- Roome, John L. C., prisoner, letter from, to Governor Trumbull, - - - - - 849
- Ross, Colonel George, Vice President of Pennsylvania Convention, - - - - - 2
- Elected a Delegate to Continental Congress, - - - - - 6
- Letter from, to Lancaster Committee, - - - - - 1217
- Ross, Captain James, appointed a Major, - - - - - 1378
- Ross, William, petition of, to Massachusetts Council, 792
- Permitted to prepare his vessel for sea, - - - - - 793
- Root, Aaron, letter from, to Massachusetts Council, - 1196
- Root, Jesse, letter from, to Governor Trumbull, - - - 1267
- Rover, privateer, several captures made by the, on the coast of Portugal, - - - - - 403
- Sends into Falmouth (Casco Bay) a valuable prize, 1196
- Rowe, John, testimony of, in the case of the Charming Peggy, - - - - - 1045
- Rowel, William, promoted to a First Lieutenantcy, - 474
- Row-galleys, two, sail to join Arnold's fleet, - - - 615
- The greatest strength of our naval force on the Lake, 705
- Rowland, Edward, Commander of the privateer Sturdy Beggar, - - - - - 803
- Royal, Samuel, appointed a Captain of Pennsylvania Militia, - - - - - 78
- Rules and Articles for the government of the Armies of the United States, - - - - - 1363
- Rules and Regulations for the government of Pennsylvania Convention, - - - - - 4
- Rum, a large quantity of, &c., captured by Captain Jones, - - - - - 171
- A small quantity of, arrives at Hampton, Virginia, - 209
- One half gill of, issued to each soldier, - - - - - 618
- Becoming plenty, - - - - - 920
- Colonel Gadsden requests that a hogshead of, be sent to Sullivan's Island, - - - - - 938
- A gill of, issued to each soldier at Ticonderoga, - 1082
- Congress order the purchase of one hundred hogsheads of, for the Army, - - - - - 1385
- Rumsey, Benjamin, letters to, from Maryland Council of Safety, - - - - - 308, 456, 578
- Letter from, to Maryland Council of Safety, - - - - 363
- Rumsey, Charles, letters from, to Maryland Council of Safety, - - - - - 542, 1128
- Rumsey, Nathan, letter from, to Maryland Convention, 1134
- Rush, Dr. Benjamin, elected a Delegate to Continental Congress, - - - - - 6
- Russell, Eleazer, letter from, to New-Hampshire Committee of Safety, - - - - - 269
- Rutherford, General, marches against the Southern Indians, - - - - - 208, 540
- Operations of, against the Cherokees, - - - - - 1235
- Rutledge, Edward, appointed on a Committee to confer with Lord Howe, - - - - - 192
- Letter from, to General Washington, - - - - - 287
- Letter to, from John Jay, - - - - - 998
- Rutledge, John, President of South-Carolina, Speech of, - - - - - 392
- Letter from, to South-Carolina Navy Board, - - - - 1327
- Message to, from South-Carolina Navy Board, - - - 1328
- Rutter, Thomas, member of Baltimore Committee, - - 117
- Ryon, John, prisoner in the jail of Philadelphia, General McDonald's certificate in favour of, - - - - 211
- S.
- Sachem, an armed brig captured by, - - - - - 254
- Safford, Joseph, elected a First Lieutenant, - - - - 1341
- Sage, Colonel Comfort, return of officers in the regiment commanded by, - - - - - 904
- Salem, extract of a letter from, to Massachusetts Assembly, - - - - - 600
- Salisbury, Connecticut Council of Safety vote five hundred pounds to carry on the Furnace at, - - - 557
- Furnace at, ordered to cast six and four-pounders, 558
- Furnace at, ordered to deliver cannon for the Continental ship building at Chatham, - - - - - 575
- Sally, schooner, a flag-of-truce, made prize of by Commodore Arbuthnot, - - - - - 307
- Salt, measures taken to prevent the removal of, from the stores of Messrs. Sewell, - - - - - 25
- Sale of, regulated in Philadelphia, - - - - - 27
- Distribution of, in the several Counties of Philadelphia, - - - - - 27
- Resolve concerning, imported into Philadelphia by Joshua Fisher & Sons, - - - - - 29
- Owner of a cargo of, allowed to dispose of it, - - 36
- Speculation in, disapproved of by Pennsylvania Council of Safety, - - - - - 83

Salt—Continued.

- Large quantities of, monopolized by speculators, - 85
 Resolution of Pennsylvania Council of Safety respecting the sale of, - 85
 A quantity of, sent from Philadelphia to Trenton, - 89
 Price of, regulated, - 90
 A quantity of, delivered to Daniel Tillinghast, - 119
 A quantity of, arrives at Hampton, Virginia, 209, 308, 404
 Seven hundred bushels of, captured by the enemy on Long-Island, - 307
 Two thousand bushels of, arrive at Philadelphia, - 325
 Philadelphia Committee for the distribution of, - 365
 Distribution of the, belonging to Joshua Fisher & Sons, - 888
 Measures taken by Connecticut Council of Safety to procure, - 848
 Measures taken by Commissary-General Trumbull to procure, - 920
 Marine Committee take measures to procure, - 970
 Resolve of Pennsylvania Council of Safety fixing the price of, - 1007
 Three hundred bushels of, taken in a prize and sent into Saco, - 1046
 Commissary Lowry in great want of, - 1137
 A cargo of, at New-Rochelle, and one at New-London, belonging to the Continent, - 1190
 A cargo of, arrives at Philadelphia from Bermuda, - 1201
 Two thousand bushels of, fall into the enemy's hands at New-Rochelle, - 1209
 Saltonstall, Gurdon, appointed Brigadier-General of Connecticut Militia, - 281
 Introduced to General Washington, - 295
 Letter from, to Governor Trumbull, - 306
 Orders to, from General Heath, - 591, 828, 844
 Four regiments of the command of, encamp opposite Fort Washington, - 605
 Remainder of the command of, encamp on Harlem River, opposite Head-Quarters, - 610
 Letter from, to General Heath, - 828
 Return of the brigade commanded by, - 909
 Saltpetre, a quantity of, delivered to Daniel Tillinghast, - 119
 New-York Convention authorize the purchase of, - 690
 Resolve of Massachusetts relative to, - 774
 Dr. Weisenthall's report on, - 817
 Samson, Captain Simeon, prizes captured by, - 346
 Application of, for orders, stores, &c., - 794
 Order from Massachusetts Council to, - 808
 Sanborn, John, deposition of, against Asa Porter, - 153
 Sanderson, Francis, taken into custody, - 1005
 Sent to Maryland Council of Safety for trial, - 1032
 Sands, Comfort, letter from, to New-York Convention, - 979, 998
 Sandwich, Lord, personal character of, - 456
 Sandy-Hook, twenty-two sail of the enemy's fleet leave, and steer an easterly course, - 792
 Twenty-two sail making in for, - 1094
 A large number of transports arrive off, - 1158
 Saratoga, General Schuyler preparing to build barracks at, - 1078
 Sargeant, Epes, complaint against, - 769
 Notified to appear before Massachusetts Council, - 769
 Intercepted letter from, - 769
 Sargent, Colonel Paul D., return of officers in the regiment commanded by, - 874, 875
 Ordered to march a detachment to Dobbs's Ferry, - 962
 Orders to, from General Heath, - 976
 Letter from, to General Heath, - 976
 Letter to, from General Heath, - 1036
 Sargent, Captain, ordered to march to the Northern department, - 230
 Sargent, Winthrop, letter from, to Massachusetts Council, - 116
 Savage, Thomas, appointed a Commissioner of South-Carolina Navy Board, - 1323
 Sayre, James, letter from, to General Heath, - 244
 Sayre, William, appointed a First Lieutenant, - 88
 Scammel, Major Alexander, appointed assistant to the Adjutant-General, - 291, 1284
 Schenck, Guisbert, deposition of, against Wm. Warne, - 679
 Schenck, John, letter from, to Abraham Yates, - 260
 Schenck, Roeloff, deposition of, against Wm. Warne, - 681
 Schmidt, General, arrival of, at Sandy-Hook, - 1158
 Schoolfield, Benjamin, appointed a Captain, - 634
 Schoolfield, George, appointed a Second Lieutenant, - 634
 Schoolfield, William, appointed a First Lieutenant, - 633
 Schott, John Paul, petition of, for a Captaincy, - 157
 Appointed a Captain in the Continental Army, - 1332
 Schuyler, sloop, prize captured by the, - 357, 358
 Schuyler, Peter, letter from, to New-York Convention, - 978
 Schuyler, General Philip—
 Complaints against, by Joseph Trumbull, - 213
 Asks for a Court of Inquiry, - 245
 Resigns his commission, - 333
 Joseph Trumbull congratulates himself and General Gates on the resignation of, - 417
 Resolutions of New-York Convention in relation to the resignation of, - 709
 Insinuation against, by Joseph Trumbull, - 995
 Mr. Duane's Minutes of a meeting of a Committee with, - 1190
 Instructions from, to recruiting officers, - 1297
 Directed to make inquiry respecting the plunder of the baggage of officers taken at St. John's, &c., - 1330
 Congress refuse to accept the resignation of, - 1384
 Application of, to the Eastern States for Militia, approved of by Congress, - 1409
 Letters from, to—
 General Gates, - 110, 142, 220, 249, 264, 293, 334, 355, 374, 469, 555, 833, 859, 909, 923, 999, 1039, 1103, 1125, 1142, 1243, 1274, 1287, 1299, 1314
 Governor Trumbull, - 126, 341, 846, 999, 1125, 1169
 General Washington, - 125, 248, 263, 302, 352, 420, 469, 525, 614, 832, 922, 932, 1079, 1138, 1206, 1257, 1286
 Robert Yates, - 932, 1016
 Abraham Yates, - 1087
 President of Congress, - 125, 245, 248, 263, 333, 525, 555, 857, 858, 922, 1078, 1205, 1296
 New-York Committee of Safety, - 685
 New-York Convention, - 707, 932
 Berkshire (Massachusetts) Committee, - 1087
 Selectmen of Boston, - 1087
 Committee of New-York Convention, - 1258
 Bennington Committee, - 1258
 The Board of War, - 1298
 The Secretary of the Board of War, - 1298
 Letters to, from—
 General Arnold, giving an account of the destruction of his fleet, - 1079
 Colonel Dayton, - 247, 859
 General Gates, - 185, 203, 204, 294, 343, 481, 530, 619, 885, 1000, 1017, 1080, 1257, 1287, 1314
 H. Glen, - 142, 184, 221, 534, 980, 1190
 Robert H. Harrison, - 1120
 Colonel Joseph Trumbull, - 214
 Governor Trumbull, - 279, 535, 934, 1104
 General Washington, - 167, 300, 416, 567, 609, 869, 973, 994, 1186
 Robert Yates, - 1067
 President of Congress, - 560, 864, 1197
 New-York Committee of Safety, - 979
 Scipio, to the Freemen of Pennsylvania, - 940
 Scollay, John, Chairman of Boston Selectmen, - 1227
 Sconondo, an Indian, brings intelligence to Colonel Dayton, - 247, 859
 Scott, Benjamin, appointed a Second Lieutenant in the Flying-Camp, - 644
 Scott, James, First Lieutenant of sloop Freedom, - 174
 Scott, John B., letter from, to General Gates, - 1103
 Requests leave to resign his commission, - 1267
 Scott, Captain, a Court-Martial ordered for the trial of, - 606
 Scott, General John Morin, letter from, to General Gates, - 828, 919
 Letter from, to New-York Convention, - 975
 President of the Court of Inquiry into the conduct of Colonel Tyler, - 1251
 Scott, John, letter from, to Matthew Tilghman, - 952
 Scudder, Dr. Nathaniel, letter to, from John Noble Cumming, - 1244
 Scureman, Jacob, prisoner, examination of, - 310
 Seabury, Rev. Samuel, order of New-York Convention for the arrest of, - 683
 Seamen, a number of, wanted for the Lakes, - 357
 Wages allowed to, - 264
 Thirty-three, detailed from Colonel Whitcomb's regiment to serve in Arnold's fleet, - 472
 Arnold asks for one hundred, - 481
 A reinforcement of, sent to Arnold, - 556, 834
 Arnold's, almost naked, - 834
 Difficulty of obtaining, to man the new Continental ships, - 1070
 Difficulty of obtaining, for the Navy, - 1105
 List of, detailed from vessels in the River St. Lawrence to serve on Lake Champlain, - 1179
 Impressment of, on the River Thames, - 1228, 1229
 Resolution of South-Carolina Navy Board to procure, from the West-Indies, - 1328
 Sea Nymph, brig, taken by Captain Jones, - 171

- Skinner, John, appointed a Recruiting Sergeant, - 656
 Slagle, Colonel, appointed a Commissioner to form the Flying-Camp, - 20
 Sleght, Johannes, letter from, to John McKesson, - 554
 Letter from, to New-York Convention, - 950
 Sloops, Washington asks for Albany, to transport the sick, - 675
 Warrant for impressing, - 676, 684
 Slough, Colonel, ordered, to march his battalion of Associators into New-Jersey, - 27
 Associators under, dismissed with thanks, - 940, 941
 Small-pox, orders of the Selectmen of Boston in relation to, - 297
 The town of Boston nearly free from, - 339
 Smallwood, Colonel William, letters to, from Maryland Council of Safety, - 272, 838
 Letter from, to Maryland Convention, - 1011
 Letter from, to Maryland Council of Safety, - 1097
 Letter from, to Maryland Delegates in Congress, - 1205
 Wounded in the battle at White-Plains, - 1271
 Elected a Brigadier-General, - 1410
 Smart, Thomas, appointed an Adjutant, - 473
 Smedes, Lieut. Abraham, sentenced to be cashiered, - 930
 Smith, Clement, appointed a Recruiting Sergeant, - 657
 Smith, Captain Charles S., resigns his commission as Captain of Militia, - 253
 Smith, Gilbert Hamilton, deposition of, against Richard and Samuel Chew, - 887
 Smith, Edward, published as an enemy to the rights of the American States, - 935
 Smith, Eleazer, sentenced to receive thirty-nine lashes for counterfeiting the currency, - 1082
 Smith, Elias, Commander of the privateer Washington, - 804
 Smith, George, appointed a Commissioner of South-Carolina Navy Board, - 1323
 Smith, Jacob, engaged in raising men for the King's Army on Long-Island, - 506
 Instructions from, to Samuel Glover, - 1024
 Smith, Colonel James, elected a Delegate to Continental Congress, - 6
 Smith, James, Commander of letter-of-marque Rutledge, - 84
 Smith, Jonathan, Deputy Mustermaster-General for the Flying-Camp, tenders his resignation, - 511
 Resignation of, accepted, - 1380
 Smith, Colonel Jonathan, return of absent officers in the regiment commanded by, - 880, 904
 Wounded in the action on Staten-Island, - 1073, 1093
 Smith, Jonathan B., appointed a member of Pennsylvania Council of Safety, - 8
 Smith, Joseph, Second Lieutenant of Marines on Maryland ship Defence, - 1291
 Smith, Joshua H., member of the New-York Convention, draft of a bill for the relief of insolvent debtors reported by, - 704, 706
 Smith, Josiah, Jun., appointed a Commissioner of South-Carolina Navy Board, - 1323
 Smith, Captain Nathan, captures a sloop laden with provisions for the enemy, - 759
 Smith, Oliver, elected a Lieutenant-Colonel of Connecticut Militia, - 281
 Return of the regiment commanded by, - 1321
 Smith, P. Sim, letter from, to Maryland Council of Safety, - 1209
 Smith, Philip, appointed a First Lieutenant, - 638
 Smith, Richard, letter from, to Maryland Council of Safety, - 1062
 Smith, Roger, appointed a Commissioner of South-Carolina Navy Board, - 1323
 Smith, Samuel, appointed a Second Lieutenant, - 1340
 Smith, William, appointed a Second Lieutenant, - 640
 Smith, Captain, orders to, from Major Greene, of De Lancey's brigade, - 1186
 Smith, Ensign, promoted to a Second Lieutenantcy, - 1083
 Smithtown, Long-Island, Committee of, acknowledge allegiance to the King, - 1220
 Smyth, John, prisoner in the jail of Philadelphia, prayer of, for relief, - 26
 Released from prison on a pledge to work in the gun factory, - 27
 Smyth, Thomas, Jun., recommended to the favour of General Washington, - 1021
 Snider, Johannes, order for the arrest and examination of, - 688
 Snow, Ensign Benjamin, proceedings of a Court-Martial on, - 883
 Snow, Isaac, Captain of the privateer America, petition of, for a commission, - 766
 Commission granted to, - 766
 Snow, Jonas, appointed an Ensign, - 1378
 Snyder, Johannes, appointed Colonel of the levies intended to reinforce Forts Montgomery and Constitution, - 673
 Commission of, - 686
 Letters from, to New-York Convention, - 1124
 Soldier, a, on the employment of Indians in America, - 1120
 Soldier, a, to the Independent Sons of America, - 1174, 1317
 Soldiers, complaint of William Gilleland against, - 112
 Ought to be inlisted to serve during the war, - 118
 Sick and weak, to be supplied with mutton, - 616
 A suit of clothes voted those, who inlist for the war, - 1392
 Somerset, New-Jersey, an account of the prisoners confined in the jail of, - 1238
 Resolution of Congress in relation to the prisoners confined in the jail of, - 1403
 Somes, Isaac, commissioned Commander of the privateer Union, - 741
 Southampton, Long-Island, people of, take the oath of allegiance to the King, - 252, 1220
 Letter from, - 345
 Consternation at, in consequence of Howe's orders to raise a brigade on Long-Island, - 345
 South-Carolina, Speech of the President of, - 392
 Answer of the Legislature of, to the Governour's Speech, - 393
 Address of the General Assembly of, to President Rutledge, - 394
 Letter to the Assembly of, from the President of Congress, - 489, 838
 South-Carolina Navy Board, Proceedings of, - 1323-1328
 Letter from, to Captain Edward Allen, - 1325, 1327
 Letters from, to Anthony Bonneau, - 1324, 1326
 Letter from, to Archibald Brown & Co., - 1327
 Letter from, to John Copithorn, - 1325
 Letter from, to Edward Darrell, - 1325
 Letter from, to Alexander Horn, - 1325
 Letter from, to Captain Thomas Pickering, - 1323
 Letter to, from President Rutledge, - 1328
 Message from, to President Rutledge, - 1328
 Letter from, to Captain Stephen Seymour, - 1325
 Souther, Captain, instructions to, from Massachusetts Council, - 338, 808
 Captures a brig, with a Captain and twenty dragoons on board, - 943
 Southold, Long-Island, Committee of, revoke their former proceedings and acknowledge allegiance to the King, - 1220
 Southwestern frontier, advices from the, - 540
 Spades, a number of, forwarded to Forts Montgomery and Constitution, - 262, 672, 678
 General Gates asks for all that can be collected, - 1081
 Spain, on the eve of a war with Great Britain, - 602
 Friendly disposition of, towards America, - 996
 Reported to have declared war against Portugal, - 1072
 Warlike preparations daily making in, - 1091
 Spaulding, Eleazer, paid for his gun lost at Bunker-Hill, - 748
 Specie, Colonel Trumbull sends a bag of, to General Gates, - 1066
 Speculator, on County Conventions and Committees, - 339
 Speech, of President Rutledge, of South-Carolina, - 392
 Of the Governour of Barbadoes, - 812
 Speedwell, privateer, stores, appurtenances, and equipment of the, - 749
 Prize taken by the, - 808
 Spencer, Gordon, testimony of, on the trial of Captain De Witt, - 948
 Spencer, Seth, appointed an Ensign, - 477
 Spencer, Thomas, letters from, to Colonel Dayton, - 247, 248
 Spencer, Massachusetts, memorial of Committee of, to the General Court, - 801
 Enjoined to keep a watchful eye on suspected persons, - 801
 Spooner, Walter, President of Massachusetts Council, - 576
 Letter from, to General Washington, - 594
 Letter from, to Richard Devens, - 594
 Spooner, William, and others, petition of, to Massachusetts Council, - 753
 Sprague, Joseph, and others, powder delivered to, - 734
 Petition of, to Massachusetts General Court, - 737
 Petition of Samuel Ward and, to Massachusetts General Court, - 752
 Powder voted to, - 757
 Sprague, Samuel, manifests a spirit unfriendly to America, - 754
 Spy, Connecticut armed schooner, a valuable prize captured by the, - 312
 Ordered to cruise in the Sound, between Montauk Point and Stamford, - 848

- Spy, information of a, given to Lord Dunmore, - 163
 An Indian, sent to Massachusetts Council, - 268
 Arnold sends two into Canada, - 591
 Stacey, Captain, sends in a prize, - 1174, 1260
 Stainton, Colonel Benson, letters from, to Maryland Convention, - 362, 560
 Stalker, Andrew, permitted to return to his native country, - 1415
 Standard of the Thirtieth Regiment, - 244
 Stansbury, Elijah, sentenced to receive twenty lashes for desertion, - 613
 Stark, John, commissioned Colonel of First Battalion of New-Hampshire troops, - 1176
 Starr, Lieutenant Colonel, recommendation of, - 1192
 Startin, Charles, permitted to return to England, - 1386
 Staten-Island, amount and quality of Howe's forces on, 1073
 General Mercer's descent upon, - 1073, 1093
 List of prisoners taken on, - 1094
 Steele, James, appointed an Ensign in the Flying-Camp, - 644
 Stephen, General Adam, Address of the Officers of the Fourth Virginia Battalion to, - 395
 Answer of, to the Address of the Officers of his former command, - 395
 Letter from, to Francis Lightfoot Lee, - 1092
 Ordered to Trenton, - 1211
 Elected a Brigadier-General in the Continental Army, - 1330
 Stephens, General, impresses an Annapolis pilot, - 639
 Stephens, Mr., Secretary of the Admiralty, letter to, from Lord Howe, - 379
 Letter to, from Captain Pringle, - 1069
 Letter to, from Captain Douglass, - 1178
 Stevens, Captain, ordered to take command of all the Artillery on the west side of the Lake, - 476
 Stevens, Thomas, Chairman of Danbury Committee, 1194
 Stevenson, Andrew, convicted of being an enemy to the common cause, - 1142
 Stevenson, Joshua, appointed a Lieutenant-Colonel, - 642
 Steward, Stephen, letters from, to Maryland Council of Safety, - 1071, 1268
 Stewart, Colonel Walter, letter to, from Robert Gates, 299
 Stewart, Captain Walter, letter from, to General Gates, 1191
 Stewart, Captain William, ordered to convey certain suspected persons to Fishkill, - 882
 Stewart, Lieutenant, trial of, by Court-Martial, - 467
 Stiles, Sergeant Eli, examination of, - 482, 835
 Return of, from a scout to Isle-aux-Noix, - 834
 Stillwater, General Schuyler preparing to build barracks at, - 1078
 Stimson, Joseph, sentenced to be flogged, - 1086
 Stirling, Lord, taken prisoner in the battle on Long-Island, - 105, 108
 Lord Howe proposes to exchange, for General McDonald, - 105, 119
 General Howe proposes to exchange, for Governour Browne, - 437
 Exchanged for Governour Browne, - 942
 Appointed to the brigade lately under the command of General Mifflin, - 946
 Ordered to push to Croton River, - 1311
 Stock, General Washington orders an expedition to Long-Island for the removal of, - 607
 The Governour of Georgia orders the removal of, from the Islands, - 990
 Absolutely necessary that a large supply of, should be kept in the rear of the Army, - 1138
 Stockbridge, Samuel, resolve to pay, for billeting men, 756
 Stockbridge Committee, letter to, from Richard Varick, 1039
 Prompt response of, to the call of General Schuyler for aid, - 1087
 Stockett, Thomas N., recommended for the office of Assistant Surgeon, - 396
 Appointed Second Assistant Surgeon, - 636
 Stockings, Mr. Mease directed to forward, to the Northern Army, - 561
 A supply of, forwarded to General Gates, - 1064
 Stockton, Lieutenant-Colonel Andrew, letter from, to Robert Benson, - 1254
 Stockton, Richard, a Delegate in Congress from New-Jersey, letter to, from the Speaker of New-Jersey Assembly, - 365
 Appointed on a Committee to confer with General Gates respecting the Northern Army, 561, 922, 1142
 Letter from, to the President of Congress, - 1256
 Letter from, to Abraham Clark, - 1274
 Stone, John, appointed an Ensign, - 88
 Stone, John, sentenced to receive thirty-nine lashes for desertion, - 992
 Stone, Thomas, Delegate in Congress from Maryland—
 Letters to, from Maryland Council of Safety, 156, 177, 601
 Letter from, to Maryland Council of Safety, - 407
 Stone, Lieutenant, a scout, information from, - 1040, 1144
 Stonington, Connecticut, memorial of Committee of, to the Assembly, - 1003
 Stores, for armed sloop Freedom, - 174
 Story, Thomas, verbal statement of, to the Committee of Secret Correspondence, - 818
 Stoughton, one large copper delivered for the use of the powder-mill at, - 769
 Stricker, Henry, appointed an Ensign, - 88
 Stringer, Dr. Samuel, letter from to General Gates, - 923
 Strohboch, John Martin, elected a Captain of Artillery, 80
 Ordered to Fort Montgomery with a detachment of Artillery, - 81
 Stuart, William, appointed an Ensign, - 636
 Suffolk, Lord, character of, - 456
 Suffolk County, Long-Island—
 Inhabitants of, ordered to take the oath of allegiance to the King, - 505
 Militia of, ordered to lay down their arms, - 505
 All the fat cattle and sheep in, to be driven to Jamaica, - 505
 Paper sent by Governour Tryon through, - 564
 Committees of, revoke their former proceedings and acknowledge allegiance to the King, - 1042, 1219
 Declarations of Committees of, - 1219
 Sullivan, General John, taken prisoner at the battle on Long-Island, - 105, 108
 Arrives at Philadelphia on his parole, - 105
 Lord Howe proposes to exchange, for General Prescott, - 105, 119
 Letter to, from Samuel Chase, - 1197
 Purport of a message sent by, from Lord Howe to Congress, - 1329
 Letter from, to Lord Howe, - 1329
 Lord Howe's answer to the letter of, - 1329
 Sullivan's Island, bravery of the troops engaged in the defence of, - 392, 393, 394
 Colonel Gadsden requests a supply of pork and rum for the troops on, - 938
 Sulphur, Governour Trumbull applies to Massachusetts for a supply of, - 836
 Massachusetts loans a ton of, to Connecticut, - 1146
 Sumner, Major, recommendation of, - 1192
 Sunrall, Alexander, appointed a Second Lieutenant, 1340
 Sunbury, Nova-Scotia, memorial of Committee of, to Massachusetts General Assembly, - 785
 Supplies, necessary for the use and comfort of the Army, - 1384
 Surgeons, remarks of General Washington on the appointment of, - 497
 Much wanted in Washington's camp, - 602
 Great complaints against the Regimental, - 974
 Sutherland, Thomas, appointed a Lieutenant-Colonel, 82
 Sutlers, order against officers acting as, - 472
 Sutton, Massachusetts, proceedings of a town-meeting at, - 936
 Swan, James, a quantity of powder voted to, - 757
 Swart, Adjutant, promoted to a Second Lieutenantcy, 478
 Swartwout, Colonel Jacobus, letter from, to New-York Convention, - 276
 Return of officers in the regiment commanded by, - 871
 Return of the regiment commanded by, - 1321
 Swift, Nat., promoted to a Second Lieutenantcy, - 477
 Swift, Colonel, recommendation of, - 1192
 Swoope, Michael, elected a member of Pennsylvania Council of Safety, - 9
 Accepts the command of a battalion in the Flying-Camp, - 39
 St.
 St. Augustine, British sloop-of-war Otter and four schooners stationed off, - 863
 Garrison at, consists of eighteen hundred German and one thousand British troops, - 990
 St. Clair, General Arthur, letters from, to—
 Lieutenant-Colonel Allen, - 111
 Governour Livingston, - 1207
 President of Congress, - 128
 Letters to, from—
 Colonel Hartley, - 534
 Colonel Wilkinson, - 1141
 Colonel Joseph Wood, - 138
 St. Clair, Daniel, appointed an Ensign, - 478
 St. Eustatia, a quantity of powder shipped at, for Maryland, - 965
 St. John's, an unhealthy place, - 356

- T.
- Tabbs, Barton, appointed an Assistant Surgeon, - 631
- Table, showing the pay of British and American Naval Officers, - 1107
- Talbot, Lieutenant Benjamin, dismissed the service, - 1086
- Talbott, Edward, member of Baltimore Committee, - 117
- Taliaferro, William, appointed Major of Third Virginia Battalion, - 1395
- Talk, Congress order a, to be delivered to the Shawanese Indians, - 1362
- Tallcott, Matthew, letter from, to Governor Trumbull, 1303
- Tallman, Benjamin, elected a Major, - 1333
- Talmadge, Mr., appointed Brigade-Major to General Wadsworth, - 992
- Taplin, Colonel, arrested as being inimical to the cause of his country, - 148
- Tarrytown, British men-of-war lying at, - 974
- Tash, Colonel Thomas, ordered to march his regiment to New-York, - 508
- Ordered to Fishkill, - 1026
- Letter from, to New-Hampshire Committee of Safety, - 1255
- Tavern-keepers, not allowed to take out licenses from the late Government of Pennsylvania, - 19
- Taylor, George, elected a Delegate to Congress, - 6
- Taylor, John, letter from, to General Gates, - 599
- Taylor, John, appointed a Captain in the First Virginia Battalion, - 1396
- Tea, resolution of Kingston Committee in relation to, 950
- Teems, Frederick, appointed a Captain, - 633
- Temple, brigantine, case of the, - 357
- Ten Broeck, Brigadier-General Abraham, letter to, from Major Van Rensselaer, - 260
- Elected Chairman of New-York Committee of Safety, - 716
- Ten Broeck, Brigadier-General Petrus, orders of, to Colonel Humphreys, - 341
- Letter from, to New-York Convention, - 679
- Letter to, from New-York Committee of Safety, - 679
- Ten Broeck, Samuel, letters from, to Colonel Peter R. Livingston, - 963, 977
- Letter to, from New-York Committee of Safety, - 1016
- Tenent, Rev. Mr., Oration by, at Mount Independence, - 1144
- Tents, duck ordered to be made up into, and forwarded to General Washington, - 119
- Great want of, in Washington's Army, 197, 381, 401, 520
- Impossibility of obtaining, in Connecticut, - 281
- A number of, forwarded from Providence to General Washington, - 559, 576
- A number of, sent from New-London to General Washington, - 836
- Maryland Council of Safety order the purchase of linen for, - 988
- Linen for, delivered to Captain Harris, - 1307
- Tew, James, elected a Major, - 1333
- Thanks, General Williamson returns, to Pennsylvania Associators at Elizabethtown, - 940, 941
- Thetis, ship, captured by the brig General Montgomery, - 1073
- Thomas, John, Jun., letter from, to New-York Convention, - 401
- Thomas, John, appointed an Ensign, - 659
- Thomas, Nicholas, a member of Maryland Council of Safety, - 632
- Thomas, General, judicious, calm, and resolute, - 1244
- Thomas, Ensign, sent to Albany for examination, - 859
- Thomas, Captain J. A., letter from, to Maryland Council of Safety, - 168
- Thomas, Philip, letter from, to Matthew Tilghman, - 298
- Thomas, Colonel Thomas, return of officers in the regiment commanded by, - 872
- Return of the regiment commanded by, - 1319
- Thompson, Amos, appointed Chaplain to Colonel Stevenson's battalion, - 1333
- Thompson, Ezra, letter from, to New-York Convention, - 845
- Letter to, from John Avery, - 1005
- Letter to, from Jonathan Landon, - 1078
- Thompson, Joseph, petition of, to Massachusetts General Court, - 802
- Thompson, Major, appointed a Lieutenant-Colonel, 695
- Thompson, Captain Thomas, letter to, from the Marine Committee, - 428
- Ordered on a cruise, - 1200
- Thompson, General William, letter from, to Richard Peters, - 602
- Letter from, to General Washington, - 888
- Thompson, William, appointed a Second Lieutenant, 1340
- Thorn, James, prisoner, examination of, - 597
- Thorne, Richard, letter from, to New-York Convention, - 202
- Is permitted to return home, being sick and weak, 202
- Thornton, Matthew, elected a delegate to Congress from New-Hampshire, - 346
- Three Friends, brigantine, - 361
- Thwing, Nathaniel, deposition of, against William Gardner, - 739
- Tibbitt, James, Captain of letter-of-marque Independence, - 637
- Ticonderoga, galleys to be sent to, and rigged, - 142
- Twelve thousand effective men near, - 222
- Extracts of letters from, - 343, 484, 1144, 1267
- Barracks for a strong garrison necessary to be built at, - 470
- Two thousand five hundred men sufficient to guard, during the winter, - 471
- An immediate attack upon, apprehended, - 479
- Complaints of abuses in the Hospital at, - 591
- Northern Army strongly intrenched at, - 821
- Number of effective men at, - 1028, 1080
- Americans evacuate Crown-Point and retire to, - 1040
- Arrival of ammunition at, - 1079
- Preparations for the defence of, - 1080
- Eight or ten thousand Militia should be immediately sent to, - 1080
- Some account of affairs at, - 1143
- Bennington Committee requested to forward provisions to, - 1143
- A large quantity of powder and lead arrive at, - 1169
- New-Hampshire appoint a Committee to visit the camp at, - 1176
- Return of the Committee's doings at, - 1176
- Return of New-Hampshire troops at, - 1177
- Almost impregnable if properly garrisoned and supplied with provisions, - 1186
- Nails exceedingly wanted at, - 1258
- Enemy's Grenadiers and Light-Infantry arrive within nine miles of, - 1258
- A party of Indians surprise and capture two soldiers within three miles of, - 1267
- Tiffany, John, appointed an Ensign, - 477
- Tilghman, James, requested to attend Maryland Council of Safety, - 308
- Tilghman, Matthew, President of Maryland Convention, letters to, from—
- Amos Garrett, - 1128
- Judge Hall, - 578
- John Scott, - 952
- Captain Charles S. Smith, - 253
- Philip Thomas, - 298
- Dr. Weisenthal, - 209
- Letter from, to the President of Congress, - 233
- Tilghman, Trench, letters from, to—
- Egbert Benson, - 854
- Committee of New-York Convention, - 569, 721
- William Duer, - 523, 828, 870, 896, 920, 931, 948, 1077, 1095, 1138, 1204, 1264, 1284, 1311
- General Heath, - 962
- Robert R. Livingston, - 974
- Colonel Moylan, - 257
- New-York Committee of Correspondence, - 961, 1035
- New-York Convention, - 1194
- Tillinghast, Daniel, letter to, from Marine Committee, 119
- Letter from, to General Washington, - 559, 576
- Letter to, from Commodore Hopkins, - 1004
- Tillinghast, Joseph, Captain of a letter of marque, prize taken by, - 227
- Tillotson, Dr., recommended to General Gates, - 277
- Tin, not to be obtained in Massachusetts, - 594
- Tinker, Captain, conduct of, censured, - 1122
- Tippit, Gilbert, arrested for inimical conversation, - 216
- Titcomb, recommended for the command of a row-galley, - 127
- Tobacco, enormous price of, in Holland, - 937, 1090
- St. Pierre, Martinique, a wretched market for, - 1134
- Silas Deane engaged a sale for twenty thousand hogshead of, in Europe, - 1234
- Tobey, Timothy, Second Lieutenant of armed sloop Freedom, - 174
- Todd, Ensign Job, Court-Martial ordered for trial of, 654
- Todd, Thomas, appointed a Second Lieutenant in the Flying-Camp, - 632
- Second Lieutenant of a company of Matrosses for the defence of Annapolis, - 656
- Tomkins, Jonathan, sentenced to receive twenty lashes for desertion, - 613
- Tomlinson, William, prisoner, order respecting, - 633

- Tories, plot of the, at Cohos and neighbourhood discovered, - 147
- Activity of the Goodrich family of, in Virginia, - 160
- On Long-Island, treat the friends of their country with great severity, - 170
- Two-thirds of the property of the City of New-York and suburbs belongs to, - 182
- Flying from the Indians, and surrendering to the friends of liberty, - 209
- At Coram, beating up for volunteers to join the enemy, - 252
- Petition from New-Haven for removal of, - 374
- Emboldened to a most intolerable degree, - 384
- List of, who broke jail at Frederick-Town, - 457
- Robberies committed by, - 461
- Inefficiency of publishing the names of, - 485
- Application of the halter to, the proper remedy, - 485
- Testimony concerning the, in Worcester County, Maryland, - 646, 654
- A number of, enlist in the service of Lord Dunmore, 653
- Report of Committee in New-York Convention on detecting and defeating the designs of, - 714
- Petition of the Committee of Cambridge for the sale of estates of, - 774
- Frequent meetings of, in Worcester, Massachusetts, 801
- The number of, a source of uneasiness, - 821
- Several companies of, in Westchester and Dutchess preparing to join the enemy, - 829
- Measures taken to intercept the, on their way to Howe's Army, - 829, 841, 845
- At Skeensborough, - 1142
- Information in relation to, - 1169
- Thirty-six of Rogers's corps of, taken prisoners, 1188, 1203
- Near Castleton, begin to grow very bold and troublesome, - 1207
- Four or five regiments of, said to be imbodyed by themselves, - 1249
- A body of, said to rendezvous above Saratoga, with intent to join General Carleton, - 1274
- On Long-Island and New-York, begin to be sick of their new lords and masters, - 1276
- See Disaffected Persons.
- Torrence, Robert, elected a First Lieutenant, - 1341
- Torrey, John, letter from, to Massachusetts Council, 507
- Torrey, Adjutant, testimony of, on the trial of Captain Poole, - 1295
- Torry, Maj. Nathaniel, money paid to, for his regiment, 947
- Totten, Robert and James, letter from, to the New-York Convention, - 401
- Touch, Alexander, petition of, to Massachusetts Council, - 792
- Permitted to return to England, - 792
- Toulon, a fleet fitting at, - 427
- Tounsand, Barclay, deposition of, - 649
- Townsend, William, deposition of, - 647
- Townsend, William Bartlet, ordered to give security for his good behaviour, - 644
- Letter to, from Josiah Robins, - 645
- Towson, Ezekiel, appointed by Baltimore Committee to command a guard, - 457, 459
- Traitors, an act of New-Jersey to punish, - 865
- Transports, a large number of, with troops and provisions, arrive at New-York, - 1158
- Travers, Colonel William, letter from, to Maryland Council of Safety, - 396
- Treadwell, William, sent to New-York Convention for examination, - 310
- Treason, ordinance of Pennsylvania defining and punishing, - 8, 34, 35
- Treaty, plan of a, proposed by Congress to France, - 1344
- Tredwell, William, ordered into custody, - 691, 702
- Trent, William, letter from, to Jacob S. Howell, - 235
- Trenton, New-Jersey, two Virginia regiments ordered to, - 1211
- Treyford, John, appointed an Ensign, - 631
- Trippe, John, account of, against the Province of Maryland, - 1280
- Troops, Pennsylvania resolves to raise, for the defence of her frontiers, - 16
- The enemy surround the American, on Long-Island, 107
- Disorderly conduct of Arnold's, - 112
- Dispirited by the result of the battle on Long-Island, 120
- Spirited conduct of the, at Harlem, - 369
- Prohibited from plundering, - 166
- Ill consequences of short enlistments of, - 488, 489
- In great distress for want of clothing, - 555
- About eight thousand Hessian and British, arrive off Sandy-Hook, - 1158
- Trumbull, row-galley, joins Arnold's fleet, - 834
- Trumbull, John, Deputy Adjutant-General, letter from, to the Commanding Officer at Jericho, - 111
- Letter from, to the Board of War, - 127
- Letter from, to Governour Trumbull, - 128
- Letter to, from Governour Trumbull, - 536
- Letters from, to Bennington Committee, 1143, 1191, 1300
- Elected Deputy Adjutant-General of the Northern Army, - 1338
- Trumbull, Jonathan, Governour of Connecticut—
- Orders of, to Colonel Abbott, - 206
- Petition of inhabitants of Long-Island to, - 593
- Proclamations by, - 1171, 1225
- Letters from, to—
- Governour Cooke, - 1208
- Commanding Officer at Boston, - 1133
- General Gates, - 280, 536, 912, 1104, 1316
- Admiral Hopkins, - 304, 861, 1002
- Colonel Livingston, - 225, 265, 266, 312, 1030
- Massachusetts Assembly, - 205, 266
- Massachusetts Council, - 129, 836
- New-Haven Committee, - 303
- President of Congress, - 441
- General Schuyler, - 279, 535, 934, 1104
- Nathaniel Shaw, Jun., - 114
- John Trumbull, - 536
- General Washington, 97, 128, 187, 278, 295, 357, 422, 574, 593, 847, 1001, 1028, 1041, 1171, 1224, 1315
- Letters to, from—
- Samuel Bird and others, - 965
- Oliver Ellsworth, - 388
- General Gates, - 127, 356, 620, 1192
- Abraham Gardner, - 225
- Commodore Hopkins, - 455, 913, 1070
- Colonel Huntington, - 336
- Robert H. Harrison, - 1187
- "Incognito," - 454
- Richard Law, - 281
- Colonel Lewis, - 122
- Christopher Leffingwell, - 336, 623
- Colonel H. B. Livingston, - 114, 152, 281, 296, 336, 344, 345, 375, 622, 1173, 1245
- Massachusetts Assembly, - 315
- Massachusetts Council, - 507, 1146
- Marine Committee, - 1237
- Samuel Mott, - 933
- New-York Committee of Safety, - 979
- Benjamin Paine, - 912
- Colonel Reed, - 98, 1121
- John L. C. Roome, - 849
- Jesse Root, - 1267
- General Saltonstall, - 306
- General Schuyler, - 126, 341, 846, 999, 1125, 1169
- Captain Seymour, - 558
- Philip Skene, - 861
- Matthew Talcott, - 1303
- John Trumbull, - 128
- General Wadsworth, - 995
- General Washington, - 196, 257, 465, 549, 609, 826, 947, 957, 1064, 1076
- William Williams, - 408
- Trumbull, Jonathan, Deputy Paymaster-General for the Northern Department, Congress resolve to send five hundred thousand dollars to, - 1406
- Trumbull, Colonel Joseph, Commissary-General—
- Letters from, to the President of Congress, - 213, 372, 453, 829, 920, 963, 1011
- Letter from, to Walter Livingston, - 213
- Letter from, to Elisha Avery, - 214
- Letter from, to General Schuyler, - 214
- Letters to, from the President of Congress, - 348, 851
- Letters from, to General Gates, - 417, 995
- Letters from, to New-York Convention, - 469, 699
- Letters to, from General Washington, - 1138, 1165
- Tryon, Governour William, letter from, to Lord George Germain, - 493
- Paper sent through Suffolk County by order of, - 564
- Insidious and corrupt practices of, - 714
- Difficulty of suppressing the conspiracies formed by, - 999
- Address of Inhabitants of New-York to, - 1075
- Answer of, to the above Address, - 1075
- Address of Inhabitants of Queen's County to, - 1164
- Answer of, to the above Address, - 1164
- Tryon County, Militia of, formed into a brigade, - 664
- Application of Committee of, to New-York Congress for money, - 911
- Alarming intelligence from, - 1274
- Colonel Van Schaick, with about a thousand Militia, ordered into, - 1296

- Tubbs, John, an impressed seaman, proceedings in the case of, - - - - - 1229
- Tucker, Henry, letter to, from the Marine Committee, - - - - - 970
- Tuckerman, Second Lieutenant, promoted to a First Lieutenant, - - - - - 1083
- Tuder, Samuel, letters to, from the Marine Committee, 1148, 1313
- Letters from, to Pierre Van Cortlandt, - - - - - 1273, 1313
- Letter to, from New-York Convention, - - - - - 1313
- Tulpehocken, inhabitants of, petition for protection, - - - - - 28
- Turner, Caleb, powder delivered to, - - - - - 756
- Turner, Joseph, prisoner, examination of, - - - - - 310
- Turner, William, appointed Aid-de-Camp to General Lincoln, - - - - - 1283
- Tuscany, Grand Duke of, proposes a commerce between the United States and Leghorn, - - - - - 811
- Tweedie, Anne, and others, petition of, to Massachusetts Council, - - - - - 750
- Prayer of the petition of, granted, - - - - - 751
- Twenbull, Charles, elected Second Lieutenant of Artillery, - - - - - 80
- Two Brothers, schooner, allowed to sail for Martinique, - - - - - 630
- Tyler, Colonel Robert, letter from, to Maryland Council of Safety, - - - - - 347
- Ordered to be put under arrest for cowardice, &c., 569, 591
- Evidence taken before the Court of Inquiry on the charges against, - - - - - 1251
- Tyrannicide, sloop, resolve to alter the rigging, &c., of the, - - - - - 767
- U.
- Ulster, New-York, many dangerous persons in, - - - - - 697
- Appointment of officers in, - - - - - 1027
- Uniform of Naval and Marine Officers, - - - - - 181
- "United States" substituted for "United Colonies" in all commissions, - - - - - 1335
- Utley, Nathan, and others, petition of, to Massachusetts Council, - - - - - 806
- Prayer of the petition of, granted, - - - - - 807
- Utterdorf, Monsieur, appointed Adjutant of a battalion, - - - - - 96
- Two hundred dollars advanced to, - - - - - 97
- V.
- Vanbibber & Harrison, letters from Maryland Council of Safety to, - - - - - 297, 298, 965, 1134
- Van Bueren, Harmen, appointed a Major of Albany County Militia, - - - - - 664
- Van Cortlandt, Pierre, letter to, from Samuel Tuder and Augustin Lawrence, - - - - - 1273
- Letter to, from Robert R. Livingston, - - - - - 1286
- Van Gaasbeck, Petrus, offer of, to command a company against the disaffected, - - - - - 977
- Letter from, to William Duer, - - - - - 1285
- Van Gilder, John, sentenced to be flogged, - - - - - 477
- Van Housen, Rynier, petition of, to New-York Convention, - - - - - 694
- Valpy, Richard, petition of, to Massachusetts Council, Certificate in favour of, - - - - - 807
- Prayer of the petition of, granted, - - - - - 807
- Van Ness, Peter, letter from, to Peter R. Livingston, - - - - - 1036
- Van Rensselaer, Major Henry, letter from, to General Ten Broeck, - - - - - 260
- Van Rensselaer, Henry J., resigns the office of Commissary of Forage, - - - - - 924
- Van Schaick, Colonel Goose, letter from, to the President of Congress, - - - - - 355
- Ordered to march a thousand Militia into Tryon County, - - - - - 1296
- Van Swearingen, —, appointed a Captain, - - - - - 1340
- Vanvredenburgh, Peter, sentenced to be flogged for desertion, - - - - - 590
- Van Vredenburgh, Peter Benjamin, a deserter, sent to Fort Constitution, - - - - - 711
- Van Wyck, Theodorus, Jun., deposition of, against William Warne, - - - - - 681
- Varick, Captain Richard, Secretary to General Schuyler, letters from, to General Gates, 250, 335, 1036, 1102
- Letter to, from General Gates, - - - - - 277
- Recommended for Deputy Mustermaster-General for Northern Department, - - - - - 334
- Letters from, to General Washington, - - - - - 335, 1038
- Resigns his commission as Captain, - - - - - 335
- Appointed Deputy Mustermaster-General to Northern Army, - - - - - 561, 1378
- Letter from, to New-York Convention, - - - - - 1037
- Letter from, to Stockbridge Committee, - - - - - 1039
- Letter to, from Dr. Potts, - - - - - 1040
- Varnum, Colonel J. N., certificate of, in favour of Simon Martindale, - - - - - 241
- Takes the resolution to leave the Army, - - - - - 996
- Abilities of, too well known to need recommendation, - - - - - 997
- Veazey, Captain, killed in the battle on Long-Island, - - - - - 107
- Veeder, Captain, ordered to march his company to the saw-mill at Cheshire's, - - - - - 1037
- Veeder, Volkert, letter from, to Robert R. Livingston, 1267
- Vegetables, regulations respecting the sale of, at Gates's Head-Quarters, - - - - - 616
- Disposition of a quantity of, received at Ticonderoga, - - - - - 618
- Venalty, the most alarming enemy America has to contend with, - - - - - 939
- Vernonet, Monsieur de, appointed a Major by brevet, 1360
- Two months' pay advanced to, - - - - - 1361
- Vernejout, Jean Louis de, appointed a Captain by brevet, - - - - - 407
- Two months' pay advanced to, - - - - - 1374
- Vernon, Job, promoted to a Second Lieutenant, - - - - - 476
- Vessels, of observation, resolve for discharging, - - - - - 779
- Orders to provide supplies for armed, - - - - - 780
- List of American armed, on Lake Champlain, 1041, 1179
- List of British armed, on Lake Champlain, - - - - - 1080, 1172, 1179
- Secret Committee authorized to purchase, in Europe, - - - - - 1387
- Vestery, Hugh, deposition of, - - - - - 650
- Vickers, Ezekiel, appointed a Captain, - - - - - 630
- Virginia—
- Proceedings in Pennsylvania Convention on boundary of, - - - - - 3, 40, 41, 42
- List of Field Officers in the service of, - - - - - 320
- List of officers in the First and Second Battalions of, while on Provincial Establishment, with the date of their commissions, - - - - - 320
- List of Captains and subaltern officers in the service of, dates of their commissions, &c., - - - - - 321
- Sentiments of the Militia and Freeholders of Augusta in, - - - - - 815
- Strictures on the above, by A Member of the Established Church, (note,) - - - - - 815
- Return of Field Officers in the First Regiment of, Mr. Harrison elected a Delegate from, in place of Mr. Jefferson, resigned, - - - - - 987
- Two British ships-of-war cruising off the Capes of, 1200
- Two regiments belonging to, ordered to Trenton, - - - - - 1211
- Promotions and appointments in the battalions of, One hundred thousand dollars forwarded to the Deputy Paymaster-General in, - - - - - 1408
- Virginia Assembly, letters to, from the President of Congress, - - - - - 489, 838
- Virginia Council, letter from, to the President of Congress, - - - - - 209
- Letters from, to Virginia Delegates in Congress, 319, 986
- Order of, for the payment of soldiers, - - - - - 1236
- Virginia House of Delegates, resolve of, for raising six new battalions of Infantry, &c., - - - - - 1112
- Volunteers, call for, for the Floating Battery on the Delaware River, - - - - - 841
- Von Henderick, Lieutenant, recommended for an appointment in a German battalion, - - - - - 156, 157
- W.
- Wadder, Jost, sent to Fort Constitution, - - - - - 711
- Sentenced to be flogged for desertion, - - - - - 590
- Wade, Elisha, Adjutant of the regiment lately commanded by Colonel Selden, - - - - - 880
- Wadsworth, Brigadier-General James, return of officers in the brigade commanded by, - - - - - 878, 901
- Letter from, to Governour Trumbull, - - - - - 995
- Wages, allowed to seamen, - - - - - 264
- Wagons, Lancaster Committee authorize the impressment of, to convey cannon to Philadelphia, - - - - - 1156
- Great scarcity of, in Washington's Army, - - - - - 1310
- Waldeckers, a reinforcement of, arrives at New-York, 1158
- Twelve, taken prisoners near White-Plains, - - - - - 1264
- Waldoborough, petition of Selectmen of, to Massachusetts General Court, - - - - - 730
- Walker, Daniel, petition of, to New-York Convention, - - - - - 949
- Walker, Hugh, petition of, to Massachusetts Council, Permitted to return to England, - - - - - 791
- Wallace, Michael, appointed a Surgeon to Colonel Smallwood's battalion, - - - - - 640
- Waller, William, appointed an Ensign, - - - - - 634
- Walls, John Millbourn, recommended for a Second Lieutenant, - - - - - 560

War, danger of an Indian, on the western frontier of Pennsylvania, - - - - - 36
 Washington declares the, should be defensive, - 236
 A general, at hand in Europe, - - - - - 361
 Horrors of, - - - - - 460
 General Howe has not the smallest prospect of finishing, this campaign, - - - - - 519
 Upon America, unjust, unconstitutional, and ruinous, 808
 Articles of, - - - - - 1363
 War Office, order from the, to the Officers of the Pennsylvania German Battalion, - - - - - 180
 Ward, Ambrose, petition for the removal of, - - 374
 Cited to appear before Connecticut Assembly, - 375
 Ward, Colonel Andrew, return of officers in the regiment commanded by, - - - - - 873
 Ward, General Artemas, letter to, from New-Hampshire Committee of Safety, - - - - - 508
 Letter from, to New-Hampshire Committee of Safety, - - - - - 559
 Letters from, to General Washington, - 600, 861, 924
 Letters from, to Massachusetts Council, - 624, 1245
 Letter to, from Massachusetts Council, - - 886
 Letter to, from General Washington, - - - 1026
 Ward, Colonel Joseph, letters from, to General Washington, - - - - - 116, 413
 Regiment of, ordered to reinforce General Heath, - 292
 Return of absent officers in the regiment commanded by, - - - - - 905
 Ward, Nahum, appointed a Captain, - - - - - 1378
 Ward, Robert, Captain in Georgia battalion, - - 988
 Ward, Stephen, letter from, to Robert R. Livingston, 1168
 Warne, William, arrested for propagating reports injurious to the American cause, - - - - - 673
 Examination of, - - - - - 677
 Ordered into custody, - - - - - 677
 Sentence of, - - - - - 683
 Warner, Colonel Seth, petition of, to Congress, - 273
 Letter from, to the President of Congress, - - 884
 Letter from, to General Gates, - - - - - 1146
 Letter to, from General Gates, - - - - - 1169
 Warner, Captain, joins Arnold's fleet, - - - - - 834
 Warren, armed schooner, captured by a British frigate, 116
 Warren, privateer, prize captured by, - - - - 346
 Warren, Continental frigate, nearly ready for sea, - 986
 Warren, Benjamin, commissioned Commander of the privateer Revenge, - - - - - 745
 Warren, General James, letters to, from Massachusetts Council, - - - - - 316, 376
 Letter from, to Massachusetts Council, - - - 487
 Speaker of Massachusetts Assembly, - - - - 487
 Washington, brig, petition of owners of, to Massachusetts Council, - - - - - 804
 Washington, privateer, valuable prizes captured by, - 346, 576, 1260
 Washington, General George—
 Generalship of, commended, - - - - - 214, 370, 820
 Petition to, of General Greene and others, for a reconsideration of the proceedings of a Council of General Officers, - - - - - 326
 Too strongly posted to be attacked in front or on the flanks, - - - - - 519
 Memorial from Lieutenant Colonel Shepard, - - 604
 Massachusetts orders camp utensils to be forwarded to, - - - - - 799
 Return of the forces under the immediate command of, 907
 Authorized to appoint a Deputy Commissary of Stores, - - - - - 1396
 Authorized to appoint a Commissary of Clothing, - 1403
 Authorized to appoint a Deputy Mustermaster for the Flying-Camp, - - - - - 1403
 Letters from, to—
 Colonel Bayley, - - - - - 1095
 Board of War, - - - - - 603
 Colonel Campbell, - - - - - 596
 General George Clinton, - - - - - 607
 General James Clinton, - - - - - 240, 300, 894
 Commanding Officer of Massachusetts Militia, - 399
 Governour Cooke, - - - - - 367, 1009, 1094
 Monsieur le Comte D'Emery, - - - - - 928
 Deputy Governour of Rhode-Island, - - - - 595
 Colonel Gay, - - - - - 166
 General Heath, - - - - - 239
 Governour Henry, - - - - - 888
 General Howe, - - - - - 196, 399, 464, 521, 919
 Lord Howe, - - - - - 257
 General Lincoln, - - - - - 609
 Colonel Henry B. Livingston, - - - - - 167
 Governour Livingston, - - - - - 894
 Massachusetts Assembly, - - - - - 399, 596

Washington, General George—Continued.

Letters from, to—
 General Mercer, - - - - - 139, 181, 240, 292, 463, 548
 Colonel Moylan, - - - - - 139
 Colonel McIntosh, - - - - - 1166
 New-York Convention, - - - - - 106, 240, 241, 299, 466, 692, 713, 1094
 New-York Committee of Safety, - - - - - 196, 674, 675
 President of Congress, - - - - - 120, 193, 212, 236, 290, 325, 351, 380, 398, 412, 446, 463, 494, 495, 519, 565, 589, 603, 841, 867, 890, 927, 941, 990, 1116
 Major Zabdiel Rogers, - - - - - 1165
 General Schuyler, - - - - - 167, 300, 416, 567, 609, 869, 973, 994, 1186
 Colonel Tash, - - - - - 1026
 Governour Trumbull, - - - - - 196, 257, 465, 549, 609, 826, 947, 957, 1064, 1076
 Colonel Joseph Trumbull, - - - - - 1138, 1165
 General Ward, - - - - - 1026
 John Augustine Washington, - - - - - 445
 Letters to, from—
 A. J. Alexander, - - - - - 403
 Captain Ballard, - - - - - 604
 William Bartlett, - - - - - 983
 Mountjoy Bayly, - - - - - 333
 Colonel Bayley, - - - - - 1067, 1168
 M. De Berruyer, - - - - - 269
 Board of War, - - - - - 298, 320, 348, 407, 1062, 1185, 1210, 1211, 1308
 James Bowdoin, - - - - - 1108
 William Bradford, - - - - - 337, 485
 Thaddeus Burr, - - - - - 537
 General James Clinton, - - - - - 276, 832
 Commissioners for Pennsylvania, - - - - - 1202
 Governour Cooke, - - - - - 207, 912, 1133
 Colonel Crawford, - - - - - 404
 Colonel Davis, - - - - - 282
 Comte D'Emery, Governour General of the French part of St. Domingo, - - - - - 928
 Mrs. De Lancey, - - - - - 894
 William Duer, - - - - - 453
 William Fitzhugh, - - - - - 1020
 General Greene, 182, 494, 1015, 1221, 1280, 1281, 1294
 Colonel Hand, - - - - - 413
 Commodore Hopkins, - - - - - 132
 Sir William Howe, - - - - - 437, 520, 893
 Lieutenant Knight, prisoner, - - - - - 1226
 Richard Henry Lee, - - - - - 1261
 Colonel Henry B. Livingston, - - - - - 295, 504, 1041, 1275
 Robert R. Livingston, - - - - - 1014, 1240
 Massachusetts Council, - - - - - 506, 914, 943
 General Mercer, - - - - - 212, 367, 1073
 Dr. Morgan, - - - - - 301
 New-Hampshire Committee of Safety, - - - - 508, 1175
 P. Penet & Co., - - - - - 928
 Jeremiah Powell, - - - - - 312
 President of Congress, - - - - - 135, 233, 348, 488, 839, 864, 952, 1210, 1269
 Colonel Rufus Putnam, - - - - - 549, 892
 Lieutenants Putnam and Cleaves, - - - - - 963
 Edmund Randolph, - - - - - 987
 Edward Rutledge, - - - - - 287
 General Schuyler, 125, 248, 263, 302, 352, 420, 469, 525, 614, 832, 922, 932, 1079, 1138, 1206, 1257, 1286
 Nathaniel Shaw, - - - - - 836
 Dr. Shippen, - - - - - 1280
 Walter Spooner, - - - - - 594
 General Thompson, - - - - - 888
 Daniel Tillinghast, - - - - - 559, 576
 Governour Trumbull, 97, 128, 187, 278, 295, 357, 422, 574, 593, 847, 1001, 1028, 1041, 1171, 1224, 1315
 Richard Varick, - - - - - 335, 1037
 Colonel Joseph Ward, - - - - - 116, 413
 General Ward, - - - - - 600, 861, 924
 Abraham Yates, Jun., - - - - - 183
 Robert Yates, - - - - - 572
 Colonel Zedtwitz, - - - - - 1217
 Washington, Mrs., arrival of, at Baltimore, - - 510
 Washington, John Augustine, letter to, from General Washington, - - - - - 445
 Wasp, Continental schooner, takes into Philadelphia a valuable prize, - - - - - 1072
 Waterbury, General David, Jun., letters from, to General Gates, - - - - - 142, 185
 Letter from, to President of Congress, giving an account of the battles on the Lake, - - - - 1224
 Letters to, from General Gates, - - - - - 127, 221
 Appointed second officer of Arnold's fleet, - - 186
 Joins the fleet on the Lake, - - - - - 615

- Waterbury, General David, Jun.—*Continued.*
 Taken prisoner by the enemy, - - - 1040
 Returns on his parole, - - - 1125
 Requests to be exchanged, - - - 1206
 Waters, Captain Daniel, recaptures a sloop taken by the British, - - - 116
 Watson, Ebenezer, proceedings of Captain Roe on Long-Island sent to, for publication, - - 506
 Watkins, Captain H., letter from, to Maryland Council of Safety, - - - 1236
 Watkins, Thomas, appointed a Captain in the Flying-Camp, - - - 632
 Appointed Captain of a Company of Matrosses for the defence of Annapolis, - - - 656
 Watson, Patrick, appointed an Ensign of Pennsylvania Associators, - - - 82
 Watts, David, promoted to a Second Lieutenantcy, - 474
 Watts, Dr. Edward, resolve for supplying, with medicines, - - - 761
 Weare, Mesheck, President of New-Hampshire Council of State, letter to, from Stephen Evans, - 340
 Letter to, from Colonel Hurd, - - - 147
 Letter to, from Massachusetts Council, - - 1107
 Weaver, Michael, appointed a Captain of Pennsylvania Associators, - - - 82
 Weaver, Fealty, appointed an Ensign, - - - 1340
 Webb, Colonel Samuel N., Aid-de-Camp to General Washington, letters from, to General Heath, 829, 919
 Webster, Levi, sentenced to be flogged for desertion, 238
 Webster, Pelatiah, Observations on Finance by, - 434
 Webster, Ensign Amos, letter from, to General Gates, 356
 Weedon, Colonel, asks permission to recruit from the Flying-Camp, - - - 841
 Weeks, David, arrested as being inimical to his country, - - - 148
 Weisenthall, Dr., letter from, to Matthew Tilghman, 209
 Letter from, to Maryland Council of Safety, - 458, 817
 Weisner, Captain John, trial of, by a Court-Martial, - - - 606, 610
 The Court-Martial on, requested to reconsider their verdict, - - - 895
 The Court defend their finding in the case of, - 895
 Weitzel, John, elected a member of Pennsylvania Council of Safety, - - - 9
 Welch, Colonel Joseph, letter from, to New-Hampshire Committee of Safety, - - - 1313
 Welch, Robert, appointed an Assistant Surgeon for the Flying-Camp, - - - 626
 Welden, Captain, ordered to deliver the brig Rising Empire to William Watson, at Plymouth, - 734
 Wells, Baza, promoted to a Second Lieutenantcy, - 477
 Wells, George, letter from, to Maryland Council of Safety, - - - 1072
 Wemple, Colonel Abraham, commander of the Militia from Schenectady, - - - 1190
 Wenthissica, a Shawanese Indian, friendly notice taken of, by the Pennsylvania Convention, - - - 46
 Wentworth, Captain John, ordered to march his command to the Northern Department, - - - 230
 Wentworth, Joshua, letter to, from Robert H. Harrison, - - - 274
 Wesson, Ephraim, deposition of, against Colonel Porter, - - - 154
 West, William, appointed a Major, - - - 94
 Westchester County, New-York, prevalence of disaffection in, - - - 373
 Several companies formed and forming in, to join General Howe, - - - 829
 Westchester, New-York, Committee, letter from, to New-York Convention, - - - 310
 Letter to, from New-York Committee of Safety, - 680
 Letter from, to the Commanding Officer at Mount Washington, - - - 829
 West Indies, suffer greatly from the interruption of the trade with the United States, - - - 812
 Dependence of, upon the United States for supplies, 813
 American vessels protected in, by the French, - 854
 South-Carolina endeavours to obtain seamen from, 1328
 Wethersfield, Connecticut, letter from Benjamin Payne to Committee of, - - - 1288
 Wetworth, Mr., a Tory in the service of the King, taken prisoner by Captain Townsend, - - - 1313
 Whale-boats, sixty armed, ordered to Rhode-Island, - 377
 Massachusetts Council appoint a Committee to purchase, - - - 507
 Resolve of Massachusetts for procuring, - - 772
 A large number of, collected in Massachusetts and Rhode-Island to aid in the descent on Long-Island, - - - 1001
 Wharton, Carpenter, Assistant Commissary, employed to purchase salt, by the Commissary-General, - 1011
 Wharton, Thomas, Jun., elected a member of Pennsylvania Council of Safety, - - - 8
 Letter from, to Colonel Cadwalader, - - - 1128
 Whayland, Joseph, Jun., prisoner, petition of, to Maryland Convention, - - - 1268
 Wheeling, eleven settlers at the mouth of, killed by Indians, - - - 1236
 Wheelock, Rev. Dr. Eleazer, President of Dartmouth College, friendly disposition of Indian boys educated by, - - - 125
 Five hundred dollars voted by Congress to, for the education of Indian youth, - - - 1362
 Wheelright, John, commander of privateer Reprisal, - 805
 Wherry, David, appointed an Ensign, - - - 1340
 Whipple, Captain Abraham, prizes captured by, 307, 595, 863
 Appointed to the command of the frigate Providence, - - - 1394
 Whipple, Christopher, ship captured by, - - - 1260
 Whipple, Captain Jabez, sends a prize into Providence, - - - 227
 Whipple, Joseph, letter from, to New-Hampshire Committee of Safety, - - - 1031
 Whipple, William, letters to, from Josiah Bartlett, - 137, 272, 323
 Letter from, to John Langdon, - - - 1248
 White, Aquilla, appointed an Ensign, - - - 1340
 White, Barkley, deposition of, - - - 650
 White, Gideon, Jun., a refugee, prisoner in Plymouth jail, - - - 487, 507
 White, John, letter from, to Captain Platt, - - 352
 White, John, complains of the numerous desertions from the Army, - - - 714
 White, Thomas, letter to, from Robert Gordon, Ireland, 863
 White, Rev. William, requested to perform Divine service for Pennsylvania Convention, - - - 3
 White-Plains, New-York, fixed upon for a position of the American Army, - - - 1130
 Enemy believed to have designs against, - - 1137
 Enemy moving towards, - - - 1221
 General Washington's Head-Quarters at, - - 1239
 Extracts of letters from, - - - 1271, 1284
 The enemy attack Washington's Army at, - - 1271
 Detailed account of the enemy's attack on the American lines at, (note,) - - - 1271
 Colonel Harrison's account of the above attack, - 1282
 Proceedings of a General Court-Martial held at, - 1294
 Movements and supposed intentions of the enemy near, - - - 1310
 Whitcomb, Lieutenant Benjamin, prisoners taken by, 481
 Journal of, - - - 482
 Abstract of report of, - - - 483
 Whiting, Israel, appointed Surgeon's Mate, - - 1378
 Whiting, William, petition of, to Massachusetts General Court, - - - 759
 Whiting, Colonel W. B., letter from, to Albany Committee, - - - 1169
 Whitney, Colonel, order for supplying the regiment of, with muskets, - - - 806
 Whitmore, Daniel, petition of, to Massachusetts General Court, - - - 750
 Whitney, Josiah, appointed an Ensign, - - - 477
 Whitney, Lieutenant, sentenced to be severely reprimanded, - - - 1082
 Whittemore, Ensign, dismissed the service, - - 1086
 Wickes, Lambert, Captain of the Reprisal, return of, from Martinico, with muskets, &c., - - - 323
 Affair of, with the Shark man-of-war in the harbour of St. Pierre, Martinico, - - - 323
 Behaviour of, meets the approbation of his country, 425
 Letters to, from the Marine Committee, 429, 1213, 1215
 Ordered to convey Dr. Franklin to France, - - 1211
 Has done honour, in action, to the American flag, 1212
 Wilcoxon, Thomas, appointed a First Lieutenant, - 634
 Wildgoos, Michael, appointed a Second Lieutenant of Pennsylvania Associators, - - - 82
 Wigglesworth, Colonel, appointed third officer of Arnold's fleet, - - - 186
 Wigglesworth, Dr., letter from, to New-Hampshire Committee of Safety, - - - 574
 Wigglesworth, Captain John, resolve for paying the postage bill of, - - - 773
 Wilkinson, Colonel James, letter from, to General Gates, - - - 1243
 Wilkinson, William, member of Baltimore Committee, 117
 Will, Philip, Barrackmaster, presented by the Grand Jury of Charleston, - - - 1059
 William, ship, permitted to depart for England, - 792

- Willard, Colonel Aaron, letter to, from Massachusetts Council, - - - - - 230
 Williams, David, letter from, to Thomas Bluff, - - - 648
 Williams, Eb., appointed an Ensign, - - - - - 476
 Williams, Captain Edward, letter from, to General Gates, - - - - - 169
 Williams, Major Ennion, certificate of, in favour of Captain Long, - - - - - 1033
 Williams, George, Jun., powder delivered to, - - - 734
 Williams, John, prisoner in Lancaster jail, petitions Convention for relief, - - - - - 12
 Williams, John Foster, Commander of sloop Republick, iron ballast delivered to, - - - - - 801
 Order to, from Massachusetts Council, - - - - - 808
 Williams, Lieutenant Thomas, letter from, to New-York Convention, - - - - - 201
 Williams, William, letter from, to Governour Trumbull, - - - - - 408
 Williamson, James, appointed a Second Lieutenant, - - - - - 80
 Williamson, Dr., of Philadelphia, doing the Colonies prodigious mischief in France, - - - - - 809
 Williamson, Brigadier-General Matthias, returns thanks to Pennsylvania Associators, - - - 940, 941
 Williamson, Colonel, skirmish of, with the Cherokee Indians, - - - - - 1235
 Williamsburgh, Virginia, very unhealthy, - - - 987
 Willin, Lieutenant Levi, Court-Martial ordered for the trial of, - - - - - 654
 Willing, Thomas, letter to, from John Heyliger, - - 157
 Willing and Morris, letter to, from Maryland Council of Safety, - - - - - 510
 Willington, Lieutenant Thomas, promoted to a Captaincy, - - - - - 1083
 Willis, Richard, appointed an Ensign, - - - - - 629
 Willis, William, deposition of, - - - - - 652
 Williston, Council of War held at, - - - - - 621
 Wilson, George, recommended for a Lieutenant-Colonelcy, - - - - - 7
 Wilson, Corporal George, testimony of, on the trial of Lieutenant Pope, - - - - - 1065
 To receive thirty-nine lashes for plundering, - - - 1066
 Wilson, Colonel James, elected a Delegate to Congress from Pennsylvania, - - - - - 6
 Wilson, Richard, authorized to raise a Company of Militia, - - - - - 634
 Wilson, William, report of, to the Commissioners of Indian Affairs, - - - - - 514
 Wilson, William, appointed a First Lieutenant, - - 1378
 Winchester, Second Lieutenant, promoted to a First Lieutenantcy, - - - - - 1083
 Windham, petition of inhabitants of, - - - - - 130, 131
 Window-weights, order to take all leaden, - - - - 3
 Winds, Colonel William, letter from, to General Gates, - - - - - 964
 Windmill-Point, a small action at, - - - - - 278
 Arnold's fleet arrive at, - - - - - 353
 Wine, and other necessaries, purchased for Gates's command, - - - - - 453
 Winslow, Mr., orders to, from General Gates, - - - 964
 Winthrop, John, Jun., petition of, to Massachusetts Council, - - - - - 741
 A quantity of powder voted to, - - - - - 757
 Wirach, Peter, appointed a Second Lieutenant of Pennsylvania Associators, - - - - - 82
 Wirach, William, appointed a Captain of Pennsylvania Associators, - - - - - 82
 Wisner, Henry, letters from, to New-York Convention, - - - - - 1102, 1123, 1131
 Wisner & Phillips's powder-mill, quantity of powder manufactured at, - - - - - 293
 Wisner, Captain—see Weisner.
 Witherspoon, Dr. John, Delegate in Congress from New-Jersey, speech of, on the conference proposed by Lord Howe, - - - - - 178
 Letter from, to General Gates, - - - - - 1293
 Withington, Peter, appointed a Captain, - - - - - 79
 Wolcott, Colonel Erastus, ordered to put his command in readiness to embark for Long-Island, - 115
 Two companies of the command of, to be detached and marched towards New-York, - - - - - 189
 Wolff, George, appointed a Captain of Pennsylvania Associators, - - - - - 82
 Wood, Aaron, certificate of Selectmen of Pepperell in favour of, - - - - - 351
 Wood, Benjamin, killed at Bunker-Hill, - - - - - 951
 Wood, Joseph, elected Colonel of Second Pennsylvania Battalion, - - - - - 292, 1335
 Letter from, to General St. Clair, - - - - - 138
 Wood, Silas, discharged from the Militia service, - - 783
 Wood, Solomon, resolve for paying, for the loss of his gun, - - - - - 768
 Woodhull, General Nathaniel, letter to, from Joseph Bull, - - - - - 109
 Wounded in the battle on Long-Island, - - - - - 170
 Measures taken to procure the exchange of, - - - 701
 Death of, - - - - - 894, 934
 Woolens, greatly needed by the Army, - - - - - 426
 Resolution of Congress for the purchase of, &c., - 926
 Wooley, John, Jun., examination of, - - - - - 663
 Required to give bail for his good behaviour, - - 663
 Bond given by, - - - - - 666
 Wooly, John, examination of, - - - - - 141
 Work, William, appointed a Captain of Pennsylvania Associators, - - - - - 88
 Working party, a, of twelve hundred men, ordered to the Engineer's department, - - - - - 606
 Wormeley, Ralph, taken prisoner, - - - - - 163
 Wormell, Benjamin, Commander of the privateer Viper, - - - - - 754
 Worthington, Nicholas, appointed an Ensign in the Flying-Camp, - - - - - 629
 Wounded in the service, provision by Congress for the, 448
 Wright, Elihu, appointed a Surgeon, - - - - - 1378
 Wright, Colonel Thomas H., letter from, to Maryland Council of Safety, - - - - - 405
 Wyandots, speech of the Governour of Detroit to, - 516
 Wyman, Colonel, honourably acquitted of charges brought against him, - - - - - 473
 Wynkoop, Colonel, sick at Kingston, - - - - - 355
 Letters from, to General Gates, 1069, 1088, 1103, 1275
 Wynkoop, Henry, elected a member of Pennsylvania Council of Safety, - - - - - 9
 Wynkoop, Major, appointed to command the men raised in Ulster County, - - - - - 1027, 1167
 Wyoming, conference held with the Indians at, - - 825
 Wyllys, Colonel Samuel, return of officers in the regiment commanded by, - - - - - 876
 Wythe, George, arrival of, at Congress, - - - - - 324
- Y.
- Yancey, James, Deputy Commissary to Northern Army, letter from, to Bennington Committee, - 1143
 Letter to, from Nathan Clark, - - - - - 1223
 Yankee Ranger and Montgomery, privateers, send in three valuable prizes, - - - - - 338
 Yates, Abraham, Jun., President of New-York Convention, letter from, to General Washington, - 183
 Letters to, from—
 John Broom, - - - - - 557
 Jacob Cuyler, - - - - - 356
 Cornelius Glenn, - - - - - 311
 Ebenezer Hazard, - - - - - 200, 301
 Daniel Matthews, - - - - - 558
 General Schuyler, - - - - - 1087
 General Washington, - - - - - 196
 Yates, Christopher, letter from, to General Gates, - 923
 Yates, Robert, letter from, to General Washington, - 572
 Letter to, from General Schuyler, - - - - - 932, 1016
 Letter from, to General Schuyler, - - - - - 1067
 Letter to, from General McDougall, - - - - - 1166
 Yeates, Jasper, letter to, from Richard Peters, - - 562
 Yeoman, Moses, certificate for, - - - - - 1222
 Yost, Major, appointed Second Major of Pennsylvania Associators, - - - - - 82
 Young, Admiral, complains of the conduct of the French Governour of Martinique, - - - - - 323
 Young, Hamilton, allowed to return to Long-Island, 1381
 Young, John, orders to, from Marine Committee, - 410
 Young, Levi, appointed master of the ship Oliver Cromwell, - - - - - 1209
 Young, William, appointed a Second Lieutenant in the Flying-Camp, - - - - - 643
 Youngman, Lieutenant Thomas, sentenced to be cashiered, - - - - - 590, 591
- Z.
- Zedtwitz, Colonel H., his cane, sword, &c., in possession of the Provost-Marshal, - - - - - 869
 Cashiered, - - - - - 1167
 Letter from, to General Washington, - - - - - 1217
 Zeigler, David, two months' pay advanced to, - - 1413

